

CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

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Musings

By the Editor

Once each year, at a time when all newspapers are rushed with holiday business and when everyone connected therewith is in more or less of a daze, the poor editor must sit down and pound out a masterpiece concerning the "Yuletide", the "Christmas Spirit" or the like. And most of us begin after a while to lose hope that what we may say will be taken seriously. Each year we express the wish that the said "Christmas Spirit" could live throughout the year. And before that year comes to a close comes war and sudden death, murders, strikes, racketeering and so forth until one gets weary of reading.

But, to their everlasting credit be it said, most of the editors keep right on plugging away, trying to bring about a time when the teachings of the Babe of Bethlehem, whose birth we honor at this time, would SOME day really rule the world. For the Lord knows the world stands in sore need of the thing which the angels sang so long ago, "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men."

Did you chance to notice that poor little Finland, despite its horrible trials in facing a nation many times their size, just quietly came across and laid the cash on the counter for their regular payment of the World War No. 1 debt they owed Uncle Sam? Bless their honest hearts! Here's hoping they continue to make jassacks out of their enemies. Makes a feller think of the old story of the shepherd lad with a sling and a smooth rock slaying the giant warrior. Hope they have the same kind of backing the boy David had.

By the way, we note that the Oregon Journal yesterday proposed a mighty good way to help the Finns. That is to just call that old war debt off and let them use the money at home. President Roosevelt already has set aside the recent payment made by Finland with the intention of asking Congress to allow the money to be used for Finnish relief. That's all right, so far as it goes, but we say call the whole thing off and tell 'em God Bless You.

Herr Hitler seems to have a hunch that he isn't going to win this war, for he himself gave the order to scuttle the Admiral Graf Spee instead of letting the ship be interned for the duration of the war. If he had any hopes of winning it seems likely he would have ordered the ship interned, as then it would have been returned to Germany at the close of the war, uninjured. And it seems that the Germans aren't going to let Britain get hold of any of their ships if they can help it—they'll sink 'em themselves first.

A rumor has come to us that a gold dredging company has bought up a tract of land over toward Jacksonville and are going to start operations soon. That is bad news, if true. We have been in hopes that there would be no gold dredging in this valley. If you want to see what this kind of thing does to the appearance of a country, just drive down to Yreka some day and look at the country between that city and the Little Shasta river. We certainly don't want our glorious valley to look like that.

The western part of the valley along the Old Stage Road from Jacksonville north is one of the most scenic drives we have and it seems a shame to have any part of it disfigured by gold dredging operations. We urge the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce to look into this matter at once and see if the rumor is true and if there is any way to stop it. If there isn't a law to restrain such things the legislative committee should certainly get busy.

There seems to be some misunderstanding about the basketball team which the firemen proposed to start. In the first place this team was to have been composed entirely of active firemen who thought in that way they might raise a bit of money to help in the purchase of additional fire fighting equipment. They had no idea of joining the AAU or any other league. For be it understood that it costs money

XMAS PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS TO BE HELD FRIDAY

Christmas program for the grade school and high school are planned for today, Friday. A combined program will be given by grades one to eight in the high school auditorium at 11 a. m. The high school program will be given at one fifteen o'clock. Short Christmas parties will be held in the room following the grade school program. The high school will have its annual party immediately following its program. The orchestra and girls' chorus will be on the afternoon program.

Grade Program

Following is the program to be given by the grade pupils Friday morning at 11 o'clock:

1. Jingle Bells.
2. Amaryllis — First and Second Grade Rhythm Band.
- Directed by Miss Esther Carter
3. Santa Claus Is Near— Song by Primary Chorus.
4. Accordion Duet— Martha Berry and Florence Blasing.
5. The Kitten That Wanted to Be a Christmas Present—A Play by First and Second Grades. Directed by Mrs. Richardson
6. Silent Night—A Carol—Intermediate grades' Septette—Solo by Rolly Clark. Directed by Miss Wilson
7. Spirit of Christmas—A Play by Third and Fourth Grades. Directed by Miss Ottoman
8. Christmas Telephone—A Reading Bernice Fernlund.
9. The Christmas Story — Upper Grades. Directed by Miss Evans and Miss Pastorino.

