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TENTH FESTIVAL SEASON IS OUTSTANDING—

Tonight draws the final curtain on the tenth annual Shakespearean Festival season. With the fifth presentation of the Comedy of Errors a new record for both attendance and interest has been set, and the first civic theatre organization in the United States devoted solely to the production of Shakespeare on an authentic Elizabethan stage has proved conclusively that cultural appreciation of dramatic art has not been supplanted by the cinema.

An enterprise once viewed either skeptically or with tolerant amusement by many, has in a brief ten seasons become one of the outstanding attractions of the Pacific northwest, and has won for the city of Ashland nation-wide renown. The dream of Professor Angus Bowmer has become a reality and he has developed a repertoire civic theatre second to none. From all parts of the United States aspiring actors have eagerly sought experience and training under Professor Bowmer. Many have been disappointed in not being chosen for roles, while others have accepted small parts willingly. Each year has seen more and more talent in the dramatic field become identified with the Ashland theatre.

It is impossible to fully evaluate the 1956 season of the Shakespearean Festival until some time after its close, but an expression of appreciation to all those who have been active in its promotion and its success should be forthcoming. The tireless efforts on the part of the president of the association, John Cotton, and his board of directors, have borne fruit in the increased attendance. The publicity handled by Gene Malecki of Salem, spread the fame of the Festival from coast to coast, and resulted in first time recognition by many metropolitan papers and national publications. Promotion by the local Chamber of Commerce and other civic organizations has also been a large factor in the season's success.

Ashland can well boast of its climate and its scenery but an additional attraction which promises to vie with nature's allure, now has its roots established on the hillside of Lithia park. Under the stars visitors may see the world's greatest plays presented upon such a stage as the famed Globe theatre of Shakespeare's time. The rotation of four different productions has made it possible to attend all of the cycle in any four days. An enthusiastic tourist, who spent many weeks in Ashland, is already planning several personally conducted "all-expense" tours for the 1957 season, with the Festival as her objective plus the Crater Lake, Rogue river and red-woods features en-route. The Shakespearean Festival is no longer an experiment. It is now an Oregon landmark.

In choosing the beautiful setting in the Siskiyou foothills, Professor Bowmer has done for Oregon what no printed propaganda could ever hope to do. The mere monetary results are overshadowed by the cultural effects which spread their influence into far places and groups. Local schools will feel the consequences when children who have revelled in free rehearsals enjoy the study of Shakespeare. Local merchants have already felt the welcome increase in summer trade. Townspeople who have opened their homes to the summer actors have learned to know and love them, for the entire group have become a part of the community. They have shown by their behavior that they realize the importance of the creation of a new cultural center and are grateful for the training afforded them under dramatic and artistic experts, amid surroundings seldom equalled.

To all who contributed to the triumphant season go the heartiest thanks and appreciation of a grateful Ashland. —F. M.

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FAITH OF OUR FATHERS—

Oregon is becoming increasingly aware and proud of her historic landmarks and with each passing year another milestone is added to those already set along the highway of history. To Ashland now comes the honor of celebrating a seventy-fifth anniversary which has more than ordinary significance. The Diamond Jubilee of the First Presbyterian church is this week being observed by three days of services and meetings, combined with social events and reunions for many who have been actively identified with the church over its long period of growth.

Born in the pioneer era from the faith and zeal of devout Christians, this congregation ministered to a struggling settlement of newcomers, many of whom had rushed to the fabulous land of gold, discarding accustomed rites. Others brought with them their traditional Christian habits and in the new surroundings established their first meetings, held in the settlers' homes and later in the school house.

With the coming of the missionary, Moses Williams, the Ashland group of worshippers were able to organize on August 28, 1875. Two years later the outward symbol of their faith rose on the site of the present church, where it has become a landmark for all who pass along the highway. Its walls have sheltered three generations of believers. Its pulpit has sounded the call of Christ to thousands. And its devoted teachers, preachers and leaders over the long years have inspired and comforted many.

Truly great has been the steady and uplifting influence of a church set in the midst of a materialistic world, holding to the faith of our fathers, and challenging chaos with Christianity. With the Psalmist we can "remember the days of old" realizing "our goodly heritage" while determining "to remove not the ancient landmarks." F.M.

Heron Lake (Minn.) News (Ind. Rep.) says:

... The idea that armaments make war has some truth in it, but it is only a half-truth. Before the armaments come into being, there is suspicion and lack of faith between powers. In addition, there is the fear on the part of the various nations that they might face unprovoked aggression, like Korea.

