

THE VALLEY NEWS COLUMNS

From The Oregon Statesman's Valley Correspondents

Victor Point Folk Delegates To Convention

Statesman News Service
VICTOR POINT—Mr. and Mrs. Floyd T. Fox Sr. are at Chicago to attend the National Livestock Raisers convention and the National Wool Growers meeting. Mrs. Fox is president of the Oregon Wool Growers Auxiliary and Fox is an executive board member for the Oregon Wool Growers. They are delegates to the convention. Mr. and Mrs. Fox left on a special train for the convention and will return in a new car that will be delivered to them from the factory.
Mr. and Mrs. John Walker (Dorothy Lang), Crescent City, Calif., have returned home after several days visiting here and at Silverton with relatives.
Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Doerfler, Tacoma, Wash., spent Thanksgiving with his parents, the John J. Doerflers. Additional Thanksgiving guests were Mr. and Mrs. John M. Doerfler and Mrs. Lucy Lichty, Salem.
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Lorence were Thanksgiving dinner hosts to many relatives including Mrs. Paul Wicker, Vancouver, Wash.
Anna Doerfler, who had been visiting with her sister, Mrs. Karl Hanneman and family at Cloverdale since her recent illness, returned home to spend Thanksgiving with her mother, Mrs. Joseph Doerfler, who has been confined to her home many months following a fall when she suffered a broken hip and other injuries.
Mrs. Rosa Amstutz, who had been cared for at the home of her daughter, Mrs. J. M. Doerfler, for several days, was returned to Silverton Hospital last week for further treatment.

Gary Tokstad In Overseas Messiah Choir

Statesman News Service
SILVERTON — Gary Tokstad A/2c, now stationed in England, had always wanted to sing in the "Messiah" which is produced annually at Christmas season in Salem, but he never found time while going to Silverton High School to attend the Salem rehearsals.
This year he has the time and is now singing in a -50-voice choir known as the Warrington Musical Society, which will present the "Messiah" during the Christmas season in Manchester, England.
He joined the singing group upon invitation of friends, Mr. and Mrs. William Dale, whom he met at the Holy Trinity Church he attends in Warrington, near Manchester.
Tokstad is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Audne Tokstad of Silverton. While here he sang in the First Christian Church Choir, and later in the Immanuel Lutheran Church Choir before entering the Air Force. He has been in England nearly a year and expects to be there for two more years.

Stayton Garden Club Meets Friday

Statesman News Service
STAYTON—The Stayton Garden Club will meet Friday at 8 p. m. at the Women's Clubhouse to hear Miss Eugenia Raebel of Portland talk on "Christmas Greens." The public is invited.
Mrs. Fred Berger will continue her talk on the care of African Violets and Mrs. Andrew Fery will talk on the care of poinsettias.
In charge of the meeting are Mrs. Robert Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Raleigh Harold, Mrs. James M. Daniel and Mrs. W. H. Loose.

Potent Rodent Catcher



FOUR CORNERS — Lowman Conner holds one of the rodents he catches for a hobby while Lady, who accompanies him on his trapping trips, looks on. In background are some of the traps in his collection.

Catching Moles is Hobby for Lowman Conner, Community Service for 4 Corners Area

By EFFIE MAY WHITE
Statesman News Service
FOUR CORNERS — Hobbies have run the gamut from collecting colored pebbles to human heads (among the aborigines) but it remained for a Four Corners man to develop a hobby that has grown into a community service.
Lowman Conner began his unusual hobby of trapping moles and gophers, as he expressed it, "for want of something to do." He lives with his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Baker, 4045 Monroe Ave.
Starting with two traps he now has 24 including eight varieties. Some are called the V-trap, flat, spear and spring trap.

