

The American has maintained its leadership throughout the depression because it has the courage of its convictions.

# THE AMERICAN

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

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## Musings By an Innocent Bystander

Once more the hand of death has fallen upon one of the best friends this newspaper had. While this writer never had the privilege of a personal acquaintance with H. D. McCaskey, yet in his passing we feel a personal loss. Several times when things were darkest and our courage almost gone, a letter would appear in our mail from this real "God's nobleman" which brought new faith and strength. May the "Master of all Good Workmen" bring consolation to his bereaved family.

Life at best is a struggle. Too often we accept the everyday things without thought of the fight someone has had to produce them. Seldom do we take time from our own affairs to speak a word of encouragement to the other fellow. But H. D. McCaskey was one of those blessed few who could find time from his own busy life to drop a helpful word or lend a cheerful pat on the back of some other worried soul. The community has lost one of its best friends and neighbors.

This week we are doing a bit of celebrating in honor of Andre Chomel and his wife. Quiet, industrious, thrifty folks, they have done wonders in setting a worthy example to others. There isn't a prettier spot in the whole town than the Hotel Valandra and its surroundings. Would that we had more such progressive folks in our city.

Although born in a foreign land, both Mr. and Mrs. Chomel have come to love the land of their adoption and are doing their best to be the sort of citizens the country needs. No one, whether a native-born American or not, could do more to advance the welfare of their community than do these people.

We hear rumors that some selfish residents of the big city on our left are doing a bit of hollering because we are doing some printing for the Disabled Veterans, who are preparing to conduct a state convention in Medford this summer. That sort of stuff gives us a pain in the neck. Just because we happen to live without the borders of Medford is no reason we should not be allowed to make a living without asking their permission.

This writer is a contributing member of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. And we claim the same rights as other members. It seems to take some folks a long, long time to learn one of the plainest of facts—that every dollar spent in the lesser communities of this valley eventually finds its way to the big city. So we fall to see where Medford has any holler coming. Nor do we care a hang if they do holler.

A gentleman handed us a clipping from a French newspaper, (which the editor had kindly translated into the King's English) and it's good enough to pass on. Just ponder the following:

"Your home newspaper heralded to the world, your birth. It told of your entry into school. Mentioned your birthday party when you were sweet sixteen. Applauded your graduation from the high school, started you to college and when you returned mentioned the first job you secured. Told of your marriage to the sweetest girl in town and also mentioned the advent of your first born. Told of the visits of Pa and Ma, sympathized with you in your sorrow, laughed with you in your joy; and when you die it will do its best to get you through the pearly gates at only \$1 a year."

We hear many comments on the new city "bull pen" under construction back of the city hall. One lady surmised it was to be used as an exercise yard for city prisoners. On being reminded that since the city acquired a real jail, they haven't had much use for it, the lady said that judging from the height and apparent strength of the new fence, they must be going to get a bull elk, or something. Anyway, they're building a real fence, which will afford complete protection to the young trees and new lawn until they have become old enough to throw the new park open to the public.

We urge everyone to join the "Let's Quit Killing" club. Those of

## H. D. McCASKEY, 65 NOTED GEOLOGIST CALLED BY DEATH

Hiram Dryer McCaskey, noted geologist and resident of the Rogue valley since 1919, died Sunday at his home, Bora Da orchard, on the Old Stage road. He was 65 years old.

Recipient of many honors during his lifetime, Mr. McCaskey retired as geologist of the department of the interior in the spring of 1919 and came to the Rogue valley to live. Since then he had devoted his time to his orchard on the Old Stage road. He made many friends during his residence here, a military demeanor acquired from his father concealing a warm heart and a congenial personality.

Mr. McCaskey was born at Fort Totten, North Dakota, on April 10, 1871. He was the son of Major General William Spencer and Eleanor Forsythe McCaskey.

He earned a bachelor of science degree in mining at Lehigh university in Bethlehem, Pa., in 1893 and a master's degree in geology at the same institution in 1907.

He served as a chemist for two years and became headmaster at St. Thomas Hall in Mississippi in 1896 after he had been, on the faculty for a year as instructor of mathematics. He later went to St. Matthew's school in California where he served as instructor in English and mathematics from 1898 to 1900.

