

Vernonia Eagle

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 1974

Columbia County Road Repairs Reach Neighborhood Of Over Half Million

Representatives from four Oregon counties met in Hillsboro Monday, January 28, with members of state and federal agencies to discuss and hear decisions reached on aid for alleviation of damages caused by the recent flooding. Attending the meet were officials from Columbia, Washington, Tillamook and Clatsop counties who were informed that every thing possible would be done to aid them with their problems.

Estimates of repair of Columbia County roads were set in the neighborhood of three-quarters of a million dollars following a tour of the area by members of the Columbia County Board of Commissioners, roadmaster Keith Thompson, J.W. Cochell, Oregon State Highway Department, P.E. O'Neill, FHWA, and Michael Flynn, US Corp of Engineers, who surveyed the heavy road damages caused by the high waters and heavy rains of mid-January.

Columbia County representatives, including members of the Board of Commissioners, learned Monday that a \$30,000 application had received tentative approval from the state, needing only the final okay from the Federal Disaster agency which is handling the emergency road program—an amount which would aid in repairing relatively minor road damages in the county. However, the group was still awaiting word on the larger portion of funding necessary which is in aggregate of \$600,000.

Alien Reports Due By Jan. 31

January 25, 1974 Albert Conversano, Jr., District Director, of the Immigration and Naturalization Service reminded aliens in Oregon that Thursday is the deadline for filing address report forms as required under provisions of the 1952 Immigration and Nationality Act.

The Immigration Official urged aliens who have not yet filed their address reports to do so no later than January 31 to avoid possible penalties.

Conversano said the law requires that every alien except those having diplomatic status and representatives of certain international organizations must file the address report during January of each year at the nearest Post Office of Immigration and Naturalization Service Office.

Conversano said an estimated 15,000 aliens in the state of Oregon have filed address reports so far this January.

A total of 23,791 aliens filed address reports in Oregon last year. An increase in this figure is expected for 1974.

Company Fights Pollution Following IWL Complaints

Members of the Nehalem Chapter of the Izaak Walton League and Oregon Game Commission took an environmental tour Saturday, January 25. Guided by plant manager, Milton Schultz and Water Pollution Consultant, Brian Johnson, they saw and heard how Empire Lite-Rock Inc. is doing its part in overcoming pollution problems in the area, after many years of complaints.

In January of 1970 the Izaak Walton League had converged on the banks of Castor Creek after weeks of intensive investigation into the source of silt which was polluting the Nehalem River.

Starting from the Vernonia area, they had traced the fish killing pollution to a holding

The biggest amount of this would go to repair the large washout on the Scappoose-Vernonia Highway—approximately 250 feet across and over 150 feet deep—while a slide on the Fern Hill Road near Rainier would take another \$261,000 to repair. The smaller fall on the Scappoose-Vernonia road just above the Crown Zellerbach sorting yard, was expected to cost nearly \$51,000 to repair.

"We have a lot of road damage that won't be covered by the emergency road program," also said Fred Foshaug, chairman of the Columbia County Board of Commissioners, who attended the Monday morning meet in Hillsboro. "Some of the prob-

Vernonia Site Of Mobile Emergency Aid Assistance

Following President Nixon's declaration that 17 counties in western Oregon had been declared disaster areas, machinery was set into motion to make federal assistance available to flood victims.

The declaration will enable local disaster victims to obtain several types of recovery relief. Assistance from state and volunteer assistance agencies had already been made available prior to the declaration.

To assist flood victims in Columbia and west Washington County in applying for aid, a special mobile unit of the FDAA and the Oregon Division of Emergency Services office will be set up in Vernonia Friday, February 1, from 12 noon until 7 p.m., and Saturday, February 2, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the IOOF Hall located on Grant and North Streets.

Residents from St. Helens Rainier, Scappoose, Warren and other areas of Columbia and west Washington counties will be able to apply for all types of assistance, a Salem spokesman said. "People who have suffered damages from the flood and high water should bring their social security numbers with them when applying. Many feel they do not qualify but there are

ACS Sponsors Films

Tuesday, February 5, at 7:30 p.m. there will be a show at the Joy Theatre on the signs and treatment of lung and rectal cancer. The two films, which are sponsored by the Vernonia branch of the American Cancer Society, are free and residents are urged to attend. There will be a doctor at the theatre to answer questions.

lems were caused by the freeze. Worst hit in this area were the roads in the Warren district where blacktop has buckled badly from the icy weather."

