

# Vernonia Eagle

"Vernonia, Gateway to Nehalem Valley Lumbering, Farming, Recreation"

Volume 23 Number 34

Vernonia, Columbia County, Oregon

Library, U of O

Thursday, August 23, 1945

## DISTRICT PLANS PROPERTY SALE

Announced this week is a plan of school district 47, Jt. to sell the property acquired through the consolidation of three small districts with district 47 in recent months.

Listed for sale are: the buildings and land of former school district 55 (Kist) located on the Beaver Creek road; building and land of former district 87 (Woodland) located a mile north of the Wolf Creek junction; and former district 15 at Keasey.

Bids will be received up to 8 p.m. September 8th by Lee Schwab, school clerk.

## County News

### CLATSKANIE PUD VOTES REDUCTION IN RATES

CLATSKANIE—The directors of the Clatskanie Peoples' Utility District have authorized a new schedule of reduced electric rates to be effective with bills issued after September 1945 meter readings.

The reduction amounts to about 12 per cent and will mean a saving of approximately \$8,500 per year to the district's customers.

This is the second reduction made by the district since it started operating in March, 1943 the first having been made in July, 1944, amounting to \$6,500. Savings to customers on both reductions totals \$15,000 per year.

### SCHOOL BELLS TO RING SEPTEMBER 10

ST. HELENS—Schools in St. Helens and throughout the county will open for the fall and winter term on September 10. The one exception to this opening date is the Yankton school district whose school will start on Sept. 4.

Francis L. Gill, superintendent of St. Helens schools, said the teaching staff of the three schools here is complete except for a commercial teacher in the high school and a music teacher at John Gumm.

### ALCOA MINING COMPANY BUYS OPTION HERE

CLATSKANIE — "What's in this red soil?" is the question that the Alcoa Mining company is wanting to solve.

Willard and Franklin Evenson have given a year's option on 300 acres in the Apiary district west of Rainier to the company a subsidiary of the Aluminum company of America.

Tests are expected to be run to determine which ores and minerals are in the ground. If option is exercised within that time, the agreed purchase price has been set at \$65 an acre. In the event the land is purchased it will be subject to oil leases already signed but in such part which is not covered by the oil

## Regulation of Fire Subject Of Ordinance

### Attorney to Write Sidewalk Ordinance For Early Adoption

The business transacted by city councilmen Monday evening covered a topic which concerns the safety of every home and business place in the city—fire. A good deal of consideration has been given the subject in past months and that consideration terminated with the adoption of an ordinance designed to place more strict control on the hazard of fire. Important details of the ordinance which will directly affect everyone appear on page 5.

The ordinance gives the city fire marshal authority as an inspector to determine fire danger and to enforce rulings which will do away with much or all of the danger. The ordinance was designed from similar ordinances in effect in other cities.

Several other topics also received discussion Monday, including the city dump and the sidewalks. City Attorney R. M. Burley has been instructed to write an ordinance governing the construction of sidewalks and designating the walks which must be built. A check of needed walks has been made by Marshal A. D. Lolley.

Trouble with garbage disposal also will lead to a ruling on that problem for adoption at a later time.

## Winslow Funeral Held Wednesday

Funeral services were held here Wednesday, yesterday, at 2 p.m. for Darrel Halbert Winslow, son of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Winslow of Birkenfeld. Death came August 18, 1945 at the age of 11 years. The boy is survived by his father and mother; one brother, Jack; and three sisters, Esther, Alline and Beverly.

Services were conducted by Elder Westman of Astoria at the Bush Funeral Home and interment was at the Vernonia Memorial cemetery.

leases the owners retain the oil and gas rights.

### 130 RESPOND TO BLOOD PLEA

ST. HELENS—With 130 donors at the donor center at St. Helens the quota was more nearly reached than for several months. Members of the mobile unit from Portland said they were very pleased with the turnout. They said the showing was better in St. Helens than in the most recent visits to Vancouver and Longview.

## THOSE WHO ARE IN IT

### BOMBARDIER STUDENT

Aviation Cadet Eddie E. Smith has just reported for duty at the Big Spring, Texas bombardier school, of the AAF training command.

Cadet Smith is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Smith of Vernonia and his wife is a resident of Houlton. He entered the service October 5, 1943 and was stationed at Hobbs, N. M., prior to his assignment to the Big Spring school where he will receive a course in bombing.

The Big Spring bombardier school, one of the world's largest bombing colleges, graduates a new class of precision bombardiers every four weeks. The intensive 24-week course qualifies these airmen for their appointment as officers in the army air forces.

### HERE FOR 30 DAYS

Pvt. Eldon Wildt arrived here Friday from Ft. Lewis for 30 days at home before returning to the hospital where he is receiving treatment for wounds while overseas.

### ENLISTED IN NAVY

James Frank Ray has been enlisted in the navy at the recruiting station in Portland. Ray is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Weston Sheeley and has been employed at the O-A mill.

### HERE FROM FT. LEWIS

Major Jay Taggart and Mrs. Taggart were here the past week end to visit Mrs. Taggart's mother, Mrs. Harold Dow. The Taggarts formerly resided here during the time he was manager of the Joy Theater. He is stationed at the Ft. Lewis separation center now.

