

# CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

VOLUME XI

CENTRAL POINT, OREGON, THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1939

NUMBER 28

## Musings

By the Editor

To those of us who were so fortunate as to visit the old Birdseye home last Sunday afternoon there came visions of days long gone which were well worth the trouble of driving down there. For as we passed through the time-mellowed rooms and looked at the hundreds of articles displayed we caught glimpses as it were through a curtain of the everyday lives of those brave men and women who used those things so long ago.

For the things we saw were not specially made for some great exhibit, but were just the common things used every day in the pioneer homes of our valley. And that is what made them most interesting, for looking at them one caught a glimpse of the immense hardship those worthy people had to bear. Of course they hardly realized the hardship, but we, who have so far advanced since that day in creature comforts, certainly can thank the Giver of all good things that our lot has fallen in pleasanter places.

It seems strange to see men and women drive up before that old log house in such vehicles as the world had never even dreamed of when those logs were cut and to think that there were men and women yet alive in our community who could remember when the old place was new. In one comparatively short lifetime the world has made greater advances than in centuries before. But it took America and her liberty-loving people to do it. And yet today there are those who think our system is all wrong and who—like the "forgotten man", Tagwell—want to "re-make America."

The more familiar the writer becomes with the history of this state and county the more he realizes that we who write bits of it for the edification of the public have so far only scratched the surface. Hardly a day goes by but we hear of someone who has stored away among their possessions something we could use for the subject of another yarn. For instance, this week we hear of a certain lady who has made it a practice for many years to save clippings from the newspapers. Just think what romance; what stories of human interest must be contained in that old scrap-book. We are going to ask her to let us look it over some day.

We want to suggest another spot for a marker such as the D.A.R. have been putting up about the county. That is the old Dean home on the Old Stage road. This was the home of the first white couple to be married in Jackson county. Or at least, that is our impression.

For another week the writer has been holding down a double (or perhaps we had better say, triple) job. Recorder Tex is still fighting tooth trouble, but at last accounts is gaining in the scrap. Anyway, he has got 'em all licked but three and hopes to get rid of them today. As we heard a rattled young high school freshman quote Shakespeare—"How sharper than a serpent's child it is to have a thankless tooth!"

We hear our town is keeping right in style and is going to have a soft-ball team. That ought to go good here, as there are lots of fellows who should have plenty on the ball here in town. We hope they will turn out in force and show Medford we can still give them plenty to struggle with.

One hears all sorts of tales about the big fair at San Francisco. Some say it is wonderful—others that it is just like the rest of them, just money-grabbing schemes. But our idea is that they started the darned thing too early. That big Bay can be about the coldest place on earth when it tries and who wants to freeze while looking at the exhibits? We have a hunch that later in the year when the easterners really get started we shall reap some real benefit from the big show.

Just picked up on our desk the notice of the annual election of officers of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce. Gosh! Has another year really gone? Has it really been more than two years

## ESTHER LATHROP WED. TO IDAHO MAN APRIL 6

At 9:00 o'clock Thursday evening, April 6, Esther L. Lathrop and Dale E. Kirk were married at the winter home of Mrs. A. T. Lathrop in Corvallis. Dr. E. J. Harper of the M. E. church, South, performed the ceremony.

The bride was dressed in pink chiffon with a corsage of white gardenias. A candle-lighted room, decorated with pink and white flowers, made an attractive setting for the ceremony and reception. After the ceremony and quiet reception, the bride and groom left for Payette, Idaho, where they will make their home.

Mrs. Kirk is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Lathrop and, although she is a graduate of Corvallis high school, she spent eleven of her school years in the Central Point schools. She is now a sophomore at Oregon State College where she is affiliated with Phrateres, independent social organization.

Mr. Kirk is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl E. Kirk of Payette, Idaho, and is a junior in agricultural engineering at Oregon State College. The couple will live in Payette where Mr. Kirk is employed by the Agricultural Conservation Association.

## Seven Directors Are Selected by County Chamber

Jackson County Chamber of Commerce this week announced election of the following seven directors:

Mary A. Goldy, Seth M. Bullis, Roland Hubbard, Herb Grey, H. A. Thierolf, John P. Moffat and J. Frank Reinhart. All but Moffat and Reinhart are on the present board of directors.

The following directors were chosen by outside agencies to represent the rural areas and interests: S. G. Nye, Fruitgrowers league; A. E. Powell, city of Central Point; Jack Spalding, Rogue River Valley Traffic association; R. E. Wilson, Jacksonville Merchants association; Earl Ulrich, Upper Rogue Grange; Charles E. Clay, Dairymen's association; and Earl T. Newby, Talent district. All but Nye and Spalding are serving on the present board.

