

# County School Men Seek Vocational Education Study

Action by the Columbia County School Administrators Wednesday of last week, January 13, may possibly result in a study of the employment needs and opportunities available within the county and also the vocational education needs and work-experience programs available to high school students.

Coordination in the use of the various vocational education facilities of the five high schools in the county to better meet the training needs of high school students may be achieved by the administrators' action Wednesday.

The action by the administrators, at this meeting in St. Helens at the county school superintendent's office, resulted in Joey Acaiturri, Vernonia

school superintendent, being named chairman of a research committee which has asked the Educational Research Bureau of the University of Oregon to conduct the study. Facilities are not available in the county to handle the research necessary and to complete the study by June 30, the deadline date set in order to get the program underway this summer.

County action was also taken last Friday as the result of a meeting of Acaiturri and the county court. The county has established the Columbia County Youth Opportunity committee to study means of providing on-the-job training for youths 16-21, training and further education for high school dropouts and means

to provide summer employment for young people still in school.

Named on this committee are Don Coin Walrod, county agent, chairman; Ray Godsey, county school superintendent; Mrs. June Simmons, member of the county park commission; of Scappoose; J. C. Cranford, St. Helens Sentinel-Mist news editor; and Acaiturri.

The county's youth opportunity program will be financed up to 90 percent of the cost under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, the so-called war on poverty program, and it is hoped to have the set-up underway this summer.

The study to be conducted by the U of O Research Bureau, if the school administrators' request is

granted, will tabulate information on:

Job opportunities and potential manpower resources in the county;

Economics of the county;

Facilities available for vocational education and work-experience programs in the county;

Availability and adequacy of present vocational education facilities;

Geographic factors that hinder utilization of vocational education facilities of the five high schools (Vernonia, St. Helens, Scappoose, Rainier and Clatskanie);

Cost of new vo-ed facilities to upgrade present separate high school programs;

Cost of constructing new regional vo-ed facilities to serve the entire program of all five high schools;

Cost of constructing new regional facilities to supplement and be in addition to existing vo-ed programs within present five high schools;

Tax structure of county to inaugurate proposed program;

Recommendations and findings from unbiased group which may not be evident to those proposing study.

The Columbia County Research committee, which is headed by Acaiturri, will be comprised of ten members, five of them being the five high school administrators, and five to be chosen, one from each district.

If the study indicates that county high school districts need to consolidate their efforts in vo-ed preparation, the committee has prepared a program for this movement.

## City Approves House Number Plan, Hears Reports on Work

A plan for house numbering in the City of Vernonia which will require very little, if any, changes in present numbers in the area included in the city prior to last years annexations, was presented Monday evening to the Vernonia city council by Ralph Keasey and was approved.

Numbering for the city previously started at the north-south center line of section 4 which runs along the bottom of the hill and extended eastward, allowing 100 numbers for each block. For instance, the Linn Grocery is in the 100 block, the Seraphin house in the 200 block, etc.

Under the new plan, the same starting line would be used, and for numbers extending westward, the west designation would be used and those extending eastward, would be designated as east. For instance, the Linn Grocery number would be 160 West Bridge street.

The council confirmed the fire department election of Don Webb as fire chief. James Davies and David Banta were reappointed to the planning commission and Robert R. Vagt was reappointed as city attorney.

Mayor T. M. Hobart will make his committee appointments at the next meeting, February 1.

E. V. Robertson called to the attention of the council the lack of restricted parking signs at the west side of the fire hall and the council voted to instruct the fire department to post the area "for official parking only," through a sign on the building.

Other business dealt with rat control and Councilman Horace Hertel stated that he ascertained that poison could be obtained for \$25 for a 50 pound sack, retail price and he thought that a discount was possible.

Reports showed that patching is being done on streets damaged by recent storms; the addition of the Riverview distribution to the water system has apparently added about one and a half hours to the needed pumping time to provide adequate supply; Fisher's Electric is obtaining a heating element for the water heater in the Scout cabin and arrangements are being made for replanting of shrubbery donated to the city by Wesley Bolmeier.

It was also reported that a personal notice had been served on the

property owner concerning unsafe sidewalk near Deans Market as of January 15 and he was given 30 days in which to take action.

