

Gateway to The Oregon Caves

Illinois Valley News

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Villair Mill Will Start Sawing Soon

In the spring of 1931 J. J. Villair and Archie E. Anderson entered into a partnership under the name of Villair & Anderson, for the purpose of sawing Ponderosa and Sugar pine lumber principally.

The average cut for the next six years was around five million feet of lumber per year, varying with market conditions and NRA limitations, but averaging that much lumber altogether. This timber was purchased from local owners and some outside people who had timber claims in this vicinity.

Good fortune attended these operations from the standpoint of few accidents, no major ones, and only one small fire at the mill. Sixty men are employed each season. The mill's operation was about five to six months, but the movement of lumber into Grants Pass for shipment and local box factory use runs well into the whole year.

In March of 1938 A. E. Anderson sold his interests to J. J. and Mabel R. Villair thus forming the D.B.A. Villair Lumber Co. and during the last season the mill cut some five million and one-half feet of lumber.

The present season of 1939 has been slow in opening up and the mill is late in starting to saw. However, with timber purchases up Althouse creek it looks like the usual amount of timber will be cut during the summer. The company operates its own logging operations, as well as sawmill plant.

Triple Party Given for Residents of the Valley

Last Wednesday evening a number of friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Chism of Ye Rustic Inn on the Redwoods highway to help celebrate three happy events.

Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Smith were guests at a dinner the occasion being the birthday of Mr. Smith. The second event was the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Chism, who were married in Cave Junction just one year ago and also became owners of Ye Rustic Inn.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Lawson, former owners of the camp, are now building their new home on the Rogue river near Grants Pass, and this occasion was also in farewell to their departure from the valley.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead Purchase Owl Cafe

Recent purchase of the Owl cafe by Mr. and Mrs. Jim Whitehead, completes a deal entered into last year when George L. Martin leased the Owl to them with the privilege of purchasing at the end of the lease.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead are too well known in the valley and need no introduction, and their many friends wish them every success as the new owners of this popular resort.

Mrs. Whitehead will still have charge of the restaurant while Jim handles the beverage end. Some new improvements are being contemplated in the near future for the restaurant part of the resort.

Mrs. Herb Watts has been quite ill with flu the past week.

COMING EVENTS

Fridays—Every 2nd and 4th Friday, Kerby Girl Scouts meet at the Kerby Library.

Every Monday—Boy Scouts meet in Legion hall, Cave Junction. Ralph Huber, Scout Master.

Monday, May 15—Chamber of Commerce meeting at Log Cabin hotel in Selma at 8:30 p. m.

Student Activities At Kerby High

Maxene Patrick was taken suddenly ill while at school Monday, and had to be taken home. It is hoped she will soon be able to return to school. Maxene is a member of the senior class.

Votes were cast on Wednesday for the student body officers for the coming year, resulting in the election of Bud Brooks as president; Kenneth Morrison as vice-president and Jeanne Villair as secretary-treasurer.

The junior-senior prom, a much looked for event of the school year is being held at the gymnasium on Saturday evening. Each member of the two classes invites a friend thus making an interesting group for dancing. The junior class has charge of arrangements and decorations.

Wedding Anniversary Celebrated Last Friday

Mrs. Ralph T. Baumberger was a charming hostess of last Friday evening when she entertained a group of friends at her spacious home, honoring Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Baumberger, Sr., who were celebrating their 41st wedding anniversary.

The rooms were attractively decorated with flowers and bouquets of the season's beautiful native wild flowers. During the evening moving pictures were shown and later the guests were served a sumptuous luncheon buffet style.

The following guests were present: Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Baumberger, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Wilber, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Boyd, Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Martin, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Athey and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Baumberger.

Grants Pass Courier Wins Agency Award

The Grants Pass Courier came in for considerable recognition recently, when the management was awarded a plaque for outstanding merchandising cooperation in the northwest in connection with the fall campaign of a well known biscuit company. The award was given by Botsford, Constantine & Gardner advertising counselors of Portland, Oregon, and the silver plaque was presented to A. E. Voorhies while in Portland recently.

Noble Stanton, advertising manager of the Courier was also recognized recently in Portland, when he was made president of the advertising managers department of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers' association, at the spring meeting held in the Multnomah hotel.

