

Feathers from the Duster

By The Over-time Editor

M-R-Y CHANS! At least that's the way your editors feel at this time. Trying to work in a holiday trip starting tomorrow, the staff has been working steadily, 7-days a week and some nights to get everything done before this issue is mailed. The past week we have worked simultaneously on three issues of the Herald, one for last week, one for this week and one for next week. If, then, we appear a bit out of wind—please excuse the short greeting.

As of the moment this paper went on the press, we THINK we have everything done. Trying to keep the wife from a premature blast-off has been much like we imagine Cape Kennedy was for the moon-shot. She began a Dec. 26 count-down several weeks ago, has started others at odd hours—all concerned with what to pack, what to wear, how to get to the airport, etc. If the plane is short of jet fuel I am sure she will have a spare bottle of it in her bag, just in case.

It has always been my dream that a vacation should start with putting on a hat and starting out the door with no advance notice or preparation. In the newspaper business you can't do that and the timing, sequence of the days of the week and a lot of involved mathematics goes into the project. One thing, though, if you make it you earn it and are about as ready for relaxation as you'll ever be.

SOME SAY steelhead fishing is sheer skill, with no luck involved. Maybe so, but we have the story this week of Charles Bauman, pastor at the Marblemount Church, who is doing his first Skagit fishing. The first day on the river at Rockport he hauled in a line, complete with all the gear. The next day he did the same thing. The third day one cast netted another line, sinkers and lure—with a 6-pound steelhead attached.

Okay, fellows, start giving the power of prayer a bit of credit

HOLIDAY LANE lights are at their best right now. Better take advantage of the clear nights and tour the town. A lot of good work has gone into making old Concrete a bright and cheery place to be on Christmas.

WE SEEM to have two oriental sects among our citizens these days. Some seek solace in the cult of "Low Chinn," while others gain strength and confidence by belief in "Kan Du."

PENDLETON, OREGON, MAN NAMED AS NEW UNITED GENERAL HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR

Alexander D. Cobbin of Pendleton, Ore., has accepted the position of administrator for the United General Hospital, effective the first of January, succeeding Charles Lampson, who had been administrator since the hospital was built in 1962.

Cobbin was selected as having the best qualifications from the 100 and some applicants applying for the post. Lampson submitted his resignation a month ago and left last week for Newburg, Ore., where he will fill a similar position.

The new administrator has had wide experience in hospitals, and comes to this position with the highest recommendations. He served two years as assistant administrator and clinical administrator at the University Hospital at the University of Washington, two years as assistant administrator of the



\$750,000 For Pass Highway

Extra federal money for the North Cross-State Highway will be forthcoming next year with an appropriation of \$750,000 from the Department of Transportation. The money will come from \$14 million to be spent next year throughout the nation for improvement of the highway system.

This amount will be added to the yearly appropriations made by the Bureau of Public Roads and the State Highway Department who have furnished almost \$5 million for construction in the past three years. Highway boosters are hoping for additional money from both of these sources to speed the completion of the road.

At present, completion date is 1973 with normal appropriations continuing. Any extra money can advance the day when traffic will start to flow. Most of the political figures now behind the drive to get the road built as quickly as possible for use by those visiting the new North Cascades National Park are anticipating completion in 1970 or early 1971.

The state, through Gov Evans, has promised matching of all federal appropriations to speed the job.

As the highway is now connected through the passes, work can be done from both sides or from any point along the way.

More Valley Property Changes Hands

The Dewey Smith property, involving 120 acres on the South Skagit River across from Hamilton, has been purchased by B. P. Engles of the Seattle area.

Other recent property transfers include the sale of the Richard Grimes house and lot here to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Raidy of Oak Harbor. The Raidys intend to finish construction of the home and move here to make their residence within a couple of years.

Both transactions were handled by the Two Rivers Realty.

Northwest Hospital, Seattle; senior administrative assistant of the General Hospital, Vancouver, B. C., where he was awarded a diploma in hospital administration.

He has served as administrator of the Pendleton Community Hospital for four years.

He is a graduate of the University of British Columbia with degrees of Bachelor of Arts and Sciences and Bachelor of Commerce and Business Administration.

