

West Salem Boys Workshop Grows As Result of One Man's Clever Idea

Oliver G. Hughson Is Responsible for Shop Of Woodworkers

Minimal Construction Taught by Expert Carpenter; Plan Backed by Lumber Groups of State

By FRANK HERBERT

The rasping sound of a saw, the snick of a plane, the thudding pound of hammers and hum of motor-driven machinery create an aura of industry about a neat, white frame building near the inter-county bridge on Edgewater drive, West Salem.

Beside the door hangs a sign, "West Salem Boys Workshop," and through wide windows can be seen the boys—students at the local school and 4-H club members—creating the noise that signifies toil on projects ranging from plain tie racks to complicated miniature houses.

Founder's Idea Grows

Behind this busy scene lies an idea, an idea that grew in the mind of a man who knows and loves boys. That man is Oliver G. Hughson, field representative of the Oregon Building Congress, and the idea is . . . that boys can be taught carpentering, and more specifically, the elements of building, through actual construction work—not on full sized houses but on miniatures put together from scraps of lumber usually thrown away.

These miniatures, embodying all the principles of full-size construction, have become a type of monument to Hughson's efforts to see his idea take concrete form.

Minimal construction, as it is called, first saw the light in youthful eyes at Hayesville, Ore., in 1933. This "4-H club building construction project" as it was then known, inaugurated under manual instruction by H. L. Moore, was the first of its type in the United States, according to Hughson. It is still being operated.

With this project as a start and its success as evidence of his idea's practical nature, Hughson—backed by the West Coast Lumberman's association, the Western Pine association, the Douglas Fir Plywood association, the Willamette Valley Lumberman's association and numerous individual business firms—spread similar units throughout Oregon. Today it is a full time job, his job, to travel over the state organizing new construction projects and checking those already started.

West Salem's boys workshop, housing for which was completed last summer under the supervision of Tom Dalke, local 4-H leader, was a direct outgrowth of Hughson's work. He sowed the seed of his idea in the minds of local youth workers and stayed to see it through. The idea struck on fertile soil.

Land for the building, complete with an option to extend as long as the project exists, was donated by Earl C. Burke. Others, such as Principal Leighton Dashiell of the local school, donated their time and energies. Local businesses gave freely of equipment, lumber and money. Today it is a community asset.

Administered by a three-man committee composed of Dashiell as general manager, Dalke in charge of building problems and Elmer C. Cook, West Salem justice of the peace, to weigh all legal matters, the boys workshop operates as an integral unit in the local education program.

In addition to 4-H club members, the shop has an enrollment of 32 boys drawn from the sixth, seventh and eighth grades of the West Salem school. Instruction is provided by Charles Denham, a carpenter employed by the adult education branch of the state department of education.

Definite Example Since it is considered typical of all these projects, the West Salem Boys Workshop stands as a definite example of the idea which succeeded because of its easily discernible need and very apparent simplicity of organization and maintenance.

The local workshop and the many others like it scattered over Oregon are but visible evidence of the modern trend in education which Hughson saw and launched eight years ago—"Teach our children something which they can turn to good use when they are ready to go forth into the world."

Snowballs Are Huge Attracting attention at the Statesman office is a bouquet of unusually large snowballs. The lovely flowers are the gift of Mrs. J. P. Bressler, route three.

SUNFREZE RIBBON Ice Cream THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL FLAVOR FRESH STRAWBERRY

Razzle-Dazzle From Rugged Individuals

NEW YORK, May 3—When a man sits in a pasture for 24 hours observing the operations of a cow, it may not be news, but it at least earns a place in your screwy news periodical portrait-gallery of rugged individuals.

So here's a nylon nosegay to Keith Kennedy, an indefatigable scholar from not-so-far-above Cayuga's waters at Cornell, who circled the clock the other day chasing a bovine's by-play, to report that a cow works about 8 hours out of 24 and loafs 16, and averages about 50 bites of grass a minute.