Foshaug also said, for those who wish to travel between Vernonia and the St. Helens-Scappoose area, that "the old St. Helens road is open but it's rough. We sent a blader up there but in some places the road is down to bare rock. Unless it's an emergency I wouldn't recommend its use," adding "although the Crown Zellerbach private road is closed to the public, travel is possible over the Oak Ranch Creek Road that goes by Camp Wilkerson."

several programs available and there will be specialists in all fields to assist them in making applications and to explain the programs to them so if they have damages they should come in and talk with one of the specialists and see what can be done."

Vernonia was chosen as the site for the mobile unit since it is centrally located in conjunction with both west Washington County and the Columbia County area and had suffered the biggest damage.

A few of the programs that are available through the emergency assistance program are temporary housing, employment, small business and household loans, etc. Trained disaster specialists will also continue to offer assistance in the repair of streets, bridges, schools, sewer systems, water plants, etc.

Victims of the flood are urged to visit the assistance center as soon as possible since some of the assistance programs have deadlines for application.

Those wishing further information may contact John DeFrance, 397-0300.

Dairymen To Hear Wm. Knox

William D. Knox of Fort Atkinson, Wis., editor of Hoards Dairyman magazine, will be principal speaker at the 80th annual meeting of the Oregon Dairymen's Association.

The three-day meeting is scheduled February 4-6 at the Holiday Inn, Medford.

"The Oregon Dairy Wives organization will hold its annual business session concurrently," Twigg noted.

ably reducing the number of these fish for years to come.

Today, four years later, there has been a dramatic change in both the plant operation and the countryside around it. No longer desolate and lacking in vegetation, heavy grass now covers most of the scars of prior operation. A new and deeper holding pond has been provided

for the waste products one which will not overflow in highwater. To encourage the flow of pure water, the holding pond is presently being treated with calcium sulphate, a product which is non-poisonous to fish and which will precipitate the water so that solids settle to the bottom of the pond, leaving clear water above.

Another source of dissention has been the smoke from the furnaces. Laden with pollutive dust, the prevailing westerly winds blow it onto the surrounding countryside, which many feel is detrimental to the area although there has been no official complaint on this score from the Department of Environmental Quality.

Still, Empire Lite-Rock—in an effort to comply with both the DEQ and the world around it—have gone many steps further than simply providing controls in the old plant. In order to prevent both water and air pollution the company has built a modern plant which features many controls to protect the environment.

Now, instead of water being released into the nearby tributary of the Nehalem, it will be recycled from the holding pond, mixed with the dust—which formerly went into the atmosphere with the smoke—and burned in the large kilns, leaving only steam to escape. The new plant, which is expected to open shortly, will have no residues to be disposed of, thanks to this procedure. Everything will be used to produce the aggregate in the self-contained unit so that, while the Nehalem River may suffer from past operations, future ones will not cause pollution in any form.

"We've worked hard to meet environmental standards," said Schultz, "both from the standpoint of the DEQ and of the economics aspect. We think we've done a pretty good job."

Members of the Izaak Walton League have tentatively agreed that the plan looks good. Now they wait to see if it works, in hopes that the Nehalem River, which provides so much pleasure to sports fishermen, will no longer suffer from the disastrous silica product as it has in the past.

VERNONIA WEATHER

As gathered from the weather station located at the Vernonia water plant.

Weather for the week of January 22-29 showed a high of 50 degrees on January 24, and a low of 26 degrees on January 22. Precipitation for the week totaled 2.40 inches.

CCOG Asks For Membership

CCOG members have adopted a resolution petitioning the Oregon State Legislature to amend Senate Bill 769 to include Columbia County as a full voting member of the Columbia Regional Association of Governments after it was discovered that although the new bill - which reorganized the CRAG - included Columbia County as an associate membership in the regional planning district, they are not members with voting power.

The petition will be presented to the special session of the legislature which is to convene early February.

Members of CCOG learned this past week that the state officials felt Columbia County wished to be excluded from membership and therefore passed the bill on that basis.

