

Stagecoach Days Recalled After Historic Landmark at Yoncalla Is Destroyed in Fire

by MRS. FRED LEE
YONCALLA—In the burning of the Ambrose house one mile from Yoncalla, the community lost one of its most interesting landmarks.

and historic landmarks. Building was started in the fall of 1859, and the family moved to the home in April, 1860. The lumber was hauled by ox team from Mulvaney saw mill at Leona and was planed by hand. The construction was all cedar.

Serving as a pioneer stage station for many years, the home was used by both Oregon and California stages. Horses were changed, and passengers were able to rest. Mrs. Ambrose's breakfasts of hot biscuits and fried ham cheered many a weary traveler on his way. She was assisted by her daughter, Mary, who later married Henry Buckley. Her younger daughters, Verlena and Josie, were married to Robert Long and John W. Wise.

One of the interesting characters who spent much time at the station was the first medical physician in this part of Oregon, Dr. Theophilus Dagan.

his house was the scene of many a pioneer frolic. One of special interest was a dance held there following a large patriotic celebration in Yoncalla July 4, 1863. Yoncalla was then the county seat of Umpqua county. At this celebration Jesse Applegate acted as chairman and toastmaster. W. W.

Wilson was marshal of the day. The Declaration of Independence was read by Gertrude Applegate. David Logan, a brilliant young lawyer who had campaigned in Illinois during the time of Abraham Lincoln, came from Portland by horseback to make the address of the day. Before the day was over, 27 young men enlisted for the Civil War.

Salutes Fired
Lt. Harry Webb was recruiting officer, assisted by Captain Ivan Applegate, John Letson, T. T. Williams, and George More were in charge of artillery salutes. Muskets stored in the courthouse, supplemented by anvils from the blacksmith shop, were used to fire salutes.

In charge of the five and drum corps were Charles and John Applegate, and Captain Chase George Burt, John Andrews and Henry Lane had charge of the barbecue.

In the evening most of the group went to the A. F. Ambrose home, where the pioneer musicians filled the rooms with their rollicking strains, and girls in full-skirted white dresses danced with partners whose happiness was shadowed with the prospect of departure for the war.

Yoncalla residents believe that memories and traditions of the old house will remain a part of the town legend. Three grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose still live near Yoncalla. They are G. C. Long, G. C. Ambrose, and Lloyd Wise. Also living in the area are two great grandsons, Robert Long and Raphael Wise, and a great-grandson, Tyrrell Wise.

Plans Complete For State Fair

Plans were virtually completed this week for Oregon's first state fair since 1941 which opens in Salem Labor Day. Manager Leo Spitzbart reports that the 1946 fair week of Sept. 2 to 8 should be the greatest in history.

Over \$50,000 in premiums will be awarded for prize Oregon livestock and agricultural exhibits. Each building on the grounds has been repainted while the extensive floral beds are expected to be in full bloom by Labor Day.

The entertainment roster is the most complete yet presented at the fair. Six days of horse racing will begin Labor Day with two harness events and seven running races on each daily card at the Lone Oak track. Big car auto racing will make its first appearance at the fair on Sunday, Sept. 8, when the entire afternoon will be devoted to speed by some of the West Coast's top drivers.

Jimmie Grier and his orchestra will play nightly for the state fair dances and will also appear at the outdoor vaudeville revue. The nightly revue will feature some of the nation's top radio and vaudeville acts and will give star billing to the Helene Hughes' Precision Dancers, direct from Hollywood.

For the first time, the nightly horse show will be combined with

Recent Check Reveals Crater Lake Rising

CRATER LAKE—A recent check of the gauge which records the elevation of Crater Lake above sea level reveals that the water is rising. The maximum recorded level of the lake was made in 1910 when the elevation read 6177.17 feet. From 1910 to 1942 the water gradually dropped to a low of 6164.23 feet. This year the gauge reads 6167.1, just 10 feet short of the highest recorded level.

The level of Crater Lake fluctuates normally about 18 inches from the high to the low in the course of a summer season, and also has a cumulative fluctuation over a period of years. The change has been downward for the past 32 years, but it appears now that it is entering a period which will produce a gradual rise.

selected rodeo events. All of the old horse show classifications have been retained with increased purses. Champion rodeo performers will be on hand for the five events which will include bull-dogging, saddle bronc riding, bareback bronc riding, calf roping and Brahma bull riding.

Admission prices for all fair events will remain at pre-war levels. Admission to the fairgrounds will be the same as in 1941, fifty cents, with children 14 and under to be admitted free.

No Trace Discovered Of Prison Escapees

SALEM — O.P. — State police Friday had no trace of two trusty convicts who ran away from the prison farm annex Thursday, nor of another who disappeared Saturday.

The two who were missed

Thursday at the noon count are Kenneth W. Clark, 43, Medford truck driver, and Joseph A. Scott, 47, Foster farmer.

Both were serving three-year sentences, Scott for obtaining money by false pretenses, and Clark for forgery.

Ray Junior Richardson, 21, of Elizabeth, Tenn., who escaped last

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