Continuing down the gallery, reading from right to left, we have these other notable non-conformists—

John Geotis of Madison, N.J.—enlisting in the army, he gave as his reason that he had been advised to by his ouija board;

R. H. (Uncle Rip) Griggs of Fort Payne, Ala.—75 years old, he got his semi-annual haircut a few days ago when he heard the year's first whippoorwill;

Mrs. Wade Furrow of Miami—taken seasick on a yacht, she chartered an airplane to carry her back to terra firma;

William Walsh, New York commuter—when a ferry gate-man slammed the gate in his face, got at lemon pie and slammed it in the gate-man's face;

Rodney Askew of Kinston, NC—when, as he was walking in a stream, a one-pound perch flopped into his rubber boot, he threw it back into the water because he had no fishing license;

John Pauk of New Brunswick, N.J.—he inserted an advertisement in a newspaper to refute rumors that he had hanged himself;

Alicia Butler of Washington, DC—After a spat with her boy friend, she picketed his house until he finally married her;

Rev. Odis Johnson of Macon, Ga.—An itinerant minister, he not only kept his draft board informed of his latest movements, but also started sending them copies of his latest sermons;

Jimmy Lawrence, Lake Charles, La., baseball manager—after four years he revealed that the mysterious lump in his cap was a live horned toad he carried for good luck.

REA Extension Problems to Be Discussed

DALLAS — Two meetings to discuss problems relating to the extension of the REA set-up as applying to Polk county farmers holding memberships in the Benton-Lincoln Electric Cooperative, Inc., are to be held in this county on May 8 and 9, according to County Agent W. C. Leth.

These meetings will be held as follows; May 8, Bridgeport community hall, 8 p. m.; May 9, Pioneer school house, 8 p. m. Information will be presented relative to the progress being made in the construction of lines and assistance will be given members of the cooperative in connection with information on house wiring, lighting and electric fixtures.

Everett Davis, formerly of the Oregon State college extension service, who is now a specialist for the REA, will be present and discuss wiring and installations. Miss Virginia Houtchens, also an REA specialist, will present information relative to electrical appliances and household uses of electricity.

Guy Thomas, manager of the cooperative, will discuss matters of interest including the financing of equipment and wiring installations in connection with the cooperative.

Scio Couple Parents SCIO—Mr. and Mrs. Howard E. Shelton, Mill City, are parents of a 10-pound daughter, born at the Ben Thayer residence in Scio May 1.



Industrious fingers in the West Salem Boys Workshop fashion miniature houses and other wood projects to teach youths building construction and other phases of woodworking. Shown above receiving instruction in use of power tools are from left to right, Eddie Lawrence, Judd Pankratz, Richard Lawrence and Instructor Charles Denham. Monument to community enterprise and an idea, the West Salem Boys Workshop (below), stands beside Edgewater drive near the inter-county bridge. Constructed a year ago through the efforts of O. G. Hughson (right), field man for the Oregon Building Congress, it is today an integral part of the community's education system.

Tycoon Is Magician

MILWAUKEE, May 3—Francis W. (Fritz) Magin is a fellow who is handy with illusion and electricity.

Illusion is his hobby and electricity his business. Magin is president of the Square D company, manufacturers of electrical control equipment, and also a member of the American Society of Magicians.

The 58-year-old, white-haired industrialist sometimes startles a caller by shredding a dollar bill and then retrieving the undamaged one-spot from a freshly cut orange—or pulls some other feat. He became interested in magic tricks about 10 years ago when an itinerant magician called at his office, and since then he's become a proficient illusionist.

A native of Chicago's "Gold Coast," Fritz started his industrial career as a day laborer with the old Gates iron works at Chicago. Eight years ago he was chosen president of the Square D company.

He is nearly as familiar a figure in Detroit. Last year he almost commuted to his company's

How Does Your Garden Grow?

The rain we have been having just prior to Sunday should make everyone's garden grow almost perfectly. It will finish up some of the late lilacs in a hurry, however.

Speaking of late lilacs; everyone who is interested in gardening should make an effort to visit as many gardens as possible to notice which are early and which are late sorts. In this manner we can choose shrubs and flowers to have a longer blooming season.

I am of the opinion that we will be having more and more visitors to our Oregon gardens now that the English gardens are out of question. Every year we have read book after book and many maga-

zine articles telling us of the climate of England and how it was suited to flowers and how it is too bad that we didn't have anything similar at home. We Oregonians have realized right along that the Willamette valley grows very successfully the same flowers grown in England. But, I guess, we have been too busy growing to take time out to tell the world about it. Some of us nearly did take time out to tell someone something when Mary Ellen Chase's book on England came out just a few years ago, but one thing after another came up and the "telling" was put off.

I had occasion to go to Corvallis during the week, and starting right at Silverton and taking the entire trip down, I couldn't help but note the amount of hawthornes in bloom. They ranged from a very deep red, through rose and pale pink to a pure white. We even noted a number of trees which had blossoms of three shades on each tree. Hawthornes are easily grown in this climate and should be planted even more extensively. At Silverton there are a number of particularly lovely ones on Mill street and on West Main street following up over Liberty hill.

