

Klamath Man Recounts Life Of Action, Color

David M. Smith Prospected for Gold, Knew Noted Men, Spent 23 Years in Business Here.

By BOB LEONARD
ONETIME Alaska gold rush prospector, friend of ex-President Herbert Hoover and Sen. Charles L. McNary, and veteran Oregon real estate man, David M. Smith retired in February after 52 years of active service in state realty life of which the last 23 years have been as partner in the Klamath firm of Chilcote and Smith.

The 75-year-old realtor will leave Klamath Falls shortly to devote his time to fishing and riding herd on a very active bunch of grandchildren in McMinville.

Even when compared to the usual glamor-filled experiences of other early Oregonians, Smith's life history, which from 1880 was connected with Oregon development from the frontlines position of real estate activities, stands out.

But starting from the beginning—he was born in Iowa in 1885 of farm parentage. In 1872, when Dave was seven, new lands in Kansas attracted the elder Smith and the family moved southwestward to establish a new home.

Here Dave spent his formative years in the usual life of a farm boy. At the age of 24 young Smith, working for \$40 per month and with no responsibilities, heard that \$50 was the going pay in the west so packed his bags and set out on Oregon.

HIS first job was in the then new orchard development south of Salem where he went to work as a clerk. It was here the prospective realtor met Herbert Hoover, whose family had recently migrated west from West Branch, Iowa.

Hoover, owner of the first bicycle in all Salem, was employed by the same orchard as an office boy at \$35 per month. Smith was getting \$75 and encouraged Hoover to stick with the fruit business, that he, too, would soon be making \$75.

For six years Smith stayed in the orchard field at Salem, even then a thriving town of 11,000 souls, put in its first paved avenue by brickling Commercial street.

After dabbling in the mercantile business for a brief period, Dave and B. S. Cook, later a realty partner of Smith's in Portland, saw opportunities for trading and gold in the Alaska boom, at that time just opening up.

With capital scraped from fellow Salemites added to their own small stake, the pair outfit-fitted after several delays in Seattle and left for the north in early spring, 1898.

No bonanza did the young adventurers find in the far north but a legion of experiences in their 18-month stay.

They arrived in Fairbanks while it was still a tent town and one morning found themselves completely out of grub. Remembering a can of corned beef cached some 30 miles down river they set out on a borrowed cup of tea to wade and clamber on foot toward breakfast.

The cache was still there but did little to satisfy the hungry prospectors so they finished off the trip with another 30-mile hike to Rampart.

But the youthful duo soon grew accustomed to walking. During the winter of '98-'99, the elderly realtor estimated, they covered a distance of 950 miles—all on foot and most of it guiding a dog team and sled.

Usual temperatures during deep winter were down around 80 to 60 below zero. Smith recalled a time when a chance partner of him and Cook, an older man, stopped to rest for a few moments on the trail. Missing him after a short while, Dave went back and found him leaning against a tree—frozen stiff.

On another occasion another chance companion, Rogers by name, lay down on his back in order to moccasins a foot sore husky. Smith had to use the dog whip to bring him to his feet.

On the commercial side the boys did better. Buying out a steamboat operator marooned part way up the Yukon, the adventurers coaxed the sternwheeler as far as Dawson where they sold ship and cargo piecemeal to eager buyers.

Part of the supply—a quantity of 3-inch pipe—went for \$2 per foot. Part of the young lads' trading stock brought from Salem was a carload of prunes. What with salt air and age by the time the fruit reached Dawson it had started to mould.

In fact, Smith related, it had grown quite hairy. A Dawson merchant, however, on seeing some of it unloaded, offered to buy

the entire stock—not knowing its scope.

Smith and Cook warned him they had a lot of prunes but he insisted and said he would pay 15 cents per pound for the entire stock. The Salemites gave in and sent him the carload.

A few days later they saw the prunes, shined and de-moulded, on sale for \$1 per pound in Dawson. Short time later they had all been sold.

Four hundred pounds of moose meat the boys unloaded for \$1 per pound.

Piloting the vessel up the Yukon to Dawson wasn't all gravy, however. Stranded on a sandbar just below Circle City, the busy speculators sent two men upstream in a small boat to buy a length of rope. It was some time before they returned with a \$250 load of rope and a costly load of Circle City's uncorked finest. Just as the tender neared the ship, the unordered load won over the returning men and small boat and rope tipped over and were lost.

