

Gateway to The Oregon Caves

Illinois Valley News

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Washington Weekly Letter

By HARRIS ELLSWORTH

WASHINGTON, D. C. — We have just about finished up the year 1943 — the first session of the 78th Congress. By the time this letter appears in print the Congress will be adjourned for the holidays.

The news services, special correspondents and some of the news magazines will, of course, sum up the work of the session. I shall therefore make no discussion of details here. Instead I want to discuss the general picture of the session.

The 78th Congress is the first one since the landslide in 1932 to be on a balanced and independent basis. It is the first one since 1932 that has not bowed instantly to the will of the executive — it is the first Congress since the advent of the New Deal that cannot be called a rubber stamp Congress.

This situation developed with amazing suddenness in the 1942 elections. It seems to me we have gone through this entire year—the entire first session—without being able to adjust to the new situation, a condition totally new to all but a mere handful of old-timers. For ten years the minority membership has been so small as to be entirely powerless and for the same period the majority members have, in fact, been equally powerless because they have been dominated by the wishes of the President and his advisers.

In other words, for the first time in 10 years we have an independent Congress—but a Congress that has not yet found itself. During this first session we have, in my opinion, been going through a period of adjustment to this new condition. Congress is a ponderous body and does not accommodate itself quickly to radical changes in its character — and the 1942 elections certainly did make such a change.

Consequently there has been considerable confusion and what might fairly be called fumbling on some of the major controversial is-

POMONA GRANGE TO MEET JAN. 1

Pomona Grange will meet at the Redwood Grange hall Saturday, January 1 at 10:30 a. m. for an all day business meeting and in the evening at 8 o'clock the newly elected officers will be installed, after which the balance of the evening will be used for a social time. A pot luck New Year's dinner will be enjoyed at noon. All grangers are urged to be present. The installation of officers in the evening will be open to visitors.

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COMING EVENTS

Saturday, Jan. 1.—New Year.
Tuesday, Jan. 4.—Chamber of commerce will meet at the Cave City Coffee Shop, 7:30 p. m.
Wednesday, Jan. 5.—Garden club meeting at the home of Mrs. J. J. Villair on Redwoods highway.
Illinois Valley Garden club meets the first Wednesday of each month.
H. E. U. meets every second Tuesday of the month.
O'Brien Women's club meet on first Friday of each month.
Ladies' Auxiliary meet the first and third Wednesday of each month.

DISNEY'S GREATEST FEATURE COMING SAT. AND SUNDAY

In "Bambi" Walt Disney gives us a simpler, and yet more sophisticated story, and the quiet dignity of the telling should appeal to all ages. There is humor and delight, as always, in the small, personalized animals, but there is power, too, in the majesty of the "princes" of the forest and in the vicious struggle Bambi with a stag who threatens his mate.

The story ends as it began, with the forest people gathering for a look at the new "prince" as Bambi becomes a father.

The lesson of the story is clear, but not overstressed. But above all, "Bambi" is real entertainment.

GRANGES TO HOLD JOINT MEETING

Deer Creek and Illinois Valley Granges will hold a joint installation of their new 1944 officers next Thursday, January 6th, in the Illinois Valley Grange hall.

Members of the Grange are requested to be present from both orders. Other Granges sojourning in the valley are invited to their meetings.

HOLLAND SCHOOL XMAS PROGRAM

Pupils of the Holland school gave a delightful Christmas program Thursday evening, December 23rd in the school building at 8:30. Mrs. Clyde Runyon, teacher, assisted the pupils and she and her scholars received many complimentary remarks from the well filled school house guests.

For the kiddies, 60 large bags of candy were given out by Santa Claus, for he was there in person, and distributed many presents to the children.

There was a nice program which was enjoyed by the grown-ups as well as the children.

Buy your Defense Stamps today.

The confidence with which Americans invoke a "Happy New Year" upon one another is an inspiring testimony of their unshaken faith in a better world to come.

Few of us continue to think of the "good old days." For we know that they were not truly good old days. They were days of unrest, of economic maladjustments, of intrigue—of all the unhappy things which paved the way to war.

We know, too, that the molding of the future is in the hands of ourselves and of those peoples aligned with us in the fight for freedom. We have confidence in America and in our allies. It is the confidence born of right. It is the courage born of strength and of belief in a holy cause.

America is our own community—multiplied thousands of times. Because of that, we know that the world will be a better place in which to live, for America's voice is a strong one. It is heard to the furthest reaches of the world.

With the coming of 1944, all of us find new and deep seated reasons for an inward happiness. We know that despite our sorrows, a greater world is rising from the ashes of the old.

It is with a spirit of joy, tempered with humility, that this newspaper asks for every one of you:

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR!

1944

Rod And Gun Lodges Club Holds Meeting

Last Tuesday evening, the Kerby Rod and Gun club held a mass meeting in the I. O. O. F. hall in Kerby, to hear a report from an employee of the Oregon Fish and Game commission, a biologist, who came to study the feasibility of opening the Illinois river falls to fishing.

