

Over The Valley

Mabel E. Morton, Valley News Editor

Improvements at Medical Springs

A number of very-much-worth-while attractions are included in the plans for the improvements to be made at Medical Springs. In fact a beginning has already been made. On the corner property across from the store, excavations have been made for the big plunge which will cover a ground space 45x125 feet. The entire pool, both floor and sides, will be of concrete construction, and it is expected that the actual work of laying the cement will be started within the next few weeks. The nature of the water from the hot springs at this resort, which attracts people by the hundreds every season will prove an unusual drawing card, the owners Mr. and Mrs. Powers believe, and it will undoubtedly be very popular from the beginning, owing to its proximity to the new town. Dodson, right next to the plunge will be built a fine, up-to-date dance pavilion the same size on the ground as the pool. There are but two of the items which Mr. and Mrs. Powers have in mind, and which their plans are completed. Medical Springs will be one of the finest resorts in this section of the country, it is asserted.

Have Milton Guest

Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Groves of Milton, were guests last week of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Slack, who reside north of Summerville. A number of trips were planned by Mr. and Mrs. Slack for the enjoyment of their guests, including a camping trip to Lake Wallawa and also a trip to Hot Lake, in addition to taking in the entertaining features afforded the public by the Legion convention. Mr. and Mrs. Groves returned to Milton Monday.

Has New Grandson

L. L. McKennon received a message yesterday announcing the birth of a fine baby-son to Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Sackett, who live in Portland. Mrs. Sackett was formerly Miss Fannie McKennon, Mr. McKennon's daughter.

Visits Medical Springs

Mrs. Kate R. Hanley of near La Grande went to Medical Springs Wednesday where she was the guest of her friend, Mrs. Grace Wright Powers.

Completes Beauty Course

Miss Fern McKinnis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. McKinnis,

residing in Dry Creek, has completed her course at the Marinella School in Portland, where she has been since last fall. Miss McKinnis came home early in the summer for her vacation and has recently been in Portland taking the state examination for cosmetician.

Have Young Women

Five young women, who a few years ago, were students at the same time and members of the same class at the Seattle Training school, a school for training domestic, missionary and Christian workers in the Methodist church, participated in a most enjoyable reunion at Haines Monday. After having been considerably scattered for several years, they are now in this general neighborhood and enjoyed the day which they had together. In the company were Miss Alice Tagn, now pastor of the Methodist church at Cove, Miss Ruth Hayes, her home town, of Chehalis, Washington, who until recently has been doing missionary work in Sacramento, California, Miss Josie Blokland, whose home is at Island City and who is pastor of the Methodist church at Haines, Miss Mable Aulin, who was some months ago compelled to give up her work as pastor of the Methodist church at Imbler, and is ill at Haines, and Miss Maude Cole, who for some time was a missionary in Africa, but is now at home on an indefinite furlough on account of ill health. Miss Hayes, who has for many years been deprived of her eye sight, may remain in Cove for some time with Miss Payne assisting her with her work there.

Guests Return Home

Miss Charlene Payne has returned to her home in Spokane, Washington, following a visit since the fourth of July, with her friend, Isabel Neilson of near Summerville.

Mrs. Eckersley Improves

Mrs. Otha Eckersley, of Cove, who became very seriously ill early last week and was taken to the Hot Lake Sanatorium for treatment is responding to the treatment given her and is reported as being very much better. Mrs. Eckersley became ill shortly after a reception had been tendered her and her husband on the occasion of their fifty-seventh wedding anniversary. Both Mr. and Mrs. Eckersley are great Oregon pioneers having come from the middle west to this place.

PIONEER STORIES AS THRILLING AS ADVENTURE BOOKS

Like the chapters taken from some of the nation's most thrilling books of adventure and daring, come the stories from some of Union county's old pioneers. With considerable of a thrill, were heard the fragments of the stories as the years were spun by groups of large or smaller numbers at the recent picnic of the Union County Pioneer Association. Even more thrilling, perhaps, are the stories as told at considerable detail and quite leisurely, by the same men, in the cool shade of their own homes or in some comfortable old arm chair in the spacious living room of an old farm house.

One of by Land, etc. etc.

W. A. Buchanan at the Alcedo elevator doesn't exactly follow in Paul Hervey's footsteps, but for years, in fact, since he has had charge of that elevator, he has made it a custom to hang an electric light in the top of the elevator, announcing in that way, to all the residents in that section and to the passengers on the highway that the first load of wheat for the current year has been received. Consequently Tuesday night when the light made its appearance, everyone knew that this particular job for the season was "on", and it was later learned that the first man in was Frank Groiner who has an 80-acre field of forty-fold wheat.

Celebrate Birthdays

Tuesday was the tenth birthday anniversary of Miss Rena Choate, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Choate of near Summerville, and also the birthday of her aunt, Mrs. George Hardy of Summerville. The propitious day was fittingly observed by aunt and niece at the Choate home, and the occasion made complete with a birthday cake and ice cream.

