

The Concrete Herald

Vol. 70, No. 24, Wednesday, June 10, 1970

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Woolley

Feathers

from the Duster

By The Over-time Editor

PEOPLE SEE different things in the rugged peaks of the Cascades. For some they are worth only the scenic value when viewed from afar. Others find in them challenge that brings them to force themselves up the steep slopes to the top "because they are there." What you can see from such a vantage point has always been reward enough for the individual.

The other breed of men who are drawn to the mountains are those who see deeper into the peaks, who find excitement and basis for application of their knowledge in the minerals and various types of materials that are visible to their practiced eyes. He had a visit with some of these men last week on the Cascade, saw their pictures and heard the stories, told with the enthusiasm of dedicated experts.

Their project at the moment is seeking out the early day mining claims staked in the Cascade area in the 1890's. There were hundreds of them, most merely a rock cairn placed where a showing of ore broke through. Others climbed almost perpendicular peaks to dig tunnels into the veins they thought had promised. Hard rock and tools carried in on their backs, with little promise of hidden riches. They also climbed and sweated and worked for the same reason "because it was there."

Some of the tunnels shown in the beautiful colored slides were places it seems no sane alpine climber would go. But show a mining man a "fault," a shift in the suspended rock that showed a trace of mineral underneath and he would get to it. The records show the amazing ability of the old prospectors to seek-out each and every sign.

Development of such a mountain area to bring out its resources is dimly viewed these days by those who insist that not a rock of the past million years be disturbed by man. So far man's puny efforts are indistinguishable and all continue to be for centuries to come. There is a place in our society for the riches of the rock wilderness we own. There is also a place in this world for the men who can seek and bring it out. When we bar that breed, we are losing our heritage of progress.



TYPICAL CASCADE MINERAL AREA UNDER EXPLORATION

New Mining Company Takes Over Lease On Exploration Of Wilson Claims On Upper Cascade

The 81 mining claims of the Silver Queen of the South Fork of the Cascade, operated by Rocky and Lenora Wilson for the last 34 years, have been leased from the company's stockholders by a newly-formed company for commercial development.

Greg McDonald, president of the Natural Resources Development Corporation of Seattle, said that the Silver Queen claims are located in practically the last of virgin territory.

"I am highly enthusiastic over the prospects of the ore, its content, and quantity, and we see no great difficulty in mining and transporting operations," he went on in outlining plans of the company.

The Silver Queen holdings and several claims of the Spaulding Mine in the adjacent area have been leased for one year for exploration, with a year's renewal, and options for extension for mining at the end of the two-year exploration period.

At present a crew, under personal direction of Harvey Honsey of Seattle, vice president and general manager, is making an extensive survey of the area. Dirt samples are taken at each 100 feet from the soil sub-layer in an anomalous study to pinpoint "kicks," or specific ore tracings. A base line has been established and the area is being mapped with all points relating to the main line of reference.

The Natural Resources Development Corp. was incorporated last August and has holdings also

in Sultan Basin, Snohomish County, and near Butte, Mont.

Crew members who will work at the Silver Queen holdings until winter weather forces them out are Fred McGary, mineralogist, Art Semsak, prospector, Roy Hoekema, and Greg McDonald Jr., a student at the University of Alaska School of Mines.

The Wilsons will continue to occupy their cabin at the end of the Cascade road.

Seattle Girl And Terry Thosath Wed

Terry Thosath, son of Manford Thosath of Concrete and the late Lois Thosath, was married Saturday, June 6, in Seattle to Miss Bonnie Nugent. Both of the young people are employed at Waldo Hospital in North Seattle. Terry is a technician and his bride is a nurse's aide. They plan to make their home in Skagit Valley, where Terry was born and raised. He has accepted a laboratory technician position at United General Hospital beginning July 1.

Local relatives attending the wedding were the groom's father, Manfred Thosath; his grandmother, Mrs. Marie Thosath; aunt, Mrs. Frank McGovern; and cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Dick McGovern, now of South Bend.

Everett Students Make Geological Tour

A busload of geological students from Everett Community College included Skagit Valley as far east as Colonial Creek on a field trip last Saturday, stopping at Rockport State Park for lunch. Their all-day tour took them to Larabee State Park on Chuckanut Drive, and from Burlington to Diablo.

They made stops in the surrounding area at the Dalles Bridge; Concrete (to note concrete dust coatings on buildings and vegetation); at Van Horn to see exposure of glacial materials; at the confluence of the Sauk and Skagit Rivers at Rockport; the junction of the Cascade and Skagit Rivers at Marblemount; and at the talc mine, also near Marblemount, to examine the different ores.

School Preliminary Budget For '70-71 Adds Up To Balanced \$640,009 Figure

A preliminary budget of \$640,009 for the school year of 1970-71 was approved last week by the board of education of the Upper Skagit School District No. 102. The estimated figures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971, will be submitted to the Intermediate District No. 108 board of directors this week and final budget will be firm next fall.

Anticipated revenues are \$307,260 from local taxes, including

the special levy; county administered funds, \$15,000; state funds, \$207,749; federal funds, \$22,000; local non-tax revenue receipts (Seattle City Light), \$33,000; other local and federal non-revenue receipts, \$5,000. Cash on hand at the beginning of the school term is estimated at \$50,000.

The biggest budget bite will be for instruction and administration, \$431,550.

