

Mrs. Sims Feted at 80

Family, Friends Gather to Honor Early Settler

DAYTON—Mrs. J. W. Sims was 80 Thursday and complimenting her, a surprise birthday anniversary party was held Thursday afternoon at the home of her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Foster, near Dayton.

Two guests who were present are older than Mrs. Sims, being Mrs. R. V. Waldo, 80 in February, and Mrs. Lena Dower, who was 80 July 28.

Mrs. Sims was born July 29, 1853, at Virroqua, Wis., and lived there until 1910 when with her family she came to Oregon, residing at Salem, Wheatland and Pleasantdale. She was united in marriage in 1882 with J. W. Sims and 12 children blessed their union, nine of them living. She visits each of them since the death of her husband in January, 1937.

Mrs. Sims received many gifts, flowers, cards, and letters.

A large decorated birthday cake baked by Mrs. Foster was a feature of the refreshments served.

Attending the party were: Mrs. R. V. Waldo, Mrs. Lena Dower, Mrs. Sims, Mrs. H. G. Coburn, Mrs. George Rhein, Mrs. Charles Hagan, Mrs. H. H. Clark, Mrs. R. L. Clark, Mrs. Silas E. Johnson, Mrs. Clarence L. Fowler, Mrs. Leigh Freeman, Mrs. L. Phelps, Mrs. Wiley Emmert, Mrs. Marvin Pennington, Mrs. J. W. Lorett, Mrs. T. S. Perry, Mrs. Oscar Dower, Mrs. Frank Foster, Mrs. Vernon Foster and seven children.

A chicken supper also was served to the family and a few friends in the evening.

Monitor Folk Take Observer Job Seriously

MONITOR—People in this community really take their observation post duties seriously, not only giving time regularly to the post but also contributing other services.

Mrs. Jessie Nelson has been spending several hours each day attending aircraft recognition school at the filter center in Portland. She plans to pass the knowledge she gains along to other members of the post.

Lt. Young from Portland, in the army air forces, will show pictures of Dover and other parts of England on August 4 at the IOOF hall in Monitor.

Most of the farmers in the neighborhood take the morning shift at the post from 2 to 6 a. m., finishing just in time to get the milking and early morning chores finished before breakfast. Among these are Mr. and Mrs. John Lienhart.

Most post observers including Miss Marie Berg, Miss Aloha Lee Edland and Mrs. Alfred Livingston, have put in 200 hours or more of service.

Dinner Given For Mickeys

CLOVERDALE—Mr. and Mrs. John Mickey and two sons from Los Angeles, Calif., were dinner guests Wednesday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hennies and daughters, Evelyn and Celeste. The Mickeys are on a vacation trip but he has to report back to work at Lockheed within a few days.

Mrs. Herman Wipper was pleasantly surprised by a visit from her daughter, Lena, from California. She plans to spend a short vacation here with her mother and also with sisters and brothers.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Dumbbeck and son, Aaron, stationed with the navy at Pasco, Wash., were dinner guests Thursday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Drager and family.

Miss Karleen Drager left for Portland Thursday morning. She is going to spend a week's vacation with her aunt there.

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Reports From The Statesman's Community Correspondents

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Geisendorfers Climax Nearly Half Century Development of Cascadia by Sale to Oregon; Soda Springs Area to Become State Park

By MRS. BEULAH CRAVEN

MONMOUTH—Just as Emerson said, "Our strength grows out of our weakness," George W. Geisendorfer began to make up for the time he had lost while sick. Besides taking care of the mail—and it was soon a full time office—there were hundreds of guests to accommodate after the large rambling hotel had been built, besides the huge Sunday crowds which came for chicken dinners. There was no need to advertise; guests were so numerous they could hardly be taken care of.

During the busy summer season of 25 or 30 years ago, Mrs. Geisendorfer with her kitchen help baked several 50 pound sacks of flour into bread each week for sale to the campers and to supply the hotel table. They supplied milk, eggs, home-made butter, and vegetables to hundreds of annual campers, besides serving their hotel guests with ample fare set on "family style." On the fourth of July the resort always was crowded to the limit.