Mrs. Gray Pioneer, Also

Mrs. George Gray, living on lower Cove road is also a pioneer in this Grande Ronde valley having come here from the Willamette valley, with her parents, when she was a girl about 15 years of age. Mrs. Gray, whose maiden name was Vina Jaxper was born near Corvallis and will be 72 years old the 11th of next month. She was married in this valley to Mr. Gray on Washington's birthday of 1874 and they have always lived on the ranch of upwards of 1000 acres, where they now reside.

Harvest Season Well Under Way

The announcement of the receiving of the first load of grain at one of the valley elevators was but the first word that the season of harvesting was on. The work of mowing, binding, heading is going on over the county and the first of next week will see practically all of the wheat growers in Union county busy at the one big job of earing for the ripened wheat. There is also much hay being put up this week. In fact, it is thought but a period of six weeks for the tillers of the soil in Grande Ronde valley.

Home From Cornucopia

W. L. Myers and son, Billie of Poudoula, have returned home from a business trip to Cornucopia. Mr. and Mrs. Myers have as their house guests for a few weeks, their daughter, Mrs. Carl Locken and her little daughter, from Haines.

Ad Picnic Next Thursday

Plans are being perfected for the joint picnic to be held on next Thursday in the timber near the Dry Creek school house, to which the members of the Imbler, Alcedo and Summerville, ladies and societies have been invited.

Return From Baker

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Oliver and their daughter, Madeline, and their guests, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Oliver of Zillah, Washington, returned Wednesday from their motor trip to Baker where they visited Arthur Oliver and family, and also at Keating. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver were guests yesterday of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Park of Summerville. Today they are visiting relatives in La Grande and tomorrow they start on their return trip to their home.

Pioneers in the Parade

One of the most interesting sections in the parade, perhaps the outstanding feature in the recent state convention of the American Legion, was that prepared by the pioneers of the county and their sons and daughters. Mrs. Kate B. Hanley, secretary of the "Sons and Daughters", was directly responsible for the success of this, and in the preparation she was ably assisted by Mrs. Harriet Macdonald of La Grande. The section consisted of four floats, the first was the "Hill of Hope", the idea being quite effectively carried out. The second was the old pioneer wagon, which actually crossed the prairie and driven by the "Missouri Tins", as they are affectionately called, Dunham Wright of Medical Springs and S. B. Williamson of Cove Ave., La Grande. The third depicted the interior of the pioneer home and the last was the old time singing school. Beyond giving glimpses of those other days and structure in the minds of all the spectators a sincere reverence and respect for those men and women who blazed the trail, the floats confirmed the fact that though their tasks are ending competition and their work is about done, the pioneers have not lost their interest in the present.

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Some of the stories are so exceptionally full of experience, thrilling, humorous and varied, that a recollection of the same would be impossible. Consequently, accompanying the cut of four of the county's honored pioneers, is given but the beginning of the pioneers' stories to be concluded in a later issue.

Cut out on this page was made from a snap shot taken at the pioneer picnic of a group of men who found the day all too short for the things they wanted to say and do.

They are four of a larger, much larger company of men who faced untold hardships to make the journey across the plains and the mountains and laid the foundation here for the advantages enjoyed by the present generations. The lines are thinning fast and will continue to do so at an increasing rate. As one of the men remarked this week "Not long ago there was a continuous line of men from here clear to Cove, now I am alone, am left." The stories as they have been told may at first appear to be somewhat fragmentary. No attempt has been made to write a history which would suit the fastidious taste of a learned professor of advanced classes, but only to pass on in a very simple fashion the things which out of a fund of experience, retained in memories unusually clear, have been brought up in an ordinary conversation.

George Gray, Cove

Eighty-seven years of age, a man, who until two years ago was one of the most robust, active, energetic men of the county, the pioneer today, George Gray of lower Cove, is the last of the company who crossed the prairie with him, just as Mr. Shannon of Coveley is the last of another long list of those who came into the valley in the same train of prairie schooners. A man, who but a comparatively short time ago, was a man, who advanced as the first broncho buster in this whole section now rather chafes under the limitations which advanced age has placed upon him and longs to be out working in the open, following a habit which gripped him for more than four score years. With a memory unusually keen, Mr. Gray loves to speak of his old days, and of the work he worked, methods used, etc., as compared with present day conditions and methods.

For illustration, when Mr. Gray was told that the night before the first grain had been deposited in a local elevator and that the farmer who had brought in this first (timber) product had used the modern combine, he talked of the manner of sowing and reaping of wheat in the old days, 67 1/2 years ago, in this valley, but to this state and conditions here at that time might not have been as promising, Mr. Gray and his brother then living at Corvallis took two plough shares to their blacksmith and had them sharpened the old plow fifty cents.

