

RIGDON KNEW HIM LONG AGO

Alex La Follette Is Touched up in Letter Written by Pioneer Friend

The following pioneer sketch was written during the recent campaign, but, through an oversight, was not handed in until after the election was over. It will furnish interesting reading to old timers, and to newcomers, too.—Ed.:

Alexander LaFollette has handed me his card, announcing his candidacy for re-election to the state senate.

How well I remember the first time I ever saw this now distinguished gentleman.

It was during that awful and, long

to be remembered, hard winter of 1861-62.

The terrible flood of December, 1861, played havoc and destruction on all the Willamette bottoms from Eugene to Portland. Soak after this terrible flood had subsided, David La Follette (Alex's father) purchased the Douglas Jones donation land claim from one Steeproe. This place had been swept clean of all improvements except the house and barn. It lies almost if not entirely on the low bottom land, and directly on the public road running from Parkersville to Mathews's ferry (Wheatland) and about one and one-half miles west from the present Oregon Electric station, Waconda. This road had not at that time been cleared out on the right of way for the distance of about two miles east from the Champeog and Salem road. Only a portion of this two miles was fenced. Hence the travel meandered through the brush and across the sloughs, hunting the lines of least resistance.

At this time our family owned the McNary place (now the Evens place, Waconda station).

Remember now that everything on the bottom—provender for stock, food for man and other requirements for civilized life, had been almost entirely destroyed. So, as the owners of the farms returned to their land, everything for the sustenance of life, seed for crops, construction of buildings, etc., had to be hauled in from the higher ground.

Just after the flood receded a terrible snowstorm set in and continued until the snow lay from twelve to sixteen inches throughout the whole Willamette valley.

Then the mercury played an almost unheard of trick, and one that was not welcomed even by those who were well housed and prepared for an ordinary Oregon winter. It went down and renewed its acquaintance with zero; if, however, it had ever associated with such low and disagreeable company in these parts before. The snow, as old settlers will remember, laid on the ground for eight weeks. For at least six weeks hardly a wheel rolled in the Northwest anywhere. The traffic in Portland crossed the river on the ice.

The river was closed at Salem, but I do not remember, for sure, that any teams crossed on the ice this far south of Portland. Every man in this valley who possessed a team either constructed a good substantial sled or improvised some kind of a makeshift. During this frozen spell large quantities of feed and seed were hauled through our place to the bottom lands. Tremendous loads were hauled through the field and directly past our house and barn. Several teams were generally in company, as it often became necessary to pry up the sleds after stopping to open gates or let down bars. (Of course, as to be expected, it was many times thought unnecessary to run the risk of stalling in the snow by stopping to shut gates or replace bars.)

A long, lank, green boy about 16 or 18 years old, was the noisiest, most picturesque, and interesting fellow that accompanied these caravans. We soon learned that Alexander LaFollette was the name of this youth, a son of the man who had recently purchased the Steeproe place. As the LaFollettes were to be our neighbors, we cultivated the acquaintance of Alexander and was soon familiar with his appearance, his manner, and especially his voice. The temperature finally rose above the freezing point along in March and the snow and ice disappeared long before the heavy freighting was concluded; and, oh, horrors! the sleds had to be replaced with heavy wagons.

Now, if you can, please imagine the condition of the roads; meandering through brush across swales, through fields just after a big thaw. Then put from ten to twenty big wagons per day on such a road and you may, if possible, have some idea what the condition would be about the second or third day.

But the transportation had to go on, either over the ground or plow through it.

Oh, my! Long before our place was reached, we could hear young Alex's clear, shrill voice as he urged his weary horses, in his own inflexible way, to "go over the top" and struggle through "no man's land." trees, "busted" doubletrees, bent

TO DARKEN HAIR APPLY SAGE TEA

Look Young! Bring Back Its Natural Color, Gloss and Attractiveness.

Common garden sage brewed into a heavy tea with sulphur added, will turn gray, streaked and faded hair beautifully dark and luxuriant. Just a few applications will prove a revelation if your hair is fading, streaked or gray. Mixing the Sage Tea and Sulphur recipe at home, though, is troublesome. An easier way is to get a bottle of Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound at any drug store all ready for use. This is the old-time recipe improved by the addition of other ingredients.

While wispy, gray, faded hair is not sinful, we all desire to retain our youthful appearance and attractiveness. By darkening your hair with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Compound, no one can tell, because it does it so naturally, so evenly. You just dampen a sponge or soft brush with it and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time; by morning all gray hairs have disappeared, and, after another application or two, your hair becomes beautifully dark, glossy, soft and luxuriant.

This preparation is a delightful toilet requisite and is not intended for the cure, mitigation or prevention of disease.

and twisted handspikes could be found through the neighboring brush for years afterwards.

