

Over The Valley

Mabel E. Morton, Valley News Editor

An Attractive Home—

Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Stonedahl, on Catherine creek, have a very attractive home, but the things that make it additionally attractive make it impossible to get a picture which gives an adequate idea of the place. The house, rather new, sets back some distance from the highway and the drive leading up to it is a beautiful avenue, the trees bordering it being live-oak and poplars. As the majority of the farms in that locality, the Stonedahls' chief interest in their dairy cattle, and their principal crops are those which can be used for food.

Dinner Guests Sunday—

G. R. Hyslop, professor of farm crops at O. A. U., David C. Smith, a student instructor in the same department in the same school, and county Agent Avery, were dinner guests Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. William Ledbetter at their home near Abilene.

Have Another Reunion—

The visit of Mrs. August Hug, of Los Angeles, Calif., to this community was the inspiration for another Hug family reunion, which was rather hurriedly arranged the latter part of the week and which was held at Riverside park all day Sunday. The usual dinner of large proportions was served, and about 50 of the descendants being present. An impromptu program was offered which was most thoroughly enjoyed. Besides Mrs. Hug those present from a distance were Mrs. John Grant and daughter, Miss Rachel, of Utah, Albert Hansen, of Puente, Idaho, and Mrs. Marion Hoffman and children, of Wallawa.

Home From Hospital—

Mrs. Jack Bryant, postmistress of Abilene, has returned to her home from the Grande Ronde hospital where she was operated on last week to remove a gallstone. The operation was very successful.

Visit In La Grande—

Mrs. D. L. Sanderson and children visited over the week-end with her mother, Mrs. John Nelderer, in La Grande. Together they all attended the Hug reunion Sunday.

Have California Guests—

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Hunsd and two children, near Santa Barbara, Cal., have been visiting among their relatives in the valley. The G. Klopfer family in La Grande and with Mr. and Mrs. Chris Bertelsen, of Coive. Together they drove Monday to Enterprise to visit with Mrs. Klopfer and Mrs. Bertelsen's family. (Mr. Duff is visiting in his native land, Switzerland.) On Monday, Mrs. Duff and her son, and her brother, Max Duff, Mrs. Mary Mergler and three other friends, together with the Klopfer family were guests at dinner of Mr. and Mrs. Bertelsen.

Plunk Ray—

W. W. Sanderson, living on the Charles Sanderson place north of Summerville, was among those who finished putting up his way this week, like others in his neighborhood having been delayed by the frequent and heavy rains. From present appearances, particularly the way the wheat is rapidly ripening, in about two weeks or more all hands on this farm will be busy with both wheat and the second cutting of alfalfa.

Visits Grandparents—

Archie Baker, of Walla Walla, son of Albert Baker, forest ranger

at the toll gate, is visiting his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Baker, of Summerville.

To Entertain Aids—

Mrs. Everett Walsinger will be the hostess in the Alfred Ladies' Aid society Thursday afternoon at her home.

Splendid Host and Hostess—

Supt. and Mrs. Robert Withycombe, for 26 years in charge of the experiment station near Union, proved themselves an exceptional host and hostess Saturday when they had as their guests as many members of the county grange as could get away from their hayrack and other important farm duties. They seemed to be everywhere present and overlooked nothing that tended toward the welfare of their guests.

From Prof. G. R. Hyslop—

At the county grange picnic last Saturday, Prof. G. R. Hyslop who was in the valley at that time, inspecting potato fields, made some such statements as these: "It is within the province of the experiment station to test the different varieties of grains and other products found on the farms of the county. Most of the soil here generally used has been brought in by the state. The farmer must keep up with the constantly changing conditions. Tremendous changes have come about in the last ten years. The climate is the same and the soil is the same, but the economic conditions are vastly different. The state through the experiment stations and other agencies, is trying to eliminate all varieties save those which will give the best results in a particular locality under existing conditions. There are 42 different varieties of wheat and the effort is being strenuously made to find the kind best adapted to each locality and eliminating all others, making the variety standard. It has been found that barley can be profitably grown on soil that is alkali, and this grain can be sown much more extensively. When we can standardize on the varieties of alfalfa, of oats, or wheat, etc., to be raised, then Union county's agricultural returns will begin to figure up larger and larger each year."

Sanderson Family Picnic—

Different members of the Sanderson family entered heartily into a picnic party held all day Sunday at Mrs. E. Sanderson's on Dry creek. The list of those attending included Mr. and Mrs. Bert Oliver and family, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Woodell, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Park, W. M. Park, John Steenie, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Sanderson and family, George Holthe, Frank Oliver and Mother Sanderson.

