

Vernonia Eagle

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

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VERNONIA, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1945

Schools Get Income Tax Allocations

County to Receive \$162,509.92 from 8 Million Fund

Columbia county school districts are due to receive \$162,509.92 from the 8 million dollar income tax fund which is being distributed throughout the state. Information about the allotment was made last Thursday by Mrs. Lois D. Kent, county school superintendent. The allotment is figured on the basis of 18.7c per pupil per day and \$252.94 for each teacher.

The receipt of this fund by the county districts will reduce taxes on property. Nehalem valley districts due to receive a portion of the fund are listed below with the total tax levied by that district listed first, the amount of income total tax levied by that district tax each is to get listed second, and the amount of money to be raised from other sources third:

Natal \$2840, \$591.79 allocated, \$2248.21 to be raised; Birkenfeld, \$3085, \$1099.19 allocated, \$1985.81 to be raised;

Vernonia grade school, \$62,085, \$18,493.80 allocated, \$43,591.20 to be raised.

Mist, \$5172, \$2206.45 allocated, \$2964.40 to be raised.

Vernonia high school, \$43,454, \$6399.63 allocated, \$37,054.37 to be raised.

Vernonia Gets \$3,452 of Taxes

The City of Vernonia is one of six Columbia county towns scheduled to receive allocations from state collected highway and liquor revenues for the past year. Information about the allocation was received here a few days ago in a bulletin from the League of Oregon Cities which also listed amounts other county towns will get.

Total amount to be received by Vernonia is \$3452 of which \$1331 is from liquor revenues and \$2121 from highway revenues.

St. Helens is to get the largest turn-over of \$10,307. Other county towns participating in the revenue allocation are Columbia City, Rainier, Clatskanie and Scappoose.

All Day Picnic Sunday Plan

An all-day picnic is planned for next Sunday at Rogers park, Rev. Ernest P. Baker, Christian church minister, said Wednesday.

A pot-luck dinner is scheduled at noon and games in the afternoon. A vesper service will be conducted before returning to town. It is planned to leave the church at 9 a.m.

Check School Wiring for Needed Repairs, Defects

Right now is the time to check wiring in school buildings served by the West Oregon Electric Cooperative, Frank D. Seelye, manager, said Monday in urging school officials to include wiring inspections among the clean-up jobs that precede the opening. If school house wiring or appliances need repairs, there is ample time to get them in readiness for full service before the fall and winter terms.

These suggestions are made to help in checking wiring systems:

1. Search all visible wiring for defects.
2. Check convenience outlets and switches.

Extreme Care Needed Now in Forest Areas

Enough of the summer months remain when warm, dry weather can be expected to make extreme care in forest areas highly necessary in order to preserve the good fortune so far this season in respect to fires, Keep Oregon Green officials warned Monday. Heading the KOG group for the Nehalem valley is Glen Hawkins who is asking that people living here be even more careful than usual in forestry practices in order to prevent fires.

The marked decrease in the number of man-caused fires during the last few years is encouraging to those who have been promoting the "keep green" program because it indicates that people are becoming increasingly conscious of their responsibility.

However, now is not the time to relax every precaution when in areas where fire can easily start.

Hop Picking to Start Sept. 2

Another call for pickers is made this week by Ferd and John Hartwick of Banks who have hired local pickers for strawberries and hops for several years past. This time, the work will be picking hops the owners said Tuesday when they made arrangements for pickers to sign up in advance of the starting date.

Their hop crop this year will be ready by September 2 and again transportation will be provided to and from Vernonia.

Sixty pickers are needed and those wishing to work can sign with Mrs. Frank Hartwick at 192 North street or by calling 1042. Local pickers were complimented by the owners Tuesday when Ferd Hartwick stated that Vernonia people do a better job than itinerant pickers which were employed in the years previous to the war.

Linemen Start Pole Setting

Two line construction crews are now at work on the West Oregon Electric's new transmission line which is to be built to the Nehalem valley from Warren, Frank D. Seelye, co-op manager, said Monday.

