

Family Album Northwest

By Kathryn Hall Bogle

The Flower's "Family Album" is open to the place we left it last week when Ralph, the second eldest son, was telling about the family farm on the slopes of Mt. Scott. The time was the year 1901. Father and mother Flowers had invited her sister Clara's twin sons to join Lloyd, Ralph, Elmer and Ervin for a visit on the farm.

Ralph, relating his own memories, called the twin cousins, "two of the meanest, wildest and most contemptible boys we had ever seen." In this the second installment of the Allen family "On the Farm" story, Ralph continues:

By actual count, there were twenty cats on the farm of all sizes and colors. One day the twins we nicknamed Less and Lesser caught the two oldest and largest Tom cats and got a strong string about two feet long and tied each end to the back leg of each Tom and turned them loose. When the cats made a lunge and came back at each other, with all the cat language, screaming, hissing and clawing, fur flying in all directions, Lloyd heard the noise and came a-running with his knife and cut the string.

Dan was the name of our Irish Setter, our hunting dog. He was a fine large rangy fellow and a real friend to all. He was a very high-strung dog and could find a bird in any field. It was this dog, Dan, who was responsible for many a fine feed of China pheasants we had. Elmer, my brother, was the best shot. Mother would choose a boy to take Dan and a gun and go out to get about six pheasants or enough for a meal. Then it was food for the table because we seldom missed.

One hot summer afternoon Dan was asleep in the barnyard when Less and Lesser came up to him and began to pet him. They had a small tin can with some more string. They tied the can tight and the other end they tied firmly to Dan's tail and then they hit him with a stick. At the first jump, the can hit Dan's heels. Dan let out a yell, and out of the barnyard he went. Down the road he ran with a straight streak of dust behind him, yelling and running as far as you could see him.

Dan did not come home for a week and were we glad to see him! He was all gaunt and half starved. We fed him most of our own breakfast that morning.

Dad bought a herd of sheep - about fifty of them - so we boys could run them up the hill since the feed there was good and they didn't



Ervin Flowers, Elmer Flowers, Vassie Cash, Lee Hawkins, and Ralph Flowers pose with the Flowers dog, Dan. (Photo: Courtesy of Oregon Historical Society)

require much water.

One morning I took the saddle horse about daybreak and the rifle, as we carried one most of the time, and rode up the long trail through the forest to the open field where the sheep grazed. The wind was blowing in my face from the South as the horse came out of the trail. Through the brush I saw all the sheep in a bunch and to my surprise there was a Coyote slowly trotting in a circle around them. He was just waiting for one to break from the herd. That would be his breakfast.

I jerked the halter rope and old Maude stopped. As the wind blew over the Coyote to me, and I was not yet out in the open, the Coyote did not see me. I slipped the safety and as the Coyote circled from me, I aimed from the saddle and let the old 30-30 bark.

I missed, but threw dirt on him, and now if you ever saw an animal go, that animal did. I had just one more shell and that shot went over the Coyote. When he saw the dust move in front of him, he changed his course and put on still more speed.

When the neighbors and farmers on the hill and in the valley of "Happy Hollow" heard that Coyotes were in our sheep they all carried rifles.

A few days after that, Lloyd took

the team up where the sheep were and as he came out in the open field from the woods, there was a big buck deer feeding with some calves. Lloyd stopped his team of horses, and aimed his rifle at the side of the buck and hit him. Another shot did the work.

That was a big help for the table and it was the first deer meat we had ever eaten.

We kept on after the Coyotes and we made some "lick blocks." We took a "2x4" and drilled two holes in it, then put on gloves to hide the man smell, heated some lard and arsenic and poured it in the holes. We put these up in the woods and on the trails, to lure the Coyotes. We got some this way.

One morning early, we heard Dan running around on the porch and we thought he had killed something. When we got up later that morning, we found Dan lying there, dead. During the night, Dan had gone up he hill and licked one of the "lick blocks."

The loss of Dan was a blow to us all and he was never replaced by any other dog.

Note: We will continue in the next issue with Ralph Flowers story of "On the Farm."

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Elderly get holiday gifts

Personalized gifts of home-baked Christmas cookies or fruit will be delivered to the homes of over 500 needy Portland elderly persons and young families through December 24 as part of a massive effort by 30 volunteers from Metropolitan Family Service. "It's a gesture of caring and for many, this is the gift they receive at Christmas," explains Volunteer Coordinator of the project, Sue Miller.

