

Southern Oregon Miner

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"THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE"

RURAL TRENDS



IT'S A SMALLER WORLD

Not very many years ago, a farm family was a pretty isolated and self-contained unit of civilization. The problems of that family, and the solution of those problems, were fairly well confined within the fences of the farm itself.



Kyes

That has been changed by modern inventions. First came the automobile, with its traveling companion, the hard-surfaced road. That made the farmer a better and closer neighbor. It became an hour's trip to town and back, instead of a whole day's journey.

Then along came the RFD, which brought the farmer his mail, and his daily paper, right to his front gate every day. He began to know what was happening, not only in the county seat, but in the nation and the world.

And finally the radio arrived, with the effect of making the whole world a group of neighbors.

There was a time when there could be a war in China, and we wouldn't know a thing about it for six months. And every school boy knows that the battle of New Orleans was won by "Old Hickory" several weeks after the war was over and peace declared!

That can never happen again. We know about battles in Europe, or torpedoes in the Indian Ocean, actually while they are taking place. Truly, it's a smaller, more intimate world.

The benefits we have all enjoyed from modern transportation and modern communication must not be regarded as one-way tickets to better fuller living. If we have more neighbors, we must have more neighborliness.

A drought, or a war, on the other side of the world, which used to seem a million miles away, now takes place, so far as effect is concerned, in our own yards. We have become a part of the world. Perhaps we still live off the main highway, but our individual farm, large or small, is itself a part of the world, with a full share of responsibility toward the millions of neighbors we now have.

We can no longer tell ourselves "Let those foreigners settle their own affairs; I've got troubles of my own." That doesn't work any more.

Look at the present world-wide struggle if you want a case history. We didn't make the war; perhaps we didn't contribute a single factor to its underlying causes. Definitely, it's not our war. We don't want to be in it at all. But we feel the effects of it, whether we like it or not. If you need any further evidence that we have a responsibility in this war, just think of what your tax bills will be next year, and for all the years to come.

We are neighbors of the whole world. We have to be neighborly.

Junior Quints Down Sams Valley Teams

The Ashland junior high basketball squad made it two in a row again Tuesday night when they thumped two Sams Valley high school teams at Sams Valley. The junior high seventh and eighth graders trounced a like team from Sams Valley 34 to 14 and the varsity won from Sams Valley high varsity 34 to 24 after trailing throughout most of the first half.

Garrett led all scorers in the varsity game with his 13 points. Kerr ran up seven counters while Samuelson, who played only part of the game, accounted for eight.

The graders looked better than the varsity as they continually kept the Sams Valley boys in check. Jimmy Jandreau and Dominic Provost led the scorers in this game with 10 apiece.

About People You Know

● Mrs. Bertha McKinney of Lincoln is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Peachey.

● Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Cox of Stayton were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. C. Erwin.

● Miss Jean Fridger and Miss Mary Graham, U. of O. students, are spending Christmas vacation with Mr. and Mrs. I. R. Fridger.

● Miss Gertrude Engle of Richmond, Calif. is a holiday visitor at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Engle.

● Miss Eleanor Coombe, an instructor in the Seattle, Wash., schools, is visiting with her parents in Ashland.

● Manley Leggett who attends the government vocational school in Eugene is spending the holidays in Ashland with his mother, Mrs. Fannie Leggett.

● Mr. and Mrs. Arthur S. Taylor are spending the Christmas holidays in southern California.

● Mr. and Mrs. Jim O'Neil of Klamath Falls are holiday visitors in Ashland.

● Mrs. Bill Ford and son of Dunsmuir, Calif. are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Burns.

● Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Grubb have returned from a two weeks trip in California.

● Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Stevens of Portland were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Stevens last week.

● Mrs. Esther Sullivan who has been visiting friends in San Francisco has returned to her home in Ashland.

● Dr. and Mrs. L. W. Stoffers are spending the holidays with relatives in Portland and Battle Ground, Wash.

● Miss Charlotte Short, Lyndel Newby and Everett Nance, OSC students, are spending the holidays with relatives in Ashland.

● Larry Plagman left Wednesday evening for Albany to spend Christmas with relatives at Albany. He will return to his position at Broadway Bros. this weekend.

● I. E. Vining who was confined to the Community hospital last week has returned to his home and is reported much improved.

● David Fortmiller, U. of O. student, is spending the holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Fortmiller.

● Miss Ethel May Robinett, student at Mills college, is spending a three weeks vacation with relatives here.

