



If you want to live in clover, Just look the wide world over, And you can't beat DAYTON

In the Heart of the Willamette Valley

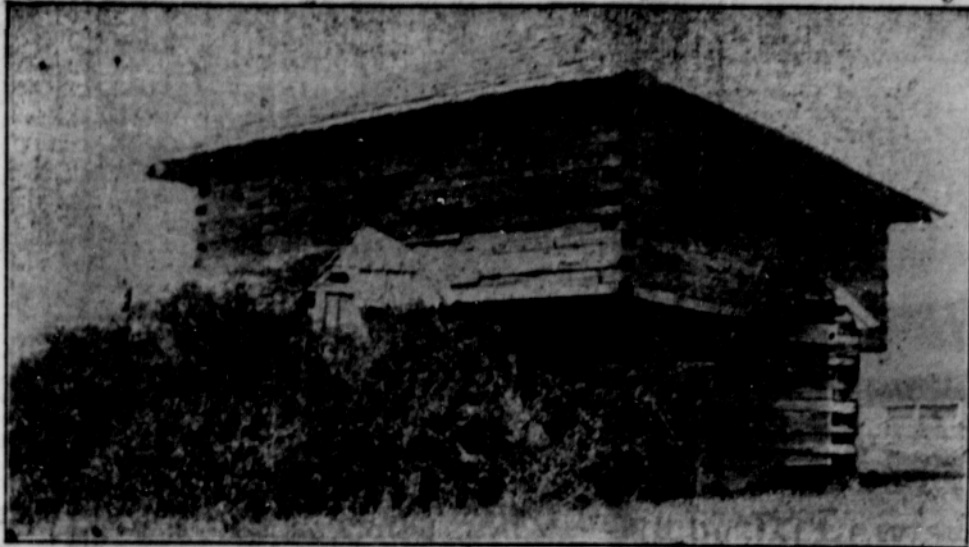
VOL. 3 No. 9

Published Every Thursday

DAYTON, OREGON OCTOBER 21, 1926

Subscription \$1.50 per year in advance

Dayton Landmark Has Interesting History; Built in 1856; Was Moved From Grand Ronde to This City in June, 1910 by Mr. J. G. Lewis



Dayton, Oregon, a small town of 453 inhabitants, situated 7 miles from McMinnville, the County Seat of Yamhill County, on the Yamhill River at the natural head of Navigation on that stream, being 33 miles south of Portland, and one mile south of the S. P. Railway, was in the year 1856 laid out by Gen. Joel Palmer on his Donation Land Claim.

In the center of this townsite, General Palmer set aside one entire block for use as a public park.

Gen. Palmer is buried in the cemetery which he donated to the City of Dayton as a free public burial grounds.

In the year 1855, President Franklin Pierce appointed Gen. Joel Palmer as superintendent of Indian Affairs throughout the territory of Oregon.

He purchased from the original settlers, for the Government, a tract of (6000) six thousand acres of land in the Grand Ronde Valley in the south-western part of Yamhill, paying therefor the sum of \$35,000.

He concluded to move the Indian tribes of southern Oregon on to this tract of land.

Trouble had continued between the whites and Indians of the Cayuse War in 1848, and the bringing of the Indians so near to the settled portions of Oregon was not satisfactory to the white settlers. The feeling of the settlers against Gen. Palmer was very bitter.

The legislature took up the matter and a prominent citizen of Polk County accused Gen. Palmer of being the cause of previous troubles with the Indians, and this citizen said: "He (Palmer) proposes to bring thousands of savages, red from war, and station them in the midst of settlers of this valley, there already being a treacherous and barbarous foe upon its borders."

The first Indians moved to this reservation, by Gen. Palmer, were the Umpquias and Calapooyas, both friendly tribes, being in number about 500.

These tribes were brought to the reservation without much opposition and without any aid from the U. S. Troops.

This successful moving of these tribes so encouraged Gen. Palmer that he determined to bring together other tribes, which he did, until between two and three thousand Indians were placed upon the reservation.

During the winter of 1855 and 56, the settlers, fearing an outbreak of these Indians, built a stockade or log blockhouse for defense, located on a high hill where the Butler store now stands.

Gen. Palmer, fearing trouble, deemed it necessary for a force of U. S. Troops to be stationed here to maintain order and to prevent another Indian war.

In April 1856 the Government sent the first troops to this station which became known as Fort Yamhill.

