

DOUGLAS COUNTY 100 YEARS OLD TODAY

Mon., Jan. 7, 1952—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 3

Legislative Act Of Jan. 7, 1852, Authorized Partitioning Of Southern Oregon Territory

Douglas county, born Jan. 7, 1852, is 100 years old today. Carved from Lane county, and abutting Umpqua county, Douglas preceded Jackson county by only a few days, both being created by the Territorial Legislature of 1852.

The vast Oregon country at that time embraced what we now call the Pacific Northwest.

For purposes of government, the Territory was divided by the Columbia river.

The first division of what is now Oregon into districts for purposes of election and local government was made July 5, 1843. Western Oregon was known as Yamhill district, while everything east of the Willamette river to the Rocky mountains was designated Champcoock district.

In December 1846, because of the increase in settlers in the northern Willamette valley, Yamhill district was divided by the creation of Polk district, which had the approximate north line of the present Polk county boundary as its division with Yamhill, while the southern boundary was the California line. Two years later the northern end of Polk district was set off and the southern portion was organized as Benton district.

The Champcoock district, which later became known as Champcoock, was split into Marion and Linn districts.

The legislature authorized the use of the word "county" to replace "district," and in 1851 subdivided Linn and Benton counties into Lane and Umpqua counties.

Lane county embraced all of Southern Oregon excepting Umpqua county which, for its northern boundary, followed the southern line of Benton county and the summit of the Calapooia mountains, to the headwaters of Calapooia creek, thence along Calapooia creek to its confluence with the Umpqua river, thence along the Umpqua river to the ocean.

This left all of the Oregon, other than that section within the boundaries of Umpqua county, still a part of Lane county.

By 1852, a number of settlers had moved into the Umpqua and

Rogue valleys and were demanding their local government.

Jan. 7, 1852, the territorial legislature established Douglas county, south of Umpqua county, and on the 12th of the same month, created Jackson county to embrace everything south of Douglas.

Cook county was created from Umpqua and Jackson counties in 1853. Josephine county was organized in 1856.

Umpqua county was a very busy and prosperous unit at the time it was created, as Scottsburg was the point of entry for vessels from San Francisco carrying supplies for Southern Oregon's active mining industry. But opening of new transportation routes into the mines of Southern Douglas county and the Rogue Valley, caused activity at Scottsburg and Elkton to decline. The cost of maintaining county government became burdensome.

Umpqua County Absorbed
In the year 1862 Umpqua county was absorbed by Douglas county.

By the year 1868, however, settlement of the northern part of the county, particularly in the Oakland area, led settlers to seek restoration of Umpqua county. The legislature called a special election. The proposal for subdivision failed.

Various boundary adjustments followed through the years between Douglas, Lane and Cook counties, bringing their lines to existing locations.

It was not until 1853, a year after Douglas county was created, that the State of Washington was carved from Oregon Territory.

Prior to that time, what is now known as Washington was called Northern Oregon and for governmental purposes was designated as Vancouver county. Lewis county later was created to embrace settlements along the Cowlitz river.



RECREATION IN DOUGLAS COUNTY has had a leading place in activities throughout the 100 years since the county was organized. Earliest historical records speak of the abundance of game and fish, pleasant surroundings, unsurpassed scenery and the hospitality and friendship of the county's inhabitants. A turn-of-the-century fete is pictured above, photographed in what now is the Laurelwood residential community in Roseburg. —Picture furnished by Veva Buick Poorman, Salem, Ore.

North Half Of Douglas County First To Be Organized; Was Scene Of Much Early Activity

By ANNE APPEGATE KRUSE

Umpqua county was established by the Territorial Legislature in 1851; disestablished in 1863, having been in effect for twelve years. It was the first county to be officially organized south of the Calapooia mountains, was approximately 5,000 square miles in area, and extended to the vicinity of the present city of Roseburg.

