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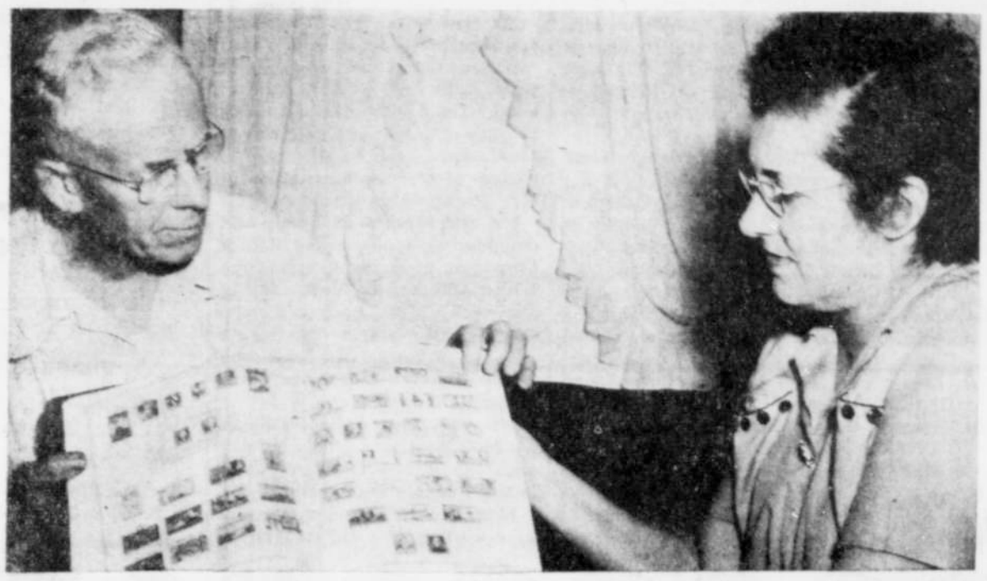
Stamp Collecting Popular Hobby



MRS. MAEVA BRIMMER and Roger J. Whaite. Two ardent local philatelists discuss stamp collecting.

Among hobbies, stamp collecting is rated right at the top in popularity with only photography drawing more devotees. That the trend in Vernonia is in line with the national trend is quite certain for on every hand ardent collectors are found.

NOVICE LEARNS THE ROPES

For the non-collector and uninitiated person to learn what a fascinating hobby stamps can be, probably the best method is to "sit in" on a session when two old hands at the game get together and begin comparing and discussing their collections. However, the novice is apt to soon find himself lost in the realm of perforations, water marks, approvals, semi-postals and mint series and need to ask the experts to slow down and start defining terms. Also, the perusal of a stamp album reveals the names of countries that most folks are unaware of existing.

COLLECTIONS COMPARED

Two ardent Vernonia fans who have been collectors since childhood are Roger J. Whaite and Maeva Brimmer and when one sits in on a stamp discussion with them, a whole new world is opened up and the observer finds himself henceforth looking at stamps with a new interest and spotting articles and items about stamps in magazines and papers that hitherto went unnoticed.

Roger Whaite began collecting stamps around 1900 and attributes the high grade he always got in geography to the world interest and knowledge he gained from this pursuit. He lived in Colorado at that time and at first had only a note book to paste stamps in, a practise that is frowned on now that regular albums and stamp hinges are available.

COLLECTIONS HAVE VALUE

By the depression years in the 1930's he had a sizeable and valuable collection. When circumstances made it necessary, he sold it for $1700 which was only a fraction of its real value even then and if he had it now its value would probably be six or seven thousand dollars. Many stamps he had then he has never been able to replace. However, today he has another sizeable collection, with a number of albums which are constantly being added to and becoming more valuable.

In his collection are two envelopes of great interest, one a commemorative cover sent to Albany, Oregon from Missouri by pony express in 1861 and the other bearing an 1883 postmark and addressed to Puyallup, Washington Territory.

