

Vernonia Eagle

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VERNONIA, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

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THURSDAY, JULY 2, 1953

Public Hears Explanation Of Sewer Plan

Project Outlined For City Residents At Open Meeting

A general explanation of the proposed sewer main project for the Corey hill area, an outline of the costs, the method of financing and plans for the future were presented Monday evening at the public meeting which took place at the IWA hall.

The general explanation came from Mayor Lyman Hawken and details pointing out the necessity for the installation and how it would be carried out were told by three men who are authorities on such work and who were asked to be present to give such answers.

ENGINEER SPEAKS

Here to represent the Oregon state board of health and also the state sanitary authority was Kenneth H. Spies, assistant chief engineer. He pointed out the health menace arising from open sewage, the danger to children and adults from typhoid and other diseases and the need to do away with this danger.

In respect to the present large septic tank being used to collect sewage for that part of town east of Rose avenue he had this to say. The sanitary authority will grant a period of five years before it must be replaced. At the end of that time the city must construct a sewage disposal plant that will properly handle sewage so as not to pollute the Nehalem river. He emphasized that water flowing from a septic tank carries much sewage in solution even though solids remain in the tank to undergo bacterial action.

STANDARDS LACKING

This sort of system, as is now used, does not provide a pure effluent and does not in any manner conform with standards of either department he represents.

N. W. Haner, who represents the engineering firm working for the city, told listeners the engineering plan tentatively worked out up to now is designed to do the job at a cost as low as possible yet provide a satisfactory system.

He answered queries about cost for the connection of homes to the sewer line, pointing out that the \$50 proposed connection fee permitted the right to connect. The cost of providing the connection from each house to the line would be the home owner's responsibility. This \$50 fee would be paid only by the home owner when the connection was made, not by owners in areas of the town already served by sewer mains.

ALL PAY \$1.50

The \$1.50 per month sewer use charge would apply to all users of the system throughout the city and would be collected with the monthly statements issued by the city for water use.

Final speaker was Ben Rinehart, county sanitarian. He pointed out that he had been called frequently to answer complaints of home owners on Corey hill about sewage and could do nothing in those individual instances until the entire hill problem is conquered.

In addition to the facts presented by speakers, it was mentioned that the run-off of sewage from part of the hill now enters Rock Creek above the city swimming pool, which in itself is highly undesirable.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

General consensus of opinion near the close of the meeting was to present in detail points about costs and construction of the proposal. Appearing on page 6 of this issue of The Eagle are questions that have been voiced by property owners interested in the affair and answers determined by either the preliminary engineering report or the state sanitary authority.

Vacations to End July 13

Work at the Oregon-American mill will end Friday evening for the July holiday week and will not resume until July 13 while O-A loggers employed at Camp Olson will remain off work for another week. Work will resume at camp July 20.

Columbia Tree Farm employees ended work Thursday of last week for their two-week vacation period and will return also on the 13th of the month.

Mill employees receive only one week vacation at this time but will take another week in the fall.

Bid Awarded for Apiary Road Job

M. L. O'Neil & Son, construction company, Eugene, was low bidder Thursday for work on the Rainier-Apiary road, according to the state highway commission.

The commission opened bids on a number of road projects Thursday and Friday at Portland, among them the Apiary work.

The M. L. O'Neil company bid \$41,740.50 to grade and lay a rock base on 1.21 miles of the Apiary road. The section, which eliminates two sharp curves and reduces the grade of a hill, will later be surfaced.

The project is being financed jointly by the county, state and federal government with federal funds paying 60 per cent of the cost, and the state and county, 20 per cent each.

The road connecting Highway 30 west of Rainier with Highway 47 at the Oak Ranch junction, was recently declared a federal aid secondary highway.

In its meeting the state highway commission also designated the Columbia river highway between Rainier and Astoria as a throughway.

Safe Opened by Thieves Friday

Thieves made a haul of approximately \$1000 last Friday night when they broke into the safe located in the office building of the Cedarwood Timber company. Entry to the safe was gained by cutting the safe door with an acetylene torch and judging by the extent and manner done, police believe the job was the work of amateurs.