Obituaries...

MARTHA ELLEN SURBER

Martha Ellen Surber, 80, a resident of 591 Fairview street, passed away Wednesday morning at a local rest home after a 3 months illness.

Mrs Surber was born April 15, 1870 at Pulaska, Ky., and made her home in Ashland for a year, having lived in Medford for many years preceding that. Her husband Everett McKnight Surber preceded her in death about 10 years ago. She was a member of the Medford Christian church.

She is survived by the following children: Walter and Charley of Ashland; Mrs. Callie Burke of Bay City, Texas; Mrs. Everette Workman of San Antonio, Texas, and Mrs. Effie Howard of Salt Lake City; a brother Steve Surber of Muscatine, Iowa; and by 14 grandchildren and 15 great grandchildren.

Services were held Friday at 1:30 p.m. in the Litwiller Funeral Home, with the Rev. Earl Downing officiating, and interment in Mt. View cemetery.

MRS. RAY PARKS

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning for Mrs. Ray Parks, Talent resident for 21 years, who died at her home Sunday afternoon. Services were held at the Litwiller funeral home with the Rev. A. H. MacDonnell officiating. Interment was at the Mountain View cemetery.

Mrs. Parks was born June 12, 1873 in Brown county, Ohio. Survivors are a daughter, Mrs. Iva Blackwell, Talent; two sons, Wayne Cowdrey, Talent, and Roland Parks, Ashland; six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

GRACE E. PELLETT

Grace E. Pellett, 77, a resident of Ashland for many years and more recently of Yreka, Calif., passed away suddenly Tuesday afternoon at the Ashland General hospital.

Mrs. Pellett was born on January 15, 1873 a Fort Scott, Kansas. She and her husband, Harry Pellett, had lived in this vicinity for 50 years where he was an orchardist. He preceded her in



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Plants Must Have Sufficient Moisture In Late Summer and Early Fall Months

By C. B. Cordy, County Agent

These hot afternoons make a person feel like sitting on the lawn under the sprinkler. Whenever it gets warm enough so that we feel like moving from the sun into the shade, we should sympathize a bit with some of our shrubs and trees which have no choice but to stay out in the sun.

Some of our plants, such as camellias, just can't take it in the hot sun and their leaves will scorch in spite of anything we can do short of shading them from the direct sun. However, most of our plants can stand the sun provided they have an adequate supply of moisture.

We start out in the spring and early summer with the soil pretty well filled with moisture from the winter rains. Light sprinklings to keep flowers and lawns in good shape in the early summer also seem to keep the shrubs in pretty good health. However, as the season advances, this reservoir of natural rainfall gradually becomes depleted so that at this time of year the plants are almost entirely dependent upon irrigations for their water supply. Where this irrigation supply is not adequate we find many of the plants beginning to turn yellow and shed their leaves early in the fall. After this yellowing shows up there is nothing that can be done to restore the tree or shrub to its former state of good health. However, the progress of the yellowing can be stopped by applying an adequate irrigation.

Plants and Trees Need Soaking

We frequently find cases of trees and shrubs turning yellow in lawns which are well kept and in an excellent condition. This is somewhat of an enigma to the home owner, but there is a very logical explanation. The irrigations applied to the lawn wet the soil down from two to six inches deep, and this is the

area which is saturated with grass roots. When this water is applied the grass immediately absorbs most of it, and as most of the tree roots are in the deeper layers of soil, there is little or none which gets down to them. A few days later another light irrigation will replenish the moisture for the lawn, but again the perennial plants are neglected. In order to overcome this, it is a desirable practice to give shrubs and trees two or three good soakings during the summertime. When these soakings should be applied will depend a great deal on what is being grown around them. However, in most cases, for deep rooted trees two saturations applied the first of July and the first of August would be sufficient to carry them through the year. For smaller shrubs it may be necessary to apply other special irrigations around the first of June and possibly another one the first of September.

English laurel hedges are a good example of shrubs which suffer from a lack of adequate moisture in the fall. If the moisture shortage occurs early

enough, these laurel plants will yellow up in the fall, but if it is a late shortage of moisture, the leaves may be injured and then turn yellow during the winter and spring, causing considerable consternation to the home owner.

