

## Events in Oregon

### VERNONIA CO-OP SEEKS POWER SALE IN YAMHILL

McMINNVILLE — The Yamhill county court is preparing an order designating the location and conditions for erection of power transmission lines along county roads by the Western Oregon Electric Cooperative, Inc., of Vernonia following notification by the cooperative of its "intention and desire" to serve northern portions of the county.

According to the information received here, the cooperative power company plans to erect transmission lines along certain roads in northern Yamhill county to serve farms and communities in the area.

### SMELT FINES HERE HIT \$1,800

GRESHAM — Fines assessed in the court of Justice of the Peace O. A. Eastman from violators of smelt fishing laws since the 1945-run started in Sandy river reached the \$1,800 mark Wednesday of last week.

Judge Eastman reported that an even 100 fishermen, both sports and commercial, had been haled into his court by Multnomah county deputy sheriffs and state police for all manner of law infractions.

### 476 X-RAYED SETS RECORD HERE

FOREST GROVE — A total of 476 persons were X-rayed Monday of last week between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. by the mobile X-ray unit outside the Legion Memorial hall.

Sponsored by Washington county public health unit in conjunction with the Oregon tuberculosis society, the tuberculosis survey was a success according to the findings of the Forest Grove unit. Advertised as having a 350 capacity as the equipment was new and had been tried out in only three other counties, Forest Grove furnished a record, the greatest number X-rayed in a working day since the machine has been in operation in Oregon.

## Weekly News Events Recorded

MIST — Mrs. G. B. Galton is getting along well from her recent spell of illness. Her daughter Gertrude Huchine is attending her.

Blood donors last Fri. to St. Helens from here were: Mrs. Geo. Jones, Mrs. A. E. Jones, Mrs. Roy Hughes, Mrs. Claud Johnson and Mrs. Guy Bellingham. Mrs. William Bridgers took the group up, she having given blood recently in Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Ballet drove down from Portland Fri. night and spent the week end at the L. P. Wikstrom home.

Mr. Kerr is doing the janitor work at the school taking the place of Mrs. Galton while she is ill.

The C. O. Hayden family went to Hebo to help his parents celebrate their wedding anniversary. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hughes spent Sat. eve. with the Querin family.

Mr. and Mrs. Ain Wallace are visiting friends in the valley before returning to Seaside, where they have bought a home. They were visitors at the L. Carmichael over the week end.

Floyd Libel was at home from Portland over the week end.

Mrs. A. E. Jones' daughter and friend came home Sat. for a few days.

"Shady" Lane was a recent valley visitor from Seaside.

The road crew are busy yet with taking out slides, removing remnants of trees, etc. from the storm of a week or so ago.

Lt. F. R. Wilk and Mrs. Wilk and son, Jackie, of Seattle were here over the week end visiting her mother, Mrs. I. E. Knowles. Jackie is joining the merchant marines on Sat.

Mrs. L. P. Wikstrom spent last week in Cal. She returned home Sun.

Bernard Dowling returned to work Mon. for Mathews Bros., after 3 months of illness.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Mathews are rejoicing over the arrival of a baby girl at the Emanuel hospital in Portland. Mr. Mathews brought them home a few days ago.

We understand Richard Banyer, with the armed forces overseas, was slightly injured recently. Seaside clam diggers Sun. were the Bern Bliss and Lloyd Garlock

## Washington Snapshots

While the WPB is preparing a new reconversion plan for getting industry back into civilian production, observers in the capital believe reconversion may be deferred until long after the war ends in Europe. No appreciable increase in civilian production is expected until procurement officers make full estimates of what is needed to smash Japan.

Representatives of wholesale and retail dealers have protested against an OPA proposal to require dealers to absorb any price increases granted manufacturers.

Paying a tax bill equal to twice the 1942 levy, American corporations contributed a total of \$16,789,553,313 to the U. S. Treasury in 1944.

Proposed agreements between the United States and British governments for avoidance of double taxation under their respective income and estate tax laws will soon be presented to the senate for ratification.

The plan to "streamline" Congress has been moving ahead. The senate has approved the house resolution establishing a joint committee to study and recommend reorganization of committees.

Rep. Frank Carlson (R), six feet of hard Kansas cattleman with slow, soft-spoken voice of the prairies, cut his eye-teeth in the hardboiled taxation (Ways and Means) committee some few years ago.

He quickly decided a taxer just couldn't know too much about a taxpayer. He sponged information from every known quarter and invented a few private sources. He interviewed, wrote letters. Between times he caught up with the economists and planners.

All this developed into a yearly chore, and Carlson thought it was the hard way. Last year he wrote himself a bill in typically sparse Carlson terms. He wanted Congress to set up a federal tax commission composed of members of Congress and representatives appointed from agriculture, labor, business, tax accountants, tax lawyers, tax economists and taxpayers.

The commission would sift the facts of taxation, hold hearings, have the power of subpoena and make tax recommendations to Congress.

Nothing stirred on Carlson's bill last year until heavy wartime taxes began to stir taxpayers. Then he was asked to make many speeches and to confer with tax complainants about relief and the future. The canny Kansan needed his audiences plenty about "personalizing your tax complaints when Everybody wants a cut."

"Why don't you get together with other groups?" he suggests. "When taxpayers divide, it just makes blocs in Congress."

