



Weathered Masonry, Relic of Niagara's Thwarted Progress—
Left: Beautifully cut and laid stone placed by O'Neil brothers about 1900 to control and divert waters of the North Santiam through a hydro-electric power project. It now looks like some fragment of an ancient ruin. Right: Masonry dam, another part of the \$100,000 project developed over 25 years but without any worthwhile accomplishment.

Ruins of Bygone Day

Masonry at Niagara Recalls Project of O'Neil Brothers

By BEN MAXWELL

Fifty odd years ago, before any highway ventured far up the North Santiam and when hydro-electric development was yet primitive and experimental, a power dam project at Niagara was contemplated by brothers named O'Neil.

Oregon Pacific railroad, planned to extend from Yaquina to transcontinental junction near Boise, passed through Niagara and passed 12 miles west of the Cascade summit. O'Neil brothers, Edward and Frank, enthusiastically viewed the Niagara gorge where the North Santiam surges through a basalt cleft 4 feet and 3 inches wide, and decided that was where they would like to build a paper mill. Later C. W. Callaghan joined the O'Neils.

Niagara in 1900 looked promising and was hopeful of bigger and better things to come. There was the railroad, now the Corvallis & Eastern, (bankrupt and sold three times by the sheriff of Benton county between 1890-94) and there was the gorge with its power, and the O'Neils on hand to develop the site and build a mill designed to make paper from straw. Tad Shelton, Marion county assessor, who liked to fish in the North Santiam 50 years ago, recalls that Niagara then had a hotel, store, dwellings and a gallon house.

Owned Thousand Acres
Testimony at a hearing before

antiquity, was placed to divert and control the surging Santiam. In this development it appears the O'Neils spent about \$37,500 of their own money. Presently they decided to let Bylesby & Co. take over with an option to purchase. From 1909 to 1912 these entrepreneurs supposedly dropped close to \$65,000 into the project. Last extensive work was accomplished in 1912.

Lure Not Sufficient
Oregon Electric railroad was at one time interested in acquiring power here if not the site itself. But the deal fell through. O'Neil and Callaghan kept one or more maintenance men at the project to do some work and retain their water power rights. Industrialists looked the site over, considered the power, dickered and passed along. In this cold and windy gorge the masonry lost its mortar and was not again pointed up. Part of the construction eroded and

washed away. Remaining sections are weathered to resemble an ancient Roman wall. Only oldtimers in the Niagara community like E. J. Richards now recall who originated the project and why.

Meanwhile Niagara declined through the years though it acquired some later distinction as being the location of the smallest post office in the United States.



Razor - Kleens Sewers - Drains
So Quick - So Thorough
So Free from Mess
IT'S ROTO-ROOTER
Sewer Tanks Cleaned
Phones 5327 or 9468

Spark Plugs
CLEANED
AND TESTED

- Includes:** **5¢ each**
1. Cleaning plugs with special mechanical cleaner.
 2. Testing plugs for leaks and spark.
 3. Regapping plugs to factory specifications.
 4. Inspecting ignition cables.

Firestone
STORE

395 N. Liberty Ph. 9144

FALSE TEETH WEARERS NOW CHEW STEAK
Thousands now eat and chew steak, corn, apples. They use STAZE, amazing cream-paste adhesive-in-a-tube. Discovered by a dentist. One application holds plates comfortably secure all day, every day, or money back. Get 35¢ STAZE. Enjoy life! **STAZE HOLDS ALL DAY OR YOUR MONEY BACK**

To My Valentine
... DIAMONDS OF OUTSTANDING QUALITY AND LIFELONG BEAUTY

- Lovely Diamond Solitaire (67.50)
- Diamond of Fiery Brilliance (79.25)
- Large Center Diamond—2 Side Diamonds (137.50)
- 6-Diamond Duet (295.00)
- Engagement ring with gorgeous center diamond and finely cut side diamonds (210.00)
- sparkling diamonds in fan-tail settings. (355.00)
- Handsome Man's Diamond Ring (87.50)

• All Prices Incl. Fed. Tax

The Jewel Box
DIAMONDS - WATCHES

Store Hours 9:15 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. Convenient Credit Terms at No Extra Charge

Roberts Bros.
SALEM, OREGON

Special Purchase and Sale!
GOVERNMENT SURPLUS

Women's U.S. Naval Reserve Black Calfskin Welt Oxfords

Easily Worth \$8.95
Widths AAA to B
SALE PRICED AT \$3.98

Sizes 6 to 11

Housewives! Business women! Here are genuine Government surplus Waves U. S. Naval Reserve Oxfords with that smart tailored look! Built to meet Government specifications — of the finest quality throughout. Supple Black Calfskin uppers; sturdy leather soles that flex with your feet; Goodyear welt construction; built-in arch; rubber heel; combination last. Yet, look at the price! A value you cannot match — or afford to miss! Shop early!

You Can Exchange 25¢ Green Stamps for Useful Articles Here!

Roberts Bros
SALEM, OREGON

We Give and Redeem 25¢ Green Stamps as Extra Savings Here!

Special Purchase Sale
500 Virgin Wool

TOP COATS

Made to Sell at \$30.00 to \$40.00 This Excellent Quality of Materials and Tailoring Is Yours at These Greatly Reduced Prices!



GROUP ONE
● Coverts ● Tweeds ● Fleeces. "Milbury" and "Rittenburg" woolsens and American Woolen Mills fabrics . . . long distinguished for their excellent quality.

\$15

GROUP TWO
Handsome Herringbone Tweeds and "Schuster" diagonal weave Herringbones with particular emphasis on durability and wearability.

\$19



★ You'll like these single-breasted, fly front styles . . . cut and designed for flattering fit and comfort. You'll like the sturdy, virgin wool materials and the protection they afford against cold weather.

★ And you'll agree that these overcoats are values far exceeding these modest prices of \$15.00 and \$19.00. Note the sizes . . . all the way from 34 to 42. Regulars and Shorts in this group. Choice of Tan, Brown, Blue, Grey and Heather Mixtures.

USE OUR CONVENIENT LAY-A-WAY PLAN

PAY \$5.00 DOWN

MEN'S CLOTHING DEPARTMENT