Then, I noticed, several Empress trees with their lavender flowers. At Corvallis, as well as on the entire way, rhododendrons were at their best. The Pink Pearl still proved one of the prettiest varieties in my opinion.

Roses are just coming into bloom and within a week will be at their best in the Silverton gardens. Roses seemed to be much further advanced in most gardens than I found them in my own. I am told that the men's garden club is planning a rose show at Portland in early May, probably May 10. A number of new varieties should be on display this season.

One odd garden arrangement I noted was a rose-colored hawthorne in full bloom, with a white spirea immediately below and tall enough for its flowers to mingle with the rose colored hawthornes, and immediately below this a planting of red peonies. The effect was certainly colorful.

A number of rose-colored dogwoods were also noted, and many of these were lovely, but two white ones which have attracted unusual attention at Silverton this spring are the one on the home ground of Mrs. P. L. Brown on McClaine street and the one on the Ruben Beer grounds at the end of Church street. It would be hard to excel, in any color, the perfection of these two completely flower-covered trees.

Blossoms Attract WHEATLAND — Two interesting trees of the broom family laden with white blossoms are attracting attention of flower lovers at the farm of Mrs. Grant Walling.



Rush D. Holt and Helen L. Froelich Here is a new picture of former Senator Rush D. Holt of West Virginia and his fiancée, Helen Louise Froelich, a member of the faculty at National Park college, Forest Glen, Md. Miss Froelich is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Froelich of Gridley, Ill.

Carrel Tackles Problem

Famed Scientist Hopes to Solve Malnutrition

By PRESTON GROVER Special to The Statesman

PARIS, (Via Berlin), May 3—Dr. Alexis Carrel, the little French physician-scientist who collaborated with Col. Charles A. Lindbergh on a number of scientific experiments, has turned to one of the grimmest experiments of his career—an effort to preserve the health of the French nation.

He hopes the solution to a grave threat of undernourishment lies in a basic diet of oatmeal. (The war disrupted the French agricultural economy and there is little chance that the country will produce sufficient foodstuff to give the nation a balanced diet. In addition, the British blockade has shut off most food supplies from overseas.)

"A long series of tests carried on over a number of years has disclosed the Scottish to be one of the hardiest races in the world," Dr. Carrel said. "The fundamental of their diet is oatmeal."

As the first step in a program directed by Dr. Carrel, steps are being taken to set up a station in Paris for experimental feeding of French infants.

The first station will have only 30 youngsters. They will be fed on oatmeal as a main ingredient of their daily diet. Other foods will be added to provide the essentials necessary to prevent them from suffering types of undernourishment which Carrel fears may undermine the strength of his homeland.

Already, the scientist said, damage from undernourishment has progressed too far for full relief if the child is more than six years old. Consequently the initial feeding station will be limited to six-year-olds, although later the program may be extended to include seven-year-olds.

It is estimated that upwards of a million children in the occupied zone ultimately will be brought under the feeding system Dr. Carrel is outlining. Part of the money for the project is being supplied through Madame Nungesser, mother of the French pilot who disappeared several years ago on an attempted trans-Atlantic flight to the United States.

Supplementing the main oatmeal dish—which will be given the children four times daily—will be marmalade to make it more palatable and to give bulk, and an ample dash of parsley to supply vitamins not present in oatmeal.

Already Dr. Carrel has made a survey of undernourishment conditions in the unoccupied zone. There, he said, a different system of feeding infants is being worked out since the food supply condition is different.

After outlining the basis of his program, the doctor left for the little island off the French coast where he has lived for many years. His wife remained on the island throughout the winter, looking after the feeding of the population there with assistance from German occupation authorities.

Publication Gets Award

MT. ANGEL — Mt. Angel college received word Monday that the Pacific Star, Mt. Angel college student publication, had again been awarded the coveted All-American rating by the collegiate press.

This marks the third time that the Star has received the All-American and the second time in the two years that it has been edited by Ivo Bauman, Mt. Angel. The sports page, edited by Mickey McClure, Woodburn, received a perfect score.

Good Will Aired Coast to China



This quartet of pretty American-Chinese girls are rehearsing for their appearance on the "Chinese Good Will Hour," unique program broadcast nightly to Asia by General Electric's powerful shortwave station KGEL, San Francisco. Chinese music and opera talent from coast time, to hit the Orient early in the evening, released at midnight, to hit the Orient early in the evening. The girls, left to right: Violet Woo, Gladys Low, Patricia Low and Bernice Tom.