Most nerve-racking experience Smith went through was also one of the longest. It started one night in Dawson when a man who owed Dave \$3500 for machinery purchased called at his bunkhouse on the bank of the Yukon river, said he was leaving the next morning and would he (Smith) go uptown with him to collect his money.

Smith agreed so the pair walked into a large saloon on Dawson's main street. The smoky interior was jammed with prospectors standing at the bar and gambling tables. Dave's companion walked straight to the bartender and asked for \$3500—about 17 pounds of gold dust—from his sack.

This made it imperative for Dave to buy drinks for the house and also exposed to everyone in the place the fact he had the sum on his person.

With most of the gold dust, Smith later returned to his bunk where he added it to his and Cook's accumulation, making 45 pounds in all to sleep over. About this time the pair decided to return to the states and wanted to ship the gold.

The only transportation company serving the area asked \$450 for shipment to Seattle so the boys elected to bring it out themselves. They made it — after a 1800-mile jaunt down the Yukon and steamer passage back to the states—but Dave said it was the hardest \$450 he ever made.

BACK in Portland Smith was married and he and Cook continued their partnership, this time in the real estate business. Until 1912 the entente remained unbroken. During this period the pair dealt largely in Deschutes land, selling three townships for the Deschutes Irrigation company.

They planned and started the building of Redmond in 1904 and 1905 and were active in Bend property. At that time Bend was composed of one store and a hotel.

For six years following 1912 Smith was retired from the real estate business and entered the mercantile line in McMinville. In 1918 he sold his interest to the Miller Mercantile company and formed a partnership with E. M. Chilcote here in Klamath

Dave Smith Has Been Places



Dave Smith, Klamath real estate man who has retired after more than 20 years in the business here, has had a busy life full of interesting experience.

Chief Hopansi Of Shastans Knew What The Future Held

When the warriors of the Shastan Indians encamped at the foot of Mount Shasta by the Big Springs, which are the source of the Sacramento river, returned to their lodges on that spring day in 1827 after making the Black Magic to prevent Peter Ogden and his friends from ever returning to trap the beaver on the upper Sacramento, they celebrated in true Indian fashion. The mysteries of the afternoon were big events in their tribal history, and what was more to the immediate point—the Medicine Man had proven a sachem of great power who with his magic could save the tribe from dangers real or imagined.

During the celebration, however, Chief Hopansi sat apart—this was not his celebration; Pokinos, the Medicine Man, was the one to take the acclaim. But if Hopansi did not join in with the whilery, it was not because he was jealous. He was thinking of the things he had learned from the short visit with the white men and he was worried.

Early the next morning he called his son Wielputus to his wickiup. It was not a time to call a consultation in the Big House. There all the warriors would have to be in on the council and there would arise much argument and possible dissension.

Falls which was to endure until Dave's retirement last month.

Locally Smith and Chilcote have carried on a general real estate and loan enterprise. They have been largely concerned with the development of Mills addition.

March, 1941, finds Dave Smith looking forward to a great deal of fishing. He maintains homes in Klamath Falls, McMinville and Salem and will divide his time among the three places—when he isn't out with a flyrod.

"It is better to be friends than enemies of the white man. They will be here—first a few mountain men like Pe-err whom we might kill—but more will follow. They will want our beaver. They will want our daughters. It is better that we give them and be friends than that we fight them and be forever lost. That is all."

With this dismissal Wielputus retired from his father's wickiup; but that he never forgot his father's words and wisdom is evinced by the Battle of Castle Crags which was to occur scarcely 30 years later and which, though a comparatively minor battle in itself from the point

of view of the white man, was nevertheless the event which prevented a general consolidation of the Indians in northern California which could easily have hampered its development by the white man for another 50 years.

At the Battle of Castle Crags which took place on the north bank of Castle creek at the foot of Castle Crags some 20 miles from Mt. Shasta, Wielputus with 29 of his warriors joined forces with Captain Gibson and routed a band of Modoc Indians, killing two of their chiefs who were making a stronghold of Castle Crags as preparation for a general consolidation and outbreak.

The great site of this battle is known as Battle Rock and directions for visiting this historic spot may be obtained from Ranger Barron of the Shasta National forest, whose headquarters are located at Dunsmuir, and within whose district lies the entire Castle Crags area.

The Crags themselves are most interesting and picturesque and may be seen from Highway No. 99 near Castella.