Conner began in May, 1951, to keep a record of his catch of gophers and moles. On June 21, 1952 he caught the 1,000th animal. On Nov. 22, 1952, his day's catch was one gopher bringing the total to 1,415 in approximately 18 months. Once he caught a mole and a mouse in the same trap. His record for one day is 13 of the busy, destructive rodents.
Born Near Dallas
Conner, 76, was born in Polk County near Dallas on his father's donation land claim. He says "I always trapped a few gophers every year," but so expert has he become that his services are much in demand. Farmers for several miles around in this area come for him to rid their premises of the rodents.
His records show that they average about half-and-half gophers and moles with a few rats and mice.
Early this year, noticing the extra nice pelts of the moles, he began skinning and curing the pelts with a view to disposing of them commercially. They are of a soft, silken texture with a blending of very dark bluish-black coloring.
The fur is average for durability. The pelts are five to six inches when stretched and nailed flat to a board. The pelts are prime during the winter months.

Garlands to Sub for Lights At Mt. Angel

Statesman News Service
MT. ANGEL — The Mt. Angel City Council voted Monday night to add garlands of evergreen boughs to the strings of electric lights above main city streets to give the city a festive appearance for the Christmas holidays even if power shortage should make it necessary not to use the lights. Lights will only be turned on if the shortage is relieved.
The council also decided to continue the street tree-planting program. Joe Wagner volunteered to head the planting campaign again. Wagner and his committee succeeded last year in interesting property owners on most of the main streets to plant trees suitable for curb planting with the result that a fine crop of young trees, many of them flowering specimens, promise new beauty to the barren streets. The council hopes to extend the program to other streets this year.

Polk County Courthouse News Briefs

Statesman News Service
DALLAS—Marriage licenses from the office of E. B. Hamilton, Polk County clerk: Delbert DeBerry Neal 34, Coos Bay, and Kathryn Robbert Johnson 18, Monmouth, and Mary Lou Tarter 17, Monmouth; Louis Mola 62, and Pauline F. Bates 40, both of Corvallis; Joseph R. Doyle 21, Dallas and Frieda Mae Smith 20, Salem; Raymond Earl Crouch 39, Burbank, Calif., and Sara Eva Block 35, Dallas; Robert Lynne Mitten 18, Ellensburg, Wash., and Sandra Raye Lines, Chehalis, Wash.; Loren Donald Lange, 21, and Doris Gruver 17, both of Dallas.

Keizer Girl In Spotlight At Chicago

CHICAGO, Ill. — (Special) — About 600 guests will watch Kay Shidler, 4-H girl from Keizer, Ore., dance at a "Share the Fun" breakfast at the National 4-H Club Congress here Thursday.
Miss Shidler, 16, is one of 18 winners in a nationwide 4-H talent search sponsored by United States Rubber Co. An acrobatic dancer, she was recommended for her appearance here by Burton S. Hutson, Oregon 4-H Club leader, on the basis of her personality, appearance and the reception she received from an audience at the 4-H summer school at Corvallis.
In the audience will be Extension Service and Industrial leaders from the United States and 29 foreign countries.

Independence Host To Polk County Rebekahs Saturday

Statesman News Service
INDEPENDENCE—Clover Leaf Rebekah Lodge will be host Saturday to the 34th convention of District 9 of Polk County.
Mrs. Maude Benschoter is general chairman of the convention which will begin at 10 a. m. in the IOOF Hall. A no-host dinner

under the chairmanship of Mrs. Grace Cartee will be served at noon in the hall dining room. A special meeting has been called Saturday evening for Mrs. Olive Ramey, president of the Rebekah assembly of Oregon, who will make an official visit. A formal evening has been planned. Degree work will be given with Mrs. Ruth Grantham, noble grand, presiding.

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Valley News Briefs

Clear Lake — The Community Club will meet at 8 p. m. Friday at Clear Lake School. Each family is to bring a pie.

Hubbard — A well-child clinic for Hubbard, Butteville, Donald, Aurora and Broadacres will be held Tuesday afternoon at North Marion Union High School. Mrs. Les Eppers, Aurora, is in charge and has been contacted regarding appointments.

Prospect — Prospect Home Extension Unit will hold a bazaar Friday in the basement of the department store at 340 Court St., Salem. Toys, handwork and food will be sold.

