

## Historical Bits Of Coos, Curry Cos.

By Emil R. Peterson  
Historian, Coos-Curry Historical Society, North Bend, Ore.

James L. Coke was the youngest of a large pioneer family in Coos county, locating on the North and East Fork of the Coquille. Jim, as his old friends always called him, was the only member of the family born after they arrived in Coos. He remarked not long ago that Abraham Lincoln had nothing on him, saying, "I was born in a log cabin too." Jim grew up, attended local schools, taught in rural districts, studied law, was admitted to the bar. Later he went down to the Hawaiian Islands. That, I believe, was about 50 years ago. He seems to have succeeded very well, for, after some years, he was sent to the U. S. Congress to represent the Territory of Hawaii. A few years he was made Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Territory.

In a letter last summer, when the longshoremen's strike was on, he wrote: "... I was chairman of the Government's Emergency hearings pertaining to the local longshoremen's strike which tied up all shipping to and from Hawaii and the mainland and is slowly but surely suffocating the industries of the Territory ..."

In a recent letter, while referring to our winter weather, he wrote: "You should not complain about being inconvenienced for a few hours by being compelled to resort to the 'old oaken bucket and the wooden stove.' In my early days in Coos county we had nothing else. Neither had we roads in the winter time. I recall one experience which still lingers vividly in my memory. While attending school in Coquille during the winter, an epidemic of smallpox struck the community and our school was closed and the town quarantined. Time was of the essence of occasion and I couldn't remain inactive, waiting for the epidemic to subside, so I gathered a few books with my change of underclothing stuffed in a handbag and set out on foot for Roseburg via Brewster valley. This was in the midst of winter and you can imagine the condition of the road which was entirely closed except by foot or horseback. I made the trip in three days, and my good friend, Col. John Lane, who was at one time county sheriff and a son of Gen. Joe Lane of Mexican war fame, and Mrs. Lane kindly took me in. But I had hardly arrived when word came that the quarantine was lifted and the school in Coquille opened. I, then, of course, was required to reverse my trip, but on the return I was picked up by my good friend, Neva Harry, the mail carrier, who gave me a ride one of his horses. I can assure you that this was pioneering with a vengeance."

In a letter just received, dated Jan. 28, Judge Coke writes: "I was greatly interested in the excerpts from the journal of Dr. Glisan. He was a true pioneer of Curry county, and it was really remarkable to note how cheerful he was under the most adverse conditions. I have been all through the country of which he writes, and when considering the march of the soldiers from Port Orford to Illaha through the mountains without even a footpath to guide him and without tent or other protection against the elements, it makes one marvel at the hardihood of these early-day pioneers ..."

"... I knew Dr. Tower well, and I remember the first bovine vaccine against smallpox which came to Coos county was through Dr. Tower, who supplied our family with it. The supply was only sufficient for one person, and I being a healthy youngster was the guinea pig who first received the vaccination, which was to my mind a useless and cruel, inhuman treatment ..."

He also speaks of Dr. Horsfall, but that must wait for another time.

Mrs. Glen Blankenship was operated on for appendicitis, Friday evening at Seaside hospital, Crescent City.

## Port Orford News

By Dorothy Asdel

R. A. Ransdell of Seattle has leased the Union Oil station at Sixes from Charles Brooks. Clarence Fain of Langlois formerly operated the station. Ransdell is now batching at his recently-purchased home in the Hamlet, painting and refreshing it in preparation for the arrival of his wife and two children who have remained in Seattle for a time to tie up "loose ends" of their business there.

Among the young folks swinging their partners in old-time dances at Grange Youth dance last Saturday were Dick Anderson, Lee Tucker, Donald and Sandra Rohner, Pat Masterson, Earl Anderson, Neil Knapp, Estalene Stevens, Caroline and Margaret Morris, Glen Hale, Kathryn Dennis, Donald, Jack and Shirley Ringheimer, Nancy and Lois Gore and Irene Farrier.

Edward Williamson was home over the week-end from University of Oregon, Eugene, visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Williamson. Edward is studying to be an architect.

Portland chapter of the National Conference of Christians and Jews will send a speaker to Port Orford to talk on Brotherhood at the Penny Supper, sponsored by P.-T. A. next Tuesday evening. Posters have been put in several strategic places about town, advertising the event. So many families are planning to give mother a treat that night by taking her out to dinner at the grade school. Prices of the food, which will be donated by parents, will be reasonable so that an entire family may eat for a relatively small sum. Dinner will be served from 5:45 to 7:00 p. m.

Mrs. Evelyn Raasina was hostess to eight at a Stanley party one afternoon last week, including Mesdames George Childers, Lyle Crose, Ralph Lacy, Bascom Stratton and Suzane Smith.

