

Vernonia Eagle

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VERNONIA, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

THURSDAY, DEC. 29, 1949

4-H Clubs Total 70 in County; More Expected

Seventy 4-H clubs have been organized and are now active throughout Columbia county, according to figures released this week by Harold Black, extension agent in charge of 4-H club work. A total of 600 boys and girls are now enrolled in 4-H club work.

Clothing clubs claim the largest number of any project. There are 18 clothing clubs, as compar-

ed to 16 cooking, 14 health, 10 dairy, six forestry, five knitting, one homemaking and one rabbit club.

This is a much larger number of clubs than was organized at this time last year. Black stated that by getting organized earlier the clubs will have more time to complete their work. This will not only result in better quality work but will give the clubs more opportunity for outside projects.

Other clubs will probably be organized soon. These are expected to swell the number of 4-H clubs and club members to the largest number in the history of club work in this county.

Clubs now active in the Nehalem Valley include cooking clubs led by Mrs. Florence Kirkbride, Mrs. Violet Aldrich and Mrs. Virginia Walker, Mrs. Besie Tapp, Mrs. Alice Garner, Birkenfeld; and Mrs. Aldon Ashley, Mist.

Clothing clubs are being led by Mrs. Virgil Snook, Mrs. Alice Gwin, and Mrs. Helen Spofford.

Dairy clubs are under the leadership of Ralph McKee, Byron Kirkbride, Henry Anderegg, and E. T. Johnston, Birkenfeld.

Robert Lindsay and Robert Mathews of Mist are each leading forestry clubs. A knitting club is also being organized.

Special Singing Program Enjoyed

The Vernonia Community Sing was held at the Christian church December 18 with Barbara Bass as leader and Mrs. Kaspar, pianist.

Since this was a special Christmas program the audience enjoyed singing the old familiar Christmas carols. Special numbers were sung by Sally Roediger, Robert Kimball, Patricia and Margaret Wells, Mrs. Alfred Jones and her sister. Mr. Russell played an instrumental solo and Little Max Snook gave a delightful reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

A gift offering was taken to give Christmas cheer to some needy families and Mrs. Bass and Mrs. Russell were appointed to see that gift baskets were sent.

The next meeting of the Community Sing will be held at the Assembly of God Church, January 8 at 2:30 p.m.

Sings are ordinarily held every other Sunday, but due to the Christmas and New Year's holidays, they were held three weeks apart. This first Sing of the New Year will be under the leadership of Mrs. Irma Chance and Marshall Crowell, president, urges everyone who likes to join in congregational singing or listen to special numbers to attend.

Sportsmen to Meet Jan. 7

According to an announcement made early this week by R. M. Aldrich, secretary of the Vernonia Rod and Gun club, members of the organization will hold their annual meeting at the high school Saturday, January 7 at 8 p.m.

Purpose of the meeting will be to elect officers, make any necessary changes in the by-laws of the corporation and transact any business that may come up at that time.

Social Security Rate Increase Effective on Wages in 1950

Hugh H. Earle, collector of internal revenue, reminds employers and employees of the Oregon district that the Federal Insurance Contributions Act provides for an increase in the tax rate under that Act to one and one-half per cent on employees and one and one-half per cent on employers, based on all taxable wages paid on and after January 1, 1950.

Ever since the beginning of the social security program, of which these taxes are a part, these rates have been one per cent each on employees and employers and Collector Earle called attention to the change in order to prevent confusion in preparing January payrolls.

This change does not affect the rates of income tax withholding from wages, which are the same as they were in 1949.

Employers were also reminded, however, that new regulations will be effective January 1 regarding the depositing and reporting of both the F.I.C.A. taxes and income tax withheld from wages.

Starting with wages paid in

Two Amateurs Get Mention

Final competition to determine the winners of cash prize awards will take place at Hillsboro January 25 for 24 amateur acts which were selected from 65 participants who recently auditioned there and of whom two were from here. All the other contestants originally entered in the amateur program held earlier this month were from Washington county with the exception of Lois Schwab and Jean Turner.

