

# THE AMERICAN

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## Musings

By an Innocent Bystander

We received the first copy of the Southern Oregon Miner formerly the Jacksonville Miner, but now published at Ashland. We note that Bro. Hall seems to be starting off well in his new location. Hape he don't forget that Ashland is a different sort of town than he is used to and start any hi-jinks. We've got some mighty good friends in Ashland who will pull his hair if he starts anything there.

We note with much inward satisfaction that the State Editorial association has resigned as Regional Code Authority and are going to mind their own business for a while. They say "this association protests the inefficiency and mismanagement of the N. E. A.-Joint National authority . . ."

We have long been of the opinion that this thing of trying to manage everyone's private business by "remote control" was pure bunk. There are certain points to the code idea with which we agree. But we have never had any faith in federal control of private business. It has been our experience that political appointees, as federal employees usually are, are not as a rule as well fitted either by experience or training to handle business in general as are private individuals whose livelihood depends on whether they make good or not.

We cannot believe that just because a man has by some hook or crook secured a federal appointment, that this gives him any more brains than the other fellow. And as we have said many times before, we believe the less the government mixes in private business, the better.

What private industry can compete with Uncle Sam? Take for instance, the printing of return cards on envelopes. Time was every printer in the country had a good business printing envelopes for business men. Every business house had them printed at home and the cost was not unreasonable. Now comes Uncle Sam and says "I'll furnish you stamped envelopes with your name and address printed thereon at just a small fraction above the cost of the postage."

You can buy today at the post-office a box of 500 envelopes with the embossed stamp and your name and address printed for \$15.98 which is just 98c for the 500 envelopes. The cheapest envelope we can buy costs us \$1.19 per thousand f. o. b. Portland in 50 thousand lots and in small lots \$1.99 per thousand. How much does that leave the small printer for his labor in printing them?

But judging from the recent whispermings from Washington the president is beginning to see light and is changing a lot of the ideas he brought into office with him. So as per usual since March 4, 1933, we are all up in the air again. Will they ever get done experimenting and settle down to something and stick to it?

We want you all to be on the watch Saturday and shoot the first ground hog you see looking for his shadow. We've had enough winter for awhile and would like to see Old Sol again.

We heard an interesting thing yesterday. There have been people who thought it was time to change mayors in this town. Do you know that the books show that when our friend "Con" Lever first took hold of the city's affairs there was a bonded indebtedness of nearly \$160,000. And now it is only \$55,000 which strikes us as some accomplishment. We are proud of our "Grand Old Man" and wish him a quick return to his usual health.

## Baby Clinic to Be Held Next Week

The Health Unit will hold a baby clinic Friday, February 8, at the Health building. Miss Walker, a graduate nurse, and Dr. Durno will be in attendance. All mothers are urged to bring their babies and take advantage of this opportunity. This should not be considered a charity. Any mother who wishes transportation may phone 12-X-3 and it will be arranged for.

## TOWNSEND CLUB FILLS AUDITORIUM WITH ENTHUSIASTS

Townsend old age pension advocates jammed the public auditorium at the court house in Medford Monday night, to hear that eight state legislatures already had memorialized Congress to enact the Townsend \$200-a-month plan, and to express their approval of speakers who declared the plan not only feasible but the one shining way out of the depression.

The crowd had little patience with any expression of doubt as to the possibility of the plan's becoming a fact for all good citizens of 60 or more years. When a speaker said that he did not expect the present Congress or the present President to approve of the plan there were murmurs of disapproval, and a voice from the crowd invited the doubter to "Sit down!"

"Problems of the Townsend Plan" was the topic of George Iverson, a leader of the old age pension movement in Jackson county. One of these problems, Iverson said, was "how the old folks are going to spend that much money."

This statement was greeted with laughter. "We'll take care of that," said the crowd. "Leave that to us." For the remainder of his address, the crowd refused to take Iverson seriously. The audience made it apparent that its members had neither doubts of the plan's success nor fears that its beneficiaries would not be able to spend \$200 a month satisfactorily to themselves and for the good of the country.

Chairman E. B. Shurtleff said he would prepare answers to Iverson's problems, to be presented at another meeting.

J. W. Fisher was applauded when he appealed for the Townsend plan not only as a direct relief measure, "to feed and clothe the needy and undernourished children," but as the immediate means to national recovery.

Th speakers said that a two percent transactions tax would be sufficient to finance the plan. Fisher asserted that with this tax "it would not be necessary to take one cent from the United States treasury."

