

## "Almost Twins"

By Emil R. Peterson  
Historian, Coos-Curry  
Pioneer Association

Coos and Curry Counties are closely related—almost twins, you might say. Coos County was created by an act of the territorial legislature in Dec. 1853, but it did not become operative until Jan. 1854. Prior to that time it had been part of Jackson county with the county seat at Jacksonville. That portion of Coos

county which lies north of Coos Bay had been included in Umpqua county.

The new county of Coos consisted of a strip of rough and rugged land of southern Oregon coast from the California line almost to the Umpqua river, approximately 110 miles long and thirty miles wide. There were no roads and no continuous waterways to facilitate travel north and south within the region. Only scant and meager trails, first made by bands of elk, followed by Indians, widened in 1828 by Jedediah Smith with his men, mules and pack horses. Those were the trails that must be used the early settlers in the south end of the region to reach the newly-created county seat at Empire City on Coos bay. It meant that the remote region down in the Chetco and Rogue river areas had practically no constituted government to cope with local problems — schools, roads, ferries, law enforcement, and such.

So in Dec. 1855, the territorial legislature acted favorably on a petition to create a new county out of the south end of Coos. George L. Curry was governor of Oregon at that time, and the new county was given the name of Curry, with its seat of government at the mouth of the Rogue River. When that place obtained a post office in 1863, it was given the name of *Ellensburg*. In 1877, the spelling was changed to *Ellensburg*. In 1890 the name was changed to Gold Beach. (Records in National Archives).

There are several points of similarity that make these two counties almost like twins. In size they are practically equal. Curry is slightly larger with 1622 square miles, while Coos contains 1611 square miles. The time of first settlement in each is nearly the same. Capt. Tichenor and his party of men moved in at Port Orford in 1851, but no white man arrived until 1852. Coos planted its first party of whites when the Coos Bay Company set up housekeeping in tents and roughly constructed cabins at Empire City in 1853.

Perhaps the greatest natural resource in each of the two counties was and still is made up of timber, followed by agricultural lands suitable for dairy and livestock. Mineral deposits and fish have been and are important in the two counties, though differing somewhat according to locality.

With the opening of the Oregon coast highway in 1930 extending through the full length of the two counties—approximately 150 miles, including all curves, crooks and dips — has come the tourist trade, with the county of Curry, apparently, taking the lead.

Each county also has its many miles of wave-washed shoreline—long stretches of sandy beaches, broken by headlands of high cliffs, sheltered coves and rivers coming down the mountains.

Another heritage common to the twins which still exists in this year of 1950 is that the two counties share equally in one state senator and one joint representative. However, Coos with a larger population, has one additional representative.

Each county had two points projecting into the Pacific of sufficient importance to be classified as capes. Gregory and Arago belong to Coos while Blanco and Sebastian are in Curry. Each has one light house. Each has its blacksand gold mines on the beaches and placer mining on some of the streams. Fishermen looking for outdoor recreation find their individual favorite streams in either county.

As for climate, there seems to be great difference. Each has its share of rainfall, of fog, of sunny days, of northwest winds in spring, summer and autumn, and southwest storms at various times during the winter months. Snow is rather rare in either county, except back in the higher hills and mountains. There are no extreme temperatures in either county.

The two counties taken together form a territory quite apart from the rest of the state. It is bordered its full length on the west by the Pacific Ocean, and extends east into the broken hills and mountains of the coast ranges. The south end borders

## "God Bless This House"



**GOLD BEACH** — The Community Presbyterian church, recently remodeled and enlarged, was dedicated by the Presbytery April 11. Rev. David Barnett of Klamath Falls, who is the new moderator, presided.

Rev. Geo. H. Shuman of Ashland, the retiring moderator, delivered the message on "How God Can Bless This House." Other speakers were Rev. J. K. How-

ard, Rev. Geo. Kmecik and Rev. Jos. M. Johnson.

The Presbytery of Southwest Oregon extends from Lake Co. to the coast and north to Douglas and Coos Cos. Fifty years service in the ministry of Rev. Sherman L. Divine was recognized by the Presbytery.

