

# CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

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## Musings

By an Innocent Bystander

Today we are called upon to report the passing of one of the city's most prominent and colorful figures. In the death of W. C. ("Con") Leever the city has lost her most prominent citizen. It falls to the lot of few men to serve their communities year after year as an elected officer for more than thirty years. "Con" as he was affectionately known far and wide was a faithful servant of this city from the days of a country village. Under his guidance all the major improvements the city enjoys, paving, water system, sewer system, etc. have been installed. And today as we mourn his passing, we feel renewed courage to do well our part, even as he did.

### L'envoi

When earth's last picture is painted,  
And the tubes are all twisted and dried,

When the oldest color has faded  
And the youngest critic has died,  
We shall rest, and faith we shall need it,

Lie down for an eon or two,  
Till the Master of all good workmen,  
Shall call us to work anew.

And only the Master shall praise us  
And only the Master shall blame,  
And no one shall work for money,  
And no one shall work for fame.

But each for the joy of the working,  
And each on his separate star—  
Shall paint the thing as he sees it,  
For the God of Things as They Are

We were looking back through  
The files of The American recently  
and got quite a kick out of reading  
over what we said in the last campaign  
four years ago. How we ever  
scared up enough nerve to take the  
stand we did is a mystery.

This year the atmosphere is much  
clearer and so far no signs of battle  
are noticeable. But we believe the  
time has come to start something.  
First, we want to say boldly we are  
for Landon, first, last and all—the  
time. His record is clear. He is a  
youngling man who has some very  
clear-cut ideals and who has backed  
those ideals in his home state. While  
we do not expect him to perform  
any miracles, we are for that very  
reason ready to back him.

This country is getting very weary  
of extra-brilliant men at the head  
of our government. It seems to us  
the time is ripe (yea, over-ripe)  
to get back to just ordinary, run-of-the-  
mill, hard-headed men to handle our  
affairs, and we favor a man who has  
come up from the ranks and who  
knows by personal experience just  
what honest toil means.

Someway, we have never felt that  
a man who has descended from a  
wealthy family; who has never, from  
boyhood, known what it means to  
want for anything money would buy  
was a proper person to place at the

head of our nation. Such a man is  
congenitally unable to "see" the  
average person, even as you and I.  
Such a man is Franklin Delano  
Roosevelt.

In Alf. Landon we have a man  
who has fought his way from child-  
hood. While not born in a log cabin,  
he did come from a family in what  
might be classed as the "great middle  
class". All that he has he has  
won by the sweat of his brow. And  
while it is true he made his money in  
oil, it was not as a protegee of the  
Rockefellers or Sinclairs, but as an  
independent, fighting for every  
point gained.

And Mr. Landon has a very clear  
idea of what he believes America  
should be. He wants no hint of dicta-  
torship, nor regimentation. To him  
the way is clear. He stands squarely  
for the kind of Americanism the  
Founders of the nation endeavored  
to teach and which principles have  
carried the country through all the  
years.

To our mind, the "New Deal"  
smells too strongly of Old World  
despotism. And the leaders in it have  
shown entirely too much contempt  
for those things which have stood  
the test of time and which have  
made our country great among the  
nations of the earth.

Haven't heard much lately about  
Mrs. Pomeroy's candidacy for the  
legislature. She must be finding out  
that it isn't so easy to get people to  
sign petitions for independent candi-  
dates as it used to be. And then her  
platform of getting a legislative in-  
vestigation of Banks' trial sounds  
silly to a lot of us. Pray tell, what  
has the legislature to do with in-  
vestigating criminal trials?

A murderer is caught red-handed.  
Crazy or not, he admits firing the  
shot which snuffed out a human life.  
He is taken to another part of the  
state where he is assured an impar-  
tial trial. A jury, which had never  
seen the man before, heard the testi-  
mony, his own as well as others,  
and find him guilty as charged.  
Where does the law-making body of  
the state enter the picture?