### AT FT. BRAGG

Cpl. George E. King, who was recently home on furlough, reported to Ft. Lewis and was sent to Ft. Bragg, N. Car. Due to the fact that he is high point man in the division (82) he was transferred into Co. C 804 replacement battalion of the 2nd army.

### REMAINING IN GERMANY

Pfc. Lloyd O. Gillham remains in Germany although he has 92 points. He writes that he may be sent home in November. Lloyd left for service in July, 1942, and had no furlough home before going overseas the following Feb. Landing at Casa Blanca he took part in the fighting through North Africa, then was in on the invasion of Sicily, and later fought on bloody Anzio Beachhead. He went along into France with the southern invasion of the Mediterranean area and fought across the Saar with the Trailblazers, the 70th Division that trained at Camp Adair.

Since V-E Day, he has spent all possible time trying to find his brother, Sgt. Warren Gillham, whom he hasn't seen since Sept., 1941. So far one brother has always moved before the other arrives, so that it has not been possible for them to meet. Each spent some time in Koblenz.

### HERE ON FURLOUGH

RIVERVIEW — Pvt. Rob't. Wyckoff who has just completed four months service in Germany arrived in Portland Mon. where he was met by his wife and daughter Laurel. He came over on the Marshal Joffre last Tue. and continued his journey by rail. He saw some active service Robt. will be sent to the Pacific area at the close of his 30-day furlough here.

### RETURNS TO U. S.

S-Sgt. Elmo Aldridge, who has been overseas 36 months with the 1st tank battalion of the 1st armored division in Italy, was returned to this country August 12 via the air transport command's Caribbean division. The Caribbean division of ATC has been assigned the job of flying 30,000 returnees from Europe to Miami army air field each month.

Aldridge was then sent to Camp Blanding, Fla. to a reception center. He has been decorated with five battle stars and the good conduct medal.

### SOMEWHERE IN AFRICA

RIVERVIEW — Pvt. Leonard Wood, AAF, writes his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Wood, that he is somewhere in Africa but still enroute to an unknown destination. Leonard, who has a wife and baby in Merced, Cal. and who has been in the service more than two years is having his first overseas experiences. From excerpts from his letter one gathers that he thinks Americans should be much more satisfied with their lot and do less complaining. He says in part: "I have seen thousands of people who have practically nothing, thanking God for the benefits He has given them when their all was just Life."

### EXPECTED HOME

MIST — S-Sgt. Lawrence Wikstrom is expected home on a 21-day leave the 1st.

### HOFFMAN IN PANAMA

Albert Hoffman, former employee of Clark and Wilson and resident here, has been in the navy over one and one-half years and has participated in the invasions at Leyte, Guam, Corregidor and the China Sea battle. He is serving on a destroyer and is in charge of an anti-aircraft gun and crew. His ship is in Admiral Micher's task force which did a lot to finish the Jap navy and which recently went through the typhoon in Asiatic waters.

### ARRIVES IN PANAMA

Mrs. Ruth Fowler received word from her husband, Hal D. Fowler, ARTIC, who is assigned to fleet air wing 3, that he had arrived in Panama amidst quite a din as all the ships in the harbor were blowing their whistles. It was V-J Day. He says they did quite a good job of celebrating there that night with GI cans rolling down ladders, yelling, whistles blowing and lights going on and off.

### GETS DISCHARGE

MIST — Pvt. Earl Knowles is at home, having a discharge from the army. He's served the past three years, a greater part of the time in the Panama zone. "Tobie" says its great to get home.

More "Those Who" page 8

## Article Tells of S. S. Amendment

One of the coming problems that will require the attention of people here as well as over the nation deals with governmental control of medicine. Some comment has been heard regarding the subject locally. Appearing on page six is an article which deals with a part of a senate bill introduced to amend the social security act.

The measure will give information about the proposed change.

## DISTRICT VFW TO MEET HERE

The Veterans of Foreign Wars posts and their auxiliaries of district 2, comprising Clatskanie, St. Helens, Rainier and Vernonia, will hold their district meeting in Vernonia this year. The date is Friday of this week, August 24th, at 8 p.m. Visitors from the Astoria post are also expected to attend.

The Veterans meet in their own hall at Bridge and 2nd streets and the auxiliaries in the Odd Fellows hall. A joint meeting is scheduled after separate meetings are held for a light lunch. All members are urged to attend.

## Column Gives GI Query Info

"I still have some back pay coming from the army. How do I get it?" or "Does a returned soldier have any protection against civil lawsuits?" Returning veterans and families of servicemen in this community and others are asking these and similar questions in increasing numbers every day.

Because of this vital interest and because this paper has cooperated with the war effort in every way possible a weekly column called "Veteran's Service Bureau" appears this week for the first time to answer questions submitted by servicemen, their families, or discharged veterans.

Appearing at the head of each week's article is the address to which questions may be directed. Off-hand, guesswork answers will not suffice. Instead, the proper official source in the war or navy department or the veteran's administration will be sought out for specific answers. Direct mail answers will not be given but answers will appear at a later time in the column.

