

AROUND ABOUT

with Justine Weatherford

Maybe it seemed to you that I had not written a column last week. However, I have several witnesses who know I wrote one because they read it at the library on Saturday afternoon Nov. 12, just before I slipped it, along with a timely story, through the slot in the door of the Gazette-Times.

What happened to my efforts after they reached the office floor nobody seems to know. The best guess is that the zealous cleaning person must have wadded up the three typed sheets, which I had folded lengthwise, and chucked them in the trash—so that has happened to writers before. Maybe that is where some of you think my column belongs anyway.

Anyhow, I had several things to share I thought interesting—a few of which I shall attempt to recall.

Everyone everywhere was distressed when Bing Crosby died in Spain recently. One Heppner family, the Lee Anstoguis, felt the loss of Bing most acutely. Lee was employed by Bing as a horse trainer several years back, the Anstoguis children played with Bing's younger offspring, and the two families were friends. My informant said that the Green Feed Store operators often speak of the Crosbys, always very favorably.

Quite a few weeks ago the chief of the National Weather Service for Pendleton and vicinity who has his office at the Pendleton Airport came to the library and museum to leave some weather information and to look around. He was really excited about the terrific pictures and articles concerning the great 1903 flood that are displayed in the museum's picture room.

He said that although he had seen quite a few Heppner flood pictures, he had never seen such a great collection. He promised to urge other Pendletonians to come visit the "really remarkable" museum here.

I believe that most of the pictures the meteorologist admired were taken the day after the flood by Bert Sigsbee, historic Heppner photographer, and father of Elaine George who served the City of Heppner so well so long.

Another thing I mentioned in the last column was my re-reading of Ayn Rand's short, provocative novel ANTHEM, written in 1937. If you are in doubt about the need for a national energy program, I urge you to read this classic story of a post-energy crises. See what great heroes the re-inventors of the candle became.

Along with other brave souls who made the icy, slippery drive through the Columbia Gorge twice last Saturday were Ernie Ertz and D.D. McLachlan. They left Heppner about 5 a.m. in the White Angel, expecting to reach the Emanuel Hospital by 9. When they got there just after 10:30, D.D. said, "I sure wouldn't have made this trip today except to come for Bill."

Ernie did a masterful 10 hours of driving and the three persons in the ambulance beat me back here by about two hours. I did make two brief stops—but all who got home safely on Saturday found that driving 10 miles an hour over many sections really slows one down.

I spent 10 hours each day last week in the Portland hospital beside Bill. He enjoyed seeing visitors from here—Rev. Duane Geyer came several times, C. McQuarrie, H. O'Donnell, Dr. and Helen Schaffitz and Herman Winter came calling. Many cards cheered him, along with a

beautiful plant from the Heppner Garden Club.

We had planned that he would stay in the Rehabilitation Section of the hospital this week, but Bill got very determined to come back to Heppner—so he is now back in "his own" corner of the quiet, friendly, homelike hospital here.

Sunday evening the medical technologist Betty McEwen told me she had good news to report. The two deserted, wild and frightened puppies had been caught and gentled and adopted by Heppner families.

On Saturday morning as I drove from my brother's northeast Portland home down Knott Street toward the hospital, our Chrysler got rammed into by a low-slung Datsun sports car. The youthful driver chewed me out for driving so slowly. He couldn't get his faster-moving car stopped and slipped right into our bumper.

We both got out and looked at the damage done, only a nick on the Chrysler, but a smashed headlight and badly crumpled fender on the blue Datsun. Guess he learned why I was driving so slowly! That was good practice for my trip home up the Columbia which took from 10:45 until 4:30.

How thankful we are to be safely home!

Garden Club meets

The Heppner Garden Club held its regular meeting Nov. 14 with a pot-luck supper at the Bob Lowe's home. District President Dorothy Heard and her husband, Charlie, of Milton-Freewater were special guests.

Eva Griffith was also a first-timer at the Garden Club meeting. The club dealt with routine business matters such as planning for the workshop to prepare articles for sale at the Artifactory and paying travel for delegates to the District Convention in October. Mrs. Heard passed out material from the National Garden Federation regarding

projects and contests that could be very interesting as well as profitable and could keep the members working closely together. Plans and discussions on this matter. After the meeting adjourned

New Coley arrives

Jeremiah Steven, the son of proud parents Mr. and Mrs. Steven Leroy Coley, Monument, was born on Wednesday, Nov. 9, at 2:18 a.m. He weighed in at 6 pounds 6 ounces.

Jeremiah joins siblings

members enjoyed some of the Heard's slides from their trip to The British Isles this summer and were told of some highlights—such as kissing the Blarney Stone.

Wesley and Jason Dexter, and J.W. and Heather Coley.

Grandparents are Marietta Schultz, Prairie City; Homer Coley, Shawnee, Oklahoma; and Mrs. Vi Kern, Prairie City.

Matthews welcome first grandchild

Mr. and Mrs. Mike Matthews, Ione, wish to announce the arrival of their first grandchild.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Thornton, Salem, on Nov. 18, the young Thornton, named Mike Matthew, weighed 6 pounds 11 ounces at birth.

Rhea Creek women mend for hospital

By Justine Weatherford



Among Rhea Creek Grange women who periodically operate sewing machines and wield needles to mend boxes of robes, sheets and other articles for Pioneer Memorial Hospital are Anne Bergstrom, front, and Muriel Palmer.

For many years the ladies from the Rhea Creek Grange have done a wonderful service for Heppner's Pioneer Memorial Hospital. They have spent hundreds of hours patching and mending worn and torn hospital linens.

On Wednesday, Nov. 9, just as they have done several times each year, the ladies brought their electric sewing machines, needles and thimbles along with sack lunches to Emma Drake's Baltimore Street home to spend much of day working over the piles of blankets, sheets, towels, bedspreads, etc. that the hospital crew had put aside for mending.

The Rhea Creek ladies are presently working under the chairmanship of Judy Stevens (Mrs. Bob) of Hardman who leads the granges' Committee of Women's Activities. They don't ask more ladies to join them on the days that they fill the Drake home with their machines—they are "old" experienced menders.

Mrs. Drake says that some years back when there was an active Heppner Extension group, those ladies bought bright terrycloth and made bibs for the bed patients. That group disbanded and there is now a really great need for a supply of new bibs at the hospital.

This Thanksgiving week those of us who presently have or who have had family and friends hospitalized here are so thankful for the Pioneer Memorial hospital and for all who work there. It would be so much less satisfying to the patients and to their families to have them many miles away where friends could not just drop in to visit.

A special community thank-you goes out to the women of the Rhea Creek Grange whose skilled hands are so helpful to the hospital.

Beta Gammas make plans

The members of Beta Gamma chapter of Epsilon Sigma Alpha sorority held their Nov. 14 business meeting in the home of Pam Mabe.

A newly formed group, it is just beginning community activities. A craft table at the Artifactory and an evergreen swap for the nursing home will be among first projects.

A social meetings planned at the home of Debbie Koffler on Monday, Nov. 28. Members are asked to bring their baby pictures.

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