

PENASCO VALLEY NEWS

AND HOPE PRESS

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Hope, Eddy County, New Mexico

Friday, Jan. 1, 1954

Hunter's Celebrate Golden Wedding

Saturday, Dec. 26, was a big day in Hope. Over 100 people assembled in the home ec room of the high school and assisted Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hunter in celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. It came as a complete surprise to the Hunters. They were invited to the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Ward for dinner, but instead arrived at the high school where they were greeted by old and young with congratulations and many beautiful gifts.

At 12:30 the guests, with Mr. and Mrs. Hunter in the lead, started to fill their plates with barbecued beef, roast turkey and all the trimmings. It was a feast long to be remembered.

While dinner was being served, Rev. and Mrs. Morrow of the Church of Christ sang several songs dedicated to the guests of honor.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunter were married in Emmer, Texas, moving to Tucumcari, where they lived from 1898 to 1908. From there they went to Willard, N. M., where they lived for about seven years. In November 1917 they arrived in Hope and the Penasco Valley looking so good to them they bought a place and moved their stock here and have lived here ever since, having a nice home a few miles west of Hope.

Mr. Hunter aged 71 and Mrs. Hunter aged 70 are still hale and hearty and take an active interest in the Hope community life.

(A more complete account of the celebration will be published next week.)

Sage and Cactus

By Doughbelly Price

As 1953 does the Houdini disappearing act we wonder what 1954 will bring. The only thing that is sure of is an off year election. More bitter name calling and mud slinging. The fifty-four baby will have a first mortgage emblazoned across the seat of his first diaper and a halo of mystery on his head. What is in store for us fifty four is any body's guess. The farms and ranches (the backbone of it all) has graduated from a cow horse to a Cadillac automobile. Got a master's degree in luxury and ease, and even with the world owe as many as they dont owe living a champagne life on a beer income. And the beer income is from oil. Something that you cant eat or drink, worshipping at the shrine of E pluribus unum and prostituting the natural resources of the land for things that he has no use for. We have the atomic bomb and dont know what to do with it.

The atomic baby that was borned at the white sands proving ground looked like a baby of delevance. And now it has turned into a night mare. too hot to hold and too dangerous to urn loose. And it is called the age of enlightenment, I wonder—

A good old white faced cow will eat drink and lay down contented. But we so called smart humans eat drink and start looking for some one that we can beat out of something.

A long eared mule wont eat too much or drink too much. We humans



will do both and then cry about a hangover and scream for a pill shooter. But we cant back up It is too late to back up now We have got to go on and see what the final finish will be. At the end of 54 we may still be stumbling in the dark but lets hope not. As long as Congress dont put birth control on cattle and hogs we will make it.

Newsom's Take Christmas Trip

Having never been away from home on Christmas, Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Newsom decided to take a trip this year and visit their sons and daughters instead of them coming here. Therefore they left Monday, Dec. 21, accompanied by their son Virgil and made their first stop at Hobbs, where they visited Mr. and Mrs. Dick Lauderdale. On Tuesday they made it to Seagraves where they visited Mr. and Mrs. I. E. Newsom and family. On Wednesday to Lamesa where they were guests of Alvis Newsom and family. Thursday to Big Spring where they called on Floyd Newsom and family. Christmas Day and Saturday, they visited around Big Spring calling on E. L. Newsome and family and Clyde Clanton and family. Late Saturday they started back home, arriving here Sunday afternoon. They all claim it was a wonderful trip, having plenty to eat and drink and finding everyone happy and prosperous.

New Year's Dance

A dance will be held at the gym at Hope Saturday night, Jan. 2. Music by Jimmy Farlow and His Pecos Valley Boys. Everyone cordially invited.

Neighborhood News

At a meeting of the school board at Artesia, it was decided to build a new school at Hope at a cost of \$50,000. The old buildings to be demolished.

Ben Marable spent Christmas Day in the Pecos Valley. On the way down he got stuck in the snow and had to be pushed out.

Mr. and Mrs. Felix Cauhape Sr., spent Christmas in the Pecos Valley visiting relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Smokey McElroy and children spent Christmas in Hope visiting Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Harris.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Buckner and children of Carlsbad visited Mrs. Ella Buckner, Hollis Buckner and Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Altman Christmas week.

Mrs. John Hardin has been sick under a doctor's care the past two weeks. The children have been staying at Hope, the guests of Grandma and Grandpa Rood.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Carson and son and family went to Kansas to spend Christmas with relatives.

Alice Ruth Williams who is teaching school in Raton, spent the holiday season visiting her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Bryant Williams.

