

County News

ST. HELENS TAX LEVY IS 61 MILLS

ST. HELENS — The tax levy is the second highest in the county this year, 61 mills, being next to Columbia City, which is higher with 67.9. Other cities in the county have levies as follows: Rainier 60.6, Scappoose 54.3, Vernonia 53.3 and Clatskanie is low among the municipalities with 51.8.

St. Helens' higher rate is caused by the two 5 mill levies by the city for sewage disposal plant construction after the war and by the school district which has a postwar building program for which it is creating a sinking fund.

WILD BLACKBERRY HARVESTING PAYS

ST. HELENS — N. J. Simon, long time resident of the Goble section, said that in his locality there were acres of the wild evergreen blackberries and where once they were considered a pest, now they are bringing good monetary returns.

Speaking for himself, he said that one day last week he went to the patches early in the morning and picked throughout most of the day and when he delivered the crates at the receiving station at Goble, he found he had picked \$12 worth during that time. The berries are shipped by truck to the cooperative cannery at Sumner, Wash. The price paid is 9c a pound at the Goble station.

ROAD LEVY PROPOSED FOR VOTE

ST. HELENS — The issue of a special 5-mill levy to supplement the post-war fund for oiling Columbia county roads, submitted within the past week by the county court, is expected to be on the ballot for the November 7 general election although it was not included in copy for the ballot, which County Clerk J. W. Hunt turned over to the printer on Wednesday.

With this exception, it is believed that all the measures and candidacies which are to be voted upon, are already in and were included in the ballot draft as it went to the printer. There remains the question whether the "state Townsend plan" constitutional amendment will remain on the ballot after the state supreme court rules on its validity.

Children to Be Immunized Tues.

Parents of all pre-school and grade school children who have not already been immunized against diphtheria will have the chance to have their children protected from this disease which annually causes the death of many children. Children under the age of six are especially susceptible. Toxoid is given to well children from nine months upward as a protection against the disease.

Ruth Peffley, county nurse, will be here Tuesday, September 26 and she, with local physicians will give the toxoid to all who wish it at that time. Charge for the service will be 35 cents.

Program Planned

A national school assembly program is planned by the grade and high schools for 2:30 p.m. Wednesday, September 27 at the Washington grade school auditorium. Appearing on the program will be Loveland Cota, concert tenor, who will sing popular and patriotic numbers. The public is invited.

Examiner Due

Driver's license examiners from the secretary of state's office will be in Vernonia Thursday, September 28 at the city hall. Anyone wishing a driver's license may take the examination on that date between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

EVANGELIST DUE

The Christian church is busily engaged in preparation for the coming of Earl Hanson Fife, evangelist, on October 1. He will arrive Saturday, September 30 and will have charge of the following morning service. He plans to close on Oct. 15. He will speak at a men's banquet Oct. 9.

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Overseas Mail Time Expires October 15

Christmas gift mailing to men and women overseas, and many more of them are overseas this year than last, must be done between now and October 15, the earlier the better the post office department says in order to insure delivery before December 25th. The October 15th deadline also applies to the mailing of Christmas cards which must be sent in sealed envelopes at the first class rate.

No requests from the addressees are required in connection with parcels to army personnel during this period only, but each parcel should be endorsed "Christmas parcel."

Packaging specifications are: Christmas parcels shall not exceed five pounds in weight or

15 inches in length or 36 inches in length and girth combined. The public is urged not to send food or clothing as gifts as soldiers and sailors are amply provided with such. Not more than one Christmas parcel shall be accepted for mailing in any one week when sent by or in behalf of the same person.

Time To Register Nears Last Date

The last date for which registrations may be taken for those people who wish to vote in the general election, November 7, is 30 days before the election and that time is drawing close. Registration must be made to vote for city, county, state and federal candidates and measures.

The registration must be made if a ballot was not cast in the last general election or if the residence of a voter has changed since that time.

A check with the records at the city hall Tuesday revealed that at least 50 per cent of city residents did not vote at the last general election and must reregister in order to vote the city ballot in November. The detail will be cared for at the city hall, Albert Childs, city recorder, acting as registrar for this vicinity.

Dance to Aid Phone Fund

Mother's Service club members are planning a benefit dance Saturday night, funds therefrom to be used for servicemen's telephone calls here. The raising of money by this means will make it possible to aid those in the service to call relatives here from any point in the country.

Present plans are that servicemen will be notified that money for phone calls is available so that they may use the service at no expense to them, merely making the calls collect.

The dance this Saturday, September 23, will be held at the Legion hall with Jess Taylor's orchestra playing.

