

The Concrete Herald

Published At CONCRETE 98237 SKAGIT COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Vol. 70, No. 34, Wednesday, August 19, 1970

Names Submitted For School Director Choice

Three names have been submitted to the Skagit County school superintendent's office for appointment of a new school board director to represent District No. 2, vacated by the resignation of Herbert Larsen. Concrete school board members submitted the names of E. L. Gentry, Harold Kloes and Steve Zitkovich for consideration.

The board established the policy at last week's meeting that all motorcycles, horses and vehicles of any type are prohibited from using the school grounds, except for regular driveways.

Glen H. Stevenson, who recently moved to the Rockport area, has been hired as a new bus driver and maintenance man starting with the fall term.

Investigation of ways that the boilers in the high school heating system may be kept from corroding is still underway. Superintendent Culbertson is checking with companies on the situation.

Lands-West, Inc., has been notified of the school board's decision to accept the offer for the Burpee Hill school property and Lone Star Cement Company has agreed to sell the property that the school has been leasing, which amounts to a little over an acre.

The board voted to dispose of school land and buildings at Rockport. Three appraisals will be obtained and the property offered for sale. Action on the Marblemount teachers' cottage was tabled.

Property lines of both the Concrete grade school and high school sites will be established by a licensed surveyor.

A job outline for all non-certified employees will be submitted to the board at next month's meeting.

Concrete schools will open Monday, Aug. 31, with faculty meetings scheduled for the preceding Thursday and Friday, Aug. 27 and 28. Supt. Fred Culbertson will open the Thursday indoctrination meeting at 9 a. m.

Study Team Director Takes Skagit Boat Trip

Another study of the Skagit River is now under way to comply with an order from Congress to the U. S. Forest Service. The study will be headed by Herb Barth, who will be stationed at Bellingham during the time the study team is at work.

To take a look at the river, Mr. Barth, Don Warren, director of the U.S.F.S. Recreation Planning at Portland; Phil Clark, program coordinator of the state inter-agency commission of Olympia; and Harold Chriswell, supervisor of the Mt. Baker National Forest, were guests of county commissioners for a trip by boat down the Skagit from Marblemount to Hamilton. Staff Recreation Photographer Bob Dewitz of Bellingham followed the party by land to take pictures of the trip.

The study is being made to determine whether or not the Skagit should be included in the Wild River program, or how much of it is suitable for such use in view of the development up to the present.



NEW ILLABOT CREEK BRIDGE NOW IN SERVICE

The new Illabot Creek bridge is now being used by those traveling up the South Skagit road from Rockport to Marblemount. However, you also use the old log bridge as the new one has no stream flowing beneath it. This was changed Tuesday of this week when Howard Miller's county road crew diverted the creek to its new channel and began the work of removing the old span and building an approach across the old creek bed from the west.

The bridge cost a total of \$159,876, of which some \$68,000 is expected to come from flood control funds and the balance from county funds. The Third District

will furnish \$24,410 from its budget. The problem at Illabot Creek has been one of long standing and several wooden bridges have been put across the stream only to be washed out by the erratic action in that location. The stream changes direction occasionally and was hard to control. Now it appears that the situation has been solved. A new channel about 50 feet wide has been prepared at the bridge site. This has been ripped on both sides with heavy rock. Further work will be done to assure that the stream can not switch back to the old channel.

The State Department of Fisheries entered the picture in the

change of channels. After securing the necessary approval of this department the final operation will be supervised by fisheries men to see that all pools in the old channel are drained and any trapped fish released.

The new bridge will serve to make the South Skagit Highway available to the many tourists who visit the upper valley and also serve the logging operations in that area. Actually the road will have better alignment than the state highway on the north bank. Still on the drawing board are plans for a new route around the fish hatchery at the east end to join the Cascade Highway just east of Marblemount.

Thunder Creek Fire Comes To Life Again

The Thunder Creek forest fire, one set by the lightning storm in July, flared up again last week and required more fire crews to get it back under control. About sixty men were working on the blaze over the weekend, joined by 25 smoke jumpers and supplied by helicopter from Colonial Creek camp area.

