

# Influenza Cases Decline In State Over Past Week

Influenza continued to lead as the No. 1 communicable disease in the state for the week ending Nov. 15 but the number attacked by the disease dropped to 459 from a peak of 613 for the previous week, the Oregon State Board of Health has reported. The most recent state-wide figure represented the lowest number of cases since the week of Oct. 19, when 348 people were reported with the disease.

In Klamath County, the case load of that disease dropped from 37 cases for the previous week to 16, representing the second highest number of influenza cases reported in the county this fall.

Jackson County led other counties adjacent to Klamath in the number of influenza cases reported with 55. Five other cases of communicable diseases were noted in that county, including measles and German measles with two each, and syphilis, one.

The breakdown of communicable diseases in other counties nearby follows: Lake, 16—influenza, 16.

Deschutes, one—pneumonia, one.  
Josephine, 16—scarlet fever, three; measles and staph infection, two each.

## Community Calendar

**WEDNESDAY**  
MIDLAND GRANGE, grange hall, 8 p.m.

PLAYERS CLUB, 7:30 p.m. meeting, Legion Hall.

DEGREE OF HONOR, Carleton Club, 7:30 p.m. meeting, Katherine Karns, 2415 Wainland.

ZULEIMA NILE CLUB, 10 a.m., cards, 1 p.m., luncheon meeting, Winema Hotel, Bring hospital toys.

NATIONAL FEDERATION of federal employees will have pot-luck at Shasta Grange Hall at 6:30 p.m.

HENLEY PTA, 2:30 p.m. meeting, Christmas theme by grade school, cafeteria.

MARINE CORPS LEAGUE, 8 p.m., meeting, VFW Hall. Wives auxiliary meeting.

**THURSDAY**  
VFW AUXILIARY, 8 p.m., business meeting, VFW Hall.

EASTERN STAR, district meeting, 12 noon, no host luncheon, Pelican. Honoring worthy grand matron.

Y-NE-MA TWIRLERS, 6:30 to 8 p.m., children's square dance instruction, YMCA.

Y-NE-MA TWIRLERS, 8 p.m., square dance, YMCA. Bring doughnuts.

BETHEL 6, Job's Daughters, 7 p.m., election of officers, Masonic Temple.



**BUCKAROO'S BIRTHDAY** — Traveling by horse to settle in Alturas in 1892, Charles Demick has become Modoc County's most noted buckaroo. He still vividly recalls the early cattle drives in the primitive California country which lasted for weeks and months, the establishment of the first railroad to Likely in 1911, and the posse hunt for a renegade band of Indians the same year. Celebrating his 89th birthday on Nov. 16, Demick assisted with cattle drives until 10 years ago.

## 89-Year-Old Modoc County Buckaroo Recalls Hard Winters Of Early Years

By BARBARA JOBE

ALTURAS—Charles Demick, Modoc County's most celebrated buckaroo, was 89 years old Nov. 16. Demick was born in Smartsville, Yuba County, in 1874 and came to Alturas and Modoc County in 1892 via horseback with pack horse in tow bearing all his possessions. "I couldn't afford a team and wagon in those days," he explains.

When Charlie tells of his early days in the county, it is easy to drift back to the day of horse and buggy, wild primitive country, and cattle drives lasting weeks and months over the deserts of Nevada and California.

His piercing eyes sparkle as he relives with you the long arduous winters: the days in early spring when the plains were littered covered with antelope, deer, and sage hens; the spirit of the zesty cowboys; and the sport of the early rodeos and horse races.

When just a young man, he was foreman of the Miller and Lux Black Rock Ranch in Eastern Oregon, Nevada, and California. For \$75 a month and board he managed a spread encompassing over 100 square miles and controlled 17,000 head of cattle.

He tells of his days with the legendary Henry Miller with clarity, reliving the long 12 to 14-hour days in the saddle as he rode from line camp to line camp checking on the cattle and his buckaroos. His headquarters were at Soldier's Meadows where, he says, "I checked in once or twice a year to make out the reports for Mr. Miller."

