

## July 28 in Nelson Park

# Pioneer Association plans summer potluck

by PAULA BURNS

Milton Meinig, a third-generation pioneer, is traveling all the way from Haven, Kansas, to be crowned as king at the Sandy Pioneer and Historical Association's annual picnic, scheduled July 28.

Meinig was born in 1908 in the family home near the east city limits of Sandy. He attended Sandy Grade School, which was located on Langensand Road and Highway 26. Meinig said he has good memories of the old grade school. "How I enjoyed those ciphering matches and spelling contests on special occasions," Meinig said. "We were even provided with a large play shed for rainy days."

A county-wide graduation was held at Chataqua Park in Gladstone. "Uncle Otto Meinig took me and the

doors in a Seventh-day Adventist church," Meinig said.

In 1948 he married Frances Tonn, a mathematics teacher at Roosevelt High School in Portland. Every summer they traveled from three to six weeks in the western half of the United States, and also visited Frances' relatives in Kansas. In 1959 they moved to Kansas.

"After our arrival in Kansas, I built three very nice homes in Haven, our home town, and did the overseeing and all the finish work for our Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church," Meinig said. He also kept busy with other construction work on schools, motels and college buildings.

Meinig said he has tried to slow down during the last five years and has concentrated on cabinet work and refinishing some of his grandparents' old furniture. "Now I keep

and that was in 1917," Loundree said. Loundree also attended Sandy High School, and was on the women's basketball team. She said the women on the team wore sailor-type uniforms with bloomers. She described the boys' uniforms as "the sporty ones."

After graduating from high school, Loundree attended Oregon State University where she received her bachelor's degree in business. She was offered a job as a bookkeeper, but decided to help her father run the store instead since he had helped her through school.

She has three children — Phyllis, Beverly and Lorne — and 10 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Loundree said she moved to Gresham about 1955, and currently lives in Portland. She has worked in a produce store and retired five years ago as a maid at a motel near the Portland airport. "I had to retire when I was 80 — that retirement is for the birds," Loundree said.

Loundree said she felt better when she worked and tries to stay busy now. Last year she crocheted 24 afghans, assembled crossword puzzles and read many books. She reads everything except science fiction. "I've read everything I could get a hold of ever since I can remember," Loundree said. She also enjoys going out to dinner with a couple of friends who live in the same trailer court.

Loundree said she prefers being out in the work force, interacting with people on a daily basis. "I've been thinking about going to Woodland Park Hospital as a volunteer in the gift shop."

Though Loundree has not lived in Sandy for almost 30 years, she likes to remember Sandy the way it was when she was growing up. She said people used to know everyone, but

not anymore. "I joked with my cousin and told him, 'Just be careful what you say, you might be talking to a relative.'"

The public is invited to attend the picnic on July 28 at Nelson Memorial Pioneer Park, which is at the intersection of Highway 26 and S.E. 362nd Drive. The potluck will begin at 12:30 p.m., and a program will follow.

**'Just be careful what you say, you might be talking to a relative.'**

rest of the family in the touring car, perhaps the raniest day of the year," Meinig said. "Our diplomas were presented in another graduation exercise in the Odd Fellows Hall in Sandy," he added.

Meinig graduated with 15 other students from Sandy High School in 1926. Meinig said his favorite subject was woodworking.

After graduation, Meinig worked on the farm with his father and uncle. He also did construction work on homes.

Meinig said that injuries suffered from inflammatory sciatic neuritis, and an electric shock, kept him from passing a physical examination for the armed forces. "To help with the war effort, I signed up for government carpenter schooling," he said. "With only having done a day's work at the school, I received immediate promotion to the carpenter's union," he added.

He worked in a carpenter shop and then did various construction jobs. He helped construct 13 churches and 13 schools in Portland. "I hung 54

up two large lots — 100 by 155 and 89 by 155 — with a lawn, flowers, a garden, fruit and shade trees surrounding our home."

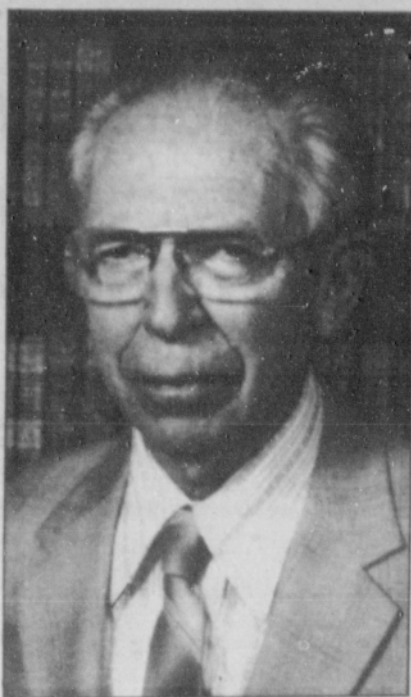
Meinig's cousin, Frances Meinig Loundree, doesn't have to travel as far as Milton to be crowned queen at the Sandy Pioneer and Historical Association's picnic. Loundree, born in 1900, is also a native of Sandy. Loundree said that when she was growing up, there were only saloons, dance halls, churches and a general merchandise store in Sandy.

Her father, Paul Meinig, owned the merchandise store. Loundree said she was 14 when her mother, Mary, died. After her mother's death, Loundree helped her father in the store after school and on weekends. "I took orders from customers and filled them. I also had to keep the shelves stocked."

Loundree said her father was well known in the community. Meinig Park was named after him, and he was also one of the founders of Sandy High School. "My sister was one of the first graduates of the high school



Frances Loundree



Milton Meinig

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