Both local girls will compete in the finals at the program scheduled late next month at the Hillsboro high school auditorium. The program of events is being sponsored by the Hillsboro junior chamber of commerce and judging will be done by an applause meter. Master of ceremonies will be Johnny Carpenter, announcer for KOIN.

Tickets for the program January 25 are available at the Vernonia telephone office.



GLEN HAWKINS is shown standing beside a two-year-old hybrid poplar tree which Columbia Tree Farm officials are watching with interest because of its phenomenal growth. The tree is located on the Farm cottonwood plantation on Pebble creek. The growth was 92 inches in the first year from a rooted cutting. (No. 3)

County Loses Top in Mint

Because of losses sustained during the flood last year, Columbia county fell from its position as number one producer of peppermint oil in the state of Oregon, it was revealed last week in an Oregon State college statistical yearbook on specialty field and drug crops.

Columbia county had led the state in both production and acreage for more than 10 years, but in 1948 gave up first place to Marion county, which had 31 per cent of the acreage.

Even though cash receipts from farm marketing of peppermint oil in Columbia county dropped nearly 50 per cent, the peppermint crop still yielded \$710,000. A normal year, 1947, showed the receipts at \$1,400,000 to give an indication of the value of the mint farming to the county.

Other figures on the peppermint crop in Columbia county showed: Area harvested, 1947, 4,000 acres; 1948, 3,220 acres and production, 1947, 200,000 pounds; 1948, 130,000 pounds.

The increase in acreage in mint in this county in 1947-48 compared to the 1940-44 average is about 40 per cent indicating that the industry is becoming of more and more importance to the county.

Most of the mint growing in the county is in the Clatskanie and Rainier areas.

Services Read At Buxton Tues.

Funeral services for Samuel Hyett Stowell were conducted at the Buxton Assembly of God church Tuesday following his death at Salem December 23. His death came at the age of 77 years, 10 months and 19 days.

Mr. Stowell was born at Yuba, Wisconsin February 4, 1872 and is survived by three daughters, Laura Thacker, Nellie Thacker and Sylvia Falconer and one son, Otto Stowell.

Interment was at the Buxton cemetery and the Bush Funeral home was in charge of arrangements.

Stores to Be Closed Mon.

Most Vernonia places of business will close their doors for two days this week end because the New Year holiday falls on Sunday. As has been customary in the past, doors will be closed also on Monday.

The Oregon-American Lumber Corporation mill will also resume operation Tuesday morning after closing down for the week end and the same procedure will be followed at Camp Olson.

Austrians Study Timber Methods

Dr. Peter Handel-Mazzetti and Arnold Alsaesser, Austrian foresters, visited the Columbia Tree Farm recently to study methods being employed in this area in the logging, transporting and milling of second growth timber. These two European foresters are visiting timber-producing areas of the United States to study mechanized logging methods and report their findings to the Austrian government. They will recommend specific types of machinery and equipment to be purchased by Austria with ECA funds. Such equipment will be used to mechanize Austrian forest operations.

The visiting foresters reported that logging in their country is done with horses, oxen or even by hand. No machinery is now being used. Many of the steep slopes, in the Austrian Alps country are logged by means of sliding the logs down the slope by hand.

The tour included a visit to current thinning operations going on in the Natal area, thinned area north of Mist, a stop at Garlock and Clausner's mill and a look at the new Crown Zellerbach road being constructed near Natal. Mr. Alsaesser reported that prior to the end of the war, when several bulldozers were made available by the U. S. Army, all road construction in Austrian forests was done by hand. The purchase of several war-surplus bulldozers has literally revolutionized road construction in their country.

Voters to Decide Fund Use Sat.

A reminder to the people interested in the business of school district 47, Jt., was given earlier this week by Glen Hawkins chairman of the board of directors, when he emphasized the importance of the special election Saturday evening, December 31. It is scheduled between the hours of 8 and 9 p.m.

