

Around About By Justine Weatherford

Around About New Zealand
Continued from last week

Tuesday, Feb. 6, was a national holiday, Waitangi Day, commemorating the 1840 signing of the treaty which established friendly relations between the Maoris and the Europeans. By 9 a.m. Mrs. Ross returned us to Ngakuru Hall where our tour bus and the rest of our companions came together, and we continued traveling south and easterly through the Whakarewarewa and Taborukuri Forests and developing farmlands. The N.Z. forests contain many thousands of acres of hand-planted pine trees which are growing rapidly in neat, even rows. We stopped to view one of the world's foremost geothermal power projects at Wairakei. This steam generation plant was commissioned by the N.Z. government in 1958. By 1963, the plant's capacity was 192.6 M.W. I brought home a complete story of this huge geothermal plant from the Ministry of Energy, and I would be pleased to lend it to interested persons.

By noon we were at large, beautiful Lake Taupo, N.Z.'s largest lake that is world-renowned for its trout fishing. Before lunching and doing a little shopping in Taupo City, we visited a honey farm where interesting honey-mixtures are made and sold. That afternoon our travel continued through rugged gorges and past interesting farms to Hawkes Bay District around the west coast town of Napier where we met our host families for the next two night's of home visiting.

Mrs. King and I were picked up by Jane O'Brien, and after accompanying her on a shopping trip, a stop at her mother-in-law's home in Hastings and at the boarding school there where the O'Brien's daughter attends, we three drove out into the rugged hills to the sizable O'Brien's "Ard Lussa" ranch with a swimming pool at its front and a lawn tennis court at one side of their nicely landscaped yard. They raise sheep and cattle (4,000 units) on their hilly property which contains a deep canyon with a stream where wild mountain goats roam. They also have a good number of wild turkeys on their place, and too many gophers and possums. We really enjoyed visiting there and sharing five family meals.

After a good Thursday breakfast, Mrs. O'Brien took us back to our bus and driver, Russell McPike, gave us an extra look along Napier's beach front before we retraced our way back to Taupo. There we again lunched before our afternoon journey up State Highway One through several timber towns (Tokorua and Putaruru) before entering the lush farming lands southeast of Auckland where we saw great farm homesteads. On some of them N.Z.'s greatest race horses are bred and trained. We reached our night's stop, a big modern lodge, very close to the Auckland International Airport before dark.

The next morning we were off on a sightseeing tour of N.Z.'s beautiful, largest city with its fabulous harbor, exciting homes and gorgeous parks. Our N.Z. visiting terminated at the superb botanical gardens and the closeby War Memorial Museum where we had lunch before moving back to the airport and catching our afternoon flight westward to Sydney, Australia.

Around About Australia

Our afternoon flight brought us to Sydney, Australia about dark. Again the filled 'plane got a thorough spraying before anyone or anything began to move off to go through the entry process. Because our 22-person group had visited on ranches in New Zealand we were given a very careful checking over—even needing to show officials the soles of our shoes—before we were permitted to transfer to our downtown hotel.

By 9:30 a.m. the next day, we were bussed to the Circular Quay where we boarded the Motor Vessel "City of Sydney" for a sunshiny tour of the city's beautiful harbor, a part of which "Botany Bay" was explored by Captain James Cook in 1770 before he sailed on northward and claimed eastern-Australia for England, which again like with N.Z., was a steal from the early Dutch whose navigators had already charted these islands and were calling them "New Holland." Over 80,000 Aborigines (descendents of dark-skinned people who settled there about 12,000 years ago) live on this only continent that is also a country, a member of the Commonwealth of Nations with Queen Elizabeth as its symbolic ruler.