RELATIVES AID COLLECTION

Mrs. Brimmer began collecting when she was about eight years old while living at Tillamook, Oregon. Some of her stamps she, too, pasted in a notebook, but many were kept in envelopes and boxes until 1935 when she began compiling them in albums.

As a child she had a real collecting advantage for she had relatives who were missionaries in the South Sea Islands and Australia. Also, in 1935 in San Francisco she had a friend in the exporting business who got her many stamps from foreign lands. Her collection now fills many albums and she also is constantly adding more to it.

The first postage stamps were made and used in England about 1840 and the United States soon followed suit with a pony express stamp in 1847.

F.D.R. SPARKS INTEREST

Probably the biggest impetus to stamp collecting came when an ardent philatelist, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, became president. Because of his interest many others became interested and the new series of stamps and commoratives brought out under his regime made collecting of stamps big business.

F.D.R. has been pictured on th stamps of 28 countries. Many countries put out series especially for collectors and derive much revenue from them and others use stamps for propoganda purposes, notable among them being Russia.

If one decides to become a stamp collector, ample aids are at hand to get him started for there are magazines and papers devoted entirely to samp collecting. Oustanding among these is "The Western Stamp Collector" published at Albany, Oregon. With such a paper in hand one can learn about albums, dealers, all the current series of stamps and when they go on sale, auctions of valuable stamps and almost anything one needs to know.

STAMP CLUB SUGGESTED

Most collectors have duplicate stamps and like to trade them with other collectors. For this purpose, many communities have stamp clubs. A number of Vernonia folks have expressed a desire for such a club here and Rita Shipley owner of The Shack, who is also an ardent philatelist has suggested that interested Vernonia collectors drop in and leave their names there and perhaps one can be organized.

Stamp collecting is a hobby that appeals to people of every age. For the young it is an excellent way to learn about the world in which we live, for the use of the atlas and globe go hand in hand with stamp lore.

It can be an expensive hobby or can be kept on a basis of collecting cancelled stamps which comes ones way. If a collector can find a hoard of old letters in an attic, that is treasure trove.

In early days of collecting, impetus was given beginners by stamps being used as premiums in Arbuckle coffee and other products. Today, having the armed services take boys all over the world has been a boone to collectors of foreign stamps.

On August 26, three new stamps will go on sale in Chicago when the Society of Philatelic Americans has its annual convention there. So, for stamp collectors a never ending procession of new material keep interest high as well as the constant search for old stamps to fill out series and complete collections.

THOSE WHO ARE IN IT

Major and Mrs. Clarence Lamping and their two daughters, Suzanne and Dawn Marie arrived last wek from Rapids City, South Dakota for a visit with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Lamping, and other relatives. This week, they and his parents are visiting at Coos Bay with the Nig Yeagers.

A/1c and Mrs. Harold Crowston are now settled at Dover air force base in Delaware. They report Dover as a town about the size of Forest Grove and twice as many people crowded into the area. There is a large negro population.

Cpl. M. C. Brewer of Fort Campbell, Kentucky is visiting his parents, M. C. Brewer of Vernonia and Mrs. Olin Robbins, and his brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. James Brewer while on a 26-day leave.

Chamber Names Committee Head

Lyman G. Hawken Sr. was appointed chairman of the Industrial Committee of the Vernonia Chamber of Commerce at the Board of Directors meeting Wednesday evening, August 11. He will name his own co-workers. The meeting was held in the West Oregon offices.

Material for setting up the budget and bookkeeping system has been ordered from the U. S. Chamber. The new office phone has been installed, and the number is 1712.

Mrs. Paul Gordon, secretary-manager of the chamber, visited last week end at Eugene and Cottage Grove and while there visited Chambers of Commerce in those places and in Springfield.

License Tests Scheduled

A drivers license examiners will be on duty in Vernonia Friday, August 27, 1954, at the city hall between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., according to an announcement received from the Secretary of State's office. Persons wishing original licenses or permits to drive are asked to file applications well ahead of the scheduled closing hour in order to assure time for completion of the required license test, according to Earl T. Newbry, Secretary of State.