HILT NEWS

● The Club hotel was the scene of a Christmas party Wednesday evening by the Hilt Girl Scout troop. There was a beautiful tree. The girls exchanged gifts and each brought a gift for the mothers. Babe Bernheisel played the part of Santa and Rita Sultana was Mrs. Santa. Games were played and refreshments served.

● The Women's Society of Christian Service held their Christmas party at the club house Thursday afternoon. Hostesses were Mrs. Stella Roop, Mrs. Arthur Pedersen and Mrs. T. Anderson. A program which included a piano solo by Milma Brown; carols, Silent Night, O Little Town of Bethlehem, Oh, Come All Ye Faithful, by all; piano and oboe duets by Mrs. De Witt and Miss Marina Cunial; a song, "Star of the East," by Mrs. Roop, Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Pedersen, accompanied by Mrs. Kenneth Brown at the piano, and a piano solo by Mrs. Roop, was enjoyed by all present. Gifts were exchanged after the serving of refreshments. Those attending the party were Miss Marina Cunial and Mesdames M. Seif, Clinton Cobb, Ed Wells, Arthur Pedersen and children, Don Rosecrans and daughters, Carrie Bernheisel, Bess Bernheisel and daughter Carmen, E. Jackson and son Gene, Kenneth Brown and daughters, W. Dutro, W. Gran, Jo Goldpenney and children, Stella Roop, T. Anderson, John De Witt, Harry De Jarnett, Walter Eastman, Enzie Wright, and from Hornbrook, Mrs. Gilbert, Dr. and Mrs. Edwin S. Richardson and daughter, and Mrs. Hodges who was the winner of the door prize.

● Mrs. E. O. Robinson spent two days here with Mrs. Frank Ohlund while preparing to move her household equipment to Susanville, following the death of her husband last week. She left Monday evening with her brother and brother-in-law of Susanville.

● Ed Grow and daughter of Fort Bragg are visiting in Hilt.

Mercier Heads S. P.



First official act of A. T. Mercier on taking office as president of Southern Pacific was to issue a war-time appeal to the company's 60,000 employees. "Our first duty is to our government and I know the men and women of our railroad will give a good account of themselves," he said.

Uncle Sam's new sailors usually chum with men who come from sections of the country remote from their own. Yankees and southerners become friends, as do easterners and westerners.

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ENJOY THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

—and remember

you'll enjoy the whole year more if you make insurance a gift to yourself this Christmas. It helps a lot to know that dependable insurance is safeguarding you against unexpected losses—losses that can mar your whole future as well as upsetting your present plans. For friendly advice on your insurance problems, see . . .

I. C. ERWIN

240 East Main Street

Phone 3751

Is There A Santa Claus?

For a bit of relief from the baffling world problems of today we herein reprint that Christmas editorial classic, "Is There a Santa Claus?" which appeared in the New York Sun in 1897 and which has been reprinted millions of times since.

"We take great pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of the Sun:

Dear Editor—I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says: "If you see it in the Sun it's so."

Please tell me the truth: "is there a Santa Claus?"

Virginia O'Hanlon.

"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or little children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry; no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

"Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

"You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, or even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

"No Santa Claus? Thank God; he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

Truckers Organize Defense Committee

A Southern Oregon National Defense committee recently has been organized in order to make possible a more effective mobilization of trucks in this section in the event of an army call.

The organization is headed by a five-man executive group of which W. D. Whittle of Ashland is a member.

Truck owners are requested to register their equipment at the chamber of commerce in order to make complete the census of available trucks.

EX-EDITOR VISITS

Ex-Editor Leonard Hall and Mrs. Hall of Charleston, Ore., were week-end visitors with friends in Ashland. They were accompanied by Wendell Prime of Newport, brother of Mrs. Hall. Hall reports that "the fishin's still fine," although bad weather has kept them in for several weeks.

ENDERS IS INSTRUCTOR

Jack Enders, lieutenant in the United States army air corps, is now serving as an instructor at a new Texas airfield. Lt. Enders, who is a son of Henry Enders of Ashland, previously was located at Kelly Field, Texas.

LET'S BE THANKFUL!

Thanks for the memories we've built through the years;
Thanks for the sunshine that shone through our tears.
Thanks for the friendships far better than gold;
The joy of our loved ones to have and to hold.
Thanks for the prosperous years we have seen,
Thanks for the lessons in years that were lean.
Thanks that we realize each year more and more—
Indeed we have much to be thankful for.



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