

IF YOU THINK that lately the Herald has been giving a much better coverage of news, you are absolutely right! Not that the editor can claim any great credit except for his unusual perception in marrying a trained and experienced reporter. So we now have two people writing as well as doing the other chores of putting out a newspaper. The happy outcome is noticeable in many ways around the shop as the strain of trying to fill a paper decreases. This week we had two typewriters going most of Monday as Helen and I each tackled the back-log of notes on what happened last week. Read it in good health.

THE SLICK-STYLE of salesmanship now in vogue leaves a price-quality-need shopper little to work with. Being one who almost always sells himself over a period of ad study before even starting out to buy, the experience of the last few weeks of shopping for a piano has shaken the idea out of our head completely. Nobody will let us buy one, not without a struggle. It appears to be a point of pride not to quote you a firm price until you are sick of the deal. I get ill very quickly and so far haven't waited to hear the final grand gesture.

First I tried the used market. No pianos like I wanted at any price. Then the repossession ad. Just happen to have one in this area. You complete the contract. The fellow shows up, but must have time to make the repossession. Can't tell you who has it but it is the usual fine family down on their luck with illness. Had a notion to ask to go help with moving the piano out of the house, but chickened out. Why spillover their illness?

Then the truck shows up with a piano and an organ (just like they said). Both new enough to be just out of the case. How much? Well, the original price was burned in the wood inside, but there was the matter of the equity paid in by the folks who lost it after caring for it like a treasured jewel. He didn't know exactly what they had paid. It was probably about u-m-m, or maybe, well, we'd work it out.

How much for cash? That is a bit different, there would be the normal repossession figure minus the usual discount, plus an allowance for having such a kind face. That would make it—tum-tum-tum, without the stool, which would be somewhere in a price range. I finally decided that no price at all was far out of my reach, so climbed out of the truck and sent him on his way.

So the next move was to try an old, reputable firm in the big city. Showroom full of all type of new pianos. None used because they are generally the cheap, war-time instruments that will fall apart on a chacha, and besides if they could get them they would be almost

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Births

CHRISTOPHER BAUMAN

A son, Christopher Vern, was born Sept. 21 at the United General Hospital to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis V. Bauman of Rockport. The young man weighed in at 8 lbs., 5 ozs., and measured 20 inches. He joins a sister, Kimberley Anne. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Vern Bauman and Mrs. Eloise Kroor, all of Woodland, Wash.

The Concrete Herald

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Council Approves '69 Budget; Water Deal Finances A Question

The town council was faced with a series of problems and frustrations Monday night as they adopted the 1969 budget with a number of changes to try to anticipate cash needs for the acquisition and operation of a water department. \$2,400.00 was finally added to the water system budget for salaries. The general budget was adopted as printed with exception of a raise of the Police Judge salary from \$480 to \$540 a year, and the subsequent deductions from other funds to make up the difference.

In other items the council approved a large number of bills for the month of September, including \$439 for insurance of the library and books, and periodical payment of the salaries of mayor, council and other officers.

One bright spot was word that the cost of the recent paving job on Limestone street was much lower than expected due to an error in figuring the total tonnage required.

WATER SYSTEM

A letter was received from Mr. Capestany of Sleavin-Kors, Inc. recommending that the town ask for water rights on the springs of 450 gallons per minute

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New Fire Truck Will Arrive This Week

The new fire truck for the Concrete Volunteer Department is due to arrive in town Friday of this week. It will replace the one on loan from the Rural District, which will add that one to the equipment at the Grasmere station. The rural truck is to be transferred to the district Thursday night.

Invoices on the new truck list the cost at \$14,144.08, including tax. The chassis was furnished to the Howe company under a separate purchase cost of \$6,663. A saving of \$800 was made by having the truck driven out by the original salesman at cost of expenses only. Another \$130 is saved in having the truck given its rating survey here.

Upper Skagit Men Form Corporation

A combine of Upper Skagit Valley businessmen have formed a new corporation, Hideaway Lands, Inc., with articles of incorporation registered last week at the Skagit County Auditor's office in Mount Vernon.

Board of directors of the new firm are listed as Charles Wortendyke and James K. Heim of Rockport, John E. Wortendyke, Ira Brokaw of Newhalem, and Mervin W. Peterson of Marblemount.

They have formed the firm for the acquisition, mortgaging, improving, plating, leasing and selling of real estate and personal property; the manufacturing, construction, and building properties for the corporation of residential and commercial and others.

Initial stock issuance calls for 2,000 shares at no determined par value.

Cascade Park Bill Becomes Law

With a stroke of the pen President Johnson changed the future course of the Upper Skagit valley from one of development of natural resources in the Cascades to one of a new type of economy—that of recreation and tourist spending. The day of the change was Wednesday, Oct. 2nd, when the controversial North Cascades National Park Bill was made into law. In spite of the varied arguments for and against the proposal, nothing definite can be predicted as to the ultimate effect on the Upper Skagit Valley.