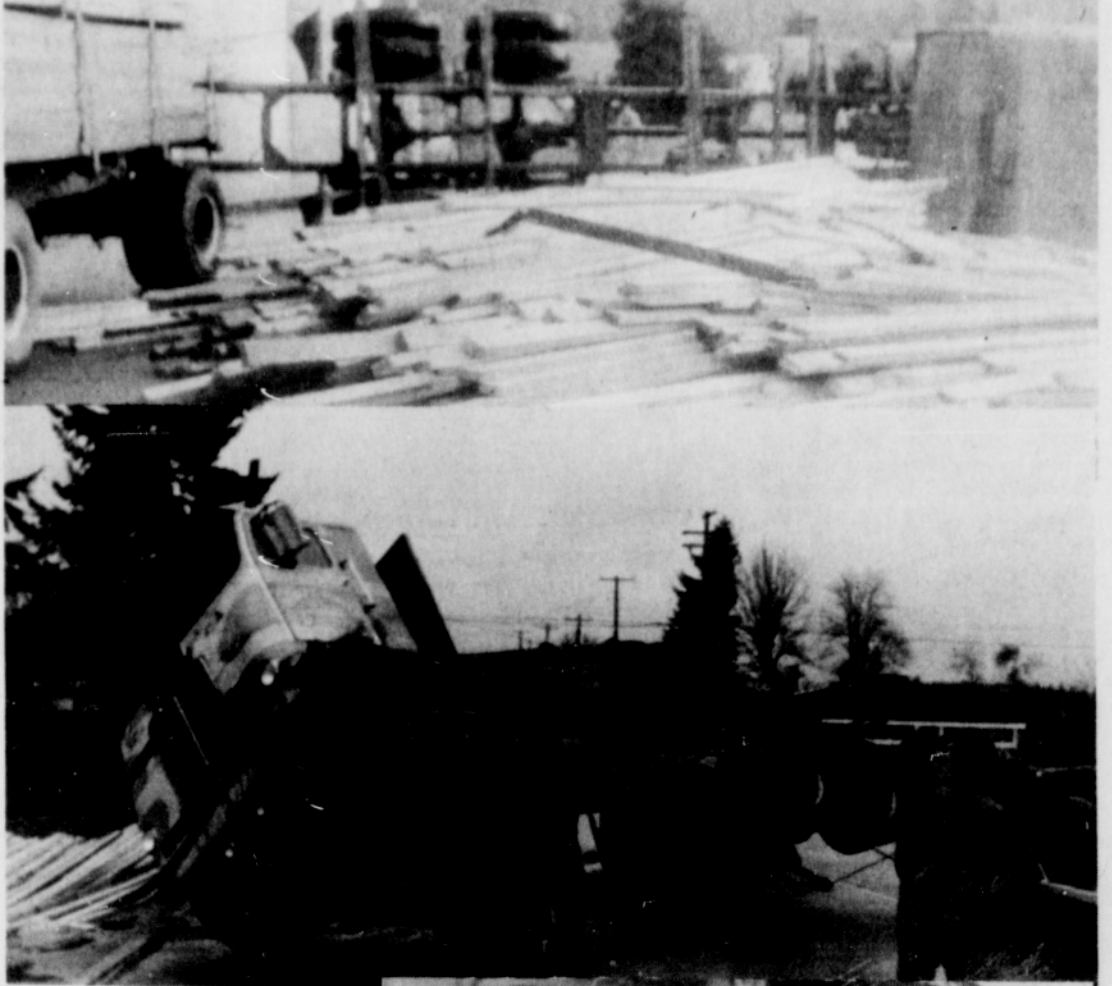
Legislative members who had contacted officials in Columbia County were given the impression that the county did not desire to participate in the organization. Since that time, however, local governments have discovered the regional authority to be beneficial and wish to be part of it.

Senator Wm. Holmstrom, who encouraged the CCOG membership to draw up and adopt the resolution, commented that the organization of CCOG and development of better communications between the cities and the county has been beneficial in that the groups are now working together to solve mutual problems.

Holmstrom believes that although he cannot guarantee that the legislation will pass during the special session - the resolution can be considered for the consent calendar in the upcoming session.

OFBF Convention Cancelled for 1974

In light of the current fuel crisis, the Oregon Farm Bureau Federation has decided to cancel its 1974 annual convention scheduled for February 10-12 at Salishan Lodge. The decision was reached following a conference call conducted among the OFBF Board of Directors.



