

PLANS READY FOR BIG PARADE

Musings-- By an Innocent Bystander

The "Great Grand Jury" has spoken! And it has said in no uncertain tones that disruption and strife must cease in Jackson County.

But now that the vast majority of the good people of Jackson County has shown that they have returned to normalcy in their thinking, we shall be content to drop out of the limelight once more.

We also commend the action of the district attorney's office in promptly laying the heavy hand of the law on all who would continue to spread the gospel of slander, libel and plain lying about our streets.

And now, in the words of the immortal Emancipator, "Let us go on in the work we are in. To bind up the Nation's wounds; to care for the widows and orphans. . . . and to do all in our power to achieve a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all people."

Once each year for many, many years there has been carried on a beautiful thought, Started way back in the days following the Civil war by the Grand Army of the Republic, the yearly custom of decorating the graves of the nation's dead has gradually become of wider scope.

And while we pay respect for the soldier dead, we have also come to make it a day in which to spread our flowers of remembrance over the resting places of all our dead. It is well so to do. May we all, as we silently place these wreaths on the graves of loved ones, or beautify their final resting places, take a moment from life's hurly-burly to contemplate the real things of life, and to take solemn pledges to be more worthy of the heritage which is ours.

We are wondering a bit today just what to do about our schools. Judging from the talk heard about town we might just as well close up and quit. We are told by some of the grandmas of the town our schools are altogether too extravagant; that

Two Parties Held Together Honoring Miss Arlene Hay

During the last few days of school a spirit of unrest seemed to pervade the pupils of Miss Arlene Hay's class. There was whispering and giggling among her second and third grade pupils that seemed to be entirely un-called for.

Friday morning, the last day of school, each pupil found on their desk an invitation from Miss Hay to a party that afternoon. Then it was that Miss Hay found out what the mystery was that had disturbed the children all thru the week.

It seems as tho the children and their mother's had planned a surprise party for Miss Hay for the last day of school. Also Miss Hay had planned a surprise party for the children for the same day. Both parties were put together that afternoon and a real good time was had by all.

A group of about 25 to 30 of Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Hale met at the home of Oscar Blackford. They then got Mr. and Mrs. Hale and hauled them around in a trailer. It was a delayed charivari. Mrs. Hammond and Mrs. Mimmick furnished cookies and lemonade. Mr. and Mrs. Haley treated the crowd to beer and candy.

Mr. Bert Hedgpeth was called out of bed at two o'clock Wednesday morning to look up a transient who was making a disturbance. He was taken to Medford this morning.

The C. P. Recreation club held a picnic at Bybee bridge Sunday. They had a serf board, motor boat, etc. They reported that they also had lots of fun.

Mr. Barker presented Mr. E. P. Stone with Queenie, a beautiful white collier with brown eyes and ears and a brown star in her forehead.

Restormel was the scene of a very happy gathering after commencement Friday May 11, when a group of relatives and friends met in honor of the graduate of Catherine Lathrop.

Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Lathrop entertained at their home Restormel Wednesday evening May 9, the teachers of the high school and their families. Various games were played and delicious refreshments served.

Mrs. Julia Owen is visiting her daughter Mrs. Court Hall at the Hall Orchard for a short time.

They cost too much; that the kids would be just as well off, or better, if the schools closed altogether.

Bah! Such bunk gives us a pain in the neck. Is it possible these people really are ready to go back to the horse-and-buggy age again. Can they not see that with the world progressing in every other way that the education of our youth must progress also.

Do not fail to do your part in the work of beautifying the various burial places in the valley. We can at least keep them clean and free from weeds. In the words of Kipling: "Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet. Lest we forget: lest we forget."

Complete Story of Oregon Country From Indian Day

MEDFORD, Ore., May 23.—While many Oregonians may pride themselves on knowledge of state history, there are numerous historical incidents unknown to the majority. Full realization of such condition will be apparent during Oregon's Diamond Jubilee celebration in Medford and Jacksonville next June 3 to 5 and will be particularly shown during the pioneer parade scheduled for Thursday, June 7.

The parade, planned to be two miles in length, will tell a complete story of the Oregon country from the days Indians were in sole possession until the establishment of statehood in 1859, the 75th anniversary of which is the inspiration for the celebration.

Historical Lore Abounds In Central Point Vicinity

The following is a clipping handed to us this week by Mrs. W. J. Freeman. It was taken from the old Daily News of Medford but the author's name is not given. It is so well written and so beautifully expresses the feelings of so many people toward the town of Central Point and its pioneer history that we are more than glad to reprint it.

The casual passer-by may, in his ignorance dismiss Central Point from his attention with the fleeting thought that here is a nice quiet little town where people are lucky to have a gorgeous view in whichever direction they may choose to look. But to those who are privileged to become intimate with the place and its environments, comes the awareness that there is an ancient authority emanating from the town, which is situated in the heart of one of the most important communities in the state of Oregon.

