

Vernonia Eagle

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VERNONIA, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

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Magazine Features Tree Farm

July Issue Devotes Space for Progress, Plans for Future

The July, 1946 issue of The Timberman, an international lumber journal, carries a good sized article dealing with the Columbia County Tree Farm, some early history of this area and future plans as outlined by Glen Hawkins, farm supervisor.

Several pictures are carried dealing with Rogers Park which is proving more and more popular with local people as a recreation spot. Along with the pictures the story tells the early history of the Rogers family and how the present park site was part of a land claim made by Nels Rogers' father. Nels Rogers is now state forester and his mother, Grandma Rogers, lives here.

Contained also in the article is information about the accomplishment made so far on the property purchased by Crown-Zellerbach corporation from Clark and Wilson on April 1 of last year. Told is the story of road building and the clearing of old railroad grades so that about 200 miles are usable for fire protection; fire fighting equipment and provisions for reporting fires are explained; and the relogging activity is given considerable mention.

Get Fire Permits Soon, Agent Asks

"Application for permits for early burning should be made now or as soon as possible." That is the information contained in a release to farmers this week by County Agent Geo. A. Nelson. Permits may be obtained from Frank Sargeant at the Pittsburg station or Ray Furcamp at the Wilark station for residents of this area.

The news release made by Mr. Nelson also contains some pointers to prevent fires:

1. Clean up all trash around buildings where fires could start;
2. Prepare fire guards around slashings or crops which might burn.

In case fire does start these steps are pointed out:

1. Volunteer fighters should immediately start to fight it.
2. Call collect the fire guard station at Pittsburg or Wilark, giving description of the land and the location.

Preparation for fire calls has been made throughout the Columbia County Tree Farm by installation of phone boxes at convenient intervals. Fires reported before having a chance to spread are much more easily extinguished and destroy much less property.

520 Farms Signed Under AAA Practices

Columbia county farmers are beginning to realize more every year the need for more soil and water conservation practices, according to W. C. Johnson, Mist, chairman of the county agricultural conservation committee.

A tabulation of intended conservation practices on the 520 farms signed in the 1946 AAA program reveals that farmers are planning to do conservation practices amounting to much more on approximately the same acreage as in 1945. For instance, in 1945 the intended amount of lime was 1200 tons and in 1946 farmers have shown intentions of applying 2000 tons. Figures show that 6000 more pounds of pasture grass seed is planned to be sown this year, bringing the total intentions up to about 80,000 pounds

Postal Savings Growth Indicated in Report

Postal savings increased at the Vernonia post office during the fiscal year from July 1, 1945 to June 30, 1946. That and other data concerning the office's activities for the period just ended are contained in reports which have just been completed by Postmaster Emil Messing and the office staff.

On deposit in postal savings at the year end were \$257,941 which increased from \$253,656 at the same time last year. Savings certificates issued totaled \$188,292 and certificates cashed amounted to \$184,007. Office patrons received \$4320.40 in interest on money they withdrew.

The money order department also transacted business totaling a considerable figure although less than the '44-'45 year. Orders written for '45-'46 amounted to \$270,144.30 compared with \$279,185 previously. Fees charged for the writing totaled \$1562.83 and the number written was 12,562. An order was written on the average of approximately 11.17 minutes of every working hour at the office.

Cause for the decrease in amount of money orders written is attributed to the use by office patrons of postal notes, of which \$19,319 were written for the last three quarters of the year.

War bonds, or United States Savings bonds as they are now called, are still being sold in some volume to people who are investing money in that way instead of postal savings. However, the amount is less than the \$222,150.50 sold for the '44-'45 year but totals \$101,487.50 for the '45-'46 term. Savings stamps

amounted to \$803.75 being purchased mostly by youngsters.

The one department that determines a post office class is the receipts from the sale, principally, of stamps. This office has a second class rating because it is well over the \$8000 amount necessary to receive that rating.

During the fiscal period stamp sales amounted to \$13,157.62. That figure is slightly less than the previous year when the sale was \$13,362.70.

AAA Office to Make Payments

Dairy feed production payments to Columbia county milk and cream producers covering sales during the period of April, May and June, 1946, are now being made by the AAA office. Rates of payment vary for the period, a county office bulletin states. Farmers will receive 70c a hundredweight for whole milk sold during April and 17c a pound for butterfat on cream which produced and sold.

For the months of May and June payments will be 55c a hundredweight for whole milk sold and 15c a pound for butterfat on the sale of cream.

Applications for the April, May and June payment may be made at one of several meetings planned in the county or at the AAA office in St. Helens.

