

# Vernonia Eagle

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## FILIPINOS TO HONOR RIZAL

### To Honor Hero Executed By Spaniards in 1896

### THE PUBLIC IS INVITED

#### Program To Be Given In High School Auditorium Tonight at 7:30.

Members of the Filipino colony in Vernonia and other groups throughout the state will observe the 30th anniversary of the death of Dr. Jose Rizal, Filipino martyr, who was executed by the Spaniards in Manila. The local observance will be in the high school auditorium tonight at 7:30. An extensive program has been arranged.

On a sunshiny morning in Manila, 30 years ago, Dr. Rizal stood blindfolded before a Spanish firing squad. Physicians examined his pulse even while he stood waiting, it was absolutely normal. Dr. Rizal was unafraid. The command was given to fire, a fusillade of bullets struck Rizal, and his boyish figure crumpled and slipped to the ground.

#### Farewell Message Written

While waiting death in his prison cell, only a few hours before the time set for his execution, the Filipino reformer addressed this farewell to his beloved native land: Gladly now I go to give thee this faded life's best, And were it brighter, fresher or more blest, Still would I give it thee. All hail! cries the soul that is now to take flight; All hail! And sweet it is for thee to expire, And sleep in thy bosom eternity's long night, To die for thy sake that thou mayst aspire!

Dr. Rizal during his last night in his prison cell wrote a poem which he entitled "My Last Farewell." He secreted the manuscript in an alcohol cooking lamp, where it was found after his execution.

Dr. Rizal spoke seven languages and was a cultured and much traveled man. As he preached against the oppression of the Filipino people he early earned the enmity of Spanish governors in the Philippines. He had witnessed scenes of cruelty and oppression on the part of the Spanish rulers that tortured his sensitive soul. At the risk of his life, and at the sacrifice of his career, friends, and loved ones, he became "the living indictment of Spain's wretched colonial system."

Dr. Rizal could have saved his life by remaining away from the Philippines, as he had been warned by friends not to return to the islands from Europe. He could not be dissuaded to remain away. Before returning to Manila he wrote the following letter, to be opened after his death in the event his activities resulted in his execution.

"Gladly do I go to expose myself to peril, not as any expiation of misdeed (for in this matter I believe myself guiltless of any), but to complete my work. Myself offer the example of which I have always preached. A man ought to be willing to die for duty and his principles. I hold fast to every idea which I have advanced as to the condition and future of our country and shall willingly die for it. I hold duties of conscience above all else. Besides I wish to show those who deny us patriotism that we know how to die for duty and principles."

While Rizal was in Europe working for reform in the Philippines, the Spanish governor-general, to punish Rizal indirectly, carried on a relentless persecution of his parents and relatives in the islands, driving them into exile. To his parents Rizal left a second letter, saying:

"Should fate go against me you will understand that I shall die happy in the thought that my death will end all your troubles. Return to our country and may you be happy in it. Till the last moment of my life I shall be thinking of you all good fortune and happi-

## Sarah A. Spencer Tells of Vernonia's First Community Tree

Yes, the celebration held last Thursday was Vernonia's first community Christmas tree held out doors. But the first community Christmas tree was in the year 1881, in an old log schoolhouse near the Stony Point and Rock creek cross roads.

We didn't have our tree lighted with electricity, but used candles and lamps for lights. Everybody was invited and the house was packed. A stick chimney warmed the room.

After the program and treat was over, a long table was put across the room and all kinds of goodies were served by members of the various lodges here.

After the churches and halls were built we had a number of community Christmas trees and programs, where everyone was treated alike. After a time, all decided that a home Christmas was the best, and some families invited folks to their homes who could not observe Christmas in their own homes.

The community was not so large as it is now. A community tree out doors sure was a treat for the children that attended. It was too bad that it was cold. I am glad I have lived in this valley since 1880 and seen things change and improve, from the time when there was only a postoffice and the little log schoolhouse to the present thriving town. Sarah A. Spencer.

ness.

Spain had meanwhile determined on having Rizal's life, thinking that if the voice of the champion was stilled, agitation for the reforms would end.

Rizal was arrested on what Filipinos claim was a trumped-up charge of treason and was condemned to death. But no sooner had the firing squad completed its work than the teachings of Rizal became the passionate inspiration of the whole Filipino race. His execution had simply transferred the intense patriotism of Rizal to the breast of the entire Filipino people.

The anniversary of Dr. Rizal's death is a national legal holiday in the Philippines. Outside of the islands, in every city in which the merest handful services are held in commemoration of Rizal's life and deeds. A marble shaft marks the spot hallowed by the blood of the martyr.