Continued next week

American Legion and Aux. hold meeting

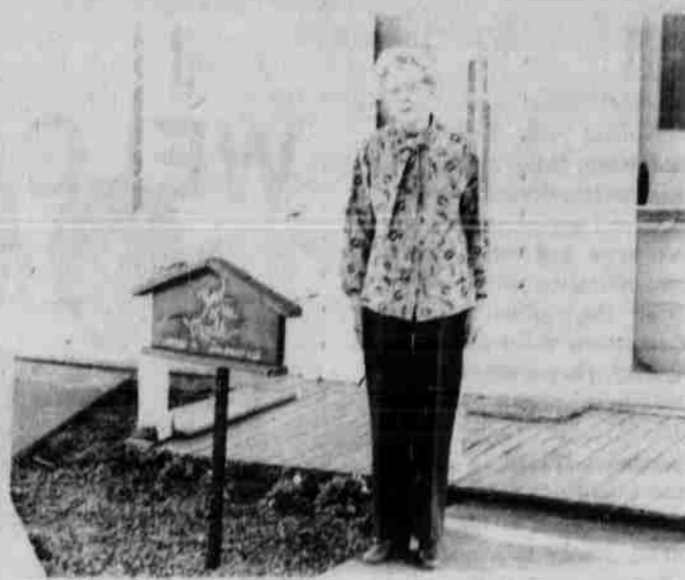
The Heppner American Legion and Auxiliary met following a family potluck dinner on Monday, Mar. 5. A birthday cake celebrating organization of the American Legion was served to members, reported a spokesperson.

Tentative plans have been made for a Saturday, April 28 flea market at the Legion Hall. Interested parties can contact Rita Hedman at Case Furniture store for details.

There will be another Legion Fun Night on March 31, with the Legion men serving spaghetti, etc. Salads and snacks will be furnished by members attending. Cards and bingo will follow.

The next regular meeting will be on April 2, following a potluck dinner at 7 p.m. at the hall in Heppner, the spokesperson concluded.

Longtime lone woman wins Yard of Month award



Edith Nicholson

Edith Nicholson has received the first Yard of the Month award in lone for the 1984 season, announced Joyce Buchanan, a spokesperson for the lone Garden Club. Crocus, snowdrops and

primroses are now blooming in her yard, and daffodils, tulips, lilacs and a flowering peach tree will soon follow.

Mrs. Nicholson will be 92 on April 10. She has lived in her neat little house with a picket

fence around her yard on Main St. since 1934. Mrs. Buchanan says.

"Her yard is well kept year around and there is something in bloom from February to November and often in winter when her Christmas rose blooms," the spokesperson said.

Mrs. Nicholson has kept the same ivy geranium alive for 35 years by taking cuttings in the fall, keeping them alive in the house during the winter and replanting them in the spring. She has been very generous in sharing her plants and flowers with everyone, Mrs. Buchanan concluded.

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Estate planning program to be offered

By BIRDINE TULLIS

Morrow Co. Extension Service Alice Mills Morrow, OSU Extension Service public policy education specialist, will present Estate Planning, Part I, on April 10, 2 p.m., at the 4-H annex at the fairgrounds in Heppner, and at 7 p.m. at the county office building in Irrigon. Part II will be presented April 17, 2 p.m., 4-H annex, fairgrounds, Heppner, and 7 p.m. county office building, Irrigon.

Many families fail to do estate planning because they are unaware of their increasing net worth, and they are unaware of possible problems from inadequate plans for transferring their property.

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your own rules for management of your estate, naming someone to handle your estate, and saving on administrative and tax costs.

Alice Mills Morrow is a lawyer and a home economist. She will present information of interest to all ages.

The purpose of the workshop is to create awareness of the need for estate planning, to learn about estate planning tools such as wills and trusts, and to discuss estate laws and estate tax planning. It is not intended as a substitute for advice from legal and tax consultants.

Pre-registration is requested by April 5. To register, send \$1 along with your name, address and phone number to OSU Extension Service, P.O. Box 397, Heppner, Oregon 97836, or call 676-9642.

The program is open to all interested individuals. Husband-wife teams may pay just \$1 and share materials.

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