

County News

BEN CARTER ONCE MORE IN CUSTODY

ST. HELENS — Ben F. Carter, wandering charge of Columbia county, is back in his cell at the county jail, where, it is hoped, he will remain until Judge H. K. Zimmerman has held an important conversation with him. Carter left the serenity of the county lock-up in July, and was not heard from until two weeks ago when notification came from officers at Huntington, Ala., that he had been arrested there. Deputy Sheriff Jim Callahan and State Patrolman Phil Lowd were sent to bring him back. They arrived with the prisoner Sunday night.

Carter was expected to be arraigned on a charge of burglary not in a dwelling before Judge Nauman Wednesday. He already has charges of forgery, car theft and jail breaking hanging over him.

MYERS INSANE LAWYER DECLARES

ST. HELENS — Robert Myers was "insane and mentally defective at the time of the alleged commission of the act for which he was indicted," John L. Foote, attorney for the youth, said recently in a plea filed.

Myers is under indictment for the first degree slaying of Annie Borglund and Julius Olavson, elderly Clatskanie people.

Although Myers has signed a confession of the slaying he has the privilege of pleading not guilty to the crimes and no matter what his plea, must be tried. District Attorney Walden Dillard has indicated that the prosecution will ask for the death penalty.

VAN VLEET FORCE BOOSTS WAR CHEST

RAINIER — The men and management of the Van Vleet Lumber company of Rainier Wednesday of last week boosted the community's war chest fund to within striking distance of its quota.

The employees of the mill collected \$172.92 among themselves and G. R. Van Vleet matched that with his own check thus adding to the war chest \$351.84, which makes over \$1300 now in hand on the \$1750 quota goal.

The time for the drive was to have expired Nov. 18, but has been extended to permit organizations to meet and consider donating.

TEXAS CO. SEEKING OIL LEASE HERE

ST. HELENS—Names of the oil companies which are seeking to lease several thousand acres of Columbia county owned land in order to make test drillings for gas and oil were announced last week for the first time by the court. Representatives of one of the concerns talked to members of the court for the first time last week, but employees of the two other companies made their requests for the right to lease land some weeks ago.

Negotiating now with the county are the Texas company, the Continental Oil Co. and the Jurgen Oil Co., this last a concern which is better known in California where it has confined its operations until now that it is in the Pacific northwest.

Deputies to Help With Farm Reports

Deputy collectors will assist farmers in filing their declaration of estimated income for the calendar year of 1943, Form 1040 ES, which must be filed on or before December 15th, 1943. These deputy collectors will be found available from December 6 to December 15 in the following neighboring cities: St. Helens, December 9; Rainier, December 8; Clatskanie, December 9; Hillsboro, December 11 to 15; Forest Grove, December 10. In addition to the places shown, the same assistance is also available to taxpayers at the office of the collector of internal revenue, custom house, Portland, each day until December 15, which is the final day of the filing period.

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Vernonia, Columbia County, Oregon

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Taxpayers Urged to Determine Filing Duties

Commissioner of internal revenue, Robert E. Hannegan, this week urged all taxpayers to determine whether they are required to file either original or amended "Declarations of Estimated Income and Victory Tax" on or before December 15th.

Explaining that only a limited percentage of taxpayers need make any filing at this time, Mr. Hannegan suggested that everyone ascertain for himself whether he is affected. By far the largest percentage of taxpayers have no further filings to make until the annual income and Victory tax return is due not later than March 15, 1944. However, some taxpayers who filed "declarations" in September have on installment to pay December 15, for which they will be sent bills by their local collectors of internal revenue.

In general, the filing of a declaration on or before December 15, will be required of the following:

Farmers Duties Told

1. Farmers who have sufficient

Fire Destroys Home, Takes Life

Fire destroyed the home of Claude Tackett of Clatskanie and former resident of Vernonia and also claimed the life of his small son, Michael.

The fire started about 7:00 p.m. Monday evening shortly after the mother had put the two small children to bed. Approximate ages of these children were 16 months and four years. The mother left the house for a few minutes and two other children, ages five and twelve, were working in the barn, and on returning to the house noticed that it was ablaze. The twelve-year-old tried to make entrance to the house by the front door but was unable to because of the smoke and flames. He then ran to the bedroom window, breaking it with his hands and climbing in, rescued the 16-month baby girl and hunted for the four-year-old boy but failed to find him as he had left his bed. Neighbors arrived and also tried to make entrance to the house but were unable to.

The boy's body was not found until the next morning. The fire was believed to have started when a stove exploded.

Funeral services were held for Michael Tackett Wednesday afternoon at Clatskanie.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bayes of Vernonia are the parents of Mrs. Claude Tackett.

Mail Seal Returns As Planned

There may be some question as to what to do with the returns from the Christmas seals that have been mailed out.

