

City News Briefs

PTA SALE DELAYED

A Parent-Teachers association food sale for West Salem schools, scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, has been cancelled due to bad weather, it was reported Sunday. The sale was to have been held at the West Salem Variety store. A substitute date will be announced later.

LEGION CANCELS MEET

A meeting of the Marion county council of the American Legion, set for tonight at the Legion hall here, has been cancelled, President James Turnbull said Sunday. Turnbull said a new meeting date would be decided later.

Insured savings earn more than two per cent at Salem Federal Savings Association, 560 State st.

COLBY HURT IN FALL

E. E. Colby, Marion county deputy sheriff, incurred back injuries Sunday afternoon in a fall down a stairway at his residence at 226 N. Cottage st. He was confined to his home until the extent of his injury has been determined.

FALLS ON ICE

Mrs. W. O. Schepp, 355 Union st., was injured in a fall on the ice while walking to church this morning. City first aid men took her to Salem General hospital. She was dismissed following treatment.

Johns-Manville shingles applied by Mathis Bros., 164 S. Com'l. Free estimates, Ph. 3442.

TAREM AT EXCHANGE

Ardo Tarem of Salem YMCA staff, until recently a displaced person in Germany, will speak to Salem Exchange club at the Wednesday noon luncheon in the Senator hotel.

NOTICE! Hearing Aid Users. Our new office hours are from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. including the noon hour, every day except Saturday, when we close at 3 p.m. Come in and let's get acquainted. Batteries for all kinds of hearing aids. James N. Taft & Associates, 228 Oregon Building, Salem.

Navy Reserve Officer Classes Start Friday

A series of training meetings for navy civil engineer corps reserve officers, sponsored by volunteer Seabee unit 12-9 of Salem, was announced yesterday by Lt. William C. Hill, commanding officer. He said the meetings will offer courses stipulated for officers to be eligible for promotion and to be retained on the active list. Classes will be at 8 p.m. every Friday starting this week in the naval reserve training center. Attendance also provides points toward retirement, said Hill.

Salem Obituaries

WATKINS—Nathan J. Watkins, former resident of Toledo, at a local hospital, January 25, at the age of 83 years. Surviving are a sister, Mrs. Leora Anderson, Salem; and three brothers, Waldo Watkins, Redmond; Robert Lee Watkins and William Elmer Watkins, both of Toledo. Services will be held Monday, January 30, at 1:30 p.m. at the Howell-Edwards chapel.

YUNGEN—Margaret Yungen, at the residence at Salem route 1, January 26, at the age of 61 years. Survived by widow, Chris Yungen, three sons, Robert, Carl and Arthur Yungen, and a daughter, Walter Yungen, all of Salem; two sisters, Mrs. Rose Watkins of Toledo, Ohio, and Mrs. John A. Reformed church. Services will be held at the Bethany Evangelical Reformed church at the corner of Capitol and Marion streets, Tuesday, January 31, at 2 p.m. with the Rev. Russell Mayer officiating. Conducing services in the cemetery. Direction by the Howell-Edwards chapel.

EVANS—Frank Elmer Evans, at the residence at 4715 N. River rd., January 27. Husband of Elizabeth Evans, Salem; father of Delight Evans Blake, Sandy, and Lester Ray Evans, Salem; and brother of A. J. Evans, Salem. Also survived by three grandchildren. Services will be held Wednesday, February 1, at 1:30 p.m. in the W. T. Rigdon chapel.

CHANDLER—Miss Alzira Chandler, late resident of 360 N. Capitol st., at a local hospital, January 27, at the age of 79 years. Survived by a son, Frank I. Chandler, Los Angeles. Announcement of services later by Clough-Barriack company.

BALDWIN—Sherman Anson Baldwin, at the residence, 476 N. 24th st., at the age of 89 years. Survived by the widow, Mrs. S. A. Baldwin, Salem; daughters, Mrs. Florence I. Berkeley, Mrs. E. H. Craven, both of Salem, and Georgia Baldwin, Excelsior Springs, Mo.; sister, Mrs. P. H. Peirce, Excelsior Springs; granddaughters, Jane Craven and Mrs. Patricia DeCapito, both of Salem; grandson, Richard D. Craven, Columbus, Ohio; great granddaughter, Sandra Jane DeCapito, Salem. Announcement of services later by Clough-Barriack company.

Breithaupt's

Salem's Oldest Name
In Flowers
Paul Heath
Helen Breithaupt Heath
447 Court St. Ph. 3-9179

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DOBBS TRUSS

Bulbous, Beltless, Strapless

CAPITAL DRUG STORE

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Soothing support like your hand with a patented concave pad. No bulb to spread weak muscles. DOBBS TRUSS is comfortable, sanitary, washable... may be worn at work, play and bathing for single or double rupture. Fitted to your body by experts. Get maximum relief—wear DOBBS TRUSS. Free examination, no obligation. Come in!

