

# LOUIS MCCLANE TELLS TALES OF EARLY OREGON HISTORY

(The following article by Fred Lockley appeared in the Portland Journal of Wednesday. All old Salem residents will remember Louis McClane as the book keeper and collector of the Salem Gas company for many years, up to the time when the gas works be-

came the property of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Co.)

At the banquet given by the Sons and Daughters of the Pioneers on Admission day in honor of the 62nd anniversary of the admission of the state of Oregon into the Union, I found myself a seatmate of Louis McClane. Mr. McClane is a native son of Salem, though he has long been a resident of Portland. Pointing to Judge T. A. McBride, Judge M. C. George, ex-Governor T. T. Geer, F. V. Holman and many other native or adopted sons of Oregon, he said:

"I have known many of the people who are here for more than 50 years. I am a native son and the son of pioneer parents. My father, J. B. McClane, came with the first wagon train to Oregon. That was in 1843. My mother came with the 'great reinforcement,' aboard the Lausanne, in 1849. My father was the first postmaster of Salem. He was the first county treasurer of Marion county. He was one of the wealthy men of the state in the early '50s. He fought in the Cayuse Indian war."

I am going to condense the story told me by Mr. McClane and give only the high lights of his interesting narrative. His father, J. B. McClane, was born in Philadelphia, in 1820. In 1843 he started by ox team for the 2000-mile trip across the plains for the Willamette valley. There were 900 in the wagon train.

They stopped to rest their worn-out oxen at Dr. Whitman's mission at Wai-lat-pu and then went on to Fort Walla Walla. McKinnley, the Hudson's bay factor there, took the worn-out oxen of those who cared to leave them and gave orders on Dr. McLoughlin at Fort Vancouver for cattle to replace them. Waldo, with the main body of emigrants, went on overland to The Dalles, while Peter Burnett, who afterwards became the first American governor of California, Jesse Applegate, J. B. McClane, William Beale and others, 71 in all, left the cattle and with Dr. Whitman went in boats down the Columbia to The Dalles. Peter Burnett secured a Hudson's bay boat from Mr. McKinley, the Hudson's bay factor, and, with Beagle as steersman and an Indian in the prow as pilot, made the trip successfully. The Applegates made their own boats and came to grief in the rough water above The Dalles. A son of Jesse Applegate was drowned, a son of Charles Applegate was seriously injured, and Elisha, son of Lindsey Applegate, had a narrow escape from drowning when his boat was overturned, while C. M. Stringer and McClelland were drowned. At The Dalles they rejoined the rest of the wagon train. Here the emigrants were at the end of the road, so they made rafts 20 feet long from the trunks of pine trees and floated down to the Cascades, around which they portaged, and continued their trip to Port Vancouver, where Dr. McLoughlin took them in and treated them with great hospitality.

This is how it happened that Mr. McClane's mother, whose maiden name was Helen C. Judson, came to Oregon. In 1833 Jason Lee went overland from the Willamette valley to the east to raise funds for the Oregon mission. Oregon at that time was not a part of the United States but was considered in the foreign mission field. He took two young Indian boys along as samples of the natives out here. He lectured on Oregon throughout the east and published in the Christian Advocate and Journal a call for ministers, laymen, mechanics, farmers and teachers to go to Oregon. Those answering the call were the Rev. Joseph H. Frost, wife and child; the Rev. William Kone and wife; the Rev. Aivan F. Waller, wife and two children; the Rev. J. P. Richmond, wife and child; the Rev. Gustavus Hines, wife and child; George Abernathy, wife and two children; W. W. Raymond, a farmer, and his wife; Henry B. Brewer, a farmer, and his wife; the Rev. Lewis H. Judson, a cabinetmaker, his wife and three children; the Rev. Josiah L. Parish, a blacksmith, his wife and three children; James Olley, a carpenter, his wife and children; David Carter, Chloe A. Clark, Elmina Phelps, teachers; Orpha Lankton, stewardess, and Thomas Adams, one of the Indian boys taken east by Jason Lee, the other having died in the east. The party was in charge of the Rev. Jason Lee and his newly wedded wife. They sailed aboard the Lausanne, October 10, 1839, and after spending some time at Honolulu, arrived at Vancouver in May, 1840.

