

Vernonia Eagle

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VERNONIA, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

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THURSDAY, DEC. 3, 1933

Death Claims Pioneer of Valley at 88

79 Years Spent as Resident; Homestead Known as Riverview

The funeral of Andy Parker took place here Sun. at the Bush Funeral home chapel following his death November 26 at the Jones hospital in Hillsboro where he was taken Tuesday of last week after being found ill at his home. Commitment was at the Vernonia Memorial.

Andrew Monroe Parker of Vernonia, passed away at Hillsboro November 26, 1933, at the age of 88. He was born on July 21, 1865, in White Cloud, Brown county, Kansas and was the son of Clark L. and Melissa Parker. Andrew, or Andy as most all of his friends knew him, came west with his folks at the age of 9.

At this time he had four younger brothers and one older sister. In 1874 he hiked with his parents, brothers and sister through the timbered country between Forest Grove and the Nehalem valley. As a high light of this pioneering trip, it fell to Andy's lot to help carry his youngest brother, who was then less than two years old.

Upon arrival in this new world (the Upper Nehalem Valley) they settled on a homestead about one mile east of what was finally known as the town of Vernonia. Later there were three more sisters and one brother that came along to help hew out their homesteads in this newly discovered world.

Prior to their arrival in this valley there were no roads and their nearest neighbors were some 10 miles down the Nehalem river. By 1875 several other families had moved into the immediate vicinity.

In 1876 the first school was started on a three months per year basis on one corner of the Parker homestead. While this was only the beginning in the development of a new community, the remainder of the pioneering is now a matter of history and pretty well known.

Andy spent the remainder of his years in this vicinity. About the only time spent away from home was for work on other farms or in the logging woods near Clatskanie. During his later years, as the town of Vernonia was expanding, he began subdividing his old home place, where he practically ran a real estate business for a time.

This area became the addition to Vernonia now known as Riverview. About this time he also owned and operated the municipal water works for this new addition.

For several years he served as deputy sheriff in the Vernonia area. He was a member of the Nehalem Valley Pioneers and was well respected in the community.

Andy, never having been married, is survived by two younger brothers, Francis M. Parker of Powers, Oregon and Albert L. Parkers of Clatskanie. In addition there are some 20 nieces and nephews, also several great, and great great nieces and nephews.

Ownership of Shop Changed

A new owner will assume the operation of a business that has been operated here for the past 31 years by the same man when he takes possession Monday of the coming week.

The change comes about through the sale a few days ago by Norris Soden of his barber shop to Mr. Comer, a Portland resident. Soden will continue to operate the shop through the week.

The former owner has barbered here continuously for 31 years and plans to remain here in retirement at his home.

First Aid Study Intended; Ambulance Help Needed

Scheduled to start in the near future is a class in first aid training that will be offered Long-Bell mill employees who are interested in safety training. The course of instruction will be handled by Robert Miller of Longview, safety engineer for Long-Bell operations, who will also arrange for an advanced course later if interest is sufficient.

Banks Falls to 1st Logger Try

Both the varsity and JV Logger teams came home from Banks Tuesday night with scores in the win column for their season opening games and with some valuable experience under their belts.

The JVs opened the evening with a 31-24 victory of which 13 points were tallied by Bill Howard as high-point man for the evening's preliminary.

The varsity game, following the opener, was won by the Vernonia team 57 to 44 with Bill Braun holding the high-point record for the Loggers with 17. Bud Fulton and Ken Nanson turned in 16 points each for second high. Sellers of Banks was high for the evening with 22.

Coach Jack Reynolds used substitutes freely in the varsity encounter with an eye towards determining the best combination of players for later season games. His reserve strength showed well Tuesday, but definite decision on the regular starting time will come later this month, he said. His starting players with Banks were Braun and Pat O'Brien, forwards, Bud Fulton, center, and Nanson and Bill Higley, guards. Nanson and Braun will co-actain the team.

THOSE WHO ARE IN IT

A 3c Jim Frank, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Frank, arrived home November 26 for a 12-day stay. He has just completed the air corps electrical maintenance school at Chanute AFB, Illinois and will report to Parks AFB, California for shipment to the Philippines.

George Bellingham of Birkenfeld was among a group of service men that was released November 19 from the 503 air police squadron at the Portland air base.

