

# CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

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## Musings

By an Innocent Bystander

We who live in this blessed valley are wont to forget that in some parts of the country the weather man dishes up somewhat different sorts of climate. Perhaps you have noticed that they have been having some rather cold weather in the Midwest in recent weeks. But even that country has changed quite a bit from the old days when the early residents were getting settled in their homes.

Way back in the fall of 1880 the old Circuit Rider of whom we have written was ordered by his bishop to take charge of the work in the little town of Tracy, out on the prairies of western Minnesota. The town was the end of a dinky branch of the Omaha with a population of perhaps three or four hundred. The few members of the Methodist faith in the place has asked that no preacher be sent there that year, as they felt unable to support one. But the old Circuit Rider had been told by the bishop to go there, so go he went.

Leaving his wife and two small children with an older daughter in a small town down the road a few miles, he went on to Tracy, only to find that there wasn't a house to be had in the town. So the old gentleman begged permission to store his goods in an old shed on the side of a barn. Hanging a rag carpet over the open side of the shed, he set up the cook stove and prepared to "batch it" while he built a shack for the family. This little shack was built of rough lumber covered with tar paper and contained two small rooms.

Before the little house was finished, about the middle of October, the first blizzard of the winter came. By the time the family was brought to their new home, the snow was piled in great drifts almost up to the car windows as the train chugged its way into town. There in that little tar paper shack begins the writer's first memory of winter as the pioneer's "sildin' down hill" was in that backyard coasting down the steep side of a monstrous drift higher than the house itself. And in the street in front of the house there was another drift that entirely hid a church building about the size of the Christian church in this town which stood across the street.

The train which brought the little family to town was the last to reach Tracy until about the first of June the following year. All roads were blocked and the only means of communication with the outside world was afoot over the snow. Fuel was scarce and long before spring the railroad company had given away every pound of coal in the big sheds at the roundhouse. Each family was allowed to bring a sack and get one bushel at a time, but no more. Toward spring a party was organized to take hand sleds and go forty miles to Lake Shetek to haul home wood from the timber there.

Every time we kids went down town we had lots of fun peeking into the second story windows along Main street as we walked along the twenty-foot drifts between the buildings, and stumbling down the stairways cut in the snow each morning down to the store doors. This was a job that had to be done every day and the huge blocks of snow cut out had to be loaded on hand sleds and hauled out of town to make room for the next day's cutting.

Occasionally during the winter the old Circuit Rider would stroll down to Walnut Grove, eleven miles away to see his daughter or to hold meeting there. Out on that bleak prairie the only landmark was the long line of telegraph poles along the railroad. For miles the drifts were so deep the old man could guide himself by holding to these wires from pole to pole. Just try that stunt some day if you want to know what prairie blizzards really were.

But with all the hardship there was much of peace and joy in that little shack those days. Friendships were made that have lasted through all the years. The same Providence that fed the Ravens of old watched over the little family and saw to it that there was enough to eat and fuel to burn. But just the same, we

## FAREWELL PARTY FOR AMICKS HELD THURSDAY EVENING

Almost the entire community turned out at the high school last Thursday evening to bid farewell and God-speed to Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Amick, who left Friday for their country home in Grants Pass. Mr. Amick's resignation as principal of the grade school had been accepted by the school board with much regret. He had held this position for the past 13½ years and had been teaching for the past 30 years. He felt that he needed a rest and besides the duties on his farm were calling him.

Mr. Jewett had charge of the program. After a few remarks expressing the sorrow of the teachers and school officials at losing the services of so efficient a teacher, he called on Rev. C. A. Phillips to express the feeling of the entire community in the loss of one of their most efficient instructors and a beloved member of the school organization. Mr. Phillips gave a brief talk stating the reasons that Mr. and Mrs. Amick's leaving would be a big loss to Central Point. Among other things he mentioned that mostly Mr. Amick had led the scholars "pleasantly," although occasionally forced to use methods not so pleasant.

