

CENTURY OLD HOUSE CLOSED

Old Neil House Passes Into History; New Neil House, to Cost \$4,000,000, to Be Built.

COLUMBUS, Mar. 17.—The Neil House which for more than a century has housed famous men and women of Ohio, and the nation and whose registers are veritable pages of history will close its doors forever March 29. April 1, work of demolishing the old structure will start. A new Neil house is to be constructed on the site. It will cost \$4,000,000, and is expected to be opened late in 1924.

The present building is about 65 years old, but William Neil's first tavern was built in 1822, on the same site. In 1839 a more pretentious hotel was erected; Charles Dickens on his American tour was a guest under its roof and had something to say about it in his American Notes.

November 6, 1869, the night of the day of Lincoln's first election to the presidency, the second Neil House was destroyed by fire and shortly afterwards the present building was constructed.

Fifteen presidents of the United States have written their names on Neil registers. Andrew Jackson was the first. The signature of A. Lincoln can be seen on the old books. William Henry Harrison, U. S. Grant, Hubertford B. Hayes, Grover Cleveland, William McKinley, William H. Taft, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson and Warren G. Harding are some of the other chief executives of the nation who slept under the Neil's roof. Five of these presidents made the hotel their home during lesser terms of office.

Additional famous signatures on the old registers are of scientists, authors, actors, artists and theologians. William Dean Howells was frequently a guest. Other names include Jonny Lind, Louis Kossuth, Admiral Farragut, Salmon P. Chase, General Winfield Scott, Phil Sheridan, Horace Greeley, Adeline Patz, Artemus Ward, Henry Watterson, Phoebe Cary, Ellen Terry and Mark Twain.

The New Neil will attempt to preserve some of this historical background. There will be a hall of the presidents, in which will hang oil paintings of all the chief executives who have stopped at the hotel. Facsimiles of the registers are to be prominently displayed.

President Harding wrote a letter of regret to officials of the company at the passing of the old hotel. He said among other things: "If windows were eyes and walls had tongues what a story the old Neil House could tell of the public life of Ohio and the nation for two generations."

A Pennsylvania man pulled his own teeth and died. Anyway, he had the satisfaction of killing the dentist.

JIM BRIDGER TAUGHT KID CARSON TRICKS

(By Associated Press) SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Mar. 17.—What is believed to be one of the few original photographs of Jim Bridger, western trapper of the early part of the last century, is in the Mormon church museum here. It was taken about 1842 when Fort Bridger, Wyoming, was established. Bridger's exploits are chronicled in all western histories and he is said to have taught Kit Carson his first lessons as a Frontiersman. Bridger, so history tells us, trapped in the intermountain country and explored a great part of what is now Utah in about 1825.

HUGE DAM IS NOW FINISHED

MODESTO, CALIF., Mar. 17.—Don Pedro, the world's highest impounded dam, located on the Tuolumne river, above La Grange, will be completed March 14, according to Percy E. Jones, engineer of the Modesto Irrigation district. The dam, which is owned jointly by the Modesto-Turlock Irrigation districts, cost, together with the power plant, approximately \$5,000,000.

The only construction work remaining for the dam proper, Engineer Jones says, is the filling of a hole near the center. This hole is about ten feet deep and thirty feet wide.

The power house has been completed and workmen are engaged at present in cleaning up the construction refuse, and are preparing for connecting up the heavy transmission lines which are completed within reach of the power house. The regular operating crews are being organized and two of the large generator units are being operated continuously for tests before connecting up to the district distribution lines.

A total of 500 men have been employed on the project, the ground for which was formally broken June 24, 1921. This district is to have the benefit of the 250,000 acre feet of stored water which the dam will impound for the 1923 crop season. The base of the dam in the river is 175 feet; the dam is 285 feet high and 1,000 feet long across the crest, which is an arc. The dam was constructed below the \$3,800,000 estimate of the district's engineers and the power plant cost \$1,200,000.

CANAL WORK RESUMED

KLAMATH FALLS, Mar. 17.—Construction of the west side canal in Langell valley, which was suspended during the winter, has been resumed, according to H. D. Newell, project manager. Plans call for the completion of the canal late in the fall. When finished the canal will be 12 miles long, with capacity adequate to supply 10,000 acres. Excavation of the canal will necessitate the construction of several highway bridges and perhaps 17 farm bridges.

By the spring of 1924 water will be available for the irrigation of several thousand acres of land on the west side of Langell valley.

CONVICTS AIDED BY ASSOCIATION

Central Howard Association of Chicago Helped 27,500 Convicts to Get Work in 1922.

(By Associated Press) CHICAGO, Mar. 17.—Eleve hundred convicts, discharged or paroled from penitentiaries, were assisted on to the right road by the Central Howard association, of this city, during 1922, according to the annual report made public by the association. In addition to this 500 boys under 18 years of age were guided and helped and legal aid was provided for 400 additional men accused of crime but who had no friend at court or were without adequate resources to obtain their legal rights.

This brought the total applicants aided in the 22 years of the association's life to 27,500, and the average cost per applicant in this length of time was \$9.69.

A significant part of the report is the notation of the earning capacity of the men assisted in 1921. In that year, according to the report, 208 paroled men worked a total of 18,810 days and earned \$126,581, an average of \$4.56 a day. In other words one-sixth of the men aided that year earned eight times the association's entire income," says the report.

The Central Howard association is named after John Howard who was sheriff at Bedford, Eng., in 1774 and who is known as the father of modern prison improvement. Its field is confined to the central and western states and its method is more

individual than collective. It acts as "firm friend" to paroled men and serves as the mediator between the public and the man who has gone wrong, but who wants to get right. Practical employment is obtained for the man, also working tools, clothing, shelter and food.

The objects of the association go farther than this, however. It aims to obtain modern, wholesome jails; realize more efficient action in courts; establish the principle of reformation in correctional institutions and work for prevention of crime by better supervision of offenders while on probation and parole. The officers of the association are: George W. Dixon, president and P. Emory Lyon, founder and superintendent, both of Chicago.

CHEESE FACTORY PLANNED WALLA WALLA, Wash., Mar. 17.—John A. Entsch, manager of the Walla Walla creamery, announced today that his company expects to install equipment for a cheese factory within a few weeks, the plant to have a capacity of 3000 pounds of milk daily. His company is now making 100,000 pounds of cheese annually in its Halfway, Ore., branch, this cheese being distributed from Walla Walla.

When In Pendleton
Stop With Your Old Friend, J. M. STALEY, Former Owner of the Savoy in La Grande.
He now owns the Lorion hotel in Pendleton, which is a thoroughly modern home for the traveling public and he looks after his patrons with the usual "Staley Hospitality."

BECOMES TURK TO ENTER U. S.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., Mar. 17.—Suddenly becoming a Turk recently enabled Miss Olympia Sakelaris

of Albania to enter the United States after four months of travel in order to wed Bill Peters, truck driver of San Francisco.

Miss Sakelaris spent \$125 for a railroad ticket in her native country and the railroad went bankrupt before she got far. Finally she got to a port and boarded a steamship in Greece. The steamship was laid up for a month.

After several other hitches the young woman got to Ellis Island.

She was a subject of Greece and as the Greek quota was full, she was not permitted to enter the United States. Before long Albania became a part of the Turkish domain and as the Turkish quota was not full she was permitted to enter this country.

Arriving in San Francisco she was aided by the Travelers' Aid Society in finding a sister. She is now preparing her trousseau.



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