

Winner of  
No Prize Whatever  
1934

# THE AMERICAN

If you have news items we  
will appreciate their receipt by  
Wednesday evening. Phone  
601.

VOLUME VIII

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## Musings

By an Innocent Bystander

Last week we printed an article from a paper from our old home county in Minnesota. The article brought instant response from our oldest brother, now a resident of Yakima, Wash., where he is spending his declining years with his wife and youngest daughter. The old gentleman is only 86 years young, but he tells of the good times he had in that far-off past, hunting, fishing and trapping in the lakes and streams of what was then a wilderness in Southern Minnesota. And his adventures with the Hotaling family all took place before this writer was born.

Ah me! What changes sixty years have brought to that great state. Or at least we are told of them, for it has been over a quarter of a century since we abandoned that state for this. And we don't believe we want to go back either. Someway, we would rather think of the old home as we saw it last, not as the newer generation have left it. We are told they have cut off every bit of the old timber where we used to hunt and the lakes and rivers no longer hold a mighty lure for the fisherman.

Time was we used to slip away from our daily toil just before sundown and fill our basket with the gamey bass before dark. Or perhaps take the old gun with us when we went for the cows down in the big pasture and bring home a couple of cottontails or a pheasant or perchance a Bob-White or two. And we have a big hunch that that same pasture isn't a bit better as a place to keep cows now that the timber is gone than it used to be. Perhaps they will call it "marginal land" and sell it to Prof. Tugwell.

We received the following communication today and as it expresses our sentiments better than we can, we are passing it on:

### THANKSGIVING DURING

#### THIS ADMINISTRATION

Our Father Who art in Washington—(Lord, we do not know the name—PWA, AAA, FERA, CCC, OSB, CWA, CHFA, FAC, FACA, FEC, FEAT, FDIC, FENA, FFEA, FPH, PHLB, FSHC, FSRG, HOLC, WEC, NLRB, NNB, NRA, NRB, NRS, PA, PEHA, RFC, SEC, FRA, TRAC, or what ave you?)

We are thankful we have a privilege of knowing where to go to get in contact with the PWA, and to be spoken to as a dog because we need work for bread and necessary things in life, and have it impressed upon our simple minds we are not entitled to any work unless we have gone through the starvation act at least six months or more, or will. And by then should we survive we may get a job, if these Honorable Masters in these offices have been thoroughly convinced we have suffered enough and sacrificed our homes—made our children suffer and want and made bums out of them—made our women suffer—along with giving up all chances of transportation to any work we may have gotten or could get.

And dear Lord, we pray you will help us to hold this simple, peaceful kindness in our hearts and hold our feeble bodies and minds together a little longer. That those who can say to us like dogs, "NO WORK" may be able to continue their entertaining and banquets while we are crying and praying for work for bread and are in desperate need. And when we phone them and state our needs and pleas for work, they consider it a joke and simply say in their laughing way of delight: "Come up and see me sometime."



Protect Your Home  
from Tuberculosis  
BUY  
CHRISTMAS SEALS

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL PROJECT ALLOWED BY GOVERNMENT

Last week we promised to tell more of the new sewage disposal proposition. So far as we understand the matter, the city council has been informed that the government has accepted the project and that the money will be forthcoming as soon as the necessary preliminaries have been completed.

The estimated cost of the new system is \$18,184. Of this amount the city will have to issue bonds in the sum of \$10,000. These bonds will run for 30 years and will bear 4% interest. The bonds will be taken up by the government and in addition the government will grant as a gift the sum of \$8,184. It is presumed that payment of the bonds will be made at the rate of \$333.33 annually plus interest. Thus the first year's payment will be \$333.33 plus \$400.00 interest, or a total of \$733.33. The total amount of the interest paid by the city over the whole 30 years will be \$6,200, which is \$1,984 less than the city will receive as a free gift from the government.

Thus the city will have the use of \$18,184 and will only have to pay back over a period of thirty years the sum of \$16,016, including the interest and principal, when allowance is made for the \$8,184 gift to the city.

At first glance this seems to be mighty good business for the city, but there is a fly in the ointment. In 1939 there are coming due water bonds on the city of Central Point in the sum of \$13,500, here will be due in 1941 bonds amounting to \$10,500 and in 1942 \$8,000. The city now has on hand and to be paid before 1939 from the excess water rentals enough to take up the first issue of \$13,500, provided no further obligations are assumed. Just how the city will meet the next two issues is yet to be seen.

An election to vote on the question of authorizing the city council to issue \$10,000 30-year bonds for the purpose of building a new sewage disposal plant will be held in the near future.

There seems to be much difference of opinion in the city in regard to this matter. Many of our people believe that the city had better wait a while before taking on any more indebtedness, while others take the stand that we had better grab our share of federal money while the grabbing is good. In any case the matter of a new sewage plant cannot long be postponed, as the state health authorities are taking the matter up and we may be compelled to build soon, whether we want to or not.