Mayor Hobart proposed that a meeting be arranged between the council and school authorities to discuss recurring problems during flooding when water apparently backs up through drains. He also officially entered an opinion that a residence at lot 2, block 7, Rose addition, constitutes a dangerous building as defined in city ordinances and March 1 was set as the date for a hearing regarding it. An official notice of the hearing will be printed later.

Routine payment of bills concluded the meeting at 10:05 p.m.

## Election Held By Credit Union

The Vernonia Federal Credit Union held its annual meeting Saturday at the West Oregon Electric building. After hearing committee reports, elections were held to fill vacant positions on the board of directors and credit committee.

Doris Skidmore, Marion Steers, Dudley Spofford and George Laws were elected to the board and Claudine East to the credit committee.

Fred Keller, state manager for Cuna Mutual Insurance Society, presented a plaque to the credit union in recognition of its being in business for 25 years. He stated that the majority of credit unions have not been in existence that long.

He gave an explanation of insurance coverage on savings and loans. All savings deposits are covered by life insurance at the expense of the credit union. Loans are covered by disability and life insurance without charge to the borrower.

A dividend of four percent was declared by the board on savings on deposit at the end of the year.

Appointed to the supervisory committee were Wilbur Wilson, Francis Dinger and George Koski. New officers are Marion Steers, president; Dudley Spofford, vice-president; secretary, Richard Peterson; Doris Skidmore, treasurer and George Laws, assistant treasurer.

# Vernonia Eagle

VOLUME 43, NUMBER 3

VERNONIA, OREGON

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 1965

## Registration In Schools Nearly Same

Monday marked the start of the second semester for the schools in 47J and a check of attendance records shows the present enrollment holding fairly close to that recorded at the beginning of the year.

As of Monday, the total district enrollment was 690. On the first day of school in the fall, enrollment was 679 and by the second week it had climbed to 697. The figure has fluctuated during the year as some families moved away and others moved in.

The present enrollment by schools is as follows: High school, 206; Washington, 376; Lincoln, 77 and Mist, 31. The second week of the first semester showed 204 in the high school, 381 at Washington school, 78 at Lincoln school and 34 at Mist.

Total elementary school enrollment for the district was 493 last fall. It climbed until at one time it reached the 500 mark, the first time in many years. It is now down to 484.

## Willamette Band Scheduled Here

James Fiske, band director for the Vernonia schools, announced this week that arrangements have been made for the appearance here January 29 of the Willamette University band. Their appearance is sponsored by the school bands and Band Parents club.

The Willamette band goes on tour each year in Washington, Oregon, California or Idaho and this concert is a part of the 1965 tour and Vernonia is fortunate to be included in their itinerary.

Tickets are 75 cents for adults and 50 cents for students and funds derived will be used toward the purchase of new uniforms for the Pep band.

## Youth Group Offers Tickets

Young people in the various local churches who make up the Youth Rally group, now have on sale tickets for the mother-daughter banquet to be held February 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Evangelical United Brethren church. Tickets are \$1.50 for mothers and \$1.00 for daughters.

The King's Men quartet will be guests and provide entertainment. At 7:30, the meeting will be opened to the public so that men and boys may also have the opportunity of hearing this fine group.

## PTA Hears Panel Talks On Preparation of Child

The PTA meeting held January 18 proved to be a most constructive one with Joey Acaiturri, school superintendent, Welcome Rumbaugh, high school principal, and Mrs. Wesley Bolmeier, dean of girls and guidance director, making up a panel to discuss, "What your high school, community, and home should do to prepare your child for the future."

Under what the schools should do, Acaiturri stated that there should be no limit to the accomplishments of a school system. The goal of the school should be to provide the overall education that is best suited for the individual student to prepare him for living in a democracy. He said that for a school of this size, Vernonia has excellent facilities and need take a back seat to no one.

Mrs. Bolmeier talked about scholarships, saying their importance was over-emphasized. Most scholarships are a "drop in the bucket" to what is needed. The Crown Zellerbach scholarship was cited as best in this area and it has recently been expanded to include other areas of education besides teaching. It also includes any college in the United States.