The recent snow not only was a big benefit to the ranchers, but it helped settled the dirt on Highway 83.

There was no election held this year by the Hope Water Users. A quorum at the annual meeting could not be secured therefore the old commissioners hold over for another year.

W. E. Rood, Jr., Mrs. Betty Rood, Barbara, Billie and Jackie Rood of

Phoenix, Ariz. have been here this week visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Rood Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. John Hardin and daughters.

Everyone is happy over the snow that covered the ground during Christmas week. There was so much snow that several families could not make it in to attend the Hunter golden wedding celebration.

Work on cleaning out the Hope retard dam is progressing steadily. They might have the work completed by March 1, weather permitting.

Dee Madron's family went to El Paso Christmas Day and visited Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Davis. Delbert Hokie and family from Wasco, Calif. were here over the holiday season visiting relatives.

Savoi Davis and family of Oklahoma City were here over Christmas. They visited here and also in El Paso. Savoi is a brother of W. G. Davis.

Walter Madron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Madron, of Stanfield, Ariz. arrived home Christmas Day from Korea.

"TEN WAYS YOUR TAXES CAN BE CUT" . . . In "an open letter to Congress," J. K. Lasser, the famous tax expert, sets forth a practical plan for reducing taxes and easing the burden on the average taxpayer. You will want to read this timely article. It's in The American Weekly, that great magazine distributed with next Sunday's Los Angeles Examiner.

Mrs. Nonie Warrick of Phoenix has been here this week visiting Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Rood and the John Hardin family.

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Baby Swine Beauties



Pigtailed Shirley Couch, 3, of Trenton, N.J., proudly shows off her Poland China piglets which she entered in the baby swine beauty contest at the New Jersey state fair in Trenton in September. This oldest fair in the country and the largest in the East marked its 207th birthday this year. The piglets, incidentally, were only nine hours old when this picture was taken.

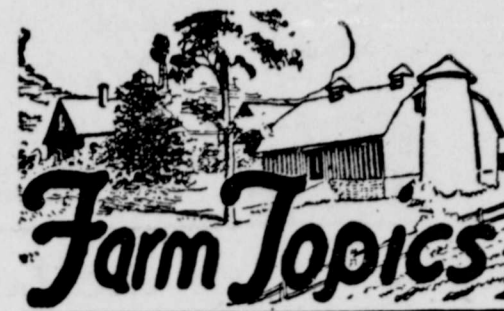
Rural Fire Losses Can Be Cut Down

More than \$100,000,000 worth of rural property will be destroyed by fire in 1952-'53 unless building practices change radically.

The Tile Council of America warns in a recent report that the 1951 loss of \$122,000,000 worth of farm buildings and equipment probably will be repeated unless greater attention is paid to construction of dwellings in areas where organized fire-fighting apparatus is not available. It is estimated that at least half the farm fires could be easily prevented through safeguarded construction, and that dwelling fires will be most common in the winter season coming up.

Here are recommendations from leading fire-prevention authorities for protecting rural property against flame:

1. Be sure there is a clear space of 150 feet between major structures. If one catches fire, such as a hay barn from spontaneous combustion, other buildings will be less endangered if flame cannot spread.
2. Fireproof surfaces such as clay tile should be installed in as many parts of the home as possible, including kitchen, basement, garage and bathroom.
3. Take prevailing winds into account. Plan the layout of buildings against the wind, so that fire from one structure will not be carried to the next.
4. Don't have a firetrap fireplace. It should be constructed of fireproof materials, such as clay tile, with the outside chimney of brick or masonry.



Balanced Feeding Builds Soil Health

Crops Need Good Diet Like Humans

You can't build up the soil's health and crop yielding power by overfeeding it one plant nutrient while starving it for others.

Purdue university agronomists demonstrated the importance of balancing the nutrient supplies in tests in Davies county, Indiana.

Loading up the soil with nitrogen when phosphate and potash levels were low, reduced corn yields on



A balanced diet of all the essential elements will soon have your sick soil healthy and productive again.

the Charles Schenck farm, reports Howard Lathrope, Purdue soils specialist.

In the tests, three plots of corn each received 100 pounds of phosphate and potash per acre. One plot had eight pounds of nitrogen, a second had 108 pounds and the third, 208 pounds.

Tissue tests of corn on the eight pound plot showed no nitrogen, but ample phosphate and potash.

As the nitrogen applications went up, the potash levels in the corn plants went down, reducing growth. On the plot where 208 pounds of nitrogen were added, there was just enough potash in the fertilizer to balance out the corn feeding program. The potash shortage caused a lack of energy foods in the plant. The root systems of the high-nitrogen, low-potash corn were weak. The stalks were wobbly, so the plants lodged badly.