"On the Corner"

Income Tax

Returns Prepared
403 Oregon Bldg.
Phone 3-5780

Births

MEISSNER—To Mr. and Mrs. John Meissner, Cascade Summit, a daughter, Sunday, January 29, at Salem Memorial hospital.

LOWE—To Mr. and Mrs. Howard Lowe, West Stayton, a daughter, Sunday, January 29, at Salem Memorial hospital.

SANCHER—To Mr. and Mrs. Hal Sancher, 1860 Water st., a daughter, Sunday, January 29, at Salem Memorial hospital.

GRAHAM—To Mr. and Mrs. Wilmer D. Graham, 941 Mill st., a son, Sunday, January 29, at Salem General hospital.

HARTMAN—To Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Hartman, Tillamook, a son, Sunday, January 29, at Salem General hospital.

SCHAEFER—To Mr. and Mrs. Walter R. Schaefer, 135 Highway ave., a son, Sunday, January 29, at Salem General hospital.

107-Year-Old Wheatland Ferry Crossing Faces Possible Improvement or Extinction

No Reminders Of Past Glories At Wheatland

By Winston H. Taylor

Staff Writer, The Statesman

Is the Willamette river's oldest ferry operation doomed to vanish, as did the pioneer town of Wheatland for which it was named? After crossing the river time after time for 107 years, the Wheatland ferry, 10 miles downstream from Salem, is the subject of an investigation by Marion county court. Disturbed by the uncertainty of operations due to the river's vagaries, the court is determined either to improve or to eliminate the ferry. That's because proper crossings and landings are prevented when the water gets too high — or too low — or too swift, or when the approach roads get icy.

Built by Applegate
Histories of early Oregon show that the first ferry at what is now Wheatland was built in 1843 by Lindsay Applegate, brother of the more famous Jesse Applegate, when they stopped over-winter at the former Methodist (Jason Lee) mission, at Mission Bottom. He built it for James O'Neal, who had a donation land claim on the opposite (west) side of the river, and for Alanson Beers of the mission. The mission operated the crossing casually that year.

Carried Wagon, Ox Team
An observer later recalled that Applegate "caulked the openings between the planks . . . and then poured in hot pitch. As it was a large boat he used a bushel or two of literature he found in the old house."

In 1844 came a Virginian who had participated in the War of 1812 and Indian forays before coming west in the "Great Migration" of 1843. That was Daniel Matheny, who purchased O'Neal's claim and with it secured the ferry. Whether it was the same craft is not known, but Matheny in 1844 had the "first ferryboat on the Willamette equipped to carry a wagon and ox team," according to Howard Corning's "Willamette Landings."

Helped by his four sons, Matheny kept the ferry, which took his name, on call. One of the sons remembered as most often wielding the oars was James, who in later years owned the Salem ferry.

Had Warehouse
Already the east shore at that point had a warehouse, the only one above Champego. Farmers from the west needed transportation for their crops, and new settlers needed carriage to Yamhill areas. Because of the heavy business, which often required parties to camp overnight while waiting to cross, flat boats began putting in at the ferry landing to load wheat directly for Oregon City and Vancouver mills.

So Matheny, on part of his claim, staked out the townsite of Acheson and erected a warehouse. Sometime after 1847 the name was changed to Wheatland because of the predominance of trade in that crop.

Gold miners of 1848-49 crossed the Willamette at Wheatland on their way to California. Many probably used the ferry when they returned with gold dust or with discouragement.

