

# CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

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## Memories By the Editor

Last week we took our readers back to boyhood scenes and told of a boy's Christmas joy. Since our story appeared we have been requested to "carry on" with more tales of our long and varied career. And as we turn the pages of memory's book we find our hardest task in picking out what NOT to tell about. But guess we'll try to bring to you a tale of how an older generation secured their weekly supply of fish with the least expenditure of energy.

Our story dates to a time a couple of years later than last week's and the preacher's family had moved down to the old farm in what was (and still is, by the way) known as the Spring Island neighborhood on the old Blue Earth river in Southern Minnesota. This river was in those days filled with fish of many kinds. There were bass, pickerel, pike, shad, whitefish, channel catfish, bullheads, half a dozen kinds of suckers, gar, and even an occasional "muskie". There were no game laws and no closed seasons. We caught fish when and where we could. But we were taught by our pioneer fathers not to waste the abundance of natural foods with which the region abounded.

Now there were in our portion of the neighborhood seven families, each with from one to three big husky boys, ranging in age from 15 to 22. These families were of real pioneer stock. Each had settled in the neighborhood with the first coming of the white man to the region. None were wealthy; sources of food stuffs were important to all and fresh fish was an important item in the weekly menus.

So one summer day the young men and boys of the neighborhood gathered at the river side to plan a new method of securing such a supply. In a bend of the river near by there was a shallow riffle, with the bed of the river covered with rocks of all sizes. The water at the deepest point was about a foot deep at low water. Here the boys started their magnanimous opus. Peeling off their shirts and donning their oldest trousers (though they didn't call 'em that in those days) they began piling up a row of the largest rocks; they could manage from shore to shore in the form of a huge "V". While the big boys were toiling with big boulders, we little lads (for you can bet we kids weren't going to be left out of such an enterprise) rustled up all the smaller rocks we could carry.

After several hours of strenuous labor a solid rock dam about two feet high stood complete. All the crevices were chinked with stones and the whole made as tight as possible. At the apex of the "V" were two huge outcroppings of bedrock about three feet apart. The space between these boulders was left open and the water poured through the gap in a tremendous stream. After completing the dam we all adjourned to the woods nearby, where there were plenty of ironwood poles to be found. Here we cut a large quantity of these tough little poles and dragged them to the dam.

Here a box was constructed just wide enough to fit the space between the center boulders. One end of the box was made of boards while in the bottom near that end a trap door was made, which could be lifted out easily. Then the box was fastened in place and the water fell in a huge cascade over the boarded-up end of the box and slipped away between the crevices of the pole box, the bottom of which had been fixed a few inches below the level of the water below the dam. Now we were ready for the fun to begin.

Lots were drawn by the representatives of the seven families to see what day each was to have the fish caught. If the writer's memory is not at fault, our day was Friday. So after that all we had to do was to go down Thursday evening and close the trap door. Then during the night every fish that decided to go down the river would hit the dam and follow along until he came to the gap where the water was falling over the boards. Over he would go, only to find himself in that box where he couldn't find water enough to get a start to take him up the hill. Water falls.

## HOLIDAY MAIL HEAVIEST EVER MAILED HERE

The heaviest Christmas mail ever handled at the local postoffice is reported today by Postmaster Tom Pankey. While many packages were poorly wrapped and packed, only a few were damaged and there were none undeliverable. However, there were a large number of cards which could not be delivered for one reason or another. Quite a number of cards were received for parties who had moved away 20 years ago or more.

"We had splendid cooperation by the patrons of the office," stated Mr. Pankey today. "The Christmas spirit seemed to prevail throughout the entire season and I wish to thank the public for the courtesy shown to the force in the postoffice during the rush season."

## Thomas Leever, 66, Passes at Davis, Cal.

Thomas, youngest brother of the late Mayor W. C. Leever of Central Point was born August 18, 1872 on a donation land claim about 2 miles west of this city. Part of this claim is now known as the McCaskey place. His father came to Southern Oregon in 1855, where he taught school.

Thomas received his education in the Central Point schools, and when a young man went to Vacaville, Cal. Later he went to Vallejo, California, where he worked many years in the Navy Yards.

Thomas S. Leever was married July 15, 1903 to Miss Alice Cunningham. To this union one son was born, who died in infancy.

Later he bought a farm near Davis, Calif., where he resided until his death in the early part of Dec. 1938.

