

Society News

Tells Of Women's Help In Making Oregon History

The contribution women have made to the history of the great Northwest has always made, and always will make, the most fascinating reading. The part was not small, and in a few instances the women have towered high. Mrs. O. M. Gailley, of the Enterprise Women's club, well known in La Grande, Union county and Eastern Oregon, has a story in the current issue of The Oregon Clubwoman on "Women Who Have Helped Make Oregon History" which is very interesting, so much so that it is given herewith in full.

WOMEN WHO HAVE HELPED MAKE OREGON HISTORY

MRS. G. M. GAILLEY, Enterprise Women's Club.

History is a chronicle of the deeds and achievements of men and women, which exert an influence over the lives of succeeding generations. It is a significant fact that few historians give space to the achievements of women. Whether this is due to a reluctance to recognize the importance of feminine endeavor, or from an inherent antagonism to women taking a prominent part in world affairs, is a moot question, but the fact remains that comparatively few women are accorded a place in the chronicles of the historian.

Yet it is to a woman, frail, uncivilized and of a different race that the United States and its people owe the acquisition of a vast territory, from which has been carved several states, with wealth beyond the conception of man, in lands, ore, timber, fisheries, cattle and every other source of wealth represented in the Oregon country. Had it not been for Sacajawea, the Indian slave wife of a French trader, the history of the great Northwest might have been vastly different, and we might now owe our allegiance to the British Empire instead of to the great republic of the United States.

Sacajawea was a Shoshone or Snake Indian, a tribe occupying the country near the present site of Windy river, Wyoming. When she was a child of less than ten years, an enemy tribe, the Mandan or Minutere, swept down on the Shoshones and captured several prisoners, among them Sacajawea. Her captor kept her for some time, treating her not unkindly, but being like most Indians, an inveterate gambler, he eventually lost her to the French trader, Charbonneau. After several years of slave maid to his legal wife, upon her death Charbonneau took Sacajawea to be one of his wives, along with another Indian slave.

It was late in 1804 that George Clark and Meriwether Lewis reached Fort Mandan in the Missouri country which was the home of Charbonneau. They were seeking a guide to the great western territory, the object of their expedition. After spending the winter at the Fort, in April of 1805 they started on their great march, piloted by Sacajawea, because she was familiar from childhood with much of the territory they must traverse. At this time she was less than seven years of age, yet the mother of an infant son, born in February, 1805, and whom she carried Indian fashion on her back on the journey to the sea.

Her intelligence, cheerfulness, resourcefulness, tireless perseverance and faithfulness, together with her unerring instinct in guiding the expedition across trackless plains and through almost impassable mountain passes, were an inspiration to all in the party. She guided them the entire way to the Pacific Ocean, returning to Fort Mandan in 1806. After years of her life are shrouded in silence and it has not positively been decided when and where she died. One authority asserts she died while still young, leaving an infant daughter, somewhere in Dakota where the river had washed away her grave, and the Indian agent on the Shoshone Reservation at Windy River, Wyoming, claiming to have buried her, an old woman, on April 9, 1884.

The most pathetic and romantic story in Old Oregon is that of Anna Maria Pitman, who came to Ore-

gon as a missionary in 1836, leaving New York in July of that year and arriving in the Columbia river in May of the following year, 1837, a journey of ten months. It was hoped by friends on her trip that she might become the wife of Jason Lee, who had established a mission on the Willamette River in 1835, and the suggestion was made to her in New York, but it was not until they met and associated in mission work on the Willamette that the suggestion became a fact. They were married on July 16, 1837, and the following year in June, while Mr. Lee was away east on an important mission, a little son was born to them. But mother and son were both laid in one grave twenty days later.

Anna Pitman Lee was a woman of fine natural endowments, accustomed to polite society, cultured in mind and heart and poetic in thought. She was a true woman in faith, in hope, in consecration to great ideals and in sacrifice. She embodied the spirit of the noble pioneer women of Oregon. In her was merged the firm reason, the temperate will, endurance, foresight, strength, and skill, approaching Wordsworth's great "Ideal of Womanhood."