From 1900 to 1903 Mr. McCaskey served as a mining engineer in Manila, Philippine Islands, for the United States mining bureau. For the next three years he was chief of the bureau at Manila.

He was a fellow in geology at Lehigh university in 1906-07. Returning to the department of the interior he became assistant geologist in 1907, geologist in 1911 and chief of the section of metal resources in 1912.

From 1915 to 1919 he served as geologist in charge of the division of mineral resources, U. S. geological survey in the Philippines. He reorganized the mining bureau in the Philippines and assisted in the reorganization of the work of the geological survey in metallic resources of the United States.

Mr. McCaskey was a delegate from the Philippines to the 10th international geological congress in Mexico City in 1906; delegate from the United States to the international engineering congress in San Francisco in 1915; and to the Pan-American scientific congress in 1917.

He was a fellow of the Geological Society of America, A. A. A. S., a member of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and of the Loyal Legion. He was the author of numerous monographs on the mineral resources and geology of the Philippines and on the metallic mineral resources of the United States, especially gold, silver and quicksilver.

Mr. McCaskey married Mary Louise Fuller of Catasauqua, Pa., on June 7, 1913.

He is survived by his wife, a brother, Charles I. McCaskey, director of finance for the Liberian government, and a sister, Mrs. Eleanor McCaskey Conklin of Pacific Grove, Cal.

Funeral rites were held last Tuesday afternoon at the family residence.

### NOTICE

Everyone interested in the beautification of Central Point are requested to meet at the A. E. Powell home Monday evening, May 4 at seven o'clock to make final arrangements for the picnic to be held at the end of the contest. This means members of the P.T.A., Churches, schools, home owners, and business people. Everyone come.

you who saw the wreck the other day where a car traveling at a terrific rate of speed, struck another car and went hog-wild down the pavement for nearly a block before coming to rest wrong end to against the fence, should take the lesson to heart. Speed, more speed has been the cry. But speed is a dangerous thing. And don't forget the old saying: "Drive carefully, you may meet a fool!"

## HOTEL & COTTAGES VALANDRA

Mr. and Mrs. Andre Chomel, Proprietors  
Central Point, Oregon



View of Hotel Valandra and cottages, taken from across the Pacific Highway. In the rear of the Hotel are two double cottages not shown in the picture.

## Local Hotel Man Shows Faith in City; Beautifies

By A. E. P.

Eight years ago a quiet, unassuming little man dropped into Central Point and began looking about for possible places to invest a bit of money. He was of French birth and a veteran of the French army in the World War.

After several days looking about, Andre Chomel, which was the name of the gentleman referred to, purchased the old hotel property on the corner of Pine and Front streets. This old hotel had stood for nearly a half century and was badly in need of repair. Mr. and Mrs. Chomel at once started the gigantic labor of renovating and repairing the whole building, spending several thousand dollars in so doing. This was in 1928.

After completing the repairs on the old building and occupying the same for about two years, Mr. Chomel became convinced that there was no future in such a place and decided to tear it down and build a modern hotel with cottages for tourists in connection. This he did, saving all the lumber from the old building and using it in the new.

The new hotel building was built on the north end of the property, leaving the corner lot clear. This lot was later leased to the Associated Oil company, and the present service station now operated by L. C. Grimes was erected. North of the hotel building, Mr. Chomel built a cottage court containing five cottages. These cottages, as well as the main hotel are of stucco construction and are modern in every respect, with hot and cold water, gas and electric stoves, etc. Each has a private bath and garage.

At the time Mr. Chomel built the new hotel, the east half of the block was occupied by the old George Ross residence, partially destroyed by fire in 1932, and an old two-story business building fronting on Pine street and occupied by Jack Lees as a garage. Part of this building was used as living rooms.

Some time after the fire had partly destroyed the old Ross home, leaving a very unsightly wreck. Mr. and Mrs. Chomel purchased that quarter block and tore the old structure down and landscaped the grounds. They later purchased the rest of the block and tore down the old business building, again saving the lumber to use it in the building of two new cottages to the east of the others. These are larger than the others and are especially suited for rental as three-room apartments.