Meetings have been scheduled for: Rainier, city hall, July 18, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Mist, grade school, July 19, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.; Vernonia, Washington grade school, Friday, July 19, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.; and Clatskanie, Odd Fellows hall, July 24, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Last Rites For McMullen Read

Funeral services were held here Sunday afternoon, July 7, at 2 o'clock for David McMullen a resident of this vicinity for many years. Interment followed at the Vernonia Memorial cemetery. The deceased came here in 1921 and was employed most of the time with the forestry department.

Surviving the deceased are: His wife, Ida; four daughters, Millie Doud of Elsie, Annie Salmi, Marshland, Marian Dickie, Portland and Marie Benson of Jewell; one son, Robert McMullen of Marshland; one sister, Jennie Irving of Canada; four brothers, Bill McMullen of Canada, Tom of Lebanon, Harry, Oregon, and Bob of Montana; and five grand children.

Rev. Ernest P. Baker officiated at the service which was held at the Bush Funeral Home.

4-H Club Plans Fair Exhibits

Plans for entering the exhibits of members of the Vernonia Livestock club at the county fair occupied most of last Saturday's meeting at the G. C. Kirkbride home.

The fair will be an event for August 15, 16, 17 and 18.

Also discussed Saturday was an intended judging tour to be held in the near future. Mrs. Florence Kirkbride is the club leader.

V.F.W. Fun Group To Meet July 19

Pack Rat Pup Tent Number 11 of the Military Order of the Cooties will meet at Vernonia July 19. That is the announcement from the publicity chairman of the order which was instituted at Clatskanie June 23. The Pup Tent 11 includes Vernonia, Clatskanie, Rainier and St. Helens.

The Military Order of the Cooties is the honor degree and fun fraternity of the V.F.W.

for the county. Drainage ditches, another large item under the conservation program, have more than doubled since last year. Farmers this year are planning to dig 1,698,000 feet compared to 800,000 feet in 1945.

The above practices plus many more which come under the AAA program bring the value of intended practices in this county to \$97,000. The big question is—how much of this will be completed by the end of the year? Last year practices valued at \$68,000 were intended, but only \$28,000 worth were carried out.

Even though the value of Columbia county's intended practices are almost \$100,000, Columbia county was only allocated \$30,000. This means that unless more funds are available at the

end of the year, or a large portion of the intended practices are not carried out, the payment to each producer will be less than his maximum earnings. Therefore, a percentage figure will be applied and each farmer will receive his share of the county allotment.

Farmers are urged to complete as many conservation practices as possible even though the problem of getting materials and help still prevails. Although the county allocation isn't near the amount of intended practices, practices should not go undone, because in the past years we have always been able to make 100 per cent payment on all approved practices carried out. The value of these practices to the farm and to the county is much greater than the payment.

Milk Price Advance Is Made Tues.

Grade A Quart to Cost 16½c Same As Portland Area

Customers of milk distributing firms here started paying 16½ cents per quart for grade A quality Tuesday of this week when the price advance became effective.

This price is the same as that charged in the Portland area F. A. Bush, Nehalem Dairy Products owner, said. At the same time the farmers who produce the milk are receiving the same amount of money as those farmers in the Portland area. Several farmers here have signified that they would discontinue production or haul to other markets if the higher amount was not paid. The increased price the farmer is receiving and the customer paying is due to the removal of government subsidy, Mr. Bush said.

No information relative to cream prices was available Tuesday.

Retain Sugar Book OPA Says

"Hang on to your ration book four, or sugar ration book. It contains sugar stamps which are required to get both canning sugar and the regular periodic sugar allotment," Mrs. Marjorie Leo, OPA sugar rationing representative, advised housewives last week.

Mrs. Leo said reports were coming in that many persons had torn up their ration books already, declaring the OPA was no more and the books would not be needed.

Spare stamp No. 10 in ration book 4 became valid July 1 for 5 pounds of canning sugar. Together with spare stamp 9, it is valid through October 31.

Spare stamp 49 for 5 pounds (the regular allotment) became valid on May first, and another stamp will be validated the first of September.

Regulation on Grass Cited

Marshal A. D. Lolley cites a city ordinance regulating the cutting of grass for the information of property owners this week. The regulation explains the procedure necessary to remove the grass before it becomes a fire hazard.

The ordinance states: "Owners or persons in possession of lots, parcels of land, improved or unimproved, shall, during the months of May, June, July, August and September of each year cut and remove therefrom and from the half of the street or streets and alleys abutting the property, all weeds . . . and any other thing likely to cause fire."

The marshal asks that people residing in the city observe the regulation so that no further action will be necessary.

Store to Open Sat. Morning

Complete redecoration and remodeling of the interior of the local Safeway store is planned for completion so that the store can open Saturday morning, Manager Fred Coons said early this week.

All new fixtures are being installed and a grand opening event is scheduled for Saturday. The changes being made this week will make possible better service to the public Mr. Coons said.