Carols by Chorus:

1. Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
2. Away in a Manger.
3. First Noel.
4. O, Come All Ye Faithful.
5. We Three Kings—Boys' Quartette.
6. Joy to the World.
7. Silent Night.

High School Program

Christmas—Overture Orchestra
 Virginia's Slumber Song.....Chorus
 Vesper Hymn Chorus
 Silent NightOrchestra and Chorus

"Gifts of Myrrh".....Senior Girls
 Master BuiltOrchestra
 Assembly March Orchestra
 Following is the cast of the play, "Gifts of Myrrh":

Cast of Characters

GIFTS OF MYRRH
 Mother Fairweather—A young society matron.....Vivienne Ross
 Daddy Fairweather—Just her husband Keith Copinger
 Mlada Fairweather—their daughter.....Norene Bohnert
 Dodo—the washerwoman's son.....Brant Culbertson
 Tommy—the washerwoman's crippled son Berkley Pinkham
 Dolly Frazer—the nurse maid.....Opal Brown
 A Burglar—being just a wise man.....Glenn Parks
 MaryMaxine Ayers
 JosephKenneth Williams
 Three Wise Men.....Vernon Holland,
 Bob Grisham, Gray Thompson

Grade Hoopsters Defeat J'ville

The grade school basketball team defeated the Jacksonville team at the local gym last Thursday evening by a score of 21 to 16. There will be a double-header return game at Jacksonville tonight.

A campaign is being started to sell season tickets for the grade school scholars. These tickets will sell for 25 cents and will admit the holder to all grade and high school games played in the local gym.

Mr. C. W. Dickson of Wooming was unable to leave last week. He might even decide to make his home here.

To join such leagues and to secure the necessary equipment, and the firemen had absolutely no money in their treasury. When they saw that they would have to go begging for funds to sponsor such a team, they decided to let the matter drop.

So here's wishing you all a MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Merry Christmas—And Safe, Too

Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year! Americans have good reason to put an added ring of sincerity in the familiar old Yuletide greeting this year. We have peace. Therefore, we are still a free people—free to go where we please, free to say what we please, free to manage our government through the representatives of our own free choice.

Of all the major nations in the world, we alone have these things. Let us not underestimate the grave domestic problems which confront us in increasing numbers, some of which in themselves will threaten our liberties if we fail to correct them. But so long as we remain free to think, speak and act as sovereign citizens, we will find the right way out of our home-made difficulties.

We shall retain our liberties and freedom so long as we rigidly follow the way of peace. In the year to come we will be tempted many times to tread the path of war. We will be told that it is our duty to save Europe, save Asia, save the whole world! But if we keep firmly in mind that our FIRST duty is to save America, we will not be tempted by the invitation to war and the surrender of our most cherished rights—freedom and liberty.

We have war enough on the home front. Particularly at this season of the year let us remember the tragic and shameful accident casualty lists of street and highway and the home. Let us resolve, even as we turn our faces from the destructive fire of war to the constructive pledge of peace, that we shall make free America also safe—safe for those who walk and safe for those who ride.

So let the glad tidings ring out, let it be shouted over and over through the length and breadth of our land, and in the joyous Yule season let us pause to whisper a prayer that the blessings of freedom and peace which we cherish and shall preserve in America, may yet become the heritage of all people everywhere.

Yes, a very Merry Christmas, and a joyous Happy New Year—and a safer America for all.

Turkey Dinner in Honor of Family Birthdays Enjoyed

Mrs. Jake Myers entertained with a turkey dinner at her home Sunday afternoon for several members of her family whose birthdays come in December.

