

## Dean Allen Writes About Germany

(Editor's Note) This is one of several articles written for this newspaper by Eric W. Allen, dean of the University of Oregon school of Journalism who is now traveling in Europe on a fellowship granted by the Oberlander Trust of the Karl Shurz memorial foundation.

By Eric W. Allen  
Dean of the University of Oregon School of Journalism

OBERAMMERGAU, Bavaria.—It seems like Oregon again to be among high mountains. Oberammergau is a lumber town, almost exactly the same size as Cottage Grove, and I am pounding the typewriter out of doors in the pleasant courtyard of our host, Anton Lang, who in three successive Passion Plays took the part of the Christ. Mr. Lang is finishing up some necessary letters, after which he wants to show me through his pottery shop.

"Oberammergau," translated into Western American diction, means "the upper Ammer country." The stream we have been following into the lovely Alps, is the Ammer. This is the most mountainous part of Germany. The highest peak in the Reich, the Zugspitze, 9,000 feet, is only a few miles away. Higher Alps lie just across the border in Austria and Switzerland.

How does Oberammergau compare with Cottage Grove? Both town are progressive, and the people think well of themselves, but the cities are very different to the eye. Both places have wide well-paved streets, but Cottage Grove streets are all straight, while few Oberammergau streets can stay straight for more than a hundred yards or so, being interrupted by fine old peasant-style buildings located according to the builders' fancy centuries before traffic became a problem. These houses are very large, and from the wide Swiss eaves downward are covered in stucco of pleasant pastel tints, and often elaborately painted with pictures of rustic or religious scenes in full color.

The costume of the people is as practical as it is picturesque. The men—even office workers—wear sturdy leather shorts of cow or deer-hide, held up by gaudily embroidered suspenders. All knees are bare, and hats are decorated with feathers or with the gombart—the beard of the chamois found in these mountains. It looks like a shaving brush and sticks up from the rear section of the hat. The women wear costumes in high color with hundreds of years of local tradition behind them. Pendleton displays a local costume at roundup time, and Eugene when the Trail-to-Rail summer comes around, but

in this part of the world local costumes are made very practical and worn most of the time by eight persons out of ten.

Anton Lang says the life of the typical peasant is very simple. He eats excellent food, and lives in a first-rate house, but he seldom travels more than a few miles and would not dream of owning a car. (A Ford costs \$2,200 and gas comes at 45 to 72 cents a gallon). However the farmsteads present a superficial appearance that is far more impressive than that of the thousands of farm homes we passed in the rich state of Iowa a couple of months ago. We saw more fresh paint in the Alpine rural districts of poor little bankrupt Austria than in the whole of America's richest corn country.

Houses and barns in this section are usually built into a single impressive structure. Centuries of tradition and care have given these an attractive form. It is not that the farmers are copying the artists, but that the artists copy the farmers. Carmel, California, for instance, is merely an attempt by architects and artists to attain something like the dignity of housing which the Bavarian farmer reaches instinctively. These farmers love their soil and their work and their homes.

In Oberammergau the principal industry is wood carving—an offshoot of the lumber activities. The art was taught the people centuries ago, Anton Lang says, by the monks in the monastery on the neighboring mountain. It solves the problem of seasonal occupation and keeps people from going stale with idleness in winter.

In 1633, during the 30-years war that almost destroyed Germany, Oberammergau got off light from the prevailing pestilence that followed the armies, suffering only 85 deaths. The people swore an oath to give a Passion Play every ten years forever. This oath, intended as self-sacrifice, turned out in the course of time to be one of the principal sources of the town's prosperity. Passion Plays were common in most churches in those days, but when the fashion disappeared elsewhere Oberammergau kept on because it had sworn.

Now the town is so famous that visitors come even in the nine years between plays. Oberammergau is a great center of hiking in the mountains, and there is much business in tavern keeping, hikers' supplies, souvenirs, and guiding. In the long

winter, the people make carvings and embroidery, and altogether the city is a good example of what a community located amid high quality scenery can make out of keeping things attractive and interesting for visitors. This country, by nature, is more like certain parts of Oregon than anything we have seen, but here every human activity adds to the beauty of the scenery, and has been doing so for centuries.