X-ray Unit Scheduled for Vernonia Check July 29-30

The Columbia County Health association has just completed plans for the annual visit of the mobile X-ray unit to this county and unless plans are changed after the first announcement early this week, will be in Vernonia on Monday and Tuesday, July 29 and 30.

The x-ray unit visited this county for the first time in March, 1945, and at that time made chest x-rays of more than 600 Vernonia people. This second visit will make possible an annual check-up for those people who had pictures taken then and it will also provide an opportunity for others to be x-rayed.

Arrangements for visiting the unit will be announced at a later date.

Staff Lacks One Teacher

Only one teaching position for the high school staff yet remains vacant, Principal Ray Mills said Sunday when he announced the names of teachers which he had engaged recently. The difficulty now, he said, is obtaining places for the teachers to reside. If living quarters could be assured prospects, there would be little difficulty in obtaining an instructor for the remaining open position, an English instructor.

Mr. Mills recently hired: Mrs. Mary Aronsen to teach music. She comes here from Willamina where she taught for the past two or three years; Miss Dallas Persson will teach commercial. She formerly resided in one of the Dakotas; Gordon Johnston, now attending the University of Minnesota, will instruct science.

Anyone who owns a home that will be available to rent are asked to contact or write Mr. Mills at his home here.

New Concrete Mixer Received

People having need of a concrete mixer can now rent a brand new one from the City of Vernonia because the city took delivery Wednesday of such a machine.

An order for the mixer was placed several months ago so that the old equipment, which had nearly served its time, could be replaced.

If and when cement becomes available the plan is to continue with new sidewalk construction, hence the mixer will be rented to individuals under the same procedure as before.

Ease of operation and transportation from one location to another are features found in the purchase. Its capacity is three and one-half cubic feet.

Fire Protection Policy Explained

The policy of fire protection in the northwest forest district was explained to foresters at Forest Grove last week.

The policy of handling fires will be to get the fire out first by devoting the entire resources of the district for any fire in the district. This procedure may be more expensive, it was explained, but the fire can be overcome more quickly.

Foresters attending from the Columbia County Tree Farm were Merle Cline, Robert C. Lindsay and Paul Godmanson, the latter two being new foresters with the organization.

FIXTURES BOUGHT

The restaurant fixtures formerly used in the Squeeze-Inn were sold last week to Cleve Robertson and will be used at the Chat 'N Nibble cafe.

time by Mrs. Estella M. Harris, St. Helens, executive secretary of the health association.

By means of the chest x-ray tuberculosis can be discovered in its early stages when no symptoms are evident. The sale of Christmas Seals finances the unit's visit and makes possible the x-ray surveys.

COUNTY NEWS

ADAMS APPLIES FOR PILE DRIVING PERMIT CLATSKANIE—Application has been made to the war department by Archie Q. Adams, Clatskanie, Oregon, for a permit to drive piling and construct a pile and timber trestle (log dump) in Beaver Slough approximately one mile northeast of Clatskanie.

CLERK RECEIPTS CLIMB HIGHER

ST. HELENS—Cash receipts of the county clerk's office is again on the upper flight, as it were. The office took in almost \$1300 in June, which is straining the record if not actually breaking it.

The fees were allocated as follows: Circuit judge \$51; district attorney \$60, court reporter \$65, law library \$39.30, migratory chattels \$20, liquor license \$5, and county treasurer \$1055.90. The total was \$1296.10.

During the month the office issued 12 applications for marriage and 10 applications for divorce.

RETIREMENT PLAN USED BY COUNTY

ST. HELENS—Although some county employees protested the assessment on their wages, there was comparatively little opposition to the new retirement set-up which became effective here when the 1946-47 fiscal year started Monday.

As a result, all county workers are now covered by the retirement plan and will contribute an average of five per cent (with higher percentages from older employees who are nearer retirement age) out of their pay. The county will match these contributions and has budgeted \$5000 to pay its share of the load for the next 12 months.

253 Sign for School Bill

Petitions signed by 253 residents of Columbia county were included in the 39,960 certified signatures which initiated the basic school support fund bill to be voted on at the November 5th election, according to Mrs. Harry H. George, chairman of the sponsoring committee.

The work of obtaining the support necessary to place the "equal opportunity for every school child" measure on the ballot was accomplished through the co-operation of the Oregon Congress of Parents and Teachers, Oregon State Association of School Boards, the Oregon Education association and Ronald E. Jones.

Agent Displays Power Tiller

The Vernonia Service Station has received the first Rototiller to be displayed here and has information about the new product for anyone interested, George Johnson, owner, said early this week.

The machine is a power tiller with a number of attachments for planting, cultivating, cutting weeds, mowing lawns, belt jobs, etc. The display Rototiller was received here last Saturday, but delivery of machines to fill orders is expected in a short time, Mr. Johnson said.