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Feathers from the Duster

By The Over-time Editor

JUST AS IF it hadn't given a thought to the fact that we have had snow on the ground since before Christmas, nature provided another snowy week end. Patience wears thin. Now the trend seems to be toward rain and melting snow. From one worry to another. In a frantic search to find some consolation in our snow pack we have two more that should be considered: This much snow saves you a trip to Alaska or Siberia on your next world tour; and if you have enough colored flavorings in the house you have a million dollars in Snow-Cones in your front yard. You can work out the retail details by the fireside.

(Tuesday morning: Check that better make it cool-ade).

SIDEWALK GOLF is the big thing on Main Street each morning as both pros and duffers get out their snow-shot nibbles and yell back and forth as they score gutters-in-one. After a brisk nine and the fairways cleared for customers it's back to the hot stove until the next round. No had effects due to fresh air.

LAST WEEK George White took his leave much as he lived, quietly and with due respect for those around him. A scholar, a teacher and a deeply religious person he backed his beliefs and his faith with more integrity than you usually find in a world where compromise is most often the only solution. We had the privilege of knowing Mr. White from the time he sold us a bed in which to spend our first night in Concrete, to the last time we talked with him before he left for the rest home. We read books from his library as a neighbor, enjoyed talking and listening to him tell of his view of life and times.

It was consistent with his regard for others that he came in a few years ago with the details for his obituary neatly written out. "People sometimes forget things like this," he said. "I'd like you to have them now."

Last week we picked his file folder from the cabinet with a great deal of regret.

Council Told— Town Equipment Too Light For Snow Tasks

The record winter unpleasantness was more than the town's equipment could handle. This was the report by Chairman Ken Coone of the Street Dept. at the regular council meeting on Monday night. Listed as casualties of the extra heavy load was the dump truck with the engine shot; the grader out of commission and too light to handle the packed snow; and the small tractor just too ineffective when up against the present odds.

As complaints came in of the lack of adequate street clearing after the last big snowfall, the above facts cover the majority of the explanations. All equipment is being put back on the job as rapidly as possible and in "patch-up" condition to meet the emergency.

In addition, private equipment will be hired on an hourly basis to eliminate the worst conditions. Lack of access to streets and alleys has been a worry of the fire department as well as the home owners.

Most of Monday's meeting was taken up with the Action Committee discussion. Clerk Marie Miller was down with the flu so only routine matters were taken up, such as payment of bills, reports and correspondence.

A request of Washington Telephone Company for a new franchise will be heard at the next meeting on March 3rd.



JUDY CLIFFORD, JOE BEST OF SEATTLE, TO WED



Mr. and Mrs. Roy Clifford of Diablo announce the engagement of their daughter, Judy, to Joe Best, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Best of Seattle.

Judy, a 1965 graduate of Concrete High School, is now living in Seattle. Her fiancé, a June graduate of Western Washington State College at Bellingham, is also a resident of Seattle.

A June 21st wedding is planned at the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Seattle.

Vail's Grocery Hit For Fourth Time

Vail's Grocery at Marblemount was burglarized for the fourth time sometime during the night last Sunday. The store had been entered three previous times last spring and summer.

Entry was made the same as before by breaking the window in the front door. This time nearly \$100 worth of beer, wine, cigarettes, candy, gum and miscellaneous items were taken.

Changes In County Road Administration

The Board of Skagit County Commissioners announced Tuesday a change in the administration of the county road department. It was emphasized that the change in administration of the department does not change the organization from a single unit road system.

For maintenance purposes a supervisor will be assigned each commissioner's district with an adequate crew and necessary equipment.

Construction projects that are not contracted will be directed by the supervisor of his respective district. The crews will be gained from the maintenance personnel on a county-wide basis with the equipment being obtained from both the district and central pool.

The central department yard and major repair work on all county road equipment will continue at the large county shop located in Burlington. The sign crew, painting crew, spraying crew, bridge crew, engineering crew and similar functions will operate on a county-wide basis. These crews have successfully operated in this manner for many years.

The new system will also permit the dispatching of maintenance and construction crews from outlying shops rather than all dispatching from the central location at Burlington. For the past two years, the work has been by function rather than by area with a county-wide maintenance supervisor and county-wide construction supervisor.

