

Ranch Offers Touch of Wild West

Joaquin Miller Spread Near John Day
Named for Famed Gold Rush Era Poet

The following is a condensation of a brochure appearing in the Sunday Oregonian, one of an annual series sponsored jointly by The Oregonian and the Oregon State Motor Assn. These travel articles describe vacation trips and destinations throughout the Northwest and are recommended for out-of-state visitors coming to Oregon during the Centennial Year observance.

By LEVERETT RICHARDS
Staff Writer, The Oregonian

The old Wild West of song and story. That's what the dudes from the effete East want to see when they come West to share Old Man Oregon's 100th birthday cake next year.

They can find it (among other places) 100 feet off the main highway at the Joaquin Miller Guest ranch, 10 miles south of John Day on Highway 395, just 10 miles off Highway 26, one of America's main streets.

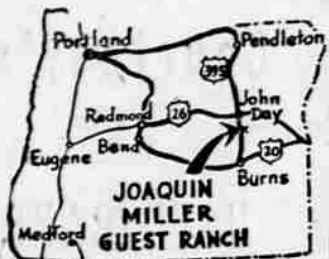
We set out on an Oregonian—Oregon State Motor Assn. motorlog in search of the Wild West to complete the education of Jaap Wertheim, the Dutch student who spent the year with us under the American Field Service program. Cowbodies are scarce in the Netherlands. So are mountains.

"We have just one. It is 300 feet high and all sand," Jaap used to say.

Pine Trees Scarce

Pine trees are scarce, too, and the deer are not for hunting.

Joaquin Miller dude ranch, named for the roarin', tootin' poet of gold rush days, looked like a frontier ranch should—a cluster of red buildings with false fronts that looked like the Red Dog saloon and the Dead-End Dance Hall, the country store and the blacksmith shop of a typical cowtown, all nestled



Joaquin Miller Guest Ranch is on Highway 395, 10 miles south of John Day. Map shows variety of routes to ranch.

tled in a mountain meadow under redolent pines at the foot of Canyon Mountain.

Sure enough there is a saloon, now converted to tamer use; a blacksmith shop, and a real western dance hall. There is also a cook house where steaks, mashed potatoes, pie and cake are served family style in quantities.

There is also a comfortable swimming pool, 24 by 70 feet, fed by natural hot springs and open from dawn to near midnight. James E. (Jim) Sharp used to run the ranch as a public resort until he and Volney McHaley teamed up last year to establish it as a guest ranch and hunting headquarters, season June 1 to Oct. 30. They have cabins for 18 guests on the banks of Canyon Creek under the murmuring pines, and apartments for a half dozen more in the main lodge building, which includes dance hall and lounge. They also have horses, dozens of them. And thereby hangs a tale.

Horse Said Famous

Jaap, our Dutch student, had never seen a real, live saddle horse close up, much less straddled one.

"Your horse is famous," the ranch hands had assured him, solemnly. "Widow-Maker, they call him, because he's killed so many riders."

"When I saw that horse, now, I was believing it, too," Jaap later confessed. "He was so much bigger and stronger than I."

But Jim and Deke and Frank McHaley, Deke's dad, who introduced bareback bucking to the Pendleton Round-Up—and a dozen dudes were waiting with wide grins. So the Dutch boy got up. He and "Widow-Maker"—whose calling name was really Tracy—were close friends in a few minutes, except when Tracy trotted. Jaap didn't trot when Tracy did.

"Tracy is always coming up when I am coming down. What's the matter with him?" Jaap complained.

Nevertheless, the whole family rode ten miles that day, winding through the parklike woods, up steep hills and into the open reaches of the high

country, where Deke and Jim rode off through the chaparral to scare up a dozen deer. This is the heart of the deer country. Dudes have seen as many as 150 in a day. In hunting season the open woods are ablaze with gunfire. But Sharp and McHaley take their parties in to a 6,000-acre private ranch near Ize where a hunter has only to sit and shoot. The ranch adjoins the Canyon Creek archery reserve where only bows and arrows may be used. Here Jim and Deke drive the deer slowly past the firing line for the hunters. Elk hunting is more rugged, but good.

More than 9,000 deer and more than 1,000 elk were killed in Grant County in 1956.

Good Fishing Available

Fishing, too, is good on Canyon Creek, and irresistible on more inaccessible tributaries. The refrigerator was full of tender ten-inch Rainbow trout when we were there.

We couldn't get our gang out of the old swimming pool except for riding, eating and square dancing, however. The Mt. Vernon square dancers showed up in force and lured some of the dudes from the ranch into joining their squares.

There's something about the sweet scent of pine at high noon on a hot day that makes

a man want to sleep by the murmuring creek. But our hosts had to show us some more of the Old West—a calf-branding bee on the Niles Sproul ranch in nearby Bear Valley.