YOUR EYES

NEED ATTENTION

Consult

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at Artesia Transfer, 1406 W. Main.
Phone 1168. —Adv.



LOOKING AHEAD

BY GEORGE S. BENSON
President—Harding College
Searcy, Arkansas

Promise of the Land

One of the world's great problems within man's capacity to solve is that of adequately feeding the people. At many places on the earth's surface it has not been solved. It hasn't been solved in India where famine has stalked throughout the centuries and where teeming millions today are perpetually undernourished. It has not been solved in China where chronic hunger has been a miserable burden passed from one generation to the next. And there are other places around the world where it has not been solved.

India hasn't at last solved the problem of feeding her millions by adopting socialism; nor is China's centuries old hunger going to be appeased by the phony "land reform" of the Communists. The great food problem of Asia, as elsewhere, can be solved only by vastly increased productivity on the land. In our free America, industry and science have joined to make our farms the biggest producers and our people the best fed on earth.

Key to Survival

But America alone hasn't the acreage to fill the gap in the world's underproduction of food. Nevertheless, our industries are harnessing science to develop an amazing new form of agriculture which, if it could be applied throughout the world, would ease mankind's age-old struggle for life-giving nourishment. And the most productive field in this scientific pioneering by American industry is that of chemistry, it can be said now with certainty that chemistry literally holds the key to survival in a world whose underfed population continues to grow and grow.

Our big chemical industries have already begun to revolutionize American agriculture. Monsanto, Union Carbide and Carbon, Dow, American Cyanamid, Du Pont and many others have developed chemicals which in recent years have brought astonishing results in farm productivity. And all these companies agree that they are but on the threshold of an almost unlimited potential for agricultural development.

A Big Truth

Du Pont, one of the biggest, seems to be focusing its vast total resources in the direction of the land and its potential. This one company is spending a substantial portion of its multi-million research budget on agricultural chemistry. It has just published a fascinating booklet entitled "The Story of Farm Chemicals." In it is traced the history of mankind on the land. The story of man in his rise from poverty and want, Du Pont observes, "is the story of his struggle to wrest his food from the soil."

And the booklet points up another significant truth: "When each man can raise only enough to feed himself, then all productive effort must go to the raising of food. Thus, a valid yardstick of civilization's progress is the extent to which the farmer's productivity permits larger and larger segments of the population to use their skills in other fields."

Productivity Pays Off

How strikingly this truth is brought

home as you travel across the Orient or the Middle East, or India! In the rich Nile valley, I saw literally a whole people enslaved to the land because their ancient farming methods produced so little. I lived among similar conditions in China where the tools and techniques of farming are as old and unchanging as the Great Wall and where 5 per cent of the people are pinned down to the soil in an attempt to eat. Too few are left to be producing the sinews of advancing civilization.

In 1820 America was producing very little more than enough to sustain for herself even though 80 per cent of her people lived on farms. Today, with 12 per cent of the population on farms, we are much better fed. The remainder have been freed to go to industrial and business centers and produce other goods and services to enrich American life. Our population has increased 13 per cent in the last 20 years, and our food production 50 per cent—on fewer acres and with fewer farmers. That is but an inkling of what industrial research promises, in further mechanization, improving techniques, and in the great world of chemical science. Next Week: The Story of Nitrogen.

Meditation for the Closing Year

God sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. I John 4:9. Read I John 5:9-13.

The story is told of a Moravian missionary who went to the West Indies to preach to the slaves. Since they were toiling all day in the fields, he could not get near them. So he had himself sold as a slave and toiled with them in the fields that he might tell the story of God's love.

Christ came into the world that He might be near the people and tell them of His Father's love. His coming meant a great deal more than just a day to celebrate. It meant something of such great importance to the world that all languages combined have not words to describe it fully.

The spirit of Christ means love, brotherhood, kindness, and goodwill. Christ came to make a new heaven and a new earth. His followers are so to live and work that this new heaven and earth will come, and the ideals of Christ will govern all human relationships.

PRAYER

We thank Thee, our Father, for the gift of Thy Son. May we catch something of the joy of the angels when we think of Thy great love for all the world. In the midst of our giving to others, may we not forget Thy supreme gift to us. In our blessed Saviour's name. Amen.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Christ is man's hope for himself and the world in which he lives.

How Strong Are We?

As a new year begins, it is the part of wisdom for a nation, like a business, to review its assets and its liabilities.

On the credit side, the United States has an unrivaled standard of living. Our men and women enjoy wages and working conditions superior to those existing anywhere else. The tide of goods and services

that flows endlessly along the American production and distribution line staggers the imagination. Materially speaking, business, agriculture and labor are doing well.