The girls' quartet, consisting of Nathalie Martin, Nelda Jean Ayers, Iris Hill and Marjory Martin, accompanied by Miss Zinzer, sang two numbers which were much enjoyed. Mr. Jewett then called Mr. Amick to the platform, saying that he had promised him that he would not be called on for a speech. He then presented him with a beautiful bookcase, the gift of the faculty, which was carried onto the stage by the Cassman twins, Loren and Lawrence. Then the grammar school pupils and high school students presented him with two beautiful plants. Mr. Jewett then informed the honored guest that "it's up to you." Mr. Amick, very much moved, expressed his thanks and appreciation at having so many present and also thanked them for the many kindnesses in the past. Also for the beautiful gifts.

Mrs. Williams, representing the Parent-Teacher association, then took the stand and said she thought Mrs. Amick should not be forgotten and called her to the platform and presented her with a lovely plant and a boutonniere. Mrs. Amick responded graciously and thanked the many friends for the expressions of esteem.

Following the program a social hour was spent, everyone taking advantage of the opportunity to express their sorrow at losing the Amicks from the community. The P. T. A. served refreshments to the children in the home economics room and the rest of the gathering in the auditorium.

Mrs. Lydia Dean of Grants Pass accompanied by her sister Jennie Session of Sacramento and Mildred Dean stopped at the Edward Farra home recently. Mrs. Farra accompanied them to Medford where they spent the day.

## FIRST GRADE NEWS

Wednesday, January 26, 1938

There are 43 children here. There are two children out.

Mr. Amick went away. He will live on his farm.

So we have a new principal. His name is Mr. Gandee.

Peggy is going away to night. She is going to live in Medford. She will go to a Medford school. We are sorry to have her go. But we want her to be happy. She must make new friends.

Nancy had to go to the dentist.

This is a grand day. We like the warm sun.

are mighty glad "those days are gone forever" and that our lot has been cast in dear old Oregon, even if the fogs do come.

## Four Counties Join In Effort to Retain Shasta Train Here

At a meeting held in Grants Pass Tuesday afternoon delegates from Roseburg, Cottage Grove, Wolf Creek, Glendale, Grants Pass, Central Point, Medford and Ashland discussed the order discontinuing the Shasta train by the Southern Pacific railroad. The meeting had been arranged by A. H. Banwell, manager of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. Olen Arnsperger, president of that body, presided.

J. A. Ormandy, general passenger agent, A. A. Hampson, general counsel, and A. S. Rosenbaum, district agent, were present for the railroad company. Mr. Ormandy opened the discussion at his own request. He stated that the order had been issued only after long hesitation and was the result of the fact that the company had been losing money in the operation of that train for a long time and that present day conditions had made it impossible to longer stand the loss, which he stated was about \$500 a day.

Mr. Ormandy was followed by W. A. Gates of Medford, who started out by urging that the matter at hand be threshed out frankly and honestly, but with no punches pulled. He said that he believed the principal reason for the loss the company had suffered was that the present policy of the company seemed to be to play up the advantages of the Cascade route and neglect the older and more scenic Shasta route. Mr. Gates spoke of his own experience in buying a ticket from Los Angeles to Medford, when the ticket seller strongly urged him to travel by way of Klamath Falls via the Cascade train and from there take a bus to

Medford. He claimed that if the railroad officials would give the Shasta route an even break with the Cascade route, the former would not show a loss.

W. C. Harding, secretary of the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce, followed Mr. Gates on the program. He read a resolution passed by the Lane county court condemning the action of the railway company and called attention to the strong feeling of resentment in that city. He stated that he believed the taking off of these trains would be of inestimable harm to the communities affected.

Mr. Harding was followed by a number of other speakers representing every town along the railroad from Ashland to Cottage Grove and all agreed in the belief that the reduction in train service, especially at this time, would do a great deal of damage to their communities.

