

THE WAPATO INDEPENDENT

WM. VERRAN JR., EDITOR

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April 13, 1906, in the postoffice at
Wapato, Washington, under the
act of congress of March 3, 1879.Improvement Program
Under Way in
Central School Building

A fairly extensive improvement program has been started in the Central school building, Supt. A. D. Whitenack said Wednesday.

New hardwood flooring will be laid in the hallway and rooms on the ground floor of the building and the stairways will be replaced. Several of the rooms will also be repainted and refinished.

At the junior high school building new covering will be placed on the stairs and worn portions of the floor in the hallways will be replaced. Patching and dressing of the roof on the main building and the gym are also part of the improvement program.

Plans are being considered for remodeling of the chemistry room in the basement of the high school building, Whitenack said. The principal's office will also be enlarged.

Painting of the woodwork and the concrete trim of the high school building was started some time ago and similar work is now being done at the Central school.

The improvement program cannot be completed in a single year but must extend over several years, the superintendent indicated.

TIRE PERMITS ISSUED

Applications for tire and tube purchase permits granted by the Wapato rationing board this week include: R. W. Kirkland, truck tire; Truman B. Mitchell, passenger car recap; Harold D. Siners, two passenger recaps and two tubes; J. T. Hahn, truck tire and tube; S. A. Koss, truck tire recap; Cecil P. Olsen, truck tire, two recaps and two tubes; L. H. Lundberg, two truck tubes; H. C. Breding, truck tire and tube.

Letters to the
Editor

We, Japanese evacuees of this valley, are extending our hands in farewell to all our faithful friends, who have done their part in making our departure from all our life's work less miserable. We feel that the government proclamation of evacuating the Japanese is not a means of unnecessary discomforts but a protection to the Japanese for the unseen dangers. We are not leaving with anger in our hearts toward our friends but with the thought that we are facing an unavoidable issue, which is for the good of all. We hope this war will be over very soon and we will be reunited with our American friends and be able to work more closely together to carry on with the spirit which we have treasured for many years.

It seems a shame all our plans have been postponed for a short time, but when we realize what it means to bear our share of the sacrifices we are proud to do it. We know we are giving up all we have gained over a period of years of hard labor but we are glad to sacrifice to assure our Victory. We also know our American friends we leave behind will have to sacrifice; it is this sacrifice we good Americans share that will build an indivisible nation. We know these sacrifices to be great, but there is much more we have to share, and we will be glad that we have done our part to keep our country under the Stars and Stripes.

We extend our gracious thanks to those in the office and those appointed by the government who patiently aided us in completing our preparation for this evacuation.

Sincerely,
VALLEY EVACUEES.

Wapato, Washington,
June 4, 1942

To the Editor:

The day of departure is hardly a time for coherent composition, but we would like briefly to express our farewell and appreciation to all those who have made our exodus bearable.

Truthfully, it is not a happy experience for us to be uprooted from our community where centers our very life—we second generation Japanese-American citizens who were born and reared here, who have attended its institutions, participated in its community life, made many friendships, established our occupations. Individually, and as organizations, we were happy to be an integral part of the community. Our past, like that of

our parents, lay with this country and this locality, as did our future. Our parents have cleared its land, tilled its soil, and have watched it grow from a vast sagebrush wasteland to a prosperous agricultural center. They have contributed much toward its progress during the past 40 years.

During these times of extreme sacrifices for the survival of those American ideals of freedom, equality, and justice which are dear to each of us, if our exodus will contribute to the maintenance of those ideals, we shall feel that our part in this history-making episode has not been in vain.

We leave with hope and faith in the future of America and with desire to contribute in any way to the upholding of the things for which the United States of America, our homeland, has meant and will continue to mean to us.

To the members of the WCCA board, Mr. Neilan, Mr. Jensen, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Jones, Mr. Ramsey and others who have worked with us, our grateful thanks. They have given us every consideration, fair and just treatment in the disposal of our property and other matters pertaining to evacuation. Our thanks, too, to the Evacuation Committee staff and the soldiers of the army group in charge. We can sincerely say that we have been treated in a true American manner.

Our deep appreciation also to those who have openly kept faith in us, and have worked publicly and unreservedly for our effort. And to the many other friends, organized groups, and business concerns who have been kind, helpful and understanding—and to those who have advocated our removal, motivated by their interpretations of patriotism which is their very right as free individuals, we wish very good luck, and bid, not "good-bye," but in terms typically us, "We'll be seeing you again soon."

Most sincerely,
Kara Matsushita.

The
Waggin' Tongue

by
Orval D. Peterson

In a certain city in Czechoslovakia the school children were asked by a teacher to write a theme on the subject of springtime. When the compositions were submitted every paper began in this manner: "Formerly, during the Czechoslovak Republic there were very fine springtimes; but last year and the year previous we did not have a

Pre-School Clinic
Set for June 12

The second annual pre-school clinic for children who will enter the first grade next fall will be held Friday, June 12, at the Central school, beginning at 12:30 o'clock. It is sponsored by the Parent-Teacher association, in co-operation with the county health department, local physicians and dentists and the district public health nurse.

Parents desiring to visit their own physicians and dentists may obtain the necessary blanks from Miss Margaret Bergamini, school nurse.

Following examinations, recommendations will be made to parents as to corrections which should be made before the children enter school.

HARRAH NEWS

Women's Club to Meet
Tuesday Afternoon

The Harrah Women's club will hold its final meeting of the year Tuesday afternoon in the home of Mrs. J. H. Sommers. Mrs. R. W. Rasmusson will be assisting hostess. Principal business will be the installation of officers. A barbecued lunch will be served at the close of the meeting.

Mrs. A. J. Stuhlmiller and Mrs. Joseph Bachmeier were elected to membership in the I. H. club at its meeting last Thursday in the home of Mrs. Angus McDonald. The next meeting will be held June 11 in the home of Mrs. Harold Peugh.

A shower complimenting Mrs. Irvin Larson was held Wednesday afternoon in the home of Mrs. A. J. Stuhlmiller. Assisting hostesses were Mrs. W. D. Dodd, Mrs. Herlof Wick, Mrs. J. G. Lopas and Mrs. A. Stokvis. Prizes in games went to Mrs. Wm. Merritt and Mrs. Joseph Batali.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Schlivan and two daughters of Portland were week end guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Lopas.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Peugh spent the week end in Hood River

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