



Spacious Sodaville Spring House—Sodaville, smallest incorporated municipality in Linn county and among the smaller in the nation, raised funds to complete this spacious spring house in the 1890s. Pioneers attributed great therapeutic power to the sodium in Sodaville's mineral water. Below, Willamette valley folks in horse and buggy decades came to Sodaville to enjoy the soda water. Many remained in camp throughout the summer. Shown is a band concert about to start at the spring house sometime in the 1880s.

Sodaville Quietly Dreams Of Its Illustrious Past

Like the mineral spring that bubbles eternal within its corporate limits Sodaville lives on. For decades this incorporated hamlet, nestled in the timbered foothills of Linn county only a few miles southeast of Lebanon has lived on dreaming of its illustrious past and vaguely of a grandeur that it hoped might some day come.

With an official population of less than a hundred it is the smallest incorporated hamlet in Linn county and one of the smaller in the entire nation.

On December 5, 1932, Sodaville held an election to settle a seething controversy about maintenance of its municipal status. By a vote of 26 to 22 from a total population of 77 its corporate status was sustained. Total valuation for the city of Sodaville was then \$13,000 and the normal municipal tax amounted to \$200.

Justification for Sodaville's existence then and now is the invigorating spring of mineral water bubbling near the center of the municipality. Ruben Coyle discovered this spring in 1848 while rounding up stray oxen. Animals, both wild and domesticated, liked the mineral water as did Coyle and his pioneer friends who sampled it.

An inscription on a stone placed in 1926 and dedicated to the memory of Thomas L. Summers states he was the donor of the spring and its site to the public May 4, 1871. Unlike many other Oregon mineral springs (state heritages by law and forfeited to private exploitation by indifferent public officials) Sodaville spring and its surrounding park has been freely available to all for 78 years. It is now owned and maintained by the highway department.

Pioneers attributed diverse curative properties to this mineral water so rich in sodium. In the long ago hundreds pitched their tents and spent their vacations there in the leisurely horse and buggy decades. Marion and Linn atlas for 1878 called the place Summer Soda, perhaps because the campground was white with tents during July and August. The place was portrayed as beautiful and the invigorating and therapeutic water as salubrious. They came, the Atlas asserted, "to enjoy the soda and social intercourse."

Seventy years ago there was a good hotel at Sodaville, the fountain house operated by D. P. Foot, Dugger's restaurant and J. Cole's general store for the benefit of those who forgot to

bring all their camping supplies from home.

During the 1890s a nominal sum was raised for construction of a spring house though a number of years elapsed before the present structure so distinctly dated in respect to architecture could be completed. But it stands today on a sylvan slope like an ancient shrine to remind the passerby that this community, then poor and never rich, regarded its natural benefaction with sufficient esteem to house it properly.

Attend Rose Festival

Hubbard—Mrs. L. V. Mullins, of Eureka, Calif., visited her son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Don Mullins this week and attended the Rose Festival in Portland.

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East Salem Lads Attend Boy Scout Camporee on Santiam

East Salem—Middle Grove Boy Scout troop 42 was well represented at the annual camporee this past week end at the old boy scout camp at the fork of the North Santiam river above Taylor's Grove. Committeeman Cleo Keppinger accompanied the following scouts: Wayne Goode, Marvin C. Cage, Jerry Rawlins, Delbert Bottens, Gordon Fromm, Jim Kuenzi, Larry Griffin, Jack Wikoff, Jr., Leonard Hammer and assistant scoutmaster Donald Bassett. Furnishing transportation were committeemen Hubert Aspinwall, John Van Lannen and Jack Wikoff. The troop received second in camping.

An active member of this Middle Grove troop, Lewis Patterson had the misfortune to seriously injure his knee in a ball game which his troop was playing with Hazel Green boys on the Central Howell ball field. He was taken to the hospital where several stitches were needed and it will be several weeks before he will be active with his troop again.

Barbara Van Loh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Van Loh of Sweleg community is in the Salem General hospital this week having undergone a spinal operation on Monday.

Mrs. Jack Lindeman was hostess for the bi-monthly meeting of the Merry-go-round club at her Hollywood drive home on Thursday night. Mrs. Clayton Gibb was the honored guest for a surprise shower. In attendance were Mrs. Wilson Biles, Mrs. V. M. La Due, Mrs. Helen Lauder, Mrs. Paul Bryman, Mrs. R. M. Proudfoot, Mrs. Walter Fisher, Mrs. Rex Peffer, Mrs. Sam Rayfield, Mrs. Harold Holler, Mrs. Melvin La Due, Mrs. Gordon Reecroft, Mrs. Oscar Forgard, Mrs. Ernest Crum and the honored guest. For the program hour Mrs. Peffer gave an illustrated lesson in corsage making.