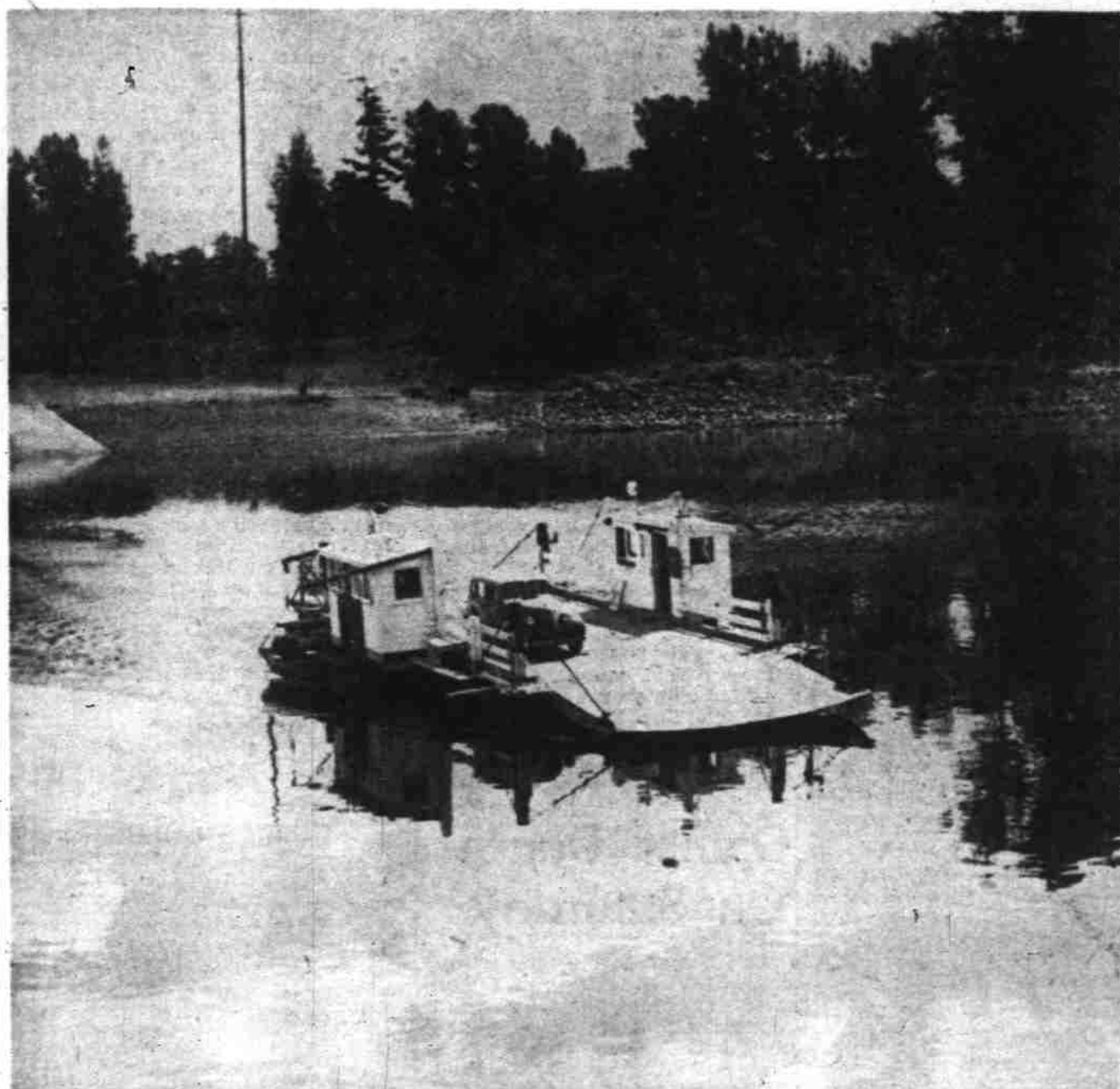
Attracted Businesses
River steamboats in the '50s aided prosperity, and the village attracted new business — stores, grist and lumber mills, harness shop, shingle factory, drug store and saloon, among others.

The two hotels — the Occidental and Wheatland House — were declared to be the best between Oregon City and Salem.

The town's first blow came in 1861, when the record flood (39 feet at Salem) washed out the lower section, next to the river. Most rebuilding was on a higher level.

But still in 1881, Polk's Pacific Coast Directory listed Wheatland as having 319 persons, one church and a school of 30 pupils. A mill, grain cleaner and elevator, with steam power, shipped between 30,000 and 40,000 barrels of flour in the year. At that time the ferry was operated by a B. M. Fowler.

Spells Town's Doom
More developments spelled the town's doom — railroads meant



Here the Wheatland ferry peacefully makes its way across calm Willamette waters, in a summer-time photo, but it's not always that way. Sometimes the water is too low, sometimes too high or swift. So Marion county court is investigating to see whether the crossing, 10 miles north of Salem, should be improved or eliminated. It is the oldest ferry operation on the Willamette river. (Statesman photo.)

abandonment of the river as the principal highway and freightway, wheat yielded to hops and berries and fruit orchards up and down the valley. Then came another super flood, that of 1890 (37 feet at Salem).

The Polk directory of 1889-90 gave Wheatland a population of only 90 persons. The postoffice had moved to Hopewell and later to Amity. Matheny himself had planted the first hopyard on the river's west side in 1871. Peach-growing became important in the district.

By 1900, no business firms were left at the site.

Ferry Still in Operation
The man-powered ferry, however, remained in operation, serving the Salem-Dayton road that the territorial legislature established in 1853. For years, it was so fixed that the river current provided its motive power.

During the 1920's, it became gasoline-powered. In 1936, it was the only remaining toll ferry between Salem and Portland, operating on license from the county courts and charging fees set by them. That year, after long urging, the situation changed. Marion and Yamhill county courts agreed on June 15 to buy the ferry equipment for \$300 and retire it from use. They built a new craft used until 1947, when a larger, electric-powered ferry, christened the Daniel Matheny, went into operation.