With these, the soil was broken and prepared for the seed. The two men went out and sowed the grain by hand; when it had reached maturity, they cradled it, they cleaned the corn and thrashed out the grain by hand; by hand they gathered it up and socked it, and the entire cost of producing that first bushel of wheat was the 10 cents expended in sharpening the plow and the 50 cents for the horse and the present day, neither does he remember the advent of any improved or up-to-date method or implement. He realizes the great advance made with the appearance of the automobile and while he recognizes the possibilities of the air-plane in the future, he has no desire for the experience of riding in one.

Mr. Gray is a native of the state of Tennessee, where he was born on the 10th day of April, 1859. His father was of a busy or less roving disposition, and when the son was a mere lad, the family started for the west. They traversed Kentucky, crossing the Ohio river by the falls, then across the Mississippi in Missouri, Arkansas being their objective and this circuitous route being necessary to avoid the swamps. Being retained of the terrible floods in certain sections of the Mississippi during recent months, Mr. Gray remembered that when they approached the Mississippi, they drove through two miles of mud and he actually realized the water of the river. Their destination was reached about Christmas of 1867. Arkansas was their home for five years when once more the father of the family fell the call to move on farther west. They

latter out and followed the Platte river past the locality where the city of Denver now stands, but of course, not even the slightest imagination pictured the present day metropolis. They journeyed on striking the emigrant road along the Green River in the vicinity of Fort Bridger. Mr. Gray remembers especially the presence of great herds of wild animals, deer, antelope, and at one place in the Rocky mountains where as far as the eye could reach the country was literally black with buffalo. Once striking the emigrant road, the journey was made on to Soda Springs. At that place, the road forked, one trail leading to California, the other to Oregon. They followed the latter to Tumbleton landing and thence on down into the Willamette valley. The final destination was near present Corvallis.

Very nearly six months were required to make this long and tedious journey, a journey always fraught with danger of some sort. Never along the way were the Indians any real danger, nor did they cause any special disturbance although it was always expected that the trail of which the Gray family were a part, consisted of an wagon and the men. From the time the company left their Arkansas home until they reached Eugene they saw no town, no community of people. When they reached the section where Vale, Oregon, is now located, possibly thinking that they were nearing the end of their long journey, they disposed of some of their provisions. Very soon their stock was low, then completely exhausted. For six weeks they were without provisions of any kind. Mr. Gray says that during that period, each evening a beef was slaughtered, it was dressed and quartered, the meat boiled for the next day's ration. That was the pattern each evening, until relief came and food secured. The meat might have been much more palatable, had their been any salt for it, but salt was also a minus quantity.

(To be Concluded.)

A GROUP OF YOUNGSTERS



From left to right: S. B. Williamson, Cove Avenue, La Grande, aged 85 years; Dunham Wright, the Sage Medical Springs, aged 85 years; H. P. Lewis, La Grande, aged 85 years; George Gray, oldest pioneer, Lower Cove, aged 87 years.

and lots of other happy things. I can't find words to say.

Thank you, friends, for your example. And whatever traits that lie from here to the hereafter. All must tread them, bye and bye.

You have set for me a lesson. That will help me carry through to the happy roads of heaven. Where your campfires burn anew.

—WILBUR A. SHAW.

NORTH POWDER PERSONALS

NORTH POWDER, (Special)—The Eastern Oregon Light and Power company put on a food demonstration recently cooked by their new electric stove. A lecture was given by their demonstrator while food was cooking. She also gave recipes to the women on the things she cooked. Each

was given a ticket and Mrs. R. W. Brill was presented with the toast.

Walter Davis while driving home from Radium Springs overturned the David sedan doing considerable damage to the car. Some of the occupants were seriously injured.

The new grocery store located in the Peterson building has now started operating under the management of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Smith. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are already located at North Powder and plan on making this their permanent residence.

Ralph Smith, of Union, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Smith Sunday.

Oscar Smith and family were at Poudoula Monday attending the bur L. D. S. picnic.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jacobs have just returned from P. D. S. picnic they attended the L. D. S. picnic.

Miss Evelyn Metcalf is spending a vacation visiting with relatives in Portland and Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. H. F. White were at La Grande visitors Thursday. They stopped at Union and had lunch

with Mrs. White's father, Mr. Mulvihill.

Mrs. H. K. Dodson, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Frank and daughters, Mrs. Hansen and children visited Mrs. Sackett Sunday.

COVE PERSONALS

COVE (Special)—A baby daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Ross Friday July 15, at the Grande Ronde hospital. She has been named Mary Jane.

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Peck at Baker, Thursday, July 14.

Mr. and Mrs. Basil Dahlstrom, who have been visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Wardell, left Wednesday for their home in Poudoula.

