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Perkin' Along

C. L. Perkins

January 11, 1951

Dear Kenneth:

For a long time I have wanted to write my ideas about this thing. Recently I read in the news that another person had blown herself and others into eternity by trying to encourage the fire in the stove with a jug of kerosene, etc. If she could only have realized, that upper half of the jug of half filled fluid was dynamite when held near a flame. Things would have been different. Some say that "a little knowledge of a subject is dangerous" but in case like this, just a little knowledge of the principle involved would save many lives!

Without being technical, if you want to coax your fire with kerosene or gasoline, pour a little of it into a cup and toss it into the stove and you have the desired result. But as I said, the mixture of air with the fumes of the inflammable fluid are dynamite when in contact with flame, when confined in a container such as a gasoline can.

Some time back there was a report in the papers of an explosion of a thirty inch balloon in a Portland home. Windows were blown out and the child and mother suffered burns as a result. The police, according to the report, were mystified as to the cause. The cause is very simple. But I will have to get a little technical to explain it.

The balloon was inflated with ordinary house gas. Now according to the molecular and kinetic theory of gasses, the rubber of the balloon being, porous, was bombarded from within with about four times the bombardment of the air without the balloon. The eventual result is a mixture of explosive gas, and when touched off by a flame the result is disastrous in that size of balloon. Now if you don't believe this, inflate a toy balloon with gas and see how soon it reduces in size, regardless of how tight you tie the opening, and please note that the size of the balloon stops decreasing at a certain point! Touch a match to a freshly inflated balloon, inflated with illuminating gas, and the result is simply a puff of flame. But wait an hour or two and touch a match to a similar balloon, and the result is a bang!

In a small balloon, in either case the effect is amusing, but in the case of a 30-inch balloon the result can be disastrous. If any reader of this article shows interest in the subject I shall be very glad to expound further on the subject.

Yours,
Cap.

Only One Change Made in School Starting Monday

One change will be seen in the Central Point Grade School, beginning the new semester, Monday. The sixth grade students who have been in the little gym will rejoin their classmates in the regular building. Assisting Mrs. Schuler and Mr. Ruck will be Mrs. Louisa Cane, replacing Mrs. Schuman.

Mrs. Cane, who has been attending Southern Oregon College of Education, has many years of experience in schools of Oregon and Idaho. Mr. and Mrs. Cane and family are making their home in the Cupp Apartments; the children at home are Alice in junior high and Nola and Ross in high school.

Tuesday, Jan. 16th the 4-H leaders association executive committee met at the County Extension office to outline the program for the coming year, and appoint the Home Economic and agricultural committees. Members of the executive committee named at the last regular association meeting were Mrs. Frank Meyers, Table Rock district; Mrs. Henry Padgham, East Side District; Earl Bigham, Sams Valley and Frances Krouse of the Applegate District.

Dimes Drive Facing Crisis To Meet Costs

The current March of Dimes campaign must really be two polio drives in one—an emergency drive and the regular January appeal, Mr. John Wisely, campaign chairman for Central Point, said today.

Increased need for funds was accentuated by late autumn rises in polio incidence, Mr. Wisely said. He added that an emergency fund-raising drive similar to one staged in 1949 was actually necessary, but that the situation developed too late in the year for such an appeal to be organized.

As a result, the chairman said, the Foundation has been operating its patient-care program at a deficit for the past several months.

80% Needed Help

"The problem for 1950 was providing assistance to some 30,000 patients, stricken in 1949 or earlier, who still needed care," Mr. Wisely said. "Hopes were high that there would be relatively few new cases. This was reasonable enough after a record 42,173 cases in 1949.

"But by September it was clear that polio was increasing to heights not anticipated by health authorities, and at a time when decreases were to be expected. Far from being a 'light' year, 1950 wound up ranking second only to 1949 in total recorded incidence, with an estimated 30,000 new cases reported. Of these, at least four-fifths needed some help from the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis."

A year ago, the campaign chairman said, the desperate financial straits of the National Foundation occasioned by 1949's record-breaking incidence had necessitated a special emergency campaign in September—the first in the organization's history—which added \$4,000,000 to funds available for patient care.

More Aid Needed

At the end of the past summer it became evident that the continued excessive drains on existing patient care funds required similar supplemental financing. But the need emerged too late for action, Mr. Wisely said.

Locals

Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Noel and daughter Vicki, were dinner guests last Wednesday evening of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Good and two daughters, Beverly and Marge, of Sunset Drive, Medford.

Don Patterson is having trouble with his hip and is unable to walk without the aid of crutches.

Mr. H. C. Hammer, 123 Ash St., Central Point, received a telegram Sunday notifying him of the death of his mother, Mrs. Minnie Hammer of Elkton, Virginia. Mr. Hammer left on the 5 o'clock plane to be there for the funeral. Mrs. H. C. Hammer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson of Jacksonville highway, will stay with her during his absence.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Gordon on Freeman Road, are remodeling their house. Mr. V. E. Noel is doing the work.

Mr. L. P. Mathes, of North First Street, has sold his home place to O. L. Williams of Shady Cove. However Mr. Williams will not move here as he has his own home in Shady Cove, but has already rented the place to Mr. and Mrs. William L. Maulden. Mr. Maulden is assistant manager at Leon's in Medford, being transferred here from Klamath Falls on Jan. 16th.

