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Musings

By an Innocent Bystander

It does beat all how many folks drop in to inquire whether work has actually started on the Medford water proposition. And all we can say is that we wish to heck it was.

Sometimes the writer gets weary of answering such questions. If we had our way about it, we would by now be using that kind of water. But we'll be darned if we are going to try to do it alone. It appears that every time we try to do something we believe for the benefit of the town, we get slammed and told to go way back and sit down. But we are beginning to "get our Irish up" and maybe we will sit down and maybe we won't. And if the powers that be don't want to be criticized, let 'em get off the job.

The whole world is full of despotism and dictators who refuse to be criticized. But thank the Lord in this country the right of freedom of the press is yet recognized. And this writer hereby serves notice on the world that so long as we remain an independent editor we shall review the acts of any or all public bodies we see fit.

But enough of politics. Let's talk of something pleasanter. For instance—rattlesnakes. For nearly thirty years this writer has ranged the hills and valleys of Southern Oregon and to date haven't even heard a rattlesnake. For a long time we had an idea there were no such things in this country. But finally we saw several dead ones that others had killed. So there must be some of the reptiles around.

It must be that the blamed things must smell us as we walk about the hills and rocky ledges and beat it as the deer have a habit of doing whenever we pack a rifle in the hills. Anyway, they never show themselves. But this summer some of the family have been living up in the Dead Indian country and have so far killed eighteen of the pests, which ought to thin 'em out a bit.

Have you noticed how pleasant the evenings are after the hot days? It does beat all how soon the air clears after the sun goes down. And the early mornings are simply gorgeous. Last evening as we sat at the dinner table we chanced to look out of the window and there within ten feet of the kitchen door were a pair of those friendly quail whose calls sound so cheerful each morning. They seemed to realize no one was going to hurt them and nodded their stately heads at us through the open window. Bless their hearts, how we do love to have them around.

For the benefit of our friends who have been a bit worried on account of what we said last week about the slowing up of the old pump and how we are going to lay off strenuous exertion in the future, we might say that the interview with our doctor mentioned occurred about five years ago and so far as we can see we are about as strong as ever, with the exception that we have slowed up a bit. Anyway, we are going to hie us up into the hills for a bit of vacation and expect to spend the most of the time building irrigating dams, digging ditches, felling trees, etc. all of which should either bring back a bit of our old appetite or kill us off and we don't care much which.

It's funny how things tie up with each other in this world. A few years ago some of the farmers in the Fort Klamath country discovered that the ashy soil in that locality was ideally fitted to raise alsike clover seed. So they started planting clover for seed. Today there are over five hundred acres of this money-making crop in that section. But they soon discovered that wherever there were plenty of bees the clover seemed to do better. Which was all to the good for a certain enterprising young apiculturist of this valley, who at once got busy and moved several truck loads of the busy things over the mountains and scattered them about among the immense clover fields west of the old fort.

Now it just happens that there is no more tasty honey on earth than that from alsike clover. So everybody is satisfied. The farmer gets a better fertilization for his clover;

FINE PROGRESS BEING MADE ON WATER SYSTEM

Work is progressing rapidly on the job of laying the new water mains along Pine street. The first week saw the big ditch completed nearly three blocks and the pipe laid as far as the city hall. The pavement cutting crew had completed their work nearly to Sixth street.

Some difficulty has been encountered in excavating. In some places leaks in the old mains caused cave-ins which have to be removed by hand. The number of service pipes along the street make the digging with the machine impossible and much hand work is the result.

The work of replacing the old service pipes (which were of galvanized iron) with new copper tubing is progressing slowly. As this is written (Wednesday) preparations are being made to turn water into the first section of the new main from the highway to Second street for a test. After the leakage test is completed, the pipe will be thoroughly flushed out, then filled with a chlorine solution; then flushed out again and a test of the water then sent to the state board of health for a final bacteria test.

The water will be shut off in the downtown district during the time necessary to make these tests. The work will be done at night so as not to inconvenience the water users any more than necessary.

The United Construction Co. of Portland, contractors, are doing everything in their power to make as little confusion as may be while the work is in progress. The entire crew are doing their best to handle the big job in such a manner as to cause as little inconvenience as possible to the public.

