

# THE AMERICAN

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## Musings

By an Innocent Bystander

Better start learning to write 1935 instead of 1934.

At last the eventful year 1934 comes to a close. It has been a great year in many respects. Since it dawned the writer and his family have moved three times. There have been marriages and births, deaths and separations in our family circle. Someway it seems a long, long time since we first learned to write '34 instead of '33.

But all in all, it has been a year of accomplishment. Our little paper has grown and is continuing to grow. At present it reaches nearly 900 families in this county which is "somehthin'" as Amos says. When we first started work in this office three years ago we only had 260 names on our mailing list. And this increase in spite of the so-called depression. We are proud of this record.

The year has been full of hard work, but somehow our strength and determination has been equal to the task and we thank the Lord that He has renewed our health once more. As we near the three-score mark we look back over the years and see so many things we have left undone. Where are the dreams of yesterday?

But as a new year dawns we are ready to take up its burdens, to enjoy its pleasures and face its sorrows. After all, such is life.

We want to call attention to two new departments in our paper. We have made arrangements to secure a regular correspondent in the Table Rock and Sams Valley districts. This no doubt, will add to the interest being shown in the paper in these districts. We hope to secure more such regular correspondents in other communities in the near future.

According to J. G. Love the bounteous rains of the present winter have practically all been absorbed in the ground. He says that to date no water has started to flow through the tile system installed on his ranch. This is wonderful news. The more moisture wandering in the ground without running off to be wasted, the better the outlook will be for big crops in every line throughout the valley.

But don't you dare whisper this to the "do-gooders" as a Wyoming sheepman called the New Dealers. If they found it out they would either ascribe it all to the President, or else seek some way to stop it, perhaps by limiting the amount of farm produce our farmers may raise next year.

As we go about up and down the land we hear more and more people express the idea that the sooner the federal government lays off striking its nose into every kind of private business under the sun, the sooner will good times be with us again. Which has been our attitude ever since Roosevelt took office and jumped the fence and ran hog-wild with his professional panaceas.

Basically, our American business is sound. All that is asked or needed is to be let alone and not hampered on every hand with too many theoretical rules and regulations, and the American business man will take care of himself and incidentally, his family and his hired help as well.

We noted, with glee, the bombastic, arrogant letter Mr. Richberg wrote to the Saturday Evening Post demanding that they should not publish any articles by Gen. Johnson derogatory to His Royal Highness. And with still more glee we read the next day that the said Richberg backed down and sent the general a Christmas card. We were just preparing to write the post and offer to print said article if they were scared of the threatened libel suit. Who's afraid of the Big Bad Wolf?

We wonder if Mr. Donald Richberg really takes himself so seriously as all that. Does he imagine that any reputable periodical would hesitate to publish any article by as big a man as General Johnson just because that fiery gentleman talked right out in meeting about his troubles with said Richberg while struggling to tame that Blue Eagle?

## PLANS MADE TO BOLSTER FUNDS AT TEACHER MEETING

Plans for bolstering inadequate school revenue will be considered by teachers of Oregon who will make their annual trek to Portland beginning today.

They are coming to attend the 35th annual convention of the Oregon State Teachers' association to be held today, tomorrow and Saturday at Lincoln high school.

Presided over by Charles H. Boyd, Portland, president, the representative council of the association, authorized to transact business of the group, will be in session today from 9:30 A. M. to 4 P. M.

To this small group committees will present their reports. Election of officers will be held this afternoon at 2:30.

H. W. Adams, Corvallis, vice-president, will become president of the state group, according to the rules of the organization. Interest in the election centers about the choice of a new vice-president.

The legislative committee Rex Putnam, Albany, chairman, will come before the representative council this afternoon with several recommendations.

Under new legislation the committee hopes to require increased training before a teacher may qualify for certification in Oregon and to require a certain number of hours of professional training in residence to qualify for an Oregon teaching certificate.

Several suggestions for providing revenues for a state school fund, suggested by the legislative committee will come before the body. One of these would require that all persons with a net income of \$400 or \$500 a year be required to file income tax returns even though they would not be required to pay an income tax.

A filing fee graduated from \$1 to \$5 would be charged under the plan and proceeds would go to a state school fund.

Another "possibility" to be offered for consideration provides for several luxury taxes provided for by separate bills.

## Wood Treating Plant To Be Built Soon

Contracts have recently been signed between the Crossett Western Co., Wauna, and the American Lumber & Treating Co., Chicago, for the joint construction of a wood preserving plant as Wauna. The plant will feature treatment with Wolman salts, a formula used for a number of years in Germany. This is the first plant of the kind that has been installed in the Douglas fir region.