There a half dozen neighboring families converged around the big log corral on a sunny Sunday morning to help with the branding.

Calves Healed, Heeled

No fancy mechanical squeeze boxes here. These cowmen "head and heel" their calves. One passes a loop around the rugged range calf, then leads the bawling critter into the center of the corral where another mounted cowhand passes his loop over one or both of the calf's hind legs.

The well-trained horses then stretch the bawling calf out while he is branded, vaccinated, emasculated, his ears notched and his horn buds cauterized. This was almost too much for our Dutchman on his first dude ranch, until he saw the calves frolic away unhurt by their ordeal.

We were only sorry we could not stay for the potluck dinner which concludes these traditional branding bees.

But we each had a date with a horse. We didn't want to waste a minute of the magic of Joaquin Miller ranch.



At Niles Sproul's urging, Jaap Wertheim tries his hand with branding iron, holding it like a professional. Ranch is one of last using old "head and heel" handling of calves.

Williams Tells of Trip Across Desert

(Editor's note: The following is a letter from Jeff Williams, son of the Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Williams, Medford. Young Williams is on a hitch-hiking trip around the world. This is one of the letters received by his parents, who have forwarded it to the Mail Tribune upon request.)

By JEFF WILLIAMS

Mirjawa: The train has stopped at this desert oasis in the border of Iran and Pakistan, so I will take this chance to write a short account. An American and I are sharing a compartment, and after what I have been through, it is sheer heaven. Leaving Iran, I boarded a train for Meshed, in northeast Iran. I traveled the cheapest passage, \$4 for 500 miles. The compartment I was put in was built for eight, but there were 12 of us. All I had to eat for 24 hours was a half a melon and some tea. In Meshed, I had to wait overnight for the bus to Zahidan (to get a train there to Pakistan). I tried to get some sleep on the bench in the station. At 4 a.m. we were off to cross 500 miles of desert. That first day was unforgettable!

The wind started to blow streaks of sand across the dirt road, and soon the streaks were three and four inches deep. Then all hell came undone! The wind seemed to pick up the whole desert and drop it on us. Visibility was strictly zero. Dunes three to six feet high blocked the road and forced us to turn onto the windswept desert. How the driver kept his eyes open and going in the right direction, I'll never know. We were huddled together with our eyes closed and sand in our teeth. Fortunately he managed to stay near the edge of

the road and now and then we came upon water holes. These are round mud huts with stairs leading down to the spring pool inside. The water was clear, but had all sorts of critters floating around and in and out of the water. My system was hardly accustomed to that kind of water, but I was forced to drink it, which I did by straining it through my shirt. Every day we would knock off from 1 to 5 p.m. ostensibly to escape the desert heat, but the little rest houses were too stifling hot to get any. The trip that was supposed to take 24 hours took 48.

Arriving in Zahidan, I found I had a three-day wait for the next train to Pakistan. So I went in the first hotel I found and spent most of that day. When I woke, something must have happened to my erstwhile good health. At first I thought the bugs in the water must have got through my shirt after all and the hall between my room and the bath was well worn by me. Then things started to come up, too, and finally I decided I also had a bad case of heat exhaustion.

For two days I stayed there with nothing to eat, and saw no one. Then I pulled myself together and just made it to an English speaking doctor who gave me some good medicine, what I don't know. It helped, but I still could not stand the sight or smell of their food.

The next day, to my good luck, an American who had heard about me came by and took me to his quarters at the army post (Iran army). Here I had good food, really good, boiled water and a cool shower every hour. After a couple of days of this I snapped out of it and once more feel fine and healthy. Lee, the American, had been planning a trip to Pakistan so we got a compartment together on the train and stocked up with eggs, melons, apples and boiled water for the two-day trip to Ovetta, Pakistan.

After two weeks in this desert, I dream about the cool streams of the Olympic mountains, the breezes that come every afternoon down the King's canyon, and best of all, I would like to dive straight into the Rogue river.

Nautilus Leaves for Brooklyn Navy Yard

Portland, Eng. —(UP)—The U.S. atomic submarine Nautilus leaves here today on the week-long voyage to the Brooklyn Navy yard, running underwater all the way.

Three newspapermen, including UPI Correspondent William F. Sunderland, will make the crossing in the Nautilus.

French Statesmen Say West's Greatest Danger is Red China

By KINGSBURY SMITH
United Press International

Paris —(UP)—Two of France's most eminent statesmen warned today that the West's greatest danger from the Communist World in the future is likely to come from Red China.

Former Premier Paul Reynaud and Georges Bidault, in exclusive interviews with this correspondent, said the Chinese Communist leaders appear much more willing to risk war with the West than Russia.

