

Mr. and Mrs. Caviness Have Been Wed 60 Years

EVENT IS CELEBRATED WITH DINNER FOR PIONEER GUESTS
AT HOME OF THEIR DAUGHTER

(Republished by request of a number of Union county pioneers.)

It was three score years May 27th, since John L. Caviness and Miss Cassa Stotts stood at the altar and uttered the marriage vows—sixty years of wedded life these two lovers have trod the earth together, and now that their life's work is well along they can look back over a career filled with achievements, a career of sterling citizenship, a career that in both beautiful and lovable, thoroughly suitable for all young men and women to follow as an example.

To commemorate the remarkable anniversary, for few men and their wives are permitted to enjoy their sixtieth wedding day, their daughter, Mrs. Grace Molitor, planned a dinner at her home on Fourth street. The guests were to be pioneers of the

were rebuilt, as the pioneers called to mind incident after incident which came to them in the great panoramic review of the Grande Ronde's settlement and advancement.

Both Born in Middle States.
In mentioning the anniversary dinner, it is but proper to give a brief history of the bride and groom who, with youthful fires burning brightly, started in life together sixty years ago.

Mr. Caviness was born in Morgan county, Indiana, December 7, 1832. He crossed the plains in 1852, settling in what is now Linn county, Oregon. Later he went to Portland, where he developed the trading habit, which has been a feature of his successful career, acquiring in his first trade the land where Dayton, Washington, now stands. He sold this land to the Jones Day and from this man the

hired out to a freighting company hauling supplies to the miners. Later he bought a freighting outfit with the wages he did not draw from his employers. It is interesting to know that Mr. Caviness hauled the first steam boiler from Umatilla Landing to Walla Walla that brought steam power into the great Inland Empire. He erected some of the first frame shacks on the Walla Walla townsite, doing this in the fall and winter, when he dared not take his pack trains and freight wagons to the mines because of the weather.

As soon as spring would open he would load his wagons and start for the gold diggings, where his merchandise was sought at almost fabulous prices and his pay was always in gold dust—the legal tender in those early days.

To Grande Ronde in '62.
He had traveled through the Grande Ronde valley and always marvelled at its beauty. The determination to make it his home slowly but surely fastened upon him and in 1862 he came to this valley, taking a homestead where Island City is now located. With his usual manly analysis of things, he decided the time had come for him to build a home and he therefore sought the hand of Miss Cassa Stotts in 1863 and since that eventful day they have been boon companions and partners in every undertaking.

His wife was born in Mahaska county, Iowa, in 1843, and she crossed the plains in 1862. Her father was captain of a wagon train and was wounded in a battle with the Indians. The Stotts family located in this valley on the farm now owned by Raymond McKennon. Mrs. Caviness was the true pioneer, for, when making the trip across the desert from Iowa with her parents she drove a four-horse team most of the distance.

Was a Runaway Soldier.
When the Indian war broke out John L. Caviness was too young to enlist. He offered himself but was rejected so he ran away and joined the colors of his country. That same spirit to do things prevailed all through his life, and when he finally married and settled down at Island City he became the busiest man east of the Cascade mountains. Believing that all children should have the education which he had failed to receive, one of his first acts was to erect a school house at Island City. He hired a teacher and paid the entire expense of the school himself.

Gradually he developed the land around Island City, a part of which is still known as the "Caviness ranch," and he also acquired more land from time to time. But farming was only one line of his business. He built a flouring mill where the Pioneer mill now stands, harnessing the waters of the Grande Ronde river for power. At one time he owned and operated five farms in the Grande Ronde valley and a thousand acre ranch near Joseph, known as the Hagsdale ranch. Horses were a pride of his life and he was for years one of the leading breeders of good horses. He sold at high prices, receiving as much as \$1,000 for a single horse for which he developed the wild and feet of the Grande Ronde, which is now sought by the United States for cavalry purposes.

because of their endurance. The school and church, Mr. Caviness believed, were the institutions that would make the west and he donated a tract of land in Island City upon which was built a church, and today it is occupied by the neat, trim chapel of Island. He and his wife are both members of the Episcopal church.

