

## Pictures Contrast Salem of Sixty Years Ago and Now

By Ben Maxwell

Sixty odd years ago, when East school (now the abandoned Washington) was new, a photographer with a heavy view camera trudged to the roof of the structure to record the northerly vista of Salem on a glass plate now in the Cronise collection. That splendid landscape, when compared with another recently made from the same location and approximately in the same direction, is a revelation of Salem's expansion during six decades.

Marion County Pictorial Annual for 1886 gave the population of Salem as about 6000. Inmates of state institutions were doubtless included in the estimate. The early view from the roof of East school does not suggest any congestion of population to the northward.

In the immediate foreground facing Marion street, and flanked by a wooden fence, is an old dwelling that then stood near the center of the block. Some decades ago this structure was moved and in the recent view stands to the right and behind more modern houses.

Here during the 1890s, and perhaps even when the first picture was made, resided Salmon Brown with his sizeable family. Salmon was the second son of John Brown who, in 1859, was hanged for his raid on the arsenal at Harper's Ferry, and whose body "lies a mouldering in the grave." Salmon Brown conducted a meat market at 13th and Center streets where the Nazarene church now stands. He was not distinguished on account of a generous prosperity.

North Mill creek flowed behind Brown's house and ample vegetable garden in what is approximately its present channel. Shown in the old view is a pool between the house and barn where two generations of Salem oldsters called their swimming pool the "Live." Here in the 1880s and 1890's the boys went swimming in the raw to the amusement or amazement of passengers on trains creeping across a nearby trestle.

Beyond, on D street adjacent to the railroad, was a single house then or later the dwelling

A helicopter survey Friday failed to show why the same lines failed that day. Engineers thought wind or falling tree branches could have caused temporary short circuits.

of Eli Stege, a section foreman of long standing. This home was dismantled a decade or so ago and the large conifer that now marks the approximate site is not even visible in the older picture. Beyond was a county road that has since become Market street. In the 1880s this locality was a farming region and the tool of the threshing engine was heard hereabouts even in the first decade of the present century.

Beyond and distantly are the fairgrounds and what appears to be the judges box or bandstand in Lone Oak track.

Sixty years has brought the transformation indicated in the recent photograph.

Houses in the foreground with their appurtenances extend to Mill creek now obscured by 20th century construction. North of the creek is the municipal playground and its swimming pool. And there are among those of an older generation people who presume to doubt that supervised youngsters swimming in chemically purified water have any more fun than boys of three generations ago who raided Salmon Brown's garden and dis-



Views Made Sixty Years Apart Show Salem's Expansion—Top: Photograph made from roof of Washington school in the late 1880s showing Salmon Brown's home in the foreground and the undeveloped area to the northward. Eli Stege's house alone appears on D street and Market street was yet a country road. Below: Recent view from the same location and in the same direction showing northerly development of Salem during six decades.

### Main Transmission Power Lines Fail

Portland, Ore., Dec. 12. (U.P.)—Bonneville power engineers said a mysterious failure of three major transmission lines Sunday cut electricity to lower Columbia river aluminum plants and Southwestern Washington. The three lines were North Bonneville-Midway, Chehalis-Longview and Chehalis-Covington. The blackout lasted 11 minutes.

### Four Corners Brownie Troop Makes Dolls for Children

Four Corners, Dec. 13.—Brownie troop 107 held their meeting after school with 19 girls present. Sixteen dolls were completed to be given to under privileged children. Patricia Anne Backe, 4410 Hudson avenue, became a new member. Visitors for the day were Myra Wilson, Patty Eitel and Joanna Weekly. There will be no Brownie meeting this week.

The Christmas party will be after school December 19 at the Lincoln school. There will be a gift exchange. Each girl is to bring a small gift. Hostesses for the day were Sharon Dillard and Leta Thayer.

House guest in the LeBarron Force home for two weeks was Mrs. Toppleton of Denver, Colorado.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Shrake and children Janice, Dick and Gregg drove to Gates, Ore., on Sunday to visit the Charles Tucker family.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Prock and family who formerly lived here have returned after spending several months in Burns, Ore.

Marvin Benz, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Benz, Mahrt avenue, has recovered from serious burns received recently sufficiently to return to his classes but is not yet able to take his bicycle paper route.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Anderson had as their house guests this week Mrs. Anderson's brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Dickson of Orlando, Wash. The Dicksons were en route to Santa Cruz, Calif., where they will spend the winter.