According to Paul Gordon, the returns should be mailed in the original envelope which is addressed to J. B. Wilkerson. These envelopes will then be forwarded to Mr. Gordon and he will take care of the necessary business.

Student Body Play Postponed

The Vernonia high school student body three one-act plays have been postponed from December 3 to December 10 due to the six weeks examinations and the funeral services for Mr. Wilkerson. Also the mill will be working overtime on Friday, December 3, so it was thought best to give the plays the following Friday which will be December 10.

ient income to require filing and have postponed filing under the special provisions of law which permit farmers to wait as late as December 15.

2. Persons who did file in September, but underestimated their tax by more than 20 per cent and who should therefore file "Amended Declarations" to avoid penalties.

3. Persons who did not file in September because their estimated income at that time was insufficient to require filing, but now come within any one of the following classes:

(a) Anyone who expects to have during the calendar year 1943, more than \$100 gross income from a source outside of wages which are subject to withholding, and who also expects sufficient gross income to require filing an income tax return: (\$500 for a single person, \$1,200 for a married couple, or \$624 for an individual married person).

(b) Any single person expecting wages of more than \$2,700 during the year.

(c) Any married person or any married couple expecting individually or together, more than \$3,500 from wages during the year.

(d) Any person who was required to file an income tax return for 1942 and who expects his wages in 1943 to be less than in 1942.

May File Amended Declarations

There may be some taxpayers who filed declarations in September and paid one-half of the remaining tax estimate to be due but who now believe that the amount for which the collector will bill them in December is more than they should pay. These taxpayers may also file amended declarations correcting their previous estimates and recompute the amount of their installments to be paid in December. In such cases the amended declaration should be accompanied by the bill received from the collector, together with the remittance for any revised amount due on December 15th.

"The December 15th filing," Mr. Hannegan said, "is in reality a followup to the September 15th filing. Both filings were steps in the transition to the pay-as-you-go system of tax collection, in accordance with the current tax payment act of 1943.

Church to Hold Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, December 5 is communion Sunday at the Evangelical church and in addition the second quarterly conference will be held in the afternoon at 2:00 p.m. Rev. and Mrs. Paul P. Petticoard will be present for the day and Rev. Petticoard will bring the sermons throughout the day.

A pot-luck dinner will be served in the social rooms of the church at noon. At 7:30 p.m., Mrs. Petticoard, an artist with colored chalk, will give another one of her pictures.

BENEFIT BAZAAR PLANNED

The Deborah and Pollyanna circles of the Evangelical church Missionary society will hold a benefit bazaar and cooked food sale Tuesday afternoon on December 7, starting at 1:00 p.m. at the Vernonia Bakery. The Pollyanna Circle will have charge of the food sale, while the Deborahs will take charge of the apron sale. There will also be a fishpool.

\$50 SENT FOR CIGARETTES

The American Legion and the Auxiliary sent the sum of \$50 to the department cigarette chairman for the purchase of cigarettes for overseas servicemen. They wish to thank those placing contributions in the various collection boxes over the city.

Hospitalize Service Men Need Gifts

People Urged to Donate and Bring Christmas Cheer

According to Mrs. Dorothy Sandon, head of the local Red Cross chapter, a drive is now on for the collection of gifts to be given to hospitalized men and men in isolated units.

In a letter received from Jean Ostlund, chairman of the Columbia County Camp and Hospital Service committee, Columbia county has a quota of 500 gift packages. Work has already been started in Vernonia and several donations have been received. Those donating are: Wilark ladies, \$5.00; Vernonia Study club, \$2; Mother's Service club, \$5.00.

Complete Gift Boxes Wanted

It has been urged that as many complete gift boxes be made as possible although if any person feels that they are unable to out-fit a complete package, a donation of as many individual items as possible will be appreciated.

The following items make a complete gift box: playing cards, 1 deck; soap, 1 bar; cigarettes, 1 package; shoe polishing cloth, pencil, writing paper and envelopes, brown shoe laces, 40-inch, 2 pair; small pocket size book of humor or mystery, sewing kit, tooth powder or paste, tooth brush, pocket comb, fruit cake or hard candy, small game, handkerchiefs.

Auto Company to Receive Boxes

The Vernonia Auto company will receive the packages when they are ready and will see that they are delivered to St. Helens before December 10, which is the last possible day they can be received.

The Junior Red Cross will make a canvass to collect wrapping paper and ribbons. Packing boxes will also be needed.



Those Who Are in It



SPENDS LEAVE HERE

Calvin Davis is home for an indefinite period from the merchant marines. He arrived home Monday for a rest before continuing his duties.

RECEIVES AIR MEDAL

It was recently printed in a Portland paper that Francis Davis received an air medal. Francis is stationed in India.