The troops first stationed at Fort Yamhill were under the command of Col. Wm. B. Hazen. In September of that year Capt. A. J. Smith was placed in command, having under him Lieut. Joseph Wheeler, later known as Gen. Joseph Wheeler, the famous Confederate Cavalry Officer, and one of the Generals in Command of the U. S. Troops at the battle of Santiago in the late war with Spain.

In May 1857, Lieutenant, afterwards General Phil Sheridan, of the Fourth U. S. Regulars, with Capt. David A. Russell was stationed here with a detachment of that regiment.

In 1861, when the Civil War broke out, Lieut. Phil Sheridan and Capt. David Russell were ordered to leave Grand Ronde and report in the east for service.

The older Indians, who called Lieut. Sheridan "Little Phil," and the early pioneers, in and near the reservation, tell many little incidents in which Lieut. Sheridan was a prominent actor. They state that Lieut. Sheridan attended many dances in both Dayton and Lafayette and at one time while going to one of these towns he found a creek swollen by high water and when told that he could not cross, Sheridan replied, "I never turn back," thus showing the determined character of the man. Another incident—When mounted on his horse to leave Grand Ronde, he rode a short distance in advance of his troops, wheeling his

horse and rising in his stirrups he said to his men, "Comrades, I am going into this to win a captain's spurs or die with my boots on; goodbye boys, I may never see you again; Forward, march." Lieut. Sheridan rose to the rank of General, and Capt. David Russell was placed in command of a division, serving under Gen. Sheridan and was killed in the battle of Winchester.

Gen. Sheridan's name is enrolled as one of the greatest generals in the annals of history and the event of his memorable ride from Winchester to Cedar Creek has been recorded in that remarkable poem, "Sheridan's Ride," which will be handed down to future generations and his stirring command of "Turn, boys, turn, we're going back," still rings in the memory of all living veterans of his old command.

While never stationed at Fort Yamhill, Major Reynolds, Gen. E. O. Ord and also that noted General who sent his famous dispatch during the battle of Spottsylvania, "I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer," and who afterwards became the president of the United States—namely, Gen. U. S. Grant—all visited this Fort and spent some time here on special duty for the Government.

Thus around the walls of this old wooden block-house, have gathered brave soldiers and noted army officers whose names are written on pinnacles of fame and glory, and the written pages of the history of the modern world have immortalized them, and whose valiant deeds shall echo down the ages yet to come.

While Gen. Palmer was superintendent of Indian Affairs at Grand Ronde, Hon. R. P. Earhart, who afterwards held the office of Secretary of State, for two terms, and was Collector of Customs at Portland, Oregon, with Col. Christopher Taylor, who was assistant Adjutant General under Governor Gibbs, were both at Grand Ronde, assisting in the management of the Agency.

On the evening of October 10, 1910, Mr. J. G. Lewis went before the City Council of Dayton and advocated the securing, from the U. S. Government, the old Block-house at Grand Ronde and place it in the City Park as a monument in memory of Gen. Palmer, the donor of the park to Dayton. Meeting with the encouragement of the city authorities, he on October 11, 1910, prepared the following petition.

Whereas—Gen. Joel Palmer (deceased) first settled at, located and laid out this town, now the City of Dayton, Yamhill County, Oregon, and

Whereas—The said Gen. Joel Palmer was the first superintendent of Indian Affairs in and for the state of Oregon, and assembled the Indians upon the Grand Ronde Reservation in Yamhill County, and thru his influence built at Grand Ronde, Yamhill County, Oregon, what is now known as the "Block-house or Wooden Fort" and as said Block-house is in a poor state of preservation, and nothing is being done to repair or preserve the same, and as the U. S. Government appears to have abandoned the said Block-house,

We, the undersigned citizens of Dayton, Yamhill County, Oregon, do hereby pray and petition the U. S. Government, that you grant to us the right of possession and permit us to move during the year 1911, or soon thereafter, the said Block-house to the City of Dayton, Yamhill County, Oregon, using said Block-house for pioneer and other relics, and as a fitting memorial unto the said Gen. Joel Palmer.

To the above petition Mr. Lewis secured fifty names of the leading citizens of Dayton, and at the meeting of the City Council on October 24, 1910, he delivered said petition to the City for their Corporate Seal, and the City Recorder at once forwarded the Petition to the Government authorities at Washington, and also gave a copy of the petition to Senator George E. Chamberlain, with the request that he assist the City in securing the building.

In February, 1911, Senator Chamberlain notified the City Recorder that the Department of Interior had granted the old Block-house to Dayton.