Mrs. Nellie Marten has been entertaining a sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hemming, of Chicago, Ill., for the past few days. Mr. Hemming is a railroad man and they are spending their vacation seeing the west.

Mr. and Mrs. Bertrand Wardell are now living in La Grande where he is employed by one of the banks.

The American Legion is giving a dance Saturday night at the McCabes hall. Mrs. Tom Harris, Mrs. Alice Saunders and Miss Bea Kelly, of the auxiliary to the American Legion, are on the committee.

Miss Florence Severs, of Seattle, who arrived last week for a visit at Cove, was unexpectedly called home and left after only a brief visit.

Miss Clarice Conklin, who has been at Cove for the past two weeks with leave Sunday for her home in Walla Walla, Wash.

Mrs. Guy E. Barker entertained last week an old school friend, Mrs. Sylvester Lawrence, of Esquanda.

R. D. Monahan, of Freewater, has been here for the past two weeks tending after the fruit put up by the association.

"All the modern girl has to do to be popular, is to powder her nose and lips."

THRIFT SAVINGS GROCERS QUALITY CASH STORES

THIS IS TO REMEMBER Quality Groceries can Always Be Purchased in a Thrift Store on a Money-Saving Basis.

Saturday and Monday Saving Features

Table with 3 columns: BACON (Mild cure and lean Per Pound 33c), BAKING POWDER (50-oz. can K. C. 45c, 3 lbs. Crescent 73c, 2 1/2 lbs. Calumet 59c), PINEAPPLE (Plantation sliced 2 No. 2 1/2 tins 45c), P. S. CORN (Baby Shoe-peg 4 No. 2 cans 69c), CAMPBELL'S (Tomato Soup 3 cans for 25c), TOMATOES (Twin Peak, solid pack 3 cans for 43c)

Table with 3 columns: Fresh Ground, THRIFT COFFEE (Low in Price - High in Quality), Fresh Roasted. One Pound 45c, Three Pounds \$1.25

All Week Prices

Table with 2 columns: SOAP Etc. (Bon Ami (powdered) 11c, Dutch Cleanser, 2 cans 14c, Sani-Flush, can 28c, White King, pkg. 49c, Peet's Machine Soap 43c, Crystal White, 10 bars 43c, P. & G. Napha, 10 bars 39c, Mission Bell, 6 bars 49c, Palm Olive, 6 bars 49c), CANNED VEGETABLES (A. & L. Cut Beans, 2 for 42c, A. & L. White Corn can 19c, Standard Corn, 2 for 25c, P. S. Kraut, No. 2 1/2 tin 17c, Bullseye Pens, 4 cans 49c, P. S. Telephone Pens, 2 cans 36c, Twin Peak Tomatoes 13c, P. S. Tomatoes, No. 2 1/2 21c), CANNED FRUITS (Bullseye Apricots, 2 1/2 24c, Bullseye Peaches, 2 1/2 22c, Bullseye Pears, 2 1/2 26c, P. S. Melba Peaches, 2 1/2 35c, Standby Grapefruit, 2 25c, P. S. Strawberries, No. 2 43c, Pineapple, broken slices 23c, P. S. Pineapple, 1 1/2 tin 19c, P. S. Pineapples, 1 1/2 32c), FRESH VEGETABLES (Fresh Tomatoes, 2 lbs. 25c, Cucumbers, 2 for 15c, Green Beans, 3 lbs. 25c, Cabbage, lb. 4c, Beets, bunch 5c, Turnips, bunch 5c, Carrots, bunch 5c, Green Onions, 3 for 10c, New Potatoes, 7 lbs. 25c)

In The Old Harris Grocery Building 408 Fir St. Phone Main 731

Fishing Tackle Eveready Flashlights REYNOLDS' STORE Phone Main 123 Specials For Saturday HONEY—Hermiston Alfalfa 26c Pint jar 49c for Quart Jar WESSON OIL—Quart 51c Half Gallon 97c SPINACH—Finest quality No. 2 1/2 size can 19c ECONOMY JAR CAPS, 2 dozen 53c KERR WIDE-MOUTH JAR LIDS, 2 dozen 33c KERR REGULAR MOUTH JAR LIDS 24c 2 dozen The Berry season will soon be over and you should place your order now for Red Raspberries, Blackcaps and Loganberries. We guarantee the quality to be the best. Local berries are picked the morning you order them. Carrots, Beets, Turnips, bunch 5c Tomatoes, lb. 15c Lettuce, large heads 10c Cantaloupes, each 10c Green Onions 5c String Beans 9c New Peas 8c Cookies, dozen 5c Port-O, bottle 10c OVERALLS—Levi Strauss \$1.85 WORK SHIRTS 90c - \$1.00 - \$1.25 SHOES—Heavy Work \$3.55 Goodyear Tires National Mazda Lamps