Word has been received by relatives that Delmer Jepson Birkenfeld, will soon be released from the service and will return home from Selfridge air force base in Michigan, bringing with him a bride.

Pvt. Roy Kyser, Mist, will report to Fort Lewis today, December 2. He has been home for two weeks from his camp in California.

Bill Wells, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Wells, is home during a two-week period following nine months of training he received at Lowry air force base, Colorado, as radar mechanic. He will leave here for Paine AFB, Washington, near Everett, and expects to be stationed there permanently.

Stock District Vote Favorable

At a special election, which took place Tuesday of this week, a special livestock district was formed for an area on Pebble creek by a vote of 15 to 10. About 32 people who reside in the area were eligible to vote in deciding the matter.

This district, a part of Vernonia No. 3 precinct, provides that livestock now be permitted to run at large.

Along with word of the training program, Jim Cox, Jr., speaking for the Vernonia Community ambulance committee, has voiced a need for help to build a garage for the ambulance. The unit is now parked on Third street when not in use, but housing is necessary to prevent excessive depreciation of the equipment.

As a start towards providing some of the material that will be needed, the ambulance committee has been informed that nails and roofing will be provided free of charge by Brunsmann Hardware. Other offers of material and help are needed so that a garage can be provided, he said.

Preliminary plan for the structure is to locate it at the back of the IWA hall where it will be available for emergency use. The ambulance unit and all equipment has been paid for.

Up to Wednesday the vehicle has provided transportation for 15 calls since it was placed in use May 16 of this year. Only two of the 15 trips have been provided without charge, they being made for people without any means of paying the regular charges made for calls.

Hoop Jamboree Slated Friday

Second on the list of basketball events this season is slated Friday evening when the Loggers will go to Seaside for the annual Lower Columbia league jamboree, an event originally scheduled here, but changed because of damage to the gym.

Seaside will stage this affair in the Broadway school gym starting at 7:30 when all eight teams are required to be on the floor and ready to go. Players and coaches will be introduced prior to a drawing by east team captains for opponents and west team captains for positions of play.

Teams to participate are: east — Vernonia, Rainier, St. Helens and Scappoose; west — Seaside, Warrenton, Clatskanie and Neah-Kahnie. Games will be two, regular, eight-minute quarters.

Students must obtain tickets here to be eligible for admission for 50 cents or else pay the adult admission of \$1.

Building Started

Initial construction work on a new building which will be used to house the Vernonia post office began early this week and by Wednesday the cement foundation had been poured. City workmen were busy Wednesday making utility connections.

BUY FIGHT TB!
CHRISTMAS SEALS

STATEMENT CLARIFIES SITUATION CONCERNING FIRE

Because of erroneous reports that have been circulated regarding the situation as it concerns the fire which damaged the Vernonia high school gymnasium, the following statement was released for publication Wednesday. The statement was prepared by Superintendent Eugene Dove to clarify the matter.

"Two and a half weeks have passed since fire ravaged the high school gymnasium, resulting in its being declared a loss and calling for complete rebuilding from the floor joists up. Additional damage included partial burning of the area over the office and main entrance, and smoke and water damage to the walls and floors, respectively, in all rooms save the east half of the east wing.

"The force of such a blow to the community's pride and participation was only evidenced in part by the willingness and fer-



THE GOAT has a new home this week! He is in the custody of Bill Horn, Vernonia Lions club member, who took possession Tuesday afternoon from Lion President W. A. Davis, left. Horn was the only member of the club with an unexcused absence from Monday evening's meeting. Watching the presentation were Jim Davies, almost directly behind the goat, Lowell Hieber and George Hahn. The goat will remain at its present home until another Lion misses a meeting without an excuse.

Some Equipment Damage Caused

Determined within the last few days was the extent of damage to band and athletic equipment as the result of the high school gymnasium fire a short time ago. Some of the items were sent for cleaning shortly after the destruction and not until they were returned was it possible to ascertain the articles that would require replacement.

Bill Johnson, high school band instructor, said Wednesday morning that 12 of the new band uniforms and 17 hats would not be usable. However, the band will play for home basketball games regardless.

Coach Bill Vleck itemized the athletic equipment completely destroyed as: fourth of the football shoulder pads, scoreboard and two tumbling mats. Six tumbling mats, which were under the stage of the gym, were smoke and water damaged and will also be replaced.

Several pairs of white basketball shoes owned by players and a few physical education uniforms were stained considerably.