Local Institute Planned Friday

Elementary school teachers, in the Nehalem Valley will meet Friday at the Washington grade school for the county institute which is planned this year in five districts instead of one meeting for teachers in the entire county.

The Nehalem Valley meeting will be held Friday of this week, September 22 and these schools are included in the group: Birkenfeld, Mist, Natal, Vernonia, and Kist. Pot-luck lunch will be a noon feature so that teachers from the various schools may get together.

The meeting begins at 9 a.m. and the day will be devoted to discussion of plans and policies for the ensuing year.

Two Petitions Filed Here for City Offices

Some interest in city politics was aroused here this week when two petitions were filed to place names on the November ballot. The terms of present councilmen, the mayor and city treasurer expire this year, leaving all positions open for places on the ballot. This situation has arisen due to the fact that several positions on the council have been filled by appointment of men to take the place of those resigned.

Petitions circulating Monday

and carrying a sufficient number of names to make them legal as required by law were those of C. F. Hieber, city treasurer, and George Johnson, present mayor, for those same positions on the ballot. Petitions still remain to be filed for the four councilmen. Names may also be placed on the ballot by a mass meeting of the voters who may choose their candidates. Last date on which a mass meeting may be held is October 7.

Health Group Meeting Here Successful

Organization Is Explained by Mrs. Sadie Orr Dunbar

Held here Monday night at the Masonic Temple was the second meeting of the Columbia county public health association since its reorganization in July and the election of new officers at that time. The meeting here was the first of a series that will be held in various localities in the county, the next being at Rainier in November.

Attending here were representative delegations from Mist, Birkenfeld, Clatskanie and St. Helens, in addition to a large group of local people, who heard the purpose and work of the organization explained by Mrs. Sadie Orr Dunbar, executive secretary of the state public health association. Prime objective of the county association this year is the mobile tuberculosis X-ray unit which will visit every locality in the county early next year. The association will ask that the unit be sent to Columbia county in April, 1945. Exact time will be announced when the unit can be here and advance notice will be widely circulated.

Service Free

The unit service will be free to everyone, making available to all the opportunity for a free chest X-ray to determine the presence of tuberculosis. As explained by Mrs. Dunbar, the unit is quite expensive to operate and detailed plans for its use must be made in advance so that no delay arises. Those details will be cared for when the unit's visit is definitely set.

In explaining the health association's work, Mrs. Dunbar mentioned that practically all support comes from the sale of Christmas Seals, 75 per cent of the amount derived from the sale remaining in the county for use, the remainder going for research and other purposes.

The meeting was conducted by Jack H. Murton, association president and arrangements were made by Wallace McCrae. Dinner for over 60 people was served by the Nehalem Social club and entertainment was provided by the high school sextet.

Class Officers Named For Year

Vernonia high school classes have organized for the year and have named their student officers. Senior officers are: president, Glen Justice; vice-president, Lloyd Stuve; secretary, Dan Rollins; treasurer, Helen Fowler; advisors, Mrs. Martin, Miss Beck and Mr. McCrae.

Junior officers are: president, Jack Buell; vice-president, Jack Riley; secretary, Patricia Berg; treasurer, Hildur Sundquist; advisors, Mr. Robbins and Miss Wilbers.

The sophomores named: president, Owen East; vice-president, Jim Ray; secretary, Miriam Corli; treasurer, Mildred Wolff; and advisors, Mr. Mills and Mrs. De ment.

Leading the freshmen are: president, Donald Cline; vice-president, Jack Frank; secretary, Bob Frederickson; treasurer, Roy Frank; and advisors, Mr. McEntire and Mrs. Robbins.

Heads Committee

Wallace McCrae has been named chairman of the legislative committee of the Oregon state teacher's association, the committee being the number 1 group of the northwest part of the state for Columbia, Clatsop and Tillamook counties. The committee will act on the legislative program to appear before the voters at the November election.

Those Who Are in It

GRADUATES

Among those graduating from an intensive training course of basic engineering training at recent service schools exercises at the Great Lakes naval training schools was Glenn A. Shipman, 17, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Shipman.

This Bluejacket was selected for his specialized training on the basis of his recruit training aptitude test scores. Graduates from the 20 specialized courses taught here at the service schools are sent to sea, to shore stations or to advanced schools for further duty.

LEAVES FOR GEORGIA

Pvt. James Burke, following a furlough here, left Monday to return to Augusta, Georgia. He is serving in the medical corps.

