

Official Start of Spring Will Be Early Thursday

By FAY BENTLEY

"Welcome, sweet springtime," proclaimed the words of an old familiar song. Although Old Man Winter is still "throwing his weight around," it is comforting to know that the sun will soon be literally "on our side."

On March 20 at 1:17 p.m. (PST) the sun will cross the celestial equator from south to north, officially at least, spring begins. The Old Man's heavy coat, overcoat, and nose drops will be forced to abdicate his throne to a ruler more gentle.

Earth's Axis

Due to the slant of the earth's axis the sun spends six months on the southern side of the equator followed by six months on the northern side of that imaginary line around the center of the earth, thus making it necessary for Old Sol to cross the equator twice annually.

These crossings, which are about six months apart are called the equinoxes as, everywhere on earth, day and night are of equal length on these two occasions.

Also on these days the earth presents a side view to the sun causing one half of our globe to be lighted from pole to pole while on the other half darkness extends from pole to pole.

Pole Tilted

Except at the time of the equinoxes, one pole is tilted towards the sun while the other pole is slanted away from Old Sol. The pole tipped towards the sun is bathed in light while the other pole is in constant darkness. Approximately every six months, conditions are reversed.

On March 20, six months of continuous daylight will come to an end for the South Polar region and on the same day the "long night" or six months of constant darkness will begin.

Quite the opposite is true for the North Polar region. On March 20, six months of darkness will end and six months of daylight will begin.

Vernal Equinox

The vernal equinox, marking the first day of spring occurs on

or near March 20, but not always on the same date. The autumnal equinox which ushers in the first day of fall is on or near Sept. 23, but like the vernal equinox, not always on the same date.

The two equinoxes are approximately, but not exactly, six months apart. This year, 179 days will have elapsed between the autumnal equinox in September, 1956, and the vernal equinox which will occur on March 20, 1957, while from the vernal equinox on March 20, 1957, to the autumnal equinox in September, 1957, will be 186 days.

Earth's Speed

This discrepancy in time is due to the irregularity of the earth's speed as it travels around the sun. The path followed by our globe is not a true circle but an ellipse, which causes the earth to be nearer the sun in January than in July.

In accordance with certain mathematical laws the earth travels fastest when nearest the sun. Hence, the period of time from the autumnal equinox through winter to the vernal equinox is a little shorter than the period from the vernal equinox through summer to the autumnal equinox.

We have often heard people mention the "storms of the equinox." However, actual records over a period of 50 years prove that more storms occur before and after the equinoxes than at the time of the sun's crossings. The sun, passing over the equator at a distance of 93 million miles out in space, could have no special effect upon the weather.

4-H Club News

Bachelor Chefs

Our meeting was at Mrs. Fuit-en's house. Meeting called to order by vice president Daniel Edmondson. The 4-H pledge was given. We will make something that we have had in 4-H club for the time when our parents will be invited, probably the last week in May. Don Ash demonstrated rice delight, and John Capello demonstrated deviled eggs.

Gary Price, Reporter.

Antelope 4-H Club

The Antelope 4-H Livestock club held a business meeting March 8 at the Antelope schoolhouse. Everyone was encouraged to attend the Cal-Ore. Hereford association show and sale on March 13-14.

On March 15 steers being fattened by beef club members will be weighed. Jo Anna Malloroy announced that tickets for the Friendship Follies could be obtained from her.

The next meeting—the annual box social—is scheduled for April 19 at the Eagle Point Grange hall. The business meeting was adjourned.

After the business meeting, refreshments were served and games played. The Wallace Ragsdales showed a slide film of their Mexico trip. Several musical numbers were presented by an ensemble made up of Fred and Karen Jossy, Jimmy Curg, Nyla Murray, Sharon and Marlena Koffman and a stray dog.

Diana Gardner, Reporter.

New Pastime Tavern Sold to Mrs. Withers

Frank and Helen M. Mosse, 32 Ashland ave., have sold the New Pastime tavern, 2742 North Pacific highway, to Mrs. Lulu M. Withers, box 23, Jacksonville.