We have a political system which comes as close to being responsive to the wishes of the people as any one can conceive of. In the last presidential election the people removed from power a party which had been in control for 20 years and put another in its place. In some future election the party now in power will be replaced. But no heads roll; no purges are held; the losers are not liquidated. All are free to air their views.

We are no longer actually at war, unsatisfactory as the Korean situation is. If recent reports are correct, our military strength and that of Western Europe have shown remarkable improvement. The chance of another world war is less than it was.

So much for the credit side of the ledger. What of the debits?

The most disheartening domestic development of recent times has been the growing dependence of millions of people on government, mainly the federal government, to provide services and benefits that, if a free system is to be preserved, must remain the responsibility of the individual and the family group. There has been a blind seeking for a kind of cradle-to-the-grave security whose end in the sweep of history, has always been the sapping of moral fiber and spiritual values and ultimate slavery. The most obvious manifestations of super-government are crushing taxes and mounting national debts, and the inevitable undermining of economic and political freedoms.

Another phase of the debit side is found in the long strides that have been made in either socializing outright American enterprises and resources, or in subjecting them to so much government dictation and control that socialization comes ever nearer. And socialism, historically, is but the forerunner of communism or some similar system of government by oppression and terror.

It is true that our present government is pledged to reverse this deadly process. It is true that some heartening steps in that direction have been made. It is equally true that the forces that would destroy our free system and replace it with a very different kind of system are still awaiting their chance.

As a matter of self-preservation we must put the welfare of the nation first in considering important national issues, because our jobs, our businesses, our farms, and our liberties depend upon the perpetuation of a strong nation of self-governing people.

What the decision will be depends entirely upon our moral strength. Will we welcome policies and programs that are in accord with the philosophy of maximum freedom for all—and will we accept the temporary financial dislocations that such policies and programs may create? It will not be easy to end the era of do-all, give-all government. But, if the traditions and ideals to which we all pay lip service, and which have made us great and strong are to be preserved, it is as necessary as the air we breathe.

Nineteen fifty-four will be a year to test whether the American people will have what it takes to maintain themselves as independent individuals.

The Low Down From Hickory Grove

How about 1954—and now is the time to look over our shoulder and see how-comes it didn't turn out in 1953 like our year ago resolution. Where is that extra 50 bucks a month that it looked so easy to put aside. It flew the coop—or did it. Had a little too much fun—maybe—and sometimes a next morning foggy taste.

Hustling down to the bank—and no skips, and pronto—each month could cure a repeat dilemma at the close of 1954. What this country could not get along without, is banks. And bankers, of all the people you know, you will find few who assay way up as high or higher in horse sense and sage advice. And right here at the Grove, you take Uncle Joe down at our bank, the latch string is always out—and good advice on tap. There are but few folks you would let hold your gold watch and chain as you look away—aside from the banker. Go on down and see—and listen.

And "looking away"—it takes me back to "I wish I was in de land of cotton, cinnamon seed and sandy bottom, look a-way, a-way in Dixey where buckwheat cakes and good strong butter makes my mouth go flitter flutter, lok a-way a-way a-way in Dixey." And now, with a cold January and February in the offing—I'm torn with concern as to whether it is to be Dixey, and out the window with that 50 buck resolution.

Yours with the low down,
JO SERRA.

Small Communities Sets the Record

The money to fight polio through the March of Dimes comes from all over the country—from small towns and counties as well as the big cities. While several of the largest cities contribute over a million dollars each it is the small communities that set the records for per capita contributions. With the national contribution averaging 34 cents a person, here are some outstanding achievements of the last March of Dimes.

Melba, Idaho, with a population of less than 200, claimed the national record by raising almost \$50 for every man, woman and child in the community. A day long auction of contributed items ranging from cakes to caves enabled Melba to raise this high amount.

Oregon Town Beat Melba

The spur that aroused Melba to new heights also worked in Izee, Ore. — population 43—when this village beat Melba's 1952 March of Dimes record of \$27 per capita by raising \$34 apiece at a basket social held Jan. 10, 1953. Basket socials used to be a way of courting or raising funds to hire a teacher for a new rural school. Now they have joined the fight against polio.

As small towns and villages set community records in the March of Dimes, sparsely populated counties also made per capita contribution records.

Mineral County, Nev. won the national title with a per capita contribution rate of \$2.53 a person. Over \$14,000 was raised among her 5560 inhabitants. Jeff Davis County, Texas came in second with contributions averaging \$2.21 a person.

Other Leaders