Ever Prominent in Business.
At no time did John L. Caviness say, "I've got enough and I guess I will put in and quit." There is no such word as quit in his vocabulary. At one time he owned and operated a large meat packing plant in La Grande. This was at the same time he was running the numerous ranches. He bought the first telephone company in La Grande after it had been in operation about a year and has since been interested in the telephone business. Only a short time ago he retired as president of the Home Independent Telephone company of La Grande, which is recognized as one of the most successful institutions in the entire northwest. When Island City had a bank he was a director and he served in the same capacity in the United States National bank of La Grande for many years. As president of the County Fair association for ten years, he devoted a lot of time to its successful operation, for that was in the days when a county fair meant much to the community.

Refusing to live idly, even when age had whitened his hair, and to many men it might have meant the "whittling days" have arrived, he could have been found but a short time back personally conducting a saw mill at Mt. Emily, and later a larger one in the Telocast country. While not in the active management of the Mammoth Lumber company he is today one of the heavy investors in that corporation and watches its advancement with considerable satisfaction.

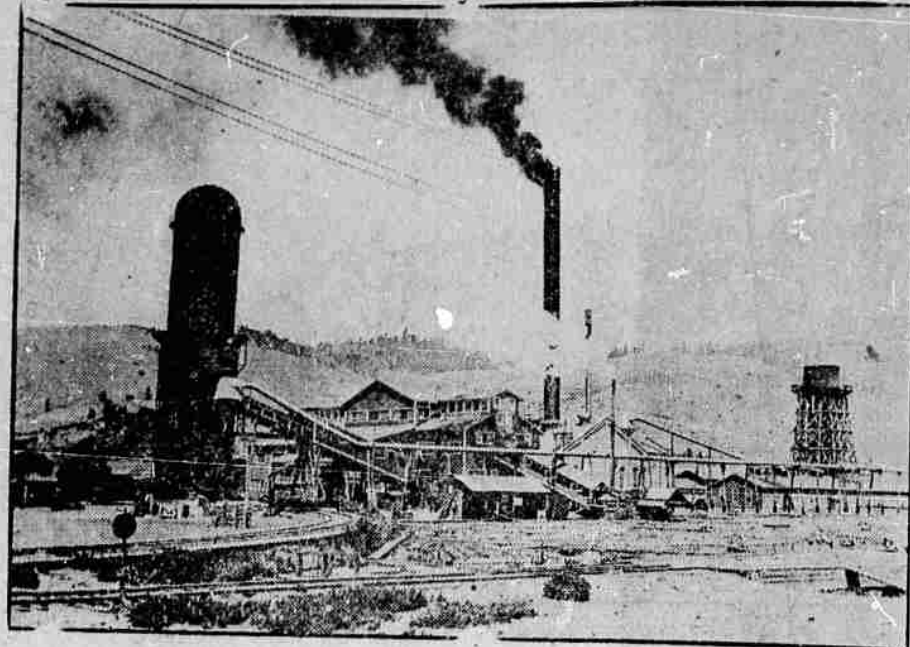
His Philosophy of Life.
The philosophy of life as expounded by Mr. Caviness is encompassed by the advice to every one to "keep busy." This philosophy is shared by Mrs. Caviness also. They believe that happy people must not have too much idle time. The old maxim of "wear out rather than rust out" is beautifully portrayed in the lives of these useful people who have built, of well, been square with every human being, have lived according to the Golden Rule to the best of their ability and have given to the world living examples of thrifty, progressive Christian citizenship which will stand as guide-posts to the growing generations long after the curtain of life is rung down on this bride and groom who last Sunday enjoyed the dinner prepared by loving hands of their daughter, Mrs. Molitor.

Tolerance is the quality that enables us to feel kindly toward an unbeliever so long as he pays us a profit.

The normal driver thinks that he is careful just because he toots when he is getting ready to run over somebody.

