

Feathers from the Duster

By: The Over-time Editor

NOW THAT the upper valley is being touted as a wilderness the animals seem to have been reading the releases. Last week, for the first time in our residence in the wilds of Van Horn, we were serenaded by coyote. Then this week Mrs. Glen Parker of Faber Hill reported to the county sheriff that she had the three bears living in her back yard.

If this keeps up we'll have to dig out the cookskin caps and the cap and ball muskets and play our parts, too.

TO COLLECT a little veneer of a civilized world we trekked down to Seattle on Saturday to see the one-quarter football game on a dry but still treacherous plastic turf at the U. of W. stadium. Idaho restrained themselves to let Washington run up a creditable score in the opening quarter, then proceeded to take the ball away from them for lack of assorted yardage the rest of the day.

As the day was fine we again noted that Seattle is a beautiful town when viewed from the incoming freeways. Down in the center, however, they never do get the thing finished. Buildings and streets alike are always just being torn up or in the process of being put back together. Even the spectacular Space Needle has been ruined as a showpiece. Once a colorful cream - orange combination, it has been redone in white and black. Now it looks for all the world like a burned match under a scorched pot.

Changes should be for the better, which leaves the moral of this column a bit vague. Nobody seems to believe it anymore.

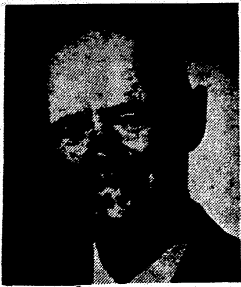
THE PASSING of Jim Ovenell was not unexpected and to him the end of much suffering, but to us who knew him well it marked the loss of one of those rare individuals who gain respect and friendship by the old-fashioned and outmoded adherence to the concept of a true gentleman. He spoke ill of no one, softly when he felt wronged. His word was better than a written contract and his first concern was one of consideration of others.

In the state legislature he was just a farmer from Skagit, yet when he talked, others listened because the words were plain and full of wisdom instead of empty oratory. His host of old friends will miss him greatly.



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Death Comes To Jim Ovenell

James T. Ovenell, life-long resident of Skagit County and a resident of Concrete for the last 20 years, died last Tuesday at United General Hospital in Sedro-Woolley following an extended illness.

Rosary services were held Friday evening at the Lemley Chapel with funeral rites conducted Saturday morning at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Sedro-Woolley. Father Michael Cody officiated.

Ovenell was a former Skagit County Commissioner of the Second District from 1940 to 1946 and had served as representative in the state legislature from 1950 to 1958.

He was born Feb. 21, 1893 at Avon. His marriage to Mary Dannenmiller took place in Mount Vernon on Nov. 25, 1920.

He was past president of the Skagit County Pioneer Association, a director of the Skagit County Savings & Loan Association, a member of St. Catherine's Church in Concrete, a member of the American Legion post in Burlington, and of the Allen Grange. He also was a veteran of World War I, serving in the U.S. Navy.

Survivors are his wife, Mary; two sons, Norman Ovenell of Concrete and Lyle Ovenell of Burlington; a sister, Mrs. Bertha Kuhl of Bay View; three brothers, Albert and George Ovenell, both of Burlington, and Fred Ovenell of Mount Vernon; and seven grandchildren.

MANY EVENTS FOR LIONS HOMECOMING

Concrete High School's student body kicked off its annual Homecoming Week activities Monday with a packed five days to be climaxed Friday with a homecoming game, dance, and coronation of the homecoming queen and king.

Students appeared at school Monday in garments of yesterday in a take-off on the television series, "Here Come the Brides."

Tuesday was "Penny Day" with each girl required to hand over a penny to every boy she talked with during the entire day. Today, Wednesday, is "Poor Soul Day." Approved attire is the rags and patches of that very poor soul—the bum.

"Angel Slave Day," will be observed tomorrow, Thursday. Everyone will be able to give, and take orders, from anyone else.

The big day Friday will be "Spirit Day." School colors will be highlighted in school clothes and all decorations. A pep assembly and a serpentine through the downtown streets during the afternoon will build up enthusiasm for the game that night, at 8 p.m., against the Lynden Christian Lynx.

A smorgasbord dinner in the high school cafeteria will be (Continued on page 6)

Candidates And Voters Await General Election Next Tuesday

Concrete voters will go to the polls next Tuesday, Nov. 5, together with registered voters throughout the country, to cast their ballots in the presidential general election to choose national and state administrators

and decide controversial state ballot issues.

Polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voting places will be the same as in the primary election with residents of East Concrete voting at the City Hall; West Concrete at the Mt. Baker Presbyterian Church; Baker precinct at the Concrete Library; Birdsview; at the Grange Hall; Rockport and Marblemount precincts in their respective grade schools.

