FROM The RIVER'S EDGE

By George MacAlvey

It has been noted that alders prefer locations near water. Our next pair of genera, cottonwoods and willows, favor waterside locations even more, but here, too, are individual exceptions. The only three known here as cottonwood is the Black cottonwood (populus trichocarpa).

The quaking aspen (populus tremuloides) belongs to the same genus populus. So, though one is called cottonwood and the other aspen, they are both poplars.

The cottonwood leaf is pear shaped, shiny green on top, and silvery below. This tree is beloved by many of us along the river where it is plentiful, for the delightful perfume of freshly opened buds and unfolding new leaves. This tree has been known to grow 200 feet high with a trunk 7 feet in diameter. When young, it has light colored bark and huge leaves, but as it reaches medium size the bark becomes quite black, and fives it its names of black cottonwood. This is the big tree so often seen perched precariously on a river bank; towering over a flood plain or adjacent to a slough along the Columbia.

On a breezy day every cottonwood in sight has ripples of silver flashing up through the foliage or undulating in gilded waves through the thickets as the wind tips up the leaves to catch the sun on the silvery underside.

The quaking aspen has heart shaped leaves attached by a fine flattened stream. Any air motion at all sets these leaves to dancing and fluttering, hence the name -- quaking aspen. The trunk is also noteworthy for its chalk white color contrasted with black bumps scattered here and there on it.

Both these poplar species are favorite foods of the beaver, and as long as a supply of aspen or cottonwood is available, these rodents seldom both other trees.

The willows like water most of all, and sometimes grow right in it. Western Oregon has two tree-form willows of note, and one not so common we see around the Sandy region. There are actually six tree-form willows native to the state -- but three are of no consequence to us here.

The mountain willow (salix scouleri) has football shaped leaves and is seen all along the river on the flat benches and river banks. It grows at all elevations, not just in the mountains as its name would imply.

The Pacific or black willow (so named because of its black bark) is botanically salix lasiandra. This willow has the long tapered flame like narrow leaves with the off center twist. This is truly a beautiful leaf form, and adds much grace to the appearance of this tree. This willow is usually always clustered around water, whereas the mountain willow is sometimes found in the forest where it grows a tall straight bole like the other forest trees and attains 50 feet in heighth. On stream edges both these willows branch out and often have several trunks at ground level.

Our third willow is called the silky willow. It has larger pear shaped leaves, but otherwise grows much as the first two mentioned.

The little willows along or in the river with the bright pea green slender leaves atop green, yellow or reddish branches are the oft-mentioned sandbar willow. Almost always shrubby, this willow can be kept pruned to develop eventually into a small tree. This distinctive leaf color, pea green, is always the same, contrasting brightly with the more somber hue of the moving water.

All the willows have the "pussy willow" blossoms or catkins when they flower in early spring. Willow makes wonderful firewood for a campfire or a cooking fire as it burns evenly.

So far we have considered 7 species of deciduous trees, encompassed in but 2 genera. The balance of the 20 common species occupy 10 genera, 7 of our species being the only representative of their genus in our area.

The oaks (quercus) and the chinkapin (castanopsis) both belong to the beech family (fagacae). These are tough trees. Swing an axe on them to split them and they may throw the axe back at you. Our only oak in our immediate corner of the state is the Oregon White Oak. (quercus Garryana). You can tell instantly it is a White Oak because of the rounded lobes on the leaf. Like all the white oaks, it is a slow grower, but it can and does reach great size on good soil. Sixty foot specimens with as great a spread are common in the Willamette valley. The acorn is peculiar to the oaks and their close relative, the tanoak. Our oak has an oval nut enclosed in a short cup at the twig end.

Oregon actually has five trees that could be called Broad Leaved evergreens. Two of these are oaks; one is the Oregon myrtle; one is the Madrone; and our local one is the Chinkapin. The first four are all confined to the southwest portion of the state primarily, and the chinkapin is at its best there, but the chinkapin is also common on the west slopes of the Cascades. It is not deciduous , true, but it is a hardwood, and it is a broadleaf; so we consider it with the deciduous trees. The shiny leaf is thick and leathery and has a golden down on the underside of the leaf. This down causes it to be referred to as the Golden chinkapin. The edible nuts are like minature chestnuts and are enclosed in a spiny burr like chestnuts.