"A perfect woman, nobly planned, To warn, to comfort, and to command."

And yet a spirit still and bright With something of angelic light."

Anna Pitman Lee was the first white woman to be married in Oregon and she also was the first white woman to die in its territory.

Another woman, also a missionary to the Oregon country, was Narcissa Prentiss Whitman, one of the first two white women to enter Oregon territory, the other being Mrs. H. N. Spalding.

Narcissa Prentiss, the daughter of Judge and Mrs. Stephen Prentiss, was born at Dralzburg, New York, on March 14, 1805. She was a fair, golden haired, blue eyed girl with a good figure, pleasant manners, and a rich beautiful soprano voice that was well trained. After her graduation from school and secretary, she and her sister conducted a school at Bath, New York, until the year 1834, when the family moved to Angelica, New York, where she kept her residence until her marriage to Dr. Marcus Whitman in February, 1836. Immediately following their marriage they started west to Oregon, arriving at Vancouver on September 12, 1836. On December tenth of that year they moved to their own mission at Waiilatpu, and had same afternoon, Mrs. Whitman opened a school for fifteen Waiilatpu Indian children. This marks the opening of missionary operations in the Inland Empire.

The mission was maintained with varying success. (Mrs. Whitman teaching English, music, and the fundamental subjects, along with religious teaching and Dr. Whitman ministering to the physical as well as the spiritual needs of the Indians), until the fatal day of November 29, 1847, when the Indians wantonly massacred fourteen members of the mission, including both Dr. and Mrs. Whitman.

Mrs. Whitman, besides being one of the first white women to enter Oregon, was the first woman to teach school west of the Rocky mountains and was the first white woman to die a martyr's death in all that land.

There are pioneer women other than colonization or missionary endeavors, and early in the 50's one fearless, aggressive woman began to see the need of a radical innovation in governmental affairs which would recognize the legal existence of wives and mothers, although she did not at that time comprehend the fundamental principle of equal rights as embodied in legislation itself.

This woman, Abigail Scott Duniway, was to be the cause of the enfranchisement of women, what Sacajawea was to the Lewis and Clark expedition, its guide, strength, and inspiration; also its almost sole champion. She is known as Oregon's Greatest Woman. In 1851 she began her fight for equal rights, and in 1852 secured the enactment of the Married Women's Sole Trader's Bill, which secured to married women who registered with the county clerk, the protection of their personal earnings from disposition by their husbands. In 1875 women were enabled to vote for school trustees and for funds and appropriations for public school purposes "if they had property in the district in which they or their husbands paid a tax."

Abigail Scott Duniway was a woman of forceful character, indomitable will, and great mental capacity, and her persistence and patient endurance, after countless defeats, finally won the battle, winning for the women of Oregon the elective franchise they enjoy today.

These women are but examples of great numbers of pioneer women nameless and unnumbered, whose patience, courage, endurance and sacrifice equalled that of the men beside whom they walked and labored. The imprint of their hand and brain is still visible on the civilization of this—Our Oregon.

Gold Bullets

by Charles G. Booth

SYNOPSIS: A lead bullet solves a 20-year-old murder. Andrew Ogden is enraged when Purie admits violating the remains of Ogden's brother in the Torridity mine. Purie produces a flattened lead bullet found in the skeleton. For the first time, Ogden realizes that his brother did not kill himself as the bullets in the gun he carried were gold, that Dillon shot him, probably because he had been his accomplice and feared exposure. Ogden then reveals the whole story to Jerry and sends him to Torridity to guard the skeleton. Lucy interrupts the story with a surprise—she and Jerry were married after her mad dash to the mine.

Chapter 44 "WHO IS DILLON?"

I stared unbelievably at the circle of gold on the end of the ribbon. Married! I had lost her! It pinned me into my chair until an uprush of anger at Jerry gave me release. He must have felt the wind of its coming.

"I know what you are going to say, Uncle John," he poured forth in grief-stricken tones. "I'm a cad to have done such a thing! I don't blame you. Dad dead and not buried—this murder charge hanging over my head—it was a beastly thing to do! Get it out of your system. It's coming to me, God knows!"

