

Still Cross River

Only Two Ferries Remain In Action

By BEN MAXWELL
Capital Journal Writer

If Virgil, Horace and Catullus paid old Charon his obolus for ferrage across the mythical Styx enroute to the Elysian fields they got soaked. Marion county's two remaining ferries will transport you across the Willamette at Wheatland or Buena Vista without any charge at all.

Of course there are skeptics who say that crossing the Willamette to Buena Vista in Polk county or Wheatland in Yamhill is not exactly comparable to entering the Elysian field, that tranquil haven of antiquity. And there are other hard headed persons to remind you that residents of Polk, Marion or Yamhill counties pay the obolus just the same, but indirectly. They point out that joint operation of the two ferries cost the counties \$10,000 a year for Buena Vista and about \$12,000 for Wheatland.

First License Given
Reason B. Hall, stalwart pioneer of 1846 settled himself on the site of Buena Vista—2 miles from Salem as the Willamette flows—and in 1851 received a license from the territorial legislature to operate a ferry at that crossing.

W. E. Lawrence, ferryman with 28 years of experience, first at Independence and later at Buena Vista, runs the new "Buena Vista." This trolley ferry with a steel hull was laid down in 1955, is a twin screw boat driven by two electric motors, one for each propeller. Buena Vista takes up to six cars and makes the crossing in about two minutes. At present the boat is handling from 90 to 150 cars and trucks daily but when the bean season gets to going strong the number will be about doubled.

Service Sometimes Stopped
Buena Vista, like the Daniel Matheny at Wheatland, has a good record for continuity of service. But when the river gets too high and drift laden both ferries prudently retire and wait for Old Man River to recede within his banks.

Wheatland ferry is 13 miles below Salem as the river flows and 35 miles from Buena Vista. Daniel Matheny, veteran of the war of 1812 and a Yamhill county pioneer of 1843 was operating a ferry at his crossing in 1847.

Present Wheatland ferry acquired in 1947 bears the name of its founder, Daniel Matheny. It is a six car boat powered by electricity and makes the Willamette crossing in about two minutes. It also made newspaper history a few winters ago when the cable broke during a winter evening and the boat went adrift in the darkness. A single power wire held to guide the ferry into willows where it lodged.

Tom Bowden, with 16 years of experience at the Wheatland crossing, and Frank Hershba operate the Daniel Matheny. On June 14 of this year they transported 157 cars and 53 trucks between Mission Bottom and Wheatland.

Two Ferries Remain
Buena Vista and Wheatland ferries alone remain of many once landing along the Willamette in Marion county. For many years these ferries operated as charge ferries but after 1910 joint county operations gave them a free and public status.

Sol Cox and Richardson Bros. started operating a ferry at the Independence crossing August 14, 1865. The service became free in 1866 and a ferry continued to operate here until the bridge replaced it five years ago.

Halls ferry between Independence and Salem was established by Noah Leabo during or before 1867. An early Salem newspaper carried his rhyming advertisement:

"So come one, come all
We're always glad to have you call
So come by night or come by day
We are always glad to work for pay"

B. F. Hall acquired Leabo's ferry in 1922 and thereafter it continued to operate under his name until the service was discontinued around 1915. Final owner was a Mr. Pettyjohn who advertised to attract a vanishing horse and buggy traffic that no autos were allowed on his ferry. As a matter of fact the Polk county road to Pettyjohn's ferry was so deep with ruts and mud that no auto could reach his boat from no auto could reach his boat from Andrew Jackson Doak established Doak's ferry at what is now

Teachers Name 5 To Portland Meet

Five delegates will represent the Salem Classroom Teachers association at the 94th annual convention of the National Education association in Portland July 1-6.

