

OLD OREGON PIONEERS OF PIONEERS MEET

Old Folks of State Turn Calendar Backward.

TRIBUTE PAID TO QUEEN

565 Register Who Settled or Were Born in State Prior to 1859.

The calendar was turned back 60 or 61 years yesterday when the boys and girls of 1840 to 1859 were called together by the 48th annual reunion of the Oregon pioneer association at the auditorium.

One of the distinguishing features of the Oregon pioneers is the clarity of their memory. Many live in the world of today; but the great majority live in the time when the ox and the prairie schooner were the principal means of transportation.

Years Were Good to Many. Some were frail and failing, but scores certainly did not look their years, for it must be remembered that the youngest pioneer was born in 1859 and is now at least 60 years of age.

None could escape a thrill if he heard those hundreds of quavering voices, led by the pioneer quartet, sing "America." It was a vivid lesson in American history to the tales of these sturdy folk who did their part—perhaps the prime part—in making the Oregon of today.

And it was a charming picture to see the perfect joy the old people had in hailing as their queen Mrs. Catherine J. Adams, 1852, 130 East Harrison street, Portland, who was crowned with a chaplet of roses by J. D. Lee, 1848, 501 1/2 Broadway.

First Oregon Children Attend. To those later Oregonians who do not know the significance of the year, it may be said that the date denotes the year each pioneer arrived at or was born in Oregon; none being registered as a pioneer who was not born or who did not arrive in Oregon prior to 1859.

In the gathering were included Cyrus H. Walker, 1848, the first white boy born in the Oregon territory, yet alive, and Mrs. Willie Edwards, 1840, the first white child born in Portland.

It is a tribute to the stock from which the pioneers came that they all stood for the benediction pronounced by the chaplain, Rev. A. J. Jostin, 1862, Cathlamet, Or., not a single pioneer craved the indulgence of her or his years and remained seated.

Several, indeed, had to be held upright by the younger generation. They stood, too, while they paid a tribute, moistened by the tears of respect, to the memory of Mrs. Rebecca J. Barger, 1847, mother queen of Oregon, who at the age of 94, died last year.

They Came by Varied Means. There were the great gathering men and women who had crossed the plains on foot, who had ridden across their prairie schooner, who had fought Indians, who had traveled by sailing vessel around the Horn; some came as laborers, some as soldiers, some as young men and women, now, alas! mostly feeble, bent and worn.

The tales they tell are ever new. Great-grandchildren and great-grandchildren that the latter might see the men and women who helped build the state, every one of whom was here when it was accorded the privileges of statehood.

Pioneer Families Attend. Again and again were there groups such as that of father and son or mother and daughter, both pioneers; there was Rev. A. J. Hunsaker, 1852, Minnville, 1847, who was 13 years of age when he crossed the desert to reach Oregon, and his son, his daughter, Mrs. O. E. Klitridge, 1858, Seattle, who was born in the Oregon territory.

The afternoon program was in the form of exercises; that in the evening partook of the nature of reminiscences. And the greatest joy in the pioneer meetings, though they may rapidly thin as the years pass, lies in the reminiscences springing up when the boys and girls, the comrades and the young men and women of the early days grip each other warmly by the hand.

Family Success Pleases. They point out the automobiles in which they reached the auditorium. "That's my that," said proudly, from the old linehitch wagon and the bucket of tar, "I remember that."

They wandered up to the headquarters of the Oregon historical society. They fingered the relics. Then it was "I remember this or I remember that. There was a story attached to each inanimate object. The story made each article live.

A jolly old crowd was the Oregon pioneer quartet, W. M. Morse, Dr. J. E. Hall, H. W. Mills and Dr. Z. M. Parvin, who sang the old pioneer songs, with "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "America" for good measure.

Mayors Welcome. C. A. Bigelow, acting mayor, gave the address of welcome and Rev. Mr. Hunsaker made a response.

