



JOY WAS UNCONFINED when Klamath County employees staged their annual Christmas party at the courthouse. Presents were exchanged and copious quantities of food consumed. Three celebrants pictured above are (left to right) County Commissioner Ed Gowen, Ray McIntyre, courthouse janitor, and Sheriff James Murray Britton.

Remote Ordeal Told By Roseburg Scribe

Editor's Note: Chuck Grell, Roseburg News-Review reporter, was with the group which pushed through the slides on Highway 42 Monday, to reach the community of Remote where five members of the Marion E. Neal family perished in their crushed house. In the party were Coroner L. L. Powers, Don Bell, Roseburg radio ham; Chuck Reinhart, radio announcer; State Patrolman A. C. Haystead, and Charles B. Kash, Winston Photographer.

By **CHUCK GRELL**
Roseburg News-Review Staff Writer

ROSEBURG (AP)—We got to Milepost 34 and had to stop there for the first of innumerable slides to be cleared from our path.

Several loggers from Camas Valley joined us there. Among them was Frank Kinnan. Kinnan, a rawboned independent logger of 30 or perhaps less, brought his cat.

State Patrolman A. C. Haystead, who knows him well, said Kinnan is a man who will do anything on a bet. Kinnan proved his nerve Monday night. We started moving at 5 p. m. Night had fallen. Repeatedly Kinnan nudged mud, logs and other debris into the Coquille River, rags in its narrow canyon below. Sometime, where the river was pounding at the edge of the pavement, the shoulder of the road threatened to collapse.

Fifteen times in the six miles to Remote, Kinnan shoved his ma-

chine at slides. In places, you could see the red-mud highway cuts slither toward the roadway while he was working. In others, water came in falls or small rivers down the sides of the mountains.

Although the tractor's fan belt broke and a hole was punched in the radiator, Kinnan kept the cat moving.

Meanwhile, Don Bell, ham radio man, was talking steadily to what we had come to think of as the "outside world." He kept the outside advised of our position and relayed instructions to and from Roseburg.

He learned that a man from Remote had walked 21 miles from Myrtle Point to try to get a doctor to care for the injured children, Margaret Elaine Neal, 13, and her brother Billy, 6.

We didn't know how many were dead or injured. We had heard at first that one body had been taken from a slide and four more persons were thought drowned. We knew a house had been destroyed.

Bell kept talking. To get messages to Roseburg he talked to hams in Santa Clara and Redwood, Calif., who relayed to Coquille. The hams there relayed to Roseburg.

Messages came back the same way.

My wife learned by this method where I was.

Kinnan kept pushing at the slides. Some were small but still made the road impassable. Others were worse.

It took an hour for him to cut through one which covered a 150-foot stretch of roadway to a depth of 12 feet.

Out in front, helping him clear the way, were the Camas Valley loggers.

Equipped with a power saw, they cut through logs, some up to three feet in diameter, and Kinnan pulled them out of the way.

While Kinnan was working on the big slide, radio contact was made again with Roseburg. Bell said an amplified telephone line was effected to Remote. Roseburg people had talked to John Cawrse, Remote mill operator.

Cawrse, we understood, was trying to meet us with the injured children, but was stopped by slides a mile east of Remote.

We finally met him there. He had left the children at his home. It was when we met Cawrse that we first learned the complete story of the casualties—five dead, two injured, one unhurt.

Coroner L. L. Powers' ambulance was driven to the Cawrse home and Margaret and Billy were put in it for the ride to Roseburg. Both were conscious but neither spoke. Margaret's face and legs were bruised.

The children, we were told, had lain in the near-freezing rain and mud from 4:30 a. m. until their plight was discovered at about 9 a. m.

No one seemed to know who found them. We understood it was Cawrse.

As the children were put into the ambulance, faint moonlight filtered through the clouds. It revealed that the slide was perhaps 100 yards wide. There was no sign of the house. It had been disintegrated by the thousands of tons of muck which had crashed from the hillside, funneled down a gully and washed over the Neals' one-story house.