The meeting concluded with the hearing of a radio address from KXN, Los Angeles, from which it was learned that one of the biggest Chicago stations had been enlisted in the campaign to gain supporters.

About half of the number in the audience appeared to be eligible for pensions under the proposed plan.

## Eastern Star Holds Regular Meeting

On January 22, Nevita Chapter No. 93, O. E. S., met for regular business and a social evening. Mrs. Nellie McGowan and Mrs. Meta Gilbert were visitors from Reames Chapter, Medford. Mrs. Pearl McCredie, Mrs. Mabel Bennett, Mrs. Esther Sanderson and Mr. and Mrs. Everett Faber also attended from Medford.

A meeting of the Eastern Star Social club was held and office, for the year elected, with results as follows: Mrs. Leta Kyle, president; E. J. Vincent, vice president; and Mrs. Beulah Faber, secretary-treasurer.

Hot tamale pies, served by Mrs. Bertha Bonney and Mrs. Ethel Freeman, were very much enjoyed.

A dinner planned by the Social club will be given Tuesday evening, February 5. The club is planning a series of dinners to be given during the year.

## "Lady by Choice" Coming to Roxy

Carole Lombard, May Robson and Walter Connolly have the featured roles in Columbia's "Lady by Choice," which opens Sunday at the Roxy Theatre.

This is the story of a fan dancer and a broken-down gin-hound, with Miss Lombard as the dancer and May Robson as the elderly derelict. Walter Connolly, well known character player, will be seen as the police court judge who, with Miss Robson, interferences in the business and love affairs of the fan dancer. Roger Fryer, Arthur Hohl and Raymond Walburn are also prominently cast. David Burton directed.

Nora Williams who has been living at Visalia, California for three years has arrived home to stay.

## Mott Tells Program of Republican Party in Address in House

Washington, Jan. 30.—The Democratic question, "What have the Republicans to offer in place of the Roosevelt recovery program?" is answered by Representative James W. Mott, Republican, of Oregon, in a recent speech delivered in the House.

"Now in direct answer to the question, What have you to offer? I wish to submit to my Democratic friends the following program," said Representative Mott, "and in doing so I would like them to bear in mind the statement made at the outset of these remarks, namely, that, as emergency legislation, all Republicans recognize and favor the continuance of necessary expenditures for emergency work and relief, and that this program, therefore, is in addition to such necessary emergency legislation.

"In principle, however, I believe the majority of Republicans, favor such a program. Certain it is, at any rate, that they would like to have such a program at least considered by the House. And I might add also in passing that Republicans are not alone in this desire for there are a great many progressive Democrats here.

"I venture to say that if the majority organization would relax the gag rule it passed on the opening day of this session so that a real affirmative program for permanent recovery could be considered, I am of the opinion that enough liberal-minded Democrats would join the Republicans to pass the greater portion of it.

Here is an outline of the program Representative Mott submitted to the members of the House:

"We urge immediate consideration and enactment by the Seventy-fourth Congress of a comprehensive legislative program looking toward permanent economic, industrial, and agricultural recovery and security.

"We believe that such permanent recovery and security can be brought about only through reemployment in private industry of the twenty millions of workers who have lost their jobs and are now on relief, and through the rehabilitation of the twenty millions of our agricultural population, most of whom are also virtually without purchasing power.

"To this end we favor enactment of legislation embracing the following:

"First. The spread of employment in private industry by shortening hours of labor to whatever extent may be necessary to reemploy all who are able to do the work required by modern industry.

"Second. Federal aid to private industry to enable it to make the necessary change from the old system of long hours and low wages to a new system of shorter hours and higher wages.

"Third. Assurance to employers that in operating business and industry with increased employment they will have a fair opportunity of receiving a reasonable return on their legitimately and usefully invested capital, and assurance to employees that they shall receive wages sufficient to give them not only a mere living but a purchasing power where-with to buy back the products of industry.

"Fourth. Unemployment insurance to protect the employee in temporary emergency.

"Fifth. An old-age pension sufficient to retire, in decency and comfort, those who have passed the age of their economic usefulness and to remove them from competition with those who have not reached that age.