Treatment by Wolman salts consists of impregnating the wood by a vacuum and pressure cylinder process, preventing the decay of the wood and also insuring it against the attack of white ants. Service tests have shown that the treatment increases the life of the wood three to five times. The Wolman salts are of such low solubility that they will not attract moisture nor can they be drawn out of the wood cells when in contact with moisture on the surface. Lumber so treated retains its original appearance and can be readily painted or varnished. Tests have also shown that it is a decided fire retardant.

The Southeast Lumber Co., Portland, has recently purchased the timber and logging equipment of the Bear Creek Logging Co., which is located near Sandy. This includes about 60 million feet of timber and 25 miles of railroad, as well as the company's booming grounds on the Willamette river.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Stone and Neal spent Christmas evening at the Nicholas home in Medford.

About fifteen students of the high school accompanied by Mrs. Fleischer sang carols to the "shut-in" early Xmas morning. They were very much enjoyed. Afterwards the group enjoyed breakfast at the home of Mrs. Fleischer.

Roy Jones left Monday night for Red Bluff where he will spend a week visiting with his brother and sisters.

Mrs. Cochran was the proud recipient of a lovely bouquet of poinsettia's sent from California by her son.



## NEW YEAR GREETINGS

FROM THE EDITOR

Another year has gone. A clean, new page is being turned. What will be the record written upon it during the next twelve months?

We hope it will be a good one. We all want to see our great country prosper. We want to see the time come when the eternal cry of "unemployment," "relief" and "emergency projects" shall no longer be heard in the land.

And we hope that every one of our readers: "Resolved: THAT during the coming year I will do my best to make this community and state a better, fairer, cleaner place in which to live; that I will show more kindly interest in my neighbor's welfare; that I will strive daily to add to the happiness and good cheer of all with whom I come in contact."

A Happy New Year to you all!

## LOCALS

Kenneth Wyatt had his tonsils removed yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Noel or Roseburg spent Christmas with Mrs. Noel's parents Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Scott.

Mrs. O. H. Ames who has been visiting her mother and sister, Mrs. Hay and Arlene for the past three weeks left for her home this morning. Mrs. Hay was very happy to have her daughter with her for Christmas.

Mrs. Mary Grim enjoyed dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Gillette in Medford.

The William Musty family were all home for Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Terrill were dinner guests Christmas at the home of their son Dave and family in Medford.

Jack Burns and Vern Huson got too close together on Bybee bridge Tuesday and bent an axle, took off a running board; and bent the fenders on their cars.

Among the unusual and novel Christmas gifts received at the P. O. was a 25 lb. box of fancy Idaho potatoes sent to Mr. E. C. Faber by his Uncle C. P. Faber from Pocatello. Mr. Faber was a former resident of this county for several years and is a strong booster for this community, (outside of potatoes). Mr. Faber, our local merchant, will return him a box of his famous Deschute potatoes. We were presented with a sample of the Idaho potatoes and will say they look fine but have not tried them yet.

Mrs. Higginbotham and two daughters left Bigham Utah Wednesday on their way to this city. They had written to E. C. Faber in regards to our community and school and upon receiving the desired information decided to make their home here.

Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Gleason had a family gathering at their home for Christmas dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Mervyn Gleason and sons, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Bodin, Bobby Hoagland and Mrs. May J. Gleason who recently returned from Soap Lake and will spend the winter here with her son.

Mr. and Mrs. Clem Finley and Margaret enjoyed Christmas dinner with Mr. Finley's father.

Mrs. Belle Davis is spending a few days visiting her daughter Mrs. William Musty and calling on friends.

Don Faber, basket ball coach in Ashland High left with his team Wednesday morning for Crescent City, Marshfield, Toledo, Tillamook, Astoria, and will return by way of Chemawa and Salem. Mrs. Faber accompanied him part of the way.

## Fire Losses For Season Are Small

From the stand point of actual monetary loss, the fire season of 1934 ranks as one of the three most favorable fire seasons experienced since 1916, according to preliminary figures just compiled in the office of the state forester. While the total loss appears greater it is due to the fact that during the past few years the state has placed a value on potential forest lands that have been burned over. This was not done in either 1920 or 1930, the two other favorable years. With this item deleted the loss for each of the three years was approximately \$80,000. For the year of 1934 the loss to immature forests or potential forest lands was placed at \$42,397.

The figures show that a total of 29,487 M.B.F. of timber was either killed or destroyed by fire during the season. However nearly 21 million feet of this is so located that it will be immediately salvable and hence will not represent a monetary loss. The balance of the eight and a half million feet will be a total loss and the value thereon has been placed at \$27,509. This high stumpage value is due to the fact that the major portion of the loss was mature yellow pine timber that is adjacent to logging operations. Other losses include \$39,000 loss in logs and logging equipment and \$13,400 loss to settlers and improvements.

