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POWELL VALLEY

A number of friends gathered at the Frans Matson home Monday evening in honor of Mrs. Matson's birthday. One of the amusing parts of the program was the unexpected surprises. While the party was gathering at the C. A. Lindgren home Mr. and Mrs. Matson passed on their way to Carl Nelson's where they surprised the Nelson family who were just ready to leave for the surprise party. The Nelsons explained that they were just leaving for Matson's home and the latter agreed to return home but nothing was said of a party or the reason for the change in plans. The Nelsons and Matsons then returned to the latter's home where very soon the rest of the party followed. Those present who enjoyed the delightful social evening and dainty refreshments were Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Lindgren, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nelson and daughter Alice, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Staffenson, Richard Staffenson, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Olson, Mrs. Emma Johnson and Mrs. J. Truedson.

The Lutheran Ladies' Aid society will meet at the home of P. A. Johnson Thursday afternoon. A cordial invitation is extended to all who wish to attend.

The regular preaching services will be held at the Lutheran church Sunday, March 20. Communion service will be held Sunday morning.

A number of local people attended the three-day session of the 29th annual meeting of the Columbia conference of the Lutheran Augustana synod of North America which closed Sunday with morning, afternoon and night services at Augustana Lutheran church in Portland.

Rev. E. C. Bloomquist of Tacoma was the speaker at morning services. In the afternoon a young people's rally was held, at which speeches were made by Rev. C. G. Ahmquist of Spokane, Rev. M. L. Swanson of Everett, Wash., and Rev. O. B. Hanson of Seattle. The history of Augustana Lutheran church since its founding 15 years ago was outlined by the pastor, Rev. V. G. Ogren, and Rev. D. T. Renhart at the meeting last night. Those present at the meeting report that it was most inspiring.

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COTTRELL

A number from this vicinity are ill with bad colds. Two of E. E. Quay's children have been quite seriously ill but are better at this writing.

Fred Jefferson and wife of Minnesota visited his cousin, Mrs. A. R. Goger and family, Tuesday. Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson are returning from a trip to Mexico. Mr. Jefferson is a railroad man. Chas. Kane, of Portland, brought them out.

Ross Manary was a Portland visitor Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Newell spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Blackburn.

Miss Vera Holmes spent a week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Blackburn.

Mrs. Wm. Carpenter was a Gresham visitor Friday.

Mrs. Fred Wagner spent Thursday with her sister in Fairview.

James Fowler and son Rae, went to Portland Thursday where Mr. Fowler had his tonsils lanced. Mr. Fowler has been quite ill for some time with tonsillitis.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Andrews, of Portland, called on the Craswells Friday afternoon.

Lewis and Robert Pitts, of Portland, and Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot of Oregon City were dinner guests of Rev. and Mrs. S. F. Pitts, Sunday.

Robert Manary of Kings Valley, Oregon, spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. Jos. Manary.

Mr. and Mrs. I. A. Baker and family and Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Splawn and family took a basket dinner and surprised Rev. and Mrs. S. F. Pitts last Monday evening.

Mr. Splawn and family of Cedar spent Wednesday with Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Splawn.

Family of Seven Die Together.

Because they could no longer stand the agonies of starvation, a Chinese family of seven committed suicide. The father and mother first bound their five children together, then lashed themselves to the children, and all leaped into a river. The seven bodies, all bound together, were seen by L. V. Lewis of Portland, who recently returned from the famine section in North China.

"With 45,000,000 starving, the situation is a colossal tragedy," said Mr. Lewis, "and rather than see their children suffer any longer, parents all through the famine lands are killing their little ones and then themselves. There are millions of gaunt, emaciated, half-naked men, women and children roaming the famine lands, chewing roots and bark, and hanging tenaciously to life, in the effort to pull through until spring. The relief organizations are struggling against the overwhelming situation, and are saving some of those on the edge of the great famine district. Surely every man, woman and child in Oregon will want to give something towards the China Famine Fund."

Spreading over North China, with the speed of a hurricane, is a horrible calamity of suffering and starvation, of pestilence and death—all due to the most terrible famine the world has ever known. The following cable from Admiral Tsai Ting Kan, paints the gruesome picture:

"Five northern provinces are famine-ruined. Whole districts living on weeds and leaves. Selling or drowning children. Whole families committing suicide. Children suffer most. Calamity so colossal is hard secure funds for adequate relief. Epidemic feared in spring."

Bishop W. H. Lambuth, in charge of the Methodist missions in North China, where 45,000,000 are faced with starvation as the result of a disastrous flood followed by two seasons of drought, says:

"Their clothes are ragged and scanty. Their only food is a gruel made of weeds, leaves, chaff and corn-cobs. One cold night in January in one refugee camp alone, one thousand of these starved, weakened human creatures froze to death. What is to be done must be done within the next five months, yes, within the next two or three months. Otherwise millions will perish."

The death rate in the famine section is estimated at 15,000 daily, with typhus and other diseases beginning to rage. The only hope of the despairing millions is in food supplies provided in tremendous quantities by the people of the United States.

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Regular meeting of Gresham Lodge No. 125, I.O.O.F., in the Odd Fellows hall, every Thursday evening. Visitors welcome.
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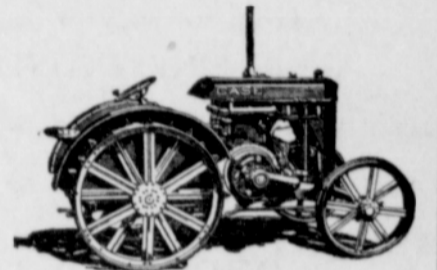
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