## Hausler Buys Clatskanie Yard

Announced a few days ago is the purchase of the C. B. Walkley Lumber Yard at Clatskanie by Fritz Hausler, the deal to become effective September 1st. The yard will be operated by Harold Davis who has recently been discharged from the air corps. Mr. and Mrs. Davis will make their home at Clatskanie.

Kiln dried lumber will be available at the yard.

### P O Hours Change

New hours are announced this week for the Vernonia post office by Postmaster Emil Messing. Beginning this Saturday, August 25th, the office will close at 1 p.m. instead of 6 p.m. as has been the Saturday closing time for the past several years.

## Property Improved Here By New Signs, Cement

Improvements to local property have been underway for the past several years and have gradually led to a much better appearance for the city of Vernonia. The quantity of that work being done at the present time is probably greater than at any period to date for several projects are being carried out now which will greatly add to the appearance and value of buildings when completed.

A number of cement walks have been poured in keeping with the city program which urges that improvement. In addition to those already poured, cement will be added to the walk at the side of the Joy Theatre

## Robbins Takes Coaching Job At McMinnville

### One Teacher Engaged For Vacancy; Others To Be Named Soon

Another change in the teaching set-up of Vernonia high school is announced this week when Coach Orile Robbins turned in his resignation here to accept a position at McMinnville. The new position is an advancement that gives Mr. Robbins the work of physical education director and coach in that high school and opens the way for further advancement at a later time. He is a graduate of that school.

Mr. and Mrs. Robbins have been at Vernonia for three years, coming here from Amity where he formerly coached. His work as instructor and coach here has been highly successful and he is appreciative of the cooperation received. In making the announcement, Mr. Robbins mentioned that the time spent here had been very enjoyable both from the standpoint of working with school students and from the part he has taken with the summer park program.

The park program will end Labor Day and the Robbins expected to leave for their new location the next day. Wallace McCrae and Ray Mills, high school officials, were in Portland Tuesday to engage instructors to fill present vacancies in the staff.

While there Mr. Mills was able to hire one teacher, Miss Edna Feldin of Orchards, Washington for the school science position and to obtain prospects for other instructors.

## Bean Pickers Start Work Mon.

A bus load of workers began Monday to pick beans near Forest Grove as part of the summer farm work which a number of local people have engaged in this summer. About 30 people made the first trip Monday but did not get Tuesday as the picking did not demand their appearance. A large number made the trip Wednesday.

Transportation to and from the bean fields is provided by George Johnson's school bus.

### Club Dinner Dated

Tickets will be sold the latter part of this week for the Boost-er club dinner which is dated for Monday evening of the coming week, August 27th. The meeting will be held at the Legion hall and the Vernonia Service club will serve the dinner.

### NO SEWING INTENDED

Due to lack of materials, Red Cross sewing will not be undertaken this week at the high school.

building and a cement floor and walks will be installed at the Culbertson Blacksmith shop.

New roofs are the work plan this week for the building housing the Vernonia Billiards, the Vernonia Auto company and Miller's Department store. Improvements by means of signs have also been painted for the Vernonia Bakery and Brunsman's Sporting Goods store.

Paint alone has been a big help to many Vernonia homes, some of the work being done by owners and some by contract. At present three public buildings, the high school and high school gym and the I.O.O.F. hall are being painted.

## Vernonia Firemen Average Call Weekly

During the past year or so the Vernonia fire department has averaged a call weekly to extinguish fires which nearly always have been reached quickly enough to prevent a great amount of damage. That is the information revealed by the record of the department which now is composed of nine members.

Fire Chief Harry Culbertson attributes part of the success in extinguishing fires before they reach considerable size to the department's new pumper and tank which most usually makes it unnecessary to connect hose to a fire hydrant. The pumper has proved a great help as was demonstrated twice within a very short time recently. One of those times was the grass fire on the Oregon-American hill when the pumper came to the rescue and contributed much to bringing the

blaze under control. The other time was more recent—this week—when a brush fire was reported at the end of C street. Again the pumper prevented a spread of the flames.

Every call answered since the pumper has been used, with the exception of one, was extinguished without connecting to a fire hydrant.

Members of the department have been busy this summer as the calls have averaged one a week, Culbertson stated. Sometimes no alarm is sounded if the flame is small and there is not too much danger of a serious spread. For example, the truck was taken out about 2 a.m. one morning recently for burning sidewalk but the alarm was not sounded because the need to call out all department firemen was not apparent.

No check has been made of the time taken to reach the scene of a fire and have water on it but several estimates have been made placing the time between two and three minutes.

Frequently, alarms are not received until the blaze has gained considerable proportions which in turn makes more difficult the job of extinguishing it.

The department's membership now includes nine names. In addition to the chief they are: James McCrory, assistant chief, Cleve Robertson, R. L. Spencer, Lyman Hawken, Bob Thompson, John Erickson, Ralph Aldrich, Jr., and Frank Slemmons. Members answering a call usually receive \$2.00 each, the exception being when an unusually long time is required at the scene of a blaze. The firemen get state industrial accident coverage when on duty.