Old Newspaper Files Valuable As Historical Documents Says Salem's Public Librarian

Offers Safe Repository for Old Issues of The Statesman and City Directory; Residents Requested to Cooperate

By ISABEL CHILDS

WANTED—Old newspapers, not to make more paper, but to make history.

For these are the stuff of which history, written, documented history is made.

has no foundation in fact, according to Hugh Morrow, Salem's public librarian who is gathering together sources of Oregon and particularly mid-Willamette valley history.

Most valuable of these, he maintains, are newspaper files. Old newspapers may be suitable fuel for fires or lining for fruit-room shelves, but as they grow older they become increasingly valuable. Instead of being "dead," yesterday's newspaper is the most alive source of information as to occurrences of yesterday and the day before, historians believe.

In the mid-valley area, the most valuable and continuing source of historic records are files of the 90-year-old Oregon Statesman, nowhere available in complete form.

Therefore, copies of early editions of this paper particularly are sought by Morrow, who emphasizes that the public library is the logical repository for such material.

In many a Salem attic or basement, he believes, there are copies of early issues of The Statesman which have no personal value to the present householder. Placed in a library, where they might be used for reference, their utility would be sharply increased.

Incidentally, Salem public Librarian, with its especially constructed magazine and newspaper room, is equipped to give such material better care and longer life than it could otherwise achieve. Old papers, particularly those of soft newsprint quality, dry and crack and eventually literally "blow away" unless kept in even temperature, neither warm nor cold, in atmosphere that is not damp but not drying and away from light.

Then, too old papers which have been folded away may already be ready to fall apart. A copy of The Statesman's first issue, recently acquired by the library, was cracked and broken, but by skillful handling has been given many added years of existence.

One surface of the four-page publication has been covered with silk chiffon so fine as to be invisible. Not even a spot of the paste used in the process can be seen with the naked eye, but the paper may be handled and the added body is apparent to the touch.

Until just a few years ago most dealers in the mid-Willamette valley gave little thought to protecting sources of history. If you wanted to know the year a certain building was moved you simply asked an "oldtimer," but even then you discovered if you asked more than one such person there might be a slight variance in the dates given to you from memory.

Numerous Debatable Yarns There have already grown up numerous debatable stories about history of this part of the Oregon country. Most outstanding of these are the versions of the famous Champeog meeting, accepted as fact by some historians and repudiated as myth by others.

Now, suddenly, the "old timer" is no more, and the first years of this section's century of history are revealed only in record.

From more than the purely scientific angle the history to be found in old newspaper files is important. Information important in lawsuits, settling estates and other day-by-day activities is sought at the public libraries in old newspaper files.

Fires and moving days have taken their toll, and the files maintained by The Statesman Publishing company are far from complete, beginning as they do with August in the year 1855. Even in recent years two of the valuable volumes have disappeared. Missing are 1914 weekly papers and the dailies for the last half of that same year.

Some Files Preserved Files of The Statesman from 1894 to date are complete at the state library; the Oregon Historical society maintains in Portland a file of the paper from its original publication on March 28, 1851, through the year 1867, and has sponsored a project for the indexing of those files. When printed, that index will be a valuable addition to libraries of scholars and to public libraries as well, Morrow declares.

Probably the finest private collection of old Statesman files is that of A. N. Bush, whose father was original publisher of the paper. He has files from the first paper through 1862.

Whether or not they care to place their papers in keeping of the library, persons who own old copies of The Statesman are urged by the librarian to notify him of the dates of papers they possess so that a record may be made.

While residents of the community are searching they may come across other desirable records. For instance, there is to be found one reference to a Salem city directory published in 1867, but no such directory is known to exist. The reference infers that it may have been no more than a paper booklet, but a copy of that booklet would fill a large gap in the library's shelves of source material.

Folk Directory Complete Since 1885 the directories have been published by Polk, and none of these volumes are missing from the library's collection, which includes also the 1871 volume. However, directories published in 1872, 1874, 1878 and 1880 are needed and probably are available here in Salem, Morrow thinks.

Farm journals of an early day tell the story of Oregon's great growth as an agricultural state and some day may be almost invaluable as library reference material, Morrow declares.

Gifts of such material to the library now will insure its protection against ravages of time and the probable lack of interest of future generations, the librarian points out.

Papers laid away once were valued by someone; today they may still be treasured—or they may merely be tolerated by their owners, but once they have become part of the library's catalogued, cared-for store of reference material they are endowed with a civic value which may grow with the years.