Halls Ferry — The Community Club will meet at the Schoolhouse Thursday at 7:30 p. m., which is earlier than the usual starting time. A color film will be shown about the Red Cross blood program and how blood is sent to Korea. The public is invited. Special music will be presented by Willamette University students.

Liberty — The Liberty Womens Club will meet on Thursday, Dec. 4, but will meet on Dec. 11, for its annual Christmas party.

Hazel Green — A mental health film, "Angry Boy," will be shown to the Hazel Green Mother's Club by Mrs. Edith Haulman from the Marion County health department Thursday evening. Two new students, Patricia and Bonnie Ricketts, have enrolled in Hazel Green School.

Silverton — Excavation of a full basement for the new 44-bed nursing home to be built on South Water Street by Mr. and Mrs. E. N. Patterson, has been completed and construction of the home itself is expected to start the first of the year. It will be a one-story fire-proof building, the main section 135 by 40 feet, joined to a wing 101 by 44 feet.

Hopewell — Hopewell Home Extension Unit will meet at the Hopewell EUB Church basement Dec. 9 at 10:30 a. m. with Mrs. Lillian Legg and Mrs. Barbara Fuqua as project leaders. The lesson is "Christmas Decorations." Members and visitors are requested to bring a sack lunch, greenery and supplies.

Willamina — Many Willamina folk are ill including Mrs. E. B. Lamson, who is recovering; Johnny Breeden and Bonnie McGee who have the flu; Mrs. Glenn Tucker; Mrs. N. W. Smith, who is suffering from pneumonia; and Allen Mode, baby son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Mode, who has been seriously ill in a Portland hospital.

Unionvale — The Youth Fellowship of Unionvale Evangelical United Brethren Church is sponsoring a used clothing drive for Korean relief. Members will call at homes in the community next week to pick up articles. People are urged to give usable articles and to have them ready. Articles may also be taken to the church. Mrs. Howard Steingrube is directing the pickup service.

Four Corners — The Lincoln School Mother's Club will meet Friday at 1:30 p. m. at the school. Educational slides will be shown. Hostesses will be Mrs. Burnham's fifth grade mothers with Mrs. L. G. Greider and Mrs. Carol Capps as co-chairmen. Four students transferred this week from Lincoln School to Bush School. They were Clarence, Lee, Elmer and Billy Sutton.

Liberty — Norval Hiron, who underwent major surgery last Thursday, at a Salem hospital came home on Tuesday and is convalescing at his home on Albert Drive. Hiron is fire chief for the Liberty-Salem Heights Fire Department.

Salem Heights — The annual parent drive of Salem Heights School started Dec. 1, and is expected to last one week. Everyone living in the area is asked to bring paper to the school. Proceeds from the drive will be added to the students fund.

Silverton — C. B. Anderson, Silverton police judge, reports that fines for November totaled \$264 in his court. The sum covers largely traffic violations, including failure to stop at posted signs, lack of operator's licenses, and speeding. This was Anderson's first month as police judge. He was appointed by the City Council in late October to replace Kenneth Brown, resigned.

Mt. Angel — Father Cyril Lebald, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church, announces that \$107,000 has been pledged by parishioners for construction of a new parish house and payment of a new heating unit for St. Mary's church, already completed. The goal had been \$100,000, \$80,000 for the rectory and \$20,000 for the heating plant. He said \$45,000 of the pledged amount had been paid. Building operations are to begin in the spring.

Willamina — John Mode and Don Booth left this week for their base at Long Beach, Calif. Bob Kerns returned to Seattle this week after a 15-day leave.

District Athletes Sponsoring Dance Friday at School

Statesman News Service
DETROIT—Detroit High School lettermen will sponsor a dance Friday evening in the school gymnasium as an athletic fund-raising project.
Proceeds will be used toward the lettermen's award trip in the spring and to promote the spring sports program. Francis Kettleston, Detroit coach, reports that the lettermen hope to contribute toward the student activity fund as well.