Civic activities include membership in the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce, the Pendleton Rotary Club, Pendleton Masonic Lodge, and the Umatilla Scottish Rite Lodge.

Cobbin, 39, is married and has three children, two daughters, 15 and 6 years old, and a son, 12. He and his family plan to move to the Skagit Valley area the first week in January.



Will Call For Bids On UGH Cardiac Care Unit

The new Cardiac Care Unit to be installed in the present buildings of the United General Hospital will be under contract shortly after the first of the year. Upon receiving permission from the State Health Department by phone Thursday, the Board of Commissioners passed a resolution calling for bids on the project.

Final drawings, with corrections designated by the state department, will be submitted immediately for final approval. As the last suggestions are of a minor nature there is no delay expected that will block acceptance of a satisfactory bid.

Dr. J. W. Wallin of Burlington, representing the medical staff, has been in charge of the planning and made his report to the board on Thursday evening. He was to have the architect submit his final drawings and prepare the bid specifications as soon as possible.

It is hoped that construction can be under way some time in February. A target date of April has been set for completion of the work. The job entails remodeling of one section of the present building, with a major part of the work consisting of installation of equipment now on order for the constantly-monitored emergency ward.

Many Attend Forest Service Farewell Party

Around 100 people of the upper valley gathered a week ago Saturday evening, Dec. 14, at the Marblemount Community Clubhouse to fete personnel of the Forest Service station at Marblemount on the eve of their reassignment to other locations.

A bounteous potluck was followed by dancing. A humorous cartoon drawing by Lloyd Hooper showing a dejected Smokey Bear being banished from the woods brought a light touch to the get-together.

JUSTICE COURT FINES

In the local Justice Court last week David Bates, 16, was given a fine of \$50 on the charge of illegal consumption. James Charles Reece was found guilty of negligent driving and given a fine of \$115 and a 30-day jail sentence. He was to serve four days, with the other 26 suspended on a probationary basis.

-For The Next Term School Calls For Operation Levy

Upper Skagit Valley School District No. 102 will hold a special election Feb. 11 to vote again on a levy for maintenance and operation of schools in the district for the 1969-70 school year.

Decision to call for the special levy vote was made by the school board last Wednesday evening.

Amount of levy will be 16 mills to raise approximately \$150,000 to operate the schools for the coming school year. This is one mill more than the special levy approved last spring for the current year to defray the inflationary rise in costs, explained Superintendent Fred Culbertson.

Other action taken at the board's special meeting was the selection of William Arild Johnson & Associates of Everett as the school architect to take charge of renovation of the high school's heating system. First step will be an inspection of the system and an estimate of the cost to put it into good condition.

Minor Accident For Two Cars East of Town

Two cars were slightly damaged in a collision near Albert's Serve-U grocery store a mile west of town last Monday afternoon when the car driven by Orin Coulter, Route 1, Concrete, was struck by a car driven by Donald Coggins of Lyman.

Coggins attempted to pass Coulter who was slowing for a left turn as he was going west on Highway 20.

Neither man was injured.

LARRY LAND DIES SUDDENLY IN SEATTLE

Larry Land, who had been a repairman for Boyd's TV Service here for six years, died suddenly sometime last Friday night in Seattle. He had gone there a month ago and was to have started work this week in radio wiring.

Land, 35, was found about noon Saturday by his landlady who had become concerned over not seeing him go out. A coroner's autopsy revealed that he had died from natural causes attributed to pulmonary congestion with edema.

Land had spent his early childhood in Alaska and came to this area with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nels Land, who made their home on Camano Island. His father, a mechanic, died over two years ago.

Funeral services will be held Saturday at 2 p. m. at the Lutheran Church on Camano Island where his mother still lives. She is his only surviving relative.

MISS SHARON IUND WEDS ALAN NISHIMURA



Ceremonies united Miss Sharon Lee Iund, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. R. (Bill) Iund, and Thomas Alan Nishimura, son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy H. Nishimura, were solemnized Oct. 19

in the St. John's Lutheran Church, Seattle. Pastor Everett Jensen officiated.

The church was decorated in sugar beet and pale pink with (Continued on page 5)