

From "Business Biographies" in the Farm Bureau News, Oct. 26, 1933:
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JAMES (JIM) VANDERWEKEN

All good things seem to come at once to Jim Vanderweken, who, after celebrating his 25th birthday anniversary last week, was this week promoted to the position of manager of the Oak Harbor district of the West Coast Telephone Company.

Jim has been at the Oak Harbor station since January 10 of this year. His advancement has been rapid since he first began working for West Coast in 1929 as a truck driver.

"I have always liked to work with wires and I certainly enjoy telephone work, even though it's sometimes necessary to keep going day and night when a wind storm disables the lines, Jim said.

Everett is Jim's home town. He was born there October 16, 1908, and lived there most of his life. He was graduated from the Everett High School.

"Driving a milk delivery truck for my father when I was nine years old was how I earned my first dollar," Jim confided. "After getting out of high school I began working in a saw mill, but soon had higher ambitions."

He worked a while as a grocery clerk before his application with the West Coast Telephone Company was accepted and he began as a truck driver. From there his advancement was rapid and he had experience with nearly every angle of the telephone business.

Before coming to Oak Harbor this year, Jim was relief station manager for the Everett district including Burlington, Mount Vernon, Sedro-Woolley and Anacortes. In recent advancement to manager of the Oak Harbor district he replaces Ed Adamson, who formerly managed this district.

Jim and Mrs. Vanderweken have been married about two and a half years and have one boy, 'Little Jimmy.'

"This is my hobby," laughed Jim as he took little Jimmy in his lap. "Next comes hunting and fishing. But they went and closed the season the first year I'm here."

Jim has been studying music since he was in high school and Mrs. Vanderweken called attention to his attainment of being winner three years in succession of the Atwater-Kent Audition in Snohomish County.

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