

Southern Oregon Miner

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LIKE CHRISTMAS WITHOUT A SANTA CLAUS!

Albeit they are a bit noisy, firecrackers are an integral part of any enthusiastic observance of independence day in America, and the popping papers have always been associated with youngsters' celebration of July 4.

According to Ashland fire and police officials, the use of crackers during the holiday here in past years has resulted in no menace to either property or limb. They have furnished many hours of enjoyment for gleeful youngsters every summer and continuance of the custom in Ashland has been one of this city's strong drawing cards during its famous Fourth of July celebrations.

Kids—and their parents—deprived of the privilege elsewhere, have grown to respect and appreciate the Lithia City's tolerance and understanding attitude toward the noisy manifestations of inborn patriotism. In many homes will the plea be heard, come July, "Dad, let's go to Ashland over the holiday—we can shoot firecrackers there!"

The custom, banned in many localities—because of abuses by grown-ups of the toy explosives—has been effectively controlled and limited to good fun here. Only reasonable objection to the firecrackers is the intentional noise they make.

It would seem that Ashland's past custom of accepting the accompanying racket as part of its annual attraction could be continued without causing an unreasonable amount of inconvenience to non-participants. We should be able to endure a day or so of popping in a spirit of understanding indulgence with celebrants. Good clean fun, sprinkled with good clean noise, isn't so bad, and Ashland will attract both again this July when its annual celebration arrives.

Of course, fireworks like anything else should be used with certain restraint and moderation, and a reasonable attitude on the part of residents toward fireworks should be complemented by a reasonable use of fireworks by local and visiting setter-offers.

Although many parents and older folks may sigh "thank heaven for that," July Fourth comes but once a year and it is the occasion for one of the largest crowds of visitors in the Lithia City. For the sake of a good old American custom, and to encourage enthusiastic reception of significance of the day, Ashland will can afford to continue to be outstanding in its hospitality to red blooded citizens who want to come here to "shoot off a cracker or two."

After all, the fireworks won't make any worse racket than do heavy, overloaded freight trucks that lumber through the heart of town, all hours of the night and morning. The poppers will be but a passing fancy that will be short-lived but nevertheless enjoyed by most people.

Fundamentally, the Fourth of July is a noisy occasion and Ashland always has had the good grace to let it be so legally and has not followed custom of other communities in making firecrackers contraband. The poppers will be sold all over the county regardless, and children will be given protection of the law and enforced regulation if Ashland permits their use within city limits again.

ABOUT CHURCHES FROM ONE WHO SELDOM ATTENDS!

There seems to be a special fascination for editorial writers to choose subjects about which they know little or nothing, and this department of the Miner is no exception.

In religious literature circulated in Ashland the other day was printed a quotation from Isaiah, "All we like sheep have gone astray—we have turned every one to his own way."

A most interesting quotation, and true. Particularly is it true of present day worship, which is divided and subdivided into hundreds of sects, clans, isms

LIFE'S BYWAYS!

GOLLY AND I REMEMBER 'EM WHEN THEY USED TO LIVE HERE—RIGHT AFTER THE HONEY MOON!



and traditions. There are as many ways of entering the Portals promised by Christianity, perhaps as there are Christians, for no two of them agree completely on just what is this intangible thing called religion.

Just how much is tradition, custom and empty gesture is hard to say but certainly all methods of displaying faith have the same goal—proper human behavior here on earth. Many and varied are the vehicles used to convey essence of the golden rule which, after all, is a summation of all creeds. On this, all faiths agree; different, chiefly, in the manner of approaching their Utopia.

It is true that some religions have developed ponderous organizations and have amassed widespread chattels which absorb, of themselves, much of their devotees' energies. They have accomplished magnificent things and have satisfied many people's desire for grandeur—even in their worship.

Isaiah's quotation about people being turned astray, each seeking his own way, may explain why there are so many different kinds of religion today. For, after all, the churches are not structures of stone and mortar, but are people and reflect their whims, fancies and fashions.

Rather than consider them as molds which shape our lives, we prefer the premise that churches are monuments molded by the people. God may have given us life and faith, but we build and maintain our own houses of worship and they can either be a credit or discredit to all of us.