Dance Date Named

Scheduled for the evening of Friday, December 11, is this year's Christmas ball, which is sponsored each year by the Girls League of the high school. The formal affair will begin at 8 p.m. at the Legion hall.

Lions to Decorate

Vernonia Lions club members have set Sunday, December 6, as the day when decorations for this year's holiday season will be put up. Decorated trees will again be placed on the mercury-vapor lamp standards in the business section.

Cutters Need Permits To Harvest Yule Trees

Commercial Christmas tree cutters must obtain harvesting permits before harvesting trees from forest lands, Lynn F. Cronemiller, assistant state forester warned in Salem this week.

Harvesting permits can be obtained here by making application to the local forestry headquarters.

Prospective cutters of Christmas trees also were reminded it is necessary to make arrangements to purchase the trees from the landowners. In addition, the forester cautioned the tree cutters they must comply with the provisions of the Oregon forest conservation act which requires that

sufficient trees be left on the land to keep it well stocked and productive.

Landowners must also obtain a harvesting permit and comply with the conservation act when harvesting trees from their own property.

Individuals cutting trees for their own use do not need permits, but must obtain permission from the landowners. The forester estimated that nearly 1,000,000 Christmas trees were harvested in Oregon last year. More than 500,000 were shipped out of the state with 308,000 sold in southern California markets. Oregonians used an average of one Christmas tree for each four persons.

Douglas fir is still the favorite of Christmas tree shippers although inroads on the fir's popularity have been made by Noble firs and Shasta red firs.

Granges to Hold Joint Meeting

A joint installation of officers for the Natal, Birkenfeld and Vernonia granges is being planned for the evening of December 9 at the Natal grange Wednesday indicated.

At that time the newly-elected officers for Natal were listed as: master, Walter Mathews; overseer, Lawton Waddell; chaplain, Grace Mathews; steward, Noble Dunlap; assistant steward, Henry Anderegg, lady assistant steward, Mrs. Myrtle Mathews; lecturer, Isabel Anderegg; gate keeper, Martin Mathews; secretary, Richard Peterson; treasurer, Clyde Henderson and court, Lena Mathews, Ruth Steers and Dora Waddell.

Laura Carmichael will be the Natal home economics chairman and Henry Anderegg, agricultural chairman.

Boat Explodes, Man Injured

An explosion, which took place Saturday near Newport, destroyed the boat owned by Mike Lucas and injured Leonard T. Perry, Vernonia. Perry suffered burns from the explosion and was recovering in the hospital at Newport.

The injured man was able to get close to shore in a small skiff after the accident took place, but it capsized in the surf and he was rescued by the coast guard. The 47-foot craft, valued at \$15,000, was not found after the explosion. It was powered by a gas engine.

The boat had been used for fishing along the coast, with Astoria as home port, and was almost covered by insurance.

vor with which volunteers fought the fire to a standstill and behind a mask of calmness and serenity that the students and teachers have assumed as they bravely invade the smoky and smelling halls daily to carry on their tasks is bitter disappointment that gnaws. We have to live with these truths.

"Just as surely as every happening has its cause or contributing circumstances, it is human for man to speculate on or guess at them. The practice of reporting or passing on statements concerning the causes of tragedies without evidence or official information is a threat to security.

"School officials and this newspaper have refrained from making any comments except obvious facts or authorized statements, despite the fact that Portland papers have on at least two different occasions reported on the re-

sults of the fire, giving not only unofficial but false and damaging information. Only at the instance of such reports is it even as yet deemed advisable to issue any statement concerning the cause of the fire.

"During the past two weeks, state fire investigators and the state fire marshal, assisted by the state police, have carefully and systematically examined and studied the area, evidence and testimony. The state fire marshal and the senior officer of the fire investigation squad, working in close cooperation with the high school superintendent, state that any and all conclusions are made known in this case to the school officials first.

"To date the official report of this fire is 'of undetermined origin.' After carefully study and examination there is no evidence nor sound reasoning to support theories of faulty decorations, spontaneous combustion, nor negligence of supervision or management. When a further statement is authorized it will appear in these columns.

"The entire cost of restoring to new condition both building and equipment, including all costs of renovating and repairing the building for temporary usage is coverage by insurance. The present schedule of events calls for final approval of the contractor by the school board early next week with work to begin immediately after December 11, the closing date of high school for the holiday vacation.