

### HISTORIAN TELLS OF OREGON TRAIL

#### Famous Route to West First Called by That Name in Year 1846.

By J. Nelson Barry (Secretary Trail Seekers Council, Noted Oregon Historian)

The treeless valley of the Pacific afforded an easy route for early trappers to reach the Rocky mountains from the Missouri river. The South Pass in Wyoming enabled them to cross over the Snake river. The same region was also reached by the fur companies of the lower Columbia river who followed the routes used by the Indians in going to the buffalo country.

To Nathaniel J. Wyeth belongs the honor of first utilizing these two routes for the purpose of making a direct journey from the Missouri river to the lower Columbia and the Pacific coast. His first journey in 1822 was made with considerable difficulties, yet he found the way and so was able to lead his second expedition in 1824 along the natural highway which was subsequently followed by tens of thousands of emigrants to the Oregon country. This might appropriately have been named the Wyeth route.

#### Traveled Mighty Caravans

Other travelers found that California might also be reached from the South Pass, while gradually wagons came into use instead of pack trains. From the Missouri river wagons were used for increasing distances, until finally many practicable routes were found to various points on the Pacific coast. Along these traveled the mighty caravans in that long journey which is one of the most extraordinary migrations in all history.

Although the numerous oxen and horses would consume the grain for many miles around available camping places, yet the character of the plains enables travelers to take parallel routes to the South Pass, as well as to the other passes. These formed the trunk line to the western side of the Rocky mountains beyond which the various routes led to the settlements in Utah, Oregon and California.

#### First Used in 1846

The term Oregon Trail seems first to have been used by Francis Parkman in 1846, probably because the route made by the emigrant trains looked something like the route made by the travels of the Indians. The travels being two poles tied to a horse, the ends dragging on the ground. These travels were used in place of wheeled carts for carrying the tepees and other luggage of the Indians while moving from one camping place to another. The trailing poles left the trails.

The emigrant routes to Western Oregon left the trunk line in Eastern Idaho and the first wagon

train in 1842 followed the Wyeth route to the Columbia river at old Fort Walla Walla, now Wallula, Wash. Some of these emigrants made the rest of the journey by water, as Wyeth had done, while others drove their wagons to The Dalles and then embarked on the Columbia river. Later trains went direct from the Blue mountains to The Dalles while a few left the Snake river near the present Ontario, Ore., and went south to the Blue mountains to The Dalles or crossed the Cascade range to the vicinity of Eugene. Sometimes cattle were driven through the Columbia gorge or over the Cascade range by an Indian route north of Mount Hood. In 1846 the Harlow road was opened south of Mount Hood and the next year Applegate opened a route from the South Pass to southwestern Oregon, via Nevada.

Emigrants to Puget Sound at first went from the lower Columbia river via the Cowlitz valley, but in 1852 a route was opened from old Fort Walla Walla via the Yakima valley and Naches pass.

The Mallan military wagon road was subsequently constructed from Fort Benton, Montana, at the head of navigation on the Missouri river to Fort Walla Walla.

#### NOBLES PLANS ACTION

WASHINGTON, Apr. 9 (AP)—Aroused by failure of Speaker Longworth to refer his constitutional amendment on "game duck" to a House committee, Senator Norris, republican, Nebraska, has introduced a resolution in the senate asking for

#### appointment of a committee to determine what can be done to force the house to act on the resolution adopted ten months ago by the senate.

#### GANDHI'S SON ARRESTED

DELHI, Apr. 9 (AP)—Davis Das Gandhi, son of Mahatma Gandhi, was arrested at Salempur today by Abanankar Lal, president of the district congress, and 22 other salt volunteers while manufacturing salt.

Police marched the prisoners to Meerut.

#### DOLORES HAS DAUGHTER

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Apr. 9 (AP)—Mr. and Mrs. John Barrymore, stage and screen stars, announced the birth of a daughter here yesterday. Mrs. Barrymore, formerly Dolores Costello, and the child are doing nicely.

#### WHEAT CONDITION

WASHINGTON, Apr. 10 (AP)—The condition of the winter wheat crop on April 1 was announced here by the department of agriculture as having been 71.4 per cent of a normal, compared with 88 on December 1 last year, 82.7 on April 1 last year, and 59.8, the April 1 ten year average.

The condition of pasture was 78.5 per cent of a normal compared with 85.6 on April 1 last year. Production forecasts were not announced.

### THREE RADIOS TO EACH TEN HOMES

#### Two-Thirds of Families in America Without Receiving Sets.

By C. E. Butterfield (Associated Press Radio Editor)

Approximately two-thirds of the homes in the United States suffer along without a radio receiver. How they do it with the air so full of entertainment can be explained only by the occupants. Maybe they depend on the next door neighbors, particularly in the summer time.