Walnuts Need More Water

Walnut trees are more sensitive to this moisture shortage than most of our tree plants. We notice at this time of year many of our walnuts are turning yellow and do not have as many leaves as is desirable. The basic fault here is trying to grow walnut trees on relatively shallow soil. This fault is further aggravated by high water table conditions in the wintertime and by periods of drought in the fall. One of the University of California soil scientists has estimated that on an average day a walnut tree will take from the soil and evaporate through the leaves one barrel of water. On a hot day this same walnut tree requires four barrels of water. If these large quantities of water are not available, the tree's protective mechanisms cause it to wilt, and after several such shortages the leaves turn brown and fall off.

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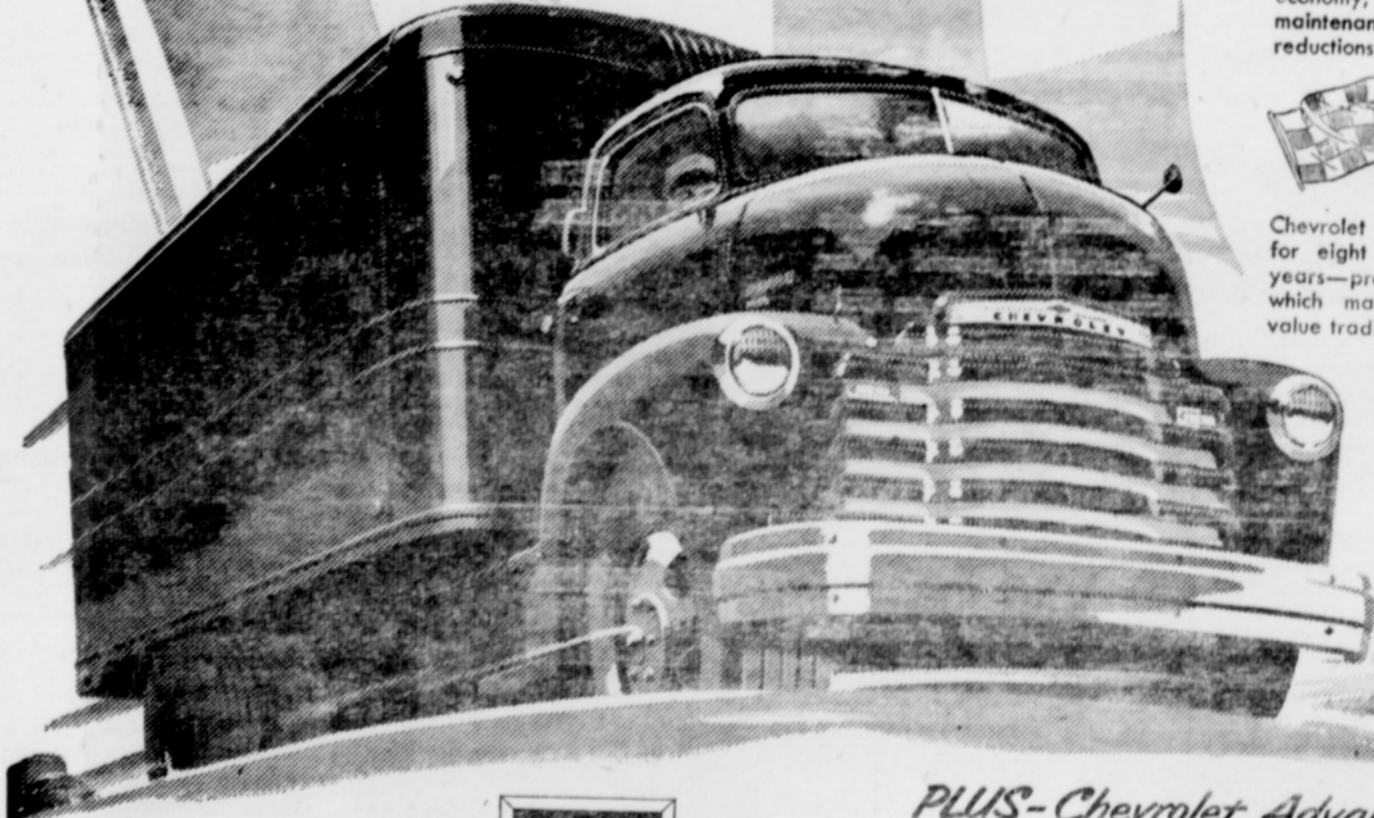


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