SON WRITES FROM AFRICA

In a letter Mrs. Vesta Christensen recently received from her son, Cpl. Earsel (Ernie), he states: "Boy you shouldn't talk about those apples. I haven't seen an apple for so long I don't know what they look like. There are plenty of oranges here now. They are just coming out. I suppose they will be feeding us those pretty soon. They fed us tomatoes and grapes till I nearly hated them.

"We are quite a bit better off than lots of the boys. We have big tents with floors and sides about half way up. It isn't bad if you can stand the cold.

"I had my name in a book at the Red Cross and today I saw where I was wished good luck, signed Fritz Hausler."

He also mentions that cigarettes are scarce there. They are only getting four packages a week where they used to get a carton.

REPORTED IMPROVING

PINE CAMP, N. Y.—Sgt. William L. Walker, 24, a reconnaissance sergeant in the 5th armored division and the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin E. Walker of Vernonia, is reported in greatly improved condition at Pine Camp

Survey of Meat Made

According to the local ration board, a meat survey has been recently completed. Each market was visited twice and given questionnaires to fill out.

The purpose of these surveys was so the local panel could clear up any small violation. If any market fails to comply with the regulation, they are then reported to higher authorities.

There will be another survey in the near future which will be to the eating and drinking establishments.

Vernonia Lady Called by Death

Mrs. Jennie Sargent died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary Melicker of Hillsboro, Friday, November 26. She was born in Montana January 1, 1876 and has been a resident of Oregon for 20 years and has lived in Vernonia for 12 years. She is survived by her husband, L. H. Sargent of Vernonia, two sons, DeLoss Hustin, Montana; Charles Kieho, Portland; two daughters, Mrs. Mary Melicker, Hillsboro; Mrs. Eleanor Roach, Portland.

Funeral services were held at the Donaldson and Sewell Mortuary in Hillsboro with Rev. Clayton E. Beish officiating. Interment was at the Fir Lawn cemetery in Hillsboro.

Benefit Dance Slated Dec. 11

The Mother's Service club is sponsoring a benefit dance to be given at the Legion hall on December 11, with Glen Davis orchestra providing the music. The proceeds of this dance will go to the Red Cross Hospitalization service for servicemen's wives and families.

Death Calls Mr. Wilkerson November 23

Vacancy is Deeply Felt by Friends and Acquaintances

Judge James B. Wilkerson died at his home here on November 25, at the age of 74 years. He was born in Lebanon, Tennessee, February 6, 1869. He came to Oregon in 1902 and has been a resident ever since. Judge Wilkerson was educated in the public schools of Wilson County, Tennessee, Peabody Normal school, Nashville, Tennessee. He spent summer sessions at the University of Oregon and the University of Washington.

School Teaching Followed

Mr. Wilkerson began his life as school teacher while still in Tennessee. After coming to Oregon he served as county school superintendent of Columbia county and city school superintendent of Rainier, St. Helens, Vernonia and Forest Grove. He was active in the school administration for 38 years, after which he was elected judge of Columbia county in 1935, serving until again he was named justice of 1941. After declining to run again he was named justice of peace for the City of Vernonia and was later elected school clerk. In addition to these positions he was Past Noble Grand in the Odd Fellows lodge, a member of the Grange, Past Master in the Masonic Order and a member of the Methodist church in St. Helens.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Pearl A. Wilkerson; three sons, Major Burford Wilkerson who is with the chemical warfare service located at Edgewood Arsenal, Maryland; Benjamin, who is also in the service in California; Robert Wilkerson; and one daughter, Mrs. Ruff.

Son Not Present for Funeral

The son, Benjamin, could not be reached in time to attend the funeral.

Funeral services were held Monday in the auditorium of the Washington grade school. The Bush Funeral home was in charge with Rev. W. O. Livingstone officiating. Interment was made in the I.O.O.F. cemetery at Warren.

In the passing of Judge Wilkerson, Vernonia and Columbia county have sensed an irreplaceable loss in a man of wide vision, keen intellect, high standards and a person whose hand was always extended in sympathy and in willingness to help those in need. His good works will follow him, and his life will serve as an inspiration to many.

Vernonia People Praised for Work

In a letter received last week by H. H. King from Edith Mae Fisher, secretary of the Columbia County Red Cross, she states, "Vernonia people have responded fine for the boys and believe me they do enjoy the cigarettes. Will you thank the Vernonia people for Columbia County Chapter, American Red Cross of St. Helens."

Several boxes have been placed in different business places in town for donations of cigarettes and candy which are given to the boys when they are inducted into the service.

CLOSE FOR FUNERAL

The Vernonia schools were closed Monday afternoon and practically all places of business closed for part of the afternoon in respect to Judge J. B. Wilkerson for his many years of service in Vernonia and Columbia county.

More "Those Who Are," page 6