

This 'n That

by The Old Timer

With the passing of the years the significance of the Fourth of July seems to be on the decline.

Do you remember the old fashioned Fourth? It was indeed a patriotic event. Following a colorful parade the people assembled to hear the orator stress the needed and necessary observance of the day, listened attentively to the reading of the Declaration of Independence and joined heartily in the singing of patriotic songs.

Following the program, baskets were unpacked and families dined in groups. Young and old engaged in various sports, and in the vernacular of the day a good time was had by all. The Fourth was really a community affair. We need more of such gatherings.

Good government would be simple if voters and office holders followed this simple rule. It works well in human activities. Hate evil and love the good, and establish judgment in the state—Amos 5:15.

When'er a lovely lawn I see,
From weed and brown patch
wholly free,
I know that those who hold it
dear
Have done love's labor many a
year.

—Edgar A. Guest

Our modern civilization has no monopoly on the use of chemicals in warfare. The Greeks anciently used rockets and Greeks fire against their foes.

Oregon voters approved the 10 million building fund, while the cigarette tax-sugar-coated for school aid, was defeated.

Contrary to what most persons think, the farm is not the safest place to work. It is estimated that 25 million man-days are lost annually by farmers through accidents.

Mothers who scold little boys for carrying crazy things in their pockets should look in their own handbags.

The Victory gardener is beginning to wonder why his plants don't look like those in the seed catalog.

Celebrate, but watch your step.

Chas. Burns Dies in Portland Tues.

Mrs. Nelle Burns received the sad news about ten o'clock Tuesday evening of the death of her son, Charles, in Portland. As was reported last week, he was very ill as the result of an ruptured appendix, and Mrs. Burns was called to Portland by the seriousness of his illness. She returned Friday evening, after the son had apparently rallied from his low point of last Monday. The appendix operation was complicated by pneumonia. His doctor stated that he was in a serious condition but expressed the belief that he would come through without trouble, but would be a long time before being able to return to work.

Charles had been working in a Portland shipyard for the past two or three years. Feeling that he was not doing enough for the war effort, last fall he volunteered for Coast Guard work. He had not been well the past two months but went about his work until two weeks ago, when a physicians examination showed he was suffering from a ruptured appendix. The operation was performed two weeks ago, but complicated with pneumonia, he failed to rally from the ordeal.

Wednesday morning, the family announced that burial services would be held in Ashland, but final arrangements had not been announced in time for this issue.

Surviving are the wife and two sons, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Burns, a brother Kenneth, on his way to the Pacific, a brother Lee at Pittsburg, California, a sister, Mrs. W. H. Ford at Duinismuir and a sister, Mrs. B. H. Krug at Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Gillmore of Ashland are expecting their son Pfc. Ralph Gillmore home at any time, after it was learned that he had landed last week in the United States. He was a prisoner of war in Germany for several months, being liberated when the war ended in Germany. He was captured in the Ardennes sector.

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Local Post Office Boosted to First Class Rating July 1

Local Post Office Will Change Status to Upper Bracket on July First

E. E. Vail, Ashland postmaster, was notified by the post office department Monday that the Ashland post office hereafter would be classed as a first class office, bringing the local unit out of the second class spot it has been in since 1905. A steady growth in stamp sales, which determines the postal rating of each office, brought the Ashland office above the minimum \$40,000 sales during 1944, and for the first five months of 1945, the steadily rising receipts have continued. The rating becomes effective July 1.

No immediate change is expected in the local office. A postal inspector is expected within a few days, to check records, etc before July 1, and at that time it is expected that instructions will be received as to any changes which will be made. Under the first class rating, a small boost will be made in the salaries of the postmaster and assistant postmaster, and it is likely that an additional clerk or two will be allowed, a change Mr. Vail stated they needed as they have been somewhat short handed in the handling of mail.

In commenting on the history of the local post office, Mr. Vail said that the first available records of the office showed a stamp sale of \$3,093.15 in 1893. By 1900 sales had climbed to \$4988.57 and in 1905 to \$8005.61. This boost in sales allowed the post office to be rated as second class in 1905. By 1910 stamp sales had continued their upward trend to \$14,734.46 with \$16,405.70 being recorded in 1920. Total sales in 1930 amounted to \$21,190.48, in 1940, 24,414.99 and sales passed the first class rating in 1944 with a total of \$43,792.70.

City carrier service was inaugurated in 1909, Mr. Vail stated and parcel post service started in 1912.