It seems to us that others besides  
Banks among his crew would have  
a hard time getting clear if placed  
before a lunacy commission.

### CELEBRATED BIRTHDAY

Little Billy Langston celebrated  
his eighth birthday last Friday. The  
following little friends were his  
guests: Phyllis Furry, Charlotte  
Richardson, Dorothy LaCasse, Eun-  
ice, & Patty Ann McClaire, Patty  
Langston, Barbara and Jimmy An-  
ders, Jackie and Teddy McCoy, Mel-  
vin Kelly and Donald Thumler.  
Games were played including a sack  
race which caused much fun. Re-  
freshments of ice cream, cookies and  
punch were served. The little host  
received many nice gifts.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Hedgpath spent  
Sunday at Dead Indian Soda springs.

# MAYOR DIES AT HOSPITAL

## W. C. Leever, 78, Passes Last Night After Long Illness

Today the flag at the city hall  
hangs at half-mast in honor of the  
passing of the man who has stood at  
the helm of affairs in this city for  
nearly thirty years.

William Constant Leever, affec-  
tionately known as "Con" to a host  
of friends throughout the entire  
state of Oregon, passed away at the  
Community hospital in Medford at  
7 o'clock last night. He had been ill  
for several months from a complica-  
tion of diseases and the end was not  
unexpected.

Mr. Leever was born April 4, 1858  
on a donation land claim about two  
miles west of this city. Part of this  
claim is now known as the McCaskey  
place. His father, William T. Leever  
came to Oregon in 1853, settling  
near Soclo in Linn county. He came  
to southern Oregon in 1855 and be-  
came identified with the educational  
interests of the valley. During the  
Civil war he served with the Union  
army. He married Miss Elizabeth M.  
Constant, daughter of Isaac Constant  
one of the first settlers of the Rogue  
River valley. Mr. Constant was a  
prominent figure of the early days.  
He was a friend of the Indians and  
was not molested by them during  
the troubles of the period. He was  
a noted scout and led the first white  
party ever to visit Crater Lake. Ten  
children were born to the Leever fam-  
ily of whom William Constant was  
the eldest.

Young Leever's boyhood was spent  
in different parts of the Rogue River  
valley, where his father taught in  
different schools. Part of his educa-  
tion was received in an old log  
school house just west of the pres-  
ent city. Later he attended the Ash-  
land Academy.

Arriving at early manhood young  
Leever went to Washington in 1880  
where he was engaged with a partner  
for three years in the drug busi-  
ness. Selling out to his partner he  
returned to Oregon in 1883 and  
went to work on the construction of  
the Oregon & California railroad,  
having charge of a construction train  
in building the road from Roseburg  
to Ashland.

Believing there was a better op-  
portunity for him in his old home  
town, Mr. Leever left the service of  
the railroad and opened a grain  
warehouse and lumber yard in Cen-  
tral Point. Later he sold out and  
went to work as a clerk in a hard-

ware store in the building recently  
occupied by B. P. Theiss & Co.  
About thirty years ago he built the  
building now occupied by the Leever  
Hardware store and went into  
business for himself. Here he con-  
tinued in active business until his  
recent illness compelled his absence  
from the store.

The earliest records extant at the  
city hall show that the name of W.  
C. Leever was among those of the  
early day members of the "Town  
Board of Trustees" of the Town of  
Central Point, before the incorpora-  
tion of the city. He was elected pres-  
ident of the board of trustees on  
March 19, 1907. After serving one  
year he was succeeded as president  
of the board of trustees by F. H.  
Hopkins, who served until March  
3 1909 at which time Mr. Leever  
again took office, this time as May-  
or of the incorporated city.

During his term of office as Mayor  
much in the way of civic improve-  
ments was undertaken. Pavement  
was laid in the business district, a  
city-wide sewer system was built,  
and the present city well and water  
tower was constructed. In fact Mr.  
Leever had a guiding hand in prac-  
tically every improvement the city  
has known since its incorporation.

