

T. T. GEER REFLECTS ON EARLY GRANDE RONDE VALLEY HISTORY

BY T. T. GEER

(Ex-Governor of Oregon)
 Portland, May 28.—A few days ago while looking through The Observer I read in a communication from Elgin a very interesting account of Hon. Terry Tuttle and his estimable wife—of their Pioneer life in the Grande Ronde Valley, of their recent residence in Elgin and of their next one, more pretentious, was afterward built and that "its interior decorating, was done by myself."
 Naturally, this reference to a circumstance that occurred in the years long gone by started in my mind an incursion into the realm of reminiscence and I easily recalled, as though it happened but yesterday, my trip to Summerville on that very cold day in January, 1875,—now more than 40 years ago—for the purpose of painting and "graining" the walls and ceilings of Mr. Tuttle's new home.
 I kept a diary for 1875—every day and I have it before me now as I write, in which is recorded the fact that on the 23rd of January I left my home in the Cove in the afternoon, went to "Hendershot's Point" where I took the stage and went as far as "Enloe's" on the Sand Ridge, a stage station, and remained there over night with John Norval, who lived near Tuttle's place. The next year Norval and I were Republican candidates for the Legislature, but the prevailing sentiment of the Union county voters favored the Democratic ticket and Matt Mitchell, of the Cove, and R. D. Ruckman, of Summerville, made the trip to Salem the following September. However, in 1891, Mr. Norval appeared at the State House as a State Senator while I was Speaker of the House of Representatives, a member from Marion.

On Thursday night, January 28, my diary recounts some of the particulars of an old-fashioned pioneer dance which was given at the home of Alf Terwilliger. Everybody was there from miles around and as no part of that country had gone dry it was a common occurrence for the boys to adjourn in groups, and at intervals not at all infrequent, returning each time with a little more hilariousness than before retiring. Conditions grew a little more interesting and lively until about two o'clock in the morning a quarrel was started between two young bloods while on the floor and waiting for the music to start. In a moment all was confusion, the girls were screaming (of course) and all hands made a rush for the door. Outside there was a general scrimmage, nobody knowing what it was about, nor who was his ally. My diary recounts that "Jap Bonnet, Jim Childers and some of the other boys got into a regular war of words," and that Sam Burnaugh and I got behind a near-by snow drift and used it as a "breastwork."

In a little while, however, all the differences had been settled and the dance was resumed with good feeling prevailing all around and continued until daylight.
 I now remember that when I returned home I wrote an account of this typical dance of the frontier for the Mountain Sentinel, then published at La Grande, using the Biblical style of composition, and going into details more minutely than I would have dared to do in later years, and I also remember that within a few days I received the returned manuscript, together with a private letter from E. S. McCormas, in which he said he had "enjoyed immensely" my communication and was sorry that he could not publish it, adding that "if you would squat your hindquarters in the editorial chair of a newspaper in Grande Ronde Valley you would soon be confronted with the necessity of being d—d careful what you said or permitted anybody else to say in your columns."

I still have that communication, with McCormas's attending explanation.
 On the 30th of January, Saturday, it is recorded that L. J. Rouse and Zella Rees, of the Cove, came to Tuttle's and that "Zella staid all night while Rouse and Norval went to Summerville to rehearse 'Ten Nights in a Bar Room.'"

Taken altogether that was a most interesting week that I passed at the Tuttle home in the latter part of January, 40 years ago, and that little communication from Elgin has served to revive many memories of Auld Lang Syne. The uncertainty of life is well illustrated by the fact that, though Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle were somewhat along in years so long ago as 1875, Rouse and Norval have been dead more than a decade while Zella Rees, who afterward became the wife of John Shoemaker, of the Cove, and whose honored father was buried there but recently, has been dead quite thirty years.

The 4th of July in 1875 was on Sunday and early that morning I took my family and drove to Tuttle's, some 20 miles, for the purpose of attending the celebration the next day. Soon after our arrival there M. B. Rees, with his family, also arrived and my wife and I went to Norval's and staid all night. Norval was to deliver the address but was ill and James Slater, who had come from La Grande, was chosen to fill the vacancy. The exercises were held, so my diary says, in "Childer's Grove."