At present there are two rural carriers, four city carriers, four clerks and the assistant postmaster, Don Spencer, besides the postmaster, Mr. Vail. Three substitute clerks are available when needed.

In commenting on the new postal rating, Mr. Vail stated that the post office had shown a gratifying and steady growth, reflecting as perhaps no other business could, the steady growth in population and resources of the city of Ashland and surrounding areas. For only a year or two during the depression days, has post receipts dropped off, and that drop was very minor as to amount.

Swim Campaign To End Friday Night

The two weeks course of swimming lessons, under direction of the American Red Cross, which have been in progress at the Twin Plunges, will come to an end Friday noon, Miss Coombes, the instructor announced this week. Certificates will be awarded to those who have completed their tests at a public ceremony just before noon Friday. The public is invited to attend.

The certificates will be awarded from 9 to 12, and will be given to beginners and intermediate classes. Also final tests will be made for junior and senior life saving certificates. Miss Coombes will make the awards.

Robert Dodge, chairman of the Red Cross life saving work, stated that the swim campaign had been unusually successful this year. At Ashland, 192 were enrolled and the average attendance was 178. This high average attests to the interest shown by those taking the swimming lessons.

At Medford Friday evening certificates will be awarded to those who have been taking the course at Medford. In addition there will be a demonstration by the combat team of young men who will enter the service soon, a special course which has been offered.

Monuments and markers. See Burns Memorials. On the Plaza.

Buy bonds to buy bombs to bomb bums.

OUR DEMOCRACY — by Mat



Vesper Services to State Building Tax Start Sunday P. M. Approved by Voters

The first of a series of ten vesper services will be held next Sunday afternoon in Lithia Park at the Bandstand. The service will begin at five o'clock. These services are sponsored by the ministerial association.

Earl F. Downing, minister of the Church of Christ, will bring the first message. His subject is "Freedom's Holy Light". Special music will be provided for this service by the Church of Christ.

Speakers for the month of July are: July 8, Rev. Clarence F. McCall, minister of the Congregational church; July 15, Rev. George M. Shuman, minister of the Presbyterian Church; July 22, Rev. A. E. Edwards, minister of the Nazarene church; July 29, Rev. Gordon Lindsay, minister of Full Gospel Temple.

Two years ago Vesper services were held in cooperation with the U. S. O. These services met with favor and many expressed regret last year that they were not continued. The services are being resumed this year because of the request of those who felt that the services two years ago met a need.

Several of the churches are discontinuing their evening services in favor of the 5 o'clock vespers while others are continuing with their regular services. In any case, the program now being carried into action merits the support of the entire church-going public of Ashland and may well bring inspiration and benefit to many who visit us.

VANDALS VISIT ASHLAND CABIN

The sheriff's office reported a wave of malicious mischief, with summer homes and cabins as the targets, is prevailing in the county, the latest being a cabin south of Ashland. An investigation of the latest episode is now under way.

Three Prospects juveniles are held in the county jail following vandalism in a Woodruff Meadows cabin last week. Previously a similar case in the Eagle Point area was cleared up.

According to the investigating officers the depredations are the work of boys who smash furniture, dishes, kitchenware and windows with great thoroughness. Robbery is not figured as the motive.

Repair parts for Coleman lamps, lanterns and camp stoves. Marshal-Wells Store on the Plaza, Phone 2-1231.

Ashland All Set For Big July Fourth Celebration

Shortage of Lithia Waters Dries Up Plaza Fountains

Many patrons of the Lithia fountains in the Plaza have been disappointed the past week when they found the fountains running only a trickle of water. At the meeting of the City board last Tuesday the matter was discussed, and Supt. Elmer Beigel stated that the shortage of water came about as a result of the pump at the Lithia spring being shut down for repairs and to be overhauled, which accounted for the complete lack of water in the fountains last week. He also stated that the use of Lithia Water at the dry ice plant in the manufacture of dry ice has drawn heavily upon the supply of water from the springs, but emphasized that this condition would not be permanent.

The Council considered the possibility of laying a half mile of pipe line to bring in water from the upper springs, upon the recommendation of the city superintendent, which should restore the normal flow to the fountains.

Beecher Danford to Head Local Legion

On Tuesday evening, June 26, the Ashland Post No. 14 of American Legion held their meeting at the Legion Hall. Election of Officers was the event of the evening.

Those elected to serve the coming year were: Commander, Beecher Danford, 1st Vice Pres., Joseph Hughes; 2nd Vice Pres., William Wood; Chaplain, John Billings; Adjutant, Claud M. Frazier; Sgt. at Arms, William O. Blaylock and Charles Rector.