While there is no record of early exploration through the upper valleys of the Umpqua county, A. R. McLeod of the Hudson's Bay company, together with a party of 30 men, reached the Umpqua river in 1826, followed it to its mouth, and explored as far south as the Rogue. They were accompanied by the botanist, David Douglas, for whom the Douglas fir is named. He had been sent out by the Horticultural Society of London in search of information relating to a tree of large growth along the Pacific shores thought to be the sugar pine.

Douglas Fir Named

His first sight of the tree which was to bear his name was on Thursday, April 7, 1825, as he viewed the shore of Baker's Bay at the mouth of the Columbia from the deck of the Hudson's Bay company's ship, the William and Ann. His journal records the pleasure at the sight of land after nine months at sea, and then he writes of the different trees familiar to him, and a species that may prove to be P. Taxifolia. His survey brought him into the Umpqua county when he was enthralled at the magnificence of the forests spread out before him. It is said that he found a fine specimen about ten miles below Elkton. This immense tree had blown down. It measured 215 feet in height, and was 57 feet and nine inches near the roots. Even after seeing the cones, Douglas still spoke of the tree as a pine, pine taxifolia, or the pine with the yewlike foliage. After much research the specialists that came after him decided that, botanically, it was more of a hemlock than a pine though not exactly a hemlock, so they called it Pseudotsuga taxifolia, or false hemlock with a yew like foliage.

In honor of the young botanist, it was named the Douglas fir. David Douglas died in Hawaii on June 12, 1834.

Jehediah Smith and a company of trappers entered the lower Umpqua regions in 1828. They had crossed the plains to California the year before only to be ordered out by the Spanish governor. Traveling north, they reached the Umpqua river where they were attacked by Indians, all but three of the outfit were killed, and their valuable furs stolen. The three survivors, Jehediah Smith, Arthur Black and John Turner eventually reached Fort Vancouver where they were succored by Dr. Mc Loughlin, who, through his influence with the Indians, recovered their furs. The branch of the river on which this adventure occurred is now known as Smith river.

The Hudson's Bay company established trading posts along the Umpqua in 1832. These were later abandoned and the property reverted to settlers.

Scottsburg Founded
In 1850 Scottsburg was founded by and named for Levi Scott. It is situated at the head of tide water on the Umpqua river some twenty-seven miles inland from the sea. It was first called Myrtle Grove because of the beautiful myrtle groves along the river, then Scotts Town, and finally, as it remains today, Scottsburg. It soon became a boom town. At the peak of its renown it boasted of sixteen commercial enterprises, a large hotel, and many other accommodating trades and services.

It was in two parts known as Upper and Lower Scottsburg, both on the North side of the river. The first business house in Scottsburg was built by George

News-Review Seeking Historical Information For Publication During County's Centennial Year

This is Douglas county's centennial year.

Observance of the county's 100th birthday is scheduled for elaborate celebration later in the year.

The News-Review plans no special centennial editions, but it is proposed throughout the year to publish articles and pictures of historical interest.

Cooperation of readers is solicited in furnishing material from diaries, family records or other records, covering events of historical character, pioneer personalities, anecdotes, and other information of interest. It also will be possible to use a limited number of pictures.

It is not necessary that material be submitted in form for publication. If facts and data are furnished, the news staff of the News-Review will do all necessary editing.

Soil On Which First White Man Ever Trod In State May Have Been Douglas County

It is possible that Douglas county contains the soil upon which rested the first Caucasian foot that ever was set on the Pacific coast of the United States.

A. G. Walling, early day historian, whose history of Southern Oregon was published in 1884 tells of this possibility, although he qualifies it with statements that it is not fully supported by competent authority.

As the story is related in Walling's history, Sir Francis Drake, after plundering Spain's colonies in Mexico and California, sailed northward.

Drake had captured a Spanish sea captain by the name of Morera. Spanish records report that on his northward journey, the British pirate entered a "poor harbor," and put the Spaniard ashore among Indians who never before had seen a white man.

