

JOHN AND SARAH DURBIN, PIONEERS OF 1845



Pictures of Noted Pioneers Submitted by Former Governor

By BEN MAXWELL  
A photograph of John Durbin, pioneer of 1845, and his wife Sarah, probably made by J. H. Montgomery, Salem artist in the 1870s, was recently submitted to the Capital Journal by former Governor Oswald West as a tribute to a

City Police Auto Damaged in Chase

A city police car was damaged late Monday night when the officer driving it ran it off the road in the 1100 block of Edgewater street to avoid a head-on collision with a wrong-way driver.

Patrolman Clement C. Wiemals reported that he was headed eastward on Edgewater street and almost to the Center street bridge approach when he saw a car coming the wrong way off the bridge and driving without lights.

The car headed directly at the patrol car, Wiemals said, so he drove up over the curb to avoid a head-on crash. The patrol car suffered a bent rim and the front end was thrown out of alignment so that Wiemals was unable to give chase to the other car.

Another patrol car was called but was unable to find the offending driver. The police car was taken to a garage for repairs.

Marion county family living in this locality 108 years. When John Durbin died at the home of his grandson, Duncan Ross, eight miles northeast of Salem on July 18, 1897, he was on the eve of his 103rd birthday and the only known Marion county pioneer then alive who had also lived in the days of George Washington. Durbin, born in Fayette county, Pennsylvania, in 1794, was 5 years old when this nation's first president died.

He had lived in various parts of the east before his marriage to Sarah Fitting in 1820. In the spring of 1845 he left for Oregon by the overland route and arrived here during the fall of that year. He settled at once on a claim north of Salem and remained a resident of Marion county the rest of his life. There he lived until the family moved to Salem about 1872 and established a residence at Center and Water streets.

Ten children were born to the Durbins and five of these were living in 1897.

Mrs. Durbin died March 31, 1892, at the Salem home. At the time of her death she had 43 grandchildren, 66 great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

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Health Session In Portland

The annual conference of Oregon Health Officers which opened in the state office building, Portland, and will continue through Friday, is scheduled to discuss a number of matters pertinent to public health.

The conference will be attended by Dr. W. J. Stone, Marion county health officer and William Greene, county sanitarian.

Among the subjects to be considered will be that concerning the control of ragweed. This will be discussed at 11 a.m. Friday with Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer in the role of moderator. Discussing the issue will be Dr. Frank Perl-

man, member of the pollen survey committee, American Academy of Allergy; J. J. Inskeep, Clackamas county extension agent and Eric Bergman, assistant director of the travel information division, state highway department.

Greene will take part in the deliberations of sanitarians. One of the speakers will be Attorney General Robert Y. Thorton who will talk on the subject "Laws, Regulations and Procedure to Follow When Dealing With Unreasonables."

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Hoover PTA Heard Report on Projects

The Hoover school PTA met Monday night and Mrs. George Goforth, chairman of the projects committee, submitted a list of proposed projects for the coming year. Suggestions made included a kiln, public address system for the multiple purpose room, radio, stage equipment and lighting for the stage. The recommendations made by the projects committee were unanimously approved.

When John Durbin, shown in this photograph made about 80 years ago, died on July 17, 1897, he was on the eve of his 103rd birthday and was 5 years of age when George Washington died in 1799. The Durbins settled on a claim north of Salem in 1845 and established a residence here at Center and Water street in 1872.

Since the next regular meeting date falls close to the holidays it was decided to change the time of meeting to January 11.

Al Morris, program chairman, introduced Miss Judy Loucks, Salem High student, who gave a talk on Christmas Seals.

The speaker of the evening was Dr. Dan Wiles, president of the Marion County Dental association. Following Dr. Wiles' talk, there was a lengthy discussion on the subject which he presented, which was fluoridization of city water. The Hoover PTA passed a motion favoring fluoridization.

Mrs. Genevieve Wegner's fifth grade received the pen-

nant for attendance. The fifth grade mothers were hostesses for the evening.

DECICCO HEADS DEMOS Portland (AP)—Mike DeCicco of Portland is the new president of the Willamette Democratic Society.

He was elected Tuesday to succeed Phil Dreyer who resigned on moving to California.

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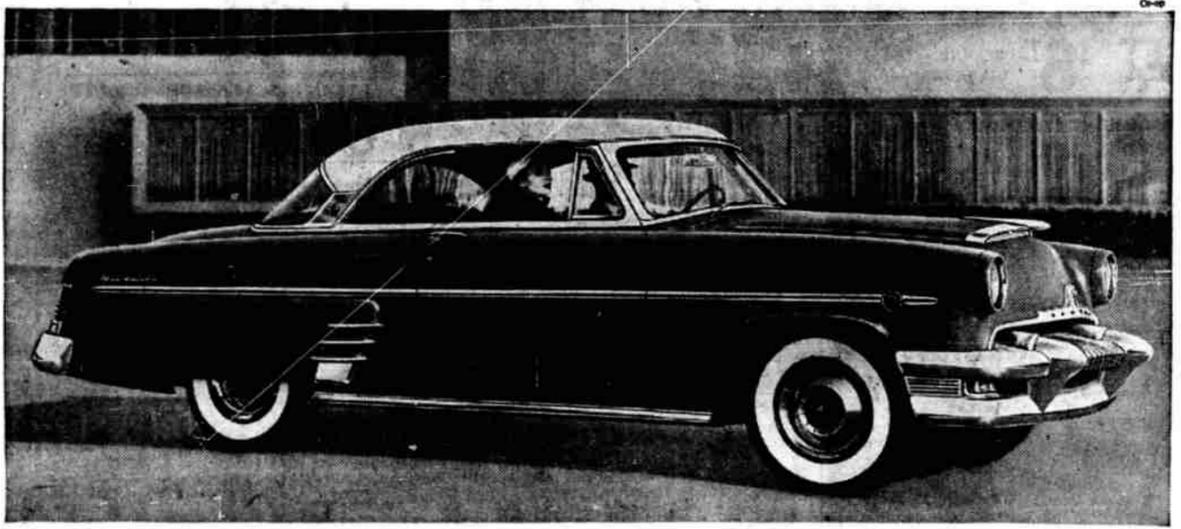


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