

Giant Trees Grow from Tiny Seeds

(The following article is made available to local readers through the cooperation of the conservation committee.)

Jackson County Growth at 61.5%

Jackson county's population has increased 61.5 per cent in the last 10 years according to the final report of the census as published by the League of Oregon cities.

Eleven counties in the state showed increases of more than 50 per cent according to the report. Douglas county increased 110 per cent with its figure growing from 25,728 in 1940 to 54,064 in 1950.

Other counties with large increases were Jefferson, 169.7; Benton, 69.2; Clackamas, 51.5; Crook, 61.3; Josephine, 61.4; Lane, 81; Linn, 75.9; Tillamook, 51.2; and Umatilla, 58.2.

Losses for the 10 year period found four counties in the eastern part of the state with minus figures. Baker lost 12.2 per cent; Wallowa, 5.4; Sherman, 2.6; and Gilliam, 1.4.

Bank Offers New Checking Service

Personalized checks with the name and address imprinted free are being offered all regular checking account customers of the First National Bank of Portland, Ashland branch. It was stated early this week by branch manager G. H. Wenner.

Wenner said that the new program will benefit everyone coming in contact with the checks. He stated that the new procedure would give ease of identification and additional speed in the handling of accounts by businessmen and customers alike.

This new service is available now and the initial supply of checks will consist of four books of 25 checks each. Re-order blanks are attached to the back of the books to insure a continuous supply of checks.



Peace, Plenty and Good Fellowship
This Christmas Day!

Wick's Furniture
297 E. Main



tee of the Pacific Northwest Forest industries.)

One of the great mysteries of life is how one of the world's largest living things—a Douglas fir tree—can grow from one of the smallest seeds.

When workmen start their fascinating job each spring of planting millions of tiny seeds at the Forest Industries tree nursery at Nisqually, Wash., they work with minutely small seeds. It takes 40,000 seeds of Douglas fir to make a pound. Seeds of other popular species in the Douglas fir belt are even smaller. It takes 300,000 west coast hemlock seeds to make a pound; 250,000 Sitka spruce and 400,000 western red cedar seeds to total up a pound.

Nature is at her ingenious best in propagating the conifer trees of the Pacific coast. Seeds are winged and are released from their cone homes in the late fall when ripe. The hot east winds cause the cones to open and the seeds are wafted earthward on their own wings produced along by gentle breezes and swifter winds.

Most of all logged land, probably more than 90 per cent, easily reseed itself by natural means from nearby seed trees left by loggers for that purpose. Most species of conifers have some cones and seeds every year, but the Douglas fir has a good seed year about one year in seven.

Bare spots where nature has failed to reseed get attention from foresters and timberland managers. Tiny seedlings, a year old, are transplanted from their nursery home—like the industry tree nursery at Nisqually—to barren areas. Planting is by hand and a man will plant about an acre a day or some 600 trees.

More than 45,000 acres have been supplied with year-old seedling trees from the Nisqually nursery since its founding in 1941. This year about 7,000,000 trees will be shipped, slightly below 1949's record output of 9,000,000.

Spring to be Deadline for GI Bill Education Benefits

Spring term of this school year will be the last chance for veterans to take advantage of training under the G.I. bill, S. T. Brannock, representative in this area for the Veterans Administration, said Wednesday.

After July 25, 1951, all vets not enrolled in courses then or for the coming fall semester (while taking their summer vacation) will be unable to take advantage of the benefits.

Any veteran contemplating training under the G.I. bill should make arrangements with the VA for a certificate of eligibility as soon as possible. The veteran must also enroll in a school that has been in operation for more than a year; otherwise, the VA cannot pay for his course or pay him a subsistence allowance.

When Christmas rolls around, we realize that this is a wonderful world after all! You have helped make it so for us—and we wish you, sincerely, the Happiest of Christmases!

Bob Mallon's



The Surrender of Chief John

By R. M. DeMILLE

In this second article on the early pioneer history of southern Oregon, Mr. DeMille completes the story of the last battle of Chief John and records some of the many incidents which led up to the great Indian wars. Next week more of the Indian battles will be described.

The Indians continued to attack all day on May 28, 1856. All sorts of insulting remarks in English were hurled at the soldiers from the nearest patch of timber. This terrible strain continued until four o'clock the second day of the battle, when one-third of Capt. Smith's command was killed or wounded.

About sundown the Indians held a council and, relying on the exhausted condition of the white men, planned to charge Capt. Smith's camp in full force.

"It was an hour never to be forgotten," says the letter from one of the soldiers. "A silent and awful hour, in the expectation of speedy and cruel death." Suddenly an infernal chorus of yells burst forth from Chief John's camp. The whole Indian army, joining in one blood-curdling roar of demonic fury,

Rigid Educational Standards Met

Ashland senior high has now met the rigid requirements of the Northwest Association of Secondary and Higher Schools, Roland Parks, principal, reported this week.

The association requires that a school have a properly trained teaching staff, that the curriculum meet the standards of a modern high school, and that the building facilities meet the suggested requirements.

Parks pointed out that each year the high school has been "whittling away at the factors that have not been approved by this organization with the result that only minor problems remain to be solved."

He pointed out that the particular strong points of the local high school are the science department, the training of the teaching staff, care of the building, the campus, and the practical curriculum offered.

Gas Said Harmful to Large-Leafed Plants

Folks who plan to give house plants as Christmas presents should consider whether or not the future owners use gas for cooking or heating. This warning comes from Ivan Newton, Oregon State college extension horticulturist.