Mud, mud and little else but mud. Harshness looked like they were made of mud. Wagons were thoroughly painted with mud; men besmeared with mud until they looked as though they were all dressed alike and about the same size. However, not the size in birth that is now enjoyed by the hero of this pioneer story.

Heavy transportation, under such circumstances, was a tremendous job for a boy of his age to undertake, and was very trying on his nerves as well as his voice.

His lack of a Websterian vocabulary made it absolutely necessary for young Alex to often repeat some very inelegant, though very expressive words, not found in any of the standard lexicons. His expressions were "unusually" forceful, easily understood and plainly heard at almost any reasonable distance.

But our hero stood the strain well and now after a hard and strenuous career of nearly sixty years since, his faculty of expression is not impaired, and his voice has many times resounded through Oregon's legislative halls in the interest of the commonwealth as clear and expressive as when he was struggling through the mud in the spring of '62; but I am happy to say that his vocabulary has been largely increased and great-

ly improved. His mind is fresh and vigorous, his eye bright, his spirit alert, his character untarnished, and whether or not he shall again be called to public service, there is no question but he will remain a useful and pleasant citizen; ever contributing his talents and energies to the upbuilding of our common country. Hon. A. M. LaFollette has been a material asset to Marion county, and should he never again compete in the field of productive endeavor, his name will go down in the history of Oregon, and especially Marion county, as one of her honorable and most efficient and industrious sons of her early struggles for worth statehood. —W. T. Rigdon.

THIS WIDOW WAS HELPED.

Mrs. A. Walden, 460 Glenn Ave., Fresno, Cal., writes: "I had a fever and it left me with a cough every winter. Foley's Honey and Tar helps me every time. I am a widow 56 years old. Nothing better for bronchial, grip and similar coughs and colds that hang on. Just fine for croup and whooping-cough. J. C. Perry."

ABSENT ONES TO REGISTER

No Excuse Allowed by Draft Board if Subjects Are Away From Home

PORTLAND, Or., May 22.—Men who have reached the age of 21 years since registration day a year ago will not be excused from registering on the coming registration day, June 5, merely because they are absent from their home districts, even though this absence is unavoidable.

The burden of seeing that registration is correctly made under the local draft board having jurisdiction is on the man himself. Failure to register is punishable by imprisonment of up to one year.

For the convenience of men unavoidably absent from their home jurisdictions, however, the government has provided the following method of registering:

"The chief clerk of any draft board or any member of board, has been authorized to record the answers of a man unavoidably absent from his home jurisdiction, and to certify to his registration card.

"After this registration card has been made out and certified, it will be given to the man applying, and it will then be up to him to see that it is received by his own local draft board in time to be recorded on registration day, June 5.

"Therefore, to insure that the card reaches the local board in time, if you are subject to registration on June 5—and every man who has attained the age of 21 since registration day a year ago is subject to registration—go at once to the nearest



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local draft board, present the facts to them, and be registered.

"Then as soon as the registration card has been turned over to you, mail it without fail to your own local board.

"If you do not know the designation or address of your local board, then address the card to the mayor, if you live in a city of 30,000 population or over; if you live in a smaller town, or in the country, mail it to the clerk of your county, parish, township or similar unit, as the case may be.

"Fill in, also, on the envelope so addressed, the following information:

"Registration card of (Giving your name)

"Street and number of R. F. D. No.

"City, Town or P. O.

"And further, in order to obtain by return mail your registration certificate, inclose in your letter a stamped self-addressed envelope. It is most important to do this, as failure to be able to produce your registration certificate on demand will make you liable to arrest on suspicion of having evaded registration for the draft.

"Do not delay in appearing before

the nearest local draft board to have your registration card made out, as already emphasized, it is up to you to see that the card is in the hands of your own local draft board by June 5, and you should allow plenty of time for the card to reach the board by mail."

Astoria Lodge First to Bid on White House Wool

The first bid to be received at office of Governor Withycombe, two pounds of wool from the Shire flock at the White House, which is to be auctioned in this city for the benefit of the Red Cross comes from Climecamp, No. 2 Woodmen of the World, at Astoria. The bid is \$100 and was received yesterday in a message signed by W. T. Muehlhapt, representative of the camp.

Governor Withycombe has been informed in a message from H. Davidson, director of the Red Cross that the successful bidder in state will receive a letter direct from the White House signed by President and Mrs. Wilson.

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34x4 Goodrich, non-skid, regular \$33.71, Sale Price.....	26.97	32x4 Firestone, non-skid, regular \$35.25, Sale Price.....	28.20	31x4 United States Chain Tread, regular \$36.85, Sale Price.....	29.48	32x3 1/2 Firestone, Non Skid, regular \$25.96, Sale Price.....	20.77
34x4 Goodrich Plain Tread, regular \$32.00, Sale Price.....	25.65	32x4 United States Nobby Tread, regular \$44.85, Sale Price.....	35.91				

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