

Irena Dunn Williams Writes Memoirs
Lines Left Out...

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Register-Guard presents herewith the 11th chapter of the Memoirs of Irena Dunn Williams, born in this city in 1856, a resident of this community during all but a small part of her long and useful life. She is our "oldest native Eugenean." She calls her memoirs "Lines Left Out" because she is relating here many things omitted in previous pageant-time reminiscences. Hers is a true story, vividly told, and it gives us an interesting picture of how this city grew and the kind of people who have made it.



CHAPTER XI
Educational Progress
The First High School
It was in 1870 that our young

people were given the impulse to advance to a higher plane of education. At this date two young men, just graduated from Willamette University in Salem, opened a private school in a building on the east end of Skinner's Butte where the Ankeny residence now stands. These two young teachers were Robert Veatch and John Arnold. Young men and women came from miles around to their first school of advanced courses.

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To be sure, this was very little but it was the first step. Mr. Arnold was my teacher. He was a strict disciplinarian but I learned more from him than from any previous teacher. By the second year he was teaching in the public school at Olive and 11th, given a free hand to teach Latin, higher algebra and geometry. This was really Eugene's first high school. Two young men studying under



PLEASANT HILL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS—Top row left to right: Barbara Jean Franks, Gladys Hayes, Vadrian Hayes, Gayle Neet, Karl Miller, June Chetwood and Larry Weiss. Second row: Ruby Schultz, LeRoy Macklin, Curtis Goodman, Mary Keeney, Kendal Kimball, Vaden Hart Ethel Weiss. Third row: Ruby Schultz, LeRoy Macklin, Curtis Goodman, Mary Keeney, Kendal Kimball, Vaden Hart Ethel Weiss. Bottom row: Dorothy Elliott, Lois Humphrey, Jack Hostick, LeRoy Collom Azalea Daughtry Kenneth Dresser, Mildred Lattin and June Nystrom. Lavon Lee (no picture).—(Kennell-Ellis photos, Wiltshire engraving.)

Mr. Arnold were afterwards graduated in the first class of the University of Oregon in 1878.

We had a large class in Latin, the text book was McClintock and Crook, I liked better than the one I later studied at the University, because we translated from English into Latin as well as from Latin into English. Mr. Arnold later built a school house of his own where the Eugene hospital now stands and taught advanced students. All the persons I ever spoke to of Mr. Arnold emphatically agreed that he was the best teacher under whom they ever studied.

In 1874 and '75 I went to St. Helen's Hall, a girls' seminary in Portland. At this time it was situated on 4th avenue between Madison and Jefferson. There was no bridge across the Willamette; the train stopped at East side Stark street and we had to cross on the ferry then take a cab to our destination.

Most of the business houses were on Front street and First street. Chinatown was on Second. St. Helen's Hall was under the supervision of Miss Rodney, sister-in-law of Bishop Morris of the Episcopal church. Other teachers were Mrs. Mary Clifton and Miss Lydia Blackler. Every girl who went to the Hall carried away the influence of these fine women in their lives.

Portland was not large in those days but there were wealthy families who had acquired fortunes in the wholesale business, gas company, banks and early steamboat companies. They had fine

homes, carriages and coachmen. In '74 the girls, chaperoned by Miss Rodney and other teachers, were taken in Tallyho out in the forest northwest of town to a clearing among the stumps where a spot was consecrated by the Bishop and clergy for a future hospital. That hospital is today the Good Samaritan Hospital with no sign of a forest near. In fact, the forest reached the river bank in pioneer days.

I was fortunate in my two years at St. Helen's to study a number of the subjects not in the curriculum of the University of Oregon the first two or three years; namely French, History of England, History of France and once a week a History of Greece and Rome, Ancient Geography, Mythology and, of course, I studied mathematics and botany and other ordinary subjects.