Since plants "breathe" through their leaves, they can become asphyxiated just as human beings do. Even a small amount of gas in the air will cause them to turn yellow, slowly lose their leaves, and die. That is why ferns, begonias, philodendron, African violets—in fact, any of the large-leafed plants—are very susceptible to gas.

Newton recommends any member of the cactus family as a satisfactory plant for gas-heated homes. Sansevieria, a foliage plant with long, spikey, variegated leaves is also more gas-resistant. Ivy is comparatively hardy, but should be kept out of the kitchen if a gas stove is used.

Boy Receives Only Bruises In Bicycle-Auto Accident

Delbert McFadden, 14, of 341 Vista street, escaped serious injury Monday night when his bicycle was struck by an automobile operated by Mackenzie E. Roberson, 1716 Parker street.

City police said the accident occurred at the intersection of Oak and E. Main streets. Roberson was said to be turning into Oak from E. Main when he struck the boy.

The police report said there were no lights on the bicycle and Roberson did not see it until he was too close to avoid the accident.

McFadden received only bruises when he was knocked from his bicycle.

Pull off the road to change a flat and save your life—there's no spare for that.

Rogue River valley, the Snake Indians, Klamaths, Modocs, Cayuses and Umatillas staged similar wars, and their murdering in cold blood and destruction continued even after the peace was settled.

Chief John was a very unusual Indian. He is described as bolder, braver and more intelligent than any chief west of the Cascade mountains. When dressed in white man's costume he might have been easily taken for a hard-working sun-burned farmer of the western states. He had slight resistance after his last battle. He, with all his warriors, came in and surrendered to Capt. Smith and Joel Palmer, superintendent of Indian affairs, on June 1, 1856. Thus ended the Rogue River Indian wars for all time.

The final result was that about 2,700 Indians, old and young, were removed from the southern Oregon country to the Siletz and Grand Ronde reservations.

Showing that before the war commenced there must have been a population of fully 5,000 Indians in this region, many minor events—bloody reprisals, and isolated murders on both sides—have been recorded. These have been collated by the Hon. Wm. M. Colvig and were given to present-day readers in an address at the reunion of Indian War veterans at Medford on July 26, 1902. All of the Indian war history compiled in this address, which has not already been recorded in these articles, will now be given and credited to the careful work of Mr. Colvig.

The Indians fled in all directions, abandoning their camp entirely. Thus, on May 28, 1856, ended the last battle of Chief John and the Rogue Indians.

There is now a monument marking the old battle grounds on the spot where the old fort used to stand in 1855. This monument was erected in honor of General Lane and the soldiers and civilians that were killed on this battlefield at Tolo.

Samuel Smith, grandfather of Vern Smith, our police chief here in Ashland, took part as a volunteer in the fight against the Rogue River Indians in 1855 under the command of General Lane, Captain A. J. Smith and Captain Augur.

At the time of the Indian uprising at Table rock in the

the Rock Point bridge where the barn on the W. L. Colvig estate now stands. In this fight were Dan Miller, Edward Barnes, Dr. W. J. Bailey, George Gay, Sanders, Woodworth, "Irish" Tom, J. Turner and "Squaw." Two trappers were killed and nearly all were wounded. Within my recollection, Dr. Bailey visited the scene of the fight and pointed out to my father its location.

In September, 1837 at the foot of Footh creek a party of seven men, who had been sent in to California by the Methodist mission to procure cattle, were attacked on their return by Rogue River Indians and had a short, severe fight in which several of the whites were badly wounded and 12 or 14 Indians were killed.

In May, 1845, J. C. Fremont had a fight with the Indians in Klamath county. It may have been a little over the line in California. Four of Fremont's men and quite a number of the Indians were killed. Kit Carson was a prominent figure in this battle.

Travelers Attacked
A few bold adventurers had settled in the Rogue valley as early as December, 1851. During the spring, summer and fall of that year there was a considerable amount of travel by parties from northern Oregon going to and returning from the great mining excitement in California. Fights between these travelers and the Indians were frequent occurrences. On May 15, 1851, a pack train was attacked at a point on Bear creek where the town of Phoenix is now situated and a man by the name of Dilley was killed.

At the massacre of emigrants at Bloody point, Klamath county, in 1852, 36 men, women and children were murdered. Capt. Ben Wright with 27 men from Yreka and Colonel J. E. Ross with some Oregonians went out to punish these Modocs. Old Chief Sconcki, who was afterwards hung at Fort Klamath in 1873 at the close of the Modoc war, was the leader. Capt. Wright gave them no quarter.

He and his men, infuriated at the sight of the mangled bodies of the emigrants, killed men, women and children without any discrimination.

I cannot give you the names of all who were killed in the Rogue River valley during the years 1851 and 1853. I will mention some who were killed in 1853. In August of that year Edward Edwards, was killed near Medford; Thomas Wills and Rhodes Nolan at the edge of the town of Jacksonville; Pat Dunn and Carter were both wounded in a fight on Neil creek near Ashland.

In a fight with the Indians on Bear creek in August, 1853, Hugh Smith was killed and Howell Morris, Hodgins, Wittemore, and Gibbs were wounded, the last named three dying from their wounds soon after.

(To be Continued)

Tele-fun

by Warren Goodrich



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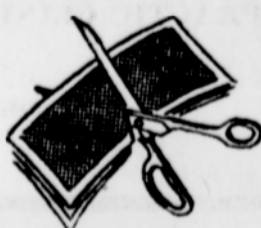
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