

FIRST BROOKINGS TEACHER VISITS TOWN SHE HELPED TO MOLD

Brookings first teacher returned last week to visit the town who's younger generation, she taught thirty years ago.

She is Mrs. A. H. Bretz of San Diego, now, but she was Miss Bess Clark back in 1913 when she came across the Chetco River in a row boat to take command of the Brookings school.

Mrs. Bretz, who lives now in San Diego, made a one-day stop here at the Chetco Inn while traveling north to a Canadian vacation. While here, she saw a few old families she had known when the town of Brookings formed around the old saw mill here.

Mrs. Bretz came out of Michigan to teach, as she thought, a handful of children here. When she arrived, she found it was forty children, from the first to the eighth grade.

The schoolhouse then, she says, was a house in a row of mill houses here. The next year they built a two room school and a gymnasium, and added another teacher, Mr. "Tommy" Thompson.

Times have changed, Mrs. Bretz says. She came to Brookings via San Francisco, and traveled from San Francisco to Crescent City on the old lumber schooner, "Del Norte". "I was the only lady on board who wasn't seasick", she says, proudly.

From Crescent City to Harbor she traveled in an automobile, driven by a one-armed Indian. They dismounted at the Chetco River, and came across in a row boat.

"We left my trunk on the other side, and they came back and brought it over the next day", she recalls. "But it was still there when they came after it."

Transportation over all this area then was primitive, according to Mrs. Bretz. She remembers trips to Grants Pass, made by wagon over Oregon Mountain. They were three day affairs, with an overnight stop at Patrick's Creek and another at Kirby.

Brookings was a musical town then, she recalls, too. Among the personnel of the Brookings Lumber company here there were many gifted musicians, and they made their own entertainment.

She recalls, too, the suddenness with which the great mill here closed in 1915. The decision came so suddenly, that Brookings evolved into a ghost town in just a few days, leaving the mill standing empty with logs still on the way.

Mrs. Bretz has had other honors in addition to her claim to fame as Brookings first teacher. San Diego named her to its board of park commissioners, in charge of famous Balboa Park and zoo, the first woman to be so honored.

ATTENDS CONVENTION

William Thompson, Brookings postmaster, attended the state Postmaster's convention in Klamath Falls Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday last week. He was accompanied home by Mr. Albert "Duke" Hodler, Portland postmaster, who attended the inauguration of the new Elk's lodge here.

SMITH RIVER

By Ethel Goodlin

The fifth Degree of Pomona was given a class of candidates at the monthly meeting of Del Norte Pomona Grange, held June 20 at Lake Ear Grange Hall.

Reports were made during the business session by masters of three subordinate Granges. All are working on the booth for the county fair, to be held in August.

Plans are being made for a county-wide H. E. meeting, to be held July 24 at Crescent Redwood Grange Hall.

The July meeting will be a picnic, to be held at Klamath Valley Grange.

Miss Lois Haight, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carlton Haight, and Bride-to-be of Jack Luttrell of Smith River, was honor guest at a miscellaneous bridal shower held recently at the home of Mrs. Isabel Buckner.

Co-Hostesses with Mrs. Buckner were Mrs. Kathryn Williams and Miss Barbara Buckner.

A social time was enjoyed by the sixteen guests, and many lovely gifts were presented to Miss Haight.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ostrom of Smith River, have returned home from Palo Alto, where Mrs. Ostrom received a Master of Arts degree in Education from Stanford University.

Mrs. Leah Wilson of Riverside, California, arrived the first of the week. She is visiting friends and

attending to business affairs here.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Spooner returned Tuesday from a two-week vacation trip in the southern part of the state, visiting relatives.

Mrs. Alma Turner of Gold Beach is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Westbrook. Mrs. Westbrook is Mrs. Turner's daughter.

BROOKINGS BOY MAKES TECH HONOR ROLL

Richard D. Salvage of Brookings was listed on the honor roll of Oregon Technical Institute, which was released this week.

Salvage, who is majoring in Diesel Mechanics Technology recorded a grade average of 3.50 during the last term.

RETURN FROM TRIP

Mr. and Mrs. George Funk returned this week from a trip which took them to Seattle and Alaska.

They attended the Rotary International Convention in Seattle, then went on to Ketchikan, Alaska where they visited old friends. George spent an interesting five days in a logging camp about 40 miles out of Ketchikan, and got in a lot of fishing.

VISIT FAMILY HERE

Dr. and Mrs. L. C. Davison and son of Santa Ana, California, visited with relatives here last week.

Dr. Davison is the son of Mrs. Ida Davison, and brother of Mrs. Dale Bullock and Mrs. Merrill Bullock all of Brookings.

Reach that buyer through a Pilot Classified Advertisement.

Brookings-Harbor Pilot 11
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 1954

ROCKHOUNDS PLAN PICNIC JULY 18

There will be no meeting of the Rockhounds on July 15, as previously reported.

The Rockhounds picnic will be held Sunday, July 18, up the Winchuck River.

COMING HOME

Mrs. William Thompson and children, John, Bruce, Janet, and Bobby will return this next week end after a month's visit with Mrs. Thompson's family in Nebraska. Mr. Thompson will drive to Portland to meet them Saturday.

TO SPEND MONTH HERE

Rev. and Mrs. Owen Turley of El Cerrito with their twin sons arrived yesterday to spend a month with Rev. Turley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Turley of Harbor.

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