

County News

DEATHS IN YEAR 1943 ONE MORE THAN IN 1942

RAINIER — City Recorder N. N. Blumensadt announces that during the year 1943 there were 19 deaths recorded at the local office. In the preceding year of 1942 there were 18.

There were no births recorded here in 1943, as contracted with 10 recorded in 1942. The nearness of the Longview hospitals is a probable cause for the lack of birth registrations here.

1943 WAS DRIEST OF PAST EIGHT YEARS

CLATSKANIE — The year 1943 was the driest in this locality in the past eight years that weather has been reported.

The most unusual feature of the year's weather was the 27 consecutive days of rainless weather starting on February 12 and continuing through until March 10th. That was the longest dry spell of the year.

The total precipitation for 1943 was 44.20 inches with March the wettest month.

COUNTY COURT MAKES ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS

ST. HELENS — Announcement was made last Wednesday of the annual appointments made by the county court. Without exception, all appointments were of persons already employed by the county in the various jobs.

Road foreman appointments were as follows: Vernonia, G. C. Mellinger; Scappoose, Lloyd Lynch; St. Helens, U. W. Clark; Deer Island, Fred Colvin; Goble, Fritz Anliker; Rainier, Donald Pacher; Clatskanie, Oscar Lindberg; Mist Joseph Banzer.

FISHERMEN'S UNION PLANS NEW HOUSE

RAINIER — A two-story building for a receiving station is to be built here in the very near future by the Fishermen's Union of Astoria on lots just east of the Rainier Creamery. The lots were purchased several months ago, and collection of materials for construction is now being carried out by the organization.

Installation of modern equipment, including not only office and storage facilities, but as well a boat hoist and net drying facilities are planned and also there will be an oil pipe line from the street to the building to supply boats.

SHIELDS ON LIGHTS TO BE REMOVED

ST. HELENS — With exception of the downtown area from St. Helens to Cowlitz streets, St. Helens is still partially dimmed out, as far as street lights are concerned, despite the fact that the dimout rule was removed by the army several weeks ago. However, Portland General Electric Co. linemen are removing the dimout shields as they replace new globes in the street lights and it is estimated that all shields would be removed within three months.

All Teachers at Work

Although there is still a great deal of flu and other sickness in Vernonia, attendance among students and teachers at the high school and grade school is back to normal. For the first time since Christmas, there was a perfect attendance of teachers at the Washington grade school when school opened on Monday.

Forestry Club to Start for High School Boys; Study Is New in County

With the opening of the new term at the high school, a new activity will be inaugurated which will be of great benefit and interest to the boys of the school. It is the formation of a Forestry club dealing with the conservation, culture, protection and utilization of the forest and forestry as a profession. Membership will be open to all boys registered in the school and supervision will be under Harold McEntire who has himself had a great deal of experience in the line of forestry.

Through the efforts of N. S. Rogers of the Oregon state board of forestry, several men were sent to Vernonia to talk to the boys and to present each boy with a compiled book of forestry

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War Fund Drive Begins This Week

The 4th War Loan drive in Vernonia is off to a smashing start as members of Mrs. R. D. Eby's committee started out early Monday on their tour of the city. Vernonia has been broken up into five sections, each with a captain and a team; and through their efforts to contact each home and place of business, the drive will go over the top.

The captains with their work-ers appointed by Mrs. Eby are as follows: Mrs. E. E. Gwin with Mrs. John Kirk, Mrs. Frank McCord, Mrs. Blaine Cobat, Mrs. Walter Parker, and Mrs. Howard Frank; Mrs. Harry Culbertson with Mrs. Juanita Green, Mrs. Joyce Culbertson, and Mrs. Retta Lamping; Mrs. U. J. Bittner with Mrs. Cecil Johnson, Mrs. R. I. Jackson, Mrs. John Grady, and Mrs. O. Mellinger; Mrs. A. L. Anderson with Mrs. Hamp Robertson, Mrs. Phil Taylor, Mrs. Ben Brickel, and Mrs. Holly Holcomb; Mrs. Mary Sorlee with Mrs. Virgil Powell, Mrs. Ethel Buffmire, and Mrs. Frank Riley.

Of interest to Vernonia residents is the pamphlet issued in connection with the drive in

which Oregon boys all over the world have written that they expect all at home to do their duty in the 4th War Loan. Individual pictures of the boys appear in this booklet and two of them are Vernonia boys, Captain G. W. Laird and Pvt. George Turner.

One has only to read these articles written by boys who are giving all, to remember how important it is to each and every one of us to help our government send equipment and supplies to our armed forces by buying bonds and more bonds.

Although no exact amount has been turned into Mrs. Eby so far, the committee is well satisfied with the amount collected to date.