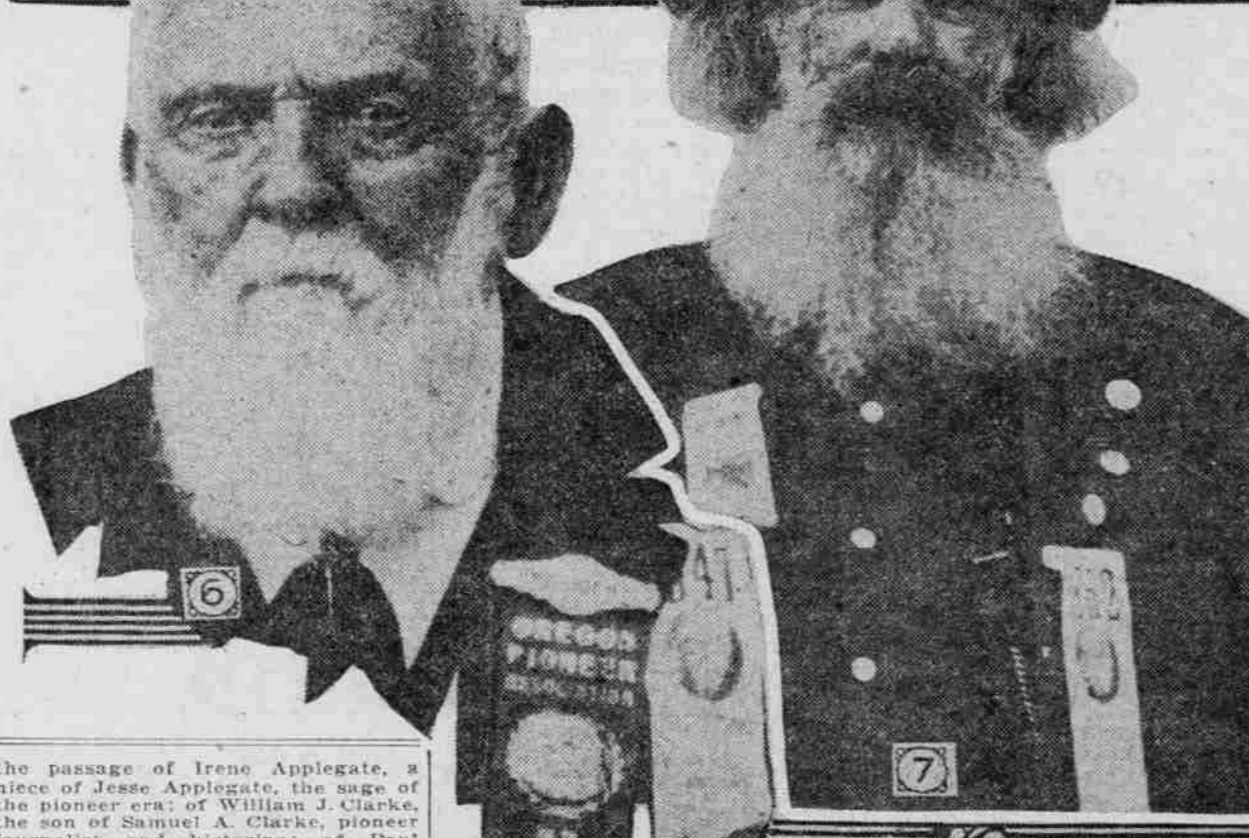
R. A. Book, engineer, made the annual address. A pioneer himself, he paid a tribute to the pioneers of the state. He told of their hardships and tribulations and as he touched each point of memory that grizzled graybeard or that face, wrinkled with the lines that years only bring, nodded in acquiescence. He was one of them. They were proud to do him reverence. They listened carefully, hand cupped to ear, and agreed with every word he said.

Charles E. Bales, 1852, paid the annual tribute to the memory of the past year have traveled the sundown trail. "No longer with us in the flesh, they still live in the impression they have made upon the communities in which their lives were spent," he said.

"The hand of death is now laid with greater frequency upon not only our pioneer fathers but their descendants of the second generation.

Tribute Paid Departed. "Among those of the later generation, who since our last reunion have responded to the final call, we note

STATELY OLD FIGURES OF OREGON WHO SAW STATE RECEIVE HONOR OF STATEHOOD.



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Old Oregonians Boast of Deeds of Early Days.

'AULD LANG SYNE' TEARFUL

Frederick Holman Tells of Founding of Portland White All Vice in Checking Details.

There was just one pathetic longing expressed by Colonel Robert A. Miller, for ex-governor T. G. Geer, 1851, asserted: "It wouldn't be the first time I've done it, anyway."

Reminiscences Bring Interest. The evening was devoted to the reminiscences of the 40s and 50s, with occasionally a few musical selections by the pioneer themselves.

Incidentally, the song half a dozen hymns. It probably would amaze many a Portland minister to have heard the music in those 60s or 70s pioneers were word perfect in the sacred songs. They sang "Coronation" through from start to finish, made the very rafters—if there had been rafters—echo with "Greenland's Mountains" and "Onward, Christian Soldiers" and others not nearly so well known.

And standing together, they sobbed out "Auld Lang Syne." It would hardly be correct to say they sang it, for they sang it with tears, old faces literally streaming tears as the old melody recalled friends who had passed over before them.

Caufield New President. But first the pioneers elected their officers. C. H. Caufield, 1854, Oregon City, succeeds President Hunsaker as president. Miss Ellen Chamberlain, 1844, was elected vice-president, George H. Himes, 1855, of course, was re-elected secretary. And what a rousing cheer they gave Pioneer Himes.

Directors elected were John W. Baker, 1852, D. D. Chittenden, 1853, Mrs. O. N. Denny, 1847, and William M. Ladd, 1855, elected president.

Governor Geer planned on the breast of ex-president Hunsaker the gorgeous badge that signified he had become an ex-president.

They also elected three times to determine whether the new city should be Boston or Portland, Or. But the old-timers agreed that after all, it was not important and Mr. Holman let it go at that.

Third Street Was Suburb. Mr. Holman told of his early suburban home away out in the suburbs. He was, he said, and he felt quite ashamed of the fact that it was so far out. It was a vast address was Third and Washington streets.

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the city and he remarked that the finest belt of timber in Oregon was the site on which the west side of the city now stands.

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FARMERS GET DISTILLATE No Chances Are Taken of Shortage During Harvest Season. The farmers of Sherman county are taking no chance of a fuel shortage during the harvest of their big wheat crop and are providing distillate in sufficient quantity to make them safe. This distillate was secured through the efforts of their farm bureau organization and is emptied direct from the tank cars to the storage tanks and barrels, through the use of a distilling apparatus prepared by the county agent for the purpose. Two tank cars have already been unloaded and two more are on the way from California.

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