## Personal

Mrs. Joseph J. Wangler of Burns came Sunday for a couple

### BRIDGING OVER



"They say her husband is in financial straits and they could not get along but for her card winnings."

"She sort of 'bridges' over their difficulties, so to speak."

### SMALL MATTER



"Do you like your school, Jimmy?"

"Yes, sir; we have a fine school, but I think they oughtta get a new teacher."

of weeks visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Mills.

Mrs. Ben Bergstrom is visiting her daughter Mrs. Joe Doyle. Mrs. Phil Peterson has been

ill this past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Al Lachine and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Lachine and son Alvin motored to Rainier Monday.

### BEFORE AND AFTER



"That woman has driven her husband nearly insane with her extravagance."

"He was dippy about her before he married her."

**Ask For**  
TWIST BREAD

That Is Giving Wide Satisfaction

**Try It**

**Vernonia Bakery**

## Professional & Business Directory

THE GOLDEN RULE  
BARBER SHOP  
N. S. SODEN, PROP.

NEAL W. BUSH  
Attorney at Law  
Joy Theatre Bldg. Ph. 663  
In Vernonia Mondays and Tuesdays

BAFFORD BROS.  
General Plumbing  
Vernonia

PAPER HANGING  
Painting  
Kalsomining  
**BOB MORRELL**  
761 Second Street

Roland D. Eby, M. D.  
Physician and Surgeon  
Town Office 891

Dr. Chas. E. TATRO  
Chiropractor — Radionist  
Physio-Therapist  
OVER CLINE FUR. STORE  
Phone 231

DR. R. I. HALL  
Physician and Surgeon  
965 Bridge St.  
Phone, Office 72, Res. 73  
Office Hours 7 to 12 1 to 5  
Special Attention to Obstetrics

H. M. BIGELOW  
DENTIST  
Joy Theatre Building  
Vernonia - - - Oregon

### Nehalem Valley Motor Freight

W. A. Davis, Frank Hartwick  
Proprietors  
Portland-Timber-Vernonia-  
Mist-Birkenfeld-Jewell-  
Astoria  
Vernonia Telephone 1042

Roland L. Treharne  
Expert Automobile Repairing  
WELDING  
ROLAND'S  
SERVICE STATION

Willard Batteries  
GENERAL MOBILGAS  
Oils . . . Expert Greasing  
**VERNONIA SERVICE STATION**

CASON'S TRANSFER  
LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE HAULING  
SEE US  
For your old-growth  
16-INCH FIR WOOD  
AND CEDAR SHINGLES

E. SORENSEN  
High Grade Ladies' and Gents' Tailor  
Cleaning, Pressing, Alterations and Repair Work expertly done.  
847 Third Street

FULLERTON STUDIO  
— PIANO — VOICE —  
479 Rose Avenue  
Telephone 1091

**Buy Your Printing Now and Save Time**

**Vernonia Plumbing Shop**  
Plumbing, Heating and Sheet Metal Work  
Fred Hansen, Prop.  
Phone 392

## Oregon Motor Stages

Leave from Bush's Cafe  
7:55 a. m. 1:25 p. m. and 5:25 p.m. daily  
for Portland via Timber.

Leave Portland, from Yamhill stage depot daily at 9:30 a. m., 2:00 p. m. and 5:15 p. b.. Call service between Camp 8 and Vernonia.

Sundays Only: 12:30 p. m. for St. Helens. Leaves St. Helens 3 p. m.

FARE: \$2.10 round trip, \$1.30 one way

Ride the new Oregon Motor Stages

## The Forest Grove NATIONAL BANK

invites you to Bank by mail if inconvenient to come in person.

J. A. Thornburgh, President.

"THE ROLL OF HONOR BANK"

## LODGES

### A. F. & A. M.

Vernonia Lodge No. 184 A. F. & A. M. meets at Masonic Temple, Stated Communication First Thursday of each month. Special called meetings on all other Thursday nights, 7:30 p. m. Visitors most cordially welcome.  
George Plumb, W. M.  
Glenn F. Hawkins, Sec.

### Order of Eastern Star

Nehalem Chapter 153, O. E. S. Regular communication first and third Wednesdays of each month, at Masonic Temple. All visiting sisters and brothers welcome.  
Mrs. L. H. Dewey, W. M.  
Leona McGraw, Sec.