Letter Tells of Local Army Boy

The following letter from his commanding officer will be of interest to the friends and relatives of Robert D. Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude M. Johnson, of Route 1, Central Point, who is now stationed at Schfield Barracks, T. H.:

Dear Sirs: In regards to your letter dated December 17, 1937, referring to Private Robert D. Johnson, Company "A", 21st Infantry, Schofield Barracks, T. H., the following information is submitted:

Private Robert D. Johnson enlisted in the United States Army on December 17, 1937, for Infantry, Hawaiian Department. He arrived in this Department on February 4, 1938. On February 5, 1938, he reported for recruit training. He graduated from recruit training on April 19, 1938, hence, he was turned to duty with this organization. At the present time, Pvt. Johnson is having Preliminary Rifle Instruction and Rifle Marksmanship, in preparation for this coming year's qualification in arms, and is doing very well. He will go on the Rifle Range on June 12, 1938, and will return on June 23, 1938. The time on the range will be devoted to firing of the 30 caliber rifle for 1938 qualification. Pvt. Johnson is doing very well in this organization and if he continues doing his duty, he can look forward to a promotion in the future.

Your Truly,
James F. McGraw,
Captain, 21st Infantry.

MISINFORMED
Through an error this paper was informed last week that a Baby Clinic would be held at the Health Building Thursday, June 30, from 1 to 3 o'clock. Today we received word from the county nurse that the clinic would be held Wednesday, July 6. Mothers are invited to bring their babies to this free clinic.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones visited in Grants Pass Sunday.

the beekeeper reaps a fine harvest of the best honey while at the same time escaping the loss of millions of bees from the poison sprays used on our home orchards. But the lad will have to move 'em all back before the severe winter starts over there.

Administrator Asks Allotment For Power Line

To extend Columbia River's low cost power to residents throughout the Northwest, J. D. Ross has applied to Public Works Administrator Harold L. Ickes for an allotment of \$21,375,725 for transmission lines and substations.

This application was made public today by the chief of the Bonneville Project, who disclosed his plan for a super-power network to connect the hydroelectric projects of the Columbia Basin.

The Bonneville Administrator revealed that he had recommended construction of Umatilla dam and the Snake River project in order to hasten the day when a coordinated navigation-power-reclamation development would meet the needs of an expanding Northwest.

"Power and water—that is the vital combination for the people of Oregon and Washington and Idaho," he said. "Bonneville is the first completed step in our Columbia Basin program. It must be used unselfishly to help solve the navigation, power and land problems of the entire Northwest."

The Ross proposal calls for an arterial system that will carry Bonneville power in every direction. It will be the foundation for a publicly-owned transmission system to link up all of the future hydro-plants of the Northwest, and connect with other major networks for economical interchange of energy. A major circuit will be a 230,000 volt line from Bonneville to Grand Coulee dam, with an additional circuit returning by way of Pasco.

To serve Portland, the Willamette Valley and the Oregon Coast, Mr. Ross asked for a PWA allotment that will enable him to build a 110,000 volt line from Vancouver across the Columbia River, with a double-circuit southward to Eugene. Bonneville power would reach Eastern

Oregon and Washington by a line of the same voltage extending from Pendleton to Umatilla and Pasco. Included in the application to Administrator Ickes is the proposal to connect the dam with Hood River and The Dalles.

Public Works funds would be used to construct a 230,000 volt line from Vancouver to Kelso. From there power would be transmitted at 110,000 volts through southwestern Washington to Aberdeen. A short link would connect the Bonneville power plant with the substation at Condit.

In his letter to Ickes, Administrator Ross declared the present \$3,500,000 appropriation from Congress would cover only a double circuit from the dam to Vancouver and two 110 kilovolt lines. Pointing out the demand for power greatly exceeds the installed capacity of the dam, he said construction of the proposed transmission network would enable the government to recover its investment in Bonneville Dam at an earlier date. None of the proposed lines duplicates existing facilities. All are essential adequately to meet the present needs of the territory, he said.