Has Operation—

May Norval submitted to an operation yesterday at Hot Lake sanatorium for ulcers of the stomach, the operation proving quite successful. Mr. Norval has been ill for a long time and it is expected that his operation yesterday will bring permanent relief.

Two Societies Join in Picnic—

The joint picnic of the Imbler and Summerville Aid societies announced last week will be held Thursday in the grove just west of the Dry Creek school house.

Guests From Portland—

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Oliver have been visiting among relatives and friends in the Summerville neighborhood. They returned to their

home Sunday accompanied by Mrs. Margaret Oliver who had been the guest of relatives since Memorial day. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver, Yarnell, also from Portland, have been here to see her aunt and uncle Mr. and Mrs. Joe Woods. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kuhn have returned to their home in Portland following a visit with Mrs. Kuhn's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Hay, in the Pleasant Grove vicinity.

Summerville Rehearsal Install—

At the regular meeting held last Wednesday evening Jewel Rehearsal lodge of Summerville held its annual installation of officers. Mrs. Katie Woodell, serving as district deputy, presided, inducted into their respective offices Mrs. Pearl Wagoner, noble grand; Mrs. Hannah Hardy, vice noble grand; Miss Edith Littlefield, secretary and Mrs. Mary Woodell, treasurer.

Home From School—

Lloyd Woodell has been attending school the past year at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Portland, having started a course in electrical engineering. He has recently returned to his home in Dry creek and has taken a job with the force constructing the new government road on the toll gate road.

Miss Stonedahl on Visit—

Miss Stella Stonedahl, a graduate nurse from Boise, Ida., was here for a recent visit at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Stonedahl whose ranch is above Union in the Catherine creek canyon. She also attended the nurse's convention held in Portland. Miss Stonedahl has had very good preparation for her chosen profession. She spent four years in training at the Mayo Bros. hospital at Rochester, Minn., one of the very finest in the land, and an institution with a world-wide reputation.

PROMISE PERSONALS

PROMISE. (Special)—A large crowd attended the Fourth of July picnic at Promise. There was a dance the night of the fourth at the new grange hall.

Mrs. Laura Davis, Mrs. Edith Lindsey, Mr. and Mrs. Dee Brannon and two children and Ralph Carper, of La Grande, attended the funeral services of Mr. Trump last Sunday at the Promise cemetery.

Mr. and Mrs. Dee Brannon, of La Grande, came in Thursday after Mrs. Bertha Carper and daughter and took them to La Grande where Mrs. Carper is helping care for her son at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Curtis Lindsey.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Trump and four boys are in the mountains. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Trump and four boys are in the mountains.

Mr. and Mrs. John McClure, of Caldwell, Ida., visited Roy Carper Saturday, July 2. They went on to Enterprise the following day.

Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Lindsey, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lindsey and Ralph Carper, of La Grande, came in Monday night called here by the serious illness of Harold Carper.

Philip Beaumont returned to La Grande Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Eudora Courtney, who is attending summer normal in La Grande, spent the fourth in Portland.

Clyde Taylor, Roy Carper, Ethel Carper and Eunice Courtney went to Enterprise Sunday evening returning to Promise Monday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. John Phillips and family, of Wendling, Ore., are visiting relatives at Promise.

Roland Gorbett has been hauling lumber for Mrs. Nellie Fleishman.

COVE PERSONALS

COVE (Special)—Miss Mildred Smith, of Clatskanie, Ore., is a guest of Miss Lois Martin.

Miss Ruth Hayes, of Chehalis, Wash., is the house guest of the Rev. Alice Taylor.

Miss Carmen Daniel was hostess at a given party at her home Thursday afternoon honoring her friend, Miss Ida Underwood. Ten girls were present.

The women's auxiliary of the A. of L. has collected and packed three boxes of clothing for the flood sufferers. The women have also sent to the soldiers in Portland \$15 for the sale of poppies. Officers are Mrs. Gladys Harris, president, Mrs. Mae Kelly, vice president, Mrs. Alice Sanders, secretary, and Mrs. Alice Duffy, treasurer. They meet twice monthly on the second and fourth Fridays.

Mrs. Mary Shoup of Los Angeles, who is the guest of her niece, Mrs. A. A. Aulice, hopes to spend a month in what she calls "this beautiful valley." She visited here several years ago and found that its beauty even more alluring than before. After concluding her visit here she will visit in Seattle, Spokane and Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Conklin entertained at a family dinner Sunday honoring Mrs. Mary Sharp, of Los Angeles. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Aulice and Archie Aulice.