The door was cut and portions removed in several places before entry to the safe was gained. Safe burglary insurance was not carried to cover the loss.

Welfare Child Aid Load Decreased for Summer

Support for 40 children over 14 years of age has been withdrawn from aid to dependent children cases for July and August. Payments for 10 of the 32 cases affected have been suspended completely for the two months because no child in the family is under age 14. This action is based on the assumption that seasonal work will be available and these children can earn two months support.

FUNDS SAVED

Details of the welfare program as it concerns children were issued earlier this week by the county public welfare commission which indicated that the saving of public funds amounted to \$1,483 a month because of the withdrawal. This is the third year this step has been taken by the commission.

Last year two children out of 28 removed, failed to secure work. Three had kept no record of their earnings. The other 22 made \$4,633.00, an average of \$201.00 for those who worked. This average includes some high earnings.

COUNTY AVERAGE LOWER

The average for all children last year was \$165.00. As the state



W. A. DAVIS, new president of the Lions club, accepted the gavel of authority Monday evening from outgoing president Guy Thomas at the formal installation ceremony which placed in office the men who will lead the group for the coming year. Working with Davis during his term of office will be Bill Vicek as secretary; Lowell Hieber as treasurer; Gene Lacy, treasurer; Art Gardner, Lion tamer and Jim Cox, Jr. and Wesley Bolmeier, directors. The club will discontinue meetings temporarily during the summer, but is scheduled to resume again September 14.

Two Units to Begin TB Search in County Soon

Tuberculosis may not be at all welcome in Columbia county after July 25, if citizens of the county have anything to say about it. July 25 is the date on which two x-ray units begin the search for unknown cases of tuberculosis among Columbia county residents over 15 years of age.

DEATHS DECREASE

"Deaths from tuberculosis," says Dr. J. B. Steward, Columbia county health officer, "have decreased rapidly the past several years." This has been due mainly to better methods of treatment and to finding cases of tuberculosis early when there are no symptoms and when they are more easily cured.

"Because we would like to see Columbia county clear of this disease," Dr. Steward continued, the Columbia County Medical Society, Tuberculosis and Health association and health department will sponsor a county-wide chest x-ray survey from July 25 to August 22. The two x-ray units will be located in various places throughout the county, giving every citizen an opportunity to have a chest x-ray without charge. And it isn't necessary to remove clothing, so having an x-ray will take only a minute."

FULL HELP NEEDED

Dr. Steward pointed out that a program offering a chest x-ray to everyone is a big job that can't be accomplished by one person

or one organization. It will require the co-operation of every organization as well as every individual to be successful. "There is only one chest per person," he said, "so if every adult doesn't bring his chest to be x-rayed, no one can make up the deficit."

CANCER FOUND TOO

Other chest disorders are also discovered in the chest x-ray surveys, Dr. Steward emphasized. There have been many cases of early cancer of the lung found in these surveys around the state; and cancer, as well as tuberculosis, is more easily cured if found early. Also, the x-ray may reveal disorders such as tumors and certain heart conditions.

Meetings to prepare various areas for the coming of the x-ray units are being held in Clatskanie, Vernonia, Mist, Rainier, Goble-Deer Island, Scappoose, and St. Helens between now and July 11.

New County Cost Sheet Prepared

The Columbia county budget committee completed preliminary work on the 1953-54 budget last week.

A two-day meeting of the committee ended Tuesday. Members discussed the projects that should be included in the budget and set preliminary figures for various county services.

A public meeting will be held sometime in July to hear objections or suggested changes.

Members of the committee are Clarence Evenson, Clatskanie, chairman; Robert Mathews, Mist; Walter M. Erickson, St. Helens; County Judge John Whipple, Rainier; and County Commissioners Donald Parcher, Rainier and Clyde Henderson, Vernonia.

THOSE WHO ARE IN IT

Carl Wikstrom, who has been home on a 30-day furlough from Georgia, returned there Monday. He has been visiting his parents, the L. P. Wikstroms.

Pfc. Albert Woolsey, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Woolsey, was here last week end from Fort Lewis.

Firemen Called

Volunteer firemen were called into action shortly after noon Sunday to the Elizabeth Mullins home when a fire burned out. No damage resulted.