Mr. Geisendorfer says he used to be fond of a game of cards, but he never had time to play any more. From 4 in the morning until 11 at night he was constantly busy, with the postoffice, the grocery store, he found it necessary to stock to accommodate guests; his livestock, garden, hay and grain harvest, and the unending details of upkeep which he managed to attend to personally.

In the hotel, his wife was equally busy, cooking, cleaning, serving meals, attending to the thousand and one wants of campers and hotel guests. They never delegated work to others which they could do themselves, deriving personal satisfaction from doing their work so well that they made lifetime friends of the folk who came to the resort. Their flower garden was as prolific as the vegetable plots, profuse in bloom on virgin soil with unlimited mountain water for irrigation. Around the spring area are maiden hair and small sword ferns, planted by the Geisendorfers and kept perpetually moist and fresh by seepage from the hillsides.

Mr. G., as he is familiarly called—was born January 19, 1857, in Cowlitz county, Washington, where his parents had taken a donation land claim in

Editor's Note: Last week we started the story of the wonder springs, Cascadia, and of the man who developed the resort. George W. Geisendorfer spent his first summer there in 1894, seeking health after a siege of pneumonia. He bought the spot a little later from the German settler who owned it, and in 48 years of continuous residence thereafter built the hotel, developed natural resources and encouraged tourist trade. Our first story ended last week with the initial mail delivery in 1897 and consequent naming of the spot, "Cascadia," by Geisendorfer for postal authorities.

1849. Their "crop" was spar timber for vessels, shipped to France and Germany. In 1863 after a big flood in Washington, they came to Linn county, settling on a farm near Albany which still is a family possession.

His father's people, as the name suggests, came from Germany; and his mother's ancestors, the Browns, from England. He says that some branches of the Brown family insist that their original ancestor came over in the Mayflower—but that it too far back for him to puzzle about. He does enjoy an interesting legend about that first Brown: that he bought his bride, an Irish girl, paying for her with tobacco which he raised on his New World acres. The famed John Brown of anti-slave days is also said to have descended from the same family.

About two years ago Mr. G. sold out all his Cascadia holdings—amounting to more than 300 acres of timber land and the springs—in the state highway department. The old hotel has been razed, its hand-hewn "stringers" indicating sturdy construction. The barn and almost all the other buildings also have been taken down. Only the spring remains unchanged, and visitors imbibe and bottle the water just as they've been doing for decades. After the war, the highway department will, assertively, make the area into a state park.

Mr. G. has reserved for himself his cottage and garden. He lives alone, but has friends occupying a cottage near his own. He hopes that when the park is reorganized, a plan will be worked out to permit overnight camping for the people of Oregon who enjoy the mineral water and the rustic scene.

This water, by the way, contains around 12 minerals, as analyzed by experts. Mr. G. still

drinks it every day. "It kept me out of the bone-yard so I shall drink it as long as I live," he says. He goes outside to visit his sisters, but home to him is the soda spring and the splash and sparkle of the Santiam with its imitable brook trout. The area is volcanic, so all the streams there have rock-beds, which give each one its special, musical cadence.

While "keeping the travel" the Geisendorfers had many interesting experiences. One summer, about 25 years ago, a certain man remained all summer at the hotel. Daily he would take his car out on the road east of Cascadia and try to get across the mountains. In those days Bryant hill, starting a few miles up the river, was a formidable impasse. Only four men, manned by two or more husky men to get out and push, could navigate that hill. Dirt road, sticky clay soil, steep incline, mudholes and big rocks were impediments which this traveler encountered.

As September neared, and the hotel season was about to close,

this man agreed to leave his car in lieu of his hotel bill. Unquestionably, the car had been stolen. Every distinguishing and identifying bit of nomenclature had been removed from it. It was not a make of car common here. The type was said to have been seen often in California. Mr. G. says that they were never able to locate its real owner, even by its license plates, for the man to whom they were registered had a car, and had sustained no loss of one. They finally traded the mystery car off to a dealer on a new one.

Mr. Geisendorfer has no descendants. His sister, Miss Margaret Geisendorfer, lives on the old home farm near Albany. Another sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Lines, who lives on the old Lines farm near Knox Butte, is a Linn county historian. A third sister, Mrs. Daisy Davis of Kansas City, is now with her sister, Margaret. A fourth sister was the late Mrs. W. C. Hawley, wife of one of Oregon's longtime congressmen.

