

Bicentennial Forum

THE REID FAMILY AND REID'S MILL

By Justine Weatherford

Seventy-five years ago this spring, in April 1901, the James Reid family, the first generation out of Scotland, came to Heppner from Bradley, S.D. Besides Mrs. Reid, sons Martin and Alonzo, twins Clarence and Clara and maternal grandfather Alonzo Roberts came first by train. They stayed in the Heppner Hotel which was across from where the library-museum is now and beside property that a Reid granddaughter, Lois Winchester lives on today. The hotel was swept away in the 1903 flood.

Before coming west, the father James Reid owned a grocery store and meat market in Bradley and a farm seven miles from town where he and his wife (Mary Roberts) had homesteaded. He bought cattle from farmers and did his own butchering—some times he shipped a carload to market in Sioux City. During the winter of 1900 he was very ill with typhoid fever and found he also had diabetes. His doctor recommended he move to a warmer climate. So everything he sold and the family planned to come to Joseph, OR where their son Arthur and Mrs. Reid's sister, Mrs. Joseph Hogeland, were living. A last minute change caused Mr. Reid to select Heppner as their future home, although they knew no one here.

Mr. Reid followed his family on a later train with their household goods and with a registered Herford bull, Dakota Chief, and nine heifers, plus one very special heifer that had been given to daughter Clara by her grandfather Roberts. (Clara is now Mrs. Gertson). When he reached Heppner, he rented a house (the one in which the Pete McMurtys now live). The children were promptly enrolled in school here. Frank Gilliam's sister, Cassie John-

son lived near them and told them about her homestead in the edge of the mountains. James Reid rented that land and moved his family to the mountains where the children transferred to the six-month summer school. Son Arthur moved from Joseph to Heppner with a team, riding one horse and leading the other. He filed on a homestead on land on Three Rock Creek and built a small house there. Grandfather Roberts filed a Civil War veterans claim, and James Reid built a house there and the family moved again. Alonzo Roberts died in 1901 and is buried in the Heppner Cemetery. His daughter Mary Reid proved up on his homestead. James Reid bought some nearby land from a Mr. Bishop and also bought a second-hand sawmill at Hood River which he moved across the creek from the house. Oldest son Robert Reid and his wife came from N.D. to join in the family business. He was killed in May 1902 in a mill accident.

The mill burned one night. Clara remembers carrying water from the horse's water trough to keep the fire from the lumber piles. Her father then built a new mill on Thorn Creek and a log pond where Clara learned to swim. The pond and the old mill smoke stack are still there. They are about 4 miles from the site of the older, larger Parker's Mill which was a stage stop and had a post office.

About 1910, James Reid sold the mill to his sons Arthur and Martin Reid (Lois Winchester's dad.) The parents then moved to Heppner where he built the house on South Main Street where Clara Gertson now lives.

Clara's brothers Martin and Arthur bought the house that Lois lives in now and the lumber yard and barn that were behind it. Later their parents moved there so that Mr. Reid could look after the lumber yard. Arthur and Martin hauled lumber from the mill into that yard for sale. The mill continued for years

employing quite a few mill-hands.

Clara is the last of her immediate family. She graduated from high school here in 1909 with Ruth McMurdo, Lula Campbell and Ora Devin. She began teaching in 1910 in the Groshen School on Rhea Creek for \$50 a month. The next year she taught below Heppner on the present Paul Brown place and was paid \$60 per month. In 1912 she married Jeff Beamer, and they honeymooned at the Rose Festival in Portland. They lived in several locations in Heppner and near Lexington. Mr. Beamer and Claude Cox owned the delivery and transfer business in Heppner and carried mail, express and delivered groceries from the stores with horses. Later they used pickup trucks.

When the Beamer's daughter Mary was small they ranched on Rhea Creek three miles from Lone. The Beamers also had a son and a daughter Irene. Their son James died in Jan. 1934 and his father Jeff Beamer died in June that same year. In 1940 Clara married George Gertson, who died in 1950.