"These lines must be built at the earliest possible moment," Ross wrote, "in order to carry out the policy of using the power for the full benefit of domestic and rural consumers. We must reach the public districts now requesting Bonneville power, as well as the other districts which will be formed during the coming year."

Administrator Ross proposed the inter-tie with Grand Coulee Dam to build up the market which would ultimately be served by that project. "The extension from Pasco to Umatilla and Pendleton is recommended because cheap power will make possible large irrigation developments," he wrote.

Carnation Club At Kelly Home

The Carnation Club met at Alta Kelly's home June 23. An interesting feature of the afternoon was a shower for Dorothy Root. She received many beautiful gifts. Our next meeting will be July 14 at the home of Ethel McCoy.

Those present were Lois Richardson, Martha Smith, Marie Putney, Elsie Gleaves, Mary Langston, Betty Potter, Bessie Fernland, Ethel McCoy, Donna Brenner, Dorothy Root, also two guests Gladys Davidson and Edna Kilbourne.

The hostess served ice cream, punch and wafers.

The Civic club was very well pleased with the crowd that turned out to the lunch served by the ladies last Saturday. They wish to thank all who so kindly furnished pies for the occasion, also to the ladies who donated dishes to the club.

Auto Travel Gain Shown by Survey

Motor clubs throughout the country report automobile tourist travel this year running ahead of the record-breaking volume of last year, according to the Oregon State Motor Association.

Increases ranging up to 22 per cent for the first quarter of 1938 were reported by affiliated A.A.A. clubs, it was stated. In addition to motor club reports, the A.A.A. is making a survey of hotels, travel promotion agencies, and other sources in connection with its annual study of touring trends.

Mr. and Mrs. Hawley of the Hawley Transfer report that they were very much pleased at the number of friends who called and expressed their sympathy when they had 200 cords of wood destroyed in a fire. The wood was not covered with any kind of insurance and was a total loss.

Niedermeyer-Maust Wedding Service Is Held on Sunday

At a beautiful outdoor ceremony last Sunday afternoon at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Niedermeyer, Miss Erma Louise Niedermeyer was united in marriage to Mr. Raymond Campbell Maust, of Portland, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Maust of Central Point.

The rites were solemnized at 4 o'clock under the large trees bordering the lawn and before a background of flower bedecked evergreens. The service was read by the Rev. W. Eaton, former pastor of the local Baptist church. The bridal procession started from the front door of the residence and, to the strains of Lohengrin wedding march played by Mrs. Mabel Sims, continued up the aisle formed by the guests seated on the lawn, to the bower of flowers where the couple spoke their vows.

The bride was lovely in a white silk net dress with silk lace insertions. She wore a finger-tip veil flowing from a white halo crown and carried a shower bouquet of tallman roses and lilies of the valley.

The bride's cousin, Miss Leona Conger, was her bridesmaid. She wore a dress of tea-rose tulle and carried a bouquet of yellow rosebuds. Mr. Lewis Conger, also a cousin of the bride, acted as best man for Mr. Maust.

Mrs. Chester Wendt, the bride's aunt, sang "Mavis" and "O Promise me."

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Niedermeyer home for the 50 guests attending the wedding. The bride and groom cut their respective wedding cakes and refreshments were served on the lawn. The Misses Joan and Maxine Guyer assisted in serving.

Out-of-town guests attending the service included Mr. and Mrs. Holmes Gabbert of Portland, Miss Doris Conger and Mr. William Caldwell, both of Corvallis.

The bride, an only daughter of the Niedermeyers, is a graduate of the Medford High school class of 1933 where she was an honor student and selected as the outstanding girl of the class. She later attended Oregon State college in Corvallis.

The bridegroom, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Maust, graduated from Phoenix High school and University of California. At present he is associated with Master Engravers at Portland, where the couple will make their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Maust departed Sunday evening for a wedding trip to the Oregon beaches.

So what?—

Bear the hen's cackle for the sake of the egg. Little annoyances must be put up with because of great advantages.—Spurgeon.