Mrs. O. Beckwith and Mrs. Nellie Bentner were La Grande visitors Friday.

Mrs. J. H. Wagner, of Five Points, with a party of friends came over on Friday for a picnic at the swimming pool. In the party were Winifred, Vera, Howell and Alice May Wagner, Vera Baxter, Mrs. Ragan and her daughters, Dorothy and Betty, of Hilgard, and Mrs. Scott and her daughters, Donna and June, also from Hilgard.

Mr. and Mrs. George Wiley and family were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Roberts Sunday.

The Eastern Star gave a party Friday evening honoring Mr. and Mrs. Jack Delaney, of Portland, who are visiting here. A shout

RECALLS DAY WHEN FIRST TRAIN CAME INTO LA GRANDE

"When I left my old home at Hadenburg, Iowa, to come west with my husband, he gave a promise to my mother that when the first train whistled into La Grande I could come home for a visit. I had never been away from home more than a week before, and I was starting back with my husband, who had returned from several months' work in the Grande Ronde valley, and had taken of its beauty and its possibilities as well as its dangers and hardships," so spoke Mrs. T. M. Ruckman now living at Imbler, who has been a resident of the valley for just a half century. And Mr. Ruckman kept his word. It was during a celebration of the Fourth of July in Old Town. Everyone was here from all the countryside. Excursive plans as remained in that day had been made. At this particular time, the crowd was listening to a very stirring patriotic address and was to all appearances greatly enthralled in what the speaker was saying, when all at once there was the shrill whistle of an engine actually pulling into La Grande. They tell us that the speaker might just as well have concluded his address right there. Probably he did. In any event, the crowd left the place in a hurry and went to see the engine. That was on the Fourth of July, 1884. In October, Mrs. Ruckman started back to the Hadenburg state to spend several weeks with her relatives.

Long, Hard Hours

Early days were not all balmy days, according to Mr. and Mrs. Ruckman. There was work, hard work and long, long hours. Mrs. Ruckman tells of the loneliness of the life, especially during a time of bereavement. She tells of the fear of the Indians, who appeared so frequently and in such numbers. She remembers so distinctly when the settlers met the Indians in battle and some of their old friends were killed. Often there came words of raids soon to be made and the neighbors fled to the fort at Union. There was also a large fort at Summerville. She also remembers how news came one afternoon that the Indians were to raid La Grande that night and set fire to the little town. She says the boys went out and climbed on the barn to watch the blaze—but it failed to materialize. Mrs. Ruckman always believed in showing the most friendly spirit toward the Indians, and consequently, personally, she never suffered from their hands. If she had anything they wanted when they called, she let them have it. She tells of one time when a large band of Indians appeared at her door and demanded some food. She had nothing which she could give them. Quite tactfully, though, she told them where they might go and get all the milk that they could use. They followed her suggestion and left. Later that night they returned and made known their thanks that the home to which she had directed them had had an abundance of milk and they were satisfied. If they ran

out of any provisions, Mrs. Ruckman said, there was nothing to do but to wait until the next freight came. These wagons of supplies were often attacked and the merchandise confiscated. Mrs. Ruckman will never forget the fear they experienced all during their ride on the stage, the last part of their journey when they first came. The stage just before they had been attacked, the occupants killed and the stage itself rolled down into the river. Thoughts of that were uppermost in their minds, quite naturally, all the time. They had soldiers with them for protection, but according to Mrs. Ruckman, it was a question which they feared, the most the Indians or the soldiers.

Mr. Ruckman secured first by purchase a tract of 160 acres on which he and his family made their home, often renting land from other owners and farming that also. Later he purchased a tract of over 300 acres and these comprise the farm, which is the present home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Ruckman. Up until about 15 years ago when they removed to Imbler, this was their continuous home, excepting the winters when their son was attending high school in La Grande. They have a beautiful home at Imbler just on the edge of town as you go in from this direction. They have made a number of trips back to town to see relatives and old friends again and visit the grave of their little daughter, but their heart is in the west and they are always glad to get back again.

REMEMBERS BIRTH

VERI SUR MER—One of Commander Byrd's pleasant recollections of his landing place in France, will be a farewell brew at the home of Mrs. Emilie Coffier, at whose house he got his first sleep after flying the Atlantic. "I know you are tired of champagne, so I have made you a cup of tea," she greeted him when he came to see goodbyes. Touring the town, the commander kissed scores of babies.

The movie salary cuts are a terrible blow. Some of the stars may even find they can't afford divorces now.

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