

### State Centennial Theme For Stamp Club Meeting

Oregon's Centennial was the theme, both in program and decorations, for the recent meeting of Southern Oregon Stamp club held at Girls' Community club.

Clyde Smith, past president of the club and a collector of early day covers, had on display 12 pages of a collection he will exhibit at the North West Federation of Stamp clubs' exhibition in June at Portland.

Two of the covers on display were carried by steamer to the west coast, at the cost of 40 cents per half ounce and 80 cents an ounce. The date was in the early 1850's; one letter was sent from Wellsburg, Va., and the other from Indianapolis, Ind. Both were addressed to the Clerk of the District Court, Oregon City, Oregon Territory.

Two covers were postmarked Jacksonville, and were sent in the 1850's also. One was addressed to Joseph Rosborough, at Yreka, Calif.; the other addressed to Elmun J. Butler, Jacksonville, O. T. from Iowa.

One page of the collection carried a picture of E. W. Tracy, founder of the E. W. Tracy Express company, and a letter carried by the company from Portland to Butteville. A schedule of the Tracy Express showed that the firm had offices and agents starting at Portland, then Oregon City, Butteville, and so on down to Jacksonville, where C. C. Beckman, was listed as the agent. Later Tracy sold out to Wells Fargo company.

A picture of C. C. Beckman, banker and express agent of Jacksonville, and a cover addressed to him from Rock Point, Ore., in 1879, made up another page of the collection. Beckman also ran an express company, but Beckman covers are extremely hard to find.

Two very interesting covers were mailed during the Modoc Indian War, 1873, and were not carried by regular mail. One, sent to Lindsay Applegate, was carried by an Indian messenger "Bill." The other, mailed in Yreka, was also to Lindsay Applegate, and carries the notation that it was sent by military express.

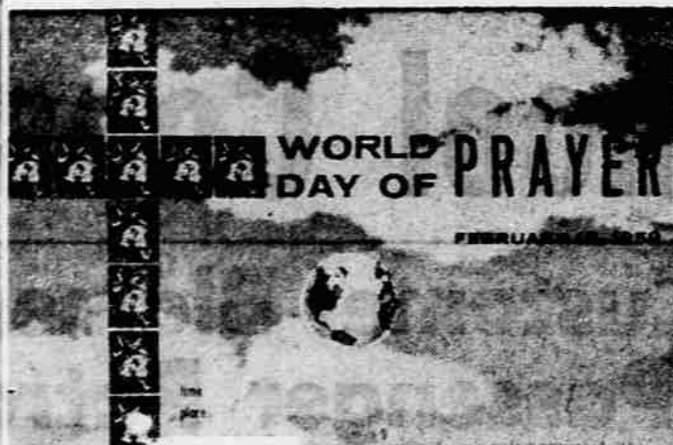
The last two covers displayed were mailed from, and commemorated the Lewis and Clark Expedition held in Portland in 1905.

Decorations consisted of an antique candle lantern, believed to have come over the Siskiyou in a wagon train. It is about 18 inches high and 8 inches square. There is glass on three sides with a tin sliding door in the back so the candle can be lit. Also in the decor was a wooden dough bowl which was filled with greenery.

The president appointed the committees for the year, with Mrs. Edward Leach and Mrs. Mamie Bloomfield on the program committee. Refreshments and entertainment, Mrs. Roland Beach; by-laws, Russell Herbert and Clyde Smith; sales books, Mr. Smith; cards, Mrs. Lillian Caspey; publicity, Mrs. Eric de Place. The membership committee is made up of Elmer Binker, Mrs. de Place, Mr. Smith and Mr. Herbert.

Mrs. Mamie Bloomfield was chairman of the refreshment committee. Committee members wore sashbons and aprons over 70 years old. Each member was given an Oregon Centennial seal, and the napkins were inscribed "We Invite You To Oregon's 100th Anniversary Celebration."

The stamp club will next meet March 5, and Frank Applegate will speak on his collection of revenue stamps. He is past president of a national organization of revenue stamp collectors.



Symbol of the 1959 World Day of Prayer is the Coptic cross of the Coptic Orthodox church, the ancient church of Christians founded by Saint Mark. Christian Women of Egypt prepared the service which will be used for the annual prayer day Friday, February 13, throughout the world. Medford's observance will be held at the First Church of the Nazarene beginning at 12:30 p.m.

### Past Presidents Of Lincoln PTA To Be Honored

Lincoln Parent-Teacher association will observe Founders' day and honor past presidents at a Lincoln's birthday meeting February 12, at 7:30 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

Mrs. Sebastiano J. Fagnone, president, states that the program being planned will be a memorable one, and she urges all past presidents to attend. Invitations have been mailed to those whose addresses were available, she stated.