One of the crews under the foremanship of Charles Robinson started setting poles Monday morning and the other crew, headed by Charles Biggs, is digging holes.

News of the start of this work will be welcomed by electricity users in this part of the territory served by the cooperative.

3. See that light receptacles are in good working order.

4. Test the hot plate, vocational equipment or any other appliances.

5. See that proper safety shields are in place where needed.

6. Be sure that fuses are of the correct amperage and that there are spares on hand to replace any that may go out.

7. See that there is an ample supply of bulbs of the right wattage to replace burnouts.

School lights and appliances are an investment in better eyesight and it is essential that they be in condition to operate efficiently and safely Mr. Seelye said.

To forget for a moment could easily lead to a disastrous fire because the recent lack of rainfall leaves wooded areas extremely dry.

The Columbia County Tree Farm's efforts towards reforestation and protective measures will go far to provide a sustained yield of forest products for this area and every citizen has a stake in thinking protection, talking protection, practicing protection and keeping Oregon green.

Retail Ceiling Car Prices Up

Retail ceiling prices for all new passenger automobiles have been raised an average of 7.3 per cent over June 30, 1946, levels to meet the requirements of the new price control act, E. J. Klein, district OPA automotive price specialist, was advised, effective August 12.

Only distributors and retail dealers will benefit from today's increases. Manufacturers' maximum prices remain unchanged.

As a result, the price increases necessary now to restore dealers' full peacetime mark-ups or trade discounts vary with the different makes and models depending upon the relative amounts of the increases due to materials costs and specification changes. For all models and makes, the increase averages 7.3 per cent.

Information Center Starts

An office where newcomers to Vernonia can be referred for information was started this week at the bank building under arrangements made Monday evening by the Vernonia Booster club. Club members have thought for some time that such a center would be desirable due to the number of people needing information and having no place to make inquiries.

A sign designating the center will be erected in a few days and Bill Horn at the Vernonia Insurance Exchange has agreed to answer questions or refer newcomers to those who can provide the information.

Gordon Named To State Board

Paul Gordon has received an appointment to a position on the Oregon State Board of Health as a delegate at large, it was announced here a few days ago. The appointment became official as of July 25 when Mr. Gordon was notified that he had been named, but little information was available about the duties connected with the appointment.

Mr. Gordon served last year as president of the Columbia County Public Health association.

KOG Stickers Received

Jackie Dowell started distribution of stickers which were received locally a few days ago from the Keep Oregon Green committee. He will place them in prominent places to remind local people of the need to practice care with fire, especially during the dry days of the remainder of the summer.

COUNTY NEWS

CUKE HARVEST UNDERWAY NOW

SCAPPOOSE—Cucumber harvest, which started in some fields the first of August, is now underway in virtually all fields in the Scappoose district but will not reach its peak until this week end. Yield will be at capacity from Aug. 15 to Sept. 15.

Picker situation is good at the moment, although additional workers are needed. Some owners are paying 75c per sack and the average good picker can pick as many as 12 sacks per day, while other owners are paying 75c per hour for workers.

LARGE NUMBERS TAKE X-RAY AT CLINICS

CLATSKANIE—Clatskanie people who were x-rayed in the recent mobile chest x-ray clinic numbered 239 this year.

It was a smaller number than the previous year but a large number of Clatskanie persons were x-rayed in the Clatsop county mills where they are employed.

There were 2064 x-rayed in the county as compared to almost 2600 last year.

LONGVIEW ASKED TO SUPPLY WATER

RAINIER—The Rainier water commission in session Wednesday evening of last week had had no official reply to a recent inquiry asking if the Longview filtration plant could supply the Rainier system with water.

The inquiry from the local water commission was one step in an extended investigation of ways and means of providing an ample supply of water for the water users of Rainier.

FRANCHISE PAY RAISED BY P.G.E.