Clara has lead and still leads a very active life. She has travelled extensively and is busy with her church (Christian), with her several lodges and with the Soroptimist Club. Her daughter Mary (Mrs. Claire Goheen) has worked for 20 years for the Port of Portland. Daughter Irene married William Anhorn. They had 4 sons and a daughter. Mr. Anhorn died in 1970.

Lois Winchester (Mrs. Ernie Winchester) Clara's niece and the only other Reid living in the county, has a son Lowell Lee Turner, a pilot living in California and a daughter, Erna Lynn Winchester, a former Heppner Rodeo queen, now living in Milton-Freewater.

TEXTILE UPDATE

Special insights on new developments in manufacturing of yarns, trends in fabric construction, new developments in fabric finishes and other news relating to textiles will be given by Ardis Koester, OSU Textile and Clothing Specialist at a special evening meeting, Mar. 24, 7:30 p.m. in the Pendleton Vert Club room.

Ms. Koester will be in the area for the pattern alteration classes, and offers this special update for the benefit of retailers, fabric shop personnel, extension study group members and staff, and 4-H leaders.

EMPIRE BUILDING

Oil, steel, railroads—at one time these were individual empires. John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil, Andrew Mellon's U.S. Steel, E. H. Harriman's Union Pacific—each offered staggering proof of what a single, hard-driving entrepreneur could do under the free enterprise system. Frick and Grace, Astor and Morgan, du Pont and Duke, Carnegie and Kaiser, Schwab and Guggenheim and Pullman—all amassed fortunes that made them the envy of kings. As they did, what was happening to free and competitive trade? And how did such immense concentrations of power affect workers in their efforts to strike fair bargains? The small business—the Mom and Pop shop—has a hard time in an age of supermarkets, discount stores, fast-food chains. How competitive are most American industries today? How easy is it for new firms to enter the market? Does large scale technology and advertising make competition obsolete? Particularly after World War II, America came to dominate international economics affairs as business expanded abroad. Are multinational companies creating a one-world economy? What does this do to free trade? Whose empire are we a part of?

By the time a golden spike is driven into the rails at Promotory, Utah in 1869, to span the continent, many railroad magnates are already established: the Hills, Harrimans, Vanderbilts, Fisks, Goulds, Huntingtons, Stanfords.

Some empire-builders: John Jacob Astor, arriving from Germany in 1783 at age 20 makes a fortune as a fur trader. He later becomes a financier, leaves a \$30 million fortune. Andrew Carnegie brought to America at age 12, gets his first job in a cotton mill at \$1.20 a week. At 30 goes into iron and steel development. Amassing one of the greatest of all individual fortunes, he gives away some \$350 million for public benefits and endowments.

Conglomerates become a phenomenon in the 1960s. CBS controls, among other enterprises, the Yankees and a book company, Holt Rinehart and Winston. ITT owns the Speedwriting Institute, as well as a chain of hotels; Gulf and Western control Paramount Pictures.

KINZUA NEWS

By Barbara Pike

Betty Larangel and her grandson Donnie and Shawn Benson arrived in Kinzua Wednesday from Richland, WA. They had to spend the night in Fossil because of extremely slick road conditions. The two boys join their brother Dan at the Larangel home.

Mrs. Jane Yeigh spent Wednesday and Thursday in Heppner visiting her son Raymond Yeigh.

The Camp 5 Womens Club held their monthly meeting Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Hershel Murdock. Hostess for the meeting was Mrs. Pat Van Arsdale. The club will have a crafts meeting at the Fisher home Tuesday. It was decided to hold a pinocle party on Feb. 21.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Dunlap spent the weekend in Redmond.

Shirley Orr and Patsy McMinn went to Baker Wednesday on business.

Margaret and Roy Williams arrived Saturday morning to spend the weekend at the Gordon Orr home. The Williams brought a most welcome addition to the Orr family, a beautiful Irish Setter puppy. Mr. and Mrs. Williams returned home to Sisters Sunday.

Hershel and Betty Murdock and Verlin and LaVina Connor went to Terrebonne Sunday.

Mrs. Kathy Fisher and children, Terry, Tim and Tracy went to Oregon City Friday to visit Mrs. Fisher's sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Chittick. The Fishers returned home Sunday evening.