Morera succeeded, after terrible hardships, to make his way back down the coast to Spanish settlements, where his report was entered into the records. British records contain no account of the incident.

The Umpqua river was first believed to have been charted in 1603. A Spanish explorer in charge of a small boat sailed along the Oregon coast, mapping its headlands. The record of that journey reveals that "On the nineteenth of January, the pilot, Antonio Flores, found that they were in the latitude of 43 degrees where the land formed a cape or point, which was named Cape Blanco.

From that point the coast begins to turn to the northwest; and near it was discovered a rapid and abundant river, with ash trees, willows, brambles and other trees of Castle on its banks, which they endeavored to enter, but could not from the force of the

current." This description, with its location, is believed to indicate the explorers were off the mouth of the Umpqua.

Another early day story of the river is that in 1732 a Spanish vessel was damaged by rough weather and was forced to make port. The mouth of the Umpqua was observed, and the vessel ascended the stream to a point near Scottsburg where the ship was made fast while repairs were undertaken.

The story was told to the first settlers by Indians, who pointed out stumps from trees apparently cut many years before.

The Indians were reported to have said that men with white faces and beards had come up the river in a boat and had cut the trees.

No authentic historical record exists to confirm the tale told by the Indians.

Investors Mutual
Investors Selective Fund
Investors Stock Fund
Investors Syndicate of America

Investors Diversified Services
Established 1894
(An Investor's Syndicate)
BANK OF CALIFORNIA
CAROL BEACH
Zone Manager and
Savings Representative
Roseburg—Phone Eva. 3-3243
Watch for Notice of Dividends Each Month

Need a Big Building?
STRONG
DURABLE
ALL-STEEL
ROT-PROOF
NON-COMBUSTIBLE
ECONOMICAL
GET THE QUONSET* 40
40 feet wide by any length desired, in sections of 20 feet, the clear-span Quonset 40 provides 100% usable floor space... is ideal for scores of industrial, commercial and farm uses. Framed with available Stran-Steel, it can be erected quickly by trained crews, is economical to buy and maintain. Let's talk it over today.
*Reg. U. S. Pat. Off.
VALLEY BUILDING CONSTRUCTION CO.
240 SOUTH STEPHENS PHONE 3-6348
QUONSET BUILDINGS ARE PRODUCTS OF GREAT LAKES STEEL CORPORATION

Roseburg's Beginning Dated Year Before Douglas County Was Organized By Legislature

In 1851, the year before Douglas county was created, Aaron Rose built the first cabin upon land that later was to become a thriving city which honors his name.

Coming from Michigan, Aaron Rose and his family completed the perilous overland trip to Oregon, negotiating the Siskiyou and Cow Creek Canyon trails, as they entered the Umpqua valley.

The river plain upon which Roseburg is situated pleased the small but rugged emigrant.

Filing for his donation land claim, he engaged in farming and stock raising, and also conducted a small mercantile business.

Families began to arrive, and Rose began dreaming of a town-site.

He became a one-man chamber of commerce, extolling the virtues of the site he had selected and soon had sold a number of his platted lots and the town began to take form.

Lands Donated
Rose donated sites for schools, churches and public buildings.

During the Indian war of 1855, Roseburg had a period of prosperity and growth when it became the central point for the Northern Battalion, which formed and procured its supplies here. It was about this same time that the community, previously known as Deer Creek, took on the name Roseburg.

In 1857, the U. S. Land Office was located at Winchester. It was the most imposing building in the county. Not to be outdone, the residents of Roseburg constructed a three-story school building, located on property where the junior high school now stands, and, as a result, nearly bankrupted the community in handling the cost of building and maintaining the new and ego-satisfying structure.

Aaron Rose was determined that his townsite should be second to none and sought the distinction of making the community the county seat of the newly-formed county.

The honor also was sought by Winchester and Lookingglass.

Rose procured from the state legislature in 1853 an act authorizing an election to determine the matter of locating the county seat. The rival communities, was chosen as the site for the election, held in March 1854.