When Mr. G. passes on, he says that his home will go to the state highway land holdings there, by the terms of their agreement. He hopes to live and see the improvements to be made there, and to share in the people's enjoyment of a larger, finer park picture, for which he furnished the original sketch through his own efforts.

Blood Donors Turn Out

Second, Third Time Patients Listed at McMinnville

HOPEWELL—Under the leadership of Mrs. Earl Murray of this district and Mrs. R. T. Kidd of Unionvale, blood donors of this and other nearby localities reported Thursday to McMinnville.

Those giving blood were Mrs. Joe Bealy, Mrs. Arthur Warnock, Mrs. Earl Murray, Mrs. J. W. Versteeg, Mrs. McKee, Mrs. Owen Pearce, Mrs. Ross Rogers, Miss Ella Rogers, Mrs. Eugene Wilson, Miss Virginia Magness, Mrs. J. S. Gilkey, Mrs. Ralph Chance, Mrs. Lucy Orin, Mrs. Charles Willett, Mrs. Marvel Brown, Mrs. Ed Loop, Mrs. Raleigh Worthington, Mrs. Rebekah McKinley, Mrs. Milton Carson, Mrs. R. T. Kidd.

Five of this list are third time donors and five of them are second time donors.

The R. T. Kidd, Ross Rogers, Fay Thompson and Eugene Wilson cars were donated for the transportation.

Barn, Implements Burn at Brooks

BROOKS—The Brooks fire department answered a call at 2:30 p. m. Saturday to the Carl Aspinwall farm where his barn, in which he stored all his implements, was afire. They were unable to save the barn and a fruit sprayer, but other implements were gotten out. Cause of the fire is unknown.

Brooks Garden Club Fetes B. F. Ramp on 93rd Birthday

BROOKS—The Garden club entertained with a picnic at the school in Brooks Friday honoring B. F. Ramp, who celebrated his 93rd birthday anniversary. Mrs. Willard Ramp presented him with a double deck birthday cake, and Mrs. Minnie Dunningan also presented him with a large birthday cake, which centered the honor guest's table.

Former school pupils and long time friends of Mr. Ramp gathered for the occasion. M. L. Jones, who is 94 years old, was one of the guests. Mr. Ramp was presented a billfold, with his name engraved in gold lettering from the garden club members. Other gifts and greeting cards were presented the honor guest. Pictures of the group were taken during the afternoon. Birthday greetings were sung for Mr. Ramp by the garden club members.

In the afternoon Roy Hewitt gave a speech on "After the War," Floyd Ramp spoke on "The Four Freedoms." Others giving short talks were M. L. Jones, James Imiah, Mrs. Agnes Jones, Mr. Mills, W. D. Mathews, and Joe LaFollett.

Present for the occasion were B. F. Ramp, the honor guest, M. L. Jones, T. J. Shipley, J. W. Westing, W. D. Mathews, Mr. and Mrs. Britt Aspinwall, Mrs. Roy Reed, Mrs. H. H. Bosch, Mrs. Bertha Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. William Conn, Mrs. A. J. Kepling, Mr. Mills, Kenneth Reed, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Ramp, Mrs. Chris Otto, Mrs. Nora Westing, Mrs. George McNeft, Mrs. Florence Towers, Charles Vinyard, Mrs. Elmer Conn, Mrs. Olive Beardsley, Mrs. Eva Edwards, Mrs. Dollie Ramp, Mrs. Gladys Barnick, Mrs. Agnes Nye, Mrs. Minnie Dunningan, Mrs.

