

Illinois Valley News

An independent newspaper devoted to the development of the richest valley in the world, the Illinois Valley and its surrounding districts

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M. C. Athey - - - - - Editor

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DO WE HAVE A COUNTY LIBRARY?

Word comes to us that one of the Valley patrons of the County Library in Grants Pass, was in the county seat recently and went to the library to select some books.

After our citizen had selected what was wanted, someone in the library informed the visitor that over "here" was the shelf for the Valley, all the rest was for Grants Pass. The books wanted were in the Grants Pass section.

This information comes to us from VERY reliable sources, and we do not question the action for one moment. If we did, this article would not be printed. But coming to us as it has, we want to know if the Valley's taxable property that helps keep the library going, isn't just as good as that in Grants Pass? If it isn't we want to know that, too.

We are very positive that our Grants Pass friends will resent that action just as much as we do, and we wish those friends who read this article, would take time to call the County Court and ask, "HOW COME?"

And we are asking the County Court, whom we believe the custodian of the County Library, "HOW COME?" Is there one spot for the rest of the county and Grants Pass enjoys the lions share of the library?

Our Valley patron has been in the habit of going to the library and selecting books to take home. This is the first time she was told the Valley shelf was "over here," the rest was for Grants Pass. Our patron was almost knocked "cuckoo" when the above information was imparted.

Those of us who have heard the story are very much perturbed, and if the employee who imparted the ejaculation has no authority to do so, we hope it will be corrected. It was very embarrassing, to say the least, for our Valley resident. Can we get action from the County Court?

IS THIS ECONOMY?

Calling your attention to the letter sent commanders of Legion Posts throughout America, concerning the recommendation of the Hoover Commission to turn over the veterans hospitalization to the Federal Security Agency. Taking the management of veterans hospitals away from the Veterans Administration for the sake of economy.

Is it economy to juggle veterans in hospitals and to do away with many of them, when there is not enough hospitals now to take proper care of all the veterans who should have hospitalization?

Does the Hoover Commission think for one moment the American people will sit idly by and see veterans get a rotten deal through the Federal Security Agency? If they do, they better put on some "specks." Good old fashioned Americans will see that those boys get what is coming to them rightly. They are not asking too much. They were caught in the last wars, and now they need hospitals to get them back to health. And by the grace of God and the good sense of too many Americans, they are going to get it.

Support the MARCH OF DIMES

All Veterans are Fighting Recommendation of the Hoover Commission

The following letter to all veterans is self explanatory:

DEAR COMMANDER: Our organization is mobilizing its forces for a showdown battle in the interests of our disabled and hospitalized veterans. They are facing a real crisis. Attempts are being made to take away from these men and women the specialized veteran hospitalization which they have earned and to which they are entitled. The first step has been taken toward economy at the expense of the veteran.

To be specific, here's what's happening. The medical committee of the Hoover Commission recommends one Federal hospital system, placing the Veterans Administration hospitals, the Public Health Service, all Army and Navy hospitals and hospitals of the Bureau of Indian Affairs under one head, The Federal Security Agency. This would mean the end of specialized veteran hospitalization such as the Legion has fought for through all the years.

This presents a fighting challenge to every Legionnaire and to every veteran. It's going to be a rough and tumble battle to win! But we will win if Posts of The American Legion take immediate steps to recruit added strength for the organization. Those on Capitol Hill in Washington know only one language, and that is the force and power of their constituents back home. I, therefore, urgently appeal to you as a post leader to immediately intensify your membership effort to see to it that every veteran in your community becomes a member of the Legion, so that he can carry his proportionate share of the load in this fight to guarantee continued specialized hospitalization for disabled veterans.

It will also take the added strength of thousands of new members in the Legion if we are to be successful in our fight to carry out the National Convention mandates on Rehabilitation, including pensions and increased compensation, and to complete the job of getting Universal Military Training adopted at this session of Congress.

Perhaps your post is one of those already over the top in membership for 1949. If so, I extend to you and to all your members my heartiest congratulations. I am sure, however, there are still many veterans in your area who have not as yet joined our organization.

If your post is one of those which has not as yet equalled or surpassed the 1948 membership for 1949, then I appeal to you to make that your immediate goal, and continue your efforts until every eligible veteran is signed up.

This mobilization of additional members is an immediate task. Do not hold up on the dispatch of your cards and dues to your Department Headquarters, because it is important that department and national headquarters have the up-to-the-minute record of those members enrolling during January and February.

I am confident I can count on you to do this job.

Sincerely yours,
Perry Brown,
National Commander.

The next meeting of Glen Morrison Post No. 70 is February 2nd, 8 p. m. in the Legion hall. All veterans interested should attend.

VISION AND HEARING CLINICS ARE SET

Clinics for Josephine county children having hearing or vision difficulties will be conducted in Kerby, February 1st, by Miss Dora Crouter and John E. Taylor, consultants in vision and hearing from the State Department of Education division of special education in Salem.