"One time I went out to buy a new herd of cows for the ranch and bought quite a few hundred more than I had been

authorized to do. It was some time later Mr. Miller wrote me about the deal and said with his German accent, "This is fine and I rise you" . . . meaning Charlie got a raise in pay.

Once a year Demick and his cowboys would drive the cattle to be sold to market in Winnemucca, which was the nearest rail head. Here, after a seven-day drive, the cattle were sold at prices of four and a half to five cents a pound for top steers.

In 1916 he left Miller and Lux and went to work for the Union Land and Cattle Company. During his time as a ranch foreman he managed most of the big spreads in the country such as the Lake Shore Ranch, the Corporation Ranch, and the XL Ranch.

Most of his days were spent in the open range country, but around Christmas time he would come to Alturas and stay at the Niles Hotel for the holidays. He tells of one winter he missed the holiday season as he and his cowboys were out on a 10-day cattle drive near Surprise Valley.

On New Year's Day the snow was three feet deep and they were moving the cows out to the Nevada winter desert range where the cattle would subsist on the high protein brown sage and range grasses. Frozen feet and hands were second nature to the cowboys. "Why we were lucky to have burial to wrap our feet in at times."

There were no insulated boots and high quality overshoes then, but Demick says he had a sure cure for keeping the feet warm. "Just put some cayenne pepper in your shoes and that will warm up the feet!"

It was 1911 before the railroad came to Likely and later Alturas. When the NCO narrow gauge came into the country, it freed the primitive northeastern country of California from isolation. Many times Demick and other cowboys would turn to in the winter to help the old engines puff over the Madeline grade, shoveling and clearing drifts of snow ahead of the engine. It was nothing for the passengers to climb out into the snow and also help with the track clearing.

Charlie says one of the favorite stories of the early NCO struggle over the Madeline grade was the engineer who finally wired the Reno office saying "I'm stuck on Madeline." The head office wired back "Marry the girl and come on in."

The old buckaroo says that it is beyond the present day hunters' wildest dreams to visualize the amount of wild game that ran rampant over the open ranges and plains. Many times he has seen up to 3,000 head of antelope in one herd and just as many deer. The sage hens were so thick that they would literally cover hundreds of acres for as far as one could see.

"It was quite a sight in the spring to see acres and acres of desert land covered with the great roosters as they did their mating dance, which consists of the bird going into wild jumping gyrations. The whole earth shook with the noise and motion of the thousands of birds."

He was an early director of the Alturas Roundup and in 1923 promoted the only bull fight ever held in the northern county.

He had heard that there were two Mexican boys working on the railroad who were bull fighters. He recruited the boys and put them into the ring, giving the local citizens one of the most thrilling afternoons they were to see in many days. One of the Mexican boys fought too closely to the bull and was pulled under the bull's feet and trampled. His partner rushed in to divert the bull.

Charlie Demick, who was in the arena on his horse as pick-up man, jumped from the horse and ran in to pull the boy from under the wild rampaging bull . . . saving his life. "I wasn't too bad off though," he says with a twinkle in his eyes. "I always had the old six shooter if the bull got too tough."

Although the Indian wars were over when Demick came into the Modoc country, he was a member of the posse that hunted down the renegade Indian Shoshone Mike and his braves. The Indians were responsible for the wanton slaughter of four prominent Surprise Valley ranchers in 1911 while they were camped on the Nevada desert.

The famous hunt for the killers in the dead of winter by irate Surprise Valley citizenry is now legendary in Northern California. Demick and his friend, J. D. Van Norman of Likely, are the only survivors of the posse.

Until 10 years ago, Charlie kept his hand in with his old trade of buckaroing, helping on cattle drives on the Bayley Dorris ranch. Even then he could stay in the saddle along with the youngest cowboy.

Now he isn't quite so active, but his health is good and his days are spent in caring for his yard at his home in Alturas and visiting with old-time cronies at the Warner Hotel. "I always said I would live to be 90," he says, "and now I can say I'm going on 90."

# Protestant Assembly Will Pay Tribute To Nation's First Catholic President

PHILADELPHIA (UPI)—Protestant church leaders will pay a unique tribute tonight to America's first Catholic President.