Records show that the Lincoln school building is the oldest in use in the city of Medford. The school was originally known as the North Side school, with the name later changed to Lincoln.

Friday's meeting will also be the first of a number of Oregon Centennial events planned by Lincoln unit. Next event will be the annual carnival.

The executive committee will serve refreshments for the coming meeting, with Mrs. William Troupe and Mrs. John Weber in charge.

During the business meeting a nominating committee will be chosen. Child care will be provided for young children.

It is requested that mothers wishing to purchase bonnets made by the PTA do so at this meeting.

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### Ruch PTA Observes Anniversary

Applegate Valley - Celebrating their 10th anniversary, Ruch Parent-Teacher association presented a year-by-year history at a meeting Friday evening. It also observed Founders' day. Charter members were honored with a decorated cake presented by the chairman, Mrs. Earl Best.

George Sample, chairman of the school board, led a discussion of issues involved in consolidation with Medford. A pool taken of the 40 parents in attendance (not an official vote) showed that consolidation is favored by them.

Mrs. Larry Tweedy was elected chairman with resignation of Mrs. Best, who had become chairman to succeed Mrs. Francis Gregory, who left the community. The meeting opened with a band concert of old-time numbers directed by LeRoy Mauroni, and following the theme of "the olden days."

Glenn Smith showed old-time pictures of community groups. Of 56 charter members, 11 attended: Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Cantrill, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Ranney, who came from Hoopa, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Ed Ramsey, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Wingham, Mrs. Elizabeth Vessel, Mrs. Mildred Smith, and Mrs. Jim Wingham.

Ten of the members each read a year of history, showing that past presidents are Robert Anderson, Mrs. Fred West, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Webb, Lee Wells, Mrs. Stanley Larson, Rex Davis, Ed Ramsey, and Mrs. Francis Gregory. School principals in the 10-year period have been Ray Clay, Henry Kamman, Elmer Ayres and Boyd Gibson.

Among projects which the organization has financed are purchase of a deep freeze for the school, four basic band instruments with organization of the band under Ayres, athletic uniforms, and roofing of walks between school buildings. Mothers of children in the fifth and sixth grade read of Mrs. George Redhead served, and Mrs. Kenn Payne, was in charge of children.

The monthly Girl Scout leaders' "Sing" will be held at Mary's Casa Thursday, February 12, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Leaders, assistant leaders, troop committee members and other Girl Scout adults may come for any part of the sing, which will end at 11:30 a.m. Those attending are asked to bring song books.

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### St. Valentine's Day Has History of Its Own

New York—Looking ahead to St. Valentine's day February 14th, researchers for The Greeting Card Association recently asserted: "Lovers today are not as modern as they think. Actually, they are just reenacting rituals as old as Dan Cupid himself."

They say that proof of this lover's paradox lies in the obvious parallels of courtship customs old and new. For example: the present-day custom of carving heart shaped symbols on lovers began in ancient Greece. Trees then, as now, entwined their initials in a symbol of "eternal love."

The researchers report further that, "Valentines themselves have gone through a sort of romantic evolution. Tradition holds that Valentine's Day got its name from a young Roman priest named Valentine, who was executed on February 14th, 270 A.D., for refusing to renounce Christianity. While he was in prison he was befriended by the jailer's blind daughter, and when the fatal day arrived he composed a farewell message to his young friend, signing it 'From Your Valentine'."

"During the next 1,000 years Valentines remained strictly messages of friendship. It was not until the Middle Ages that they attained great popularity as lover's missives."

Pagan Feast - "This transition can be traced to the fact that the Romans had lavishly celebrated February 14th several centuries earlier as the pagan Feast of Lupercalia. The ceremony itself blossomed from a belief that the birds of Italy began mating on February 14th."

"Romantic significance was attached to this popular notion, and 'love lotteries' were set up at central locations in Rome. The names of 'eligible' maidens were placed in large urns, and Roman swains drew lots to determine their 'blind dates' for the current year."

"As time passed, this willy-nillyly opposed by church authorities who wanted to establish a guardian Saint for these impetuous people. Despite the wisdom of this alternative, it was never as popular as taking a chance on love. So, the pagan Love Festival continued to flourish."

"Finally, the day of reckoning came. Earlier customs began to change and the old ways of courtship grew more formal. Thus, while the church authorities triumphed, to this day, the celebration of St. Valentine's Day stems from both pagan and religious sources. Actually, Cupid began enchanting lovers 2,000 years before the first romantic Valentine appeared. According to Roman legend, he was the son of Venus, Goddess of Love, and Mars, God of War. Back in the 4th Century B.C., Praxiteles carved the oldest known statue of Cupid. It portrayed him as a beautiful little boy with wings, carrying a bow and arrow."