The federal government moved quickly to put the new area under supervision of the Park Service. Appointment of Roger J. Contor, 38, as superintendent came just a few hours after the bill was signed. Mr. Contor is a graduate of the University of Idaho and has been a ranger at Yellowstone National Park and other National Monuments. He had been assistant superintendent of the Canyon Land National Park in Utah for the past two years.

Temporary headquarters for the Park Service will be set up in Sedro-Woolley. They will supervise not only the development of the 505,000-acre North Cascade National Park, but the newly created Ross Lake and Lake Chelan recreation areas (see map).

Political proponents of the park predict that the development will bring a tourist influx that will leave \$20 million a year in the state. About 1,500 jobs will be created during the five years of the expected development work. It has been stated that there will be 1,100 jobs in operation of the park facilities.

FOREST SERVICE SHRINKS

The report from Harold Christwell, supervisor of the Mount Baker National Forest, is that the Skagit District at Marblemount will lose 301,000 acres to the park and 107,000 acres to the national recreation areas. The Baker District will lose another 62,000 acres and the Gla-



DIRECTOR CONTOR

ci District 69,000. On the east side the Chelan District will transfer 62,000 acres to the recreation area and 73,000 acres to the park. The Colonial Creek Camp on Thunder Arm is the only large campground to be transferred to the Park Service.

Details of the transfers have yet to be worked out between the two departments. Mr. Christwell states, however, that it will mean a consolidation of the present Forest Service Districts with the Skagit's small area taken over by some other. Up to last week the Skagit District was the largest single Forest Service

District in the nation. He also pointed out that 90 per cent of the area taken over by the Park Service will be land that has been managed as a wilderness for many years, so there will be little change in this jurisdiction. Reclassification of the area will not affect Seattle City Light's planned development of Thunder Creek or the raising of Ross Dam, both of which lie within the Ross Lake Recreation Area.

HUNTING EFFECTED

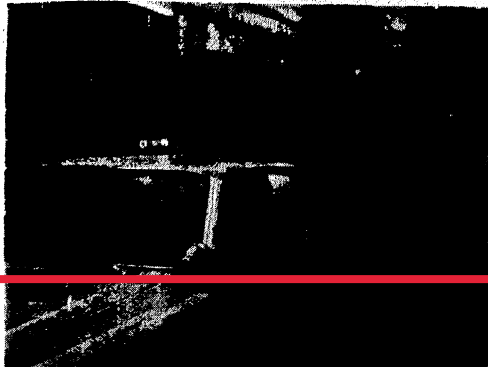
In communication with National Parks Director George Hartzog, State Game Department Director John A. Biggs said, "he has officially advised me that no regulations relating to a prohibition against hunting will be established until after our current hunting season."

Most affected by the creation of the new national park will be high mountain hunting, including the early buck season in the area directly south of Ross Lake, and regular season deer hunters who hunt north of the Skagit River in western Whatcom county.

WILD RIVERS BILL

Another threatened change in the economy is that of the Wild Rivers Bill which will come under study under the same legislation signed by the President last week. On the list of rivers to be studied are the Skagit, (Continued on page 2)

Bill Hiatt Takes Over Concrete Police Duties



William Hiatt, Concrete's new police chief, assumed his duties last week following his release from his former post with the Whatcom County Sheriff's Department as deputy sheriff stationed at Newhalem.

Hiatt had served at the Newhalem City Comp the last year after he had requested duty there because he was attracted to the area, and the entire Upper Skagit Valley, as being the closest he could find to the country around Ketchikan, Alaska, where he spent his young years.

"I like to hunt and fish, and this is the place to do it," he said.

He is enthusiastic about his new position and is eager to begin to get acquainted with the town and the people here.

He has purchased the Larcom house in Mill Addition and has

already moved in with his wife, Regina, and two small children, Becky, 4, and Bill Jr., five-months-old.

Hiatt was born in Alameda, Calif., in 1933 and attended grade school there and at Everett, Wash., before moving with his family to Alaska where they lived in both Wrangell and Ketchikan. He began his working career at 15 and qualified as one of the youngest masters on tug boats, mail boats and fish packers.

He was with a private police control in Ketchikan for several years before moving to the states in 1956. He joined the Whatcom County Sheriff's Department on a full-time basis in the spring of 1967 at Ferndale and went to Newhalem later that same year.

He has been a member of the National Guard over six years.

Four Cars Damaged In Main Street Grind

Four cars were damaged on Main Street in Concrete Saturday evening when one driven by Mrs. Kenneth Cabe moved down the south side of the street from the Legion Club to City Hall, raking three parked cars on the way. In the line-up were cars owned by Chester Comstock (small damage); a 1965 Mercury owned by Florence McNeil, \$600 damage; a 1967 Datsun owned by Huck Witham, \$390 damage estimated; and a 1961 Oldsmobile owned by Helen Abrahamson, about \$190 in damage. The Cabe car was also considerably damaged.

Mrs. Cabe was given a citation for the negligent driving charge and also charged with driving while under the influence of liquor.

As a follow-up to the accident in town, Huck Witham started home in his Datsun and tallied it out at Van Horn a short time later. He was unhurt.