Some logging of both oak and chinkapin is done in Oregon. Boat builders like both woods. They are tough and lasting for structural parts, and chinkapin bends well, where formed members are necessary. Both woods are used in furniture and as face plys on ornamental hardwood plywood. Anything that requires hardwood for its manufacture can best be made of oak. Handles, ladders, railroads ties, and flooring, are uses of Oregon White Oak.

Like the maples, Oregon Ash (fraxinuslatifolia) and Pacific Dogwood (Cornus nuttali) have opposite branching and buds. The Ash is distinctive in that it has a compound leaf of either five or seven leaflets.

With its stubby twigs and blunt buds, the ash is a rugged looking tree in winter. In summer its compound leaf and graceful clusters of seeds (called samaras by botanists) soften the outline. This can be a large tree also, reaching 80 feet in preferred locations. Unlike the oaks, ash likes plenty of moisture and when it gets all it wants grows rapidly. The wood is put to a lot of the uses that oak is used for. Ash has long been the preferred wood for oars and baseball bats. Tool handles where shock is involved in the use of the tool such as axes and hoes are usually of ash.

The Pacific Dogwood is unimportant to the loggers. At one time, the Eastern Dogwood of the Appalachians was ruthlessly cut down for loom shuttles. It is a very hard , heavy and dense wood which takes a high grainless polish. But we value the dogwood for its beauty, beauty in the spring, typified by the large white bracts surrounding the greenish flower cluster; beauty in the summer set off by the large irregular edged leaf with the unique veins running parallel to the leaf edge; and finally, beauty in the winter geometry of symetry of limb and twig and devious purplish, yellow and reddish hues of the bark. Most of our dogwoods are from 20 to 50 feet high. In the open they are a broad full tree. When crowded they grow, tall and slender.---more next week.

PICKINGS

News from SANDY OPPORTUNITY CENTER

Nov. 28, 1966
by Ken Killary
Area Supervisor

Hints to knowing and liking yourself better, to get and keep that job and provide a good home for your family are what I want to share with you today.

Have you ever blown your top and felt stupid afterward? Well I guess we all have at one time or another.

Have you ever said to yourself that tomorrow you were really going out and look for that job, and then not do it? The TV or the trout stream tempt us all at times.

Have you ever wondered how good you really were in earning money? We all do at one time or another.

We must all try to understand ourselves better as we grow older and decide the kind of life we like to lead and the things we think are important for our family to have or to own.

What Difference Does It Make?

If you and your family have always followed the crops or been a "fruit tramp" as some of my friends say, you may find it very difficult to want to change to other types of work, but the world changes every day and we change with it.

The trees we picked last year may have their fruit shaken to the ground next year by a machine and carried off on a conveyor belt. Change will not be easy, and it surely can't be achieved overnight, but it can happen and will happen.

We each want to try and control what happens to us. We cannot control the coming of many machines to the fields, but we can control how we feel when we go to that next job, how we take orders, if we get to work on time, how we act, having clean clothes, etc.

Oh we won't starve. We are blessed with living in the "great society" and our creator has said, "ye shall not want."

I guess what I am really pointing to is that hidden something that gives each of us a personality of our own and a determination to be somebody. If personality differences are not inborn, then the best that man has achieved is open to each of us.

Many doors are open to each of us. It may be to that new job, to a class room at Mt. Hood Community College or the door of the Opportunity Center.

New Hours for Sandy Center

For the fall and winter months the Sandy Opportunity Center is open the following days and hours for your convenience. We wish all of our readers would visit us.

Monday 8:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Saturday 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

★ Service Lines ★

Michael D. Hays, 1205 E. Powell, Gresham, has affiliated with the Naval Air Reserve at the Naval Air Station, Seattle. He has been assigned to Patrol Squadron (VP) 891.

Hays enlisted in the U. S. Navy in 1962 and served at naval air station at Sangley Point in the Philippine Islands, and California and Texas.

As a Weekend Warrior he will meet with his squadron one week end a month. A Navy airlift transports Oregon reservists to and from Portland and the naval air station.

Hays is married to the former Miss Dianne Rathbun of Kennewick, Wash. She is now a Navy WAVE stationed at the Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas.

The Navy veteran graduated from Sandy high school in 1961.

