

# Our Valley

By CHARLES IRELAND



According to the Mill City Enterprise, fishing is so good that anglers are now catching them without hooks...

Aurora's Centennial is now history, but one last incident should be reported...

Canby and Aurora are only four miles apart... But if a letter is mailed at Canby, it travels 150 miles before it is delivered...

This peculiar postal situation was called to the attention of Postmaster General Summerfield in a letter yesterday by Rep. Walter Norblad...

Just like the U. S. mail, the Statesman news sometimes has trouble getting through, too...

Correspondent Jan Overholser says she is still chuckling over this family incident...

Gates and Mill City are going to think up a new name for their new union high school district...

Knock-on-wood dept. When Jefferson and Turner firemen held a meeting Tuesday night...

Kiplinger's current "Changing Times" magazine carries story that has been making the rounds of valley Volkswagen owners for at least a year...

Abiqua Ranchers To Sell Herefords SILVERTON - Mr. and Mrs. L. Si Williams of the Western Live-Stock Journal, Los Angeles...

## There's No Business (Anymore) Like The Valley's Oldtime Show Business

By JAMES ALLEY Valley Correspondent

Clark Gable was a young actor, broke and hungry. He came down to the hop yards at Independence to earn some money to tide him over until he could find another job.

That is where Gable learned about Oregon's long-lived small town shows. Here is where he met the late Cyrus Hoyt and "Oregon Rose," Hoyt's wife...

Came to Salem "Doc" Hoyt came to Salem as a young vaudeville performer. He walked down to the historic Ladd and Bush Bank, plomped down seventy-five dollars in gold to make his initial deposit...

Hoyt used to roar as he told how Bush acted and what he said. Being a natural mimic he would screw his face in a fore-liner look and shake his head solemnly...

Many years after Bush's death, Doc Hoyt was still going strong in Oregon's small movie houses, grange, lodge and community halls...

Globe Performer The two Hoyts were quite talented. "Doc" was a good monologist and impersonator and a fair magician...

They featured their rifle act. They carried gasoline lanterns to light the halls and platforms they played in...

Doc Hoyt died of a heart seizure in his house car while on one of his annual Oregon tours.

The two made their home in Grants Pass. Personal search there uncovered only one person who remembered the Hoyts.

The Yeager Family The Yeager Family Show, consisting of the father, mother, their grown sons, and their wives and children was a favorite everywhere in Oregon.

When the tent was up, the seats were in place and the light plant was "tried out," the show was ready to go.

Admission was 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children...

The show opened with the Yeager Brothers playing violin and piano before the curtain. It was pure rag time...

There were movies for about an hour, then an intermission and a candy "pitch."

That is what everyone had come for, anyway. Father Yeager did a magic turn. This was followed by a tabloid play...

Although not a native of the South he had a perfect southern drawl. And when Louie got through telling the audience all about his troubles they had completely forgotten all of their own.

His comedy was clean. The songs he sang were all patter, nonsense ditties that brought more howls of laughter.

Then Louie danced. It was a sort of clog-soft shoe and he finished with his own version of buck-and-wing dancing.

The Yeager family lived in Portland, where they had property and were members of the First Baptist Church.

Show bills like this are collector's items now but they were once plastered around every valley town when traveling troupers arrived.

Doc Hoyt died of a heart seizure in his house car while on one of his annual Oregon tours.

# 8,000 Watch Parade at Dallas

## One of City's Top Parades; 200 Entries

By HAL NORBERG Valley Correspondent (Story also on page 1)

DALLAS—A crowd of 8,000 persons lined a two-mile parade route here Saturday to witness the colorful parade of the Dallas Smileroo.

It was one of the largest parades ever held here. Over 200 entries from the entire valley and several coastal points participated.

Dallas Lumber and Supply Company walked off with first prize with a clever float, driven by a "prospector."

The eye-catching entry of Sheridan Chamber of Commerce ended just in time.

DALLAS—This city's Smileroo parade ended in the nick of time for Dallas firemen.

Fire trucks, which were up at the head of the parade, had barely traversed the two-mile parade route when the fire sirens blew, sending them to put out a grass fire on Landahl Avenue.

took second place. It depicted a triumphant deer returning from a hunt with two tagged hunters, draped over the front fenders of a car.

Other entries that pleased the crowd included Pacific Power's Reddy-Kilowatt float, Clan Macleay's Scotch Highlanders.

