

Development Of Churches and Camp Meetings By Early Settlers

BY ROY L. DAVIDSON

As previously stated in these columns the first religious services of the early day Beaverton country were held in Tom Denney's log cabin, built on his donation land claim which he settled in 1849. By 1857, the settlers had become well enough established to actually build a church which they put up on a site across the road to the east of present day Eliander's garage in Progress.

They were mighty proud of that church, those folks were, for it was a real frame building made of boards from the Denney Mill. And mind you, they wanted a real job on this structure so they deviated from the usual practice of planning and preparing all the lumber by hand at the building site; instead it was loaded on wagons and hauled to Portland, where it was planned according to specifications, then reloaded and hauled back across the steep road over the hill, out to the building place.

One name stands out above all others in the building of that church, the name of James Davies, an emigrant of '52. It was he who gave generously himself and by his zeal and enthusiasm induced others to take part. In addition to monetary contributions, Davies donated four acres of land on which a number of log cabins were erected and in the years from '57 to '79, folks came from all directions and camped in these cabins while they attended the camp meetings held for two weeks each summer. There was everything that the name implies in these meetings, preaching, singing, prayer services and such a lot of visiting by the campers who probably only saw each other that one time during the year.

A wealthy eastern man, Peter Enos, by name, happened into the country about the time the church was finished. He was so impressed by the industry and enthusiastic manner in which the settlers were doing things that he endowed the new church with a library, one of the first in the country. It served splendidly until the fire in '82 destroyed the church and everything in it. Later the church was rebuilt just across the road, right where Eliander's garage is now located.

This first church, like most all early day churches of Oregon was Methodist; early as 1834 the first Methodist missionaries were beginning to filter into Oregon and the Willamette Valley, establishing a mission post about ten miles north of Salem on the Willamette river. From this point as a hub, their missionaries swarmed forth in all directions, working among settlers as well as Indians. Many are the interesting tales told of their efforts and the results they obtained. Perhaps we might deviate slightly from the narration of the camp meetings at Ames' Chapel—that's what they called their church at Progress, after a Methodist Bishop who had charge of this territory—to relate two incidents that occurred at the present site of The Dalles.

At this point of the Columbia were the Wishram Indians, fishermen and thieves, about the most plying tribe of them all. The Methodists got two of their missionaries to work and they preached, cajoled and did about everything they could to bring about an improvement among their red constituents. But with little, if any, success. So desperate did things become that the two preachers decided that a revival was about the only hope. Just what an Indian revival is like, you will have to imagine for yourself, for your conception is as good as the other fellow's on this subject. One emigrant passing through The Dalles at the time made a note in his diary—he wondered

what there was about Wishram Indians that was worth reviving.

The faithful missionaries tried to teach the benefits of prayer. The Indians were perfectly willing to pray if they were given a hatchet or knife as soon as their supplications were finished. They insisted on immediate results and try as they might, the two preachers had their hands full. One day an old Indian man approached them and asked for a blanket. "Why don't you pray for one?" asked one of the men.

"We pray all night," replied the Indian. "You give me blanket now and me pray half day for it."

With such poor material before which to cast their pearls it is no wonder that the devout men welcomed the emigrants who passed through their station. It was a pleasing change to preach to more intelligent and receptive beings, but even so, some of the covered wagoners were no set-ups, as is borne out by the following incident.

One evening a party got into The Dalles and of course the missionaries held services that evening around the open camp fire. They had little response until one man, a Frenchman, suddenly made his way to the center of the firelit circle, knelt down and began such earnest and emotional supplication, that the missionaries were simply delighted. Minutes passed and still the man knelt there, his eyes cast skyward, his arms flailing in wild gestures, the tears streaming down his cheeks. As is their custom in such cases, the two preachers joined in with him, the better to help him along. But during the whole procedure they hadn't understood one word the man uttered for he spoke in French.

When at great length he was finished and had joined the circle again, the exuberance of the two missionaries was at a high pitch. Here, at last was some tangible results! But alas! Their joys were snuffed-lived. Soon as the meeting was over, a member of the party who understood French informed them that the Frenchman had not prayed at all. He had a flair for dramatics and had recited one of the glamorous tales from Arabian Nights.

