

Stayton Completes Plans for Annual Homecoming Saturday

STAYTON — Over 500 members and friends of the Stayton High School Alumni Association will make Stayton their center of activities Saturday, in celebration of the 35th annual homecoming of the alumni association, now made up of over 700 graduates of the Stayton High School.

Reservations for the banquet plate have been coming in every day, and according to report of the secretary at the present time there are over 225 reservations.

Joining in with the Stayton high school, the day's program will commence in the morning at the high school grounds at 10 o'clock, with the May Day program by the students of the school and the crowning of Queen Valerie, and in the afternoon at 2 o'clock will be the traditional baseball game between the Stayton high school team and the Stayton high school alumni team. At 6:30 in the evening will be the annual banquet, which will be served in the Catholic gymnasium in Stayton. Floyd Boozie, class of 1943, will serve as toastmaster. Principal speaker on the program will be Charles A. Howard, former state school superintendent. Howard was state school superintendent for Oregon from 1927 to 1937, president of the Eastern Oregon College of Education, and from 1939 to 1947 was president of the Oregon College of Education at Monmouth.

Following the banquet, the annual Alumni Ball will take place in the Forester's hall in Stayton. At the banquet, or preceding it, will be the annual election of officers of the Alumni association for the coming year. The present officers of the association are president, Walter Smith; vice president, Robert J. O'Connor; secretary, Alire Fehlen; treasurer, Mary Ely; directors, Wilbur Lesley, Gerald Marking, Jean Darley, historian, Zelpa Grover.

The Stayton Variety store has a display window of pictures and annuals of past school alumni activities.

Committees appointed by the president, Walter Smith, to work out the entire 35th anniversary program are as follows: banquet,

Elizabeth Murphy; dance, Gerald Marking; dance decorations, Esther Keudell; banquet decorations, Shirley Darby; invitations, Alice Fehlen; publicity, Edw. J. Bell; program, Peggy Boozie; election, Francis M. Forrette; properties, William Fair; baseball game, Leon Jordan.

The Stayton High School Alumni association upholds the distinction of being one of the very few high schools in the state of Oregon in the northwest that are maintaining a traditional alumni association.

Songs, Sermon By 'Hand' Used For Services

BALTIMORE (AP)—The minister completed his sermon and sat down. Four robed choir members rose, faced the little congregation and joined in a hymn—without a sound.

After the benediction the parishioners gathered in little knots at the rear of the sanctuary as good Methodists will—yet not a sound broke the stillness.

It was another Sunday service at Christ Methodist church for the deaf, a small, unimposing structure at a Baltimore street intersection that has housed unhearing worshippers since 1896.

The workings of the service are novel, yet quite simple. As the Rev. J. Lee Williams preaches the sermon, his assistant, the Rev. Louis W. Foxwell, stands beside him and conveys the message to

the congregation by means of sign language.

The Rev. Mr. Foxwell, better known as "The Signer," has complete hearing, but he has used the sign language since childhood because both his parents are deaf.

The Signer speaks with his face as well as his hands. His expression changes constantly—his lips move occasionally—while his hands busily translate the sermon into a series of hand symbols.

Some of the gestures are obvious, even to one unfamiliar with sign language. Others are more difficult to translate, but even these—once understood—prove quite logical.

The word "Jesus," for example, is formed by pointing with the left hand to the right palm to indicate the wound from the cross.

The services begin every Sunday afternoon at 3:15, although many arrive shortly after 1 o'clock when the church is opened. For those who are physically handicapped, this is their one big day, when they can get out and converse with others similarly afflicted.

Afterwards they stay on to fix a supper in the big kitchen and gather in the social room for an hour or two of fellowship. Often it is 9 or 10 o'clock before they gesture "Good Night" and start home.

The little church was founded by the Rev. Daniel E. Moylan, for many years an instructor at the Maryland school for the colored deaf. He died six years ago, just three years before the church observed its golden jubilee.

Since the turn of the century the membership has increased from 23 to well over 100.

Linn Loggers To Confer on Five Problems

SWEET HOME—A general logging operator's meeting will be held in the city hall, Lebanon, May 20 at 8 p.m. to discuss forest fire problems for the coming fire season, according to Mel Crawford, district warden. All loggers in the county are urged to attend this very important meeting.

The proposed general humidity closure plan, a plan which has

been under study by a committee appointed by Carl Davis, president of the Linn county fire patrol, will be introduced and discussed. If this plan is adopted, a committee representing operators in Linn county will recommend to the state forester that serious fire conditions exist.

The forester will then require all logging and milling operations within certain zones in Linn county to cease operations until conditions improve. Under present requirements, operations shut down when relative humidity reaches 30 per cent.

Other items will be discussed relative to fire protection, law requirements, and operator responsibility.

APPROVES PAYMENTS

WASHINGTON, May 12 (AP)—Lyle F. Watts, chief of the forest service, testified Wednesday before a senate interior subcommittee that the agriculture department approves the fundamental principle in a bill to make payments to states and counties in lieu of taxes on forest lands.



BARBARA'S BROTHER DEBUTS — Barbara Stanwyck greets her brother, Byron Stevens, who is making his Hollywood screen debut in her picture, "File on Thelma Jordan."

Dog Trainer To Speak at Brush College

BRUSH COLLEGE—Mr. George Wriglesworth, of the Gaines Dog Food company, will speak on "Dogs and Their Training" Friday, May 13 at 8 p.m. at Brush College school.

Wriglesworth was a major in the army and trained dogs for the service. He is now holding dog obedience classes in Portland, Eugene and Medford. The public is invited, there is no charge for admission. There will be candy for sale, with the proceeds to be used for a 4-H scholarship fund.

STORAGE BINS VOTED — WASHINGTON, May 12 (AP)—Amid shouts of "socialism" and bitter words over the 1948 presidential campaign, the house passed 326 to 52 Wednesday a bill

giving the government authority to provide storage bins for farmers' crops, especially grain.

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