

Diary of Late Lewis Stout Tells Thrilling Story of Trip Across Plains From Iowa to Great West

Lewis Stout, of Mehama, whose death was recorded a week ago, left a very interesting diary, which has been preserved by his daughter, Mrs. C. A. Mulkey of Salem. The document was written on the way from Iowa to Oregon, in 1852. Unfortunately parts

of the story are missing, but enough remains to give a rather graphic story of the six months' journey. The Stout family began by crossing the Missouri river ferry, for \$6 for their family outfit; he does not say how many cattle, or horses. A few days after the crossing, they came upon a graveyard of more than 200 emigrants, Golconda and Bonanza hunters who could not stand the strenuous pace. They were traveling through a country filled with antelope; buffalo also were numerous, though he does not mention killing any. They lost one wagon in the quicksands of the Platte river.

Graves at Roadside
In one day when they stopped to do the family washing, 200 wagons and 2000 cattle passed them. When they themselves started on again that evening, they passed fully as many travelers. Graves dotted the roadside, and they passed many sick travelers and lame oxen. Half their own company were ill, but they stuck to the road. They were at Fort Laramie, Wyo., the last of June. July 4, they were in the mountains of Wyoming, where they almost froze. The women of the party spent the time in the wagons, wrapped in blankets to keep warm.

Indian War Threatened
They had a great Snake Indian war scare on July 6, but the war did not happen. However, one of their ox teams stampeded, overturning the wagon and injuring the wagon and injuring all who were riding at the time. On July 10, they crossed the South Pass, and were in Oregon. It sounded like the end of their journey—but they were really on

ly in southeastern Idaho, along the Bear river, more than 1,000 miles from Salem. July 26, they had three team stampedes; also, they reached the Snake river, and struck roads already worn down to dust six inches deep.

Trail is Lost
Following the Snake river, through Fort Hall and on to Fort Boise, they found thousands of dead cattle; and at Fort Boise, the Indians were lying along the road. They lost their trail through the dagger-like lavas, and had a bitter time in getting right. The Snake river ferry, somewhere near Ontario, Ore., cost them \$9 for a crossing.

In Grand Ronde valley, they found potatoes that they could buy—at 20 cents a pound. The Indians were quite prosperous farmers and stock men. Near Umatilla, they bought a fat ox for \$150, and flour was 50 cents a pound.

"It took \$5 to keep our family in bread for a day," says the narrator.

Adventure on Columbia
At the Columbia river, they came near losing their property and their lives in a prairie fire that swept over the place where they had camped. At The Dalles, they bought a boat for \$700, which brought the main part of their goods down the river. Mr. Stout and a few others made the overland trip, with light outfit, but found it one of the hardest sections of their whole pilgrimage. It was late fall when they landed in Salem.

Golden wedding in 1915
Mrs. Stout, whose name was Elizabeth Byars, sister of W. H. Byars, who was later surveyor general of Oregon and publisher of The Statesman, came across the same route a year later. She was but a child, 9 years old. She married Mr. Stout October 26, 1865. They celebrated their golden wedding at Mehama, in 1915, with all their eight children and numerous grandchildren present. Mr. Stout was almost 93 years of age when he died, Friday, December 2.

REALTY EXCHANGES

Reported by Union Abstract Company

A. A. and A. M. Klinger to Jakob and Anna Diehl, five tracts of land in Mt. Angel, \$1.

A. A. and A. M. Klinger to Jacob and Paulina Mauss, tract 200 by 260 feet in Mt. Angel, \$1.

Uriah Whitney to Caulia H. Mielke, tract 200 by 200 feet in Stanton, \$1.

Ruben P. Boise et al to Daniel C. and Edith Schermer, lot 11, block 7, Boise's Second add., \$10.

Bank of Woodburn to E. V. and Orle E. Ferguson, tract 42 by 100 feet on Mill street, Salem, \$1200.

John and Ida Myers to W. Ray, five acres Reason Roby, die 9-3-W, \$75.

H. W. Wenger to Henry and Rose Wenger, lot 9, block 6, Richmond add. to Salem, \$10 and other.

Star Land Company to A. W. and Eliz. Kephart, 11 acres in sec 34-9-3-W, \$11.

Effie L. McCurdy and husband to C. W. Rodgers, part of block 60 North Salem, \$10.