'Messiah' Performance Scheduled December 18

A performance of the "Messiah" is scheduled Dec. 18, at 8 p.m. at the Oriental Theatre.

The chorus will be supported by Instrumental group from the Portland Symphony Orchestra by cooperation of Music Performance Trust Fund of Phonograph Industries, Local 99 A.F. of M.

The public is invited to attend this performance.

Gresham Jaycette Mrs. Vern Griffey adds a pine cone to the table centerpieces which will be used at the Charity Ball this Friday night at the Officers club of the Portland Air Base. Dress will be cocktail to formal at the dance which begins at 9:30. (Outlook Photo)

Gresham Jaycettes Date Christmas Ball

Final preparations are under way for the 8th Annual Christmas Charity ball sponsored by the Gresham Jaycettes.

This year's event is Friday, Dec. 2 from 9:30 to 1:30 at the Officer's club at Portland Air Base. Dress is cocktail to formal. Music will be live. Tickets are $3.50 per couple.

To reach the Officers' club, travel the road to the Portland Air terminal to Alderwood, turn left, then to Cornfoot Drive, make a right and travel Cornfoot drive to the main gate. For information, reservations or tickets call 665-9665 or 665-3924.

Proceeds from the charity ball will be donated to the Oral Hull Camp for the Blind located on the Sandy river 25 miles from Portland. Some of the facilities partially completed and proposed are a community center building and cottages, an indoor swimming pool, hiking trails and picnic area, gardens, a bicycle track and pony path, and a library and museum, all specifically built for use by the blind.

Job Corps Continues Recruiting

Job Corps representatives are continuing their recruitment program throughout the Clackamas county area. They will be in Sandy, Monday, Dec. 5 at the Community Action Agency office at 218 Main St.

The remainder of the week they can be reached through the State Employment Office, 506 High St. in Oregon City.

This program is for youths 16-21 years of age and opportunities for job training are offered in many fields. Come in to the office or call OL 6-2696 for more information and enrollment.

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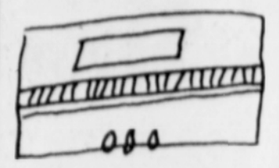
You people who help nonprofit Goodwill Industries are helping handicapped people build job skills and self-confidence. Goodwill says: "Thanks-for-Giving repairable clothing and household articles."



This is a PIANO MY DADDY BOUGHT AT a SALE AND MY MOMMY SAID IT IS NO GOOD AND YOU are a BIG SUCKER FOR BARGANS AND THANK GOODNESS YOU DONT BUY YOUR INSURNCE THAT WAY BUT always GO TO

MARIE SEEMATER INSURANCE
Sandy MU 7-3102

3 Boys' Market

BANANA SPLITS Each 10¢ Served from 10 A.M. to 6 P.M. Friday & Saturday at Sandy 3 Boys'

Buckskin driving Gloves Men's or Women's buckskin driving gloves...regular $3.95. Pair $3.49

Super-size Farm Set Complete with animals, etc. regular $5.69. Set $4.99

Indoor tree Lights Regular $1.99 C-7½ 15-light string indoor tree lights. Package $1.79

Regular $1.00 Doll & Bed Doll and bed set for Christmas giving. Set 87¢

Vinyl plastic Inflatable Reindeer 24-inch colorful reindeer. Each 98¢

Westinghouse Electric Hand Mixer Handy, lightweight mixer... regular $12.95 Each $9.88

6-Roll Gift Wrap Assorted colors and designs.. $1.98 value. 6-roll pkg. 87¢

Queen Ann chocolate Cherries Chocolate covered cherry cordials. 10-Oz. box 49¢

Norwich Aspirin Norwich brand aspirin for fast relief. 250-ct. bottle 39¢

LePage's Cello Tape For wrapping presents at Christmas regular 25c. 2 Rolls 29¢

General Mills Snow Flock Kit Snow flocking kit to beautify your tree — regular $3.49 Kit $2.99

Decorate for the Christmas Season... Flocking Refills Refills your flocking kit. $1.79

Laurel Greeting Cards

You'll find a large and complete selection of famous Laurel Greeting cards in assorted themes and ideas in the special card display at our store.

3 Boys' MARKET

Prices effective Thursday thru Saturday, Dec. 1-3.
101 East Main in Sandy