One learns to enter the neighborhood with a thrill of expectation that something new and delightful will unfold itself, some project in which the partaker is excelling (for people here have the faculty of accomplishing things with thoroughness to the point of excellence) or it may be some unforgettable personality is encountered, or an ancient tale of times gone by is brought to light, with a relic gently handed to point the story.

One of the characteristics of that part of the valley taking in Medford Jacksonville and Central Point, is that one can enter the grounds of almost any home and be introduced to one or more of the scenic wonders, such as the Table Rock or one of the peaks, from the owner's particular point of vantage, each view taking on a different aspect to the sight one has seen before.

Two ladies, sisters, who are held in veneration in Central Point, and who lived there as children long before any town existed are Mrs. Julia A. Owen and Mrs. Margaret Magruder. The grounds of their homes adjoin one another in the east of the town, and are located on a part of the original donation claims taken up by their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Constant, in the early '50's.

It was in the year 1850 that Isaac Constant being told by his doctor that he must seek another climate for his health, left his home in Elkhart, Illinois, and accompanied by a friend set out on horseback for Oregon where he had been told people were finding it a good place to settle. They journeyed in safety as far as the Willamette valley unmolested by Indians, and bisecting a trail with axes enroute, so that they could retrace their steps. Conditions looked

The Lewis and Clark expedition of 1805 will be reproduced. The two famous explorers will be shown, led by Sacajawea and accompanied by 18 soldiers, nine Kentucky hunters, two French interpreters and 16 other soldiers. A reproduction of the historical salt cairn at Seaside is in the line of march.

A float presents a replica of Fort Vancouver of more than 100 years ago. Another float depicts Pulpit Rock, important in Oregon history, followed by an entry telling of the first marriage in the Oregon country—that of Jason Lee and Miss Anna Pittman. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Daniel Lee. The parade goes on to tell of the establishment of the First Methodist mission in The Dalles in 1836, of the organization of the first military unit—25 soldiers without uniform—of the establishment of provisional government in Oregon in 1943 and of many bits of Oregon history.

promising to the young men and they returned home to pack up their belongings. The trip each way took six months and it took them another six months to prepare a suitable outfit for the momentous undertaking. The young people belonged to a family of substantial landowners and much thought was expended on practical appurtenances to convey to the new home.

Finally all was ready and the party, which consisted of two wagon trains set out, Mr. Constant joining his train to that of another emigrating family.

All went well for some time, but when approaching the country bordering Utah, a band of marauding Indians stampeded the trains, carrying off two white mules, of which Mr. Constant possessed a team of six fine matched creatures. The men of the party pursued the miscreants, and came upon their camping place only to find that they had fled in alarm leaving juicy portions of fat mule roasting over the fires, while the other mule was dressed and hanging up in a tree in readiness for future consumption. Indian baskets full of ripe berries were left behind in the flight among other camp articles, and the enraged white men gathered them all together and with the meat fed them to the flames to teach the Indian's not to molest other folks' property.

The travellers replaced the mules in the team with two cows, after this being more on their guard, and pretty soon they came to a place where two routes were available. The shorter way wound along under some overhanging cliffs for some distance, while the other road was more circuitous but presented no possibilities of ambush. Mr. Constant, who possessed very sound judgment thought it would be wise not to take any chance on the short cut, but his companion was equally determined that there was no risk involved. The result was that the trains parted company here. Mr. Constant piloted his train along on the round about route while the other man took his following to meet a dreadful fate every one of them being massacred by the Indians who were waiting, just as had been suspected.

When the place now known as Central Point was reached, Mr. Constant found a man who had a right and log cabin on the banks of Bear Creek, and wanted to leave because he was afraid of the Indians. Mr. Constant bought his right and provided upon it and he and his wife each filed on a claim in their own right as they were allowed to do in those days. This gave them a substantial land holding and they enjoyed a very prosperous living in the style of the

Jubilee Orator



REV. D. J. FERGUSON, well known orator of Astoria, Ore., will deliver the main address of special union services to be held in Medford Monday evening, June 3, opening Oregon's Diamond Jubilee celebration, observing Oregon's 75th anniversary of statehood. The program will include one of the largest choirs ever assembled in the west.

times. The young wife and mother of the family found it hard at first to live in this out of the way place and every day the children would see her wiping away tears and she would say "Your father had to go somewhere for his health but he needn't have come out here to the ends of the earth." Then being a good pioneer mother she proceeded to make the best of things. With soap and candles to make, meat to cure and butter to churn, besides the thousand household and garden tasks there was not much leisure for repining.

There the grass was so rich and tall that it grew up to the animals heads and the fine cows of the Longhorn Durham breed which had been brought out, with the heard of hogs grew fat, and considerable money was made from the butter and other farm products.