He leaves besides his wife, Alice, two brothers and six sisters to mourn his passing. They are Ed Leever, Ft. Klamath, Ore.; Carlos D. Leever and Mrs. Lavinia Hathaway of Visalia, Calif.; Mrs. Ida Bollinger, Santa Cruz, Calif.; Mrs. Ada Damon, John Day, Ore.; Mrs. Lucinda Guy, Portland, Ore.; Mrs. Nellie McGee, Klamath Falls, Ore.; and Mrs. Elizabeth Mayer, Modesto, Cal. Interment was in his home cemetery.

## Executive Meeting Of P.-T. A. Tuesday

Remember the executive meeting at 2 pm. Tuesday, January 3 at Mrs. Alta Kelly's home. The program for the regular meeting on Friday, January 6 at the school house will be about home making. A guest speaker will be there and Mrs. Mildred Ross will present a style show.

## Lees And Martins Celebrate Xmas

Another big holiday gathering was the Lees and Martin families who gathered at the Paul Martin home for Christmas dinner. Among those in the group were Mr. and Mrs. Martin and little daughter, Penny of Grayeagle, who arrived Friday to spend the holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Root and children, from Grants Pass, Mr. L. H. Root, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lees and family. Sunday the entire party enjoyed another feast at the Lees home and are still celebrating today at the Root home in Grants Pass.

Friday morning the preacher's kids rushed down the steep path to the river's edge and splashed out to see what luck we had. Many a time we found nearly half a wagon box full of all kinds of the scaly beauties, and every variety from a half-pound bass to a thirty-pound cat. And absolutely uninjured by being penned up in that pole fence for several hours. After securing all that we needed to supply the family for a couple of days, for electric refrigeration hadn't even been dreamed of then, we carefully raised the trap door and let the rest return to the deep. During the day the fish could travel easily up and down the river as they saw fit.

How would you fishermen like to have such a trap just for one night along the Rogue?

## Joint Installation Held by Masons And Eastern Star

On Tuesday evening, December 27, Nevita Chapter No. 93 O. E. S. and Masonic Lodge No. 135 A.F. & A.M. held their annual installation. At the last regular chapter meeting for the year, held just previous to the installation ceremonies, Mrs. Clara Vincent, Worthy Matron, thanked the Chapter for their help and support during the year. She concluded her remarks with the following bit of verse:

"The Book of my year is ended;  
It's pages more precious than gold  
Are full of familiar faces,  
Of friends both the new and the old.  
If I have accomplished but little,  
My efforts were true and sincere,  
And that's why I sigh as I'm closing  
The book of my happiest year."

She then presented the Chapter with four white Bibles. The Conductress was instructed to place them on the Altar ready for use for Nevita Chapter.

Mrs. Leonard Freeman, on behalf of the Chapter, presented Mrs. Vincent with a Past Matron's Jewel. Following this the Associate Matron and Patron approached the East and on behalf of the Officers of 1938 presented the retiring Matron a gift of a dozen Fostoria Goblets. Mr. Harold Head, retiring Patron, spoke words of appreciation to the Chapter and to the Worthy Matron for the highly successful year just completed.

During the meeting, Mrs. Wallace Freeland was received into membership by affiliation.

The Masonic installation immediately followed the Chapter meeting. Past Master Hampton T. Pankey acted as the Worshipful Installing Officer assisted by Past Master Elmer Kyle as Marshall and Mrs. Lola Norcross, Organist. Those inducted into office were: Mr. Harold Head, Worshipful Master; John Lacey, Senior Warden; Lloyd Stimpson, Junior Warden; Ed Vincent, Secretary; H. P. Jewett, Treasurer; Hensley Holt, Senior Deacon; Eugene Shelton, Junior Deacon; Orville Hamilton, Senior Steward; Francis Putnam, Junior Steward; L. C. Scott, Chaplain; and J. H. McJimsey, Tyler. Mr. L. C. Scott is the retiring Master.

## Local Happenings

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Abbott entertained Mr. Abbott's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Russ Moore of Lake Creek and Miss Thelma Moore of Medford for Christmas dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Vincent were hosts Christmas day to the following guests, Ruth and Fred Green, Jr., and Shaon. Mr. and Mrs. Dave Rees of Medford and Mr. Rees' mother from Portland. All had a fine time.

