

NEW AND OLD AT LACOMB



LEBANON—Lacombe school includes the old building left, still used for classrooms, and the new modern building which was completed last fall. Four districts were consolidated to form the present Lacombe school, district 73. In addition, seventh and eighth grades from the neighbor Salt Lake school attend classes here.



LEBANON—Main street in Lacombe is typical of the nation's small country towns. The general store, center, is flanked with residences neatly fenced with pickets. Far left is the Lacombe Baptist church and beyond is the school. The garage hall, post office and community building face the street at right.

Long Dormant Lacombe Stirs, Prepares for New Prosperity

By KATHERINE HARRIS

LEBANON—Lacombe, one of Linn county's most eastern communities, is easily accessible from highway 20 and lies in a valley of unusual beauty to the northeast is Snow Peak. Crabtree creek, Roaring river and the middle fork of the South Santiam are all water potentials to the area.

From the Crabtree has been developed a splendid irrigation district, which so far has been little utilized.

Only a few decades ago the Lacombe section was overgrown with fern. The clearing of its land and the subsequent transformation to a splendid agricultural section is one of the success stories of Linn county.

The settlement lies in the foothills of the Cascades. Promises of future development are many, and with its excellent soil, irrigation system and equable climate, the Lacombe area is due to blossom when its many attributes are recognized and developed. The section is notable for numerous pocket farms. Their feet are in the valley, and narrow strips of tillable land run up into draws with thick stands of fir bordering small creeks which flow the year around.

Lacombe, now in somnolent mood, shows little increase in population. Its school enrollment increased only 12 over that of last year and it is one of the few schools in the county whose primary class was not bursting this fall. Beginners numbered only 28, showing no appreciable increase over those of a year ago.

Few Farms Worked
In contacting residents of the area, one is impressed with the very few farmers who really work at farming as an occupation. Near-

ly all are employed in the lumber industry or have jobs in urban centers, the while maintaining their homes on the farms.

Some have put a portion of their wages back into their holdings with the result that many of the farms look extremely prosperous with new fences and machine sheds, freshly painted homes and in many cases modern new houses. In spite of this up-and-coming look, the fact is that little is being raised beyond garden, berries, stock and a minimum of feed crops.

"Every year we put all we can spare back into the farm from the wages my husband earns in logging," one woman remarked. "We figure to have the farm and improvements paid for if the time comes when we must make a living there."

The town of Lacombe has the usual general store, post office, grange hall, church, community center and school, the latter on the outskirts. Lacombers are planning for the future and their school so indicates. It was recently consolidated with three other districts, and a new modern unit was completed last summer at an approximate cost of \$52,000. The very best and newest in equipment, including radiant heat, was installed, and future plans include kitchen, multipurpose room, and new classrooms as the need arises. It is situated on a five-acre tract which includes a recently purchased playground.

The teaching staff is headed by Ralph Gibbs, and his assistant instructors are Patricia Gray, Mae Dimmick, Vera Lange, Vera Barry, and two special teachers, Ben Warwick, music, and Kreta Ayers, special education. Chairman of the board is A. A. Ayers.

Hub of Highways
A number of market roads converge in Lacombe like spokes to a wheel hub. The area is well provided with power lines and served by the Linn County Telephone company. Its post office, a small frame building, receives mail through Lebanon by a star route.

Recently the little office received national notice when it was burglarized and robbed of 75 cents. Even for the theft of this small amount, postal authorities are tracing the culprit with the zeal that traditionally makes the pilfering of the U. S. mail an offense to be reckoned with.

Lacombe, for many years noted for its berry crops, saw a dropping off of this product during the fast two seasons. A blight on blackcaps has steadily endangered the crop until the harvest was very short last summer. Growers of some of these largest acreages are grubbing out their vines. Some plan to return to strawberries which was an important crop in earlier decades.

Agriculture in the Lacombe area, though now large inactive, offers unusual attractions for diversified farming. That its development there will make Lacombe one of western Oregon's garden spots is

Keizer

KEIZER — Mr. and Mrs. Richard Morgan presented an assembly program, "Adventures with the Indians of the West," in Keizer school Jan. 15 at 1 p.m.

Student council meetings were held at Cummings school and Keizer school.

Flags will be presented to the nine rooms at Cummings school this week.

A health clinic was held at the Cummings school Jan. 13, with immunizations.

This clinic was held under the auspices of Mrs. Hugh Adams and the health committee of the Keizer P-TA.

An assembly program will be held Jan. 20 with Mr. Summers' sixth grade in charge of the program.

"Strange Things Are Happening" was presented in the Keizer school auditorium Friday evening, Jan. 15. Benefits go to Keizer Scout activity.

Kay Shidler performed the original modern ballet. Joyce Mount both sang and played the piano. Mrs. Harvey Lea sang, and Mrs. William Nufeldt played "Bumble Boogie" as a piano selection. Larry Powell who took the part of "Grandma" kept the play at high pitch.

Parrish junior high school band played several numbers.

Sharon Bowles did some dancing numbers also. Director was Marvin Black who no doubt was responsible for the excellent performance.

The Home Economics club of the Keizer Grange met Jan. 14 at the home of Mrs. Emma Seely, Chairman. Mrs. Nan Francisco, opened the meeting. Attending were Mrs. Francisco, Mrs. Thelma Evans, Mrs. Mae Nekuda, Mrs. Dorothy Goldsby, Mrs. Elsa Black, Mrs. Betty Goldsby, Mrs. Lena Ettner, Mrs. Agnes Lutz, Mrs. Anna Claggett, Mrs. Ruby Girod, Mrs. Wilda Savage, Mrs. Audra Whelan, Mrs. Ruth Hutchins, and the hostess Mrs. Emma Seely. The Pinochle party under the direction of Mrs. Mabel Benson, was well attended.