One of the joys of the Presbytery was to take under its care three young men as candidates

for the ministry. These are Stan-

ley, the son of the late Memorial Church, Klamath Falls; Jas. Young and Morris Roach Jr. of Roseburg, the latter being a son of the pastor. New officers of the Presbytery are Rev. David F. Barnett of Klamath Falls, 1st church moderator and Rev. D. Proett of Peace Memorial church Klamath Falls, vice-moderator.

on California, while at the north it is terminated by a somewhat irregular watershed dividing the lower Umpqua river from the Tenmile lakes north of Coos Bay.

The principal subject of rivalry between the two counties, in years gone by, was the development of a seaport adequate to attract and accommodate offshore shipping. Backers of Curry county contended that Port Orford was the logical natural harbor, needing only a breakwater to protect it from the southwest storms. For this purpose its leaders sought for years to obtain adequate federal support.

Coos county, of course, was for developing the Coos Bay harbor, with the Coquille River a second contender. In recent years there seems to be less rivalry and a tendency toward a better co-operation for harbor improvement in each vicinity, with Coos Bay in the lead in the matter of harbor improvement.

In all other matters, it seems, Coos and Curry have grown up with a feeling of good-neighbor relationship; Coos, apparently, is taking the role of the big brother since its population has consistently outnumbered that of Curry.

There are, however, several natural features of dissimilarity between the two counties, but they will be reserved for a future report.

## LOCAL NEWS

Mrs. Donald Ault and son Gary are spending a couple of weeks at Rochester, Minn., where Gary is going through the famous Mayo Clinic. They were taken to Portland by Mr. Ault Sunday and flew from there, making the air trip in about eight hours.

Mrs. Ruth Bathiany is spending a week visiting at Klamath Falls and Tulelake.

Mr. and Mrs. Simon Webb left Friday for their home at Millerton, Pa., after spending the winter at their home here, the former Al Clement place. They hope to sell their property in Pennsylvania so that they can make this their permanent home.

Mrs. Henry Weigel had the misfortune of fracturing her leg in three places last week and will be laid up for several weeks with her leg in a cast. The Weigel's daughter, Mrs. Wade Henderer, of Elkton, is visiting here for the present.

Mrs. W. F. (Bess) Miller was taken to Gold Beach hospital in the ambulance, suffering from pneumonia. She is reported better at this time.

Mrs. Clara Kerns is spending this week at Medford and other southern Oregon points.

Ben Jones and A. E. Sandbo, representing the Chetco Grange, attended meeting at Gold Beach Monday evening where a proposed REA telephone district of Coos and Curry counties was discussed. Mr. Sandbo was appointed to represent the southern part of Curry county on the overall committee.

Several residents from this vi-

cinity are spending time at Gold Beach, being called for jury duty.

Mrs. Estelle Garrard of Woodland, Calif., is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Sam Dotson and family for several weeks.

Mrs. George Anderson and her grandson, Gene Reiling of Grants Pass spent the week-end guests of Mrs. Anderson's daughter, Mrs. E. E. Hanscam Sr.

Henry Payne is confined to his bed for three weeks following a severe heart attack suffered last Thursday night.

Mrs. O. B. Clark has sold her property near Harbor to Mr. Scopek of Cottage Grove and will move to her ocean frontage on the McGugan tract the first of the month. She plans to live in a small building on the property while the duplex she has started is being completed.

Curry County Indian Heirs association will meet at the Grange hall Sunday, May 6, at 1 p. m. with all members and other interested persons urged to attend.

## I WRITE AS I SEE IT!

By Barton W. Marsh

The site for the College of Medical Evangelists, Loma Linda, Calif., was purchased in 1905 for \$40,000 with a borrowed down payment of \$1000. In September of the same year it opened for business with an enrollment of 35 medical students. There were about an equal number of employees, including instructors and nurses.

The school possessed no endowments, no cash reserves, no funds for current expenses. Its only assets were to be found in the character of those who espoused its cause. In these—a deep conviction of the righteousness of their cause, an abiding trust in the Lord and a determination to succeed were their guarantors for success. At times, when the cash assets of the struggling school dried up entirely, they resorted to the use of aluminum money, which was receivable in exchange for supplies at their little store, if and when such supplies happened to be in stock.

It should be understood that the College of Medical Evangelists was not founded to prepare doctors in the ordinary sense of the term. There were plenty of medical schools, at which those so desiring could obtain a training in the science of medicine, but there was a crying dirth of schools wherein students could be fully taught in both the science of medicine and the gospel as taught by the Lord Jesus Christ for the healing of both the bodies and souls of suffering mankind. Between these two great principles, the science of

medicine and the Gospel of Jesus Christ there existed a great gulf: This chasm C. M. E. proposed to bridge.