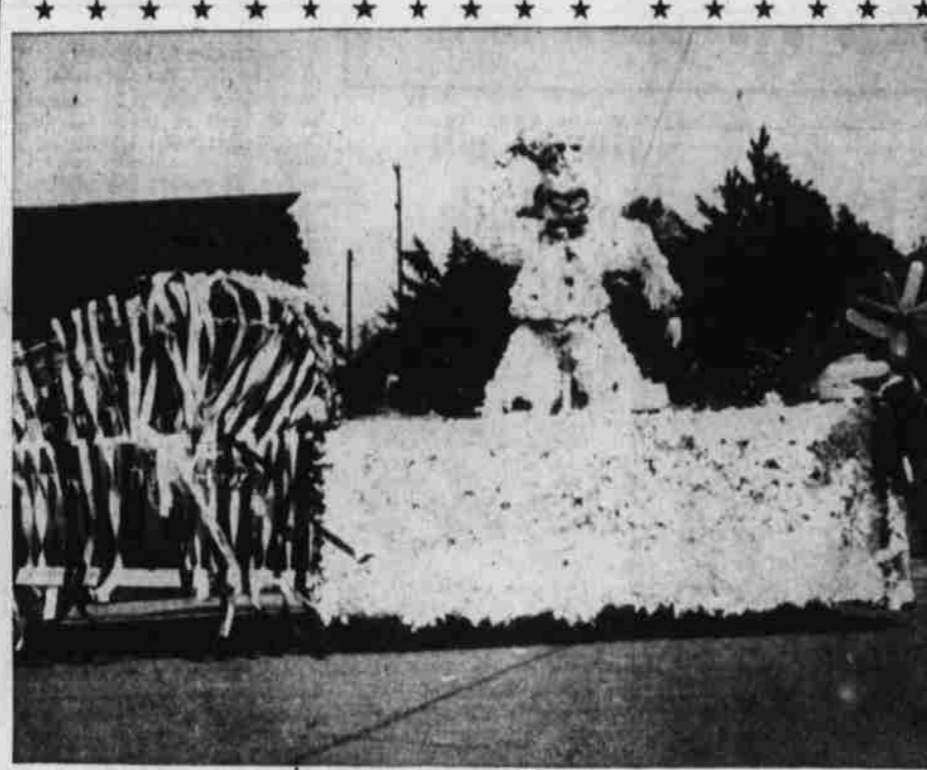
A fine array of mounted groups took part. Included were Sheridan's Canter Club, South Salem Junior Saddle Club, Monmouth Mounties, Salem Mounted posse and several Shetland entries.

Leading the parade was State Sen. Walter Leth, followed by Queen Lonna and her Smilerop court. Adding color were the Dallas High School band and drill team, Dallas City Band with majorette Mary Jane Wait and uniformed groups.

There was the usual complement of clowns, the Dallas and McMinnville "hick" fire departments and the Dallas Jaycee covered wagon, guided by two old cronies.

## 2 Valley Youths Enroll at Linfield

McMINNVILLE — Gene Small, Stayton, and Charles Driggers, Canby, are among mid-valley students included in the 18 new students registered for the second summer session at Linfield College.



DALLAS—Float of Crider's Storage carried out Dallas Smileroo celebration theme Saturday and won third prize in parade that attracted 200 entries.



Dallas Smileroo celebration, now in its second year. Community auctions have been an important money maker, and here Jack Eakin Jr. (left) and Auctioneer Larry Roth are shown auctioning a live rabbit.

## Santiam Bean Festival to Open Tuesday

STAYTON — The 17th Santiam Bean Festival will begin Tuesday with the selection of the queen and her coronation at 8 p.m.

The carnival will open on Tuesday evening and will operate each evening during the festival.

The talent show will be Wednesday at 8 p.m.; the pet parade Thursday at 6:30 p.m.; grand parade, Friday at 7 p.m.

Program for the concluding day, Saturday, will be, horse parade at 1:30 p.m.; horse show at 2 p.m.; bean-hole bean feed at 5 p.m.; bean-hoppers' ball at 9 p.m.

There will be a treat for children on Saturday when Kids' Carnival Day will be observed from 1:30 to 4 p.m.

## Linfield Gets Federal Loan For Dormitory

McMINNVILLE—Word has been received here of the approval of a \$210,000 federal loan to Linfield College for building purposes.

The loan will be used to help construct a \$235,000 men's dormitory on which work has already started on the Linfield campus.

Ground has been broken for the newest Linfield structure next to another new dormitory which will be completed for use this fall.

## OCE Group Makes Trek

MONMOUTH—A group of 25 summer session students at Oregon College of Education spent the past weekend at Crater Lake National Park under the sponsorship of the college.

## Earth Movers Bite Into New Bypass on 18

SHERIDAN—Hugh earth-moving equipment is now in operation on the Sheridan interchange and Highway 18 which will bypass Sheridan and Willamina.

Each piece of equipment moves 13 to 15 yards each trip. Working on two shifts from 4:30 a. m. to 9:30 p. m., workmen move about 8,000 yards of dirt daily.

The entire cloverleaf project involves moving 850,000 yards of dirt, 33,000 yards of which will be moved to the highway bridge under construction east of Sheridan.

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## Vacant, Hand-Hewed Log House Is Sturdy Tribute to Axeman's Skill

By JEAN ROBERTS Valley Correspondent

MEHAMA — The log house at Freres' old mill, one of the few, if not the only remaining hand-hewed log house in Oregon, is now vacant.

It is a two-story structure, built nearly 70 years ago by one man, Billy Smith, an expert axeman who came to this area to build and operate a water-powered sawmill.

Looks Like Lumber Before Smith's family arrived he built the huge log house. So skillful was he with an axe, that many people fail to recognize that the house is of logs.

