

DON RUCKMAN RODE AWAY FROM CITY ON FIRST TRAIN

He And His Mother, Mrs. T. M. Ruckman, Rode East to Iowa.

Several people now living in La Grande and the valley rode on that first passenger train that arrived in July, 1884, but Don Ruckman has a somewhat different experience to relay. You see, he rode out on the first passenger train!

T. M. Ruckman, one of the early pioneers of the Grande Ronde valley and who homesteaded near Allec long before the arrival of the railroad, had heard his wife remark that she would like to go back to Iowa to see her relatives. So, he decided that when the first train left La Grande, he would let her make the trip. He told Mrs. Ruckman of his plan for her trip, and she was delighted, and immediately began making some plans herself.

So back in July, 1884, the Ruckmans had more than usual interest in that first passenger train into the Grande Ronde valley. Mrs. Ruckman and Don, her son, were on the train when it left this city. Don was about six or seven years old then, but he still remembers the occasion vividly. "I recall the large smokestacks, and the engine in particular," he said.

Don also remembers that they had quite a bit of trouble on their return trip, later in the year, because of snow. The main difficulty was in the Rocky mountains, where snow was battled by ordinary snowplows—there were no rotary then—and it was necessary for them to stop over several times en route home. "They would take 10 or 12 engines in clearing the track," he said. "We were a month getting home." At that time there was no snow yet in the Blue mountains to cause them any trouble, so after going through the Rockies they made fairly fast time as time was reckoned in those days.

RED HEADS WILL APPEAR IN PARADE

One of the "colorful" floats in the parade July 20 during the Semi-Centennial U. P. celebration here, will be a collection of La Grande boys who have the reddest hair and the most freckles. The youngsters who qualify for the float will each receive 25 cents and in addition the boy who has the reddest hair and the most freckles in the group will receive a dollar.

Piery-topped, speckled faced youngsters are urged to apply at the chamber of commerce for permission to ride on the float.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY ACTIVE
The Union County Historical society, recently organized, has done some remarkable work the last year in discovering and classifying not only historical sites and relics in this section, but also in preparing in orderly fashion much of the pioneer history of Union county.

PIONEER RUCKMAN HOME



This is a picture of the T. M. Ruckman pioneer home, near Allec. The wing at the right was the original dwelling place built in 1873 on the old homestead. The addition was constructed in 1889. Don Ruckman, his son, remembers. The Ruckmans were among the first settlers in the Allec section of the Grande Ronde.

ERECT MONUMENT TO PIONEERS OF VALLEY

The first monument to be erected to the memory of pioneers in this valley will be dedicated next Sunday, July 15, at 2:30 o'clock and the public is given an urgent invitation to be present for the exercises.

This monument which commemorates the arrival of the pioneers who spent the first winter here, has been erected by the Francis Brown Auxiliary to the Sons and Daughters of Union County Pioneer association and the Union County Historical association, on the hill just entering Mt. Glen, and in front of the old Horner place.

The stone rests on 16 feet of ground which was donated for the purpose by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Briggs, the present owners of this place which carries so much historical significance.

A program quite in keeping with such a project is in the process of preparation. The dedicatory proper will be by the oldest daughter of the pioneer Ben Brown, Mrs. Esther Brown Ellsworth, of La Grande, and their

WEAR AN ENGINEER CAP
If you haven't already purchased an engineer cap from the Semi-Centennial Union Pacific celebration committee representatives, and a souvenir button, there is yet time. These two articles, typical of the celebration, will make a distinctive portion of your collection of souvenirs after they serve their purpose before and during the jubilee.

SUMMER FALLOW WHEAT AREA
In Eastern Oregon is the great summer fallow wheat area of the state, with farms ranging upwards to 5000 acres.

great-great-granddaughter, Miss Marcille Conley, of Mountain Springs. Two speakers have been secured, the Hon. Dunham Wright, of Medical Springs, and Congressman Walter M. Pierce.