He served as mayor from March  
1909, until April 1st, 1912, at which  
time he was succeeded by W. A.  
Cawley. Following his retirement as  
mayor, he was elected County Com-  
missioner, along with F. L. Tou  
Velle as County Judge and Frank  
Madden, commissioner. During his  
term as county commissioner, the  
County voted \$500,000 bonds for the  
construction of the first unit of paved  
highway in the state of Oregon,  
outside an incorporated city. This  
pavement extended from the city li-  
mits of Central Point to the foot of  
the old Ashland hill. Always inter-  
ested in good roads, Mr. Leever was  
instrumental in getting the county  
to build a hard-surface road leading  
into the city from the west a couple  
of years ago.

In 1920, Mr. Leever was re-elec-  
ted Mayor of Central Point. When he  
took charge he found the city's fi-  
nance had been allowed to become  
badly tangled and he spent many a  
hard hour getting things straighten-  
ed out once more. It was through  
his urging that the city purchased a  
\$25,000 bond from the Investor's

Syndicate. This bond was paid two  
years ago and the money used to re-  
tire a number of outstanding bonds.

Mr. Leever was always interested  
in everything pertaining to civic wel-  
fare and was an active director in  
the local bank. He was a prominent  
member of the Masonic lodge, Hillah  
Temple and of the Christian Science  
Church.

William Constant Leever was  
married July 13, 1887, to Miss Isa-  
bell Armstrong. To this union were  
born five children of whom two  
Wayne H. of Seattle and Earl C. of  
Ashland live to mourn their father's  
death.

Besides his wife and two sons,  
three brothers and six sisters remain  
to mourn his passing. They are Mr.  
Carl Leever, 1497 Union St., San  
Francisco; Mr. Tom Leever, Dixon,  
Calif.; Mr. Ed Leever, Fort Klamath  
Oregon; Mrs. Lucinda Guy, 2677 S.  
W. Ravensview Drive, Portland,  
Ore.; Mrs. Elizabeth Meyer, 217 Elm  
St., Modesto, Calif.; Mrs. Winnie  
Hathaway, Visalia, Calif.; Mrs. Ida  
Bollinger, Rt. 2 Santa Cruz, Calif.;  
Mrs. Ada Damon, John Day, Oregon  
and Mrs. Nellie Magee, Klamath  
Falls, Oregon.

Two grandchildren also survive,  
William and Richard Constant Leever,  
sons of Mr. and Mrs. Earl C.  
Leever.

Funeral services will be conducted  
at 2 o'clock p. m. Sunday from the  
Perl Funeral Home in Medford, un-  
der the auspices of the Christian  
Science church of which the deceased  
was a member. Services at the  
grave will be in charge of the Ma-  
sonic lodge. Interment will be in  
the Central Point cemetery.

### Harry Merriman Taken by Death

Harry Merriman, 48, passed away  
at Salem, Oregon, August 18 after  
eight months illness from tubercu-  
losis. He was born near Medford,  
March 19, 1888. He was educated  
in the valley schools and lived all  
his life in the Rogue river valley.

He was married to Alma Martin,  
October 19, 1910, and three sons  
were born to the union, Ray, Lee  
and Guy Merriman, all residents of  
Trall. His wife Alma and the above  
children survive, also his mother,  
Emma Merriman of Medford, three  
brothers, Merritt Merriman of Gold  
Hill and Chester and Lester Merri-  
man of Medford. He was a member  
of the Upper Rogue Grange and the  
Baptist church.

Funeral services will be held at  
the Perl Funeral Home Saturday at  
2:00 p. m. Rev. W. H. Eaton officiat-  
ing. Interment in Medford I. O. O.  
F. cemetery. Services at the grave-  
side will be conducted by the mem-  
bers of the Upper Rogue Grange and  
the pall bearers will be from the  
Grange.