House guest this week in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wikoff in Middle Grove community is Mrs. Agnes Gant of Covina, Calif.

Captain and Mrs. Clayton Dalke and their two daughters are spending his 30 day furlough visiting in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Menno Dalke on East Garden road and with the families of his sisters, Mrs. Grover Welty and Mrs. Lu Singer.

Shut Ice-Box Door Killing 3

Walnut Ridge, Ark. June 9 (AP)—The Arkansas state police reported today a 10-year-old boy said he slammed shut the door of an unused ice box, causing deaths of three other children.

Police Lt. H. R. Peterson identified the boy as James (Buddy) Chesser, uncle of one of the victims.

The police officer quoted James as saying the children were playing "I-spy" when all three climbed into the old-fashioned wooden box last Friday. Then, Peterson continued, the boy related:

He shut the door of the box and was unable to get it open. "My mother called me then to go to the store. I was scared I ran home and went to the store. Then I forgot."

The victims were James Delbert Chastain, two, and Joyce Ann Chastain, nine, children of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Chastain and Shirley Ann Ramsey, six, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ramsey.

Lebanon Lions Name William Thomas Prexy

Lebanon — William Thomas, Lebanon attorney, was elected president of the Lebanon Lions club.

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Young Chesser was an uncle of the Ramsey girl. The old ice box was at the home of the Chastain children's parents in a farm community near Walnut Ridge. The other children lived nearby.

Mrs. Chastain discovered the children in the box when she returned home from work in the cotton fields.

Her son and the Ramsey girl were dead of suffocation. Joyce Ann Chastain died early Saturday.

Chesser was held in custody temporarily.

Peterson said he doubted there'd be any charges.

"He's too young to do anything with even if it had been deliberate—and I don't believe it was," Peterson said.

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Broadcast on Rent Control

Removal of rent controls whenever justified under new provisions of the 1949 rent act will be discussed by Ward Cox, western regional housing expedite, in a broadcast over the National Broadcasting Company's western network at 11:15 p.m. DST, Friday June 10, heard locally over KGW, Portland.

Cox, head of Federal rent control throughout the west, will speak on "Decontrol and Your Community". He will explain "local opinion" provisions of the rent act, and give a round-up of the latest news on such decontrol action in the west.

The broadcast will be the second in a series over NBC by Regional Housing Expediter Cox on the general subject, "Your Rent Problem". During the series, Cox will answer questions received from many of the 2,500,000 western landlords and tenants on what is controlled and what isn't, what has been recontrolled under the new law, how ceiling rents are set, how landlords obtain adjustments in their rents and what the rights of tenants are.

E. C. Clay, Salem area rent representative, says the broadcast should clear up many questions over what is required for a community to qualify for removal of controls.

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Great Britain to Sell Arms to Arabs

London June 10 (AP)—Informed sources said today Britain is ready to sell small arms and ammunition to Arab nations for internal security purposes.

The sources said the step was being taken after consultation with Dr. Ralph Bunche, United Nations mediator for Palestine. They said such sales of small quantities of arms would not violate the Middle East arms embargo.

Britain has arms contracts with Egypt, Iraq and Trans-Jordan.

RICH SHORTCAKE BISCUITS

Sift into bowl:
2 1/2 cups sifted Crown Best Patent Flour
3 teaspoons double-acting baking powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon sugar

Cut in:
4 tablespoons shortening

Add:
1 egg
1/2 cup milk

Knead lightly, pat or roll out to desired thickness, and cut with floured cutter. Bake in hot oven (450°) about 15 minutes.

NOTE: These biscuits make perfect shortcakes, for berries or other fruits. Also delicious for drop biscuits and dumplings, if made with 1 cup milk instead of 1/2 cup.

M-M-M-M-M

It's Shortcake Time!

Time to treat your family to rich, piping-hot shortcake, topped off with your favorite fruit of the season. Try this tested Celia Lee shortcake recipe tonight... the choice of Mrs. Nina Church of Medford, Oregon. If you follow this recipe faithfully, using Crown Best Patent flour, you'll be delighted with the most delicious, golden-brown shortcake biscuits you've ever tasted.

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