Two local youths out for a fishing trip up Evans Creek decided to drive into the creek and clean the car up for the Fourth. Picking out a sandy place like one used in Gold Beach, they drove in and landed in deeper water than they bargained for and spent the rest of the day coaxing that pesky car out of the creek. One of the boys had to remove his clothes and get into the cold water under the car and drain the oil out of the crank case before they could get it out of the water.

Warning to young fathers—Before bragging on your new baby, be sure it is your baby. Mr. Stanley Parish took a number of friends into the Purucker home to display the new daughter after showing off little Judy and bragging JUST a wee bit, the nurse had occasion to come into the nursery and remarked "I beg your pardon, Mr. Parish, you have the wrong baby."

Warnings to young mothers—Be sure it is your own baby before you feed it. When Mrs. Yost and Mrs. Washburn were feeding their new babies at the hospital one morning they began comparing notes. Both babies had dark hair, same colored eyes and then Mrs. Washburn discovered the name Yost stamped on her baby's leg. A quick exchange of babies was made.

Bobbie Booth is riding a brand new balloon tire bicycle.

John Sharp running around with a just married sign on his back and being puzzled at the bright remarks made to him.

EARLY BLAZE DESTROYS HOME OF G. T. ADAMS

Fire of unknown origin destroyed the home of G. T. Adams on the corner of 7th and Hazel Streets, Wednesday morning at 1:00 A.M. All the furniture in the house except the living room furniture was saved. The amount of damage has not been ascertained as yet.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams left for Grants Pass and there was no one home at the time of the fire. Mr. Jesse Richardson drove to Grants Pass to notify Mr. Adams and to bring him here.

The volunteer fire department arrived on the scene in a very short time and had the blaze under control in an amazing short time considering the start the fire had before their arrival, the entire upper part of the house being ablaze when they got there.

This writer tumbled out of bed when he heard the whistle and answered the age-old call of a fire. We were not the only one to crawl out at such an early hour (or maybe a lot of them were still up) to rush to the scene, as there was a crowd of people there.

One thing that we noticed was that the people of this community are just like people everywhere—they like to get just as close as possible regardless of the fact that they get in the way of the firemen. At this fire we saw a number of cars that were parked within a quarter of a block or less of the burning building. We think that this is a very dangerous thing to do as there is no telling what a fire will do.

Boy Scouts Enjoy "Mute" Party Friday

Last Friday evening a number of the Boy Scouts went for a werner roast and swimming party to Bybee Bridge. Mr. E. P. Stone and Mr. Holt accompanied the boys. Kenneth Powell who had charge of the entertainment, took Marion Hult along as his guest.

The scouts had been learning the deaf signs and could only talk the silent language on the trip out.

With Kenneth and Marion acting as judges, tests were made of the boys' ability to talk on their fingers. For the plain spelling on fingers the judges awarded first prize to Bobbie Vincent. And to test the ability of the boys to read the signs fast Kenneth spelled out some certain words and the judges awarded the prize to Ronald James.

The Churches

CHURCH OF CHRIST
Clifton A. Phillips,
Pastor

Bible School 10:00 A.M. Roland Hoover, Supt.

Communion and Preaching 11:00 A.M. Subject "Is America a Doomed Nation According to The Bible?" We will show America's place in Scripture. The Senior Choir will bring a special number.

Christian Endeavor 7:00 P.M. Roland Hoover, Director.

Evangelistic Service 8:00 P.M. The Young People will bring the special music and the subject is: "Why I Am Not A Denominationalist."

Prayer and Bible Study Wednesday 7:45 P.M. Devotional Leader Mrs. Hedgpeth, Study Leader Mrs. J. N. Cornutt.

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

Bible School 9:30 A.M. Mr. Wm. Kamburg, Supt.

Morning Worship and Communion Services with Rev. R. C. Lewis presiding. 11:00 A.M.

Junior and Senior Endeavor 7:00 P.M.

Evening Worship 8:00 P.M.

Tuesday afternoon Bible Study and prayer services 2:30 P.M.

Wednesday evening prayer meeting for young and old.

Thursday afternoon ladies' Aid meets to quilt. Come, all are welcome.

Seven ladies went to Mrs. Nichols' home Wednesday afternoon for a quilting party.

JUST ANOTHER SCRAP O' PAPER!