Executive Committee: Guy Applewhite, William Briggs, A. Bert Freeman, Frank Van Dyke, Dr. W. J. Crandall. Newly elected Commander Beecher Danford and the outgoing Commander Emil Kroeger comprise the 6th and 7th members of the executive committee for the coming year.

Three Sawmills to Locate on Airport Site at Ashland

Huge Increase in Payroll As Result Of Decision To Relocate Mills Here.

It was announced this week that two sawmills and a planing mill will start construction soon of new facilities on the city owned airport site in the Bellview district. The new mills will bring to five the number operating in Ashland, and it is estimated that there is sufficient timber within this area to keep the mills operating here permanently.

Arthur Peters, who has been operating a planing mill at Mistletoe will build a \$30,000 planing mill on the new site. Alley Brothers, who have been operating a sawmill between Phoenix and Medford plan to build a \$30,000 mill with construction to start at once on these two. The Pine Mountain Lumber company will build a mill later in the same area where the Sugar Pine Lumber Company and the Herrin Lumber Company are already operating.

The Southern Pacific railroad has contracted to build the necessary rail spur lines into the new mills.

Preliminary estimates are that the three new mills will bring a payroll of 200,000 per year to Ashland.

Clinic and Pre-School Conference at Talent

A Jackson County infant and pre-school conference will be held in the city hall in Talent Friday, June 29 at 1:00 p.m. Immunization against whooping cough and diphtheria will be offered by Dr. A. E. Merkel, health officer.

Local workers and nurse will be present to assist in the work.

Plans Completed For Parade, Bond Auction, Rodio Band Concert and Other Features of Entertainment

Ashland is all set for the big Fourth of July celebration, which will be staged here with a combination of parade, bond auction, rodeo, carnival, band concert and all the other features which go to make up a full day's entertainment in a revival for the traditional Fourth of July celebrations which Ashland has staged in previous years, but which have been discontinued under stress of war time conditions.

As a resume of what may be expected in the way of entertainment for the day, it was stated that the parade will get under way promptly at ten o'clock, being formed at the Junior high school, and will proceed down Main street. Numerous entries are already signed up, with the city band, the Legion Kiltie band enrolled, cowboys and cowgirls, several floats, and a full kiddies section. The parade will end at Lithia Park, at the bandstand, where a Bond Auction will be held. Merchants have donated a big supply of merchandise and several prominent townspeople have donated their "services", all of which will go on the block Wednesday.

Rodeo at Two

The big event of the day will be the rodeo at the high school athletic field. This will get under way promptly at 2 o'clock and two and a half hours of bronc riding, calf roping, steer riding, and several horse races will be held. Already signed up for this event are several riders of this section, and the Rodeo gives every promise of being unusual. The event is being sponsored by the Ashland Riding Association. About \$500 in prizes have been set up by the Riding Association, to bring in talented contestants. In the evening there will be a band concert, by the Ashland band, under the direction of I. A. Mirick. This is always a big attraction.

The Lions club is sponsoring a dance to be held Wednesday evening, at the Elk's Temple from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., as a grand finale to the days events.

Ashland is expecting to attract a large number of out side guests this year. In former years, the beautiful Lithia park has been filled to capacity with people who had come for miles to picnic in its cool shady depths. With the added attractions this year, there will be an unusual number here, it is predicted.

Under the auspices of the Chamber of Commerce, there will be a carnival in town for a week. Setting up its attractions Tuesday will be Dodge's Greater Shows and Thrill Circus, coming to Ashland from Red Bluff, California. Their site will be on C street between First and Pioneer. They have a lion act, a high pole act or two and all the numerous side shows, etc. to be found in most carnivals. They are booked to be in Ashland for six days.

Sgt. Herbert Dort Listed as Dead

Mrs. Iva Dort received word from the War Department this week, confirming the death of her husband, T/Sgt. Herbert Dort. He was taken prisoner of war with the fall of Corregidor and was placed in the Cabanatuan prison camp. Later he was removed from this camp and taken on a Japanese prison ship enroute to Tokyo. The ship was sunk by submarine action and all but five of the men were lost.

When the Cabanatuan prisoners were released last fall by a force of American Rangers, Mrs. Dort's son-in-law, Sgt. John F. Batchelor was released, as he too had been at Corregido when it fell. At the time of the release of the prisoners at Cabanatuan, it was hoped that Sgt. Dort would be among those rescued but the news this week has brought an end to the possibility of his return.

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