A total of 1,257 fires were suppressed by the field organization. The careless smoker headed the list with a total of 357 fires. The incendiary credited with 336. Other causes include lightning 130, debris burning 157, campers 111, lumbering 46, railroads 11, and miscellaneous 109.

It is felt that the operators' permit law which was passed at the last session of the legislature was instrumental in preventing fires. This act gives the state forester the authority to close down operations during periods of high fire hazard. The law was invoked twice during the year, once for a period of six days and another for two days.

## Annual Meet of Local Branch of Phone Co. Tuesday

The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Central Point Branch of the local telephone company will be held Tuesday evening, January 1, at the telephone office. The meeting is called for 7:30 p. m. and all shareholders of the company are urged to attend.

At this meeting delegates will be elected to attend the annual meeting of the telephone company which is held on the first Tuesday of each year. At this meeting of the Delegate Board new officers for the year are elected and a manager employed for the local exchange. Also the amount of the annual assessment is fixed. This year the meeting will be held January 8.

## Oregon Produce Scores Highest

SALEM, Dec. 26—Oregon leads all states in the union with relation to standardization of its fruits and vegetables, according to the report of Max Gehlar director covering the first three years of the state agricultural department operations.

The report shows that 91 per cent of all fruits and vegetables shipped out of Oregon now comply with the standards adopted by the agricultural department.

Eighty-two per cent of all carload fruit and vegetable shipments during the past three years, and totaling 32,761 cars, have been accompanied by the department's certificate of quality.

Out of these only 14 grade reversals occurred on arrival.

Activities absorbed by the department include:

Board of horticulture, pure seed board, livestock sanitary board, veterinarian, dairy and food bacteriologist, livestock brand adjusting board, stallion registration board, state fair board, state market agent, state lime board, committee on agricultural lime, commercial fertilizer act, agricultural seeds, poison law, produce dealers and peddlers, gasoline standardization, milk law, carbonated beverages act, bee disease law, self-help and rehabilitation law.

## LAND RESOURCES OF STATE TOLD AT CONFERENCE

A program of land planning such as is now being started nationally and in the various states, does not imply "regimentation" in the sense that individuals will be told how to use their own land, it was brought out at the regional planning conference at Seattle in December. An effective planning program would mean that land will not be used in such a way as to be against the public interest.

Oregon's land planning problems are mostly tied up with management of public lands within the state, A. S. Burrier, state consultant from Oregon, told the conference. Burrier who has been "borrowed" temporarily from the farm management department at the Oregon State college, out of 32 million acres, or almost exactly half of Oregon's area, are under public ownership.

About a million acres are under state ownership, and about three-quarters of a million acres are under county or municipal ownership, so that about 95 per cent of the land under public ownership is held by one branch or another of the federal government.

In instituting planned land use it is essential that the public agencies lead off in setting their own houses in order, Burrier believes. The federal in forest reserves, most of which are in good shape, he said. Passage of the Taylor grazing act and the withdrawal of all remaining parts of the public domain for entry for the present, are big forward steps, he said.

The state and county lands are not being administered in any orderly manner as a whole, he added. Most of these are unclassified, while the county land especially most of which have been taken for taxes, must under present laws be constantly offered for sale even though they are not suitable for further private operation.

About a third of the farm lands of the state have been covered by detailed surveys and extension of such surveys is one of the basic needs of further planning work. FERA research programs are being completed in the state dealing with tax delinquency, land ownership, and part time farming practices and results. Field data are being assembled and analyses of results are being prepared.

## New CCC Enrollment Scheduled in January

Announcement has been made that all CCC camps will be enrolled in their full quota during the first 15 days of January. These new men who go into the camps are to replace those who for some reason or other have severed their connection with the camps since the last enrollment period. New men to be taken in will total about 60,000 for the entire United States. This will bring the strength of the forest camps up to 370,000 men. On November 30, the number was 345,000.

Up to the first of the month, some 75,000 persons other than enrolled personnel, had been furnished employment in connection with the administration of the camps, the care of the men, the supervision of the work in the forests and the construction of the camp buildings. This includes approximately 9,000 reserve officers and 25,000 technical supervisors who have received employment for varying periods of time. The construction of the barracks and other buildings at the hundreds of CCC camps has furnished temporary employment to more than 46,000 skilled and unskilled mechanics. The administration of the educational program also has given work to 1,200 persons as camp or corps area area education advisers. At the present time there are 6,000 Reserve officers and 18,500 supervisors in more than 1,700 camps now in operation.

Little Harriett Powell is suffering with a bad cold which caused inflammation condition of the ears. Dr. Hayer thought it best to lance her ear drums.

The National Guard held quarterly inspection of muster last night instead of Tuesday, their regular night, on account of Tuesday being Christmas.