The seven hold-over directors are Eugene Thorndike, George T. Frey, W. A. Gates, Karl L. Janouch, B. E. Harder, George Hunt and Glenn L. Jackson.

The chamber membership completed election of the seven new directors recently. The term is for two years.

The full board of 21 directors will elect officers for 1939-40 at a luncheon-meeting in the Hotel Medford Friday.

## Tractor Co. Moves To New Location

The Rogue River Tractor and Implement Co. have recently built a temporary office and shed on the lot at 5th and Apple Sts., Medford which Mr. Weighill purchased two years ago. He will start a permanent building to care for his increased business which is the most widely and best known business in the valley. Mr. Weighill started his business in Medford four years ago and it has steadily increased until it was necessary to make this move to a better location and more room to display machinery. All kinds of machinery is rebuilt here and only skilled workmen are allowed to do the work.

Mrs. Weighill assists her husband in the office, where you will always find pleasant and courteous treatment. You are invited to call and talk over your farm needs.

since we first sat in with that board of directors and helped plan the work of the organization? Just to make sure, we went to the files and sure enough, there was the record showing that it was in January, 1937, that Mayor Isaacson first gave us that job. There sure has been a lot of things doing since that day

## Silver Tea at Birdseye Home Well Attended

The silver tea at the historic Birdseye home near Rogue River given by the county extension committee in honor of Mrs. A. T. Lathrop Sunday as a big success in every way. Nearly 700 people from all parts of the county registered at the old home some time during the hours the house was opened to the public.

Mrs. Lathrop was assisted in receiving by Mrs. Effie Birdseye, present owner of the old Birdseye home, who now lives in the old house and whose husband was a grandson of David Birdseye, who built the house in 1856. The house is the oldest pioneer home in Oregon still standing in its original form and still occupied. The only incongruity thing seen was the electric lights which were added some years ago. Miss Alice Hanley, through whose efforts much of the interesting relics of pioneer days had been brought out for display; Miss Claire Hanley and several other members of the extension committee, were also in the receiving line and added a touch of reality to the scene by their picturesque costumes of the old days.

Displayed about the room were many old-time articles which somewhat seemed right at home in such a place. On one wall were guns of the old type, some of which had seen service in the Indian wars in the 50's. Pistols, powder horns, shot and bullet pouches, bullet molds, etc. all showed signs of hard use. One article which attracted much attention was the beautiful white buckskin suit which formerly belonged to Col. John E. Ross, who commanded the Volunteer troops in the Indian wars in the early days of this county. Col. Ross killed the deer, tanned the buckskin and tailored the suit with his own hands. The suit is now the prized possession of his only surviving son, John E. Ross, of Central Point.

Another article of especial interest was the "peace pipe" which was smoked by General Lane and Chief Sam and his band at the treaty which ended the Rogue River Indian war. This treaty was signed in an oak grove which formerly stood in the valley between the two Table Rocks. The huge pipe was carved from Oregon myrtle by one of the soldiers at old Fort Lane, in the present Tolo district, and was given by General Lane to Col. Ross, who acted as interpreter for the occasion.

Also of especial interest was the old melodion, which was brought around the Horn to Crescent City and across the mountains on mule-back and which was the first music-

al instrument of its kind in the Rogue River valley. It was used for years in the old Community church, still standing in Jacksonville. It was discovered a few years ago by Miss Alice Hanley in a home where its historical value was unknown and was being used as a meat block. Miss Hanley purchased it and keeps it at her home near Jacksonville.

One of Mrs. Birdseye's proudest possessions is a beautiful Chickering piano purchased for the Birdseye home in 1856 and also shipped around the Horn long before the days of the railroads. Several of the guests of the afternoon gathered around the old instrument and made the old house ring with songs of the long ago. Many a quiet tear was noted in the eyes of the older guests present as the strains of "When You and I Were Young, Maggie" and others of the old-time favorites floated about the room and brought memories of many happy times spent under the old roof.

In one room were displayed many articles of women's handiwork, including quilts, dresses, baby clothes, bed spreads, and the like. These were all hand made by the mothers and wives of the pioneers of the early days of this county. Also on display was a Paisley shawl more than 100 years old, having been handed down in the Parnall family and now owned by Mrs. A. T. Lathrop.