JOHN FOSTER, LEFT, dressed up in a traditional Santa Claus outfit, aided a group of Moose members load up hundreds of packages last week to be distributed to needy children in the Klamath Falls area. Next to Santa, from left to right, are: Lee Benda, Gordon Grow, E. M. MacBeth and Roy Sharp.

Ground Squirrel Reported To Raise Particular Havoc

By **HAROLD SCHIEFERSTEIN**
County Pest Supervisor

Southeastern Oregon and particularly Klamath County has long been troubled with a variety of destructive rodents that cause considerable damage to the various crops grown here.

The most serious rodents to be found in the county are two species of ground squirrels, several kinds of field mice, house mice, moles, ground hogs, pack rats and porcupines.

Most numerous and therefore the most important of these various pests is the Oregon ground squirrel. This rodent is widely distributed throughout the county and is to be found in all sections, both irrigated and dry, as well as to some extent in the timbered areas also.

Under favorable conditions ground squirrels are to be found in almost unbelievable numbers, and hundreds of squirrels may be concentrated on a few acres of land; or one may find them a few here, and a few there, scattered over a wide area.

More Vaccine To Be Given

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Public Health Service today announced release of another 1,368,506 doses of Salk antipolio vaccine.

This made a total of 3,414,213 cubic centimeters—or doses—released thus far in December, and raised to 29,961,831 c.c.'s the total of vaccine released since April 12 when six drug houses were licensed to make it.

The new supply included 279,900 c.c.'s made by Wyeth Laboratories, Marietta, Pa.—the first Wyeth vaccine released since Aug. 9. The remaining 1,088,406 were made by Eli Lilly & Co., Indianapolis.

A health service spokesman said the increased supply released this month after the low totals for October and November reflected a smoothing out in production procedures.

The health service allocated 1,355,814 c.c.'s of the new supply to the states, territories and the armed services for use under the voluntary control program. The other 12,492 were reserved for the free program of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

ACTRESS FALLS

HOLLYWOOD (AP)—Movie actress Irene Dunne fell in her home Friday and had to enter her Christmas dinner from a wheel chair. She said she feared at first she had seriously injured her hip, but X-rays disclosed no broken bones.

Tule Contest Winners Listed

TULELAKE — Numerous homes in Tulelake and the surrounding community joined in the 1955 Christmas lighting contest, "Gilt-leaf-way," sponsored by the Tulelake Garden Club.

Winners in the four divisions were: best decorated tree—first, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Hooper; third, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mosebar; third, Mrs. Evalyn Galloway.

Best decorated doorway—first, Mr. and Mrs. John Takacs and Mr. and Mrs. George Frey, (tie); second, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Brown.

Best over-all glitter—first, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Lindsey and Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hodges, (tie); second, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Heiney; third, Mr. and Mrs. Al Hardman; honorable mention, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Urbach, Mr. and Mrs. William Huse.

Best decorated window—first, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Vallis; second, Mr. and Mrs. Waverly Pierce; third, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Johnson; honorable mention, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Barron, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Ott Jr.

Moose Give Toys, Candy

The Merrill Moose Lodge No. 306 delivered toys to the children of seven needy families in Tulelake and one in Malin, announced Tommy Slaughter, chairman of the drive.

Slaughter said that a total of 134 toys were presented to the 33 children. Each child also was given a bag of candy by the Moose Lodge, the chairman reported.

The toys were collected at Earl's Market and the office of the California Oregon Power Co. in Tulelake. The students of the Newell Elementary School gave a large number of the toys to the drive, as they did last year.

The Merrill Volunteer Fire Department gave toys to the needy children of Merrill, it was reported.