Mr. Tom Vella from Sonoma is here looking after business in our local factory.

Mr. Peart received a Merry Birthday card for his birthday December 27. It was from his son Homer in Fresno.

Twenty relatives and friends gathered at the Mabel Bennett home in Medford to enjoy Christmas Cheer. Mr. and Mrs. Peart from here attended. Mrs. Bennett being their daughter. It was a big day, not only being Christmas, but a combined celebration of Mrs. Bennett's birthday on Christmas day and also honoring Mr. Peart's which is December 27. Mr. Peart reports he ate enough to kill two men and didn't make any impression on the amount of food left.

Business in the Alexander Imp-house may have come in like a lamb in 1938, but it is making quite a roar as it goes out. First big sale was when Mr. J. W. Smith from Sardine creek came in and bought the best set of harness they had in the store. It is reported to be the best buy in the county. Mr. John Nealon came in and purchased floor oil for the Table Rock school house. Mr. J. Frink from Beagle was over buying farm implements. John Matney from the Applegate dropped in and said the sun was shining bright out there, and everyone was expect-

ing a very fine New Year. He was also laying in supplies for the farm.

Mr. J. C. Woods, on his way home last Friday with his package of Christmas candy, had the misfortune to stumble over the railroad crossing and fall, cutting his face very badly. Mr. Virtue, who was walking behind him could not get there soon enough to save him from the fall. His face was badly cut and he has a black eye. Donald Patterson seeing the accident from the Service station hastened over and he and Mr. Virtue helped Mr. Wood up.

Mr. and Mrs. Clem and Mrs. Fisher from Medford, brought a Christmas treat to Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Woods from the D.U.V. Mrs. Hubbard also received a treat from them.

Miss Doris Smith became the bride of Mr. Andrew Severson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Severson, recently. Mr. Severson graduated from the local grade school, Mr. and Mrs. Severson will make their home in Klamath Falls.

A number of the local boy scouts are enjoying winter camp at Union creek. Scout Master Dale Smith and John Waters, Jim Pierce, Albert and Grey Thompson, Hal Jewett and Bob Vincent. They left Monday morning and will return Saturday. Everyone can guess what kind of a time they are having.

Mrs. Carroll Powell and children are visiting at the A. E. Powell home while Mr. Powell is away looking for work.

Mrs. A. R. Owing, Mr. and Mrs. LaCasse and daughter Dorothy and Mr. and Mrs. Earl Owen and children enjoyed a family dinner at the Bodenstab home Christmas.

## Senior-Alumni Fete Is Much Enjoyed

The Senior-Alumni banquet was held Wednesday night at Chalker's Motel with about forty-five persons attending. After a very delicious dinner the meeting was called to order by the president Lewis Hedg-peth. The following officers for the coming year were elected: President Ernel Shaver; Vice-President, Donald Neidermeyer; Secretary, Janice Nealon. Impromptu speeches were heard from Elmer Kyle, Arthur Copinger and Harold Head and then the meeting was adjourned.

During the rest of the evening the guests had their choice of dancing, playing Chinese Checkers or card games. A prize waltz was danced and won by Miss Edna Shaver and Mr. Bill Leever.

Game prizes were won by Clayton Yost and Edwin Gebhard. Everyone had a very enjoyable time and they will be looking forward to the Senior-Alumni banquets to follow.

## New Story By Mrs. Hedrick Appears

Friends of Mrs. E. H. Hedrick will be pleased to learn that another story written by this popular writer is appearing in the current issue of Liberty. The story is entitled "Corey-Belle Loves." This is the second story by Mrs. Hedrick to appear in Liberty within recent weeks. Central Point people are proud of the success being attained by Mrs. Hedrick in the literary field. She will be remembered as the former Miss Helen Norcross, whose parents still reside on the old farm just east of this city. She is a graduate of the local schools. Her husband was formerly superintendent of schools here and is now city school superintendent in Medford where they now reside.

## Family Gathering At Scott Home

Another large family gathering was at the E. E. Scott home. Mr. and Mrs. Everett Scott arrived Friday and stayed over Sunday. In the group were Mr. and Mrs. Harley Dressler, Mr. and Mrs. Victor Noel and little daughter, Vici Jeanine, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Duncan, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Anders and Barbara and Jimmy, and Mr. Lewis Swartz, Mrs. Swartz' dinner being carried to her on a tray.