A resolution protesting the new schedule and pledging the cooperation of the business men in assisting the railroad company to bring in revenue from other sources than passenger travel should the order be rescinded, was unanimously passed by the meeting. A further resolution authorizing the chairman to appoint a committee of four, (one from each county represented) to go to Portland for a further conference with the railway officials, was passed.

Those attending the meeting as representatives of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce were: Olen Arnsperger, president; A. H. Banwell, manager; A. W. Gates, Mark Goldy, Verne Shangle, Seth Bullis, Geo. Henselman, Ernest R. Gilstrap and A. E. Powell.

## New Directory Is Issued for Local Company

The new telephone directory of the Central Point Mutual Telephone company came off the press this week and will be distributed to all subscribers as soon as possible. The book contains twelve pages with cover and contains the names and telephone numbers of all members of the company.

At the time of the annual meeting of the board of directors of the company an out-of-door solicitor offered to print such a book for the company free of charge, provided he was allowed to have the exclusive right to sell advertising in the book. The directors felt that such a contract should first be offered to a local printer before giving it to an outside concern. The proposition was put up to this paper and accepted and the new book is the result.

While the book is a strictly local affair and contains only the list of telephones on the local lines, it is thought that being printed in larger type than the regular directory, it will be found more convenient than the Medford directory in looking up numbers for local calls. Also the new book shows the rings of all phones on party lines, thus enabling parties living on such lines to call other parties on the same line without calling the central office.

Many compliments have been received on the appearance of the new directory. Mr. E. C. Faber, president of the company, stated that he had examined several such books recently and that the local book was the best he had seen. The publishers received the hearty support of the local business men and were able to print the book without going out of town for advertising.

Mr. and Mrs. John Sellar and children Adabee, Lucille, Harlin and Cherokee returned from an extended trip to Oklahoma and Arkansas. During their absence they visited friends and relatives in various places. They were gone two months. The Sellars were former residents and have many friends here. They now make their home in Medford.

Mrs. C. T. Skyrman had the misfortune to slip and sprain her knee badly recently.

## County Court to Receive Grub Stake Applications Jan. 28

Mr. Morrison, of the State Geology and Mining Department, will be in the office of the County Court in the Court house at Medford on January 28th and February 4th for the purpose of interviewing all those who wish to apply, or who have applied, for grub stake loans. Applicants must bring with them two letters from merchants in their vicinity as to their character, residence, etc.

## Former Resident Dies in Portland

Frederick Henry Hopkins passed away in Portland last week. Mr. Hopkins was well known and liked in this vicinity. He was engaged in the auto financing business. Several years ago he left here to make his home in Portland and resided there until his death.

Mr. Hopkins purchased the Olwell orchard, just south of town and built a beautiful home. This is now occupied by J. G. Love of this city.

Mr. Hopkins was born in England, October 18, 1868 and had resided in this country for 58 years. He is survived by his wife, Enola, and two sons, William, a professor in Stanford University and Frederick, who lives in Kentucky.

## Mr. and Mrs. Norcross Celebrate Fiftieth Wedding Day

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Norcross, prominent residents of the Rogue River valley for the past 50 years, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary Saturday in San Marino, Calif., where they are the guests of their sons, Paul J. and Walter H. Norcross and families. Also with them for the occasion is their daughter, Mrs. E. H. Hedrick of Medford, who left for the south Wednesday evening. Mrs. Hedrick will return to her home early next week, while the Norcrosses plan to spend several weeks in San Marino and Eagle Rock at the home of their sons.

## So what?

He that well and rightly considereth his own works, will find little cause to judge hardly of another.—Thomas A. Kempis.

Mrs. Bonney has a bright idea. She says she puts skids under her shrubbery so she can move it around every spring.

All of Chester Kamberg's friends worried over his hurried trip to Medford thinking that he had to appear in court. They had cause to be more upset because he went in to look at a used car.