This year the Chomels have built a new fence about the quarter block between the new cottages and Pine street and have leveled the ground and are now engaged in landscaping it. Water has been piped all about the grounds and when finished this will be one of the most beautiful private parks in the country.

Andre Chomel was born in France. In early boyhood he became entranced with the idea of living some day in America. When he grew to manhood he still liked the idea and finally came across the sea to settle in Canada. When the World War broke out he endeavored to enlist in a regiment being raised in his community the Colonel in charge, a retired British officer, and a stalwart six-footer, looked askance at the

young man and calmly informed him he was at least two inches too short to get into that regiment. But young Andre was not discouraged and remembering his French birth, applied to the French Consul for transportation to the homeland in order that he might join his fellow countrymen in battling the Hun.

He served as a machine gunner and in other capacities for about two and a half years, being stationed in the Verdun sector, where he went through that awful battle. Here he was badly injured in a mine explosion.

Following the war, Mr. Chomel returned to Canada and in 1919 came to the United States, living for some time in Montana. From there he moved to southern California, making his home in Los Angeles. There he became acquainted with the lady, also of French birth, who is now his wife. This lady had lost a brother killed in the same Battle of Verdun, where Mr. Chomel was wounded. Mr. and Mrs. Chomel moved to this city from Los Angeles, and here both took out final citizens' papers before Judge Norton.

Mrs. Chomel and her sister Miss Messner have given great assistance in carrying out the many improvements made in the hotel property. Both have worked side by side with Mr. Chomel in the labor of tearing down the old buildings and constructing the new. All praises to these worthy ladies for the work they have done.

Since coming to Central Point, no one has shown more interest in beautifying the town and in the general welfare of the city than has Mr. Chomel. He is at present a member of the city council and is also representative of this city on the board of directors of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce.

The Hotel Valandra and Cottages, as the Chomel place is known, is becoming known far and wide as one of the most modern and beautiful stopping places along the Pacific Highway. Central Point can well be proud of the place and of its managers. Standing, as it does at the very gateway of the city and facing the great highway, it is a worthy example of what thrift and enterprise can accomplish.

The American joins the entire community in offering congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Chomel. We are proud of our hotel and proud to have such citizens with us. May the coming years bring peace, prosperity and much joy to them.

The Health Unit will hold their annual rummage sale Friday and Saturday, May 8 and 9.

Helen and Paul Bloomenstein are two very proud and happy children, each with a brand new balloon tire bicycle. Helen says they are birthday presents. "I've already had mine and Paul's will be in May." They ride to school every morning from their country home northwest of town.

Mrs. Marie Lange has 600 heads of lettuce planted and had the first local icicle radishes on the market. Mrs. Lange, daughter and niece, Marie Hildegarde were callers at this office yesterday.

## Senior Play Is Postponed One Week On Account Circus

Because of two circuses, that are coming to Medford, during the week of May 8th, the senior class play, "Hot Copy", has been postponed to the following Thursday, May 14. This extra week will give the cast extra opportunity to make this three act comedy one of the biggest successes ever.

Many bright colored signs with just the words "Hot Copy" printed on them can be seen in the store windows, today clever posters of red and black, with all the data concerning time, place and price, have been placed in several of the Central Point stores.

## LOCALS

Bobby Gene Hoagland has just completed the frame to a Fokker airplane. It is on display in the window of Gleason's Barber Shop. Blue print instructions came with the material. The frame had to be cut out of wood with a razor blade. He plans on covering and finishing the plane upon his return from his trip to California.

Mr. C. E. Elde, John Bohnert, and Melburn Williams went to Grants Pass Sunday morning trout fishing. They caught the limit before 8:30 in the morning. That's going some we think.

Mr. and Mrs. Andre Chomel and Mr. and Mrs. Sanford J. Richardson will both celebrate their ninth wedding anniversary tomorrow. Mr. and Mrs. Chomel were married in Berkeley and Mr. and Mrs. Richardson in Los Angeles.

Berry Cups at Faber's.

### ENJOYS VISIT WITH SON

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Stevens enjoyed a visit from Mrs. Stevens' son, Mr. R. E. Murray and wife and their granddaughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Gibron and baby son, Henry Murray, all from Vallejo, California. Mrs. Stevens had never seen her great grandson Henry and it had been six years since she had seen any of them. The occasion for their visit was to celebrate Mrs. Steven's birthday.