Although most people in the Middle Ages thought the earth was flat, Eratosthenes, who lived 2,200 years ago, taught that it was round.

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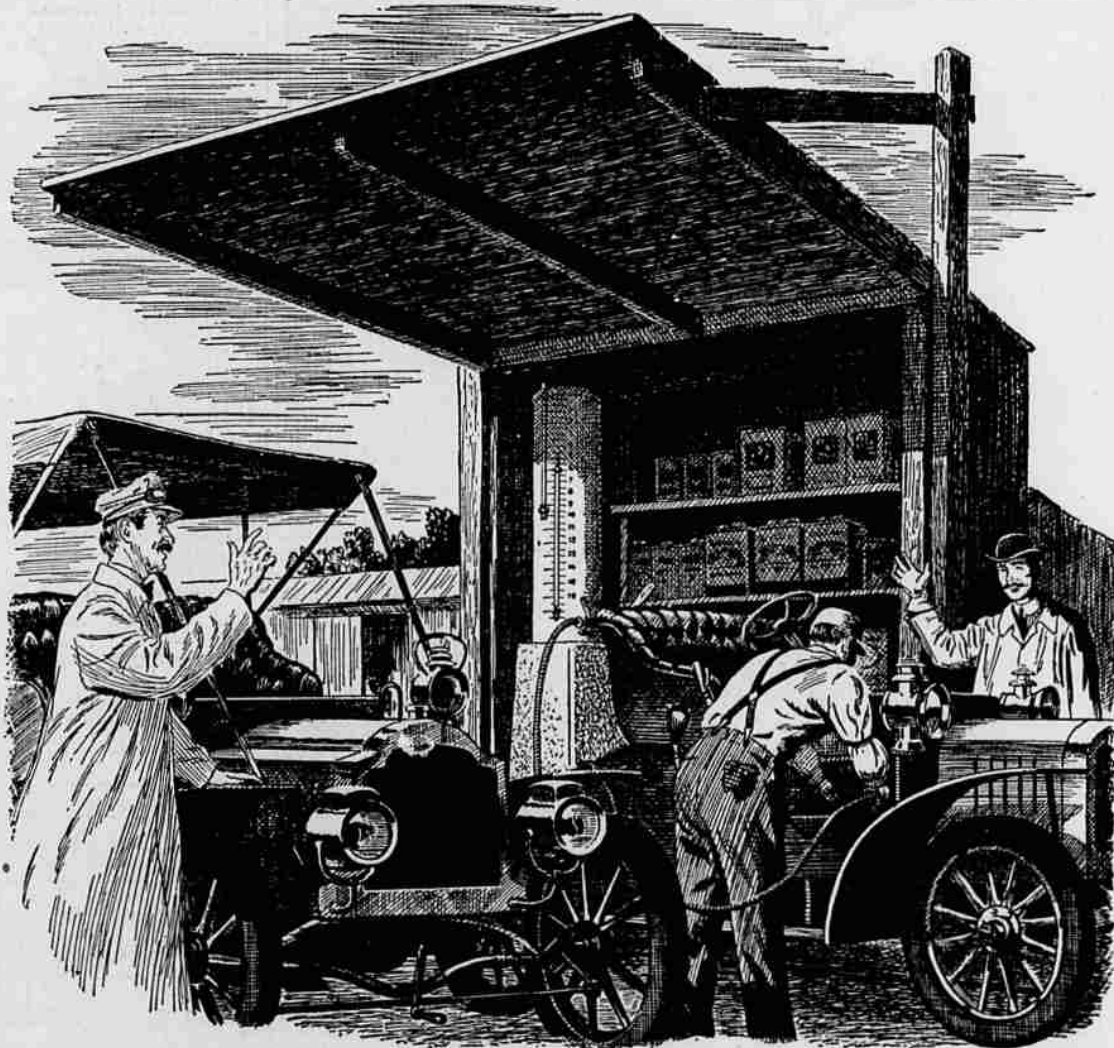
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ported themselves in the Live during the 1890s.

Beyond the confines that were D. G. Murray's cow pasture in 1910 is the modern high school, and behind this an athletic field well populated by frogs and an occasional wild duck during the wet autumn in those bygone times.

As the landscape stretches northward are chimneys of today's industries, where an atmospheric haze caused by their production obscures vision short of the fair grounds.

Items of interest, including current newspapers, will be buried for 100 years in a stainless steel cylinder at Alexandria, Va.

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