Picture above shows load of raw lumber strewn on highway after load shifted on the truck-trailer combo, last Friday as John Biggs, driver for Olympic Forest Products, turned the corner at Bridge and Rose Avenue. The truck overturned although the trailer remained upright. Luckily no one was injured in the early evening accident. Picture in center shows truck being lifted by use of tow cables while in photo at right, Biggs views damage to truck after it was finally upright. The highway was quickly cleared of lumber once the truck was moved and traffic was able to flow freely once more in a short time.

CCAC Slates Feb. 6 Meet

The Columbia County Alcohol Council meet recently to discuss their work goals for 1974. Guests from OAHA were Jim D. Duncan and Norma Taylor, Oregon Alcohol Council Development Consultants.

The council was incorporated in 1972 for the purpose of educating the local communities about the problems of alcoholism. With the cooperation of PCC workshops on alcohol problems were provided to the public, informative material was distributed to industries and information and referral was provided by HELP, Inc. of Columbia County. The Alcohol Council has member representation from the community at large, churches, schools, mental health, welfare, industry, Police and druggists. Anyone wishing to serve or do volunteer work on the council should contact Rev. Charles Paulson, 397-1484.

The Alcohol Council will meet February 6 at Dino's in St. Helens at 12 noon, no host lunch, to begin defining and implementing their goals for 1974. Meetings are open to the public and volunteers are needed.

Goals for 1974 as recommended by the council are information and referral, run by volunteers, a speakers bureau to inform the public of the council's work, and an employees assistance program.

Bank Debits Up In County

Bank debits for the eight reporting banks including Columbia County were up in December, 1973, compared to December 1972, the University of Oregon Bureau of Business Research has reported.

Debits for December 1973, totaled \$33,915,000. For November 1973, the total was \$30,029,000 and for December, 1972, the total was \$27,382,000.

Oregon, with 427 banks reporting, has a percentage decrease of 5.3 in December 1973, as compared with November, 1973, and 50.0 percentage increase in December 1973, compared with December 1972.

Total bank debits for December 1973, came to \$10,804,842,000. For November 1973, the total was \$11,407,396,000 and for December 1972, the total was \$7,208,610,000.

C of C-JC Annual Banquet Scheduled For February 17

Plans are being finalized for the annual Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year-Jaycee DSA Awards Banquet to be held Sunday, February 17 at 3 p.m. at the American Legion Hall.

Speaker for this year's event is tentatively slated as Senator Betty Roberts, Democratic candidate for governor of Oregon. Senator Robert's well known for her active legislation for both senior citizens and women equality, has been in the legislature for many years and should provide an interesting view of today's problems.

Each year the Chamber of Commerce gives a Citizen of the Year award to the person, man or woman, regardless of age, who has made an outstanding contribution to the community. At present the Chamber of Commerce is asking for nominations for this award. However residents are reminded that the award is not given for the number of nominations received but, rather, for the quality of the individual contributions of the nominee.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce annually give a Disting-

Tax Aid Available

Vernonia residents are reminded that they can receive assistance in preparing forms for the new Homeowners and Renters Refund program Friday, February 8 when a tax representative will be at the West Oregon Building from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Mobile Home Show Slated

The committee for the 1974 Portland Mobile Home Show is in the process of a series of several planning meetings to finalize arrangements for the most elaborate show ever offered in this area, according to Ric Penna, Show Chairman. This year's show will be held Wednesday, February 20 through Sunday, February 24 in Portland's Memorial Coliseum.

The planning committee consists of Keith Spencer, Trailer Life Show, Inc. president, Fred Cavanaugh, Vice President, Shorty Diederich, Treasurer, and Eli Neal, Secretary, who will divide responsibilities with Penna on move in of over fifty mobile home units, placement, decoration and other basic planning activities.

ished Service award to the outstanding individual, man or woman under 35 years of age, for their service in the community.

Boxes have been set up in several businesses around town and residents are urged to enter the name of their nomination for the Citizen of the Year award.

This year's dinner will feature barbecued chicken, cooked by Cecil Huff with a dessert of homemade pie ala mode for only \$2.50 for adults; \$1.50 for children under 12.

