

Ashland Couple Honored On Fiftieth Anniversary

Ashland—Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Billings, who have lived their entire wedded life on the Billings ranch near Ashland, observed their 50th wedding anniversary at the Ashland First Methodist church last Sunday afternoon, June 19. They met at the campus of Oregon State college, and on June 21, 1905, three years after their graduation, they were married and came to the Billings ranch to live.

From 1932 until 1940 Mr. Billings was a Jackson county commissioner and both have worked in civic and community life and in their church.

Members of Fireside circle had charge of the refreshment tables at the reception which was attended by about 200 guests. Rooms and the refreshment tables were decorated in a golden motif.

For the occasion Mrs. Billings wore an afternoon dress of sheer navy blue and her corsage was a lavender orchid, a gift from their three grandchildren, Stan, Mary and Timothy Billings.

Assisting in the receiving line were Mr. and Mrs. John Billings, son and daughter-in-law of the honored couple.

The program included a reading of an original poem by Ross Eliason, especially written for the occasion, and songs by Mrs. Martel Peters, Mrs. Vera Donnelly, Electra, Tex., accompanied her daughter at the piano.

A tiered wedding cake was served with punch and coffee.

Serving were Miss Cora Mason, Mrs. Russell Herbert and Mrs. A. B. Bower. Pouring coffee during the afternoon were Mrs. Henry Carter, Mrs. Homer Billings and Mrs. Walter Herbert while those presiding at the punch bowl were Mrs. Robert Sorber, Mrs. Ted McKinney and Mrs. Frank Davis. Registering the guests were Stan Billings, Mrs. Maude Marske, Miss Voda Bower and Mrs. Ruth King.

Mr. Billings was born at Ashland and Mrs. Billings, the former Miss Myrtle Herbert, was born in Madison, Wis. She came to Corvallis, Ore., as a young girl. Mr. Billings has been a dairy farmer the most of his life.

In addition to their son and his family, and Mr. Billings' brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Billings, other relatives at the event were Mrs. Billings sisters, Mrs. E. A. Blake, Corvallis; Mrs. R. N. Chaney, Ashland; and Mrs. A. B. Bower of Crescent City, Calif. Another sister, Mrs. C. C. Clark of Stockton, Calif., could not be present.

Mrs. William Herbert, Gold Hill, and Mrs. S. D. Herbert from

Farmington, Calif., both sisters-in-law of Mrs. Billings; her nephew and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Herbert, Medford, and a niece, Mrs. Robert Sorber, Jacksonville, also were at the reception.

Miss Knight, Law Student Are Married

Sacramento, Calif. — (U.P.) — Gov. Goodwin J. Knight's youngest daughter, Carolyn, last night became the wife of Charles V. Weedman, a Los Angeles law student and son of a railway engineer.

About 30 close relatives attended the quiet candlelight ceremony. It was performed by the Rev. John C. Donnell, the same minister who married Knight last August 2 to his second wife, the former Virginia Carlson.

The bride, 21, has been employed as a story editor's secretary at Columbia studios in Los Angeles. The silver-blond haired girl said, she would continue her career after marriage and hopes to become a screen writer.

The wedding was a small gathering at her insistence and she declined to discuss details of how romance first blossomed except to say it was over a cup of coffee.

Mr. Weedman is a graduate of University of Southern California and has worked for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios during summer months.

The 27-year-old bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weedman, of Bakersfield, the elder Mr. Weedman is a passenger locomotive engineer with the Santa Fe railway, the same company for which Governor Knight once shoveled coal while attending Stanford university.

The bride has often declined to participate in public affairs and once when invited to help in dedication ceremonies at a damsite, she told her father:

"You go ahead and be governor, Dad, I'm too busy."

You can buy crayon sticks to fill in and stain small scratches on mahogany or walnut woods. Apply the crayon, then rub with an oiled pad. After you've finished the spot repairing, go over the entire surface of the furniture with your regular wax or polish.



Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Madden will be honored at a reception July 3 in the Women's Civic clubhouse, Ashland, in observance of their golden wedding anniversary. The Maddens, who lived in Medford and Ashland for more than 30 years, are now making their home in the mid-West but will arrive in Ashland next week to visit their sons and daughters in Oregon and California.

Insurance Firm Predicts Increase In Marriage Rate

New York, N. Y.—Marriages in the United States will rise to new high levels after the early 1960's, according to the statisticians of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company.

This upswing is likely to occur as the large numbers of war and postwar babies attain marriageable age. By 1965, men at ages 20 through 25—who usually comprise about half our bridegrooms—will number about 8 million compared with 6½ million at present. Moreover, it is likely that their number will continue to rise at least until 1975, since the baby boom has not yet abated.

In the next few years, however, the number of marriages is likely to remain at a relatively low level, the statisticians forecast. This is a consequence of the unusually large number of marriages during and immediately after World War II, which appreciably reduced the ranks of those eligible to marry. Also, the population at the ages where marriage rates are highest has thinned out as a result of the decrease in births during the 1930's.

While the number of marriages in the years immediately ahead will be the lowest in more than a decade, the number of married men in our population is expected to increase continuously from less than 40½ million at present to almost 42½ million by the time of the 1960 census.

Arthur Maddens To Be Honored

Ashland—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur A. Madden will be honored at an open house Sunday, July 3, in observance of their golden wedding anniversary. The event will be at the Civic clubhouse at the entrance to Lithia park in Ashland, between two and five o'clock, and friends are invited to attend.

The Maddens lived in Medford and Ashland for many years, and Mr. Madden was in business in Ashland for 28 years. Since 1948 the Maddens have been living in the midwest, but are now visiting in Oregon with their children and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Madden were married at Healy, Kansas, in July of 1905. They lived in that state until 1920, and then moved with their family to Medford. They have four children, Mrs. Roy Carter, Medford; Kenneth Madden, Portland; Mrs. Merritt Schilling, Ashland and Mrs. Robert Berry, Dunsmuir, Calif. They have eight grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Birthday Party Honors Small Girl

A party in honor of her third birthday was given for little Brenda Barbee, June 23 by her mother, Mrs. Robert Barbee, 197 Clover lane. Games were played and refreshments served.

Guests were Becky, Susan and Richard Adams, Jimmy and Kathy Brock, Jeffrey, Nicholas and Brad Jones, Craig and Billy Walker, Cheryl and Marla Gardner, Kelly McCary, Clerk Curtis, Marian Smith, Gary Shores, Karen Barbee and the honored guest.

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