Under the present regulations for these government projects the labor for the jobs is taken from the relief rolls. Contractors have found that this class of labor is rather expensive and therefore bid that much higher on the job. It is said that if and when the government allows the contractors to use labor on such work as they choose, that the cost to the cities will be much reduced.

## Earl Leever Buys Interest in Garage; Moves to Ashland

Mr. Earl Leever of Medford has purchased an interest in the Perry Aircraft Garage at Ashland and will sell Plymouth, Dodge and Packard cars.

Mr. Leever was recently transferred from a Standard Station in Ashland to Medford and moved his family to Medford.

He plans to return to Ashland and make his home there.

See the Junior Play tomorrow night, December 13.

Please don't let us get so foggy and dazed that we think they really are "Mao West." But we pray with all these XXX, PWA, AAA, FERA, etc. PDQ we'll all be in our BVD'S, and we pray that in some way you will help us keep these patched for ever and ever.

Amen.

Just think of it! Only TEN more shopping days before Christmas. Better get busy. And remember—our door is never locked, if you have a basket for a poor dithering editor.

## Conference Mayors Study Taxation

A few weeks ago a group of men assembled in a Washington, D. C., hotel. Some were young, some middle-aged, some old. Some came from towns of a few thousand people, some from cities with a population of 1,000,000 or more. But all of them were drawn together by a common interest—the problems of municipal government. They were mayors of representative American communities, attending the annual U. S. Conference of Mayors.

High on the list of items which interest and trouble the heads of our municipal entities, is taxation. Many municipal governments are notoriously wasteful not only in spending tax money, but in collecting it. A continual undeclared war exists between municipal and state tax-collecting departments, due to the fact that there is much overlapping of the functions of the two. The mayors, thinking of this, heard good news when they called on the President. He told them he planned to call a conference of city and state officials before the end of the current winter, to study the problem of taxation—with the object of solving a system of revenue whereby funds may be "earmarked", or equitably shared among governmental units, without waste in collecting and without overlapping.

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau devoted his speech to the mayors, to the tax subject. He said that no more important question faces governmental officials, whether they be local, state or federal. He suggested that it was necessary to establish definite "zones" of taxation, some of which would belong exclusively to cities, some to counties, some to states and some to federal government. It is forecast that the congress which meets in 1937 will find tax allocation on the list of problems with which it must cope.

Not less troublesome to the mayors than taxation, and even more immediately important, is the burning subject of relief. During the past four years city officials have turned gray trying to keep their needy clothed, fed and housed. When a man gets out of a job, he looks first to his city government to carry him through. Most American cities have done relatively little to aid their needy—they have borrowed federal money, and still more biggest part of the job to federal agencies. They want more federal money and still

more federal money, as speech after speech showed. The recent announcement that federal direct relief would soon be ended was highly displeasing to them. They also want the federal machinery to be better oiled, so that they will have to go through less red tape to get funds. Some hope that all would be well was given them by the President, who said that the federal government had seen to it that no one starved so far, would continue to see to it in the future. Principal resolution adopted by the conference was a demand for more federal dollars for cities.

Like all such conferences, little was actually accomplished—but it seems that groundwork was laid for good tasks for the future. If the chaos of overlapping municipal state and federal tax collections can be even partially clarified, and some of the waste attendant on tax collections eliminated, the American taxpayer will obviously get more and better governmental services for less money.

The spark is rapidly approaching the European powder-keg. Mussolini has definitely said that if Italy's neighbors apply sanctions and shut off from her such necessities as oil, she will fight. And other great powers, led by France, are determined that the stiffest possible sanctions shall be put into effect, war or no war.

Here is something that has Washington worried, and has American exporters wondering. The United States is officially neutral. The President, following the resolution approved by the last Congress, proclaimed neutrality as soon as Italian-Ethiopian hostilities began, warned Americans to stay off the ships of combatants, forbade Americans to sell arms and implements of war to the battling nations.

So far so good. But there is great difficulty in deciding just what "war materials" are, beyond such apparent fighting essentials as rifles, cartridge, tanks, airplanes. Example: Italy is a large buyer of American oil, cotton, scrap iron and copper. None of these commodities is on the proscribed list, as each serves a useful purpose in time of peace. Yet it is a fact that each of them is likewise used in war—and if Italy were entirely unable to get them she could not carry on in Ethiopia or elsewhere.

## Mailing Rules Given

There appears to be some confusion on the part of the public as well as some postmasters with respect to the rate of postage on Christmas and other greeting card sent under cover of unsealed envelopes.

