

# Herald and News this 'n that About Women

By RUTH KING



**THE YEARS HAVE LINED HER FACE**, have dimmed her eyes and slowed her pace, but a century of living has left her memory clear . . .

Amanda Cowan, born on the Klamath Indian reservation in 1855, oldest member of her tribe, remembers well, the great hunting days on this high plateau before plow ever touched soil . . . the big snows in winter and the lush land in summer . . . the coming of the white man, who thought that she too, was of their tribe because her skin, in her youth, was light as theirs . . . Members of Mrs. Cowan's family are sure she is five or six years older than the agency record.

She remembers the last of the wars in defense of her people's rights . . . of the pilgrimages to the mountain, "Our Old Father," now called Steiger, where many of the tribe went to worship in the way of their fathers . . .

She recalls the old days when hot rocks and h. pitch soothed the hurts of young and old . . . of the big catches of fish that dried above a slow wood fire . . . of the wocus and the apas that she gathered, the tules she fashioned into baskets . . . her delight in the little ones that romped about her door that faced where the sun rose with opal lights above the distant hills . . .

The treaty of 1864 when both white men and red man signed, is fresh in mind. She was a young woman then and "feel" of the council ground is still with her. The very same grove still sends its pine scent upon the air and land, now owned by Seldon Kirk, still sends up green shoots of grass come spring.

She does not remember when she first heard of Christianity for the knowledge has been with her always and the strength of prayer has carried her through many a crisis. It is probable the Word came from the Columbia River Indians who heard it from the Hudson Bay trappers, for the tribes often traveled afar and learned new ways. She is a devout member of the Shaker Church, prays daily before she breaks bread, before she rests . . . She is the protegee of the students at Riverside School in Klamath Falls who sent her the comforts needed in a recent illness.

She remembers again the long trips by "hack" to Ashland to pick fruit for her family table . . . the tall white woman who told her in years gone by that she would live to be very old . . . the "rock" on the Eddie Cushman place near Modoc Point that bore imprints that the tribal members believed to have been the footprints of the Christ . . .

Today, she still makes "good biscuits" . . . she chops her firewood, walks to Chiloquin a mile away for exercise . . . is lonely for others of her generation.

Mrs. Cowan has two sons, Ransom and McKinley Cowan, both of Chiloquin; a granddaughter, Mrs. Stanton (Edna) Kirk, and a grandson, Wallace Cowan, Chiloquin, and several great-grandchildren.

Amanda Cowan "sat-in" on the recent Indian affairs meeting at the Agency. Her words were heard, and the people listened to her wisdom.

## KF Chamber Plans Forum

The next open forum meeting of the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce will be on the subject of roads and highways, both city and county. It is scheduled for next Wednesday noon, April 28, in the banquet room of the Winema Hotel, it was announced by Vic Schoonover, director in charge of forums.

Official spokesmen for both the city of Klamath Falls Cross-Town Traffic Committee and for the Chamber of Commerce Roads and Highways Committee will be on the panel.

The city group will explain plans worked out with the State Highway Commission and will also explain the city's thinking on a proposed cross-town truck route.

The county chamber committee, which works with the state on roads and highways outside of municipalities, will explain its 1954 master plan.

Both groups will be prepared to answer questions from the floor, and all interested persons are urged to be in attendance, Schoonover said.

**PILGRIMS**  
VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope Pius XII appeared at his apartment window Thursday in response to cheers of Gregorian singers and other pilgrims in St. Peter's Square.

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**Prisoner Fattened Before Ordeal**  
CANON CITY, Colo. (AP) — State prison officials have to fatten up Fernan Espinosa, 33, before he can be put on a bread-and-water diet as punishment for escaping. Espinosa, serving a life term for the Denver murder of his common law wife, climbed over a fence last Friday and eluded guards for five days—days in which he didn't have anything to eat. Espinosa has been placed on a soft food diet in solitary. Guards said they'll give him solid foods before he has to go on the bread-and-water diet.

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