"My father and mother were married in May, 1849, by 'Father' Wilbur," continued Mr. McClane. "My mother's father, Mr. Judson, bought the mission school, which had been built on his donation land claim, and lived in it many years. This was the first frame house built in Salem. My mother's sister married the Rev. David Leslie. How my father became wealthy and how he lost his fortune are interesting stories. In February, 1852, a man named Sykes, who was working for A. A. Skinner at Jacksonville, found gold in Jackson creek. Shortly thereafter two packers, named Cluggage and Pool, found rich pay dirt half a mile from where Sykes had made his find. They called the creek Rich gulch. This started the stampede to southern Oregon. My father had a flour and grist mill just across the street from where Judge R. P. Boise later had his home in North Salem. He realized that there would be a big demand for flour, so he bought up every bushel of wheat in the country at fairly low prices.

Wheat went up to \$5 a bushel and flour to \$20 a barrel. Father kept his mill going day and night. All day long pack trains of mules and horses came and went, taking flour for the southern Oregon mines. He made a lot of money during the next few years. In 1856 he went to visit his old home in Philadelphia. He went by way of the Isthmus and took with him \$65,000 in gold dust and in 50-dollar gold slugs and in 'beaver' money. While he was gone John D. Boone jumped his claim, alleging that he had been away from it while serving in the Cayuse war. They fought the case for years. It cost father a lot of money, but he won the case.

"My mother had 13 children. So far as we can trace the history of the Judson family every woman of the family had 10 children or more, so you see I am related to a heap of the old-timers in the Oregon country."

## WILLAMETTE LIFE REVIEWED

Only a comparatively few chapel talks stand out as unusually interesting during the school year. Among those few will be the talk made by Samuel Higgenbottom yesterday during the chapel hour. Higgenbottom is a well-known missionary to India, who is in America on furlough.

"During my senior year at Princeton a brief conversation with a returned missionary changed my destination after graduation, from South America and China to India. Now that I can look back on those first few years in the mission years, I realize that it was God's will that I go to India instead of to some other field."

In an even interesting tone, Higgenbottom told of the living conditions of the people where he is spending his life. The large number of people, the lack of scientific methods of cultivation, the ground, and the utter lack of proper food in a great many parts of this country, as told by this man, were a surprise and revelation to many of his audience.

After serving as a teacher in the mission schools, Mr. Higgenbottom was appointed agricultural director of a large estate. During his 18 years as a missionary, he has visited America on several occasions. After his appointment to the agricultural position, Mr. Higgenbottom spent several years in Ohio State university, studying for his new work.

"One man turned the course of my life, and in doing so did me a great service. Perhaps there is someone here whom I might help. If I could I should be happy to do it," concluded Mr. Higgenbottom.

## Spring Vacation

For the first time in many years Willamette university will have a spring vacation, according to action of the faculty this week, declaring April 1 to 11 a spring vacation.

Several weeks ago the student body petitioned the faculty for such an action and this is no doubt the result of that petition. The vacation is the same as a holiday and will not have to be made up at the end of the year. School closes on June 17.

## Beta Chi Election

At a regular meeting of Beta Chi last evening, Miss Mildred Brown was elected to the presidency. She succeeds Miss Sibyl Smith. The other officers elected were: Grace Collins, vice-president; Elsie Gilbert, secretary; Ruth Wise, treasurer; Laura Ruggles, manager; Marjorie Pregel, assistant manager; Maxine Duren, sergeant-at-arms.

## Lausanne Hall

Election of hall officers was held last evening at Lausanne. The results were: President, Sybil McClure; vice-president, Lula Ruby; secretary and treasurer, Pauline McClintock; Reporter, Veona Williams.

## DRESS WARM AND KEEP FEET DRY

Tells Rheumatism Sufferers to Take Salts and Get Rid of Uric Acid. Rheumatism is no respecter of age, sex, color or rank. If not the most dangerous of human afflictions it is one of the most painful. Those subject to rheumatism should eat less meat, dress as warmly as possible, avoid any undue exposure and, above all, drink lots of pure water. Rheumatism is caused by uric acid which is generated in the bowels and absorbed into the blood. It is the function of the kidneys to filter this acid from the blood and cast it out in the urine; the pores of the skin are also a means of freeing the blood of this impurity. In damp and chilly, cold weather the skin pores are closed thus forcing the kidneys to do double work, they become weak and sluggish and fail to eliminate this uric acid which keeps accumulating and circulating through the system, eventually settling in the joints and muscles causing stiffness, soreness and pain called rheumatism. At the first twinge of rheumatism get from any pharmacy about four ounces of Jad Salts; put a tablespoonful in a glass of water and drink before breakfast each morning for a week. This is said to eliminate uric acid by stimulating the kidneys to normal action, thus ridding the blood of these impurities. Jad Salts is inexpensive, harmless and is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia and is used with excellent results by thousands of folks who are subject to rheumatism. (adv.)