Before then, and since, the crossing has been plagued by one thing and another. The channel is considerably westward from its course of 100 years ago. Swift water makes operation dangerous. High water prevents safe landings. Low water bares gravel bars in the center and on the Yamhill

Electric Pipe Thawing

Have your pipes thawed quickly and conveniently. Also repairing. Phone 2-0500.

Special Sale!

Through Tuesday, Jan. 31

THE
Thos. Kay Woolen Mill
260 South 12th St.

Will Offer **100** "Quality"

-MENS SUITS-

2 for the PRICE of **1**
Plus \$10.00

(All suits regularly \$50.00—during this sale get two for \$60.00)

Open All Day Saturdays

The Statesman, Salem, Oregon, Monday, January 30, 1950—5

West Oregon Livestock Meet Starts Today

By Lillie L. Madsen

Farm Editor, The Statesman

The 14th annual meeting of the Western Oregon Livestock association gets underway at Corvallis today. Its closing sessions will be Wednesday at noon.

Charles A. Evans of Independence and Salem is president of the organization with Afton Zundel of Astoria, vice president, and H. A. Lindgren of Corvallis, secretary-treasurer. Headquarters are at the Benton, Corvallis and Julian hotels with Linn and Benton County Livestock associations as joint hosts. All general assemblies will be held at the Corvallis community center. The annual banquet Tuesday night will be at the Elks building.

Registration starts at 11 a.m. today with the first general assembly at 1 o'clock. Mayor George W. Peavy of Corvallis will give the address of welcome and President Evans will make the assignment to committee rooms. The remainder of the afternoon will be devoted to committee meetings. Included in these will be the range and pasture management with Wiley Gardner of Dallas as chairman; predatory animal and game committee, L. E. Sletto, Lyons, chairman; legislation committee, Albert Powers, Coos Bay, chairman; swine production committee, Lyle McKinley, Shedd, chairman; livestock disease, Jack Swanson, Lebanon; resolutions committee, Howard Leatherman, Coquille.

Horse Show Due

Monday night there will be a horse show, 8 p.m. at the college armory.

Tuesday's general assembly opens at 9 a.m. During the morning there will be a veterinary clinic with Dr. J. N. Shaw, Corvallis, in charge of a sheep autopsy, and inspection of barns and work done by animal husbandry department at the college, with Dr. Fred McKenzie in charge.

Withycombe club is serving the noon luncheon Tuesday afternoon is one of the big sessions of the meeting. This is when Rilea Doe, vice president of the Safeway Stores, Inc., of Oakland, Calif., will speak. Addresses will also be given by F. L. Ballard, associate extension service director, OSC; Alan Rogers, Ellenburg, Wash.; William Steiner, president of the

GUARANTEED WATCH — CLOCK and JEWELRY REPAIRING at REASONABLE PRICES The Jewel Box 443 State One Door From Western Union

Oregon Wool Growers association, Pendleton; O. D. Hotchkiss, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's association, Burns; and D. D. Hill, head farm crops department, OSC.

Ladies Meeting

During this time a ladies' meeting will be held, starting at 2:30 at the Memorial Union tea room at the college campus. Hostesses in charge are wives of officers of Benton and Linn County Livestock associations in cooperation with Home Demonstration agents of Benton and Linn counties.

Arnold Ebert, director of the agricultural programs, KOAC, will be master of ceremonies at the annual 7 o'clock banquet which will be followed by dancing. The committees will complete their reports at 8 a.m. Wednesday with the general assembly to start at 9:30 a.m. Dr. A. L. Strand, of Oregon State college, will give an address, as will also Herman Oliver, past president of the Oregon Cattlemen's association, of John Day. Election of officers and presentation of committee reports will complete the session.

A special meeting of the executive committee will follow adjournment of the general assembly.

H. D. Tarpley, Former Salem Resident, Dies

Word of the death of Homer D. Tarpley, former Salem resident, was received here Sunday from Denver, where he had resided for the past decade. Death came as the result of a stroke. Funeral services are to be in Salem.

Tarpley was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William Tarpley. While in Salem he was engaged in the automotive trade. Survivors include four aunts, Mrs. Henry Lee, Mrs. Belle Fleming, Mrs. George Johnson and Mrs. Maude Zimmerman, and a cousin, Mrs. Wallace Hug, all of Salem.

America imported more than \$600,000,000 worth of silk and rubber in 1928. Because of competition from domestic synthetics, these imports are not expected to exceed \$200,000,000 in 1950.

FOR INSURED SAVINGS

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For Dinner



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A Hunch...
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