Some of the grammar school boys putting their initials on Mr. Amick's strap.

Roy Jones—Don't know anything. Don't go anywhere. Don't do anything.

Mrs. Copinger and Mrs. Farra with faces pressed against the matress shop window.

Mr. Faber trying to help the Editor out by selling the editor's wife a pair of soft fleecy slippers, that would be fine to get up in the morning to build fires in.

When Mr. Tucker's family returned from California, they were traveling in an entirely different car than the one they left in.

It is whispered around town that Al. the Butcher's, cat didn't cost \$55.

Postmaster Pankey is not satisfied with the post office returns, soaring higher and higher as two days later this week we found him on a ladder as high as he could get with both arms stretched as high as they would reach.

The stork flying over the Bonney house to reach the Lefler house scared the Bonney parrot so that it fell off the perch and stayed on the floor until morning.

Ask Guy Tex what the so what was that he threatened to kill the Editor if he printed it.

## CHURCH WISHES GOD SPEED TO ARDEN TYRRELL

The members of the Church of Christ met at the church Monday evening for a farewell reception for Mr. Arden Tyrrell and family, who are leaving soon to make their home in Rogue River. About sixty members of the church were present, several being kept away for various causes. The affair was a complete surprise to Mr. Tyrrell, he thinking he was to attend a board meeting that evening.

Some very clever games were played and a short program enjoyed. Miss Ardith Hanson played a piano solo; Cecil Hanson gave a reading; Mr. Darby and Mrs. Elde sang a duet and little Barbara, Ruth and Buddy Powell, whose home is on Lozier Lane west of Medford, accompanied by their father on the piano, sang two songs that were much enjoyed.

Mr. Roland Hover then addressed the audience and the honored guests and expressed the appreciation of the church for the faithful attendance of Mr. Tyrrell and the girls at all church services and for their labor in behalf of the church. He then presented Mr. Tyrrell with an electric table lamp. Mrs. Cornutt then read a Psalm appropriate to the occasion.

Refreshments of sandwiches, cake, coffee and punch were served at the close of the evening.

## Inter-School Plays Are Set For February

The dates of February 15, 17 and 22 have been set for the presentation of the three one act plays by the Central Point, Jacksonville, and Phoenix high schools.

The program will be presented in each of the three towns, each school keeping its own ticket sales receipts.

"Orville's Big Date" is the name of the play to be given by the Central Point High School. The cast, not yet selected, includes four.

The receipts of the program are to be used in financing the high school annual "The Pointer" to be published in the spring.

## GOOD RECORD

For over a quarter of a century the Farmers and Fruitgrowers Bank has labored faithfully for the upbuilding of Jackson County.

The Bank is progressive along safe and sane lines, and is always courteous and accommodating.

A credit to the community it serves.

## The Churches

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Clifton A. Phillips,  
Pastor

Bible School 10:00 A.M. Roland Hover, Supt. Aim—Everybody on time. Everything on schedule.

Communion and Preaching 11:00 A.M. Subject "The Sacred Month of the Year". J. Ed. Vincent will sing for this service.

Evangelistic Service 7:30 P.M. Subject "The First Missionary and First Convert of The Gentiles." A short sermon. We especially invite you to hear this message.

Christian Endeavor for all ages. Carl Hover, Young People's director. Prayer and Bible Study Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Mrs. Frances Houston, Devotional Leader. Mrs. Iselta Elde, study leader.

**THE FEDERATED CHURCH**  
Rev. R. C. Lewis, Pastor.  
Phone 51

Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
Worship 11:00 A.M.

A.M.

Junior and Senior League 6:30 P.M.

Evening Services 7:30 P.M.  
Wednesday Evening Prayer 7:30 P.M.

Tuesday afternoon Bible Study 2:30 P.M.

Old Time Prayer meetings each Friday evening 7:30 P.M. Bring your Bible and special songs and let us pray God together.

5 blocks north from Faber's Store, Central Point. None denominational.