Much interest was shown in pictures of the three women who were included in the inmates of Fort Birdseye during the Indian massacre of 1855. They were Mrs. McGruder, Mrs. Savage and Mrs. Birdseye. The fort then stood just in the rear of where the house now stands. Mrs. Effie Birdseye, present owner of the place, laughingly stated that then it took 500 men to guard those three women, but she had her doubts if so many would be needed now, as women were much more independent now than then.

After spending as much time as they desired inspecting the exhibits, the guests enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee on the typical old porch with its well and pump, or under the shade of the immense grape vine which almost covered the rear of the house. This Mission grape was planted in 1856 by Clara Fleming Birdseye. The vine had been given her by Granville Sears as a switch for her saddle horse.

The extension committee wishes to express their thanks to Miss Alice Hanley for her wonderful exhibit and to Mrs. Birdseye for her kindness in throwing open her home for the occasion.

## Post Carries Story By Mrs. Hedrick

We are happy to pass the news on to our readers that Mrs. Helen Hedrick has another story "Remember the Rain", accepted by the Saturday Evening Post to be published May 13. Mrs. Hedrick had another story "Road Kid" published in the Post last year. This story is a story of the Dust Bowl and Mrs. Hedrick dreamed the story and immediately sent it in to the Post and it was accepted at once. As most of our readers know Mrs. Hedrick is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Norcross and wife of E. H. Hedrick, Medford city school supt. While Mrs. Hedrick has had a number of stories published, the Post accepting her stories is a decided milestone on her journey up the ladder. We wish her many friends are watching her progress with much pleasure and also looking forward to the Post of May 13.

Mrs. Reints of Mill City, who has been visiting her daughter Mrs. Bert Langston and family at the Langston home, expect to return to her home soon. Mr. and Mrs. Langston and family and Mrs. Reints left last Friday for Marshfield and North Bend where they visited Mrs. Reint's son and family for a few days, returning home Sunday evening. They report a beautiful trip, warm weather and the wild flowers gorgeous.

## Old Clock Missed By Medford Visitors

Two weeks ago we had a story about the old clock on Main street in Medford, it was crowded out on account of space. But we have so many questions asking us about the clock that we will give what information we have. The clock was put up on the Jackson County bank building in about 1927 as Mr. J. W. Shirely of Vancouver Ave., remembers. At that time Mr. Shirely worked in the bank. When the Medford branch of the Portland U. S. Bank purchased the Jackson Co. bank building, they also purchased the clock which cost \$2500. Mr. G. Frey, manager, said that they wished very much to use the clock on their present building but could not figure out how it could be done. The clock had long been a landmark in Medford and is greatly missed by many people, who wish to meet friends at a certain time or catch a stage or even go to dinner. People had become so conscious of the clock that driving down Main they glanced at the clock and many set their watches by it.

The clock was taken down by the Eads Transfer Co. and crated and shipped to The Dalles and placed on the U. S. Bank there, where it will go on telling the passerby the same old story that is told here. If driving thru The Dalles this summer, glance at the old land mark and maybe set your watch by it.

## Enthusiasm Shown By P.T.A. Council

Much inspiration and enthusiasm were gained by all those who attended the spring meeting of the Jackson County council of Parent Teacher Associations held at Rogue Elk Wednesday, April 19. Community singing was a feature, led by Mrs. Elsie Carlton Strang, who also gave an interesting talk on the aims and purposes of National Music Week, to be held the first week in May, offering the assistance of the Medford Music committee to any unit who wished to observe it.

The reports given by the various local units showed much worthwhile work accomplished during the year. Among the new activities were sponsoring of high school bands, high school dances, style shows at which the dads modeled ladies' clothing, and other programs which were entertaining as well as instructive. While the membership in the county is not as large numerically as last year, it was the general opinion that the slogan of the year, "Make Membership Mean More," had been carried out, as so much interest was being shown by a participating membership. Dr. Merkel, County Health Officer, gave an interesting talk on the pre-school child and the advantage of the Summer Round-up in preparing children for their first year in school by a thorough physical check-up before the beginning of the school year.

New officers elected and installed were Mrs. H. H. Elhart, Ashland, President; Mrs. Clifton Pond, Medford, Vice-President; Mrs. Clyde Young, Ashland, Secretary; Mrs. Paul Force, Eagle Point, Treasurer; Mrs. E. T. Currans, Medford, Member of Executive Committee. Mrs. James K. Hoey, retiring president, was also made a member of the executive committee.