Mrs. Bolmeier said the private colleges were actually not much more expensive than state colleges when everything was considered and that many of these schools will now let the student pay on a monthly basis.

She stated the National Defense Act was a very valuable help in making loans for a college education. However, they are usually not given until the student has proven himself worthy. These loans may be repaid starting after graduation within a five-year period with a low interest rate. Also, the debt will be reduced by half if the graduate goes into the teaching profession. Some banks also give good educational loans as do some finance companies. It was emphasized that one could really be "taken" by some finance companies and that the fine print should be carefully perused.

Students not suited for college have the opportunity to attend vocational training school to further their education.

Rumbaugh spoke especially of these vocational schools and urged the prospective student to make sure the vocational school he plans to attend is accredited so that he will be employable on completion of his training. It is hoped there will be more vocational training available in Oregon soon and Acaiturri now heads a county organization promoting a county vocational school program.

What the home can do was then discussed. Acaiturri emphasized the need to have reading material available and to encourage the child in

its use. He said that most important, however, was to give the child a good moral foundation, teach him cleanliness and leave teaching to the schools.

The community could be very helpful by following the example of Florence, Oregon. This town, not much larger than Vernonia, has a community program for scholastic recognition. This organization raises funds to send deserving students on educational tours, to concerts and festivals, plays, American Heritage Tours, English and Science Institutes, and to provide scholarships.

After the panel gave their talks, George Laws brought up the subject of post graduate work. This was highly recommended by Acaiturri who agreed that students could take subjects missed during the four year period and then enter college at a more mature age.

The discussion continued while refreshments were served by the kindergarten mothers. Entertainment included a dance by Vicki Lawler and Debbie Curl.

## 31 Donate to Bloodmobile

There were 31 donors who gave blood Monday at the visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile, a much better response than the last few visits. Guy I. Thomas and Mrs. Charles Minger, local representatives in charge of arrangements for the visit, expressed their appreciation to all those who donated as well as to those who assisted with the visit.

For various reasons, there were six would-be donors who were rejected.

Dr. T. M. Hobart and Dr. S. A. Thiringer donated their services for the visit.

Among others who assisted were two high school boys, Ron Bodenhamer and Merle Long who assisted with unloading the unit; three high school girls, Kathy Minger, Janet Bruce and Christine King, who assisted with typing; two nurses, Mrs. George Koski, RN, and Mrs. C. L. Blackburn, RPN; Harry Culbertson who assisted with preparation of the IOOF hall for use; and the following ladies: Mrs. Henry Anderegg, Mrs. Owen East, Mrs. Don Webb, Mrs. Melvin Schwab, Mrs. Marie Atkins, Mrs. L. E. Atkins, Mrs. Wayne Laurila, and Mrs. Ralph Markham.

Fruit juices were furnished by the Rebekah lodge, coffee by the Pythian Sisters and cookies by the American Legion Auxiliary.

## Plan Group Given Report On Research

Cyrus R. Nims of the Bureau of Municipal Research and Services, state board of higher education presented a preliminary land use and street plan to the Vernonia city planning commission January 13 as a part of the urban planning assistance program.

Investigations completed by Nims indicate that 87 people residing in Vernonia are employed outside of the area. New houses constructed in the city in recent years total 33. Twelve percent of the total city residences are vacant. City, county and state land area within the city limits totals 30 acres, with an additional 20 acres of school lands.

Nims recommended the early adoption of a city building code and zoning ordinance to adequately provide for city development and improve property values. On the basis of Nims' recommendation, the city planning commission will recommend to the city council that a public hearing be held within 60 days to consider incorporating the adoption of a city building code on the ballot at the next school district election.

## Two Students Enter Displays

Steven Poetter and David Thomas entered projects in the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry electricity fair Saturday, January 16. The projects are to be on display at OMSI through January 31.

The electricity projects relate to the historic development or use of magnetism, electricity, static electricity, and/or electronics. Steven's project displays parallel and series circuits and David's project demonstrates how a battery powered transistor radio can be connected to house current.

Although the electricity fair has no direct connection with the Northwest Science Exposition conducted in May, it is hoped that students will gain enthusiasm to prepare projects for the regular science fair.