The site of the memorial is about three miles north of La Grande on the Mt. Glen market road. Being so easy of access, the sponsoring organizations are expecting a very large crowd of town and valley folks present for the imposing ceremonies.

A CAPPELLA CHOIR WILL SING AT PAGEANT JULY 21

The La Grande A Cappella choir will be one of the features at the Semi-centennial U. P. celebration pageant Saturday afternoon, July 21, at the La Grande stadium. Under the direction of Andrew Loney Jr., the choir will sing two of its numbers which have been so well received by La Grande audiences. Mr. Loney, who is studying at the University of Washington summer school, will make a special trip to La Grande for this occasion.

It has been announced that choir members will meet at the High school for rehearsals on Tuesday evening, July 17, at 7:30 p. m. A second rehearsal will be held after Mr. Loney reaches the city on Friday evening at 7:30 in

the High school music room. All the members of the choir are expected to be present at these rehearsals.

Great interest has been shown in the A Cappella choir numbers, since the La Grande organization, formed during the last year, is the only one of its kind in the north-west. It has appeared before the public here in concert and has won the highest praise not only of its audience but of its critics as well.

The choir was started here by Mr. Loney, after he returned from a summer spent in the mid-west, where he took special work in this type of music. La Grande High school also boasts of a fine A Cappella choir.

PIONEER HOT SPRINGS NOW BIG RESORT

A pioneer hot spring, developed and modernized now stands forth as one of the most famous health resorts in the Pacific northwest—the Hot Lake Sanatorium, located at Hot Lake, Ore., just nine miles east of La Grande on the Old Oregon Trail highway and the U. P. main line.

Said to be one of the hottest developed mineral springs in the world, it was used by pioneers and the Indians long before the day of the railroad, and its beneficial qualities soon became widely known. Since this fact was first thoroughly realized, an attempt has been made to make the springs more available to visitors, which has culminated today in

the present scientific health resort, managed by L. F. Allen. In addition the sanatorium has most comfortable hotel accommodations with dining room service. It also has complete diagnostic equipment, modern laboratory and hospital facilities, and has attained national recognition as a health resort.

LA GRANDE IS HONORED
In deciding to accept this city's invitation for the annual Western Union Meeting of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, the organization greatly honored La Grande, since it will be the first time in history any of these large meetings have been held in a city of less than 100,000 population.

THE BLUE MOUNTAIN REGION
The Blue mountain region of Eastern Oregon includes Wheeler, Grant, Baker, Union, Wallowa, Malheur and Harney counties.



In the Days When—

The crackers, pickles, butter, prunes and everything else smacked of the coal oil flavor off friend grocer's hands . . . the same knife that parted the cheese, also sliced the bacon and bologna and did service in a score of other ways without a visit to the cleaners . . . the dust of the street gathered thick over the apple barrel and the dried peach basket . . . and we all lived and populations grew . . . but . . .

Now—

How much improved, how much better everything really is and tastes. Cleanliness and sanitation has added much to the real goodness and value of the foods we buy at market . . . original flavors and goodness are retained by modern process and carefully sealed cans or packages. Human hands have touched little or not at all in the progress of the foods to your table . . . perhaps it costs a little more than then . . . but what increased value and certain health protection for your money.

YOU'LL LIKE TO TRADE TODAY AT THE CLEAN MODERN STORES OF THE

GRANDE RONDE MEAT CO.

Wholesale and Retail
3 Stores
Main Store and Office, 1116 Adams
Hoover Grocery, 1312 Adams
Fir Street Mkt., 408 No. Fir
32 Years of Continuous Service to Patrons of La Grande and the Grande Ronde Valley

Then as Now—

"Quality Shoes at Economy Prices"

at

BURNETT SHOE STORE
116 Depot St.



Above is pictured the "high boys" of their day, at the right, the newest "Vitality" shoe featured at Burnett's.