The sale was started March 5, according to Mrs. Mosse, and Mrs. Withers officially assumed the business name, New Pastime, this week. Mr. and Mrs. Mosse were operators of the Pastime tavern, 22 North Front st., before moving their business to the new location and naming it the New Pastime.

Grange Notes

Phoenix Grange

Phoenix Grange met at 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 12, with Master Dee Hendrickson presiding.

Agricultural Chairman Charles Hockersmith spoke on the hay situation. He said more hay than usual is on hand at this time of year, and prices are much lower. He also stated that hog prices are holding steady and that cattle prices are somewhat lower.

He added that crops already in the ground are doing well, but because of weather conditions, spring seeding is being held up.

He suggested corn could be grown profitably if the season proved too late for other crops, although corn might need to be dried in a dryer.

Jake Arnold reporting on horticulture said dormant spraying was practically at a standstill because of rain.

Vaughn Quackenbush of the music committee gave a brief history of the life of Lawrence Welk, whose musical show on TV he enjoys very much. He said Welk was born in Alsace Lorraine, and learned music by listening to his father play the accordion. He had no music lessons and was unable to read music or speak English very well when he first had an orchestra of his own. He tried and failed in several business enterprises, and always went back to his music. Now has the highest paid dance orchestra in the U.S. All with the exception of two, in his present band are country born boys and girls.

Melvin Lattie, Legislative chairman, who had attended the state legislature, said there was a great amount of lobbying. At least 98 lobbyists attending regularly and others were coming in at different times.

Our legislators are urging citizens to write them and express their wishes concerning bills to be discussed and voted on.

Mr. Lattie read a resolution recommending bare economy in government, as the cost of state, county and school operation has reached a point which creates a heavy tax burden on farmers and other businesses, and property owners.

Many bills submitted to the current legislature involve appropriation of money to, and there is no comprehensive plan to finance them. All representatives from Jackson county in the legislature are advised that Phoenix Grange 779 is opposed to increasing the tax burden of the people of the state of Oregon. The grange requests our representatives in the state legislature to use their influence in defeating any measures which call for, or will result in increasing taxes.

The resolution was voted on and approved. Copies will be sent to other Jackson county Granges and to Pomona and to Pomona and State Grange.

The chaplain was reported on being ill. Mrs. Walter Germer, Mrs. Walter Grochoko, Mrs. Alfred Sheet, Mrs. Dee Hendrickson and Mark Smith are also ill and in Sacred Heart hospital. Frank Perl is reported to be improved and convalescing at home. The resignation of Jake Arnold, treasurer, and Mrs. Jake Arnold, lady assistant steward, were accepted. The Arnolds are leaving on an extended vacation trip.

Mervin Hixon was elected to the office of treasurer and Mrs. Mervin Hixon lady assistant steward.

Dee Hendrickson was presented with a four gold star award, for having all lecture reports in on time last year.

Plans for the Annual Phoenix Fireman's ball was announced. The Grange voted to donate \$10 to the firemen's fund.

Home Economics club chairman, Carol Schroeder, announced the next meeting would be an all day work meeting at the Grange hall, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, March 20.

There will be a potluck dinner at noon. She said any men of the Grange who wished to come would be welcome, as there was some work for them to do. Ladies are to bring cleaning equipment.

This being the last of the first quarter, sales slips should be turned in soon to either Mrs. S. A. Cox or Olive Poe. Members are asked to consult the Grange bulletin for information on sales slips that are eligible.

The program and display for the evening was arranged by the recreation committee. Mrs. Mervin Hixon and Mrs. Velma Johnson.

A balloon busting contest between the men and women was held. Barney Lewin assisted in the contest which was declared a tie.

At the close of the meeting refreshments of apple cake dessert, topped with whipped cream and coffee was served.

The serving committee were Mr. and Mrs. Walter Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Grochoko and Mr. Stevens.

Publicity Chairman, Gertrude Lewin

Beethoven's birthplace in place in Bonn, Germany now has the world's largest collection of mementoes of the master, the German Tourist Information office reports. Dr. Hans Bodmer of Switzerland has just given 415 of Beethoven's letters, an original score by him, his desk and some of his library, to the memorial.

