

Spiritual Greatest Benefit One Gets From Rotary

District Governor "Billy" Ball paid his official visit to the Brookings Rotary club Tuesday noon, and brought the club a message from Rotary International in addition to giving his talk.

Of all the benefits a member gets from his Rotary membership, greatest of all these could be classed as spiritual. By his association with his fellow man, the member comes to love almost

all, even though he may disagree on many things," he said in way of introduction.

"I had a letter from Rotary International saying that Brookings should be visited early, and for me to note the achievements the club had made in its existence. In addition to great community service, the club had sponsored another club, and had acquired for itself much county respect.

"I am pleased with what I have found, and I do not believe Rotary will ever really know what you men have done in the fullest. Keep up the good work—rewards will be many," he concluded.

TIMBER TRAILS

By Emil R. Peterson

Of all the Lumbering Trails that I have tried to follow, the most elusive one is the story of the Brookings Lumber Company of Brookings, Oregon. It is surprising how quickly the activities of a major operating organization can pass through the fickle memories of contemporary individuals, leaving only a scared tree here and there to indicate that they passed this way.

It has been reported that the company ceased operations at 10:37 1/2 a.m. on an October day, perhaps in 1915. Others add to the story by saying that a log in the big mill was sawed half through by the headrig, then left in that position till the mill was dismantled. I have been told by different individuals that a story was published in one of the timber or lumber journals about that time, telling the story of the sudden stop of the Brookings mill. But each person of whom I have asked, points a finger to someone else, saying, "Ask him." On this winding trail, I have written pages of inquiry. But I'm still in the woods, hardly knowing which way to turn.

Even our State Library, which has been most helpful and co-operative in uncovering hidden treasures of information, has been unable to locate the published story. The same is true of our Oregon Historical Society, which is almost an unflinching sleuth at ferreting out lost gems in the dusty archives.

Ralph (?) Hall and Don Sweet, of the Moore-Oregon Lumber Co., suggested that I write to James L. Hall, wholesale Pacific Coast Woods, Mill Building, San Francisco 4, for information about the Brookings Lumber Company. I wrote to Mr. Hall, who very kindly replied at considerable length, pointing out additional trails, but confessing that he had no definite facts. His story, somewhat condensed, follows:

Regarding the Brookings Lumber Company, I have made a number of inquiries around here and have found no one thus far who can give definite data and dates. Such information seems to be available somewhere if you have the time, patience and determination to locate it. (Mr. Hall forgot to add, "and the means.")

The general story as I piece it together from information around

here is about as follows, although the accuracy is not in the least guaranteed.

The Brookings Lumber Company included interests from the Brookings of St. Louis, Mo.; the Stouts of Chicago, Ill. (?), the Owens of the Owens-Oregon Lumber Company of Medford, Ore. (now the Medford Corporation of Medford, Ore.), etc. They owned considerable timber in the vicinity of Brookings on the Chetco River, etc.

Later, I believe, there was a change in ownership or control and the name of the operation was changed to the California and Oregon Lumber Company. This latter concern, as I recall, was operated until about 1925, when, I believe, operations closed and it was liquidated.

To Be Continued

SMITH RIVER

Miss Elma Rice, bride-elect of Dr. Raymond Kinworth of Massachusetts, was the honor guest at a lovely bridal shower held Monday afternoon in the reception room at the Community hall. The room was attractively decorated with bouquets of summer flowers and white crepe streamers.

Miss Rice was presented with a large basket filled with many beautiful and useful gifts. More than thirty guests were present to enjoy the opening of the many packages. Gifts were also sent by friends unable to attend. Cake, ice cream and coffee were served from a lace covered table centered with a lovely flower arrangement in pastel shades.

At the close of the pleasant time together, the group sang "Happy Birthday," honoring Mrs. Eddie Westbrook, who celebrated her 87th birthday on August 27.

Mrs. Miriam Barnes was pleasantly surprised on the evening of August 16 in celebration of her birthday when a group arrived to spend the evening visiting and extending birthday greetings. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Don Carson and daughter, Diane, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Carson, Dr. and Mrs. Glen Moore of Harbor, Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Rhodus and children, Phyllis Wheatley and children, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Hight, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wilkinson. Dainty refreshments were served to conclude the evening.

Harold "Happy" Gorbet, age 29, was dead on arrival at Seaside hospital on Monday evening following an automobile accident with a head-on collision just north of the redwoods at Fort Dick, with a car driven by Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Hill about 6:45 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. Hill are in the hospital with injuries considered not serious. Gorbet was the son of Mrs. Sadie Gorbet and is survived by two sisters and a brother.

After almost three months of a long dry spell with no rainfall, Monday night brought enough rain to moisten the dry ground and clear the air of smoke caused by many forest fires. Showers fell during Tuesday and the weatherman gives hope for more rain in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Markley have returned home from a month's vacation trip to Idaho and Seattle, Wash., where they visited

relatives whom they had not seen for a number of years. They report having had a nice trip.

Mrs. Eddie Westbrook was the honored guest at a dinner party held at S.S. Castlerock cafe on Sunday in celebration of her birthday on Monday, August 27. Others present were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Westbrook and little granddaughter, Deborah Westbrook, Mrs. Ada Hursh, Mrs. Edna Ross and Fred Haight.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Thomas of Scappoose, Ore., arrived here Sunday. They were accompanied by Mrs. Daniel Haight, who has spent several weeks in the Portland hospital under observation and treatment for a back injury she received early this year.

The Smith River Women's club will hold its first meeting following the summer vacation on Friday afternoon, September 7, at 2:30, at the Community hall. President Maude Quick will preside. All members and friends are invited to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Wells and children have moved from Ina Johnson apartments to their home which has been under construction on the new highway.

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