There will be more of these. The next meeting of Home Economics club will be with Mrs. Ruth Hutchins on Feb. 11. The next Grange meeting will be at the Grange hall, Feb. 3, beginning with a 6:30 pot-luck supper.

The Keizer Garden club will meet Tuesday evening, Jan. 19 at the fire hall. The speaker for the evening will be A. G. Bouquet, from Corvallis. His topic will be "Vegetable Gardening." Marvin Black, program chairman, will announce the speakers of the year.

The Knit the Stitch 4-H club met Friday, with Mrs. Roy Mogster, their leader. Franca McCreight served the refreshments. The Burn 'Em Crisp club, a Cooking I and II group of 4-H has had several meetings making two kinds of soup and angel food cake. The other group has made golden rod eggs, toast and cocoa. There are nine members in the club. Officers are: President, Ionebelle Lappen; vice-president, Carol Harland; secretary, Shirley Bagger; song leader, Nancy Walker; and news reporter, Ann Welty. Their leader is Mrs. Maurice Walker.

The Jolly Bakers met Wednesday, Jan. 6 at the home of Mrs. Straw. All members were present. The project was canning cherries. Toy Esch served refreshments.

Staff Sergeant H. Dodson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Dodson, 3640 Cherry Ave., has returned to the United States after being in French Morocco for 13 months. He will now be stationed at Merced, Calif., until his discharge which he expects on March 14. The Keizer P-TA met Thursday, Jan. 14 at the Keizer school auditorium. President Leo Johnson opened the meeting. Rev. E. J. Berry of the Church of Christ gave the opening prayer. Mrs. Stettler made her report on the welfare committee. Fifteen needy families were helped at Christmas time.

The nominating committee for 1953 officers was chosen. They are: Mrs. Hugh Adams, Tom Pomeroy, Mrs. Barbara Smith, and Mrs. Dorthea Hansen.

Shirley Schultz, program chairman, presented seventh and eighth grade boys and girls in tumbling. About 40 boys under the direction of Mr. Wood performed, and about 45 girls under Mrs. Macnamara did some exercises and folk dancing.

Mrs. Adams gave a report on the work of the health committee.

A film on mental health was ed, led by Dr. Trevelin, psychiatrist, and a discussion followed.

Mrs. Macnamara's room won the room count.

The February meeting will be by the men of P-TA. The March meeting will be given to the women.

Serving refreshments were Mrs. Donald McCue, chairman; Mrs. Harley Cordrey, Mrs. James Moreley, Mrs. Chas. Ronk, and Mrs. David Friesen.

Although accurate statistics have not been kept, officials believe that cobra bites are responsible for several thousand deaths a year in India.

Banquet in Honor Of Junior Citizen

WOODBURN — Tickets for the Distinguished Service Award banquet honoring Charles B. Cornwell as Woodburn's junior first citizen for 1953, are now on sale at the Woodburn Pharmacy, Piper's Jewelry or from any Jaycee member.

Phil Branson is chairman of the event which will be held at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, at the Woodburn American Legion hall. The new officers of the Woodburn Jaycees will also be installed at this meeting.

Sig Unander, state treasurer, will be the featured speaker at the banquet. The distinguished service award certificate and key will be presented to Cornwell by Harlan Roth of Silverton, Jaycee district vice-president, and L. H. Hilderbrandt, retiring Jaycee president, will be toastmaster. The public is invited.

Cornwell recently received another honor when he was appointed as a member of the Oregon State Board of Funeral Directors and Embalmers for a two year term, by Governor Paul Patterson.

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Shotgun Blast Wounds Two

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — Gary R. Mark, 19, of Grants Pass, Ore., was one of two youths wounded by a shotgun blast from a shanty community near here Friday.

Mark and Marvin F. Cooper, 18, Santa Ana, were in a group that had been tossing rocks at the shanty dwelling. Mark faces possible loss of his right eye and Cooper suffered arm wounds.

A transient who lived in one of the houses was booked on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon.

Ed Boehnke GOP Chairman

PORTLAND (UP)—Ed Boehnke of Eugene today was the new state chairman of the Republican party, succeeding Robert Elliott of Medford.

Boehnke was chosen here Saturday by unanimous vote of the party's state central committee. Elliott announced some time ago he was resigning the position.

Boehnke said he would resign as chairman of the Lane county Republican central committee and promised a statewide organizational campaign which he said would take him to each county at least twice during the year.

TV Off When Water Seeps Into Cable

ROSEBURG (AP) — The Pacific Northwest was without network television programs for several hours Saturday night when water seeped into a coaxial cable about 80 miles south of here.

The cable, which links Sacramento and Portland, also carries regular telephone calls and wires leased by the Associated Press.

Repairs were completed at about 10 a.m. Sunday. A spokesman for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co. said the water seeped in when a landslide weakened the cable.

The network TV blackout affected stations in Portland, Seattle, Tacoma and Yakima.

Commendation Won By Mainwaring

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene (Special) — William L. Mainwaring, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Mainwaring of 2540 Skopli, Salem, has been awarded the Military Science I Commendation Award from the Army ROTC department of the University of Oregon.

This award was presented to four freshman cadets for maintaining highest standards in theory in classroom work and on the drill field during the fall academic term.

Mainwaring, who attended high school in Nampa, Idaho, is a freshman in journalism at the university.

SOVIET TRAVEL BUREAU TO OPEN IN LONDON

LONDON (AP) — The Daily Telegraph said Monday that Intourist, the Soviet travel agency, plans to reopen its London office by early summer. The paper said Intourist hopes to be ready to issue tickets and book accommodation for visitors to Russia by that time.

freely predicted as national population moves steadily to the west.

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