Steve and Roberta Conlee and Scott went to Heppner Thursday where Steve and Scott had dental appointments.

TOPS No. 733 Kinzua has changed their meeting day to Wednesday. The weight-in-time is still at 9 a.m. with club business meeting starting at 9:30. If you are interested in joining the club you are welcome.

Don Hardwick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Hardwick returned home Friday evening for his first visit since he started school last fall. He returned to Corvallis where he is a student at OSU.

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Rev. Bill Mai will be the speaker at the meeting of the Christian Womens Club at the Recreation Cafe in The Dalles on Wednesday. The Christians Club is associated with Village Missions. Village Missions sponsors Rev. Mai at the Kinzua Church. Mrs. Mai will give the project report. The meeting will be from noon until 2 p.m.

The annual beating by the Wheeler Falcons taken each year at Culver ended last Saturday when our varsity and the girls team were both winners. I realize this isn't the sports news, you can read about the game elsewhere but the victory just might explain the big smiles on the faces of all the sports fans. I won't even try to list the local people who went to the game but you would have had to go to Condon to find enough people to have a fourth for bridge in Fossil or Kinzua Saturday night.

Visiting Mr. and Mrs. Henry Spivey and Jeanette over the weekend were Mr. and Mrs. Curt Harrison and son Shad. Rainy Harrison is the Spivey's daughter. The Harrisons left Sunday for their home in Hermiston.

Mr. and Mrs. Jiggs Bowman, Vic Bowman and Cindi Bowman went to Prineville to spend the weekend with their daughter and son-in-law, Dave and Sara Riney. The Bownmans were surprised when they arrived in Prineville to find their son Joe, daughter-in-law Robin and granddaughter Erika of Portland were also visiting the Rineys. The group went to Culver Saturday night for the ball game. Sunday a family dinner honored Mrs. Rita Bowman on her birthday.

Mark and LaVelle Jellick and daughter Kathy were guests at the home of the Jim Hulet's in Prineville. Both families went to the game on Saturday.

The snowmobile races at Crescent Lake Sunday attracted a number of Kinzua residents on Sunday. Raymond Reid took third place in the races. Among those present from Kinzua besides Mr. Reid were Mr. and Mrs. Chuck Mitchell and Bill McConnell.

Mr. and Mrs. Doyal Hubbell and Robbie and Mr. and Mrs. Don Pike went to Culver Saturday for the basketball game. They visited with Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Moon and sons Mike and Chuck at Madras before coming home.

Denise and Terry Sander and their children Richard and Sean were in Kinzua Sunday visiting Denise's parents Luther and Virginia Ipock. The Sander family returned to their home in Bend Monday.

Low income workers may miss refund

Lower-income workers who are eligible for a special payment of up to \$400 from the Internal Revenue Service will not receive their check unless they file an income tax return, Ralph B. Short, District Director for Oregon, pointed out. Some 30,000 Oregonians entitled to the payment would not normally be required to file a tax return, he said, because their earnings are so low.

However, the payment, called the "Earned Income Credit," can only be made to qualified taxpayers who file an income tax return, Short explained.

To qualify for the credit, individuals must have an under \$8,000 in total income from all sources, which include wages, salary, tips or other employee compensation. Additionally, the workers must have paid more than half the cost of maintaining a home in the United States for themselves and at least one dependent child for the entire year. The dependent child must be under 19 years of age or a full-time student, he said.

Short said people who qualify who earned \$4,000 or less would receive a credit of ten per cent of their earned income, up to a maximum of \$400. Those whose total income from all sources was between \$4,000 and \$8,000 would receive a reduced credit.

"The public be damned," William Henry Vanderbilt.

"All real works of art look as if they were done in joy," Robert Henri

Initiative Petition Blast-off!!!

Lexington Grange Hall

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Come and find out if small business can survive. Guest speakers—W.C. Harris, Master State Grange, Don Willner, candidate for Attorney General, Bob Elkins, state president-Farmers Union. Sponsored by Morrow County Grange, Morrow County Farm Bureau, Farmer's Union and National Farmer's Organization.

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