Printed greeting cards mailed under cover of unsealed envelopes are chargeable with postage at the third class rate of 1½ cents for each 2 ounces or fraction of 2 ounces, regardless of whether addressed for delivery through post-office boxes or general delivery, or by city or rural carrier; the 1-cent drop-letter rate applicable at non-letter-carrier offices does not apply to such cards in unsealed envelopes.

Printed Christmas and other greeting cards in unsealed envelopes may bear a simple written inscription not in the nature of personal correspondence, such as "Sincerely yours", "Merry Christmas", "Happy New Year", "With best wishes", etc. together with the name and address of the sender and of the addressee, without subjecting them to more than the third-class rate.

Greeting cards, sealed or unsealed bearing written messages other than the simple inscriptions above mentioned, as well as all cards sent in sealed envelopes, are chargeable with postage at the first class rate of 3 cents a ounce or fraction of an ounce, except when the 1-cent or 2-cent drop-letter rate applies.

Patrons should be advised that while printed cards bearing no unpermissible written additions are accepted at the third-class rate of postage when enclosed in unsealed envelopes, it is often more desirable from the standpoint of both the sender and the addressee to have the cards sent in sealed envelopes at the first-class rate of postage, especially those of an expensive kind, because of the better service accorded first-class matter, including free forwarding or return if undeliverable as addressed due to removal of the addressee of other cause. Such cards are not entitled to the free forwarding privilege accorded cards mailed in sealed envelopes at the higher rate, and consequently the senders in some cases never know that the cards were not delivered. This would no occur if the cards were mailed sealed at the first-class rate.

Lois Richardson entertained the Carnation club at her home last Thursday afternoon. Those present were Martha Smith from Eagle Point, Donna Brenner, Rose Hodgson, Christina Davis and Dorothy Root. Dainty refreshments were served and they all report a delightful time.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Pech of Lake Creek, a girl weighing 7 pounds, 11½ ounces, December 4, at the Community hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Norval Wiley, who left for a visit in California seem to be doing well on the way to locating there. Mr. Wiley has work in one of the biggest Safeway stores in the Monterey district. They live in a nice little court bungalow.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Bursell, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Powell and little daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Haley and daughter Ruth motored to Eugene, Nov. 30, to attend the wedding of their niece, Margaret Coran and Frances Spark. Mrs. Sparks is a daughter of Roy Coran and a graduate of the University of Oregon. Mr. Sparks graduated from Oregon State College. Mr. and Mrs. Sparks will make their home in Portland.

## JUNIOR PLAY TO BE HELD FRIDAY EVE

The junior class will present its play, "Be It Ever So Humble", on Friday evening, December 13, at 8 o'clock. It is a royalty play, a comedy in three acts.

Unlike many plays presented here the scene of this is laid on the Pacific coast in the home of an orchardist. It is remarkable dramatic, full of suspense, pathos, and with plenty of humor to relieve the tense situations.

Owing to one postponement the cast has worked an unusually long time in rehearsal, and promise an evening of royal entertainment to all who come.

Those appearing in the cast Friday night are Simon Pappé, Joyce Young, Libby Hamilton, Richard Jewett, James Fleischer, Roberta Pankey, Hazel Stager, Esther Lathrop, Kenneth Hood, Donald Niedermeyer, Janice Nealon and Donald Smith.

## James Owens of Wellen District Taken by Death

James Owen, 69, passed away at the family ranch home in the Wellen district last Thursday at 1:30 p. m., after a brief illness. He was born at Harrisburg, Oregon, October 24, 1866, and was the eldest living son of William and Sarah Harper Owens pioneers of 1852.

James Owens was united in marriage to Annie M. Young November 20, 1895, at Jacksonville, Oregon, two sons and one daughter being born to the union. Mr. and Mrs. Owens moved to their ranch after their marriage and have resided there for the past 40 years.

Mr. Owens was one of the valley's most loved pioneers, and a member of the Southern Oregon Pioneers' association. He developed a 160 acre donation land claim years ago, which today is a very fine ranch of 2000 acres in the Wellen district. He was one of the most progressive farmers in Jackson county, and one of the most civic minded, having been one of the first good roads advocates in this section.

He served as county commissioner of Jackson county from 1908 until 1912 and from 1916 until 1920 and was a director of the First National bank from 1922 until 1934. He was a member of Medford Lodge No. 103, A. F. & A. M., Crater Lake Chapter No. 32, Malta Commandery No. 4, Knights Templar of Ashland, Ore., and Hillah Temple of the Shrine. He was also a Scottish Rite Mason.

He leaves to mourn his loss, his widow of the Wellen district, two sons, Henry A. Owens of Eagle Point Ore., and James V. Owens of Klamath Falls, Ore., one daughter, Mrs. Lillian Bleil of Knoxville, Tenn., and four grandchildren, James, Jean, Edwin and Alene; three brothers, Calvin Owens of Harrisburg, Ore.; George Owens of Medford; five sisters, Mrs. Alice Pearlin, and Mrs. Zuda Balch of Eugene, Ore.; Mrs. Lydia Brown of Dallas, Ore.; Mrs. Mollie Gregory and Mrs. Agnes Head of Central Point, Oregon.