# FUND PROVIDED TO ENFORCE DRY LAW

## Bill by Marion County Delegation Meets House Approval

The house yesterday morning passed a bill introduced by the Marion county delegation providing that one-half of all fees collected as penalties for violation of the state prohibition act, up to \$1000 shall be placed in a separate fund in each county, to be used under the direction of the district attorney, to assist in the enforcement of the prohibition laws.

On recommendation the house also passed Representative Bennett's bill asserting title to the beds of the meandered lakes, which was defeated yesterday by one vote.

Under the provisions of the bill introduced by Representative Sheldon and passed by the house, all counties in the state are authorized to adopt the county unit plan of rural schools supervision, upon the vote of the citizens of the county. The bill was heartily endorsed by a number of members who pointed out that leading educators of the county have advocated the plan for several years.

## PRATUM ITEMS

PRATUM, Or., Feb. 17.—(Special to The Statesman).—A week from tomorrow a school fair will be held in connection with a short program. Every one is welcome to attend.

Mrs. D. Kleen arrived home last week from an extended visit with relatives in Nebraska. The passing away of Dr. Edwin Sherwood at Salem is keenly felt here because Dr. and Mrs. Sherwood were frequent visitors here. Dr. Sherwood preached here twice a month, and during the month of January he preached here three Sundays. They have a host of friends here who deeply sympathize with the bereaved family because all who came in contact with Dr. and Mrs. Sherwood loved them.

# Governor Returns House Bills With Approval

## Records For Law Must Be Written in English

The senate judiciary committee, of which Senator Moser is chairman, yesterday introduced a bill requiring all records, reports and other papers required to be kept by law shall be written in the English language.

## Senate Bills

The following bills were introduced in the senate yesterday: S. B. 366, judiciary committee—Requiring records and proceedings required by law shall be written in English language.

S. B. 367, judiciary committee—Regulating office hours in Clatsop county.

S. B. 368, Washington county delegation—Increasing salaries of county judge, commissioners, treasurer, clerk, recorder, sheriff, assessor and school superintendent of Washington county.

S. B. 369, Multnomah delegation—Authorizing county commissioners of Multnomah county to fix number of deputies in office of county treasurer.

S. B. 370, Upton—To prevent the publication of expressions of disloyalty to the American government.

S. B. 371, Banks and Ryan—Designating a road from Oregon City to Silverton as a post road.

S. B. 160, Martin—Relating to the publication of summons.

S. B. 131, committee on insurance—Authorizing life insurance companies to act as trustees.

S. B. 309 (substitute for H. B. 126), Davey—Regulating the use of oleomargarine, butterine, or any imitation dairy products.

S. B. 276, Miller—Relating to the acquisition of toll roads.

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**COMPANY OFFICES**

Portland, Oregon—  
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Salem, Oregon—237 North Liberty Street.

Vancouver, Washington—Tooth and Main Streets.

Oregon City, Oregon—616 Main Street.

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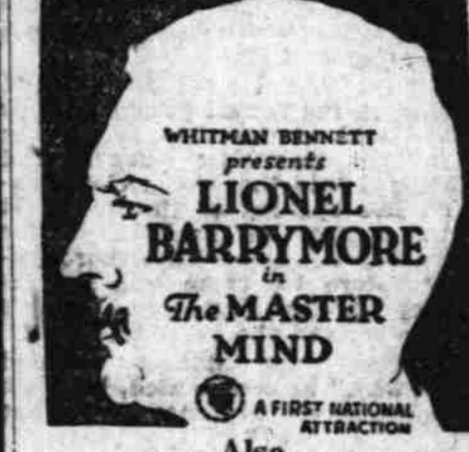
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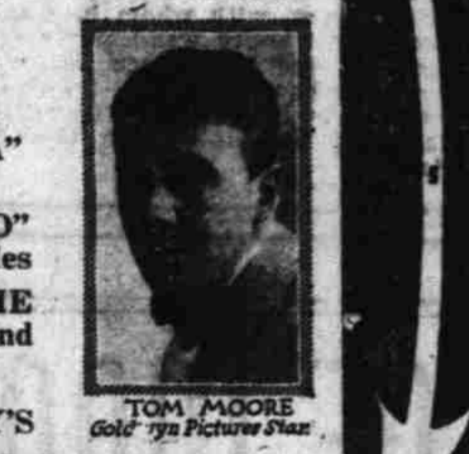
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