Pioneers Picnic Sunday

All are welcome to attend the Columbia County Pioneer Association Picnic which will be held August 22 in Hudson Park, west of Rainier. In case of stormy weather the meeting will be held in the Beaver Valley Grange hall. Bring your lunch and dishes. Coffee and cream will be provided by the association.

SCHOOL OPENING DATES SET

High School Opening Date Is August 30

According to Eugene Dove, high school superintendent, every thing is ready for the opening of the high school on August 30. The office will open next Monday August 23, with Mrs. Ann Westerberg, secretary, on duty each day.

The instructional staff at Vernonia Union High School is now complete with the addition of Miss Olga Petersen, who will teach English and American History.

The complete staff includes: Mrs. Ora Bolmeier, English, Latin, Dean of Girls; Bill Ferguson, Biology, Chemistry, Physical Science; William Johnson, Band, Chorus, Social Science; Mrs. Dean Leimkuehler, Typing, Shorthand, Bookkeeping; Harold McEntire, Vice-principal, Mathematics; Miss Olga Petersen, English, American History; Jack Reynolds, Driver Training, Boy's P.E., Athletic Coaching; David Turnbull, Industrial Arts; Mrs. Marilyn Turnbull, Home Economics, English; Myron Vleek, Social Science, Boys P.E., Athletic Director and Coach; Miss Mary Wagner, Librarian, Mrs. Jessie Wallace, Girls P.E.

According to last Spring preregistration wishes there will be elective classes in: algebra, art, band, bookeeping, chemistry, chorus, driver training, music ensemble, geometry, homemaking, latin, leathercraft and plastics, mechanical drawing, physics or physical science, shorthand I., typing I and II, woodshop. There will, accordingly, be no classes offered this year in business law, French, journalism, music survey, office practice, speech, or business English. Final decisions on dramatics, advanced biology, family living and advanced mechanical drawing will not be announced until after registration and the opening of school, Monday August 30.

For the first week of school, Monday forenoon only will be used to complete student registration and making up the class rolls. Lockers may be obtained and dues are payable for student body membership, towel service, lockers and publications. Buses will take students home again at noon and the faculty will work with registration material in the afternoon preparatory to meeting classes Tuesday. Tuesday forenoon the daily class schedule will be run complete using just half class time to find out needed texts and materials and to get assignments. The afternon will be used to procure books, materials, consult teachers and advisers, etc. Wednesday and Thursday will be regular school days before the holiday week end. Friday there will be no school as all teachers will be attending the Columbia County Teachers Workshop at St. Helens, and although Labor Day is no longer a legal school holiday there will not be high school classes again until Tuesday, September 7.

Former Resident Taken by Death

Clarence C. Piper, former Vernonia resident, who for the past several years has lived at the Knights of Pythias home at Vancouver, Washington, passed away there last Saturday. He was buried Wednesday at Vancouver.

Mr. Piper has left a living memorial to himself in the beautiful rose gardens he planted and tended at the home. He had over three hundred bushes and could tell the name of every one and if they had been gifts from lodges and Pythian Sister Temples, he knew just who the donors were.

Logger Practice To Start Aug. 24

Word received Friday of last week from the Oregon School Athletic Association gave the go-ahead for Vernonia Logger gridiron practice to commence Tuesday of next week, August 24, according to an announcement made Monday afternoon by head Logger Coach, Myron Vleek.

All those future pigskin players are urged to turn out that evening at 5:00 for the issuing of uniforms and practice.

Vernonia's first game of the season will be ployed with the Forest Grove team, there. OSAA in a letter to Coach Vleek stated the games will be allowed to start on Saturday, September 11 and not before. Therefore the first 1954 football game for the local eleven will be played on Saturday evening, September 11. The remaining part of the schedule is as follows:

Sat., Sept. 11—Forest Grove, there
Fri., Sept. 17—St. Helens, here
Fri., Sept 24—Seaside, there
Fri., Oct. 1 — Clatskanie, here
Fri., Oct. 8—Scappoose, away
Fri., Oct. 15—Neahkanie, here
Fri., Oct. 22—Warrenton, there
Fri., Oct. 29—Rainier, here

Boy Scouts Make Good Showing

The 14 boy scouts and their leader, Otto Cantwell, who spent last week at Camp Meriwether on the coast report a wonderful week and also came home with an excellent record in camp competitions. In a tally of all events, the Vernonia group held third place. They took second place in the 100 yard dash and the 220, and held first in the 440, broad jump, compass reading, rifle range, archery and log chopping. If they had had entries in the swimming tests and some other competitions, they could easily have placed higher in the overall score.