In the current schools of medicine, students are free to hold their private opinions relative to religion, be they infidel, agnostic, atheistic or whatnot. In CME a personal Christian experience is an entrance requirement. The entrant must be free from unclean habits, such as tobacco, and intoxicating liquors. He must possess an upright personality and be a believer in God and His Son Jesus Christ. He must also accept the Bible in text and verity as set forth in both the old and new Testaments.

Today, CME possesses material assets running into many millions. At the present time it is engaged in an improvement program which involves an expenditure of more than five million dollars. Scores of applicants must be turned away each year because of inadequate facilities. It is hoped the present program will to some extent relieve this condition.

The first graduates from CME were sent forth in 1915. By 1925 292 doctors and 320 nurses had been graduated. During world war 2 CME became army training unit No. 3934. Students studied medicine and had campus drills in the uniform of the U. S. army and navy. Forty per cent of the alumni were in uniform and serving their country, administering to the casualties of war. Ten made the supreme sacrifice, others became prisoners of war, some were decorated for service beyond the call of duty. These men were non-combatants and were not required to bear arms.

By 1949 CME had graduated 2277 doctors, 1377 nurses, 214 dietitians and 84 physiotherapists. You will find these men and women in Asia, Africa, India, China, Japan, South America, Europe, the islands of the seven seas, in the frozen regions of the far north and south and on the burning sands of the deserts. You will find them in every section of the United States, serving in the cities, villages and along the highways and byways. Wherever there is human suffering, there the faithful graduate of CME longs to be.

Yes, the College of Medical Evangelists is different. When you meet one of its alumni, you may approach him in confidence, and if occasion should arise, you will find him a friend indeed.

Under order from Postmaster General, notice is given to public of change in post office hours. Post office will open at 9 a. m. and will close at 5:30 p. m.

## C. O. LEONARD L. L. LEONARD Brokers

Complete Real Estate Service  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
Box 211 South end of town  
Brookings, Oregon

Fine motel site of 4 acres with good home and well, now on property. 400 feet frontage on Hwy 101, only 1/4-mile from Brookings. Excellent terms and interest rate on this.

If you are looking for a well-kept 2-bedroom home with every thing modern with garage, lawn, etc., right in town, let us show you this really good buy with excellent terms.

Small house and trailer port and trailer on 2 acres of ground close to school. This place will accommodate 6 people. Lots of berries, lumber to build with. Concrete foundation for a new building. Cheap! Only \$2950 with terms!

40 1/2 acres north of Brookings just reduced from \$4500 to \$3500. Owner must sacrifice. One of the most beautiful settings on the coast. 3-room home. Best year-round spring. Lots of good timber. Chicken house, barn etc. Be sure to see this. We are proud to show it.

Small modern house on lot 60 by 100 in excellent location, in town. Lawn, shrubs, garage. Only \$4500, \$1500 down and \$50 per month.

Wonderful Chetco River frontage site of 2 acres, close to ocean—finest steelhead and salmon fishing in front of this property. Excellent place for boat landing. Very small amount of this kind of property to be had so see this today.

3-bedroom house only 1 1/2 blk from center of Brookings. Total price \$3750. Will take a house trailer as part payment.

2-bedroom house, practically new, close to school. Small down payment, balance like rent.

36 acres on Pistol River and Hwy 101. About 20 acres bottom land. Also good motel site. Close to ocean. This is priced for quick sale at \$3000.

38 1/2 acres of the finest soil in the country, springs and stream. Feed house, chicken house, garage, barn 30x40, 5-room house, modern. Orchard, only 1/4 mile off Hwy 101 north of Brookings. Make us an offer. Taxes only \$44 a year.

If you are interested in beautiful river frontage close to the ocean we have one of the finest spots in Curry county on the Winchuck, close to state line. Would make a good fishing resort and camp grounds. See us or write for particulars.

Looking for 5 or 6 acres cheap. Let us show you this on county road only 1 mile from town for \$1350, \$500 down and balance to suit you.

**We Work With  
SPEED to Fill Your  
NEED! . . . . .**