Loggers Win Tues. Meet St. Helens

The youthful Vernonia Loggers pulled the first major upset of the current campaign by scalping the veteran Scappoose Indians on their home court Tuesday night 47 to 44.

The Loggers were a hard-driving ball-hawking band Tuesday to overcome superior height, weight and experience. Trailing at the half time intermission 27 to 24, the locals scored 18 points in a third period scoring spree to take the lead which was never relinquished.

Coach Robbins boys face the acid test on the home court tomorrow night when they engage the league leading St. Helens Lions in a game which will mean much in the Columbia county league. The Vernonia boys have been working hard to perfect a defense to cope with the high-scoring Saints, especially their veteran center, Glen Kinney, who has been a tower of strength in early St. Helens victories. School officials are expecting a capacity crowd for Friday's game.

Vernonia 47	44	Scappoose
Byers 10	F 12	Johnson
Riley 2	F 6	McReary
Rollins 9	C 16	B. Anderson
Nance 19	G 6	Pease
Larsen 5	G	Shearer
Melis 2	S 2	H. Anderson
Colsen	S	

Half Year's Work Done

High school students have been busy the past week with final examinations and Friday will mark the end of the term or the completion of one half year's work. However, there will be no vacation as school will begin again on Monday with no major changes.

and Mr. May and Mr. Kyle from Pittsburg have promised to help the boys at any time. From this course the boys will be able to pass the forest cruise and suppression test enabling them to work for the forestry department during summer vacations.

This basic training was first started in the high school of Salem in 1942-43 with the forestry department furnishing the text book; but this is the first venture of this kind to be tried in Columbia county and from the feelers that have already been put out, the interest in this activity seems to be a lasting success as a forerunner of more intensive study of Oregon's natural resource, the forest.

United War Fund Drive Successful

\$5,850.96 Donated by Local 5-37 Members Here for Chest Fund

At the meeting of January 13, Local 5-37, IWA completed its War Chest and Red Cross drive for the year of 1943 with a report that all members were proud of. Guests for the evening were R. W. Simeral, chairman of Columbia county war chest, R. Pollack, editor of the St. Helens' Sentinel-Dist, the chairman of the St. Helens war chest committee and Mrs. Harry Culbertson, chairman of Vernonia war chest fund with two of her committee, Mrs. Ralph Valpiani and Mrs. Ben Brickel.

Speaker of the evening was Natalie Panek, National CIO war relief director of the Northwest and Mr. Galbraith, editor of the International Workworker.

\$5,850.96 check donated by the members of Local 5-37 was presented to Mr. Simeral for Columbia's war chest and checks for \$287.68 and \$220.74 were forwarded to Clatsop and Multnomah counties respectively for their war chest fund. The balance of all money collected will be held in reserve to be presented to the Red Cross when their 1944 drive starts.

In addition to the amounts donated by the union, Mrs. Harry Culbertson turned in \$1,005.15 as Vernonia's contribution to the War Fund. Much credit for the success of the drive was due to the hard working committee which is as follows: Mrs. H. Sturdevant, Mrs. C. Walrath, Mrs. Ben Brickel, Mrs. A. Kullander, Mrs. V. Powell, Mrs. R. Valpiani, Mrs. A. Rice of Wilark, Mrs. Roy Hughes of Mist and Mrs. G. Bellingham, Mrs. Carrie Davis and Louise Johnson of Birkenfeld.

Some Shoe Types Off Rationing Now

Certain types of novelty and other low-priced women's shoes went on sale ration-free Monday in the shoe stores all over the country and will be available through January 29th. These shoes must sell for \$3.00 a pair or less and in this way the dealers may move limited quantities of wearable shoes not readily sold for ration stamps.

Mail order houses, wholesalers and manufacturers may also sell 15 per cent of their September 30 stocks of women's shoes ration free, subject to the \$3.00 price limit. The shoes must be marked "nonrationed" with official OPA stickers. Retailers will benefit from this provision, too, since shoes with "nonrationed" stickers on them may be sold rationfree any time and are not limited to the two weeks.

T Coupon Method Told

Since the new strip T coupons do not fit gummed sheets R-120, dealers are requested to place 10 coupons in each row by overlapping. Dealers should not cover any part of the top of Form R-120 as pertinent information thereon must be available for checking. Each filled sheet must contain fifty coupons. Gasoline distributors of Portland have been advised of this procedure and local distributors should follow this same set up.

Goat Meeting Planned

Members of the Nehalem Valley Goat Raisers association will hold a meeting Saturday, January 29, it was announced this week by O. G. Weed, president of the association. Time and place will be announced next week.