Clinics will be held at the Kerby elementary school February 1st. Children who have been referred to the state specialists for examination by the school nurse, classroom teacher, or parents, will be granted a special appointment at a clinic session. Parents of children for whom appointments have been arranged are being contacted by the school for their approval of this free state service and parents are asked to be present at the time of the appointment if possible.

The clinics are being arranged by Miss Merl Clasey director of the Josephine County Division of Special Education, in cooperation with the county health office. Miss Clasey said that limitation on time would permit examination of only those children who have received appointments and that no further appointments could be issued.

KNOW YOUR TEACHERS

(Continued from Page One)

brought home grown fruits, vegetables, meat and canned them in tins for winter use. The workers were directed by Mrs. Wertz and the County Agricultural Agent, H. B. Howell, now head of Astoria Experiment Station. "We liked to come to the Illinois Valley," Mrs. Wertz says. "The cannery was so well patronized that we operated day and night and then had to leave before all could use it."

"I remember one time at the Vic Brown farm we operated three days and nights and put up 6000 cans of food, much of it prime steer beef." The cannery assisted many people to live well when there was no price, and no one had heard of a price ceiling for farm produce.

Because of the success of this venture, Mrs. Wertz was appointed during the World War II to establish the Garden Home Cannery, a thriving plant serving 500 families each canning season in the suburban Portland district. "I can visualize a similar project right here in Kerby," says Mrs. Wertz. The steam heat that keeps the school rooms warm in winter could easily be converted to pressure canning in summer.

This year Mrs. Wertz teaches social economics, orientation, world geography, U. S. history and civics, and three classes in home-making. Mrs. Wertz hopes to again see the time when every girl in Kerby school can have one or two years of homemaking and she feels sure that dream will be realized when the new high school is completed. Ten upperclassmen needed an extra credit to round out their schedule so the first class for men was organized and these boys are having daily lessons in baking, sewing, and related subjects.

Mrs. Wertz is a home economics graduate of Oregon State College and often returns for refresher courses. Breadmaking and outdoor camping are among her several hobbies and she served 22 summers on the 4-H club summer school staff, teaching breadmaking and other homemaking subjects. She was chosen for two years to judge baking exhibits at the Oregon State fair during the annual two weeks session.

In 1939 Mrs. Wertz was awarded a years leave for graduate study and completed her Masters degree at Cornell University, N. Y., majoring in household management and minoring in rural social organization and family life. From '41 to '44 Mrs. Wertz was Area Home Management Supervisor for the Farm Security Administration. In that position her work involved travel all over Oregon and parts of Washington and Idaho.

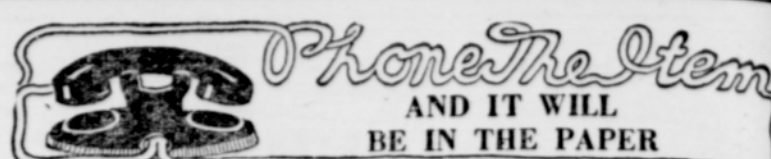
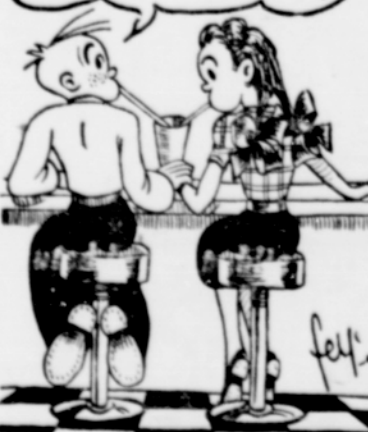
When students ask "Why did you come to Kerby?" Mrs. Wertz always says, "I don't know any place I'd rather make a living and live a life. I just naturally like it here." I've tried travel jobs and I don't like them, she says.

Speaking of her year in the east Mrs. Wertz says, "I never studied so hard or learned so much in one year in my life. I wouldn't trade any amount of money for that year in New York." Then with her never failing sense of humor she adds: "But just between us West-erners, New York is too far from the Pacific coast to ever amount to much."

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Who's A Foreigner?

While I'm waiting for a haircut the other day, Slim Hartman lets slip with a crack about those "foreigners" who live by the depot.

"Now wait a minute, Slim," snaps Doc Sherman. "Don't forget we're all 'foreigners' more or less. Some of our families have simply been here longer than others. But even if they came over on the Mayflower, they were foreigners to the Indians."

Slim gets a little red and you could see that Doc had him. "And the reason they came here," he goes

on, "was to find freedom to do and think as they wanted to so long as they didn't tramp on the rights of the other fellow."

From where I sit, America became the great land it is today through our being tolerant of different people and different tastes—whether it's a taste for square dancing or waltzing, radio or movies, goat's milk or a temperate glass of sparkling beer.

Joe Marsh