Jews, Arabs Make Peace To Fight

Erstwhile Warring Factions Join Ranks to Assist Britain

By MILTON BRONNER
NEA Service Correspondent

WASHINGTON, March 8.—The lion and the lamb have lain down together in peace and harmony in Palestine, according to advices received here. Where not long ago Arabs were sniping at Jews, and Jews were working on their farms with rifles at their sides, the two branches of the Semitic race now are reported to be fairly solidly allied in aiding Britain's prosecution of the war.

Only two years ago the British government, which holds the mandate for Palestine, was compelled to station a large army there. From every hillside, from every hedge-row, from every hut, there was apt to be a blaze of rifle or an exploding bomb. The Arabs were reputedly fighting any further expansion of Zionism in Palestine and any further immigration of Jews into the Holy Land.

ARAB-JEWISH ENTENTE AIMED AT FASCISTS

The military strategic importance of Palestine grows daily as the Mediterranean becomes an important theatre of war. Occupying a corner bordering on the Mediterranean, Palestine is a flanking defense of the Suez canal and a pivot from which British forces can operate either east or west. The border of Haifa is the terminus of the Mosul pipe line, which delivers tons of oil — a rich prize for potential invaders.

But all axis money spent in Palestine is believed to have gone down the drain so far as effect in wartime was concerned. Italy's invasion and annexation of Moslem Albania turned Jews into foes of the axis.

Arabs and Jews alike have volunteered for service together in a Palestine defense force. At a meeting of the first national conference of Arabic workers held in Jaffa, four fraternal delegates were present from the Histadruth, which is the federation of Jewish Palestine workers. The conference, by a big majority, voiced its desire for Arab-Jewish unity against the fascist foe.

of the number of its participants, nevertheless was the event which prevented a general consolidation of the Indians in northern California which could easily have hampered its development by the white man for another 50 years.

All indications point to a full season in Lake county lumber activities. Jack Almeter of the Oregon State Employment service said Saturday after returning from a brief tour of Lake county mills.

The Underwood Lumber company began operation last Monday with two shifts and Buzard-Burkhart will open next Monday, March 10, Almeter said. Goose Lake Box operations have not yet begun, he stated, but in all probability will get under way shortly. Peterson-Johnson will start as soon as weather and road conditions make logging possible.

Demand for all grades is heavy, Almeter said his survey showed, and the majority of millmen are troubled by a lack of dry lumber not orders.

Parent and Teacher Conference



C. W. Muender, principal of Roosevelt school, discusses a school problem with a parent.

'Rebel of Matanuska' Set For Alaska Turnip Market

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, March 8 (AP)—The "Rebel of Matanuska" had his new acreage Friday and began preparations to run his former government-financed neighbors a merry race for the Anchorage turnip and cabbage market.

But there was another pioneering task ahead of Walter Pippel, the one-time Minnesota relief applicant who became Matanuska's most prosperous farmer. Pippel left Matanuska in 1939 after failing in court in his two-year revolt against the colony management ruling that he could market only through the co-operative. His income had been estimated at \$5,000 a year.

Pippel, who recently came north again from Wisconsin with a deprecatory challenge to his old neighbors, leased yesterday 25 acres six miles south of Anchorage, on the opposite side of the city from Matanuska but in

similarly picturesque tree-surrounded terrain.

He obtained the land from two homesteaders and will face much the same task that he did at Matanuska. There are stumps to dig and soil to be turned for the first time by the blade of a plow. Much of the land has been cleared but never planted. Pippel already has a tractor. He plans to raise a variety of truck farm produce for the rapidly expanding market in this booming army air base city.

Eying the slush from the winter's snow on Anchorage streets, the sturdy individual commented: "It looks like it won't be long before I can start plowing, but I've got to build a house first." He said he already had made arrangements to bring his wife and four children north. A 16-year-old son came with him.

Pippel predicted, "they'll never want to leave Alaska again."

Lumber Mills Active In Lake County, Report

All indications point to a full season in Lake county lumber activities. Jack Almeter of the Oregon State Employment service said Saturday after returning from a brief tour of Lake county mills.

The Underwood Lumber company began operation last Monday with two shifts and Buzard-Burkhart will open next Monday, March 10, Almeter said. Goose Lake Box operations have not yet begun, he stated, but in all probability will get under way shortly. Peterson-Johnson will start as soon as weather and road conditions make logging possible.

Demand for all grades is heavy, Almeter said his survey showed, and the majority of millmen are troubled by a lack of dry lumber not orders.

Famous Female Impersonator Dies

NEW YORK, March 8 (AP)—Julian Eltinge, 57, actor who won international note as a female impersonator, died at his Manhattan apartment Friday after a brief illness.