The fire is now under control but will be too costly to extinguish due to the terrain. Roger Contor, head of the Park Service, said that putting out all fires in the burning area would cost over \$1 million. It will be allowed to burn itself out within the fire lines established.

Amateur Climber Hurt In Cascade Pass Fall

William Sigmund, 34 year old Seattle member of a University of Washington climbing class, fell in the Boston Basin area of Cascade Pass Sunday. He suffered a broken leg, teeth knocked out and severe body bruises.

Park Ranger Cy Hentges led a rescue party in and arranged for the injured man to be lifted off the mountain. He was in the United General Hospital just over two hours after the report of his plight reached the park headquarters at Marblemount.

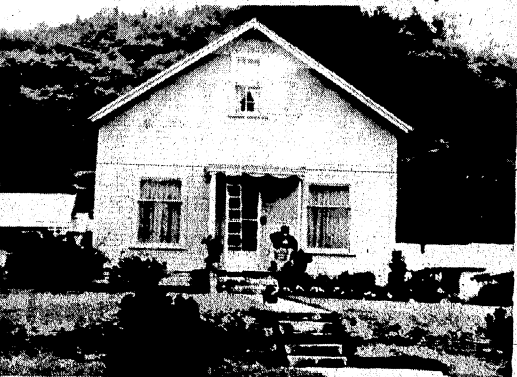
HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN TO NEW STUDENTS

New students who plan to enter Concrete High School this year may register at the high school offices next week, Monday thru Friday, from 8:30 a. m. to 4:30 p. m. Those who are unable to report during the week may register on opening day, August 31, said High School Principal Mike Elavsky.

Temporary Marshal Now On Duty Here

Dale Woodruff of Anacortes has been hired as temporary Chief of Police for Concrete. The young man began his duty last week and will continue until a selection is made from present applicants for the job at the next session of the Town Council.

Another Home Added To Town Paint-Up List



The former Barbara Bitoni home in Central Concrete, now occupied by the Charles Messicks, has added another nice touch to Concrete's beautification program. New paint, attractive landscaping.

Leathers from the Duster

By The Over-time Editor

ONE OF the unique jobs in a small town is that of Marshal. For the years Concrete has had probably the normal number, and most of them as they came and went left some stories behind them. Over all we've had every type of character you can imagine, from the old-time western sheriff down to the chair-riding watchman whose major task was to shake hands with all the people who handled on Main Street as the last chore before bedding down for the night.

When we came here the town was in a state of confusion. The waves were handled by Jim, the frontier marshal type, who got himself a bit of fame by single-handedly capturing the "stooped handit," a tough character who sought all over the state and was finally holed up at the Van Hotel. Jim went up there, talked up to the man's room and arrested him. All in a day's work. He handled pretty nearly everything that way—no big fuss. If he got going he collared the offenders and took them out where there was plenty of room for them to go to it. Other squabbles and arrests got the same treatment and he had a respect of his ability to handle any situation that created few problems. The only time he lost his temper was when he confiscated a full jug of moonshine and walked the whole length of Main Street with it over his shoulder. He told all the dry throats in town to get up to see such valuable stuff going to waste. He could have gone up the back alley, or if from sight, said the thirsty drinkers.

The ones who followed Jim were all characters of a sort—some that way by local legend or personal choice. Charlie Bagall handled both the street work and the marshal's job. Often he didn't have time to put on the badge to switch occupations. Like a time a drunk was trying to start a fight in town while Charlie was working with shovel and wheelbarrow on Aldridge Street. The drunk found him and decided he was a handy sparring partner. Charlie laid down the law, knocked the drunk out and dragged him up the hill and (Continued on page 4)

Country Music Bands Here Next Sunday

This coming Sunday, Aug. 23, the date of the annual Western-Country Music Jamboree held in Concrete at the local high school will all afternoon, from 2 to 6 p. m.

Youth activities will benefit from proceeds of the event, sponsored each year by the Upper Skagit Community Council.

At least six top bands in the area will play during the afternoon and other specialty acts will be on hand to keep the action lively.

Mo Shaffer of Bellingham, a former KERN announcer, will act as master of ceremonies.