A survey made by the national chamber of commerce brought to light the rather startling fact that the radio market was not saturated by any means. It was found that out of each 100 families, 15 own modern electric socket power re-

ceivers, 22 have battery sets and the remaining 63 own none at all. These figures seem somewhat strange in view of the strenuous efforts which have been made to sell receivers.

The survey was not confined to any particular spot of the country, but was announced as a cross section of the general situation.

On the other hand, the growth of radio in the last ten years has been phenomenal. From nothing at all to a real national institution in that period has been duplicated by few other industries, including the automobile.

As successful as a broadcast from the comfortable studio of a big station, the first presentation of a regular network feature from a ship at sea went off without a hitch. It was considerably more realistic, for there could be heard in the background the splash of the sea as well as the whistle of a passing steamer toward the end of the program. The feature was the weekly broadcast

#### of the Trawlers, heard Wednesday nights over WABC and stations.

The broadcast was made by the use of a short wave transmitter on the ship, set up temporarily. A received on shore relayed the signals to the chain headquarters in New York. The ship was the Flow, an honest to goodness trawler, and it was near Ambrose Lightship, off New York City, at the time.

Sixtube receivers, in small wood cabinets 20 inches high, 15 inches wide and nine inches deep, are extremely popular west of the Rocky mountains, according to word from Pacific port of San Francisco. Described as the "western table set," it retails around \$50, tubes included.

#### FIND CZAR'S DIARY

LENINGRAD (AP)—Manuscripts found in the Pavlov and Alexandrov palaces at Tsarskoe Selo included four diaries of the late emarina Alexandra Fiodorovna and a diary kept by Nicholas I in 1856.

#### POOR PACKING LOSSES TRADE

LONDON (AP)—The Minister of Agriculture told a recent trade convention that the United States had ousted Portuguese fruit from the Brazilian market because exporters here were careless in selecting and packing fruit for overseas.

#### DEATH RULES COLONY

BRAZZAVILLE, French Equatorial Africa (AP)—High mortality, sparse population—less than one inhabitant to the square mile—and vulnerability of natives to endemic diseases form a tremendous handicap to development of this naturally rich territory. The infant death rate is 40 per cent.

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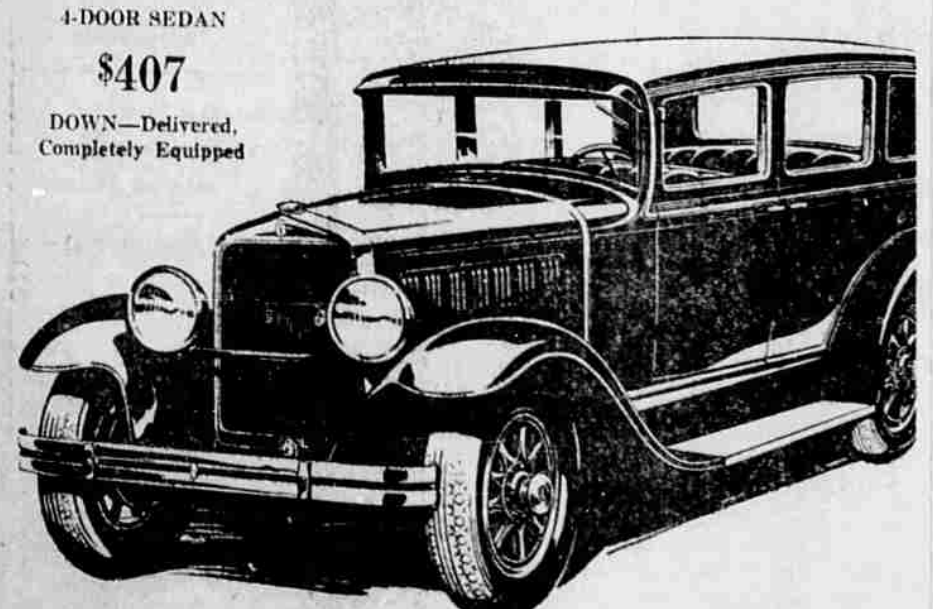
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## Famous Mt. Baldy Trophy won by Dynamic New ERSKINE

At Pomona, Calif., on Feb. 25, an Erskine stock sedan, with optional gear ratio, certified by the American Automobile Association, set a new record up Mt. Baldy, making the winding 7.1 mile climb in 10 minutes, 44 seconds. It won the Progress-Bulletin trophy for the fastest time ever made by a strictly stock car.

Feats such as the record-breaking Mt. Baldy climb are evidence of the Dynamic New Erskine's power and stamina.

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