New Orchestra Pleases Dancers at Legion Hall

The last dance given by the American Legion was voted one of the best by those who attended.

The new orchestra was a big improvement over the old one and the management says there will be five pieces this Saturday with the assurance of that number in the future if the attendance warrants it.

Prizes will be given away as usual except that there will be a grand prize this week for the lucky lady. The prize is on display at the Cave City Dress shop. See this prize and then win it.

New Confectionery Store to Start Here

About the first of June, Samuel Smith, proprietor of the Cave City Drug store will open a new confectionery store in the building formerly occupied by the drug store.

Mr. Smith secured a lease on the building from Elwood Hussey and he expects to start working on the interior decorating and putting in necessary fixtures next week, and hopes to be able to open the new store the first of June.



My Mother

Who fed me from her gentle breast
And hushed me in her arms to rest,
And on my cheek sweet kisses pressed?
My Mother.

When sleep forsook my open eye
Who was it sung sweet lullabye
And rocked me that I should not cry?
My Mother.

Who sat and watched my infant head
When sleeping in my cradle bed
And tears of sweet affection shed?
My Mother.

When pain and sickness made me cry
Who gazed upon my heavy eye
And wept, for fear that I should die?
My Mother.

Who taught my infant lips to pray
To love God's holy word and day
And walk in wisdom's pleasant way?
My Mother.

And can I ever cease to be
Affectionate and kind to thee
Who was so very kind to me?
My Mother.

Oh, No, the thought I cannot bear
And if God please my life to spare
I hope I shall reward they care—
My Mother.

Jane Taylor.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ACTIVITIES

Considerable work was accomplished by the Illinois Valley Chamber of Commerce during the past year. Much work was done that the chamber gets little credit for, but nevertheless, it had a wholesome effect on a lot of activity that perhaps would not have succeeded if it had not been for the chamber.

Samuel Smith was elected president at the beginning of the new year and Amy Hussey, secretary and W. M. Wasmond, treasurer.

Among some of the most important things the chamber helped with was the extension of the electric light line to O'Brien. The work of the chamber in this respect was outstanding and was a material factor in getting the line completed.

They are now working in cooperation with Copco to get the line extended up the Caves highway with every chance of succeeding. We are informed that the line will be extended this year.

When the Redwood Empire Information girls made their trip through Josephine county, the chamber helped greet them and attended the banquet at the Caves Chateau in the evening. Their work in this respect was outstanding and helped give the girls the wonderful reception they received while here.

The registration bureau is another chamber activity that does considerable in giving publicity to the valley and the Caves. Last year Cave Junction was the second registering bureau in the state. The value of this advertising cannot be under estimated.

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Kerby News Notes of General Interest

The Illinois Valley Teachers association held their last meeting of the year at the high school building on Tuesday evening. Mrs. Lola Peterson in charge of business session, urged the teachers to finish the plans for the eighth grade graduation exercises which will be held on Monday evening, May 15th. Neil Allen, attorney of Grants Pass has been chosen to give the address, teachers and members of the graduation class will meet at the high school gymnasium on Monday for practice and final arrangements. The exercises to begin at 8 p. m. A program of music and readings will also be furnished by the class and others as well as awards and certificates being granted.

After discussions were finished concerning the graduation, the group decided that the Illinois Valley Teachers association was of such value to them that it would be continued during the coming school year and the first meeting would be held early in October.

The association was organized two years ago by Principal of the high school, F. W. Jones for the purpose of keeping teachers in touch with each other socially and to keep familiar with school problems of state and county.

Considerable attention was paid this year to legislation affecting teachers and school systems.

After the business meeting the teachers of the Kerby grade school served ice cream and wafers at small tables.

Present for the evening were: Mrs. Susan Haines, Mrs. Lorna Byne, Miss Phyllis Crouse, Mrs. Martha Holland, Mrs. Marjorie Varner, Miss Alvenia Connell, Mrs. Thelma Wilson, Merle Farmer, Mr. and Mrs. Ferd Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Alva Laws, Miss Laverne Roberson, Mrs. Lola Peterson, Mrs. Myrtle Walton, Miss Lois Speaker, Miss Ruby Higanbotham, Miss Ila Mae Higanbotham.