Plans are now being made to conduct the district 47J local science fair April 9, according to Wayne Markham, science teacher at Washington school and science fair coordinator.

Last Friday evening, Markham and Darrold Proehl, principal of the Washington school, were at OMSI to attend a symposium regarding science fairs in which the results of past fairs were evaluated and plans for this year were made.

## Loggers Win Second League Game, Lose Third in Series

The Vernonia Loggers won their second league game out of three attempts as they defeated the Neah-Kah-Nie Pirates last Friday night 63-59.

A 13 point scoring spree by guard Dan Steele in the final period sparked the Loggers from a two point deficit.

Steele was top point producer for the evening, scoring 23 points. He was followed by Terry Larson with 17.

The game was close all the way with neither team able to gain more than a five point advantage. Neah-Kah-Nie led at the end of the first quarter 16-14. Larson sparked the Loggers during this period scoring seven points.

Six Logger players scored during the second quarter as they gained a one point halftime edge, 32-31. At the end of the third period, Neah-Kah-Nie once again gained the lead, 45-43.

As a team, the Loggers shot 42 percent, making 26 field goals on 61 attempts. They shot 21 freethrows and made 10. Jim Bellingham pulled in 12 rebounds to be the big man on the boards.

Scoring: Bellingham 8, Larson 17, Hanson 7, F. Smith 2, Steele 23, Holsey 6.

The Vernonia JVs had to go into three overtime periods before they finally defeated the Neah-Kah-Nie JVs, 54-51.

High point man for the Loggers was Dave Larson with 13 points, followed by Dennis Pederson and Joe Curl with 10 apiece.

Scoring: Pederson 10, Holsey 8, Medges 5, Cameron 0, Curl 10, Ellis 0, Larson 13, Mattson 6, Minger 2.

The Vernonia Loggers lost their game to the North Catholic Royals Tuesday night 56-49.

Denny Holsey led the Logger scorers with 12 points followed by Jerry Hanson with 11.

Scoring: Bellingham 5, T. Smith 0, Larson 9, Johnston 0, Hanson 11, F. Smith 2, Steele 4, Bateman 6, Holsey 12, Redmond 0.

The Vernonia JVs lost their game to the North Catholic JVs by a 48-41 score.

Scoring: Pederson 9, Holsey 3, Medges 6, Cameron 4, Blackburn 0, Curl 3, Ellis 3, Larson 8, Peddicord 0, Mattson 1, Minger 4.

This Friday the Loggers travel to Seaside to take on the Seagulls in their fourth league game. So far the Loggers are in second place in the western half of the COWAPA league with a 2-1 record. For the season, they have five wins against four losses.

## Welfare Report Indicates Low Income, Unemployment in County

The following report was prepared by the state public welfare commission during December, 1964 and just released. The report is entitled, "Oregon's Poor, Who They Are and Where They Live". The report covers the state in general and also goes into detail on county conditions. The following is an excerpt from the above mentioned report as it specifically deals with Columbia county.

Columbia: Population, 22,379. Columbia county's problem centers around low-income, frequent unem-

ployment and limited education. The median school years for Columbia county residents were 10.3 for persons 25 and over, according to the 1960 census. This was the lowest in the state.

Per capita personal income was \$1,494 in 1960, \$1,611 in 1961. In the entire high rate of insured unemployed had income under \$3,000 compared with a statewide average of 17 percent; 13.7 percent had income under \$2,000 compared with a statewide average of 9.8 percent. Net effective buying income in 1962 was

the fourth lowest in the state, both on a per capita and per household basis at \$1,497 per person and \$4,787 per household.

Columbia county has had consistently from 10.1 percent to 7.5 percent unemployment from 1960 until 1963, ranging from 10.1 percent to 7.5 percent compared with a statewide average of 6.8 percent to 4.5 percent for the same period. It has only recently been removed from the list of counties designated as having substantial and persistent unemployment.

Columbia county is in the upper quarter of the state with regard to the percentage of aged persons in the population.

With only 1.3 percent of the total number of families in the state, Columbia county had 8.4 percent of the families receiving public assistance in January 1964.

It is pointed out that much of the report is based on the 1960 census, states Roy K. Smith, administrator, Columbia county public welfare commission.