All at once the Carlson bill began to look good. The Kansan was asked to put the measure in the hopper again. Taxpayer groups have put up some 60 post-war tax plans. The overworked Ways and Means committee has a mountain of planning to do, and few on Capitol Hill would deny that it needs expert help.

"I'm just a stubborn Swede," Carlson shugs. "But I guess sometimes I just make sense."

families. The Austin Dowlings have treated their house to a new papering job.

### FOODY WOOD?

Since food can now be made from wood, landlords who offer "room and board" may soon be speaking literally.

### The Vernonia Eagle

Marvin Kamholz  
Editor and Publisher

Entered as second class mail matter, August 4, 1922, at the post office in Vernonia, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879.

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### Cow Poison . . .

A forester has said it, and I bow to his authority, that "although bracken fern at times may be a very delicious and nutritious food for man, it is a well-known fact among scientists and stock raisers that bracken is also capable of causing serious stock losses because of its poisonous properties at certain seasons of the year."

The cows seem to agree. Even the boldest of bulls makes it plain, while grazing amid bracken fern or when eating hay in which it is entangled, that his position is, "I never touch the stuff."

My correspondent, William A. Weber, of the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station at Carson, Washington, reveals some more slants on fern that are new to me. Maybe I am too interested. But the subject looks to me to be of highest concern to everybody who has a stake in the use of the land—and that does mean everybody in Western Washington and Oregon.

80 per cent of the land in this region is tree growing land. This means that it is also bracken fern land. Bracken infests much of the remaining farm crop land. It invades cutover land and follows forest fires, serving as a nursing cover for tree seedlings. From February 1 on into May when new fern grows high, the old brown bracken on the ground is deadly fire hazard on a million acres and more of old burns and recent cutovers. And on fern many people know too much that is not true.

### Is Fern Your Asparagus?

Another letter writing friend had talked me into trying a mess of fern this year as a dish of cooked greens. I was all primed to go forth and pluck a pan of the first "fiddle-necks" to appear, and to have my good wife defuzz 'em and then cook 'em—first by parboiling in salt water, and then as with asparagus. But since hearing from Mr. Weber, she has balked, and I am not objecting so very much.

It's the idea of that fern poisoning lurking around in your innards innocent like for some months before doing its dirty work that worries me. Makes me think that as a vegetable the bracken is a Jap. B.-r.

Mr. Weber cites Muenscher's book, "Poisonous plants of the United States," as authority for

the proposition that the young shoots of the fern may be eaten if thoroughly cooked, and that the fresh rootstocks are often eaten by hogs without injury. "However, the mature fronds, both fresh and dried in hay, are poisonous to stock. . . . The poison is apparently cumulative, so that animals may not be stricken until several months after their first exposure to feed containing bracken."

"It is entirely possible that humans may be affected also," Mr. Weber continues grimly, "although it is difficult to be sure, since the symptoms may appear long after the plant is eaten."

### What Is It?

The true and exact nature of the poison in bracken fern is not known, my authority states. It seems that heavy study on it is under way. He says "Muenscher reports that recent experimental evidence indicates" that the fern may act as a photosensitizing agent when eaten by cattle. If this is true, the plants would be poisonous to light colored animals exposed to sunlight after eating bracken."

This was Greek to me. I tried it on a photographer and a forest engineer. Both are college men but this idea of fern as a host to a poison that may act like a photo film developer stumped them.

Might be we'll have to call on Hollywood for the film experts to give us the real dirt on our bracken fern.

Anyhow, I for one am not going to try to fool my innards by feeding them bracken fern as "Oregon Asparagus." To revert to the cow comparison, I am the cream Jersey type, and I have a hunch that the photosensitizing agent of bracken fern would soon run to overexposure inside my pallid hide.

### MANY HOURS LOST

Manhours of labor tied up in fighting forest fires each year could build more than 800 fighter planes.

**PLUMBING**  
Septic Tanks Installed  
**PAPERHANGING**  
**-PAINTING-**  
Frank Hirsch Ph. 462

## The Forum

### FORMULA FOR PEACE

We are face to face with the acid test as to whether we can win a lasting peace after the blaze of battle is subdued.

The success of any undertaking, whether it be individual, group or nation, must be founded on sincere human relations. Tolerance is the key that opens the door to success. We may not approve, we may even condemn certain characteristics and actions of our fellowman and therein lies our chance of success and our right to that success.

Environment causes all humanity to see and understand things in different lights. Experience comes to one in a certain way and to another in a different way.

It would be hard to find two people who would react to circumstances in the same manner. Then, too, humanity as a whole is selfish. Egotistical desire rises above all things. Unless we are big enough to rise above that personal desire, we are often delayed in achieving our goal.

More often than not, the individual who could help us most is one who has a different viewpoint than our own. Because of that viewpoint, we condemn him and thus lose the help he might have given.

Intolerance, indifference, greed and ignorance are blockades along the path of successful progress. Unless we endeavor and strive to understand the other viewpoint, we fail to cement what might have become a fast and lasting friendship. Through that friendship or through fellowship, by working and living together on friendly terms, viewpoints are ironed out.

That feeling of fellowship must exist within the group, the nation and between all the people of the world before we can gain any great degree of success or any worthwhile, lasting peace in the trying days that lie ahead.

Alfred A. Newton

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