The screen, stage and concert figure for whom Broadway's Eltinge theatre was named was stricken with a kidney ailment several days ago and complications followed.

Born in Newtonville, Mass., as William Dalton, he was educated in the public schools of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston and Butte, Mont. He made his first stage appearance in 1904 in "Mr. Wix of Wickham." He later entered vaudeville as a female impersonator and for five years toured this country and Europe.

For more than 20 years thereafter he appeared in plays, musicals and concerts on Broadway

Report Card Changes In Effect Here

Citizenship, Social Attitudes Emphasized In Local Schools

(This is another of a series of articles on local schools prepared for The News and Herald by the government and education department of the League of Women Voters.)

REMEMBER when a school report card often meant a session in the woodshed with father? Those who do might well wish to turn back the clock, so that they might receive a modern report. The schools now encourage the parents to come for conferences and talks, not only when things go wrong, but also when praise and good words are in order.

Since this desired parent conference is not always possible, the schools have a rather informal report sheet that is sent home at six-week intervals. Each child's work is evaluated on the basis of his ability. Thus, if Johnny is doing his best, then that work is rated as satisfactory, regardless of whether it is as good as the work done by some other pupil.

Many schools in the country have gone even farther than this, sending out an informal note several times a year. In this type there is no attempt at grading—only a word of commendation for good accomplishment, or telling where more effort is needed. This type of report might say that John is courteous to teachers and fellows, but that he needs to concentrate on arithmetic, which he could do with success if he did not waste his time. In other words, the report puts attention on the exact spot of praise or criticism.

In Klamath Falls schools the blue report sheet, sent home each six weeks, puts emphasis on citizenship, health and social attitudes as well as scholastic attainment. These are listed as:

Work Habits—effort, concentration, use of time.

Social Habits—cooperation, loyalty, courtesy, honesty.

Health Habits—posture, exercise, personal cleanliness.

Care of School Property—text books and building.

Achievement by subjects is listed on the reverse of the sheet.

Grading is not done on the old percentage basis, but is listed as satisfactory or otherwise. A yearly report is kept for each child and the parent receives this at the end of the year. The card lists attendance, attitudes, and achievement by subjects. The key follows:

S—Satisfactory—reasonable expectancy, consistent with learning ability and environment.

M—Passing Level—but not up to capacity, should be improved.

N—Below Passing Level—but acceptable on account of faithful effort or extenuating circumstances.

U—Unsatisfactory—not acceptable for promotion.

A permanent record card is kept in the office. This large card contains complete data available on the child, including family data, schools attended, record of health, attitudes, attendance and achievements.

All parents are urged to have frequent conferences with the teachers and principals. They welcome your interest and cooperation. It is not possible for the teacher to visit at the home of all the pupils, but it is possible for parents to make the trip to school. Get acquainted with teachers, learn their aims and problems. They want to work with you for benefit of your child.

GANGWAY!

OMAK, Wash. (AP)—Gary and Dyer Stockton and Pauline Bonwell got into the Stockton car, turned on the ignition and whooped it up and down First street. The car went through a stop light and stopped only after F. J. Shuler outran it and applied the brakes.

Gary, 3½ years old and the senior member of the trio, called it a swell ride.

A SURPRISE

BROOKFIELD, Mo. (AP)—John Gates and Tillie Facto told friends they were going to marry, but the ceremony would come as a surprise.

It did—to them.

Friends who talked Gates into having a party at his country cabin brought along a minister as an unannounced guest. The vows were spoken then and there.

Beans and Canned "Willie"? -- Not for This Man's Army

Chow For Uncle Sam's New Soldiers Rates Right Up With What They Got At Home -- Or Maybe Better



There's more to army chow than beans and canned "Willie" these days. Balanced menus of top quality foods are prepared for Uncle Sam's soldiers. Above, Allan Lindsey, of Catskill, N. Y., who cooks for Co. F, 174th Infantry at Fort Dix, N. J., checks baked spuds.



Prime beef is none too good for 1941 army selectees. This side of meat means steaks and chops for the lads at Fort Dix.



There's no need to call "come and get it!" to hungry buck private. Strenuous exercise builds up big appetites. Above, they line up as cooks as cooks their own mess-kits. Here they are lined up at dish out the evening meal.



But one thing hasn't changed. Like all troops before them, today's soldiers have to clean up their own mess-kits. Above, they line up as cooks as cooks their own mess-kits. Here they are lined up at dish out the evening meal.