#### Literary Contests Won.

Rizal was born at Clamba, province of LaLaguna, on June 19, 1861. His father was Francisco Mercado Rizal, who took great pride in his young son's success as a student. Young Rizal was the winner of literary contests in the school at Manila. He could paint, was interested in clay modeling, and was expert in carving. At the age of 21 he went to Europe. He entered Madrid university, Spain, and was graduated as doctor of medicine and philosophy. Then he studied in Paris, Brussels, London and in Germany. While he was in Germany he wrote and published "Noli Me Tangere." (The Social Cancer). It was a satirical novel exposing the inner life, the arrogance and the despotism of the oppressors of the Filipino natives. Through one of his characters, the old philosopher, Rizal indicated he was not writing for his own generation, but for a coming instructed generation. His second book, which he wrote in 1890, was "El Filibusterismo" (The Reign of Greed), the purpose of which was to show how the Filipinos were goaded into outlawry. Both books were heart-gripping stories of the Tolstoi type. They have been printed in various languages, including English, and are receiving recognition for their literary value.

#### Rizal Spoke 7 Languages

Dr. Rizal could read and write in Tagalog, Spanish, English, Greek, French and German and had a reading knowledge of Latin, Dutch and Visayan.

It was a curious fact that as early as 1876, Rizal, at the age of 15, predicted that time the United States would some time come to the Philippines, and gave his reasons for this belief. That Rizal wished to see his native land modeled after the American republic may be deduced from his early purchase in Barcelona of two different editions of the "Lives of the Presidents of the United States, from his deep interest in the country from San Francisco to New York, and from his study of the American Revolution.

## SCHOOL SPONSORS JUBILEE QUARTET

The Vernonia grade school will sponsor the presentation of the Dixie Jubilee quartet at the Majestic theatre Friday, January 7, the school to receive 50 per cent of the proceeds of the show. There will be an afternoon show for the children and an evening show for the people of Vernonia.

There is always something about the music of colored singers and players which touches a responsive chord in the heart of every listener. They do the things they love so well. They sing the old folk songs of the South in their own inimitable way. There is nothing so full of genuine sweetness, so full of melody, as these old negro songs with all their simplicity, and it takes the real negro to sing them as they should be sung. The success of the Dixie Jubilee Quartet is due to the fact that they stick very largely to these plantation melodies for which their voices are so peculiarly adapted. However, while the folk songs are favored the program is interspersed with many humorous and popular selections.

## Bessie Tapp Elected W. M. Of Eastern Star

Nehalem Chapter 153, Order of Eastern Star, has elected the following officers for 1927:

Bessie Tapp, W. M.; F. D. Macpherson, W. P.; Katherine McNeill, A. M.; Leana McGraw, sec.; Fern Kullander treas.; Ramona Lindley, cond.; Mae Bergman, asso. cond.; Alice Gooding, chaplain; Maude Space, marshal; Oril Robinson, organist; Annie Cropper, warden; Fern Kullander, sentinel; Gwladys Macpherson, Adah; Carna Childs, Ruth; Freda Folger, Esther; Mabel Mellinger, Martha; Ruth Johns, Electa.

## VERNONIA LEGION INSTALLS OFFICERS

The Vernonia Legion post held installation of officers Tuesday night in the Brown building. They enjoyed their customary annual banquet that night. M. E. Carlin, district committeeman, department of Oregon, was the installing officer.

Speeches were made by Past Commander Folger, M. E. Carlin and Commander McGraw, besides short comments by most of the 40 present. It is the plan of Commander McGraw to work toward securing permanent quarters for the Vernonia post. Definite plans have not been made in that direction yet, it is said.

Past Commander Folger was presented with a past commander's jewel in recognition of his services to Vernonia post during the past year.

#### To Hold Watch Service

On Friday evening, December 31, at 6:30 p.m. the congregation of the First Evangelical church will hold a fellowship supper for members and friends of the church. The committee will serve wieners, baked beans, scalloped potatoes and coffee. Come and bring your friends. Bring your basket with sandwiches, cake or pie.

After the supper the annual business meeting of the church will be held and the evening will be closed with a midnight watch service.

#### Constable Sale Held

The auction sale held by Constable W. J. Kelly in front of the city hall Tuesday afternoon was attended by a large number of interested persons. The Chevrolet roadster went to the Swanson Automotive company of Portland at \$118.

A little Ford bug was also auctioned off to Mr. Grimm for \$34.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Rhyne's baby girl was seriously ill last week. It was feared for some anxious hours that the child would not live but she is recovering and is out of danger.

#### 40 and 8 Elects

Vernonia post of 40 and 8, American Legion, recently elected Geo. McGee, chef de gare; Lee Schwab, correspondent; Dudley Nixon, conductor; E. H. McGraw, commissaire; A. W. Alexander, garde de la porte; J. Hatten, chef de train.