When I first went to Grande Ronde valley in December, 1868, the stage line from Umatilla Landing—there was no Pendleton then—entering the valley at Summerville, passing by Hendershot's Point and through Union. Afterward it was changed to the Meacham-La Grande route, but through the influence of Sam Hannah, a prominent merchant of Union, who had been elected to the State Senate in 1872 (the first Republican who was ever elected in Union county) the stage line was again placed on the Summerville-Union route. This accounts for my taking

the stage at "The Point" when I made the trip to Tuttle's in February, 1875. Enloe's was the half-way station between Union and Summerville, situated not far from the present Conley headquarters on the Sand Ridge.

Those were "halcyon days" and, to my notion, there was no better place in which to spend a few years of halcyon days than Grande Ronde Valley furnished at that time—or later.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned as a matter of interest that any day of any month of this year of 1915 falls on the same day of the week that the same day of the same month did in 1875.

 EIGHTEEN YEARS AGO.

(Morning Observer December 1, 1898)

Mrs. Thomas Hughey has returned from a short visit to Union.

Miss Bessie Goodnough returns to Portland tonight after spending the holidays with her parents Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Goodnough.

Wheat today is quoted at 58 3-4 cents per bushel.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Cochran of the Sandridge were in yesterday on business.

Contractor Haworth has begun laying the stone foundation for the Paul Buzani building.

Miss Syra Kuhn who is teaching school in Elgin, returns to her work tomorrow after visiting relatives here.

S. O. Smith has sent a handsome bear skin which was tanned by the Island City tannery to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Rinehart of Summerville who are now in Portland and will soon leave for California and will not return until Spring.

It is stated that certain-ones in the county are letting their whiskers grow with the hopes of catching the Populist vote.

Born—to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Kinsey a son.

Street Superintendent Stoner is in receipt of a letter from Iowa parties stating that they had heard La Grande was going to have a beet sugar factory and wanted to know if it was an established fact. If so, they are going to charter a car and come.

The grand ball given by the La Grande Lodge No. 315, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen at Steward's opera house, New Years eve, was declared by all present to have been the most successful one in the history of the order. . . . The memory of the evening will be long cherished as one of the most pleasant events in social history of La Grande.

The bowling spirit has not only charms for men but equally so with ladies. Last night the following were out to bowl: Mesdames Robert Smith, E. Brann, George Davis, W. J. Lindsey, Fred Moore, J. D. Slater, C. S. Dumphrey, Reaves, Spaulding and Miss Anna Leam. Mrs. Reavis held the proud distinction of scoring 29.

ITALIAN PURCHASES NIL

Not Believed There Will Be Material Buying of Horses Now.

There will be no Italian horse-buyers in Eastern Oregon for some time to come, according to the statement of J. R. Wilson, horse-buyer from The Dalles, who stopped in Baker yesterday. Mr. Wilson stated that the advertising done last week announcing

the advent of Italian horse-buyers, should have announced French inspectors, and that the postponement of the sale was due to a rush call to Arizona, where it was discovered that a large number of horses were for sale.

Mr. Wilson stated that Paul Kopstock's contract with the French government to furnish 30,000 horses had been cancelled this week in New York

after the delivery of 400 head. He gave as the reason opposition on the part of the French board in New York, were of the opinion that the consideration named in the contract under which Mr. Klopstock was working was ruinously low.

Mr. Wilson said that for the first time in many months, there are no army horse-buyers active in Oregon.

BALFOUR BECOMES NAVY HEAD



TOP—ADMIRAL SIR JOHN FISHER
 CENTER—BONAR LAW
 BOTTOM—A. J. BALFOUR

London, May 27.—Lord Kitchener retains the post of secretary of war in the new coalition cabinet, which has received the approval of King George. The new First Lord of the Admiralty will be Arthur J. Balfour. Winston Spencer Churchill, ex-head of the admiralty, takes the portfolio of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Herbert H. Asquith retains the premiership and Sir Edward Grey the ministry of foreign affairs. David Lloyd George, chancellor of the exchequer in the old cabinet, will be minister of munitions in the new one.