On Friday night, June 9, at about 9 o'clock a procession of Indians with their teams and wagons drove into

Dayton, in charge of J. G. Lewis, bringing with them the old Historic Block-house from Grand Ronde. The Stars and Stripes floated over the foremost load of logs of the old Block-house as they entered the City Limits and remained unfurled in the breeze until every wagon was halted near the center of the park.

The following is a copy of letter received by Mrs. Nichols from G. B. Simpson, General Superintendent of the Wells, Fargo Express Company in 1912, substantiating the facts as recorded above.

Chicago, Ill.
December 19, 1912

My Dear Mrs. Nichols:-

Your kind letter of November 29, addressed to me at Chicago, was received while I was in Oregon visiting the scenes of my youth and early manhood, and while I did not have an opportunity of visiting Fort Yamhill, I was very much gratified to receive the photograph of the Block-house which was formerly located here, and to know that it had been moved to the City Park at Dayton. It was very thoughtful of you to send me the picture and I appreciate it very much.

Lieut. General Sheridan and General Russell were stationed as Lieutenants at Fort Yamhill, and it is a memorable and historical spot. Incidentally I might mention that Lieut. Sheridan equipped me with the first suit of boys' clothes when I emerged from kilts. We were at that time living on our farm about five miles from Fort Yamhill. So that photograph is of special interest to me.

Again thanking and wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, I am

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) G. B. Simpson.

Dayton, in charge of J. G. Lewis, bringing with them the old Historic Block-house from Grand Ronde. The Stars and Stripes floated over the foremost load of logs of the old Block-house as they entered the City Limits and remained unfurled in the breeze until every wagon was halted near the center of the park.

The following is a copy of letter received by Mrs. Nichols from G. B. Simpson, General Superintendent of the Wells, Fargo Express Company in 1912, substantiating the facts as recorded above.

Chicago, Ill.
December 19, 1912

My Dear Mrs. Nichols:-

Your kind letter of November 29, addressed to me at Chicago, was received while I was in Oregon visiting the scenes of my youth and early manhood, and while I did not have an opportunity of visiting Fort Yamhill, I was very much gratified to receive the photograph of the Block-house which was formerly located here, and to know that it had been moved to the City Park at Dayton. It was very thoughtful of you to send me the picture and I appreciate it very much.

Lieut. General Sheridan and General Russell were stationed as Lieutenants at Fort Yamhill, and it is a memorable and historical spot. Incidentally I might mention that Lieut. Sheridan equipped me with the first suit of boys' clothes when I emerged from kilts. We were at that time living on our farm about five miles from Fort Yamhill. So that photograph is of special interest to me.

Again thanking and wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, I am

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) G. B. Simpson.



GENERAL JOEL PALMER The first Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon, donator of Dayton City Park.

Fall Decorators Are On the Job



Monument to Fort Yamhill is Unveiled Wednesday Last

Several hundred people from many sections of Yamhill County, Portland, Salem, Corvallis, Oregon City, Dallas, The Dalles and other portions of the state gathered at the spot Butler and old Grand Ronde, on the Willamette highway, where the Yamhill Chapter of D. A. R. have just erected a monument marking the location of old Fort Yamhill, and the home of Gen. Phil Sheridan from 1855 to 1861. For a half a mile along the highway automobiles were lined while crowds of citizens and school children assembled around the monument to listen to the patriotic exercises. The invocation was pronounced by President L. W. Riley, several selections were sung by the Snyder Quartet. Mrs. Wm. J. Sly, regent of Yamhill Chapter, delivered an address of welcome. Mrs. Isaac L. Patterson, of Eola, stated that the D. A. R. have erected eighteen such markers in Oregon. Prof. John Horner, of the department of History in O. A. C. told how Gen. Sheridan, then a young Lieutenant, devoted six years to the defense and development of Oregon.

On April 25, 1856, he began his service at the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation, into which valley several Indian tribes had just been placed for safe keeping, the Coquilles, Modocs, Klamaths and remnants of the Chinooks. About 4,000 Indians were scattered over the coast reservation, 1500 of whom were located at Grand Ronde under Agent John F. Miller.

Sheridan continued the work of constructing the Post as laid out by Lieutenant Hazen, Capt. D. A. Russell, of the Fourth Infantry and took command of Fort Yamhill in July.

Phil Sheridan understood the Indians and reduced them to submission without needless cruelty. He encouraged them to work to be provided, to attend church and to school their children. He hastened their civilization; hence his influence over them was far-reaching and good.