Mr. Rivers, the gentleman in question, gave a very satisfactory report to the local club and stated in part that he could see no biological reason for closing the falls to fishing, and we are informed that his report to the state commission will so state, and he would recommend that the falls be opened to fishing during the seasons.

Mr. Rivers, an expert employee of the State Fish and Game Commission in his line, will have great weight with the commission, and it is locally believed that his recommendation will be carried out. If so, it will mean much activity in fishing in the Illinois, for the falls is one of the best fishing spots on the river, and during normal times many fishermen take the trip down the river to fish at the falls, but since it has been closed few fishermen go down the river.

If the falls are again opened to fishing in the season, it is believed that hundreds of the fishing fans of southern Oregon and from many other parts will be fishing at the falls in future years.

The Illinois Valley Garden club will hold its January meeting next Wednesday at the home of Mrs. J. J. Villair on the Redwoods highway. O. K. Beals, county agent of Grants Pass, will be the guest speaker and it is hoped a large attendance will be present to hear him speak.

Kerby News Notes of General Interest

BY ADAH JONES

Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Nealey moved Monday to Maple Court. The house where they have been living was sold by Harry Elroy to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Martin, who have been living in the Runyon house near the high school. Mrs. Chas. Martin is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Marchant.

The garage for the high school bus is nearly finished, and ready to house the new bus. Harry Elroy has built the garage next to the grade school bus garage.

Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Morrison and son Fritz Lee of China Flats were Christmas Day guests at the home of Mrs. Morrison's parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Jones. They also visited with Fritz's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Morrison in Grants Pass. Other Christmas day guests at the Jones home were Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Nealey and children, Jimmie and Myrtice Marie, Mrs. Josephine Nealey, Ken and Max Morrison.

Ken Morrison gave his parents and friends a pleasant surprise when he came home on leave for Christmas, instead of New Years as he had planned. He is with the navy air corps and based at Alameda, Calif. He returned to Alameda Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Pearle Kennedy, high school social science teacher left last Thursday for Lewiston, Idaho, where she will visit her mother. Mrs. Marcy of the English department is spending her vacation with her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hughes of Coquille. Mrs. Mary White, primary teacher is spending part of the holiday with her parents at Monmouth.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hill and daughter, Mrs. Moore of Holland, transacted business in Grants Pass the first of the week.

Agriculture Board Hits Subsidy

The state board of agriculture went on record as opposed to consumer subsidies in its regular semi-annual meeting in Salem in December when it endorsed in detail a letter written by E. L. Peterson, stat director of agriculture, to the chairman of the U. S. senate agriculture committee, who had invited Peterson to appear in Washington, D. C., at a hearing on subsidies and farm prices. Peterson sent the letter in lieu of appearing.

The board, through its endorsement of the Peterson letter, declared that farmers are already struggling with a maze of federal regulations and that they sincerely fear further federal domination and encroachment. Here are other brief excerpts from the three-page letter:

"Federal programs have repeatedly called attention to the large volume of purchasing power of which the percentage used for food is at as low a point as at any time in our history. Farmers, therefore, believe subsidies unnecessary.

"The belief in agricultural circles is that subsidies will not act either to sustain production or increase it. Farm production schedules are not flexible . . . The uncertainty of the duration of subsidies and their amount does not appeal to farmers. . . .

"Farmers view subsidies as purely for benefit of the consumer. Wage earners have the full support of the government to secure fair wages. Their work week is still 48 hours, while the farmer's work week averages nearly 70 hours. . . . Most farmers have no desire to deny wage earners their gain, but believe that wage earners (consumers) should realize that farmers should likewise have fair wages (prices), and not be dependent upon the beneficence of the government.

"Subsidies are inflationary. If the government is to make subsidy payments for food production and thus pay a portion of consumer grocery bills, to the extent of such payments excess purchasing power remains in consumer hands which itself becomes an additional pressure against price ceilings. . . .

"The farm boys now in uniform should not come home to a dole in the form of subsidies. Neither should they come home to an industry which has had placed upon it by their government the unfair and unjustified burden of establishing a fair level of prices in the face of consumer resistance fostered by their government by denying such fair prices. . . . Western agriculture is practically unani-

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WHAT THE LEGION AUXILIARY IS DOING

The Past President's club of Glenn Morrison Unit held their annual dinner meeting Wednesday evening, Aunt Mary White presided. Also attending were Irene Morrison, Amy Hussey, Millie Trefethen, Emily Kellert, Lucille Arnold, Marie White and Mildred Taylor. Matters pertaining to Auxiliary work were discussed and a very pleasant evening enjoyed.

Hospital chairman Marie White wishes to thank all who donated so generously to the Gift Shop, also those who gave jig saw puzzles and homemade candy.

Send The News to your friends