There is always one man on the force whose head doesn't seem to contain anything but enthusiasm.

Mammoth Lumbering Plant



The above is a picture of the plant of the Bowman-Hicks Lumber Co., located in the north end of La Grande. The mill is one of the most modern in the Northwest and is producing annually 60,000,000 feet of lumber. The company owns extensive timber holdings in Wallowa county, at which numerous logging camps are located. The logs are hauled into the mill over the branch line of the O.-W. R. & N. Co. The monthly payroll of this company alone exceeds \$100,000.00 a month.

PAY HOMAGE TO DEAD SOLDIERS

Will Honor Veterans Who
Died for Their Country
On Memorial Day.

(By Associated Press)
PARIS, May 1. (By Mail).—Memorial day this year, according to plans now being developed by the Overseas Memorial day association and the American legion, will be the occasion for the final consecration of the graves of the 39,887 American soldiers whose bodies will rest forever in foreign soil.
To carry out this idea arrangements have been made to have Lincoln's Gettysburg address read at the ceremonies at all the eight military cemeteries abroad. This announcement

is made by Colonel Francis E. Drake, president of the Memorial Day association.

The chief service of the day will be a solemn memorial ceremony in Paris on the morning of May 26 when the memorial tablets in the cloister of the American Pro-Cathedral of the Holy Trinity to the memory of the American Divisions; the American Ambulance Service, and the Lafayette Flying Corps, together with the statue of Columbia, are to be unveiled.

This ceremony will be under the presidency of Myron T. Herriek, the American ambassador, and it is expected that the great allied war chiefs will attend. Invitations have been sent to Marshal Foch, representing the French army; General Diaz, Italian minister of war; General John J. Pershing and Alvin W. Owsley, national commander of the American Legion.

As in previous years, the French government will cooperate in all the

ceremonies with official representatives and troops at those burying places where it is possible to have them.

In the afternoon of May 26 impressive services will be held at the Suresnes Military cemetery, just outside of Paris. It is hoped that the allied commanders will attend these services as well as those at the Pro-Cathedral. Similar services will take place at all the other cemeteries, and these will be in charge of delegations from the Memorial Day association and the American Legion.

The plans provide, as in the past, for the placing of flowers on every soldier's grave in France, Belgium and Great Britain. The London Post of the American Legion has assumed the responsibility for decorating all the graves at the Brookwood cemetery, the only place in England where American soldiers are buried. Similar plans have been made to decorate the graves of American soldiers at Waereghem, Belgium.

The number of intellectuals grows steadily, but there still is enough real people to make the world interesting.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN L. CAVINESS

very early days, according to Mrs. Molitor's plans, and she had hoped to have a houseful on that occasion. But when she ran over the pioneer that she was startled to learn how few remain. The reaper of death has cut heavily among the older people in the last few years and her dinner guests on this occasion numbered but eleven. Gone are the early day settlers who, with John L. Caviness, carved out the present civilization for the Grande Ronde valley; gone are the sturdy men and women who had the courage to do and dare in crowding the American desert to establish homes and reclaim the west.

The day was spent at Mrs. Molitor's home in a most pleasant manner and many a wagon trail was reviewed, many an Indian battle was fought over again, many little school houses

town derived its name. Born to frontier life, Mr. Caviness braved all conditions and hardships in his determination to get on in the world. Without education, he suffered handicap, but that was more than balanced by the abundance of good mother wit and common sense with which Providence had endowed him. Were the historian seeking a character around whom to build a story of the Golden West's development, no better could he secured than the life of John L. Caviness. He could be located as a young chap, hiring out to drive cattle through what is now Eastern Oregon, and during that long journey, while whacking steers through sage brush, desert and timbered mountains, he studied his books while in the saddle. When the first gold rush was on in the Salmon, Idaho, country he

Bowman-Hicks Lumber Co.

Manufacturers of Western Pine, Fir and Tamarack Lumber and Box Shooks.

Offices and Manager Located at

La Grande, - - - Oregon