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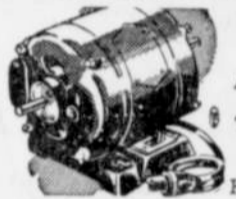
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Homer Fuller and Bob Thompson

Minute man service with a smile is the kind dispensed at Bob's Union Service station at the corner of Bridge street and Weed avenue which is owned and operated by Bob Thompson with the able assistance of Homer Fuller. In addition to dispensing Union Oil company gasoline, both Royal 76 and 7600, and other Union Oil products, they also service cars for lube jobs, tire work and minor mechanical repairs. And, when they get real busy, if the Union Oil distributor for Vernonia, Loel Roberts, and his assistant, Phil Shafer, happen to be around, they get pressed into service dispensing gasoline and oil or changing tires or answering the call of a lady in distress whose car has developed a flat tire out on the road.

Mr. Thompson came to Vernonia in 1939 from Valley City, North Dakota where he was born and raised. His first job here was at Vernonia Auto company where he started as grease boy and worked up to mechanic after which he did body and fender work for them for about a year and a half and was in the parts department for a year. After leaving Vernonia Auto in 1945, he hauled logs for Crown Zellerbach for four years, then hauled for gypos until 1951. Also, in 1945 he became the owner of the school bus on the Stoney Point run which he operated for four years with his wife, Eleanor, doing most of the driving. In 1949 he sold the bus to Marion Steers.

In 1951, he bought the service station from Jake Berger and has operated it for the past six years. And, now, with the recent acqui-

sition of the Red Curl bus and the contract for the Pebble-Creek loop run, he is once more in the school bus business, too.

Mr. Thompson had married in North Dakota and when he came here had a daughter, Deloris, six and a baby daughter, Joyce only two weeks old. Mrs. Thompson joined him here a month later and later they added another daughter, Janice. Deloris is now Mrs. Donald Webb and has added two grandchildren to Bob's list of relatives and Joyce is now Mrs. Gene Weller. They recently returned from Virginia where Gene was in army training and will be here until November 18 when he expects to be sent to Alaska.

His family has had a definite leaning toward royalty for Deloris, better known as DeeDee, was May Queen her senior year at Vernonia high school (1952) and the youngest daughter, Janice, was home coming queen last week end.

Bob's Union Service is conveniently located on Vernonia's main street and is a handy place for cars to be left for servicing while the owners do their marketing. In addition to the gas and oil products, he also has anti-freeze, Hood tires and batteries and a full line of accessories. He specializes in prompt, courteous and efficient service.

Bob has been active in civic affairs and was a member of the Vernonia fire department for 17 years, and fire chief for three years. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and won himself some distinction as a parade organizer with his work on both the clean up and July 4

parades held this year. He was a member of the city council for a year, a position which he resigned only recently when he became county commissioner. His political career was short lived because other opportunities presented themselves that looked like better financial bets for a secure future.

For recreation, his interest centers mainly in horses. He says it has always been his greatest interest and he owned his first horse when he was 11, and he had earned the money and bought it himself. He now owns two mares and a colt, (the well-known Hi-Top that almost stole the show the day of his daughter Joyce's wedding) and is president of the Vernonia Ridge Riders club which at present has 30 members. He and his club were responsible for the very fine horse show entertainment that was a feature of the July Fourth celebration.

Bob has a firm faith in the future of Vernonia and feels that there is a good future ahead if the residents of Vernonia buckle in and make it so. He feels that it will take an optimistic view on the part of everyone with a chin-up attitude rather than a give-up defeatist one. He intends to do his part to make this a good community in which to live.

And, the example of the Union Minute Man, service with a smile is one that might help everyone, merchant and customer alike, to encourage a more optimistic attitude and to stimulate trade at home where the friendly service of those you know is always best.

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