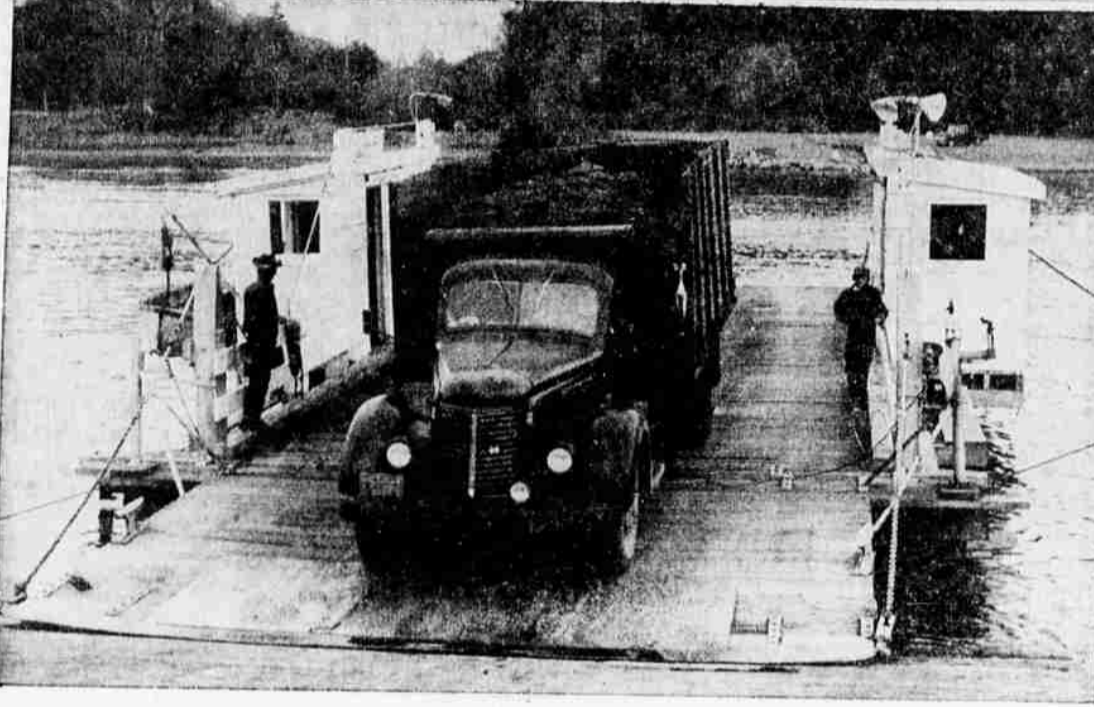
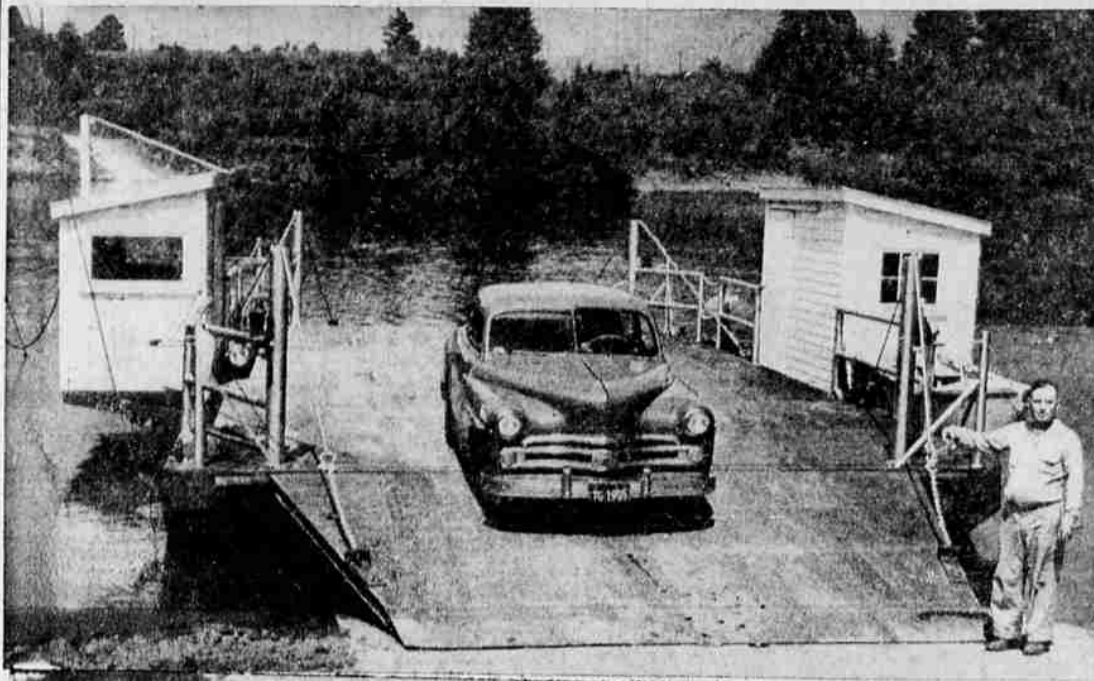
Delegates chosen were Joseph D. Formick, Richard Hodico, Eleanor Roberts, James Watson and George Forgard.