OIL DISCOVERED

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Oil has been struck in Boyle Heights, a residential area just east of downtown Los Angeles, Richfield Oil Corp. said its first well has been completed there and is flowing at 170 barrels a day. Gas production was recorded at a rate of 50,000 cubic feet a day. Additional wells will be drilled before the potential of the structure can be evaluated, Richfield said.

Holiday Party Said Success

WEED — Thirty-one employees of the Weed Mercantile attended the company Christmas party at the Savoy Hotel on December 20. The employees had voted to contribute a Yule collection for a selected Weed family rather than hold a gift exchange among themselves.

Bill Hanchey was master of ceremonies and conducted the store-wide talent contest. O. B. Smith, manager, and J. Kersey, assistant store manager, were hosts.

Mrs. Joe Braden was in charge of table arrangements. Other employees present included Mrs. Rachel Cedros, Mrs. Caroline Carpine, Dave Johnson, Mrs. James De Luca, Mrs. Ray Acquastance, Mrs. J. Ingram, David Kersey, Ralph Study, Pete Aiello, Gerry Gilliam, Mrs. C. H. Rooney, Mrs. Lem Gilliam, Mrs. Lawrence Uley, Eugene Watkins, Delbert Down, John Howe, Bert Aron, Leonard Dunlap, Theo Lockett, Mrs. Joe Lobb, Alma Lester, Mrs. Margaret Garcia, Mrs. Norina Aiello, Joe Panatto, Michael De Nero, Mrs. Emella Keag and Mrs. E. Holley.

OVER THE GARDEN GATE

Verda Urbach was reelected president of the Bonanza-Langell Valley Garden Club at a meeting held December 16 at the home of Louisa Horton. Betty Rice was co-hostess.

Also elected were Peggy Alberts, vice president, Gloria Woolen, secretary and Betty Rice, treasurer. A poll was taken to determine plans for membership next year. Suggestions were also asked for programs for the coming year.

There will be no standard flower show sponsored by the club next fall. The usual spring show will be held.

The next meeting will be held at the Bonanza library, January 27, with Vi Brown, Jessie Spillane and Francis Jacobs as hostesses.

TRAFFIC SURVEYED

TOKYO (AP)—A traffic survey issued by the police board today listed a record 252 vehicle accidents a day in Japan, involving 17 deaths and 297 injuries. It said this record placed Japan third in the world, behind Egypt and Colombia, in the rate of fatalities per number of vehicles.

Dairy Honor Roll Listed

The November honor roll of the Klamath Dairy Herd Improvement Association was announced by Ray O. Petersen, assistant county agent.

A two-year-old purebred Guernsey owned by Ken Waters led the list by producing 556 pounds of butter fat and 10,947 pounds of milk.

Runner-up was Beauty, a five year old grade Holstein owned by E. G. Born, which produced 553 pounds of fat and 16,142 pounds of milk.

Other cows making the honor roll were Ellen, a three year old registered Holstein owned by Mario Rizzardo, 486 pounds of fat and 12,650 pounds of milk; Kathy, a three year old registered Holstein owned by Rizzardo, 477 pounds of fat and 13,043 pounds of milk; Sandy, a three year old grade Holstein owned by S. C. Masten and Son, 475 pounds of fat and 12,840 pounds of milk; and Pig, a two year old registered Holstein owned by Rizzardo, 408 pounds of fat and 10,274 pounds of milk.

Requirements for the honor roll are based on the age of the cow. To make the roll, a 2-year-old must produce 400 pounds of fat; a three-year-old, 450 pounds; a 4-year-old, 500 pounds, and a 5-year-old or over, 550 pounds.

Fifteen cows in herds tested produced 70 pounds or more of butter fat during November. There were 20 herds with 1,095 cows on the standard test. The average milk produced was 566 pounds and the average fat 25.8 pounds. This figure was the lowest monthly average so far this year, Petersen said. He added that the one owner-

tested herd, with 15 cows, averaged at 1,094 pounds of milk and 41.3 pounds of fat.

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