Tickets for the Sunday dinner may be purchased soon from any member of the Chamber of Commerce or Jaycee, or from participating businesses.

Residents are urged to attend this annual event as all profits from the banquet will be donated to the Vernonia Heart Machine Fund.

At present the Heart Machine Fund has reached a total of approximately \$2900 and Wednesday, January 30 funds were used to purchase one piece of equipment, the read-out monitor. However, due to rising costs the entire Life Pack Three unit now costs in the neighborhood of \$4200 instead of the original estimate of \$3800. However it is hoped that through continued contributions and events such as the annual banquet the fund will soon have reached its goal and the Life Pack Three unit installed in the ambulance.

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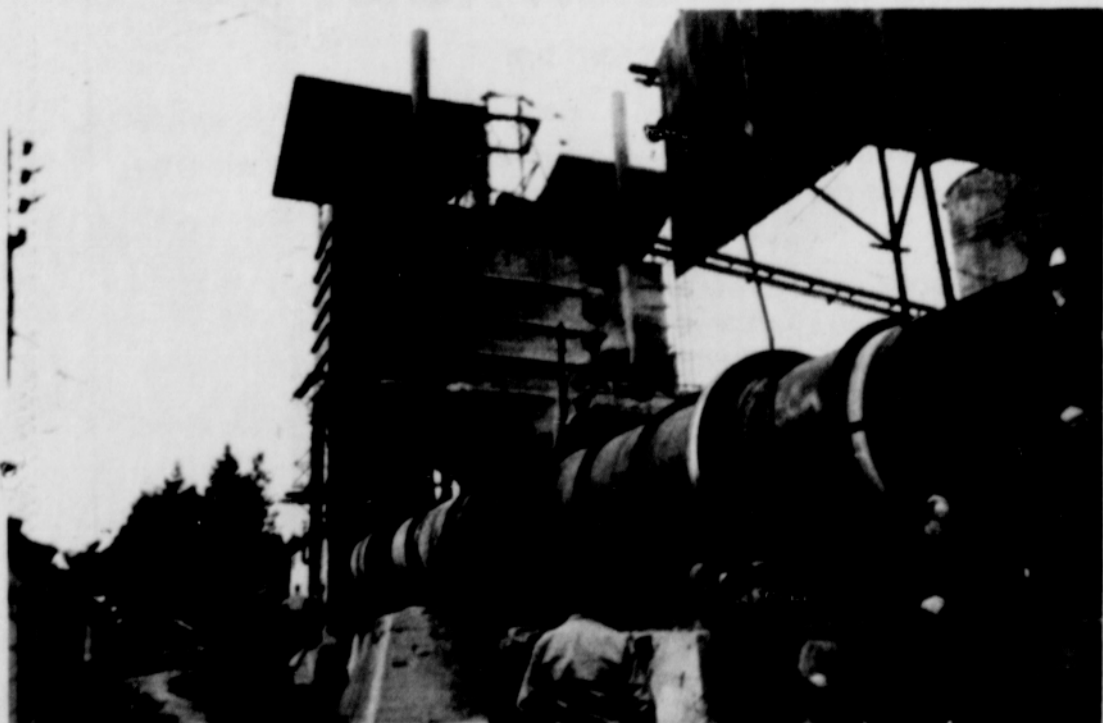
1974 Officers League Elects

Nita Beane, St. Helens. The members divided into a St. Helens unit with Theresa Burr, unit chairman and a Scappoose Unit with Marge Endicott, chairman.

The units are working on different parts of a county study which will be published when finished.

All women citizens are eligible to join the League of Women Voters. For further information call Edith Bartel, 543-6287.

The League of Women Voters of Columbia County met January 14 at the home of Theresa Burr of St. Helens. After accepting by-laws the following officers were elected: President, Edith Bartel of Scappoose; 1st vice-president Lee Hamilton, St. Helens; Secretary, Clare Neelands, Scappoose; and Treasurer Juanita McKee, Scappoose. Also four Board of Directors were elected, Marge Endicott, Lara Freeman and Geraldine Meyers, all of Scappoose; and



MEMBERS OF the Nehalem Valley Izaak Walton League and the Oregon Game Commission on environmental tour of Empire Lite-Rock Inc.

Shown above is plant now in operation which will close when new plant is completed.