Built in the period when high ceilings were considered necessary, the huge log house has a 10-foot ceiling downstairs and upstairs, and above that a spacious attic.

No nails were used in the construction. Even the floor sills are hand-hewed logs and such a true axeman was Billy Smith, that the flooring is laid on the log sills.

Remains of his water-powered sawmill can still be seen down on the river (the Little North Fork) below the house. The interior of the house was finished with sawed lumber.

Ted Freres lived in this house and operated a saw mill nearby for many years. At one time a cook house flourished and many family houses were built.

A huge sawdust pile, accumulated in many years of steady sawing, can be seen from the Elkhorn Road. An attempt was made to burn the sawdust and although the mill has not operated for over 10 years, smoke still drifts up from the sawdust pile.

Although in constant use for 70 years, the log house is still in good repair. The water-powered saw mill is gone; Freres Lumber Co. is gone; the many families who lived and worked there are gone; but the log house still stands staunchly atop the hill.

Many families in this area boast of having lived in the big log house. Among them are Joe Parrish, Leo Wagner, and recently Ray Roberts.

One family however claims the house as a permanent headquarters and despite various interlopers refuses to move. This is a family of bats which have adopted the unfinished attic and each spring move in to raise their young.



MEHAMA—This hand-hewed log house at Freres' old mill, above Me-hama on the House Mt. Road, was built nearly 70 years ago by Billy Smith. His only help was a horse. (Statesman Photo).

## Record Crew of 1,200 Canning Stayton Beans

STAYTON—A record number of workers was busy canning beans Saturday at the big Stayton Canning Co. Co-op.

Cannery Manager F. M. Smith said the number of workers was increased because the cannery has added a third shift on beans, replacing two "long shifts" that worked on beans in previous years.

Personnel Manager Jerry Butler said nearly 1,200 were at work on the three shifts Saturday and that the total would likely rise above 1,400 at peak season.

Response to area appeals for workers has been good, Manager Smith said, and the number currently registered for work is adequate.

Termining the quality of beans received to date "good," Smith said the cannery packed 325 tons of beans on Friday. The total is rising gradually. Figure for Wednesday was 270 tons.

Total bean acreage the cannery contracted for this year is approximately the same as last year, Smith said, but the green bean acreage was reduced and replaced with wax beans.

## Valley Births

STAYTON—To Mr. and Mrs. Jake Perkins, Mill City, a son, July 26, at Santiam Memorial Hospital.

SILVERTON—To Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Yates, Silverton, a son, July 27, at the Silverton Hospital. Yates is a member of the Silverton police force.

MONMOUTH—A group of 25 summer session students at Oregon College of Education spent the past weekend at Crater Lake National Park under the sponsorship of the college.

Mrs. Omabelle McBee and Dr. Anton Postl, OCE faculty members, acted as chaperones and guides for the group which viewed and took a trek to nearby Garfield Peak.

WILLAMINA — E. L. Adams has taken over management of the Hornellie Chain Saw Shop in Willamina. Adams is a veteran logger, and has worked in the woods of Oregon and Washington. He came here from Reedsport.

STAYTON—The Stayton Fire Department was called to a grass fire on the Walter Wyman place on Scio road Thursday. Upon arrival the firemen found the fire had been controlled and was out.

Many of the acts, stunts, songs and gags that people are howling at now on television were heard 25 years or more ago in the halls of Stayton, Scio, Turner, Aumsville, Independence, Amity and Dayton by those dear old troupers, many of whom passed on before television was ever dreamed possible.

Oregon had a living theater years ago. Men and women who owned property. And good solid citizens those troupers were of yesteryear. They knew good times and hard times. The show must go on regardless.

It did go on. They brought clean entertainment — fan, mystery, thrills add an occasional tear to the small towns of our valley.

## Henry Miller, 79, Dies at Monmouth Rites at Baker

MONMOUTH—Services for Henry Arthur Miller, 79, a Monmouth resident for four years, will be held at 2 p.m. Monday at Baker where he lived for many years before coming here.

Miller died following a brief illness Wednesday at his home at 460 Church St.

Oregon survivors include his wife, May Miller, at Monmouth; a daughter, Mrs. Jessa Pope, Arlington; brother, Carl Miller, Baker, and sister, Mrs. Mary Christman, North Powder.

Smith-Kreuger Mortuary was in charge of arrangements here.

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## 'House Party' For Baptist Women Slated

McMINNVILLE — More than 200 Oregon Baptist women will arrive on the Linfield College campus Monday afternoon for a four-day "House Party" sponsored by the Oregon Baptist Convention.

Speakers for the conference include Mrs. M. B. Hodge, Portland, chairman of North American Women's Division, Baptist World Alliance; Mrs. Elton E. Smith, McMinnville church leader; Mrs. Max Chance, missionary to Golgotha, Assam, and Miss Dorothy O. Bucklin, secretary to the Home Missions Board of the American Baptist convention.

Mrs. W. C. Martin, Cottage Grove, is in charge of arrangements for the House Party.

## Valley Briefs

DAYTON—Annual Old Timers picnic will be held in the Dayton City Park Sunday. Former residents may come to picnic and visit with present Daytonites during the day.

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