

BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT

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IT SEEMS TO ME:



By Dewey

There comes a time in every man's life, when he must give way to another—usually one a lot younger. It happened to Rev. F. C. Hicks, of Smith River, who was honored at an informal farewell by members of his church. Almost 77 years old, Rev. Hicks still would have liked to have held the field another year, as he put it: "I still feel I have one year's work left."

It seems that I cannot remember the time when I didn't know this kindly, talented old gentleman. It was in eastern Montana, that I do remember. I was employed on the Terry Tribune at the time, and Mr. Hicks was at Fallon, some fourteen miles distant, re-organizing and re-financing an irrigation project.

Details, since 1924, may have escaped me somewhat, but I recall the story of how he came into the ministry, when the regular pastor became sick and had to leave the field. Always de-

vout, he stepped to the pulpit to "fill in." From that he was given an appointment at Broadwater, Mont., near Billings.

The Hicks family moved to Tigard, Oregon, about the time of the depression. There he made quite a name for himself in the field, not only as a minister, but as a samaritan. No family in his area ever went hungry if he was aware. He kept no hours when he called on the sick of his community—he gave without regard for himself in any way.

Mr. Hicks has a background which is rich in experience. He was a young man, not yet 21 at the time of the opening of the Oklahoma territory. He was in that race. He taught school near Fairview, Mont., on the Montana-North Dakota line at the turn of the century. He once owned and edited the Fairview Times, he helped organize two banks; he helped bring into being the Lower Yellowstone irrigation project.

Mr. Hicks was, at one time, considered to be "well-to-do," in Eastern Montana. People of this coastal area know nothing about "dry years." These broke the country, and with it Mr. Hicks. Not one to "let his heart be troubled," he and his then young family set out, first at Fallon, Montana.

One, if they wish to argue any question with Mr. Hicks, had better know his subject. He is well informed in almost every subject, regardless of what it may be. Born in Ontario, Can., he became naturalized as soon as he reached 21. I defy anyone, be he a history professor or historian, to quote the facts that are constantly at his tongue's point such facts as the cabinets of all presidents; what certain laws were forerunner to; or the effects of certain congressional

action. He is, to my way of thinking, almost without a peer in his knowledge of history.

Born an Episcopalian, he has always been devout in his belief concerning the Bible and here, also, one must know why and what he talks to best him in an argument. I'd never attempt it for the world, for in a moment I would be helpless in my ignorance. Frankly, too, I am so ready to admit that I believe he is not only full of wisdom, but also of that understanding of life that few attain.

Mr. Hicks has had considerable experience in public life. As secretary of the Lower Yellowstone irrigation project, it was his job a couple of times to appear in Washington, D. C., before congressional committees to seek aid for this project. He always succeeded because he could not be beaten down in argument. He was, for many years, probation officer for a few counties in the eastern fringe of Montana. Before him came delinquent youth and he always handled the cases with love and justice.

Perhaps a volume could be put on paper about the experiences he has seen, and the contribution he has made to society. Yet, he'd prefer, if you will, not to have this mentioned—he'd prefer to be called just "Brother Hicks," in this great brotherhood of mankind. He is, in my way of thinking, a truly great man—greater than most of us realize.

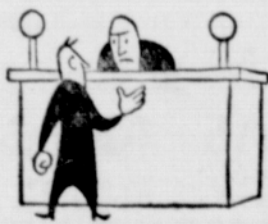
LOCAL NEWS

Miss Betti Goldizen left Saturday afternoon for Ventura, Calif., where she will enroll in summer school at Ventura Junior College. She hopes to complete the two-year course, by utilizing this method, in three semesters. She had spent the past two weeks visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Goldizen, and brother, Vernon.

Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Shavere, of Coquille, spent the third in this area to witness the parade. Mr. Shavere, manager of Coos-Curry Electric Co-operative, insists that this area is growing

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PETE J. LESMEISTER

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faster than any place he ever has seen.

Mrs. Ethel Goodlin and Mrs. Crook, of Smith River, were in Brookings last Friday on business and to purchase a floor lamp for the church as a gift to Rev. E. C. Hicks, who was honored at an informal farewell, Sunday evening by the church. Mr.

Hicks is moving with the Rowley family, to their new home, near the mouth of the Winchuck, on the ocean-front property.

Work is progressing rapidly on the new M. C. Beem home in the Ward King tract, near the new Conner Kessler home, nearing completion.

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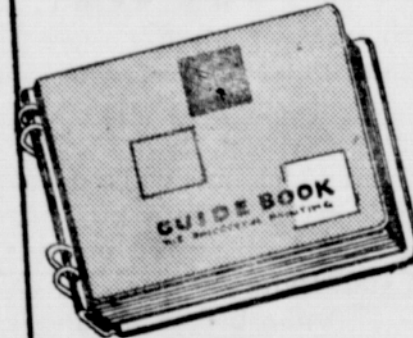
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IN APPRECIATION

The Pacific Bulb Growers float committee wishes to express full appreciation for the fine co-operation among growers and their families who worked so splendidly together to build our Sweepstakes-Winning Association Float.

We thank the many guests who were here visiting grower-families and who also helped. We are thankful to the many interested friends for their assistance and to Inspector David.

The float expressed the superb talent of Mrs. Fay Hardesty who was employed as designer. Mrs. Hardesty really "dreamed up a dream" that more than equalled our expectations. Mr. Hardesty who was employed to superintend the construction showed his ability in making "the dream" a reality. They both worked hard—they make a real team.

The fact that both the float committee and the working group consisted of entirely volunteer members is especially re-assuring for the future of the Association.

OTTO C. TURLEY, Local President

CHAIRMAN OF FLOAT COMMITTEE