### Motor To Crater Lake

Mr. and Mrs. Pearl Bonney accompanied Mr. Bonney's brother and a group of ten which included the orchestra at Bonney's Grill to Crater Lake Sunday. Four cars made the trip and it was reported that the road was dry all the way. The group enjoyed dinner a Union Creek where the road was like a tunnel through the snow. Mr. Bonney, standing by his car, could not reach the top of the snow with his finger tips. The Lake was lovely and the weather fine except for one hour at Union Creek where it rained very hard.

Mr. Wilson who is now on the Strube place has purchased the Hawk building on Main Street from the city and is tearing it down. We understand he paid thirty dollars for the place. This work must be interesting as we notice a number of men and boys gather there most of the time.

### Will Leave Friday Morning

Bobby Gene Hoagland will leave Friday morning with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Bodin for Los Angeles and the World Fair at San Diego. They are traveling by auto and expect to be gone about ten days.

## MADRIGAL CLUB WILL SING AT GRANGE MEET

Ushering in Music Week the Women's Madrigal Club of Medford, directed by Elsie Carlton Strang will present a program of musical numbers for the grange on Friday evening of this week. The program is scheduled to begin at 8 o'clock and those who expect to attend are urged to be on time. The program is open to the public.

Following the program given by the Madrigal Club, a two reel moving picture will be shown, the pictures taken at Little America with Byrd on his Anarctic expedition. This picture is being shown by C. W. Robinson, Field Representative of the American Guernsey Cattle Club.

The picture shows the three cows that went with the Antarctic expedition. It not only shows how they attempted to operate a dairy under such conditions, but gives many interesting views of the dog teams, airplanes, ships, and in general, of life on the Antarctic continent.

The high light of the picture is the birth of the little bull calf near Anarctic Circle, and the climax is the return of the calf at 17 months of age to Washington D. C. where he was received by Secretary Wallace.

The public is invited to attend and are asked to be prompt so that the program can begin on time.

## Pansy Farm Shows Growth in Sales

Emil and Mollie Britt of Jacksonville accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Moore motored to the Harold Pansy Gardens Sunday afternoon. Mr. Moore gave us some interesting facts about these gardens. They were started about ten years ago with a handful of flowers. They have just completed a green house that cost \$3,000 and contains 14,500 pansies of glass, 12x16 inches.

Two acres produced 1200 ounces of seeds, some of which sell at \$35 an ounce. There are 24,000 seeds in one ounce. 8,000 pansy plants are out now and many pansies in bloom. The largest blossom measures 4 1/2 inches across. The Harold Pansy Garden put out a catalog and sell pansy seeds all over the world. They also sell all kinds of flowers and shrubs.

Mrs. Bonney has a bush of snowballs that are flecked and edged with rose color. We wonder—did she hand paint them—feed them special or are they a new species.

## The Churches

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

Bible School—A. W. Ayers, Superintendent, 5:30 A. M.  
Morning Worship—11:00 A. M.  
Y.P.S.C.E.—(two groups). 6:30 p. m.

Evening Services—7:30 p. m.  
Women's Bible study classes Tuesday afternoon from 2 to 3 o'clock in charge of Mrs. H. A. Davison. From 3 to 4 o'clock in charge of Mrs. R. C. Lewis.

2:30 p. m. Tuesday.  
The Fishermen's Club, Wednesday 6:00 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 Hoover, Supt. Aaim, No Summer Slump.  
Communion and Preaching 11:00 A. M.

Senior Christian Endeavor, 7:00 P. M. Fern Holly, leader. J. Ed Vincent, Director.

Evangelistic Service 8:00 P. M. Subject "Joseph and His Descendants." Special number by the choir. The orchestra will play.  
Prayer and Bible Study Wed. 7:30 P. M.

Choir Rehearsal Wed. 8:30 P. M.  
The Rogue River Valley Holiness Association will hold an All-Day Service in this church Friday April 8 beginning at 10:30 A. M. Captain Durham of the Salvation Army of Medford and H. H. Powell of Reese Creek will be the chief speakers.