Landscaping Methods Told Garden Club

Officers Selected To Head Group at Thursday Meeting

On Thursday afternoon in the Sundland Electric show room 15 women and one man gathered to revive the Vernonia Garden club.

New officers were elected as follows: chairman, Mrs. Marie Frazee; vice-chairman, S. D. Waite; secretary, Mrs. Dudley Spofford and treasurer, Mrs. Sam Hearing, Sr.

Jess Thornton of Warren, who is landscaping the high school grounds, accompanied by Mrs. Thornton, gave a very interesting talk on landscaping. The following are some of the high lights of his talk.

GRAFTING EXPLAINED

He told of grafting to produce different colors on the same shrub and also stressed the proper planting of shrubs. He brought out the use of the right kind of fertilizer.

There are three schemes always to be considered when planting—color scheme, leaf scheme and eye scheme. The planting of berry bearing shrubs should be used to provide color to the garden after flowers are gone.

Of course proper soil is essential for any planting. In the right soil anything will grow.

Transplanting in wet weather is often not as successful as in dry weather because air pockets are apt to be formed in wet weather.

CLUB STATES AIM

A general discussion followed, in which some interesting and informative garden helps were brought out.

It is the aim of the club to improve and beautify the vacant lots on Bridge street. This will call for help from the service clubs of the city and all public spirited citizens. It may seem late in the season to begin any such work, but because of the constant rain nothing could have been done before this.

A proper slogan would be "Watch Vernonia Bloom!"

Paris Trip Started

Mrs. Merle Cline left Monday for Paris, France to visit her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Don Cline. She went by train to New York City where she will stay a few days. From there she will go on by plane.

County Drivers To Race July 4

Members of the Columbia County Drivers' association will stage a full July 4 hardtop race program at McMinnville Saturday.

More than 20 cars are expected to turn out for the event. Included in the program will be a helmet dash, a series of heat races and Class B and A main events.

The Yamhill County Sheriff's posse, sponsors of the race program, have promised that the track at the McMinnville Shodeo grounds will be in top condition with sufficient oil to eliminate dust.

Drivers of the St. Helens, Vernonia, Rainier and other Columbia county communities will participate.

Parole Officer Issues Order

Wayne Meyers, who was arrested by city police June 21 on a charge of intoxication on a public street, was taken to the county jail at St. Helens yesterday because of an order issued by a state parole officer last Friday. The order came after parole had been broken.

At the time the order was issued by the officer, Meyers had been released from jail on bail, but was returned to the city jail to await being taken to St. Helens where disposition of the case will be made.

Ambulance Trustees to Plan Vehicle Dedication

Tuesday evening's meeting of the board of trustees, which is charged with administration of business relating to operation and maintenance of the Vernonia community ambulances, brought forth tentative plans for a formal dedication of the vehicle. That was, however, only one of the matters which the board will take care of in coming weeks concerning the ambulance.

COMMITTEE NAMED

For the dedication Earl Atkins, chairman of the board, named as a committee to work out the program, Sherman Fisher, Mike Anderson and Marvin Kamholz. They were charged with the task of handling not only the dedication, but with formulating a plan by which additional funds can be raised to meet operation and maintenance expenses.

Another problem facing the board is to determine a schedule of charges for trips which will meet the costs of operation and at the same time provide a fund to offset depreciation. Insufficient time has elapsed since the

ambulance was placed in use to set up a true schedule of costs so at least a month more time will be required before a nearly true cost basis can be worked out.

TWELVE TO DRIVE

So far 12 prospective drivers have indicated they would be available to answer calls, but they have not yet been asked to make trips and will not be asked until driving and first aid instruction can be given.

That instruction will be made available at an early date by a representative of Buck Ambulance, Portland, the trustees were informed. Arrangements for the instruction will be made by the firm through Jim Cox, IWA business agent.

WHERE TO CALL

In the meantime, calls for ambulance service may be made to any of the following: Bob Curi, Merle Graham or W. A. Davis.

The committee named to handle the formal dedication has not yet determined the date for the event, but has considered a day the latter part of this month. Definite announcement will be made later.