"Oh, Jerry!" Lucy cried distressfully. "And then, so gently that my anger softened: 'It isn't coming to you! Please keep quiet while I tell him about it, dear.'"

Her dark eyes, tender, earnest, yet unafraid, held mine. "Jerry is trying to shield me. He is entirely my fault. He didn't know about his father until this morning. We started back as soon as I told him."

"You didn't tell him until this morning!" I exclaimed incredulously. "If I had told him when I found him he wouldn't have—married me."

"Hardly," Jerry mumbled. "You young fellows!" I roared, recovering myself. "Couldn't you have waited until this thing was cleared up?"

"Don't you see?" Lucy said patiently. "If a man doesn't need a wife when he's in trouble, when does he need one?"

"Oh!" I gasped. I felt as if I hadn't known Lucy until this moment.

"You always said I was a funny little thing, Uncle John, but you've been such a dear!" She kissed me and I began to melt like butter. "Jerry was in serious trouble. If he should be arrested I wanted my right to stand by him to be a

and the groom attended by Mr. Carl Rhea took their places before Rev. Dr. Bowman, pastor of the church who read the church service. Mr. and Mrs. Ogilvie left immediately on a tour to Bend, Eugene and Seaside and on their return will make their home in Portland.

Camp Fire Girls Plan Ceremonial

This evening on the banks of the Grande Ronde river, somewhere near the city, the girls of the Sacajawea Camp Fire group will hold one of their ceremonials, a camp fire, an event which promises to be exceptionally interesting. The ceremonial will follow a supper which the girls will serve. The affair continues from five until eight o'clock.

Announcements

Special honors came to Hope chapter No. 13 Order of the Eastern Star at the recent session of the Grand Chapter of Oregon, when two members were made grand officers.—George S. Cochran having been made worthy grand patron and Mrs. Hazel Gray grand adviser. In view of this unusual honor the Past Matrons' club of La Grande is tendering them a reception tomorrow, Wednesday evening, in connection with the regular meeting of Hope chapter. All Eastern Stars, including visitors in La Grande, will be heartily welcomed.

The Women's Home Missionary Society of the Methodist church will meet Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock at the home of Mrs. Leslie Dinean.

Miss Ruth Adler Becomes Bride Of Arthur Ogilvie

Miss Ruth Adler, formerly of this city, and a teacher in the La Grande public schools, at a very pretty and very simple ceremony, became the bride last week of Mr. Arthur Ogilvie of Portland. The wedding was an event of Wednesday, the setting, the First Presbyterian church in Portland. To witness the ceremony, the bride's mother, Mrs. E. Adler, her sisters, Miss Margaret Adler, Mrs. William Hall and Mrs. Lowell Williamson of this city, together with Will Adler and daughter, Miss Genevieve and Mr. Williamson drove to the Rose City. After Miss Augusta Stockton had sung "Because" and as Miss June Butloch was playing the strains of a wedding march, the bride, attended by Mrs. Carl Rhea, formerly Miss Edna Switzer,

Natal Hail Storm Worst In History

DURBAN, Natal, June 25 (AP)—The most destructive hailstorm in this city's history occurred here during the night, causing damage which some estimated at 500,000 pounds sterling, (about \$2,500,000). A few minutes after the hail started it lay eight inches deep on the streets, some of the stones being four inches in diameter.

CELEBRATION ON JULY 25-27

EUGENE, Ore., June 25 (AP)—Southern Oregon will honor all about the Eugene-Sunset trail celebration to be staged July 25 to 27, when a dozen red-shirted, bewiskered members of the Eugene Radicators, a marching club, left Tuesday for a tour of the south. Stops will be made at Klamath Falls, Chiloquin, Bend and other cities en route.

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shouted tempestuously: Just then the telephone rang. I took off the receiver. (Copyright 1929, Wm. Morrow Co.)

The telephone message leads to an amazing challenge, a daring acceptance—in tomorrow's chapter of "Gold Bullets."

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