Upper Valley voters will be particularly concerned with the race of Concrete's Senator Lowell Peterson for re-election to the Legislature. His opponent is Cecil Thomas, Republican candidate.

Other local contests will be for State Representative Positions No. 1 and No. 2 with Don Eldridge, R, incumbent running against Mack Johnson, D, and Duana Berentson, R, against W. R. Wilcox, D.

Voters of the Upper Valley will cast their votes for both county commissioner positions, in spite of the commissioner from this district not on this year's ballot. Incumbents Mel Hagren and Jack Wylie are challenged by Bill Sullivan and Arnold Hansen, both Republican candidates, in the first and second districts.

On the ballot will be the U.S. presidential officer: Richard Nixon (Continued on page 20)

\$40,000 Award In Lena Scales Accident

Roy and Lena Scales of Birdsview were awarded \$40,000 in Skagit County Superior Court last Friday in settlement for injuries received by Mrs. Scales in an automobile accident last March.

The defendant, Larry C. Jones, 21, of Mount Vernon admitted liability for the near head-on accident on Highway 20 near the east city limits of Sedro-Woolley at 12:10 a.m. on March 15. The car driven by Jones struck the one driven by Mrs. Scales in her own lane.

Mrs. Scales suffered 29 fractures and was hospitalized for 11 weeks in critical condition. She is still recuperating from the effects of the accident.

Superior Court Judge Walter J. Deierlein Jr., who presided at last week's trial, instructed the jury to determine the amount of damages for personal injuries only since the responsibility for the accident had already been determined.

Construction Soon CARDIAC CARE UNIT AT UNITED GENERAL

The board of commissioners of United General Hospital recently completed studies and preparation for construction of a self-contained Cardiac Care ward, to be constructed in the present building ahead of the construction of the new wing scheduled for next year.

Final schematic plans for the new four-patient ward have been submitted to the State Health Department for approval and construction bids will be called immediately on the final go-ahead. All equipment not already on hand has been ordered for delivery within the next 90 days.

The major item will be the basic monitoring unit which will cost \$4,474. This will include one patient sensor transmitter with more to be added as needed up to the machine capacity of five patients at once.

Other equipment required will be added as remodeling progresses. The hospital already has portable cardiac monitoring equipment which has been in use for individual patients since the first year of the new hospital's operation. Other heart-treatment machines are now in use as part of surgery department equipment.

The plan submitted to the State Health Department shows the conversion of present hospital space into a separate unit which will be used exclusively for cardiac cases. It will consist of a main nurses' station which will be stocked with all emergency needs from drugs, medication and linens to electronic equipment. From the nurses' station, at which a nurse will be on constant observation, win- (Continued on page 2)

New Skagit Deputy, Albert Fagan, Here Nov. 11



The Upper Valley's long-awaited sheriff deputy will assume duty as up-river resident officer for Skagit County Sheriff's office during the week of November 11. Sheriff John Boynton announced this week. Deputy Sheriff Albert A. Fagan, 26, presently of Mount Vernon was tabbed for the post June 10 after the county commissioners had passed an appropriation recreating the position. He will complete his delayed training period this week.

Fagan graduates this Friday, Nov. 1, from Washington State Police Officer's Academy at Bremerton after six weeks of intensive formal training. This is the first class held since his appointment.

In the interim Deputy Fagan had been assigned to the main office in Mount Vernon for indoctrination and experience. He previously had been employed for ten months as jailer with the Snohomish county sheriff's office.

He is a graduate of Mount Vernon High School and Everett Community College. As an athlete he made the All-Northwest football team as tackle in high school and at Everett made the Little All American and All Northwest Conference. In wrestling he placed second in state competition in the 191-pound class.

The new deputy, who is single, plans to make his home in the Concrete area and says he is looking forward to his new duties.

ANDY MILLER RETIRES FROM PUGET POWER AFTER TWENTY-FOUR YEARS AT BAKER DAM

Andrew S. Miller, superintendent of Puget Power Sound and Light Company's Baker River installations the last 24 years and a Puget Power company veteran of 48 years, ends his service with the company this week as his retirement becomes effective Oct. 31.

He will be succeeded in the superintendent's post by Harold Lynch, assistant superintendent here for some 15 years.

Miller joined Puget Power in 1920 at the Electron plant, south of Tacoma, where he was stationed for three years before transferring to Stone & Webster, Inc., construction company, at that time a holding company of Puget Power. Miller was sent to Concrete in 1924 as mechanical supervisor during the construction of the original Lower Baker powerplant and dam, destroyed by a landslide in 1965. Reconstruction of the new power plant, sub-station, and administration building has just



been completed this fall. During his years with Puget Power company, Miller says that he worked in all of the company's plants, with the exception of the steam plant. (Continued on page 3)