The December 31 date for balloting was set recently by the board in order for people in the district to

decide what to do with \$32,129.35 in funds available for expenditure. The amount remains after attorney fees from an award of \$42,129.35 made district 47 by the state supreme court against the U.S. National Bank. The money must be spent or committed for expenditure by June 30 of the coming year or it will go to the county for expenditure throughout districts governed by the county rural school board.

Should the money revert to the county, district 47 would probably received between five and six thousand dollars of the 32 thousand.

The proposal to be voted upon Saturday will open the way for the district to make several important changes which are necessary because of increasing enrollment and out-dated equipment, all being changes that can be made without additional property tax levies.

Changes proposed by school authorities include the addition of two new classrooms, new lighting for all rooms and provision for playground space and equipment which is not now available.

Enrollment figure gains for the past several years indicates the need for more classroom space. Data released by Superintendent Paul Gordon on the enrollment of students since 1946 indicates a steady increase from 465 for that year to about 555 at the present time with the result that a number of teachers are instructing more students than specified as the maximum by the Oregon state department of education.

State requirements call for not more than 30 pupils per teacher in the upper division and not more than 25 for the lower division which is the first three grades.

From the standpoint of lights, Mr. Gordon has indicated that no rooms now meet state requirements. Complete new lighting will be necessary to bring the grade building within the law. The state has also recommended that the district provide playground space and equipment which is not now available.

The election December 31 will make it possible for residents of the district to decide whether they wish to spend the \$32,000 remaining for improvements here or allow it to revert to the county for the reduction of tax levies.

Merit Badge Show Planned

A committee to be in charge of arrangements for the coming Boy Scout merit badge show was named recently with Kent Bauersfeld as chairman. Announcement of the committee was made earlier this week by Lloyd Quinn, Scoutmaster, who also released the names of the other members of the committee.

Working with Mr. Bauersfeld will be Lew Choate, Bill Horn and Tom Bateman. They will be in charge of planning the show while the regular Boy Scout and Cub Scout committees will have charge of preparing the boys for the event. The merit badge show will take place during national Boy Scout week early in February.

Accomplishments Of Month Noted

December has been a busy month for the American Legion Auxiliary.

The Christmas calendar of activities which started early in the month included over 100 assorted gifts for the Veterans hospital bed side gift shop and a cash donation of \$28.05, also a cash gift of \$60.00 to the child welfare center and \$10.00 cash for the Yanks who gave.

On December 17 a Christmas party was given for the Teen-age recreation center, the Auxiliary presenting them with a record player and serving refreshments.

A Christmas party for Legion and Auxiliary members and their families was enjoyed on December 19. This affair was well attended.

Plans were completed for the annual New Year's Eve carnival dance for December 31.

Qualifications for Training Met

All the qualifications necessary for entrance to army officer training school have been met by Albert Woolsey Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Woolsey, who entered the army in October. Young Woolsey returned here a few days ago for the holiday season.

He expects to be assigned to the school as soon as he reaches his 19th birthday. In the meantime he will complete his basic training in about a month and then expects to be transferred to Camp Belvoir, Virginia to the engineer headquarters. He is stationed at Fort Ord, California and returned there Wednesday morning.

Sign-up at 18 Still in Effect

The information reaching the recruiting service is that all boys who reach their 18th birthday must report to the nearest selective service board and register for the draft. There may be some changes made in the draft law at the next session of congress, but the present law is still in effect and will continue to be so until changed by law.

Word of the requirement was given in a reminder issued a few days ago by Cpl. Keith Cowan, recruiter who visits Vernonia regularly each month.

Seal Sale Fund Exceeds \$3000

The total in the Christmas seal campaign in Columbia county—one of the most successful in history—soared past the \$3,000 mark last week, it was reported by Mrs. Estella Harris, executive secretary of the Columbia County Tuberculosis and Health association.

The Thursday total, as announced by Mrs. Harris, was \$3398, a large amount of which will be used for the 1950 program of combating and preventing tuberculosis in Columbia county.