Hospitality Won Vote
Legend has it that Lookingglass residents, having a greater distance to travel, arrived in Roseburg in the morning. They were taken to the Rose home where they were treated to a fine repast and other refreshments—principally from bottles and kegs. By the time the election meeting was held in the afternoon, the Lookingglass people were so thoroughly sold on Aaron Rose's hospitality, that they voted en masse for Roseburg as county seat.

Transportation problems plagued Roseburg even in its earliest days. Residents promoted a road to Coos Bay and also proposed construction of a railroad. River navigation was given much consideration.

One boat, The Swan, made the trip from Gardiner to Roseburg during a flood, and a boat, The Enterprise, was built especially for the Scottsburg-Roseburg run. Congress appropriated \$22,000 to make the river navigable. Approximately \$14,000 was expended in clearing obstructions. But in 1872 the Oregon and California railroad company completed its tracks from Roseburg to Portland and efforts to build up other transportation facilities died. Roseburg remained the southern terminus of the railroad until 1882 when construction into California was resumed.

Survivors Of Indian Battle At Port Orford Prominent In Lower Umpqua History

A tale connected with the settlement of Scottsburg and concerning two residents who were to gain much prominence in the early days of Douglas county is told by Mrs. Anne Kruse in her book, "Yoncalla—Home of the Eagles." In a chapter dealing with the early settlement along the Umpqua river, Mrs. Kruse writes:

Cyrus Hedden arrived on the Umpqua in late September of 1851, naked, starving, weak and battered. He was a native of New Jersey, a member of a naval company engaged in making a survey of the Oregon coast that year. With a company of eight other men who were exploring along a river in Port Orford area, they were attacked by Indians and five of the party killed. The four survivors scattered and escaped. One of these, a youth by the name of L. L. Williams, shot through the body by an arrow, head split open to the bone, beaten and covered with blood, fought off his assailants with a clubbed gun, and managed to reach the forest where he found Hedden, who, except for being badly beaten, was uninjured. Williams' pants had fallen down during the tussle, and he had no recourse but to kick them away so he could run.

Struggle Recounted
For one long week Hedden struggled northward through dense forest, deep ravine, thick underbrush and across shifting ocean sands with a man so sorely wounded that death seemed likely to occur at any minute. They had nothing to eat but some three leaves sorrel, and a kind of small which they found in the woods. Williams, aged to partake of the snails, but Hedden was unable to stomach them. The weather of nights was cold and foggy. Hedden, sleeping in the late afternoons, worked over his companion all night rubbing and striving to keep the circulation going. Williams, in his intense agony, begged his companion to leave him to die, and try to reach the settlements on the Umpqua, which he could have easily done. This Hedden refused to do. At last Williams was able to stagger only a few feet at a time, his body swollen, the pain so severe that he refused to go farther. Thereupon Hedden removed his own shirt, twisted it into a sort of a rope, which he tied about Williams, looped it over his own shoulder, and half carried, half dragged the wounded man onward.

Quoting from Williams' diary, "Sept. 19, 1851, Hedden, worn to a skeleton, working like a beaver all the time, day and night, kept me alive. In the morning I was bent forward much more, and my body more inflamed, swollen and discolored. No one could have believed that I could live another hour. Each step, carefully made, seemed like taking life, yet in obedience to Hedden's command I was obliged to make an effort to proceed. For choice, I would have preferred to be left alone, and I begged Hedden to go on to the settlement and save his own life, but he preemptorily refused to allow me to even talk about it."

Yet they pressed forward for two days more before they reached the Umpqua river and found help. They met some Indians who helped carry Williams to their camp

where he was warmed and given water. Then came a party of men in a rowboat with Captain Gibbs and removed both Hedden and Williams first to Gardiner and then to Scottsburg where they received every care and comfort Hedden speedily recovered, and spent most of his long life in Scottsburg. He acquired the merchant business of the Hinshelwoods which he operated for many years. He was succeeded in the enterprise by his son, John N. Hedden. Now a century after the business is carried on by a granddaughter, Miss Emma Hedden.