In his service at Fort Yamhill, Sheridan did business with Gen. Joel Palmer, of Dayton, who was Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Oregon.

In the absence of Governor Pierce, Milton A. Miller, of Portland represented Oregon in a brilliantly eloquent address, a tribute to the early pioneers and soldiers as well as the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Mrs. Ward Wiscarver, chairman of the committee of marking historic spots, was assisted by four girls, daughters of the members of the chapter. Misses Margaret and Mary D. Compton, Barbara Dielschneider and Gertude Arnold, in the ceremony of unveiling the tablet of bronze.

The monument is a boulder of basalt, four tons in weight, oval shape, set on a cement base, bearing a tablet of bronze, 26x14 inches, on which is inscribed:

"Erected to mark the site of Fort Yamhill—300 yards east and the home of General Phil Sheridan, 1855-1861, by the Yamhill Chapter of the D. A. R., of McMinnville, October 9, 1865."

The schools of old Grand Ronde, New Grand Ronde, Valley Junction, Gold Creek, Willamina, Sheridan and McMinnville were represented by a large number of school children, who took part in singing America.

WAMBSGANS BACK FROM VISIT IN CANADA

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wambsgans and children, who have been in Basano, Alberta, for the past month reached home safely via auto Sunday evening. Mr. Wambsgans invested in some race horse stock and brought in a nice young horse, fixed up in a specially prepared trailer. After a few days visit with relatives in Dayton and vicinity they expect to proceed on their way to their home near Tillamook city.

Salem building permits for September totaled \$251,000.

St. Joseph

(Continued on Page Five)

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reeves and son Lester, of Portland, were guests of Mrs. May McMullen and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Warmington and Olive Mary, were Sunday visitors at the Earnest Shelburn home west of McMinnville. Mr. Warmington returned home Sunday evening, but Mrs. Warmington will visit with her sister this week.

Mrs. A. T. Harris and family left Wednesday morning for Wenatchee, Wash., where Mr. Harris has been working the past month. The Orchard company have not decided who they will get to take Mr. Harris' place as manager of their orchards.

WAMBSGANS BACK FROM VISIT IN CANADA

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Wambsgans and children, who have been in Basano, Alberta, for the past month reached home safely via auto Sunday evening. Mr. Wambsgans invested in some race horse stock and brought in a nice young horse, fixed up in a specially prepared trailer. After a few days visit with relatives in Dayton and vicinity they expect to proceed on their way to their home near Tillamook city.

Salem building permits for September totaled \$251,000.

St. Joseph

(Continued on Page Five)

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reeves and son Lester, of Portland, were guests of Mrs. May McMullen and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Warmington and Olive Mary, were Sunday visitors at the Earnest Shelburn home west of McMinnville. Mr. Warmington returned home Sunday evening, but Mrs. Warmington will visit with her sister this week.

Mrs. A. T. Harris and family left Wednesday morning for Wenatchee, Wash., where Mr. Harris has been working the past month. The Orchard company have not decided who they will get to take Mr. Harris' place as manager of their orchards.

'ALL ROADS TO DAYTON'

LOCAL ITEMS

Gathered Here, There and Everywhere

Mrs. Lina Buckley was a stage passenger for McMinnville Wednesday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Settlers, of McMinnville, spent a good part of Sunday at the D. A. Snyder home.

Mrs. J. E. Proffitt has been afflicted this past week with a very severe cold and is now somewhat improved.

Mrs. L. S. Chapman and son Harry and daughter Nellie, of Portland, spent Sunday at the Henry Chapman home.

L. H. Litscher and son Victor, of Portland, visited their mother and grandmother, Mrs. Anna B. Litscher, over Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Parks are now the proud owners and drivers of a new Pontiac car which has the latest up-to-date equipments.

Mr. Robert Gehring, of Portland, and Miss Bolz, of McMinnville, visited their friends, Rev. Walter Smith and family over Sunday.

Mrs. Ralph Taylor, of near Dayton, visited relatives in Portland from Thursday to Saturday night and reports enjoying the trip very much.

Mr. and Mrs. V. M. Low have moved from the telephone building and have stored their household goods temporarily in the hotel building.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sherman and her sister, Mrs. Oscar Dower, visited their father, A. C. Detmering and wife, over Sunday at Junction City.

It will be pleasing to the many friends of Mrs. D. A. Snyder to know that she was able to be brought to church last Sunday morning.