## IDENTITY OF VETERAN IS BAFFLING MYSTERY

Washington, Dec.—All efforts made thus far by the U. S. Marine Corps to establish the identity of the mysterious "Jerry Tarbot," a living but unknown American soldier, have failed according to a statement issued by headquarters of the Marine Corps here today.

Tarbot is merely a pseudonym given by the authorities of California, where the war veteran underwent treatment for his injuries. The "Man without a name" believes he served in France with the U. S. Marines, and for this reason that branch of the service has been particularly vigilant in its efforts to establish his identity. But the Army, Navy Veterans' Bureau have been equally anxious to help "Jerry" find himself.

The search has continued for four years. The identity of the veteran is still wrapped in a tangled maze of mystery. A detailed account of the fruitless efforts made by the Marine Corps to solve the unusual case follows.

For a period of over four years the name of Jerry Tarbot has been before the public, and his picture featured with newspaper articles, concerning his evident loss of memory, and with it knowledge of his identity, presumably as a result of service in the World war, overseas.

Such publicity has become emphasized at intervals, particularly when Tarbot has appeared in a new community, or secured the protection and assistance of a new organization, in his desperate efforts to establish his identity.

"Jerry Tarbot" is probably not his original name, but with his appearance at hospitals in 1922, this is the name he used, and he has stated he believes he may have used the name of Jeres Tarboa while in France. However, it appears that the name "Jerry Tarbot" has now been legally conferred upon him by the Courts of California.

Each new organization with which he has become associated for the time being has at once made inquiry of the Marine Corps for information, and numerous persons, prominent in official and public life, as well as a number of ex-marines interested in helping "a buddy," with whom Tarbot has come in contact, have implored the Marine Corps to look into the matter.

The Marine Corps seems to be the branch of the service concerning which Tarbot has the most vivid recollections as he relates his story. He refers to associations with certain marine organizations, with overseas engagements and to a belief that he wore the winter field uniform of the marines, and actually did duty as a member of the 79th company, 6th regiment. The assignment is his first recollection of duty with the Marines; prior to this he is not sure of himself; he does not remember enlisting in this country.

Naturally Tarbot's references to the Marine Corps service have resulted in the Marine Corps being, in a way, automatically designated as the organization responsible to the public in reestablishing this man, and placing him on his feet face towards the world; the only drawback is that the very complete records of the Marine Corps fail to give any clue whatsoever, to indicate him to be a former member of its organization.

The records of the Marine Corps Headquarters show that correspondence concerning Jerry Tarbot was first received in October 1922, at which time he was on the West Coast. His fingerprints were forwarded to Washington, and carefully compared with all fingerprints in the Marine Corps files, with no favorable result.

The next official record of Tarbot according to Marine Corps files was in October 1923, when it was learned that he had been, during the preceding 18 months, in the John Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, Maryland, (spring of 1921) Veterans' Hospital, Hot Springs, Arkansas (summer of 1921), Hospital in Prescott, Arizona, (fall of 1921), Veterans' Hospital, Fort Lyons, Colorado, (fall of 1921), State Hospital, Stockton, California, (fall of 1922), Veterans' Hospital, Palo Alto, California, (fall of 1922).

At this time Marine Corps officers assigned to the recruiting (Concluded on Page 6)

## Logging Camps And Many Mills Closed For Holiday Season

Portland, Dec. 27. (Special)—Logging camp and sawmill production in the Pacific northwest was brought to the low point of the year last week, when operations were closed for Christmas and New Year holidays, according to the 4L employment letter published here today.

Fir logging from Coos bay to northern Puget sound, as well as in British Columbia, is practically at a standstill and but little resumption of operations is to be expected until after January 3. A summary of reports from all lumber producing districts show that 35 per cent of the major sawmills are down. In many cases night shifts have been taken off for indefinite periods, and day shifts at several plants are being operated on four or five day weeks. Repairs, overhauling and installing of new equipment, along with annual inventories, is the order of work for the present, instead of actual sawing of logs.

Reports show that more than 60 per cent of the experienced loggers and 30 per cent of sawmill workers in the fir districts are temporarily unemployed while camps and mills are marking time.

Approximately 75 per cent of the sawmills in the pine districts east of the Cascades have suspended operations temporarily, while woods work there is being done on regular winter schedules.

## Gifts To Library Permit Purchase of New Books

The Vernonia library has purchased a considerable list of books which will soon be available to the public. The money with which the books were purchased was a gift from the Pythian Sisters. Among the books, are a goodly number of children's books. In present day literature, "A diary of a Noun Lady of Fashion in 1764, 1765" by Cleone Knox which gives a very interesting picture of life at that period, another is "The Private Life of Helen of Troy" by Erskine, which is the authors conception of Helen's life. Why We Behave Like Humane Beings, by Dr. Dorsey is non fiction which would only be enjoyed by matured minds. Among the classics the library is proud to possess Hugga's "By Order of the King," Thatcher's "Pendennis," Austin's "Pride and Prejudice."