Reynaud, who recently returned from a meeting with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in Moscow, went so far as to predict that Communist China will one day precipitate war with the Western powers.

"I am convinced that Communist China envisages the possibility of an atomic war with the West sooner or later," Reynaud said.

"Russia, under Khrushchev's leadership, will not deliberately precipitate war with the West, but if Communist China continues to grow strong and gets possession of atomic weapons, I think it will do so one day."

Red China-Russia Break
Both Reynaud and Bidault foresaw the possibility of an eventual break between Red China and Russia.

"China," Bidault said "is potentially three times as powerful as Russia. The Chinaman is yellow and the Russian is white. All of Communist China is yellow, but not all of Russia is white. Some are yellow."

"China's population, already around 650,000,000 is growing rapidly. Russia's population was 200,000,000, according to the last census. That is about 15,000,000 less than had been thought."

"China's huge and rapidly increasing population, coupled

pled with the program of industrialization and education of its many millions means that Russia must eventually be subordinated to China."

Reynaud said he told Khrushchev to beware of China. He cautioned the Soviet ruler that the recent decision of the Chinese Communist leaders to abandon the birth control program and promote instead a rapid increase in the already huge population was an ill-omen for the White race.

"When I was explaining to Khrushchev that the Allies insist on the unification of Germany as the basis for a European settlement," Reynaud said, "he asked me:

Common Chinese Peril
"Why do you insist on forming a United Europe?"

"Because," I replied, "in 25 years there will be one billion Chinese, and the division of Europe in the face of that power is an anachronism. I stressed that point because I am convinced that the only consideration that will one day make possible a genuine understanding and rapprochement between Russia and the West will be the common Chinese peril."

Bidault and Reynaud agreed that Communist China is now exercising a dangerous influence on Soviet policy. They both interpreted Khrushchev's action in calling for a summit meeting after his recent visit to Peiping as evidence that the Chinese Communist leaders had imposed a "veto" power on Russia's freedom of action with the Western powers.

"Communist China," Reynaud said, "was very violent at the beginning of the Middle East crisis. Much more so than Russia. It is now clear that China is pressing Russia to adopt a stiffer attitude towards Poland and Yugoslavia. It is apparent that Peiping is

trying to isolate the Soviet Union from the West and block any possibility of settlement between Russia and the Western powers. This is a development of capital importance."

Threat to Russia

Reynaud said he emphasized to Khrushchev that the decision of the Chinese Communist leaders to increase the birth rate represents "one of the most significant and important developments in all history."

"I said that he might well ask himself when China will say to Russia that Siberia is part of China's vital living space. I added that the birth rate in Russia is likely to diminish as the educated Russian develops a desire to see his son enjoy a better life than he has known."

"The Russian woman is less well dressed than the American and French women, but far better dressed today than the Chinese woman. There is no doubt that the standard of living in Russia is higher than it was under Stalin."

"At the present rate of progress, the Russian people 20 years from now will be rich in comparison with the Chinese."

"My exposition of the potential danger to Russia from the proposed increase in the Chinese population caused Khrushchev to be silent for several moments. He did not

Indiana Boy Wins Soap Box Derby

Akron, Ohio —(UP)—James Miley, 15, Muncie Ind., flashed over 975-foot Derby Downs here Sunday to the grand prize of a \$5,000 scholarship, a trophy and a trip to the next Rose Bowl game as the 21st annual All-American and International Soap Box Derby champion.

Miley's victory over 160 entrants recalled the first Soap Box Derby 21 years ago won by another Muncie boy, Bob Turner.

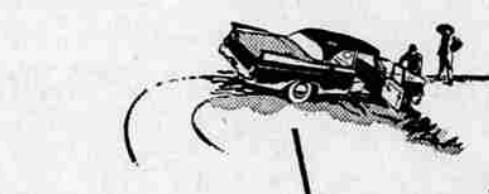
Miley, a high school sophomore, sped his black racer, sponsored by the Muncie Star, down the course in 27.86 seconds to beat Ronnie Ashely, 14, Los Angeles, the runnerup.

Pope Speaks to Rally in West Berlin

Berlin —(UP)—Pope Pius XII said Sunday that Catholics living under Communism often face greater difficulties than the early Christians who lived in a "stifling heathen world."

He bade them defend their faith "to the last." The Pope's recorded message was played to 170,000 Catholics from East and West Germany assembled in West Berlin's Olympic Stadium for a final meeting of a five-day Catholic rally. He spoke in German.

say what he may have been thinking. He is, however, a clever man, not a madman like Hitler."



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In case after case, while gently relieving pain, actual reduction (shrinkage) took place.

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