Back to the camp meetings. From Portland came the Slavins, Caples and Mary Lewis among others. Mary Lewis or Mrs. Herman Lewis of the present Russellville Nursery Lewis's of Portland is a great granddaughter of Tabitha Brown, founder of the Pacific university, Forest Grove. She is a sister of Ernest Brown of Hillsboro, veteran county druggist. The first Browns settled their donation land claim at Forest Grove back in '44.

Mrs. Alvin Brown, mother of Mary Lewis and Ernest Brown used to attend the camp meetings at Ames' Chapel. Ernest Brown, though a small boy at the time can think back to the time she went to Ames and left him and his father home to take care of the chores. "That was the time Pa exploded the pig," he says.

Before leaving for camp meeting Mrs. Brown cautioned the father and

boy. "Be sure and take care of my pig," she told them among other things. There was an enormous family churn and it was full of buttermilk from the churning, and being in the warm summertime, that buttermilk did what it always does when the sun has its way—kept getting more and more sour. Two or three days went by, Ernest Brown says, "Then one day Pa spoke up and said 'Rats, I forgot to feed that pig.' So he grabbed a pan and took it a pair of buttermilk. How that porker smacked and gurgled it down! Pa took another one with the same results, then Pa had an idea. Why not give him all of it and be done with it? Then if he forgot again the pig wouldn't have to go hungry. So he poured the rest of the sour milk in the trough and promptly forgot all about the pig."

"When Mother got home from the meeting she was telling us all about it. After a bit she stopped and said, 'How's my pig?' We didn't know—Pa hadn't even thought of him again. He told her about the buttermilk and how the pig liked it so well he gave it all to him. 'Did you really give my pig all that milk at once?' she asked. He nodded sheepishly—he was getting a faint idea that something was wrong. 'Well you've killed my pig, then,' she told them.

"So I scooted out the door and away to the pen as fast as my legs would take me. Sure enough, there was the poor pig on his back, quite dead, bloated as round as a big as a balloon, his four feet all sticking up like little knobs. That pig had been a victim of too much fermented spirits."

KINTON

The members of the Kinton Sunday School will leave the church at the close of the Sunday School to attend the meeting of the Friendly Six to be held at Mountain Home church. The meeting will open with a pot-luck dinner, followed by a program in which all the schools will take part. The speaker for the afternoon will be the new president of Pacific university.

The Ladies Aid met with Mrs. E. W. Wright Thursday with Mrs. Robert Pomeroy and C. Vandermast as joint hostesses.

The Kinton grange will start holding their summer evening meetings Tuesday, May 6 at 7:30 p. m.

The congregational meeting called for the Kinton Evangelical church for Friday evening was held Monday evening. Members met early and cleaned the church yard before the meetings.

Miss Hart, a missionary, recently returned from Japan gave a very interesting talk at the school Friday afternoon. She showed the pupils some curios from Japan and answered their many questions in regards to living conditions in that country.

Pupils of the Kinton school with perfect attendance for the past month were: Edward Niell, Paul Bell, Johnnie Mayfield, Patty Wright, David Elliott, George Yoshihara, Donald Mayfield, Phyllis Bell, Claude Ogle, and Howard Grabhorn. Denby Fry, Fred Van Horn, Fred DeLapiesse, Eniko Yoshihara and Mary Newkirk won prizes at the dis-

trict track meet at Beaverton Friday. They will go to Forest Grove this Friday for the county meet.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Aten and family attended a combination birthday and farewell dinner at the home of Major J. E. Morback Sunday. W. S. Bowen was celebrating his birthday and Shelburn Bowen left for Burbank, Calif., Tuesday where he has a job with the Lockheed Airplane Co.

WHITFORD

The regular semi monthly meeting of the Friendly Neighbor club met Wednesday. There were fourteen in attendance. The Red Cross knitted sweaters are all finished for this quarter. The afternoon was spent sewing. The result was more accomplished than usual. Mrs. Dan Polombo and Mrs. Stroger were hostesses and served an appetizing lunch of tea, coffee and cake.

The company who have been boring a well on the place recently owned by the Starretts finished their job after working for the past three or four months, moved their machinery after digging nine hundred and nine feet. The result was a good well with plenty of water. The owner of the place intends raising garlic.