JACKSONVILLE Booster Club Plans Sale

By MRS. C. S. HOSKINS

Jacksonville — The Jacksonville school's Band Booster club is planning a rummage sale to raise funds for the music department. The sale will be held at the Feil building in Medford April 12 and 13. Anyone having articles to donate may have them picked up by contacting Mrs. W. McCormack, 9-8044; Mrs. E. O. Graham, 9-8008; Mrs. F. E. Edens, 9-8367; Mrs. Ross Crowley, 9-8320; Mrs. John Niedermeier, 3-1255; Mrs. Ruth Goldschmidt, 2-7704, or Mrs. Jeanie Sutton, Vashti way. Proceeds will be used to buy Jacksonville school band uniforms and uniforms for the chorus.

Walter D. McGuire, who has been in business in Phoenix has leased the former Jacksonville Clothing store which was operated by Mrs. Norma Hill. McGuire is making improvements and planning a shop to cater to the summer tourist trade with souvenirs and myrtlewood products. He plans to live on the premises.

A long time valley resident, Mrs. Cloa E. McDonough, who died in Ashland last week, was buried at the Jacksonville cemetery Monday.

The Christ Ambassadors group of the Assembly of God church recently elected officers. Mrs. Harry Belau was elected president, Mrs. John Hamaker, vice president, Mrs. Joyce Perkert, secretary and Miss Grace Wedde, treasurer.

Election of officers also was held for the young girls branch of the Women's Missionary council. Officers for 1957 are Gladys

Anderson, president; Beatrice Rasmussen, vice president; Letha Davis, secretary, and Mary Davis, treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. John R. Snow and family, of 210 California st., recently moved to Crannell, Calif., where Snow has obtained work.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Davis and family were recent visitors in Jacksonville at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mack Griffin and the W. E. Snow residence. The Davises were from Crannell, Calif.

Drop-in afternoon guests at the Ernest Rasmussen's last Wednesday were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Rasmussen and his mother, Mrs. Annie Rasmussen, of Oakanogon, Wash., and Mr. and Mrs. Evan Rasmussen of Fern Valley where the Harry Rasmussens were staying while here.

Inquiries are still coming in, but there have been no answers on the disappearance of "Toby", a black and white dog missing since Feb. 20.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gravelle and son, Ricky, of Medford, formerly of Jacksonville, spent the day with Mrs. Daniel Serry last Wednesday.

The Women's Missionary Council of the Assembly of God church held an all day meeting last Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Earl Wall and two piece-work quilts were completed.

Ralph Lawrence is expected home soon. He has been in Sacred Heart hospital since Feb. 19, when he underwent back surgery. He will be confined at home for several weeks.

Civil Defense Crews Are Alerted Friday

Central Point — Key Civil Defense personnel here mobilized at the city hall within six minutes Friday when a surprise air defense warning alert was sounded at 10:20 a.m., according to the Central Point Civil Defense unit.

Rescue units were notified by siren blasts, radio and telephone. At the end of six minutes 15 key personnel, two station wagons, one four-wheel-drive jeep, two pickup trucks, two flat-bed trucks, one maintenance truck, fire fighting and first aid crews had assembled, CD officials said.

In Medford practice calls were made to 39 key personnel to determine their knowledge of "correct procedure" in mobilizing if ever mobilization was requested, according to Medford CD officials.

Calls were made by the Medford police department. Only several of the key personnel were unable to be contacted, it

Exchange Visitor Observes Methods

S. C. Aguilar, a technical exchange visitor from the Philippines, was in Medford last week to observe public land survey methods followed by the bureau of land management.

He accompanied one of the Bureau's cadastral engineers, Hans Thielson, who is presently on detail to the Medford district to reestablish some public survey corners that have been lost since the original surveys were completed over 100 years ago, according to E. K. Peterson, district forester.

The Philippine Republic is in the process of adopting a public land survey system modeled after the one in use in the United States. Aguilar has spent several months with various offices of the BLM becoming acquainted with the public survey system and procedures.

was reported Medford forces were not mobilized during the alert.

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