Those being honored were Mrs. Myers' father-in-law, Riley Myers, who celebrated his 85th birthday, December 14. Also her husband, Jake Myers, whose birthday was December 18, and her sister, Esther Cash, whose birthday was December 12.

Others present at the dinner were Mr. and Mrs. John Cash, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cummings, Mr. Pink Thomason and Homer Myers of Central Point, Mrs. Carl Wiltermood of Medford and Mr. and Mrs. Aetna H. Carr of Grants Pass.

Mrs. Laura Dias, Mr. Riley Myers' sister, was not feeling well enough to be with them so her dinner was sent to her.

FIRST GRADE NEWS

Thursday, December 21, 1939
 8 girls are here. 11 boys are here. 19 children are here. Myrna is not here.

Our program is tomorrow. It starts at 11 o'clock. We want our mothers to come. We want our fathers to come too.

Just 5 days till Christmas. Santa is coming soon. Yes, very, very soon. This is the shortest day of the year.

The D.A.V. are holding their Christmas party Saturday at the Armory in Medford.

Postoffice Will Open Sun. & Mon.

The parcel post window at the postoffice will be open both Sunday and Monday (Christmas Day) from 9:30 to 10:30 a. m. for the delivery of package mail only, according to a statement by Postmaster Pankey today. This added service is being put on for the convenience of patrons who may thus receive late Christmas mail.

Interest Gains in Alumni Banquet

The Senior-Alumni association is certainly looking forward to a very successful banquet this year. By the way every one is cooperating a large attendance is expected. Those who have not as yet purchased their tickets do so as soon as possible as the time is growing close to the banquet.

The banquet is to be held at Chalkers' Motel December 29 at 8 P.M. Tickets are now on sale at Stone's Drug Store.

Doorkeeper's Class

"I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my Lord than to dwell in the tents of wickedness".

Once again we celebrate Christmas and in the hustle and bustle of exchanging gifts and greetings, let us not forget that Christmas is the birth of the Christ Child who is called Jesus because He shall save His people from their sins.

Edward Ford arrived on the stage this morning to spend the Christmas vacation with his parents. He is in the Navy.

Cash Given To Purchase B.B. Suits

The Central Point business men were asked this week to contribute funds for the purpose of buying uniforms, balls, etc., for the new Central Point Businessmen's Basketball Team, now being organized. The Civic Club had been asked to sponsor the new team and held a special meeting yesterday to vote on the matter. The club decided to contribute \$10 to the team with the provision that in case the boys wished to keep the uniforms at the close of the season, all money advanced by the club and business men be returned. Otherwise the uniforms are to be returned to the Civic Club to be stored until another season.

Those contributing to the fund, together with the amount, were as follows:

Faber's Market	\$1.00
E. C. Faber	\$1.00
Ray Anders	\$1.00
O. M. Minnick	\$1.00
W. E. Alexander	\$1.00
E. R. Gleason	\$1.00
The American	\$1.00
L. C. Grimes	\$1.00
Damon Cafe	\$1.00
Elmer Wilson	\$1.00
Ross & Ross	\$1.00
W. A. Shell	50c
C. A. Tharp	\$1.00
Safeway Store	\$1.00
Bill Abbott	50c
Bert Peck	\$1.00
Central Point Market	\$1.00
Ethel's Beauty Salon	50c
C. Florey	\$1.00
Jack Lees	\$1.00
Rossi's Motel	\$1.00
Sonoma Valley Cheese Factory	\$1.00
Central Point Planing Mill	\$1.00
Finley Implement Co.	\$1.00
A. J. Milton	\$1.00
Guy Tex	\$1.00
Mr. Davis	\$1.00
Tom Pankey	\$1.00
Ladies Civic Club	\$10.00
Total	\$36.50

Brands Must Be Re-Recorded Soon

Every brand now on record with the state department of agriculture, Salem, must be re-recorded between January 1 and June 1, 1940, and in compliance with the new brand law, notices will be sent out starting January 2 to nearly 14,000 persons who have brands on record, announces Dr. W. H. Lytle, chief of the division of animal industry. Notices will go out by mail, with postage prepaid.