The Sunday School was well attended, thirty one being present. All teachers and officers were present. The church at night had not so many present. Mr. Donald Varney of Portland delivered the message. Douglas Taylor who usually conducts the services went to Silver Creek Falls to a church conference. A young lady from Portland sang a pleasing number. Fielding Denney conducted the services.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Durbin and family visited Mr. Durbin's parents in Garden Home Sunday. A brother of Mr. Durbin's whom he had not seen for a number of years was there. He had recently been discharged from the army where he has served three years.

Mrs. Helen Rickey has moved from Portland to the home of her sister, Mrs. Rose Jordan, Mrs. Hattie Crittenden visited with them yesterday. They built a very nice addition to the house.

Albert Roe who has been confined in an Oregon City hospital is gaining strength, but the Doctors' tell him he cannot be moved to a Portland hospital for three weeks.

TIGARD NOTES

James Henderson of Tigard was named World Union vice president at the state Christian Endeavor union convention held last week at Klamath Falls.

Mrs. Edward Conklin, president of the Washington County Federation of Women's clubs presided at the Friday meeting.

A Red Cross first aid class was organized at Metzger last week with twenty members. Metzger Community club is sponsoring the group. Mrs. Orvala Giebelhouse of Reedville, is the instructor.

Mrs. Edwin C. Thompson attended the state parent teacher association convention at Eugene last week. She is president of the county group.

Scholls I. O. O. F. members plan a visit to Tigard lodge meeting on May 8th.

Walnut Blight Control Spray Time About Here

Wm. F. Cyrus, County Agent

If Franquette walnuts are to be sprayed for blight control it will soon be time to begin the spray applications, according to Paul W. Miller, associate pathologist at Oregon State College. In a few orchards, using a bordeaux spray and applying it twice or three times has become an annual practice. To be effective, these sprays must be carefully timed, put on before rains, and applied with good spray equipment.

In discussing the 1941 spray program for walnut blight, Mr. Miller says:

"This is to advise you that it is just about time to apply the first or early prebloom application for the control of walnut blight to grafted Franquette and Mayette orchards located on the valley floor. Orchardists located in the foot hills above the valley floor will not be ready to spray until sometime later, which time will have to be determined locally by each grower. In past years, orchards located at elevations ranging from 100 to 800 feet above sea level have been anywhere from one to four days later than those on the valley floor.

For general use this year, we are advising bordeaux mixture 3-1-50. A heavy mineral oil or oil emulsion viscosity 100-120 seconds Saybolt; unsulphonated residues 60 or above) at the rate of one pint of oil or one quart of oil emulsion to 100 gallons of spray should be used with this application to reduce the severity of leaf injury.

As a possible alternative program, copper oxalate at the rate of 4 pounds to 100 gallons of water may be used where freedom from injury and convenience are more important considerations than cost. (The copper oxalate spray at current prices costs about twice as much per gallon as bordeaux mixture 3-1-50.)

Growers or owners of walnut trees who are interested and want more information about this should get extension bulletin number 359, entitled Walnut Blight Control in Oregon. This is available at the county agent office.

North Portland Livestock Market Prices

The following quotations are based on prices being paid in Monday's trading:

CATTLE: Good grain-fed steers \$9.25 to \$11. Good grain-fed heifers \$9.25 to \$10.25. Good beef cows \$8 to \$8.75, medium \$7.25 to \$7.75, common \$6.25 to \$7, canners \$5 to \$6. Bulls, medium to good, \$8 to \$9.25, common \$7 to \$7.75. Vealers, good to choice \$11 to \$12.50.

HOGS: Good to choice carlots \$9.35; 170 to 215 lb truckins \$9.25 to \$9.40; 230 to 285 lb butchers \$8.75 to \$8.85; lightweight butchers \$8.50 to \$8.75; packing sows \$7.75 to \$8.25. Feeder pigs \$9.50 to \$10.50.

SHEEP: Good to choice spring lambs \$10.25 to \$10.75; medium to good \$9.50 to \$10, common \$8.50 to \$9. Old crop shorn lambs \$8.25 to \$9. Slaughter ewes, good to choice, shorn \$3.50 to \$4.

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