Earle Canfield Gets Bid To Medic Group

Asklepiads, medical honorary at University of Oregon, recently selected Earle Canfield and nine other students into membership. They were pledged for their character, scholarship and personality.

Canfield is the son of Mrs. Bess G. Canfield of Ashland. He attended Southern Oregon Normal school before entering University of Oregon.

FULL GOSPEL TEMPLE

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph J. Harer, Pastors

The Full Gospel temple, located on the Boulevard, extends to you a hearty invitation to attend our services which are as follows:

Sunday school, 9:45 a. m.
Morning worship, 11 a. m.
Young people's service, 6:30 p. m.
Thursday, 7:30 p. m., young people's service.
Friday, 7:30 p. m., prayer service.
Good music, good singing, and the old fashioned gospel. You are welcome.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

Fourth and C Streets

E. E. Wordsworth, minister

Our motto: "The church where you are never a stranger."

9:45—Sunday school. Mayor Wiley, superintendent. "The Sunday school must go and grow and glow and you must help to make it so."

If you attend the Sunday school and church services on God's day, the Sabbath will be well spent and you will have no regrets.

11:00—Sermon: "Church Goals." The pastor will give some echoes from the district assembly just held in Seattle.

7:00—Young people's service.
8:00—Sermon: "What Is the Baptism With the Holy Spirit? It It Promised? Is It Experienced? What Are the Evidences or Results?"

A big welcome!

METHODIST EPISCOPAL

North Main and Laurel Streets

Melville T. Wire, Pastor

Sunday school, 9:45 a. m.

Morning worship, 11 a. m.

Epworth league, 6:45 p. m.

Evening service, 8:00 p. m.

Subscribe for the Miner today.

Oregon's Traffic Toll

A Series of Weekly Articles on the Problem of Highway Safety by EARN SNELL, Secretary of State

Three hundred fifty-five men, women and children were killed and 7,725 injured in 34,880 motor vehicle accidents reported to my office during the year 1936.

Face to face with this ghastly record, can anyone doubt that this problem is the problem of all of us—can anyone longer refuse to admit that it must be met by an aroused public opinion, that conditions upon our streets and highways require immediate and drastic action?

The welfare and happiness—the actual safety of your family, your friends and your neighbors—is too inextricably involved in this problem of street and highway safety to allow of an attitude of indifference. The record is before us; it can be improved only through a strict adherence to traffic laws and regulations—the laws and regulations that were written and must be enforced for your protection.

The accident reports that reach my office daily are a written history of death and injury due to disregard of the law and an inexcusable carelessness on the part of motor vehicle operators. On our heavily traveled streets and highways, a moment's inattention on the part of anyone at the controls of a fast-moving car may well mean the difference between life and death, happiness or misery to many persons.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Charles E. Dunham, Pastor
Church school meets at 9:45 a. m., R. L. Walker, superintendent.

Morning worship at 11 o'clock. "Life's Certainties" is subject of the pastor's sermon.

The Young People's Union will meet tonight at 6:30 o'clock. The Service commission will have charge of the meeting.

This church is uniting with the other churches in the baccalaureate service at the Methodist church at 8 p. m.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD CHURCH

Congregational

Church school, 9:45 a. m., Mrs. Glen Prescott, superintendent; Miss Gladys Butterfield, pianist.

Morning worship, 11 a. m., Miss Margaret Ramsay, pianist; special music, choir; sermon, "Finding God."

Christian Endeavor, 7 to 7:45 p. m.

We will join with other churches in the baccalaureate service at the Methodist church at 8 p. m.

KNOT HOLE NEWS

By KEN WEIL

HOWDY, FOLKS:

All set now for some good growing weather after that fine rain. Hard on the circus people but fine for the rest of us.

Our old friend Bill Board dropped in on us the other day and as usual had words of wisdom to propound. He said that before taking advantage of a "good opportunity" you should find out who has been taking advantage of it before.

That's all for this time except that we sure would like to have your business when you need anything in our line. Thanks.

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I. C. ERWIN
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