Interesting decorations are planned for the gymnasium, and music will be supplied by Gorden Winchcomb's orchestra.

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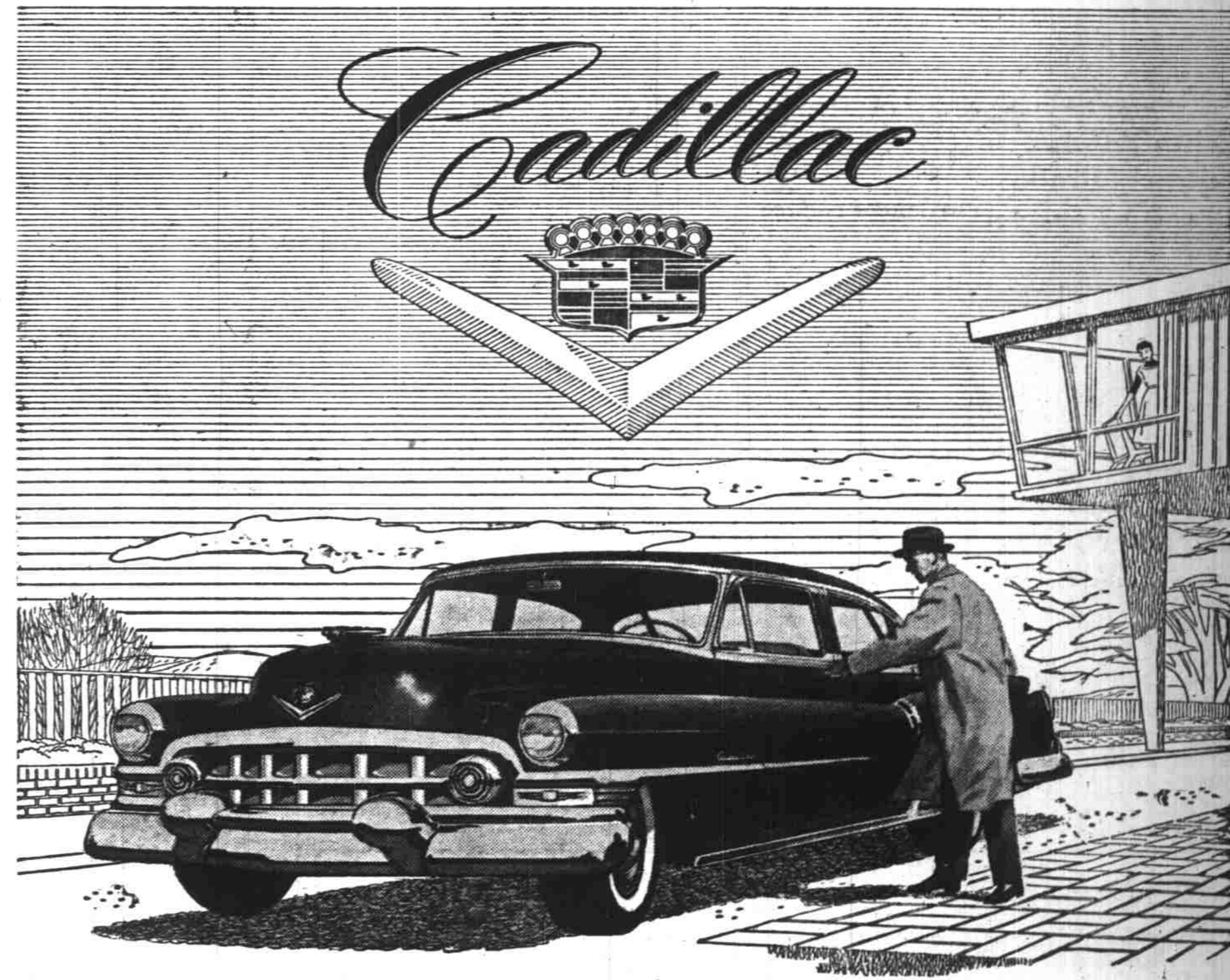
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