History reveals that in more recent times Cupid's staunchest allies were Frenchmen. The Duke of Orleans was captured by the English in the Battle of Agincourt in 1415, imprisoned in the Tower of London, he composed the oldest existing Valentine, February 14th, the nation's sweetheart will be exchanging Valentines with all the enthusiasm of new discoverers. They'll find that today the scores of strictly sentimental Valentines are matched by a wide variety of humorous and whimsical creations, some of which are throwbacks to the 'Vinegar Valentines' of 100 years ago."

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### Prayer Day Set Friday

The annual World Day of Prayer, sponsored each year by the Medford Council of United Church Women, is to be observed on Friday, February 13, in First Church of the Nazarene, 520 North Holly street. Beginning with a sandwich luncheon at 12:30 o'clock, devotions will be given at the table with ministers of Medford presenting thoughts on the several topics pertaining to prayer which will be considered.

Prayer circles will immediately follow with ministers' wives as leaders. It is stated that the table discussions and morning program will be held in the church annex and immediately following the formal program will be given in the church sanctuary at 1:30 o'clock.

It is stated that the service for this year has been prepared by Christian women of Egypt, state officers of the council, and "reflects deep spiritual thinking and Christian concern for all nations."

"The basic purpose of the world wide chain of prayer is to unite all Christians in a bond of prayer for peace and brotherly love among the nations and to promote concern for the welfare of both foreign and home mission work to which fields the offering goes," the council states. One hundred and forty-four countries on six continents will have participated when the day closes. Prayers in sixty languages, and one thousand dialects will assist in this unbroken chain, it is estimated. Theme for the day is "Lord, I Believe."

Mrs. William Ricken, chairman for the day, announces that all are welcome to attend and that small children will be cared for in a nursery.

Prospect - Three bridge clubs of the Prospect area combined and gave a March of Dimes benefit party Thursday, February 5, at Prospect Community club.

The Bridgettes entertained 20 women for auction bridge. Refreshments were served. Prize for high score was won by Mrs. Hazel Ulrich, second high by Mrs. Darwin Bevens and consolation by Mrs. Jack Rienks.

The sum of \$17 was cleared for the March of Dimes.

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### Valentine Party

Royal Neighbor Juveniles of America will meet Friday, February 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Russel, 1080 South Stewart avenue for a Valentine party.

Valentine Games - Enliven Parties - New York - (UPI) - Enliven a Valentine's Day party with a program of games of skill.

Try a dart game. Cover a board with a large red heart divided in pie-shaped sections marked "friendship," "love," "courtship," "proposal," "engagement" and "marriage." Prizes could be awarded for the highest score.

The game can be varied by substituting a wheel of fortune for the dart board. Make the wheel of corrugated cardboard, with the sections painted and scored with poster colors or a felt pen. Heart and Cupid cut-outs, available in greeting card departments, can be used to decorate it.

A "card hunt" is a game in which all guests can participate at once. Before the party, hide 50 to 100 paper hearts, with an appropriate word from a Valentine verse or sentiment on each, around the party room. Players seek out enough hearts to complete a sentence, exchanging words as they hunt if they desire.

After the players have completed their sentences, each reads his line aloud. Mix dancing partners by having guests draw small hearts - red for boys, white for girls - from a hat. On each heart is written the name of a famous lover - such as Romeo, Juliet, Elizabeth Barrett, and Robert Browning. The appropriate "pairs" team for the dance.

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### Jefferson PTA To Hold Supper

Jefferson Parent-Teacher association will hold a potluck supper Thursday, February 12, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the school.

Parents of children in the first four grades are asked to bring hot dishes serving twelve persons. Parents of children in fifth, sixth and special rooms are asked to bring a salad and dessert.

Parents having children in both upper and lower grades may bring only salad and dessert.

A charge of \$1.50 per family is being made. Mrs. Thomas Marier is general chairman.

Seattle Woman Honored at Party - Amos Walker and his family here celebrated the birthday of Mrs. Annabelle Smith, of Seattle, Wash., recently at a party.

The party was held in Mr. Walker's home on Stewart avenue with sons, daughters and daughters-in-law attending. Members of the family who were present included Mr. and Mrs. Clark Walker, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Walker and Mrs. Ila Butcher, all of Medford.

Mr. Walker, long-time Medford resident, has owned and operated Dreamland dance hall in Medford for 31 years.

Twirlers to Hold Dance Thursday - The Y Knot Twirlers Square Dance club will hold a dance in the social hall of the Medford YMCA starting at 8 p.m. Thursday, February 12.

Douglas Fosbury, Medford, and guest callers will call squares. Potluck refreshments will be served. All square dancers are invited.

### Valentines FOR THE YOUNG OR YOUNG IN HEART

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Gas money can sure pile up