A Pomona man committed suicide on account of his losses in oil speculation. It is a good thing for the growth of population that all losers do not take it that hard. —Los Angeles Times.

2 MORE COUNTIES FAVOR STATUTES

Multnomah and Deschutes County Officials for Road Legislation

William Eatchel, Multnomah county roadmaster, and Robert W. Sawyer, Deschutes county judge, join with all the other county judges from whom Governor Olcott is heard in advocating legislation for the protection of Oregon highways.

"It is my candid opinion," writes Mr. Eatchel, "that there will have to be some kind of legislation to regulate loads and speed if we expect to preserve our public highways."

"I particularly notice that since the Slavin road was completed this year the milk trucks, garden truck wagons and garden truck machines were fast tearing the road to pieces, and it became necessary for me to take this matter up with Martin Pratt, chief deputy in the sheriff's office, to see to it that his motorcycle officers were on the job to stop this terrific speed. They were not only tearing up the road, but endangering the lives of people traveling on the road. This is the case throughout the county."

"The heavy loading and fast traffic has made it almost impossible to keep our roads in good condition, and if there is not some action taken that will regulate loads and speed, it is my opinion that it will take the limit of taxation for maintenance only. As you are aware, this maintenance is increasing yearly."

Mrs. Eatchel's letter is written to the Multnomah board of county commissioners and was transmitted to Governor Olcott.

Judge Sawyer of Deschutes county writes in part as follows: "In my opinion the matter of regulation depends to a large extent on proper supervision by a highway patrolman with police authority. I believe that there should be assigned to each county one or more highway deputies, or whatever they might be called, under the supervision of the secretary of state or the highway commission. I believe that before any trucks were allowed to use state or county roads, they should be registered by the driver or owner in the office of the

county clerk with a statement as to the nature and amount of work it intended to do in the county. This would give notice to tax officials in charge and enable them to keep a lookout for this truck and see to it that damage was not being done. I find here in Deschutes county that frequently a truck will come in, start hauling and do a lot of damage before it is generally known that it is at work or that a road is being injured.

"Some such provision as the above with the continued authority of the county court and highway commission to forbid or limit the use of roads when necessary, I think would help a great deal or at least it would do so in this county which is the only one where I have had an opportunity of studying the subject. I would suggest that the fines that might be collected by this officer for violations will go a long way toward paying his salary. In this county alone there could be obtained convictions for speeding with fines that would keep a man up in three counties."

ures for the entire state as follows:

Baker 6, Benton 4, Clackamas 38, Clatsop 11, Columbia 8, Coos 13, Crook 1, Curry 0, Deschutes 5, Douglas 20, Gilliam 0, Grant 1, Harney 2, Hood River 4, Jackson 10, Jefferson 1, Josephine 3, Klamath 12, Lake 2, Lane 26, Lincoln 2, Linn 16, Malheur 4, Marion 107, Morrow 2, Multnomah 77, Portland 212, Polk 2, Sherman 2, Tillamook 6, Umatilla 24, Union 3, Wallowa 4, Wasco 9, Washington 18, Wheeler 1 and Yamhill 13. Total 670.

"Since 1906, tuberculosis has decreased 40 per cent. Much credit for the progress in the fight against the white plague is due the various state tuberculosis associations, and the national association. The Oregon Tuberculosis association is financed entirely through the sale of Christmas

seals. Five million seals are now being distributed for sale in various counties."

Remember the old-fashioned sport who used to line his friends up to the bar and say: "This is on me; what'll you all take; I want a beer."