There were 318 boys in the camp at this session, the largest group there at any one time in the 29 year history of the camp. Forty scout masters were also in attendance. Vernonia had the smallest group there but what they lacked in numbers they made up for in performance.

Only unpleasant incident of the week was when Lee Harmon had the misfortune to slip and catch his leg on a knot, causing a cut that required 28 stitches.

Weed Cutting To Be Enforced

At the meeting of the city council Monday night, an ordinance was passed authorizing the sale of the general obligation sewer bonds to June S. Jones and company and Charles N. Tripp and company, bond buyers of Portland.

Other action voted to purchase extended insurance coverage on the city hall, and ordered police officers to enforce the ordinance which ordered the cutting of grass and weeds.

Bob Thompson, owner of Bob's Union Service on Bridge Street was given permission to pave portions of sidewalk adjoining the station along with surfacing of the station grounds, which will all be in the line of civic improvement.

Polio Fund "Coffee" Set

Do your bit for the polio drive and have fun, too. Have coffee and doughnuts at Ma Vike's next Tuesday between 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and see your quarter pasted on the counter. More polio story inside.

Grade Schools Open Sept. 7; Pre-Signup Set

According to word released this week by Darrold Proehl, superintendent of the Vernonia Grade schools, the opening date for the grade schools has been set for September 7, the day after labor day. However, a pre-school registration will be conducted on Wednesday and Thursday, September 1, and 2 for all kindergarten and first grade pupils. Children who enter kindergarten must be five years old on or before November 15, and those entering first grade must be six years old on or before November 15.

All pupils entering school for the first time MUST have birth certificates and a medical examination to meet state requirements.

The purpose of the pre-registration is to allow the school a chance to determine the size of classes and to arrange the placement of pupils in the Lincoln and Washington buildings.

DIVISION EXPLAINED

Parents who may not know to which school to send their children are informed that the Lincoln school on Corey hill will accomodate students of the first, second and third grades who live west of the S.P.&S. tracks.

All youngsters in grades 1, 2 and 3 who ride school buses must enroll in the Lincoln school. This is necessary to equalize the classes in the Washington and Lincoln schools in order to meet state standardization requirements.

The school administration is authorized to adjust zones and to shift pupils to attend the school of their choice, but in order to adjust the teacher-pupil ratio to an effective size, it is necessary to request pupils to shift from one school to another. The cooperation of pupils and parents will be appreciated in the matter, the superintendent said.

School custodians have completed the major portion of the summer work scheduled for the Washington and Lincoln school prior to school opening Tuesday, September 7.

The Lincoln school building exterior trim has been painted and the roof resurfaced. Interior work consisted of resurfacing of the floors and installation of lunch box racks and additional bulletin board space.

The Washington school roof was resurfaced and all floors were resurfaced in the general cleaning program. Additional work was the installation of new supply cupboards and shelves in the kitchen and general supply room. The Kindergarten and Art room were completely redecorated. In the library additional shelves were installed to provide more space for material. Two rooms were equipped with new furniture to complete this phase of the standardization program of the school.

The summer work was carried out by the custodians, Wayne Welch and George Johns.

Bowlers Set Opening Date

At a bowling meeting held last Friday night, it was decided to start the coming bowling season on Wednesday night, September 1 with one league. The other leagues will start at a later date.

The following officers were elected during the meeting: President, Ed Burton; Vice-President, Les Galloway. Reelected were Charles Cederburg, Secretary and Dave Brunsman, Treasurer.

Any bowler interested in bowling contact Dessy Laird at Dessy's Bowling alley.