CAPTAIN NOW

Mentioned in this column last week was George Laird, who is here on furlough. An error in the article rated him as lieutenant instead of captain which it should have stated.

GETS PURPLE HEART

Cecil Andrews, who has seen action in France, is wounded and has received the purple heart award it was learned here this week by Marvin Turner. Andrews attended school here and is well known.

COMEDIAN ENJOYED

RIVERVIEW — Another of Uncle Sam's men writes as to the pleasure he and other navy men receive because of the visit of the comedian, Jack Benny and his troupe on their South Pacific jaunt to entertain the soldiers and sailors. This time it is Melvin Powell, AMM 2c, who wrote his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Powell, that his outfit in the New Hebrides Islands sat in the open through a heavy rain to see and hear their performance. "If they hadn't said a word," Melvin wrote, "all of us would have enjoyed seeing them; and how good it was to see well-dressed and attractive American women in the troupe of entertainers."

CALIF. WEATHER HOT

RIVERVIEW — Pfc. Tommie Hall informed his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Riley Hall, this week that a large number of the boys from Fort Lewis were sent to California for a period of maneuvers. The group he is with is stationed at Camp Beale where it is very hot and not a tree or hill in sight as far as the eye can see.

HERE FOR WEEK END

MIST — Wilfred Holce of the USN was here and in Vernonia during the week end. His wife returned with him when he returned to duty while he is stationed in Washington.

HOME FOR SHORT TIME

MIST — Joe Henderson of the merchant marine is home for a short time. He has just completed a trip to Italy.

WORKS ON PLANES

T Sgt. Hugh E. McDonald of Vernonia, crew chief in the eighth fighter command's well trained army of aircraft specialists in England, is one of the men whose work contributes to the great aerial offensive against Germany.

Assigned to a P-51 Mustang fighter base, he and his men help keep the swift combat planes in perfect condition for long-range bomber escort missions, ground strafing operations and low level bombing attacks behind enemy lines.

McDonald, a graduate of Vernonia high school, was formerly employed as a clerk with the E. J. Bell hardware company in Klamath Falls. Entering the air corps in March, 1942, the sergeant has served overseas for one year.

More "Those Who", page six

War Chest to Begin Drive In October

County Asked to Raise \$15,725 as Campaign Goal

Columbia county citizens will be asked to provide \$15,725 for the Oregon War Chest in a campaign opening October 9, it was announced here this week by Mrs. Harry Culbertson and Harry Hall, local chairmen, who will head the drive here. Mr. Hall will be in charge of the work for members of IWA Local 5-37 and Mrs. Culbertson will have charge of solicitation of those people who will not be contacted by the union.

Heading the county War Chest organization is D. O. Bennett, St. Helens, and the state organization is Charles Sprague, Salem.

The greater part of the Oregon War Chest funds will be transferred to the National war fund; a small portion is allocated to child-caring institutions in Oregon which are supported by voluntary gifts.

1944 Goal \$250,000,000

Nation War Fund, which has a 1944 goal of \$250,000,000, in turn allocates its funds to the USO, United Seaman's Relief, War Prisoners Aid, Refugee Relief Trustees, U. S. Committee for the Care of European Children and the accredited relief agencies for Belgium, Britain, China, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, France, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Poland, The Netherlands, Russia and Yugoslavia.

The Columbia county quota was accepted at a recent meeting of the county committee, at which all cities in the county were represented with the exception of Clatskanie.

The budget affecting the entire county includes, in addition to the amount to be turned over to the Oregon War Chest, \$1650 for administrative expense of the Boy Scout program within the county. For Vernonia no local community chest budget will be included this year, its needs being met by a surplus raised last year.

Culvert Placed For Bear Creek

The road crew of district 16 was busy part of last week and this placing tile across Second and Third streets for the passage of water in Bear creek. The old, wooden culvert was removed by means of a crane and was so badly deteriorated that workmen wondered that it had not collapsed before this time.

The new cement culvert is composed of sections five feet in diameter and five feet long, each weighing 3200 pounds. Sections were lifted and placed in position by means of the district's crane.

Christmas Seals Here

Those people planning to mail Christmas packages to servicemen overseas between now and October 15th may obtain Christmas Seals from Wallace McCrae. Although the regular seal sale will not start for some time yet, seals are available for this purpose for anyone wishing them.

Car Inventory Due

Automotive dealers having a stock of used cars must file an inventory report with the war price and rationing board before September 21. The report must show all used cars on hand as of September 11.

ALL TEACHERS BACK

All teachers at the grade and high schools were on duty this week. Two instructors were ill last week and unable to begin their work with the opening of school.