"Sixth. A comprehensive and uniform system of farm-mortgage refinancing at a rate of interest which the farmer

"As for the Democratic majority having already approved any part of this proposed legislation, there is, of course, no record of that whatever," said Representative Mott in concluding his address. "The precise contrary is true. By gag rules, by unprecedented parliamentary maneuvers, and through other devious methods by which a majority in this body can prevent consideration of measures, every bill introduced in the Seventy-third Congress looking toward enactment of the permanent

program here outlined was killed.

We hope we may be able at this session to secure consideration of at least some of the measures here proposed. We are going to try our best to bring this about. We are going to introduce the bills. We are going to urge your committees, all of which will be composed of 3 Democrats to 1 Republican, to report out the bills. If they refuse, as they did in the Seventy-third Congress, we will try to bring them out by the petition route, which the majority organization, by its opening-day gag rule, has made so difficult.

"We may succeed and we may not. But whether we succeed or whether we fail, we will at least have given an answer to the question asked here today, What kind of a program have you to offer?"

## Grange Contest Play Makes Hit with All

All who failed to see Nancy Orr's Day at the Grange hall Monday evening, missed a treat. The play takes place on the day when the bishop is coming to tea. Nancy Orr, who lives with her son, is not permitted to attend the tea, because her Scotch tongue might ruin the pretense upon which the daughter-in-law relies for her social climb. Nancy decides to come downstairs at the wrong time, however, and offends the important guest, who leaves. What a tea it turns out to be! An extraordinary moving, rarely lovely play.

The play was followed by recreational games under the direction of Miss Evelyn Hamilton. In spite of there being many counter attractions at other places, there was a good attendance.

Judges for this play and "King Row," to be given by Talent Saturday, are: Avard Whitman, Phoenix, Doris Blair, Medford, and Fay Woolsey of Medford.

The high school orchestra under the direction of R. A. Botts, provided music during the evening.

## Runs Largest Dredges in South America

Mr. and Mrs. Mervyn Gleason and family were dinner guests and spent Wednesday evening at the C. W. Clements home in the Willow Springs district. Mr. Clements recently returned from the St. Francis hospital in San Francisco, where he has been taking treatment for the past six months. Mr. and Mrs. Clements are caring for Mr. Clements' father's orchard while he is absent in South America. They received word from his father, A. H. Clements at Andagoya, Colombia, that he has charge of five of the largest dredges in South America and travels back and forth to the different dredges by airplane, as there is no other mode of travel to them except on foot. He reports that the rainfall averages about 500 inches a year. Mr. and Mrs. Clements have been in South America about two years.

## Shower Is Given Miss Eula Benson

Mrs. Ruby Powell and Lyle Gregory entertained at the Gregory home Tuesday night with a shower for Miss Eula Benson. The invited guests were the senior young people's class of the Christian church, Mr. Foley's mother and sister, Mrs. Bursell and the honor guest, Miss Benson.

The motif was Valentine's Day and the gifts were presented in a large heart. All guests wrote out their favorite recipes and presented them as Valentines. Dainty refreshments were served and a lot of fun reported.

Miss Benson was also given a shower by the high school teachers in Medford at the home of Myrna Barrett last Thursday. About 25 were present.

Little Marie Hildegarde Pierce accompanied her mother and grandmother on a shopping trip to Medford the first of this week. They also visited at the William Bishop home.

## California Papers Take Slam at Oregon City

The following clipping from the San Francisco Chronicle was received this week by Mr. and Mrs. Ed Farra from their son, Fred, who comments, "sounds like you are sinking:"

"The hard rains and melting snow made a 'sinking city' of Medford, Ore., undermining and washing away aged shaft timbers in gold mines dug beneath the town's thoroughfares forty years ago."

## Party for Hams Is Held in Ashland

The Medford and Central Point hams and friends were invited by the Ashland Amateur Radio club to a picnic party in their club house. Those attending from here were Mr. and Mrs. Sanford Richardson, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Wiley and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Turner of Medford; Mr. and Mrs. Earcel Caster, Leo and John Obenchain. The club house is an old residence—two rooms upstairs and four down, with a radio in every room. There is a cloak room, a reading room with books and magazines and card tables. One room has a polished floor and two radios for dancing.

Each guest was asked to register when they arrived and were each given a tag with their name and call number. Everyone was given a colored piece of paper and paste and told to make a hat. They had no scissors or knife. The maker of the best hat received a prize. This was won by one of the Ashland ladies. They also had a "kitty" and the lucky one received half of this and the rest went to the club. It amounted to nearly \$4.00. Mrs. Bryan Peffley, who lives on top of the Siskiyou, was the lucky winner of this. A picnic lunch was enjoyed, everyone bringing eatables, and they were all served together. About 70 were present.