Wallace McCrae to Head "March of Dimes" Drive To Finance Polio Treatment

The "March of Dimes" campaign, intended to raise \$2,000 to aid in financing care for infantile paralysis victims in this county and to help provide funds for research on cures for this disease will get underway soon in Columbia county. Wallace McCrae has been appointed chairman for Vernonia and will endeavor to put the drive over successfully. Otto H. H. Peterson, Columbia county superintendent of schools, has been named to act as temporary chairman of the county in place of George Caldwell, chairman for the past several years, who is now ill.

This year's goal, based on a contribution of approximately a dime apiece from all of Columbia's people, is considerably higher than the sum the county has been able to raise in the past years. Usually this has totaled in the neighborhood of \$700.

As will be the case in the current campaign, half of this money was retained by the county chapter of the National Infantile Paralysis Foundation and the remainder went to the foundation, which uses it to finance research work and to purchase such equipment as iron lungs. Of the sum which the county chapter retained, approximately \$300 was turned over to the Shrine and Doernbecker hospitals in Portland to help finance care of those stricken with the disease.

Records disclosed that there have been five new cases of infantile paralysis in Columbia county this year, in addition to the six old ones. Three of these sufferers have been admitted to the Shrine hospital, one to the Doernbecker, three to the Multnomah county isolation hospital and one to the Good Samaritan.

Some of the county chapter's funds were used to send five Columbia nurses to Portland recently to study the technique involved in the Sister Kenney treatment for infantile paralysis.

Persons wishing to contribute to the "March of Dimes" campaign may do so by turning their money over to members of their own county committee or by sending the cash to Peterson's

office in St. Helens. Personal solicitation and contributions by unsolicited persons will be relied upon to raise most of the county quota, the chairman of the county declared, adding that last year's drive cost only 2.6 per cent of the amount raised, an unusually low figure.

Sees Rainbow At Night

One night the past week, Lloyd Callister, Oregonian carrier, was coming up the hill out of Timber when he looked up into the sky to the northwest and saw a brilliant rainbow in the sky. He was so impressed with the sight that he returned to the station at Timber and showed it to the agent. Mr. Callister first noticed the rainbow at 2:15 a.m. and said it lasted about 15 or 20 minutes.

All Officers of City Re-elected

At the regular meeting of the city council held Monday evening, all officers were re-appointed for the following terms and the contract to clean out the septic tanks of the city was approved.

The contract states that the work will be started on or before January 22 and to be completed within 30 days. Cost will be \$5.00 per load, each load to be at least two tons of measurable dirt. It is also stated in the contract that trucks of two-ton or more capacity will be used and that the work is to be performed with as little damage to any property as is possible.

Junior Play Due

The junior class of the Vernonia high school has chosen Noel Coward's "Blythe Spirit" as its annual class play. It will be presented on the night of February 4 at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Washington grade school.



Those Who Are in It



KILLED IN ACTION

From general headquarters in the South Pacific area comes word of the death of Joe C. Netka, former Vernonia boy, killed in action on December 29th.

In a personal letter to his wife General Douglas MacArthur says "His service under me was characterized by his complete devotion to our beloved country and his noble death integrates him with its imperishable glory. I lost a gallant comrade-in-arms and a splendid gentleman."

He is survived by his wife, Bessie Bell Netka, now of Vernonia, his mother, two sisters, and a brother in California, and his father-in-law, George Bell of Vernonia.

TO COMPLETE TRAINING

Pvt. Lynn Brady was in Vernonia for a few days visiting with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Brady. He has been training at Fort Riley for several months, and returned to Ft. Meade, Maryland to complete his training.

GETS WINGS

One Vernonia man was among those who were commissioned and given the silver wings of the military pilot at graduation exercises at the advanced twin engine flying school at Blytheville, Arkansas, January 7. The winning of the commission marks the successful completion of three phases of training; primary, bas-

is and advanced. The new officer is 2nd Lt. Marshall Charles Makinster, 22. He was formerly a logger and qualified as an aviation cadet January 26, 1943.

SERGEANT IN AUSTRALIA

Word has been received that Sgt. Bus Acord is serving with the air corps somewhere in Australia.

HERE WITH FAMILY

Art Spofford, Coxswain, spent two days in Vernonia with his mother, Mrs. Bessie Spofford. His sister, Mrs. E. S. Biddle and family came up from Astoria for the day. He left to go to Seattle to join his ship.

TO LEAVE FRIDAY

Claire Sunnel, who arrived here a few days ago for the funeral of his wife, will leave Friday for Camp Polk, Louisiana.

MARRIED IN VIRGINIA

T/Sgt. Clifton N. Hiatt and Mabel Musk Simpson were married December 18th in Sandston, Virginia, the ceremony taking place in the Methodist church where the bride has been organist for several years. The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Luther George Musk of Sandston, and the groom is the son of Mrs. Ethel Hiatt of Portland, sister of Mrs. Ralph Reynolds of Vernonia and graduated from Vernonia high school in 1939.

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