Among outstanding speakers at the convention will be Eric Johnston, special roving ambassador for the United States in the Middle East, and Dr. Lee DuBridge, president of the California Institute of Technology.

Woodburn Picnic Set

WOODBURN—The annual Sunday school picnic for the Woodburn Presbyterian church will be held July 24, in Settlemier park (weather permitting). The pot luck dinner will be served at the park immediately after the morning service. The Sunday school will provide the drinks and ice cream. In case of rain the picnic will be held in the church social room. All members, families and friends of the church are urged to attend.

Ferries Still Do Good Business on Willamette River



Top: Buena Vista ferry service established by Reason B. Hall in 1851 has been continuous at this crossing for 105 years. Shown is the present boat, "Buena Vista," new, twin screw steel ferry motivated by electrical power. W. E. Lawrence, ferryman with 28 years of experience, is shown at the right directing a car off his boat. Lower: Ferry "Daniel Matheny" at Wheatland crossing bears the name of its founder who operated a ferry here during 1847. Tom Bowden and Frank Hershba are ferrymen. (Capital Journal Photos)

7 Wonders of World Brought Up to Date

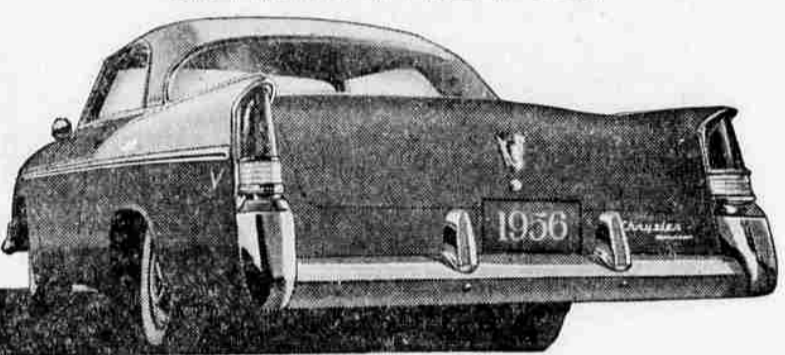
List Includes Throw-Away Bottles, Churchill

By H. D. QUIGG
United Press Staff Correspondent
NEW YORK (UP) — Reports from Italy hint that the Leaning Tower of Pisa may have to be rebuilt. You probably know that the leaning tower in the Middle Ages was one of the seven wonders of the world. And you probably can't name the other six. It's time we brought the list up to date, using wonders that we all wonder at every day. Here-with, the wonders of today's world:

1. The no-return beer bottle. Before the advent of this sturdy monument to convenience, mankind was knee deep in bottles, waiting to be returned.
 2. Singing commercials. Wonders never cease—and neither do these things.
 3. Strapless dresses. The wonder here is: Wonder whether it'll stay up?
 4. View of the Empire State building. Looks down on the greatest agglomeration of masonry, steel, and connivance in history.
 5. Winston Churchill. A wonder of this—any other—world.
 6. High heels for women and jackets in summer for men. The wonder of the spectacle of millions of persons maiming and torturing themselves.
 7. Air condition. 'S wonderful. And now back to the storied tower of Pisa.
- We have checked and found there is no truth in the ancient legend that Conrad Hilton is going to buy the tower, turn it into a hotel, and name it "The Tiltin' Hilton."
- Nor is there substance to the report that it is going to be turned into a restaurant called "The Leaning Tower Of Pizzo."
- There was a rumor, some months ago, that the Leaning Tower sent a note to Big Ben in London. The note said: "You've got the time and I've got the inclination."
- This is true. We wouldn't end this piece on a false note.

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