Miss Carol Furry spent today with Miss Phyllis Crouse at Grants Pass.

Mrs. Cash writes from Ventura, Calif., that they are having lovely weather, just like summer, flowers blooming and sun shining.

The alumni banquet at Chalkers Motel was a big success, about 45 attending. All report a lovely time.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holmes and little daughter, Marian, spent the holidays with Mr. Holmes' mother, Mrs. Mollie Holmes, and with Mrs. Holmes' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Strang of Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. Virtue and sons, Robert and Fred enjoyed Christmas day with Mrs. Virtue's sister, Mrs. Jennie Gilmore at Murphy. Mr. Frank Hanson of Milton-Freewater is expected for a short visit with his wife and his wife's mother, Mrs. Jennie White.

Seen at the fireman gift counter for needy children in Medford last Friday. A well dressed woman wanted to get toys for her four children. She looked at many toys. Some she said her children had, others were soiled and other not just what she wanted. At last the lady in charge asked for the age of the children and picked out some toys and hold her to take them. Another lady stepped up and told that she had seven grandchildren and their parents were out of work and it was the first Christmas they had been unable to give them anything. On being asked what she would like she replied just anything any little toy so they might have one apiece. When she left she was loaded down with many gifts that would delight most any child.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jones entertained with a family dinner Christmas day Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Middleton and son Theron, Mr. and Mrs. Chate Elde, all of Grants Pass, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Yost and son Dickie and Mr. Don Stanley.

## LADIES CLUB TO HOLD FIRST MEET OF YEAR

The Central Point Ladies Civic Club will hold their regular January meeting at the Library Wednesday afternoon, January 4. At this time plans for the coming year will be discussed and a program of civic work decided upon.

Mr. Delroy Getchell, the well-known banker-poet, president of the Farmers & Fruitgrowers bank of Medford, will be the guest speaker for the occasion. Mr. Getchell has always taken a lively interest in the affairs of the club.

At this meeting the new officers for the coming six months will be installed. They include, Mrs. Bithers, president; Mrs. Kilburn, vice-president; Mrs. Minnick, secretary and Mrs. Powell, treasurer.

## C. Endeavor Union Rally at Rogue River

The Crater Lake Christian Endeavor Union held their monthly rally at Rogue River last evening with about 125 present Earl Ladd gave a very inspiring message.

Following the services several basketball games were enjoyed as well as a social hour. Delicious refreshments were served at the close of the evening and all report a very pleasant time.

## Home Economics Club Holds Party

Home Economics Club of the C. P. Grange held their Christmas party in the Grange Hall Wednesday, December 28, with 28 ladies in attendance.

The club presented the past chairman, Mrs. Clara Vincent, with a gift in appreciation of her splendid work of the last year.

Mrs. Eudora Bohnert was appointed chairman for 1939 with Mrs. Myrtle Patterson and Velma McCredie as her committee.

Mrs. Ruth Ward was elected secretary. After the business meeting the Grange Pals exchanged gifts and each person present drew a new name for the coming year. Mrs. Eudora Bohnert, Mrs. Wm. Gregory and Mrs. Effie Caster served dainty refreshments.

The next club meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Myrtle Patterson, January 23rd.

## So what?—

He is most powerful who has power over himself.—Seneca.

Tom Moore saying if he didn't have enough dinner Christmas, it was his own fault as they had turkey, chicken and duck.

Joe Stevens being so full of turkey he couldn't budge.

Carol Furry grieving because she could not attend the high school dance.

Some one opening up last year Christmas cards and finding a handkerchief they didn't know they had received.

## Dividend Declared By Loan Association

The Board of Directors of First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Medford declared a 4 percent dividend on all its share accounts at the regular December meeting. The dividend is payable as of December 31st for the current six months' period.

## The Churches

THE FEDERATED CHURCH  
Phone 51  
Stanley G. Parish, Pastor.  
REGULAR CHURCH SERVICE  
Bible School ..... Sun. 9:45 A.M.  
Worship service .... Sun. 11:00 A.M.  
C. E. .... Sun. 6:30 P.M.  
Evangelistic Service Sun. 7:30 P.M.  
Monday evening at 7:30 the men are invited to attend a men's prayer meeting beginning this week.  
Ladies Bible Study Tue. 2:30 P.M.  
Prayer meeting .... Wed. 8:00 P.M.