Members of the American Legion and Legion Auxiliary, on Tuesday visited each of the grade schools in the Union high school district for the purpose of giving tests to eighth grade students. The purpose of these tests is to determine the outstanding student of the district, this student to receive the plaque awarded by the Legion. This award is given on the basis of scholarship, courage, honor, leadership and service. Thirty-two eighth grades pupils took the test. Members of the Legion and Auxiliary who gave the test were: Les Henry Sr., Wm. McLean, Mrs. Wm. Martindale, Mrs. Millie Trefethen, Mrs. Cecil Slack, Mrs. Emily Kellert, Mrs. Marie White, Mrs. Joy Badden, Mrs. Blake Miller. The results of the tests will be known in a few days and the plaque will be awarded at the eighth grade graduation on Monday, May 15.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Adams who have a mine on Canyon creek are in Kerby for a short stay at their home and to look after business interests.

F. W. Cooper of Kerby and Mr. Wood of Grants Pass left the first of the week for southern California to bring back a truck load of fruits and vegetables. Mr. Cooper has a fruits and vegetable stand in Kerby.

Don Morrison left Monday for Yreka, California, on a business trip.

A. K. CASS ELECTED BY SHRINE CLUB

A. K. Cass of Grants Pass was elected president of Bill Day Shrine club Friday noon at a luncheon meeting held in the Redwoods hotel.

Other officers elected were: Leonard B. Mayfield, vice president; and Rex Barnett, secretary-treasurer. Cass succeeds L. W. Wipperman.

Deer Creek Valley Shows Development

By C. H. Brooks

Happenings of the past year have brought about some changes and additions toward development of Deer Creek valley. Logging and mill operations have been slowed down to a great extent for this present season on account of low prices on the lumber market. There are seven mills in this immediate vicinity with two of the larger mills being at a standstill, one of the larger mills running full time and two only part time, with two smaller mills running most of the time. These two smaller mills have been built during the past year.

Mining seems to be about the same for the past few years. It is not an unusual sight to see gold being weighed out in exchange for groceries and supplies at Lew Hammer's store in Selma. In addition to this Mr. Hammer's truck loaded with miners supplies makes regular weekly trips down Deer Creek and the Illinois river and is met by the miners who exchange their precious findings for their necessities of life. It is believed this is the only place in the United States this method of trading is practiced to any great extent.

The production of beef cattle is slowly giving way to the dairy industry, there being not near as much beef cattle produced as was in past years, but dairying has expended to such an extent, that the income to the valley growers and producers is probably near the same.

Turkey and poultry raising has not varied much in the past year, however, there is not nearly as many turkeys produced as was four or five years ago.

General farming has not experienced a great deal of change except several of the farms are being equipped with more modern methods and naturally with more modern machinery the farming is being improved. Irrigation by the sprinkler system seems to be one of the chief topics of discussion and is hoped before long to see sprinkler irrigation in reality on many farms.

The farming industry of the valley is backed by a strong active grange. Deer Creek grange hall has been greatly improved during the past year by the addition of a large dining room and re-arranging the main hall so it is much larger to accommodate the large gatherings. The grange takes an active interest in the young people of the valley and usually sponsors a 4-H club summer school scholarship and a few months ago organized juveniles, this being the first and only juvenile grange in the county. This organization of little folks is very ably lead by a worthy matron and it is surprising to see the improvement in these youngsters and the splendid way in which they shoulder their responsibilities.

With the cooperation of the grange and the generous heart of Wm. P. Greiner of the Gold Canyon Pony Ranch, Deer Creek high school pupils are being transported to and from Kerby Union high school which is a wonderful improvement over former methods of transportation. Mr. Greiner who owns and conducts the Gold Canyon Pony ranch home for boys has stated he expects to have about 50 boys here for the summer season. This boys home is a recent addition to our community and is being made better and larger day by day with the addition of better buildings, dormitories, etc.

During the past year two homes have been destroyed by fire, the Ernest Woodcock home being a total loss of house and contents and the Lew Hammer home, the house being completely destroyed but most of the contents being saved.