When I entered the U. of O. in the fall of '76 I studied Latin and Greek under President Johnson, a strict disciplinarian, but I learned as I did under Mr. Arnold. I have always held President Johnson in highest regard. I studied Geology under beloved Dr. Condon and higher mathematics under Professor Bailey. To my regret I never finished my course at the University, leaving in '79 on account of my mother's ill health, so I am only an ex-'81.

In 1881 I was very surprised to receive a letter from my beloved teacher, Miss Mary Rodney, Principal of St. Helen's Hall, asking me if I would consider teaching at the Hall. I was astounded as I had not been gradu-

ated from that institution leaving in June '76 to enter that fall the U. of O. which then opened its doors. I was obliged to leave the University before being graduated and had never taught school. This I told Miss Rodney, but she repeated her offer. I deeply appreciated this honor and enjoyed my two years of teaching there.

The teachers were given rooms where the students came in classes for reciting. As I had classes from different grades it gave me a variety of subjects to teach which made it very pleasant. It was such a pleasure to be again with my teachers whom I had loved in my school days. Very few women are living today who attended St. Helen's Hall in '74 and '76 and those teachers have long since gone to their eternal rest.

TRUCK FREIGHTERS

One million trucks in service in the United States, it is estimated, haul 1,430,000,000 tons of freight annually. Of this total, 134,400,000 tons represent farm produce.

Figures on maintenance and operations at Randolph Field, Tex., indicate that almost every one of the 300 craft used for student training have flown about 235,000 miles since being turned out from factories.

The average retail price of gasoline on March 1 was 12.27 cents a gallon. In Rome on the same date the retail price was 95 cents a gallon.

Time To Apply Third Spray For Walnuts

It is now time to apply the third or early postbloom spray for control of walnut blight, on most Mayette and Franquette orchards, according to word received from Paul W. Miller, associate pathologist at Oregon State college, by Harold V. Loughhead, county horticulture inspector. Orchards at the higher elevations usually are later than those on the valley floor.

The control measures are the same as for the two earlier sprays, 3-1-50 Bordeaux mixture. It is not necessary to use oil with this application as the leaves are now largely resistant to spray injury.

Forty Farmers At Irving Wheat Meeting

Forty farmers of the Irving community attended the wheat quota meeting held at Irving grange hall Tuesday night under the direction of the county agricultural conservation association. The wheat marketing quota program was explained by Robert Taylor of Adams, vice president of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League. Sim J. Culley of Weston, president of the league, was also there and made a few remarks. O. S. Fletcher, county agent, was present.

Wednesday night a similar meeting will be held at Willakenzie grange hall and Thursday night at Franklin grange hall. These men are expected to be there also.

Chula Vista Herd Has Remarkable Record

The herd of 137 cows on the Chula Vista dairy farm, Dick Reed, manager, averaged 449.92 pounds of butterfat in the past year, it is revealed in a report just issued by the Linn-Benton Dairy Herd Improvement association.

Among the first 11 highest cows in the association seven were in the Chula Vista herd, the report says. Several averaged over 600 pounds of butterfat.

This record is considered remarkable for such a large herd.

AUTO LICENSES

Thirty-four states of the Union have entirely new colors for their 1940 automobile license plates, while 13 others simply reversed the colors of numerals and background from last year.

FIRST WINDOW GLASS

William Clark made the first window glass in America in 1857. His process was not entirely practical, but was the basis of the big industry to follow.

Horses have a great fear of mice and some authorities say this is one reason why many of them will not lie down to sleep.

The University of Pennsylvania had seven members in its first graduating class.

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Get Superphosphates Now, Fletcher Says

There is now a supply of 230 tons of 20 per cent superphosphates for Lane county farmers in the AAA program, stored at Junction City. The storage cost will be advanced June 1 and O. S. Fletcher, county agent, is advising farmers to obtain the material for fall use now to avoid paying the additional storage price. It is just as well off in storage on the farm as it is in the warehouse and save money.

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