That same evening Mrs. Geo. Baker entertained 15 friends at her home with a Stanley demonstration. She served colorful refreshments, using the Valentine motif.

Several homemakers who did not make lampshades at the November Home Extension meeting met at Mrs. Josie Forty's last Friday afternoon to make theirs.

Next year's school budget estimate was determined in two meetings of the budget committee of Dist. 1C last week. Besides the school board and committee there were only three taxpayers present.

A crowd attended the Stow-away club dance, held last Saturday evening at the Castaway lodge. Recently three new directors of the club were elected: Ollie Dobbema, Aden Chapman, and Preston Rohner. Nick Marsh and Joe Kampa were re-elected. Mrs. Rohner was appointed the club's new secretary.

During the advance sale of tickets for the school band benefit dance, band members have been selling many tickets. Much enthusiasm has been in evidence in support of this worthy cause. The entire community is greatly pleased with the progress these new musicians have made in the four months, since organization.

The Treble Clef chorus which meets for practice at the high school each Tuesday evening under direction of Mrs. Evelyn Lyle has been invited to sing a number next Friday evening at the Langlois Talent show, sponsored by the Floras-Willow club. Mrs. Gladys Hoy does the piano accompaniment for the group of 22 voices.

## In The Mail-box:

8 Broadway, New York City, Feb. 13. Editor, Pilot: A couple of issue back I noticed where you had two "musts" on your mind: Fire chief petunias and "52" tomatoes. Now as to fire chief petunias, will you please accept the enclosed packet of seed, which I am hopeful will come up to your expectations.

Noting what you had to say about tomato No. 52, which is highly adaptable to cool, moist weather, please advise what seed house puts out this seed, as I am desirous of trying to grow some.

I have canvassed all the seed houses in New York City and Philadelphia, and no one recognizes this variety.

Is it one from the state agricultural college? If so, advise, and I can write direct for more information.

Just put a line in your next issue of the Pilot will suffice for an answer, as I don't wish to burden you with writing a letter. Question No. 2: I seem to remember from my short visit to Brookings that Ralph Vincent had a line of post cards depicting views of Oregon generally. I would like to obtain one of every view pertaining to Brookings. If you will be so good as to pass this letter along to him, and if he would drop me a line advising cost for whole set, I will send a money order.

We could use some of that water you people are getting out there—we are really badly off for some of our reservoirs only 43% full at present and we can't possibly make it up before summer. I guess we will have to head for that "Last Frontier" where we met up with those "dear hearts and gentle people" during our visit.

Regards to Young's Vincents, Joe Gallagher, Thor Ask and his "crew" and last, but not least, Pete Lesmeister. Hasta Leugo—W. A. Carrol, Room 211 Penn Ry at 8 Broadway, New York City.

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Editor's note: Am asking Mrs. Bernice Miller to drop you line concerning tomatoes. I believe it was her idea, if my memory is correct.

A. P. Hendricks was called to Portland, Sunday in answer to a message that his father was seriously ill.

Miss Joyce Munson of San Francisco was a Sunday visitor of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Munson, new owners of the erst-while Templar hotel. She was accompanied here by her friend, Jerry Polan. Miss Munson, a recent graduate from high school, will enter bank employment this week at San Francisco.



**GIVE THE PERSON YOU ARE TELEPHONING TIME TO ANSWER**

Wait at Least 10 Rings

Very often the person you are telephoning cannot drop everything to answer the telephone. So, when telephoning, it's a wise policy to wait a minute—that's ten rings—before hanging up.

This gives the person you are calling a reasonable time to answer. You'll also be likely to complete a lot more telephone calls this way. And your consideration will help us to serve everyone more efficiently by cutting down the number of "in-completed" calls. So always wait 10 rings—won't you, please?

West Coast TELEPHONE COMPANY

# The Great Delusion

**DISTINCTION OR DISTINKSHUN!**

With the courteous permission of "LIGHT," published by the Social Service Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention, "MISSIONS" reprints a picture of a derelict, and beneath it the exquisitely appropriate short poem for inclusion in the editorial series on "THE GREAT DELUSION." The implied reference to a familiar type of liquor advertising will be apparent.

He drinks whiskey and rum.  
Gin Fizzes—WHAT FUN!  
He drinks himself night to extinction.

In Grandmother's day they would  
Call him a SOUSE.  
Today he's a man of distinction!

When the American people voted for legalized return of alcoholic liquor they never imagined that the time would come in 18 short years when a man of distinction, because he drank a certain beverage, would really be a man of distinkshun, because the beverage made him drunk.

**BROOKINGS TEMPERANCE SOCIETY**