### Rebekahs Hold Regular Session

Mt. Pitt Rebekah Lodge met in  
regular session with a good attend-  
ance Wednesday evening, August  
19th. Brother Ed Vincent gave an  
excellent report of the joint meeting  
of the Grand Officers of Oregon and  
California, who assembled in Yreka,  
Calif., last week.

After the business was taken care  
of lodge closed in regular form and  
Sisters Richardson and Copinger put  
on a very interesting program of  
various games and a watermelon  
feed. All went home with a full stom-  
ach and perfectly satisfied.

All Oddfellows and Rebekahs of  
this District are planning a covered-  
dish picnic at Lake Creek on Aug.  
30th. Grants Pass has also extended  
an invitation to all Oddfellows and  
Rebekahs to meet in their beautiful  
Park Sunday August 23rd., with a  
covered dish picnic.

### Last Rites Held For Mrs. Tyrrell, Valley Pioneer

Funeral services were held Satur-  
day afternoon at the Conger chapel  
for Mrs. Arletta Tyrrell, the Rev.  
Clifton A. Phillips officiated. Inter-  
ment took place in the Siskiyou  
Memorial park.

Mrs. Tyrrell, Oregon pioneer, who  
resided here for 76 years, died at her  
home on the Jacksonville highway  
last Thursday.

Arletta Jacquette was born in  
Iowa, Jan. 17, 1858.

When she was two years old she,  
with her parents, crossed the plains  
by covered wagon to Oregon.

On Feb. 13, 1875, she was married  
to John Howard Tyrrell, in Ashland,  
Oregon where they lived for one  
year.

At the end of that time they took  
up a homestead in the Little Butte  
creek region which was their home  
for over forty years.

For the last eighteen years they  
have lived near Medford on the  
Jacksonville highway.

The thirteenth of February of this  
year marked their sixtieth wedding  
anniversary.

Besides the husband she is sur-  
vived by the following children:  
Allie Farlow of Lake Creek; John R.  
of Dead Indian Soda Springs; Arded  
M., who lives on the old Stage Road,  
and Ivan E., of Rainier, Ore.

There are also 9 grandchildren,  
and three great grandchildren, all of  
whom live in Jackson county.

### Fick Hardware Co. Now Sell Myers Pumps

The Fick Hardware Company has  
been appointed exclusive agents in  
Medford for the Myers line of pumps  
and pressure systems. They have a  
very complete line and are prepared  
to install the proper size system for  
all purposes.

The Fick company also have a  
complete line of parts for all makes  
of pumps and water systems, and  
their slogan is "No job too small,  
not too large."

They will be pleased to make es-  
timates on any job of pump instal-  
lation at no obligation.

## The Churches

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

Bible School—A. W. Ayers, Sup-  
rintendent, 9:30 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 Tues-  
day 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.

er. 2:30 p. m. Tuesday.  
The Fisherman's Club, Wednes-  
day 6:00 p. m.  
The Family Gathering, Wednes-  
day, 8:00 p. m.  
Choir Practice—Thursday, 7:30  
p. m.

**CHRISTIAN CHURCH**  
Clifton A. Phillips, Minister

Bible School 10:00 A. M. Doland  
Hover, Supt.  
Communion and Preaching 11:00  
A. M. The Mixed Quartette will sing.  
Subject "What is The Kingdom of  
God?"

Evening Services 8:00 P. M. Sub-  
ject "Bible Requirements For Sal-  
vation."  
Senior Endeavor 7:00 P. M. J. Ed  
Vincent, Director.  
Junior Endeavor Friday 2:30 p. m.  
Prayer and Bible Study Service  
Wednesday 7:45 P. M.

Welcome!

## Do You Know Any of These Young Men?



In cleaning out an old cabinet in this office we ran across this cut of the high school basketball team of 1913-14. How many of these young men can you name? Please send in the names and present whereabouts of them all. Where are the heroes of yesterday?

## Subscription Coupon

This Coupon is good for 25c when applied on a New subscription to the

Central Point American

Provided it is sent in by Sept. 20, 1936