A breakdown shows \$311,000 for teachers' salaries; \$28,900 for total administration cost including \$1,200 for board of directors' expenses; principals' salaries, \$32,700; instructional aids, \$2,500; textbook program, \$5,000; library program, \$29,290; counseling, \$12,710; extracurricular, \$9,450.

The school board approved Superintendent Culbertson's suggestion that the amount set aside for maintenance be increased to a total of \$37,000 to include another custodian and funds for more adequate upkeep of school buildings.

Another increase was deemed necessary for improved educational training for retarded and handicapped children with \$12,000 set aside to share in the special education services offered through the Sedro-Woolley district.

Pupil transportation, including maintenance of buses, is estimated at \$56,115; operation of the entire school plant, \$55,300; pupil services (health services), \$2,300; food services, \$5,000; community services, \$1,000. A deduction of \$3,495 in accruals and a cash on hand balance at the end of the 1971 term of \$43,239 accounts for the remainder of the \$640,009 budget figure.

POST OFFICE MOVE MADE OFFICIAL

Official word was released last week that the Hoover Building on West Main Street in Concrete has been accepted and leased by the Post Office Department for a branch post office.

The announcement said that the building will be leased for nine years on three-year options. It is expected to be ready for use by October of this year.

The owners, Jack and Barbara Hoover of Concrete and Jerry and Charlotte Hoover of Seattle, are renovating the interior of the large building to Post Office Department specifications. The Post Office Department will put in its own equipment and remodeling at a cost of \$18,000 to convert it to postal use.

The building has 4,000 square feet of space and a large parking area of around 4,500 square feet.

The Hoover Building, although empty for about three years, was operated by the Hoover family as a grocery and meat market until it closed early in 1967.

Levy Passes By Large Majority; Repair Bonds Go Down To Defeat

Voters in the Concrete School District approved the special levy of \$190,000 for operation and maintenance during the next school year by an overwhelming favorable 72 per cent vote at last Tuesday's school election.

The four bond propositions on the ballot for repair and improvements to both the high school and grade school went down for lack of the necessary 60 per cent majority vote. Propositions 1, 3, and 4 calling for a new heating system in the high school, new gymnasium floor, and safety improvements to the grade school passed by a simple majority. Proposition No. 2, for new lighting fixtures in the high school, received more than yes votes.

The special levy, listed on the ballot as Proposition No. 5, passed by 378 yes votes to 145 no votes.

Proposition No. 1—new heating system in the high school, \$110,000—263 yes; 227 no.

Proposition No. 2—new lighting fixtures in the high school, \$25,000—211 yes; 237 no.

Proposition No. 3—new floor in the high school gymnasium, \$10,000—251 yes; 239 no.

Proposition No. 4—safety improvement to the grade school, \$35,000—289 yes; 205 no.

Vote by precincts was: Concrete and Baker Precincts—No. 1, 149 yes; 101 no. No. 2, 120 yes; 125 no; No. 3, 145 yes; 108 no; No. 4, 164 yes; 89 no; No. 5 (levy), 206 yes; 69 no.

Birdsview—No. 1, 57 yes, 47 no; No. 2, 46 yes, 54 no; No. 3, 52 yes, 49 no; No. 5 (levy), 89 yes, 20 no.

Rockport—No. 1, 28 yes, 31 no; No. 2, 23 yes, 34 no; No. 3, 24 yes, 34 no; No. 4, 35 yes, 27 no; No. 5 (levy), 37 yes, 28 no.

Cascade (Marblemount)—No. 1, 29 yes, 48 no; No. 2, 22 yes, 54 no; No. 3, 30 yes, 47 no; No. 4, 37 yes, 42 no; No. 5 (levy), 46 yes, 38 no.

The unofficial ballot count released by the Skagit County Auditor's office did not include several absentee ballots still to be recorded, but which would not change the results of the election.

STATION WAGON ROLLS OVER ON HIGHWAY 20

Eva J. Weed of Anacortes received head and arm injuries when her 1956 Ford station wagon, westbound on Highway 20, went off the road and rolled over on its top early Sunday morning about 5 miles west of Concrete. The vehicle received \$800 worth of damage and Mrs. Weed was taken to the United General Hospital for treatment of injuries.

89c
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Style 69c
Lb.

98c

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49c

49c

5/\$1

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Plastic Honors Awarded Friday Evening To Graduating Class Of Concrete High School

Awards presented to graduating seniors of the Concrete High School Class of 1970 at the June commencement included nine cash scholarships to eight students.

Mike Kelly, valedictorian, received the Honor Society Scholarship of \$50; Shirley Parker, Delta Uppa Gamma Scholarship, \$50, Dianne Roetman Scholarship, \$50; Kristy Williams, Mary Stone Beauty School Scholarship, \$100; Lisa Lynch, Girls' Club Scholarship, \$50; Robin Wright, Dianne Wetman Scholarship for \$50;

Barbara Riehl, Girls' Club Scholarship, \$25; Cathy Cuthbert, Girls' Club Scholarship, \$25.

Darlene Hambleton won the Memorial Hospital Association Scholarship of \$500.

Mike Pulice was given the Citizenship Award.

Honor Activity plaques went to Mike Kelly, Karen Johnson, salutatorian, Shirley Parker, Kristy Williams, Lisa Lynch, Robin Wright, Robin Buller, Barbara Riehl, Craig Knechtel, Edward Coulter, Michele Ratliff, Vicky Whitt.