Under the law, brands not re-recorded as provided for in the specified time will be available for use.

The department is sending notices to each present owner at the address given at the time the brand was recorded or re-recorded when the last check on brands was made in 1927. Many brands on file probably are not used until after the 1940 re-recording.

The new brand law stipulates that all brands must be re-recorded every 10th year, starting in 1940, and validity of brands will terminate at the end of each 10-year period unless renewed. The law also invalidates any stock brand or mark that has not been placed on file with the state department of agriculture.

Letters going to present owners of brands are accompanied by certificate of application for re-recording brands.

J. A. Flaherty AND COMPANION
 Are Invited To Be The Guests of The

CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN
 and the
CRATERIAN THEATRE, Medford
 to see either of the two following pictures

Last Times Sat. Nite
 Bob Hope—Paulette Goddard
 "THE CAT AND THE CANARY"
 Prevue Sat. Nite!

—or—
 Sunday, Monday, Tuesday
 Mickey Rooney—Lewis Stone
 "JUDGE HARDY AND SON"

JOE A. MANN AND WIFE CELEBRATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mann celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Monday, December 18. They have been residents of the Rogue River valley during their entire married life. The American asked Mr. Mann for a brief sketch of his life and he submitted the following:

"I was born in 1869, Crossed the Plains in 1879 with my parents coming by way of Denver, Colo., Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah. Following the Old Oregon Trail through Eastern Oregon and landed in Portland after being six months on the way. We had several encounters with Indians, but always got by with. We passed the site of the Mountain Meadow massacre.

In regard to our golden wedding, I left Lakeview, Oregon the fall of 1888 when I was 19 years old and was married to Jessie E. Reeves in 1889 and we have lived in the Rogue River valley ever since. We have been out of the valley several times, but always returned, so you can realize we like this country very much.

"We think enough of each other to continue to live together from now on as we have lived together for the past 50 years. We have four children and all get along, even if I am the oldest in the bunch. Joe A. Mann."

Navy Mothers Hold Xmas Party

Navy Mothers held their regular Christmas party on Friday evening at the home of Mrs. E. E. Cuffel in Medford. Fourteen members were present, after the business meeting was over all enjoyed a very beautiful Christmas tree and exchange of gifts, followed by delicious refreshments of assorted Christmas cookies, candies, nuts, coffee and punch.

City Subscribers Asked to Call

This week Christmas parties and family gatherings are the order. Please leave reports of same at this office as early as possible. We would appreciate it if readers of this paper would stop in at the office when down town before Wednesday afternoon, December 27.

A Texaco service station is being built at the Rossi Motel.

NOTICE
 The executive meeting of the P.T.A. will meet at the home of Mrs. Mary Langston Tuesday, December 26 at 2:30 P.M. All members are asked to please attend.

The Churches

CHURCH OF CHRIST
 Clifton A. Phillips, Minister
 Bible School 10:00 A.M. Roland Hoover, Supt. Miss Leslie Gregory, Primary Supt.

Communion and Preaching 11:00 A.M. Carol singing by Choir and audience will be followed by a brief story of Christmas and why we celebrate it as we do.

There will be no Christian Endeavor service.

Our regular Christmas program will be given in two parts beginning at 7:30. The children will present an Old Fashioned Christmas Program of half an hour, followed by a play, interspersed with singing from the choir. The play is entitled: "The Light of The World". Every statement is a quotation from The Bible.

Prayer and Bible Study Wednesday 7:30 P.M. W. K. Davis will lead the study in "Christian Action". Mrs. Eula Foley will lead the study in "Training for Service."

THE FEDERATED CHURCH
 Phone 51
 Stanley G. Parish, Pastor.
 Bible School—9:45 a. m.
 Morning Worship—11:00 a. m.
 Christian Endeavor—6:30 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 8:00 p. m.

THE LETTER TO SANTA