Full Cabinet Announced.
 The constitution of the new cabinet follows:

- Prime minister and first lord of the treasury, Mr. Asquith.
- Minister, without portfolio, Lord Lansdowne.
- Lord high chancellor, Sir Stanley E. Buckmaster.
- Lord president of the council, Lord Crewe.
- Lord privy seal, Lord Curzon of Kedleston.
- Chancellor of the exchequer, Reginald McKenna.
- Secretary of state for home affairs, Sir John A. Simon.
- Secretary of state for foreign affairs, Sir Edward Grey.
- Secretary for the colonies, Andrew Bonar Law.
- Secretary for India, J. Austen Chamberlain.
- Secretary of state for war, Lord Kitchener.
- Minister of Munitions, David Lloyd George.
- First Lord of the Admiralty, Arthur J. Balfour.
- President of the board of trade, Walter Runciman.
- President of the local government board, Walter Hume Long.
- Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Winston Spencer Churchill.
- Chief secretary for Ireland, Thomas McKinnon Wood.
- President of the board of agriculture, Lord Selborne.
- First commissioner of works, Lewis Harcourt.
- President of the board of education, Arthur Henderson.
- Attorney general, Sir Edward Carson.



Delicious!—Cooked by Electricity

"This is the finest steak I ever tasted."
 "Why, Harry, it's my 'Hughes 33.'" I find new things about it every day. Now this steak is broiled on top with live, radiant heat. The juices can't run off before the surface is seared. The broiler slips right out and I turn it over. Then when it is done, I turn off the current and it keeps nice and hot in the oven till you get home."

Hughes Electric Ranges

The Hughes Electric Range, Mr. Master-of-the-House, not only saves hours of work each day—not only brings a cool, clean, sanitary kitchen, but adds the perfecting touch to cooking. The heat is uniform—always the same so it cooks evenly and thoroughly. It really roasts and broils meats where other ovens bake. The live, red heat by direct contact sears the surface and retains the flavor. Remember that a Hughes Range preserves health and beauty. The foods are heated—not the kitchen and the cook. The fire is absolutely soil-less. And the kitchen is as cool and pleasant as the parlor. Come into our office and see this range. We will give you facts that will astound you.

Eastern Oregon Light & Power Co.

And the cost of installation and maintenance is moderate. By all means come, see them and learn about this wonderful stove. A problem for La Grande families to solve: Can you afford to use a wood or coal range with all the dirt and work attached, when you can use a Hughes Electric Range with all its conveniences and cleanliness at practically the same cost?

MAKE A NOTE of the fact that an abstract is an absolute necessity when you purchase real estate. No matter how well posted you might be—you don't have a full history of the parcel, as you do when we make an abstract of it. Accuracy guaranteed.
 THE ABSTRACT & TITLE CO.
 Foley Hotel Building.

Magical Floyds a Big Feature of the Chautauqua



Mr. Floyd, Who Hea ds his own company.

The Magical Floyds, coming with chautauqua, rank with any entertainer in this line on the boards. By their merit they have been able to secure and to hold first place for many years and their show is greater now than at any previous time.

Floyd himself is one of the most wonderful magicians that ever appeared before American spectators. Many of his feats remain a puzzle year after year and are a greater mystery to those who have seen them repeatedly than when they saw them for the first time.

Mohala, the mind reader, does feats in mental science that seem inexplicable. They not only puzzle and bewilder and entertain by their startling surprises but her performances are a demonstration of great scientific interest. The music that accompanys this The music that accompanys this iveness and Allard, the third mem-



Mrs. A. C. Zehner, noted Lecturer.

anywhere else, acts as a bond between this nation and their fatherland. Mrs. Zehner is a woman of very unusual gifts and attainments. One man who has heard her ten times says she cannot be beat on the lecture platform. She has a remarkable voice and stage presence. Her hair has something of red in it, she is large, very vigorous, and besides her handsome appearance she has a voice that will carry a mile. She is instantly popular with the women of her audiences and her utterances are equally commended by the men. Mrs. Zehner was born and reared on a big plantation in the south and still loves the southland. She owns three large ranches in Texas and spends part of each year in the open life which they invite to. This community is fortunate in being able to hear Mrs. Zehner this summer as one of the most notable visitors of the Chautauqua.

America unites all other countries," says Mrs. A. C. Zehner, who is one of the most remarkable women on the lecture platform. She shows that one of the reasons the United States is such a powerful influence for peace in the world is because all other nationalities are well represented here. The kindly treatment that has been extended to all immigrants has endeared us to the nations these people represent, and their life here, whether they came from Ireland, England, France, Holland, Italy, Sweden or

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