Mr. J. T. Culbertson, of North First Street, recently sold his home to Mr. and Mrs. Tosh and family, of Eagle Point. Mr. Culbertson has moved to Santa Clara, California to live with his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Dalkey.

Mr. John Brenner is seriously ill at his home north of town. Mrs. Grace Brenner is helping care for him at present.

Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Holden, of North Second street, are moving to Fresno, California, this month, and have rented their house to Mr. and Mrs. David Turner, and family of Medford. They will have two children in school here. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Holden expect to leave for the east in the near future. It is with regret that we see the Holdens move away.

Mr. Wilbur Johnson, of the Houston Apartments, has been quite ill and went to Medford where her mother, Mrs. Ward cared for her for a few days.

Huge Crowd Attends Blood Program Meet

Two hundred and fifty volunteer workers attended the orientation meeting of the Jackson County Blood Program at the Labor Temple in Medford on January 11 to receive instruction on operation of the blood center when the mobile unit visits Jackson County each month. Those attending included graduate nurses, nurses aides, staff workers, motor corps members, canteen workers, grey ladies and hostesses. With one or two exceptions, every community of Jackson County had representatives present.

Mrs. Ed Connors, Chief Nurse from the Portland Regional Center, was the main instructor. Mrs. Connors outlined the procedure from the moment a donor is greeted at the door until he leaves.

Mr. Robert Jackson, Assistant Regional Director from Portland, spoke briefly on blood, its uses, and the increasing need for it due to Armed Forces demands. Mr. Jackson pointed out that should one U.S. city be hit by an atom bomb, one million pints of blood would be needed the first five days.

Mrs. Charles W. Fo, who is Volunteer Services Chairman for the Portland Blood Center, was available after the meeting for questions.

Mrs. Margaret Schuler, Chairman of Volunteer Services of the Jackson County Red Cross Chapter, presided.

GIRL SCOUTS MEET—

Girl Scout Troop 101 met January 11th. This was the first meeting of this new year. We had just a short business meeting.

Kay Askwith,
Scribe-Troop 101

45 YEARS AGO

May 3, 1906

A regular meeting of the Blacksmiths and Woodworkers Association of Jackson county was held in the town hall in this place last Saturday evening. Those present were: Jeffers & Peart, F. A. Hawk, and W. E. Price, Central Point; Messrs. Wilson, Boeck and Higinbotham, Medford; Pat Donegan and C. H. Basey, Jacksonville; Marion High, Ira Reeder and Mr. Gale, Ashland. The association is of a protective nature and the members of the craft in this county find it of much advantage to their business. The next meeting of the association will be held at Ashland on the last Saturday of May.

AGATE NUGGETS—

We are having a fine rain, which makes the farmers smile. John Cox passed through Agate the other day interviewing the farmers who have hogs for sale and is offering five cents per pound for spaid sows and five cents per pound for barrows that will weigh sixty pounds or over, fat or poor, to be delivered at the Craine ranch, near Medford. The Agate Orchard company has put out about acres of fruit trees, which are leafing out nicely, and also about two acres of strawberries, which are already in bloom. We expect to have plenty of strawberries and grapes to eat, providing they don't build their fences too high. Agate is improving right along, when you are passing out our

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way don't forget to stop at the Agate postoffice and take a look at what will grow on the desert and also take a drink of some of the best water you have had in a long time. You will find plenty for your horses. Mr. Harvey Richardson is going to build a large barn so as to accommodate the traveling public. He has already let the contract to Mr. Gray, of Medford. Ira Grigsby is very busy summer following for fall sowing on the old home place. Frank Chute, foreman at the Agate Orchard company's ranch, is plowing and cultivating and livening up the desert, preparing it for irrigation.

It has sometime been said of Central Point in the past that the place is not even on the map. That's nothing. There was a time in the past when Chicago was not on the map, but a few enterprising, wide-awake people got together there and proceeded to put it on the map in big, red letters. Let's get together, neighbors, and put Central Point on the map. It will help the looks of the map and will not hurt Central Point a bit.

Central Point is to have a commercial club. It will be organized for the purpose of getting the businessmen and citizens generally together and securing concerted action in pulling for the town. The club will act in union with the Rogue River Valley Development league in pulling for the entire valley, which is the only safe way for any town or community to build itself up on a firm and lasting foundation. What is food for the goose is food for the gander and rather than see the show stop, Central Point is willing to be the gander. There's nothing small about Central Point, thank you.

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Carpenters are engaged this week repairing and improving the opera house. The front will be finished and the entire structure will be painted. Central Point is a good show town and the stage in the local play house is one of the largest and best in the county.

Percy Chapman, son of W. C. Chapman, of Beagle, was thrown from his horse the other day, the animal became frightened at a hog jumping from a fence corner. His jaw was broken and he was otherwise seriously injured. He is under the care of a physician at Medford. They held a social at the home of Mrs. The Union Young People's Society-Sanderson on Tuesday evening, April 24. There were about 40

people present. The evening was passed very pleasantly with games, music and social intercourse. A collection was taken for the San Francisco Relief fund, amounting to about seven dollars. Light refreshments were served.

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