In Philadelphia's massive Convention Hall, more than 5,000 representatives of 31 major denominations will join in thanking God for the "inspired leadership, unswerving vision and courageous dedication" of John F. Kennedy.

The interdenominational memorial service for the assassinated President will be held in

connection with the triennial General Assembly of the National Council of Churches. It marks the first time in its history that the National Council has devoted an entire assembly session to honoring the memory of one man.

Some of the Protestant leaders who will take part in tonight's tribute were among those who publicly expressed fear, during the 1960 presidential campaign, that a Catholic President might jeopardize religious liberties.

During his brief presidency, Kennedy refuted those fears and won the confidence and respect of Protestant leaders as have few presidents of modern times.

Kennedy had accepted an invitation to address the General Assembly tonight. Instead of scheduling a substitute speaker, council leaders arranged for the memorial service, conducted by the Rev. Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, stated clerk of the United Presbyterian Church and former president of the National Council.

Dr. Blake said the service would pay tribute especially to Kennedy's "championship of liberty and equality" and to his "leadership on behalf of civil rights and racial justice."

The struggle for racial justice has emerged as the dominant concern of the General Assembly.

The council's retiring president industrialist J. Irwin Miller of Columbus, Ind., declared Monday that "race relations is our No. 1 challenge."

"Unless churches take a convincing, effective, courageous stand on this overriding moral issue, nothing else they do is going to count for very much," Miller warned.

The Rev. Dr. Robert W. Spike, executive director of the Commission on Religion and Race which the council established last June, reported at a dinner meeting Monday night that an ever-growing number of white church members are "deeply engaged" in the fight for Negro rights.

## New Command Heads Navy Patrol Squadron

MOFFETT NAVAL AIR STATION, Calif. (UPI)—The Navy announced Monday the formation of a new command to supervise all administration, training and logistics for Navy patrol squadrons in the Pacific.

The primary mission of Navy patrol squadrons is antisubmarine warfare.

Operational control of both air and surface antisubmarine warfare will remain with the Navy's Hawaii command, but the other aspects of the air patrol program will be consolidated under the new command.

Fifteen officers and 30 enlisted men will staff the new command under a rear admiral whose identity will be announced later, the Navy said. The command will be established at Moffett in January.

The organization will be staffed with the best talent in antisubmarine warfare and will be responsible for complete standardization of training to achieve maximum utilization of men, money and material," the announcement said.

It said the present high cost of training, added to the cost of aircraft and the vast Pacific expanse to be covered "dictate coordination and intensification of all training and administration of Pacific patrol squadrons."

The Pacific squadrons include Fleet Air Wing 10 at Moffett;

FAW 1 with the 7th Fleet; FAW 2 at Barber's Point Naval Air Station on Oahu, Hawaii; FAW 4 at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station near Seattle; FAW 6 at the Marine Corps Air Station at Iwakuni, Japan, and FAW 14 at North Island Naval Air Station at San Diego, Calif.

## Pair Looks, Lives Alike

FREEMONT, Ill. (UPI)—Elvin and Melvin Damerier met Margaret and Elizabeth Finch at the 1960 International Twins Convention in St. Louis.

The twin brothers were elected joint presidents of the association at the meeting. The sisters were picked as the most identical twins in attendance.

The two couples were married June 29, 1952, and they took up residence in adjoining houses on a farm at Lena, Ill. Each sister gave birth to a girl, and later to a boy.

Last year, both sisters sued for divorces on identical charges of cruelty, each claiming they were struck by their husbands.

Circuit Court Judge Marvin F. Burt granted divorce decrees to both wives Friday, giving each custody of the children and each got possession of a 1960 family car.

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## Benefits Voted For Auxiliary

MOUNT SHASTA — That Mount Shasta Auxiliary Police personnel will be given special police status was decided at the Mount Shasta City Council meeting on Nov. 26.

Police Chief Harold Barnum pointed out that while the men would still be volunteer workers without pay, they would be given fringe benefits such as insurance against injury while on duty.

These men now work without compensation and also supply their own equipment. This will still be the policy, but any hospitalization or extra expenses incurred while on duty will be met by a coverage policy.

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