It was no uncommon thing for Mr. Constant to slaughter 35 or 40 hogs on his place and when the meat was cured to invite his less fortunate neighbors to go into the smoke house and help themselves. They used to avail themselves of the offer so freely, that Mrs. Constant had to protest and tell her husband that she didn't mind his letting people have all the meat they wanted, but she simply wouldn't stand for the hams being carried off.

Mr. Constant gave freely to all even to the point of self denial, and perhaps that is why during the period of the Indian unrest in the valley they were unmolested. They were told that the Indians looked upon them as their "lilleums" (cousins), this was because Mr. Constant had fed the Indians when they were starving and they need have no fear, whatever happened.

Time went on and the children grew up and married. The eldest sister, who is now 96 years old, is enjoying splendid health and keen faculties at Vacaville, Calif. One of the daughters, Julia A. Constant, married William Addison Owen, a prominent young man of the time who came to California in '49 and was attracted to Jacksonville by the gold rush in '52. Being a college man he was looked up to in civic affairs and had an active part in the town management. He was sheriff for two terms, and revenue collector and served as major in the Indian wars. Like his father-in-law he was a kindly generous man, who could always be depended on to help in time of need. He built one of the three first houses in Central Point, and was mourned by all at the conclusion of a useful life.

Mrs. Owen now lives with her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Freeman, of the Freeman Implement Company, and at 87 is active and sprightly in mind and body. She still possesses a complete suite of bedroom furniture which came round the coast from San Francisco to Crescent City. She is looking forward to a visit with her daughter at their cabin on Union Creek, having a keen appreciation of nature's delights in the solitary places.

She has the satisfaction of seeing

Graduating Class Entertained at the Guy Tex Home

Mrs. Tex and Mrs. Haley gave a reception to the graduating class after Commencement Exercises Friday evening at the Tex home. The following guests were present: Ayys Ayers, Delbert Ayers, Geneva Brown Ralf Buckles, Fred Bosworth, Lowell Blackford, Genieve Carlson, Buddy Cowan, Clifford Casad, Frances Faber, Elron Griffiths, Lewis Hedgpeth, Ruth Haley, Hermon Hosfeld, Lotus Hesselgrave, Janice Hesselgrave, Edward Inman, Katharine Lathrop, Naomi Johnson, Leighton McDowell, Jerry Bellings, Edna Shaver, Ernel Shaver, Jerry Tex, Harry Young and Prof. and Mrs. Jewett. Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Zobel Mrs. Grieve, Dewey Hill and Bill Akwit from Prospect attended the Commencement and were invited to join the party. The senior class colors were carried out in green and white. Ice cream and cake were served. It was a gathering that will long be remembered.

Mr. James Gregg who bought the Lamb house has just completed putting a new roof on his barn. They have also refurbished and painted the inside of the house. They are also making many improvements outside.

her children to the fourth generation happily settled around in the valley filling honored positions and carrying out the tradition of their forefathers. W. J. Freeman has lived in Central Point and carried on a substantial business for the past 35 years. He holds the confidence of his customers who may be found all the way to Crescent City, and his been identified with the progress of the town since its infancy.

Mrs. Owen lived for part of her life in Jacksonville and during the smallpox scare moved to Sams Valley. With the exception of three years spent in the Willamette Valley, she has been living in Jackson County since she crossed the plains at the age of ten.

Her sister, Mrs. Margery Magruder, who is 81 years old, enjoys the distinction of having lived within a radius of four miles for the past 77 years, coming to Central Point as a four year old tot and never leaving it except for an occasional visit. She married in the town and her husband had a store there in the '70's. While rheumatic infirmities keep her very much confined to her home, she is a great reader and her hands are always finding occupation making rag rugs and performing light tasks. She knows all the lights and shadows on her beloved hills and has rich memories of bygone days, when one of her pleasures was to climb Table Rock and look down on the valley below. Like most of the old timers who are really authorities on the subject, she deprecates the inaccuracy of many of the stories of early times. Her memory travels back to the time when she was a small child and the snow was four feet deep on the level. It quickly melted and caused the floods which took the lives of several people including a whole family of children who were at home on an island on the river. She remembers in the second year of their coming that her father rebelled at the local high prices, when salt was a dollar a pound and other commodities equally dear. He took a pack train and went up the Willamette valley returning with stores of provisions at a more reasonable rate and a little coop containing two chickens and a rooster, the foundation of poultry in Central Point. Mrs. Magruder remembers her father's struggles to start a family orchard. The first attempt failed through an invasion of grasshoppers the next planting fell prey to an army of caterpillars, commonly called army worms, hairy black creatures, which moved along in millions turning aside for nothing and crossing house-tops and streams with equal facility. The third lot of trees were demolished by another grasshopper visit, but the unconquerable spirit of the pioneer enabled him to try yet again and be succeeded in establishing a fine orchard.

One leaves the presence of our be-

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