Funeral services for the late James Owens were held at the Perl Funeral Home at 2 o'clock Tuesday afternoon with Rev. W. R. Baird of the First Christian church officiating. Interment was in the Central Point cemetery.

Active pallbearers, all friends and neighbors of late Mr. Owens, were Victor Bursell, Lee Bradshaw, Harry Stanley, Frank Brown, Charles Furnas and Paul B. Rynning.

Honorary pallbearers were Knight Templars George W. Dunn, Thomas H. Simpson, E. M. Wilson, J. A. Perry, Harvey Fields and Frank J. Newman.

## Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hess Visit from South

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hess arrived from Los Angeles for a short visit with Mrs. Hess, nee Miss Maxine Vaughn, sister, Mrs. Mervyn Gleason and family before leaving for their new home in Loyalton, California. Mr. and Mrs. Hess were married Nov. 29. Both were graduates from the Jacksonville high school. Mr. Hess is tallyman in a large boxfactory at Loyalton.

Mrs. E. Raymond Driver left for Texas and Arkansas Tuesday evening by train. As Fort Smith, Arkansas, she will visit her mother, Mrs. Gipson and will also be the guest of various friends while away. Mrs. Driver will return after the New Year.

## W. S. HAIR OF TILLAMOOK BUYS OLD WITTE FARM

Mr. W. S. Hair of Tillamook, closed a deal Monday for the purchase of the Esses property, (formerly the Witte property) east of town, and returned to Tillamook after his wife and son, who expect to take possession soon, Mr. Esses will remain in charge of the place until Mr. Hair returns.

This property is one of the most production farms in the valley. It is part of the old Constant donation land claim and was the home of Mr. Isaac Constant, grandfather of Mr. W. C. Leever of this city.

Mr. W. S. Hair is the father of Trevor Hair, local cheesemaker. Mr. Hair states he expects to put in a herd of about 60 dairy cows, which is the capacity of the farm. He plans also to put part of the ranch under irrigation.

In the meantime Mr. Trevor Hair is still making Rogue River cheese at the old factory, although it is thought that the new owner of the factory will take possession this spring.

## Mrs. Kenly Entertains With Tea and Shower Honor Miss Sparrow

A number of affair are being planned honoring Miss Frances Sparrow, one of the valley's most charming young bride-elects, whose engagement to James Firth, son of Mrs. Grace Firth of San Francisco, was announced early this week. Miss Sparrow is the daughter of Mrs. Alex Sparrow of Kirkland Farm.

First to entertain for Miss Sparrow was Mrs. F. Corning Kenly, who invited 35 ladies of the Colony club for tea Friday afternoon at her home as the background for a kitchen shower for Miss Sparrow.

## Invitation Given To Xmas Party

The Young Married Peoples' class of the Federated Church invites the Young Married Peoples' class of the Christian Church to their Christmas party on Thursday, December 19 at the home of Rev. and Mrs. Lewis, at 7:30 p. m.

Each guest is asked to bring a tissue wrapped package costing not more than 10c. A large gathering is expected.

## The Churches

**THE FEDERATED CHURCH**  
Rev. Robert Charles Lewis, Pastor  
Phone 51.

Bible School—A. J. Milton, Superintendent, 9:30 A. M.  
Morning Worship—11:00 A. M.  
Y.P.S.G.E.—(two groups), 6:30 P. M.

Evening Services—7:30 p. m.  
Women's Bible Study and prayer meeting, Mrs. H. W. Davison, teacher, 2:30 p. m. Tuesday.

The Fisherman's Club, Tuesday 7:00 p. m.

The Family Gathering, Wednesday, 8:00 p. m.

Choir Practice—Thursday, 7:30 P. M.

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Clifton A. Phillips, Minister  
Bible School, 10:00 A. M. Roland Rover, Supt.

Communion and Preaching 11:00 A. M. Subject "Christ Seeing Us"  
Christian Endeavor, 6:30 P. M.  
Evangelistic Service, 7:30 P. M. Subt. "Should We Worship Mary?"  
Another of the series of Christmas Sermons.

Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7:30 P. M.

Choir Rehearsals Wednesday 8:30 P. M.

Please watch the special announcements for the Christmas Program Rehearsals.

## DAMP BAD FOG.

Indeed it was  
A damp bad fog,  
(Don't say it fast)  
But hurricanes  
And earthquakes  
And dusty storms  
Are more fatal.

This is still the best and the safest place on earth in which to live.

Farmers & Fruitgrowers Bank  
(Community Builders)