By making these changes the Board of Commissioners believes a more efficient road operation can be obtained.

Action Committee Formed To Promote Renovation Of Town

The much-discussed program of bringing the Town of Concrete out of the cement dust with a burst of renovation and redecoration got under way on Monday evening with the Town Commission, whose duty is to prepare the necessary facts and needed projects for the comprehensive program that must be completed and on file with the county planning commission before any state or federal aid can be secured to carry out local programs.

One of the most important of the future projects will be the proposed sewer system. This and other anticipated improvements will require certified planning action. A professional planner is required for final preparation of necessary documents, but funds are available for hiring of such men from both state and federal sources.

PLANNING COMMISSION
On the official side the town will again establish a Planning Commission, whose duty is to prepare the necessary facts and needed projects for the comprehensive program that must be completed and on file with the county planning commission before any state or federal aid can be secured to carry out local programs.

As an outcome of the discussion it was decided to form a Community Action Committee to get on with a program of beautification and remodeling to be under way before spring. This group will consist of representatives from all organizations in the community who will participate, plus two members from the town council. Chas. Dwelley will act as temporary chairman with Ken Coone as the other council member.

The first meeting will be held next Monday evening at City Hall at 7:30 p. m. All interested persons are welcome to attend. At this meeting it is hoped to outline a plan to be carried out by the coordinated organizations. Now interested in the program are the Lions Club, the Cascade Junior Women and the Upper Skagit Garden Club.

New U. G. N. Officers Chosen For County

Dr. Norwood M. Cole, president of Skagit Valley College, was elected president of the United Good Neighbors of Skagit County for 1969 at the annual meeting last week.

Mrs. Emily Parker of this city has been named to the Board of Trustees.

E. Sandstrom Found Dead

Elmer Sandstrom, who had lived in Concrete the last eight years, was found dead in his home last Thursday evening by Police Chief Bill Hiatt and Deputy Sheriff Al Fagan after neighbors reported that they had not seen him for several days. He had apparently died of natural causes.

Private services were held Friday, Jan. 31, at the Lemley Mortuary in Sedro-Woolley with cremation at Hawthorne Memorial Park, Mount Vernon.

Sandstrom was born June 27, 1903, in Cambridge, Minn. He had been a sawmill operator and building contractor among other trades before moving to Concrete to make his home upon his retirement.

He is survived by two nieces, Mrs. Lewis Johnston of Oregon City, Ore., and Mrs. Alma May Jensen of Portland, Ore., and a nephew, William Dahlgren, Aberdeen, Wash.

Herman Jensen, Long Time Resident Passes

Herman P. Jensen died suddenly last Friday, Jan. 31, at his home in Concrete. Funeral services will be held today, Wednesday, in the Lemley Chapel, Sedro-Woolley, at 1:30 p.m. with the Rev. William Bridge of the Community Bible Church officiating. Interment will be in Sedro-Woolley cemetery.

Jensen was born Oct. 25, 1896, at Kilgore, Idaho, and had lived in Concrete since 1927. He was a former employe of the Superior Portland Cement Co. and the Lone Star Cement Corp., retiring five years ago.

He was married to Laura Evans, at Mount Vernon, August of 1932. She survives him at the family home.

Other survivors are four brothers, Emuren, Concrete; Irvin of Seattle; Grant, Sedro-Woolley; Almie of Wells, Nev.; six sisters, Ivy Yarmile of Cloverdale, Calif.; Edith Peterson, Couer d'Alene, Idaho; Dorothy Krotzer, Sedro-Woolley; Mary Clark, Bothell; Venna Pressentin, Concrete; and Rosemund Payne, also of Concrete.

Serving as pallbearers at today's rites will be Norman Strand, Jimmy Hoffman, Edward Pressentin, John Smith, Hobe Holyfield, and Lonnie Fessler.



Marblemount Under Cover
A visit to Marblemount Sunday was like driving into an arctic community. Snow had been pushed into deep piles to open store doorways. This done, business was operating as usual. Frozen water pipes and drains were of most concern.