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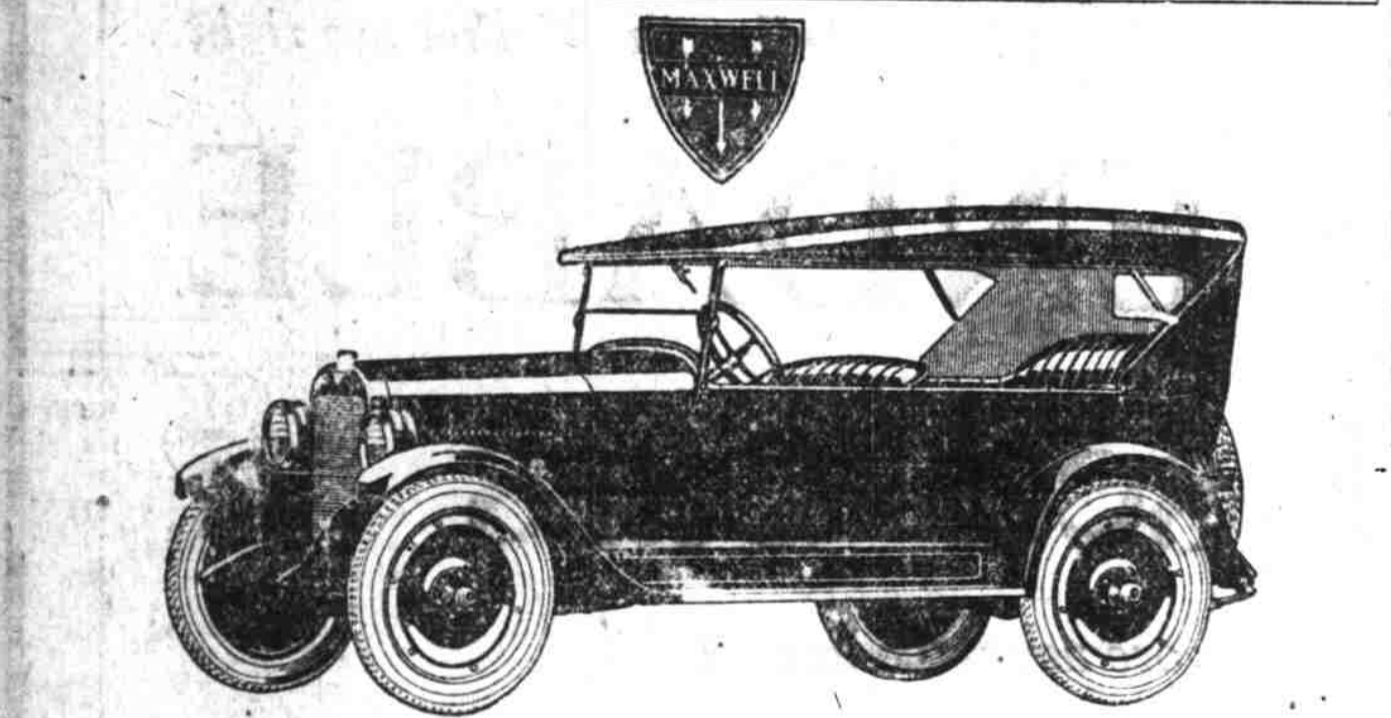
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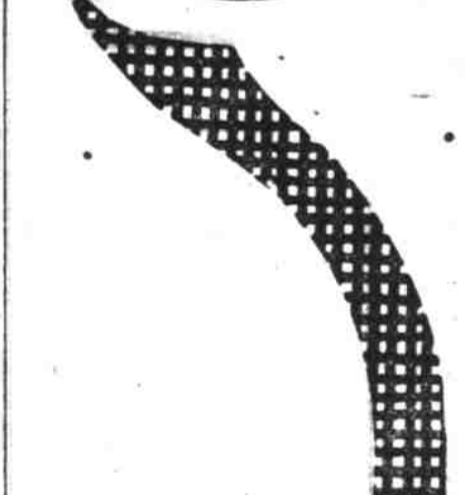
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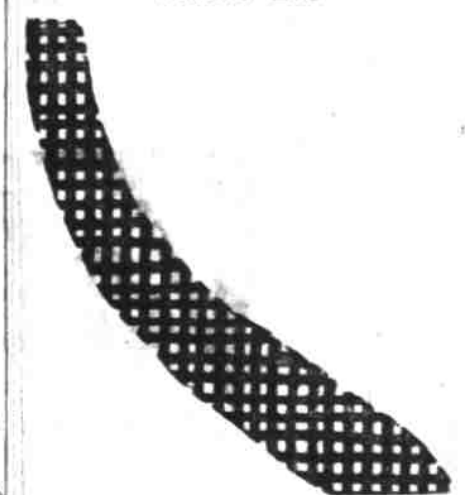
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670 VICTIMS T. B. IN OREGON

Marion County Figures High Due to Location of State Sanatorium

Marion county is credited with 107 of the 670 victims of tuberculosis during the last year, according to Clinton O. Bay, executive of the Oregon Tuberculosis association. Mr. Bay says that in justice to Marion county it should be known that all the deaths at the state sanatorium are credited to this county. This is true of the reports of Clackamas and Multnomah counties also where the Portland Open Air Sanatorium and the Multnomah county farm are located. Polk county was credited with only three and Yamhill with 13.