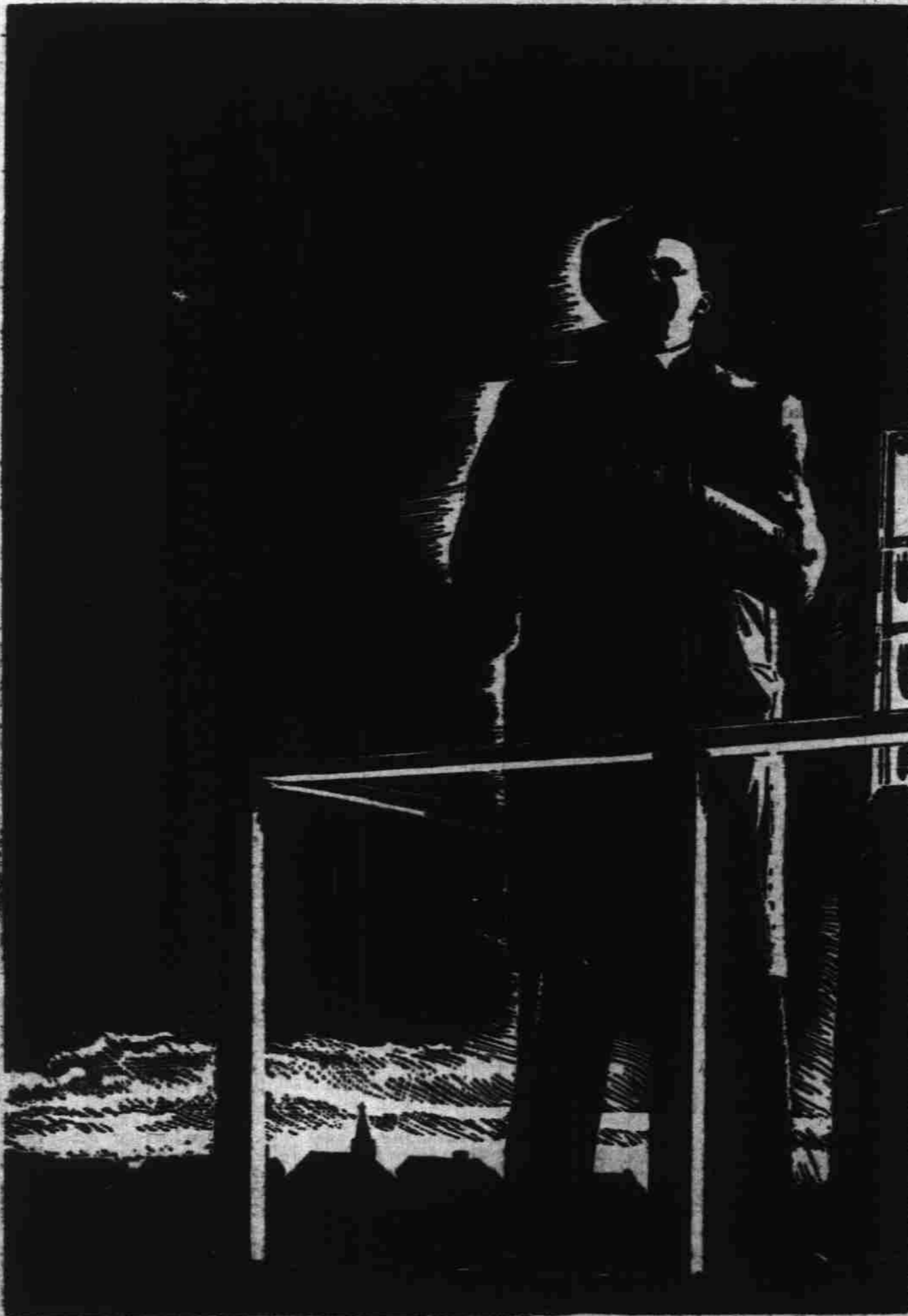
Mary Wampler, Mrs. Willa Vinyard, Mrs. Anna M. Dunlavy, Mrs. Ed Matthes, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Ramp, Mr. Howard Ramp, Mr. and Mrs. Robert McKay, Mrs. Bertha Bonn, Mrs. Patsy Brutka, Mrs. Claude Ullery, and a large group of children.

Mr. Ramp came to Oregon with his parents in a covered wagon from Illinois in 1853, when he was three years old. He lived with his parents in Howell Prairie on the old Simmons place three years, then moved to the farm near Brooks.

Ashfords Are Hosts For Thursday Picnic

LINCOLN—Hosts for a picnic Thursday night were Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Ashford, whose home near the Willamette river is ideal for out door affairs.

The guest list included Mr. and Mrs. C. Cox and Merl and Lavern, Mrs. L. Cox, Mrs. Harry Ashford, Miss Pauline Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Herring and Robert, Doris, Donald and Hermeline, Grace and Genevieve Ashford.



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