Mrs. Lorena Litscher and son John, who have been employed in gathering and packing apples in the Hood River country, returned home a few days ago.

Rodney Britton and Chester Britton, of Linfield, will give a violin and cornet duet at the evening church services of the Baptist Church on Sunday evening, October 24.

Messrs. Otto Bertram, Wilfred Hibbert and Edward Robinson spent Sunday on the river hunting ducks. They were fairly successful in getting six large nice Mallard ducks.

The first regular meeting of the Pleasants Improvement Club will be held Friday evening, October 29, at the Pleasants school house. The children are planning a Halloween program. Everyone welcome.

Mrs. Alice Miller, accompanied by her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Crimley, of Leaburg, Oregon, visited Mrs. Miller's mother, Mrs. C. Hadley, a few days last week, returning to their home Sunday afternoon.

H. A. Bertram, a one time resident of this place, but now of McMinnville, was on our streets recently waiting the arrival of some lumber to build a wood house and garage on the Fred Bertram place near town.

Miss Mildred Proffitt, a student at Monmouth college, was visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Proffitt, over Saturday afternoon and Sunday, returning to her school Sunday evening.

Messrs. W. S. U'Ren, M. G. Miller and Harry Gray were business visitors in Portland Monday afternoon. As it was late before the business was finished they skirmished around among themselves and found they still had the price of a show and reached home about midnight.

Mrs. Haynes, mother of Mrs. E. G. Kidd, and two sisters of Mrs. Kidd, Mrs. Case and Mrs. Bergdell, of Gaston were the visitors at the Kidd home over Sunday. The pleasure of having these three girls together once more made the day one of great pleasure for their mother.

Mr. Frank Berry, after visiting a couple of weeks in Seattle, Everett and Tacoma, arrived home last week end, accompanied by Mrs. David and her daughter Bonnie. They expect to make this their home during the winter. What part of Washington Mr. Berry saw does not begin to be anything like this part of Oregon and states that "Yamhill County" is the place for him.

CITY CAUCUS HELD; CANDIDATES CHOSEN

The city Caucus meeting held in the Commercial Club rooms on Monday evening was very poorly attended by the citizens of Dayton, considering the vital questions and candidates they will be asked to support at the coming election. A very much larger attendance was fully expected.

J. L. Sherman was elected chairman for the evening and F. J. Robertson was elected to act as secretary.

There were three citizens nominated for mayor. They being M. R. Cooper, W. S. Hibbert and Dr. O. C. Goodrich. A vote was taken to decide which two of the three men should run for the office of mayor. The vote polled was as follows:

M. R. Cooper-----8
W. S. Hibbert-----5
Dr. O. C. Goodrich---3

W. H. T. Tucker was nominated City Recorder without any opposition.

J. E. Mellinger was nominated Treasurer without opposition.

Five councilmen are required this year and judging from the nominations the race will be contested very keenly. Three councilmen for two years and two councilmen for one year. Those nominated for three years were: E. Demaray, A. H. Nicols, Iner Mortensen, Frank Hole, Paul Londershausen and V. H. Ballard. Those nominated for one year were: John W. Shippy, Jas. Wakefield, L. P. Paxton and Frank Lewis.

The chairman, J. L. Sherman, was instructed to appoint a committee of three with power to fill any vacancies as they may occur. This committee consists of Emmett Filer, Z. Spangle and Harry Sherman.

St. Joseph

(Continued on Page Five)

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reeves and son Lester, of Portland, were guests of Mrs. May McMullen and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Warmington and Olive Mary, were Sunday visitors at the Earnest Shelburn home west of McMinnville. Mr. Warmington returned home Sunday evening, but Mrs. Warmington will visit with her sister this week.

Mrs. A. T. Harris and family left Wednesday morning for Wenatchee, Wash., where Mr. Harris has been working the past month. The Orchard company have not decided who they will get to take Mr. Harris' place as manager of their orchards.

St. Joseph

(Continued on Page Five)

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reeves and son Lester, of Portland, were guests of Mrs. May McMullen and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Warmington and Olive Mary, were Sunday visitors at the Earnest Shelburn home west of McMinnville. Mr. Warmington returned home Sunday evening, but Mrs. Warmington will visit with her sister this week.

Mrs. A. T. Harris and family left Wednesday morning for Wenatchee, Wash., where Mr. Harris has been working the past month. The Orchard company have not decided who they will get to take Mr. Harris' place as manager of their orchards.