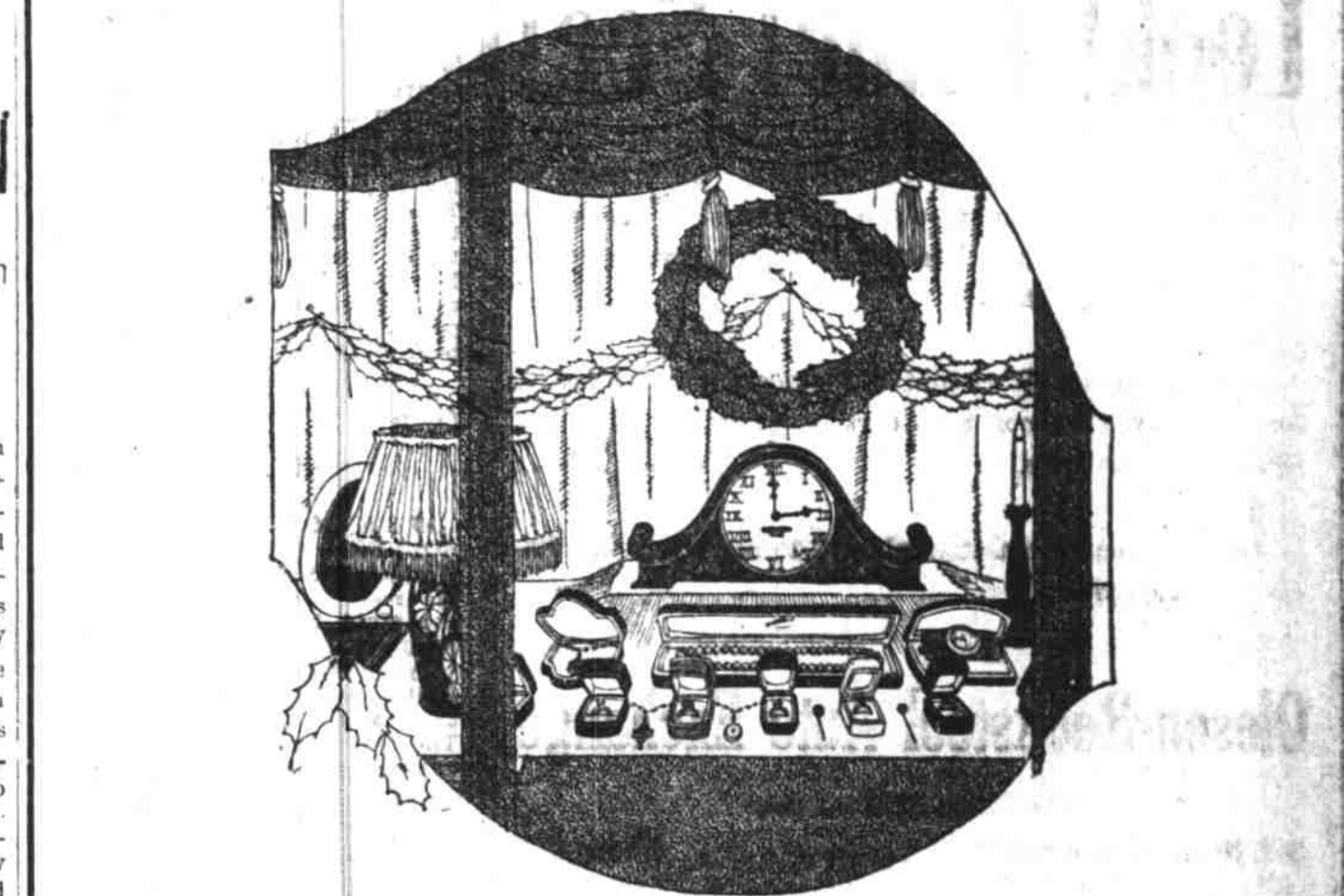
Mr. Bay has given out the fol-

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