During the afternoon a panel discussion of the convention of the Oregon State Congress of Parents and Teachers, held in Klamath Falls, last week, brought to all present many of the helpful ideas presented by the various speakers at the convention. The panel was composed of delegates to the convention and was led by Mrs. Hoey. The theme of the convention was "New Patterns for Old Problems". One of the thoughts stressed throughout was that it is not so much what is taught that is important, as how our young people are trained to work and live. Those attending the county meeting from Central Point were Mesdames Mervyn Gleason, Verne Hansen, W. H. Holt, W. J. Gebhard and H. C. Williamson.

## Mrs. Whetstone Buys Blue Bird Lunch

Mrs. H. F. Whetstone has recently purchased the Bluebird Lunch at 225 North Riverside. She hopes to meet her old friends there and make many new ones. Hot meals, hamburgers, pie, coffee and cold drinks will be served. Drop in and get acquainted. Mrs. Whetstone lives near Central Point and has many friends here.

## Calendar of COMING EVENTS

Friday, April 21  
Lecture—Louise Wheatley Cook, C.S.B. at Holly Theatre. 8:00 P.M.  
Southern Oregon College of Education—Annual Public Music Festival at Ashland.  
Grange regular meeting at Grange Hall. 8:00 P.M.  
Ladies Auxiliary of V.F.W. installation of officers at Medford Armory.  
Missionary Circle, Mrs. Drummond to talk at Alta Kelly home. 2:30 P.M.

Friday, April 28  
"Amateur Hour" program at High School auditorium at 8:00 P.M.

Saturday, April 29  
W.R.C. all day meeting at Gold Hill.

## Lending a Hand

We do what we can Reasonably do To Bring Progress and Prosperity To Jackson County. FARMERS AND FRUITGROWERS BANK (Deposits Insured)

## MANY TO APPEAR IN AMATEUR HOUR ON FRIDAY APR. 28

Music, dances and drama are to be featured in the Amateur Hour to be presented at the final entertainment of the year on Friday evening April 28, sponsored by the speech department of the high school.

Fully an hour will be taken for a one-act play now being rehearsed daily. The large number of students and patrons, who are expected to appear, assures a program of over two hours.

Mrs. Ross is in charge of the poster designing and of the advertising of the play. Mrs. Fleischer is coaching the play. Mr. Harrison is in charge of the amateur features of the evening.

Ticket sale is now well under way at the popular prices of 20c, 15c, and 10c.

Reserved seats at 10c are on sale at Stone's.

A large attendance of students and patrons is anticipated as the proceeds of the program are to be used to help finance the 1939 annual, "The Pointer."—The Central Pointer.

## Civic Club Asks Aid at City Park Monday, April 24

The Civic Club has set Monday as clean-up day in the park. Everyone in the community is invited to come out and give a hand. Bring a covered dish and your own service and enjoy a big picnic dinner. Come in the morning or at noon and enjoy the dinner even if unable to stay and work. The object is to fix up the park so the people will get their money's worth out of it. If you can't come and stay and lend a helping hand, come anyway to show your good will. Send someone in your place if unable to come. Bring hoes, rakes, shovels, guess even a tractor might help if there is one available.

The plan as you already know is to make a playground out of the unfinished part of the park. Men and boys are especially requested to give the ladies a strong hand in this work.

## W.R.C. to Hold All-day Meeting

W.R.C. will hold an all day meeting Saturday, April 29, at Gold Hill. All members are urged to attend. There will be a covered dish luncheon at noon. Each member is requested to bring their own service.

## The Churches

CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Clifton A. Phillips, Minister  
Bible School 10:00 A.M. Roland Hoyer, Supt.  
Communion and Preaching 11:00 A.M. Chorus Number by Choir. We continue the sermons on The Forty Days. Subject "The Manner of His Appearances."  
Christian Endeavor 7:00 P.M.  
Evangelistic Service 8:00 P.M.  
Sermon Subject: "He Appears To Peter." Bessie Burns and Wanda Rossen will bring the special music.  
Prayer and Bible Study, Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Devotional Leader, Mrs. W. K. Davis. We are opening two new classes and you are invited to enter. Mrs. Phillips will lead the young people and the pastor will lead the study in "Christian Action."

Come, Sing and enjoy God's House together.

THE FEDERATED CHURCH  
Phone 51  
Stanley G. Parish, Pastor.  
Bible School—9:45 a. m.  
Morning Worship—11:00 a. m.  
Christian Endeavor—5:30 p. m.  
Evening Service—7:30 p. m.  
Ladies' Bible Class—Tuesday at 2:30 p. m.  
Prayer Meeting—Wednesday at 7:30 p. m.  
Choir Practice—Wednesday at 8:30 p. m.

There will be a meeting of the Ladies Missionary Society on Thursday. Everyone is welcome to these meetings for the purpose of stimulating missionary endeavor.