Wounds Cause Suffering
Williams, however, was not so fortunate. After four years of suffering, the arrowhead broke through the flesh directly opposite the place it had entered. The opening was not large enough for its removal, so he cut around it with his knife and pulled it out with his fingers. The joint of the shaft had broken loose from the arrow and remained in his body for nearly four years more, causing intense pain all the time. In February, 1859, a point of it became visible, and he removed it with a pair of built-up mounds.

Williams was born in Vermont in 1830, began his roaming at the age of fifteen, having never attended a regular school in all his life. Yet he possessed a mind so intelligent and receptive that his career was one of great benefit to the new country. He was treasurer of Umpqua county, later and for many years, county clerk for Douglas, being reelected term after term. He served as chief clerk for the United States Land office at Roseburg. In the course of his duties he became better informed in law than many practicing attorneys. In the old record books in the court house in Roseburg are page after page written in the strong, clear and concise handwriting of this remarkable man. He was held in high esteem by all who knew him. He died in 1880 leaving a considerable estate.

Relating to his many bequests, I quote from his will: "To my friend, Cyrus Hedden of Scottsburg, Douglas County, Oregon, (for kind care and attendance while suffering from wounds received from the Indians) I give and bequeath the sum of five thousand dollars."

To my friend, Job Hatfield, of Scottsburg, Douglas County, Oregon, for the same reason, the sum of one thousand dollars."

Oregon Tax Refund Money Poses Claimant Problem
SALEM (AP)—The State Tax Commission has \$50,000 it can't get rid of.
That money was paid by 4,500 state income taxpayers who are entitled to refunds. Most of them either moved or submitted incorrect addresses.

LOOK to Kelvinator for all that's new in refrigerators

MODERN FURNITURE CO.
222 W. Oak St. Dial 3-4337
Myrtle Creek. Phone 1345

DIRECTORS
E. J. Shoemaker, President
M. E. Ritter, V. President
H. O. Pargeter, Sec. and Mgr.
V. J. Mitchell, Treas.
Edith Gilmore, Asst. Secretary
A. N. Orcutt, Atty.

DIRECTORS
G. V. Wimberly
G. C. Finlay
Guy Gordon
W. F. Shoemaker
W. F. Harris
N. Fullerton

Condition of THE UMPQUA SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSO. ROSEBURG, OREGON

At Close of Business, December 31, 1951

RESOURCES

Cash in Banks	\$ 161,831.41
Notes Secured by D. R. Loans	1,991,380.20
Interest Receivable	294.39
Sales Contracts	337.30
Federal Home Loan Bank Stock	26,600.00
Home Office Building	24,000.00
Advanced Borrowers	547.92
Government Bonds	145,000.00
Notes Secured by Stock	1,046.09
Total Resources	\$2,361,037.31

Investment Stock	\$2,183,706.04
Contingent Reserve	75,205.02
Surplus	11,839.80
Deferred Profit	1,928.79
Building Account Reserve	13,800.00
Undivided Profits	50,644.70
Employee's Old Age Ins.	43.18
Employer's Old Age Ins.	43.18
Withholding Tax-Federal	396.30
State Unemployment Ins.	54.84
Withholding Tax-State	28.75
Incomplete D. R. Loans	22,913.41
Reserve for Excise Taxes	433.30
Total Liabilities	\$2,361,037.31

State of Oregon)
County of Douglas)
I, H. O. PARGETER, Secretary of the above Association, do hereby solemnly swear that the above statement is true, to the best of my knowledge and belief.
H. O. PARGETER
Secretary

ATTEST:
M. E. RITTER
Vice President
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 3rd day of January, A. D. 1952.
W. F. HARRIS
Notary Public for Oregon.
My Commission Expires: November 17, 1952.