These are just samples from each type of literature the library will have to offer among recently purchased books. Join the reading public of Vernonia and enjoy the privileges offered by your own library.

## Many Vernonia Children At Christmas Tree Fete

A record crowd attended the community Christmas tree celebration in Vernonia Thursday night of last week. Hundreds of kiddies were wildly excited and pleased by the treats and presence of Santa Claus. And before leaving he promised to be back again next year.

Mac's band played a number of selections in the building formerly occupied by the Gordon Furniture company. Had an amplifier been used the crowd could have enjoyed the music better, it was said. The noise of the children drowned out nearly every note before it reached the edge of the crowd.

But the Christmas spirit was there anyway. The girls glee club sang in the street, for the benefit of those outside. The great Christmas tree was aglow with multi-colored lights, presenting a beautiful sight for many blocks around.

Children who had expressed the wish to see Santa Claus were brought from many miles around for the privilege. A few folks made the statement that they would have taken their children to Portland to see Santa, had he not been here. Likewise some of the Christmas trade would have been lost to local merchants.

A course in Glee Club and elementary harmony was added to the high school curriculum in October. The class has a membership of twenty girls. The names of the girls follow:

Eva Roles, Sheila Williams, Mary E. Laramore, Dorothy Throop, Gladys Krinick, Margaret Shipley, Isabel Currie, Anna Rea Webster, Nora Seidelman, Helen Heiber, Cecile Webb, Theresa Tackett, Louise Simmons, Emily Poetter, Amy Hughes, Sheila Hopson, Della Cline, Ida Mae Hawkins, Mary Aberst, Wilma Jones.

## 3 ANNIVERSARIES OBSERVED

### Golden Wedding, Family Reunion and Birthday.

## ALL ON CHRISTMAS DAY

### Many Attend Unique Celebration At Home of Louis A. Boeck

A family reunion, birthday celebration and golden wedding were celebrated at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Boeck in Vernonia December 25. The golden wedding was Mr. and Mrs. George Sitts, residents of Columbia county for the past 34 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Boeck held a family reunion with their sons and daughters. Mrs. J. C. Bond of Bend, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Boeck, celebrated her birthday on Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Sitts came here in 1892 from Michigan. They homesteaded in the present Kelsey vicinity and lived there 30 years. The past six they have made their home in Vernonia.

Mr. and Mrs. Sitts were married December 25, 1873, at La Peer, Michigan. The marriage services were repeated at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Boeck, followed by much throwing of rice. The happy couple were then embraced and congratulated by all present.

The guests present were: Mr. and Mrs. George Sitts, Miss Rose Sitts, Edward Hansen and Jack Axsdahl of Vernonia; Mrs. C. T. Lester and son and daughter, Frank Hiatt and Florence Hiatt of Fairview, Oregon; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Grebe, Miss Hazel Potter, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Faltina, Miss Emma Faltina and Mr. Gray of Portland.

The evening was spent in playing games and dancing, followed with a buffet luncheon. Those present reported having enjoyed the occasion immensely.

## LARGE GROUP ENJOY HOLIDAY DANCE HERE

More than 100 guests were said to be present at the Christmas dance held in the grange hall Saturday night. Dance lovers who were disappointed at the burning of the dance hall here recently, were greatly pleased at this provision for their entertainment.

The music was supplied by the six-piece Collegiate dance band. The members of the orchestra are as follows: Amy Hughes, piano; Elmer Olsen, trumpet and banjo; Harold Olsen, bass; Robert Hoffman, sax and clarinet; Charles Hoffman, sax and clarinet; Alvin Olsen, drums.

One more dance during the holidays is being arranged next Friday night, New Year's eve. It is expected that many will be present for the occasion.

#### Happy New Year, 1927.

By L. R. H.

Am I dreaming!  
Or is this fairy land?  
It may be the lights of morning gleaming!  
My but everything looks grand!

The trees are all so quiet,  
The boughs are drooping low;  
Their green all covered with white  
Only dimly shadows show.

Smoke curls from the chimney  
And floats off o'er the town  
A fence post looks like Queen Marie  
A rose bush her trailing gown.

Everything looks so mystic, Oh!  
I just now begin to know  
This scene I took for fairy land  
Is just Oregon's first snow.

Sarah A. Spencer spent Christmas eve in Portland Heights at the home of her son Omar. Two other children, Bertha and Oral, were also present. Christmas day Mrs. Spencer visited her son Robert and two daughters Bertha and Margret, near Trehanie.