## Foreign Short Wave Reception Very Good

Mr. Smith of Don's Radio Service reports that foreign short-wave reception has been unusually good during the last ten days. The most consistent reception has been from South American stations located in Ecuador, Colombia and Venezuela. These stations are to be found in the forty-nine meter band on an all-wave receiver. The time of day has an important bearing on the strength of the signal and it was found that from five to seven-thirty p. m. these stations came in with the greatest signal strength.

European stations have not been regularly received, although London, Paris and Rome were heard at 4 p. m. and faded out at 5 p. m. one afternoon. Since that time the stations could be tuned in but there was a great deal of fading, which detracted from the enjoyment. The Russian station RV15, located at Khabarovsk, Siberia, has been received with good volume and clarity in the early morning and reception from this station is possible under good conditions until around noon. A Stewart-Warner All Wave radio was used for the short wave test period.

Eugene Merritt of Merrill has been visiting his parents for a number of days.

Mr. Carl Boswell arrived in time to be at school Monday morning. Mr. Boswell has taken the position vacated by Mr. McGuire.

Mr. McDowell arrived here 25 years ago the 25th of this month and has had a shoe repair shop here every since.

Shorty Terrill has his garden all spaded up and his walk clean and straightened up in fine shape.

Mr. Gillette and Walter Grim of Medford called on Mrs. Grim Wednesday. Mrs. Grim is much improved. Evadna Musty is staying with Mrs. Grim nights.

Mrs. Musty called on her mother, Mrs. Davis, in Medford yesterday.

A daughter, named Janet Loraine weight 8 pounds, was born to Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Lucas at their home near Eagle Point on Sunday morning, January 20.

## PWA PROJECT IS PLANNED FOR CITY SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Central Point was represented at a meeting in Medford Wednesday which was held for the purpose of planning work projects for the different cities and school districts, by Recorder Tex, and Councilmen Ross and Clark. The meeting was called by the state engineer in charge of PWA projects, who wished to get a line on just what projects could be arranged in this county.

The proposal made by the city was for a sewage disposal plant, new water mains in the business district and re-grading of a number of streets. The school district asked for the remodeling of the grade school basement and installation of new toilet facilities.

While the plan under which federal money is to be spent has not been announced, it is thought that it will be done something like this: First an estimate is made of the cost of the project. If this estimate is approved, the money is placed at the disposal of the city or district. Contracts are then let for the work. After the work is finished and approved the city or district will be obligated to pay back to the government one-half of the amount of the contract in annual payments extending over a period of 30 years, at 4% interest. The balance of the amount is a gift to the city.

The projects proposed by the city are estimated to cost about \$22,000. Of this the city will receive \$11,000 as a gift, and the balance, or \$11,000 will be paid back to the government at the rate of \$370 per year with the first year's interest amounting to \$440.

It is believed that the benefit derived will more than offset the cost of the project. Work will be provided for many men for some time.

The state engineer has asked that formal applications for these projects be in his office by Feb. 11, and preparations are being made to send them in at once. It is hoped to have the work under way in the near future.

## Surprise Party Held At Marine Home

Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Bonney, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Merriman of Medford and Mr. and Mrs. George Marine surprised Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Marine Monday evening in honor of their 41st wedding anniversary.

The visitors were very quiet until they reached the porch and then it sounded like a charivari. Mr. and Mrs. Marine were reading very peacefully and for a few minutes could not realize what had happened. The guests brought refreshments and many lovely gifts.

## "Daddies' Nite" To Come Next Thurs.

The Parent Teacher association will entertain the parents of the school next Thursday evening, Feb. 7th, at the high school auditorium at 7:30. A good program will be given, consisting of a skit by the 6th grade, a number by the 1st grade, glee club music and a talk by a special speaker.

This is a social get-together for the teachers and parents of both the grade and high school, and all parents are urged to attend. Free refreshments will be served at the end of the program.

Mr. Leever is back in the store again most of the time and always walks down when he can.

## PARADISE

Arthur Brisbane, traveler, thinker and great editor, says:

"On all this round globe, there exists no such paradise of earth, air, sunlight and sea, as this western coast of the United States."

And Medford and vicinity, with pure mountain air and water and fine soil, is the best located.

Farmers & Fruitgrowers Bank (Community Builders) (Deposits Insured)