ST. HELENS—St. Helens will get \$1200 more each year from the Portland General Electric company in the way of franchise fees as the result of an ordinance read Monday night of last week at the council meeting. Under the new schedule, the power company will pay \$2700 annually in the way of rent of city property used for its poles and lines instead of \$1500.

ALCOA MINING CO. TAKES UP OPTION

ST. HELENS—The Alcoa Mining company exercised its purchase option to 79 acres of land in the Apiary district owned by Willard Evenson of Clatskanie, this week. The price of the land as given in the option was \$65 per acre. The option was taken about a year ago.

Service Shop To Open Soon

Floyd Ensworth announced plans early this week to begin work September 1 in the repair shop which is being operated now by Dwight Strong at 969 Bridge street. Since coming to Vernonia Mr. Ensworth has been employed by the West Oregon Electric but resigned there a short time ago in order to begin work in the shop.

Electrical repairs and service for appliances of all kinds will be offered patrons and the store will be open every week day.

Long Call Made

Cpl. Vern Sykes, who is now stationed on Luzon, P.I., called Mrs. Sykes here Wednesday of last week. The call came by radio to San Francisco and from there by telephone.

Schools Lack 8 Instructors Yet

The shortage of teachers for the opening of school presents a serious problem to school officials here both Paul Gordon, grade school superintendent, and Ray Mills, high school principal, said this week. The vacancies must be filled by September 9th which is scheduled as the opening of the coming school year.

In the grade school five vacancies exist now Mr. Gordon said Tuesday and prospects for obtaining teachers for these positions are poor. Both officials give two reasons which have caused the teacher shortage which is worse now than a year or so ago.

One reason that teachers who were married to servicemen quit the profession when their husbands returned to this country and received discharges. The other reason is the servicemen who were formerly teachers are not returning to teaching work when discharged but are taking advantage of the opportunities offered to take further schooling themselves.

In addition to these reasons, most prospective teachers inquire first about housing before they will consider taking a position and there are no houses available.

The high school staff has three

positions unfilled Mr. Mills said and that condition is worse now than a month ago when only one instructor was needed. Since then two have resigned. Present vacancies are shop, English and commercial.

Summer repair work at both the grade and high school buildings is complete with the exception of furnace installations which are to be made within the next few days. The Washington school oil tank is ready and the burner installation is expected this week.

The high school oil tank is ready for installation as also is the furnace. Some work remains in the high school gymnasium but will be completed in plenty of time for the opening date next month.

Tell Future Plans Craig Advises

All of the 4000 veterans attending summer school in Oregon under the G.I. bill must advise the veterans administration immediately of their future educational plans, Thomas M. Craig, V.A. representative in Vernonia, warned.

This "paper work" calls for completion of forms with the following information: (1) Date when present training will be interrupted; (2) Whether course will be continued in the fall; (3) Whether leave of absence is desired.

High schools, colleges and universities of the state are distributing the necessary forms, which are similar to those filled out by enrolled veterans last spring, Craig said.

Failure to turn in one of the forms will deprive the student veteran of his chance to apply for earned leave. Subsistence may be paid during leave on the basis of two and one-half days for each month of training. This time, however, will be deducted from the veteran's total entitlement.

Craig will be at the city hall in Vernonia each Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

3 Per Cent Tax Would Injure Business, Said

"A tax cost of 19.7c per dozen on raw materials (products of farm, forest and fisheries), because Oregon is an exporting state. Less demand for agricultural products, less acreage farmed, fewer persons employed, lower land values, decreased values for property taxation. A vicious circle."

OB & TR officials point out that the tax would have an inflationary effect on consumer prices. The pyramiding 3 per cent tax would make it impossible to sell many Oregon products in competition with similar products from Washington, California, Idaho and other adjacent states.

The article continues: "The Townsend 3 per cent tax would suck the lifeblood out of business in Oregon. Less demand for Ore-

Prevention is the best and cheapest method of forest fire control.

Keep Oregon Green