Scout troops have decorated coffee cans and boxes into which the food will be packed. Recipients will each receive two dozen. At least 100 baskets of fruit, purchased with funds specifically contributed for this purpose, will be required for those on special diets.

In addition to Sue Miller, Natalie DeLord, Betty Thompson, and Mary Naito are assisting with delivery schedules, arranging for contributions of cookies and fruit purchases.



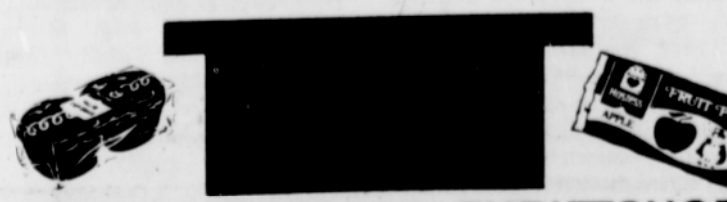
Decorating coffee cans at Metropolitan Family Service in preparation for the parking of 1,000 dozen donated home-baked Christmas cookies are Natalie DeLord, Chairman of delivery schedules; and Betty Thompson, Chairman of cookie contributions.

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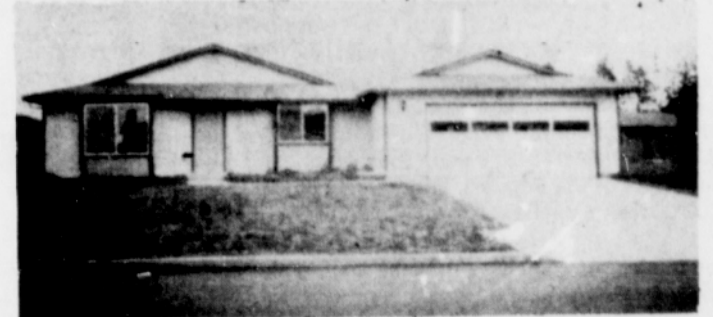
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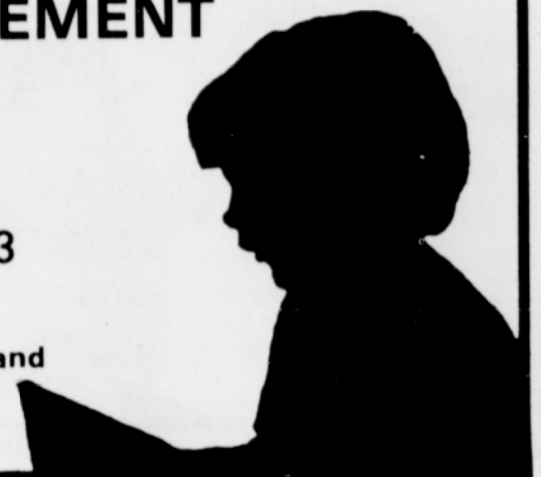
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FROM THE FRONT DOOR

By Tom Boothe

From the front door, I wish to follow up on last week Hughes Memorial Bulletin which recognized that Alcohol and Drug abuse is a people problem. Thus, the solution would have to come from the peoples willingness to solve the problem.

The House of Exodus has prepared a straight forward presentation suitable for Church groups, social groups, or concerned citizen groups. The message content explains how people within their families and friends can make a great difference in their neighborhoods toward the fight against the control of Alcohol and Drug abuse.

BASIC INFORMATION RELATING TO THE QUALITY OF OUR COMMUNITIES

Did you know? That Alcohol and Drug abuse contributes to a high percentage of all criminal acts committed in the Portland Metro area.

Alcohol and Drug abuse contributes to a great part of employee incompetency, lack of punctuality and accountability.

Alcohol and Drug abuse contributes to a high percentage of all accidents, auto accidents, job related accidents and accidents which occur in the home.

Alcohol and Drug abuse contributes in a great way to students lack of interest and willingness to learn.

As you can see Alcohol and Drug abuse cuts across all sectors of our society and impairs human potential and reduces the sense of security and responsibility in the abusers, which affects in one way or another, all of us.

Would you believe that children as young as 5 years old have been reported to be addicted to Alcohol and/or Drugs. Children are becoming addicted at an increasingly early age. We must not forget that these children are the sons and daughters of parents of today, but these same children will be the citizens of tomorrow.

Come join with the House of Exodus in an all out effort to improve the quality of our community through comprehensive Mental Health Education (284-7997).

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