

News-Herald Week-End Photo-Magazine Page

Linkville School Days

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Daughters of American Revolution.

THE year was 1877, the month either November or December, and the day chilly, when two girls and six boys from all points of the compass strung in to the first Linkville school.

We know the weather was wintry, for the Hanks children, Marlon, John, and Ella, came by sled from their father's ranch out beyond the Mortensen home at Pelican City. "Back" Grigsby came on the bare back of a half broken filly from the old log cabin where he lived with a family near the present Eberlein ranch. Wait Allred and Jim Pearson lived down on the south side of Main street where Hub Wakefield's garage now stands across from the Willard hotel. Hattie and Quincy Brooks had the shortest trip from their home near the spot where now stands the Dr. George I. Wright house.

In the 64 years which have passed since "Ol Doc" Allen stood on the little platform of the schoolhouse and rang the hand-bell for school that winter day vast changes have been made in the buildings, equipment and boundaries of School District No. 1. The expansion of the buildings has only been equalled by the contraction of the boundaries of the district. In 1877 a one-room frame building stood in the midst of a district extending from the Barclay Springs ranch of Raymond Cox and Miss Gertrude Cox on the north to the California line on the south, and from Pine Grove in the east to the Jackson coun-



(Lent by Mrs. Guy Hancock)
This is Herbert Dyar, Klamath county's first school superintendent. He was appointed in 1882 when Klamath county was cut off from Lake county. His annual salary was \$100.

ty line in the west. Today seven beautiful modern buildings occupy a territory slightly larger than the city of Klamath Falls. However, embraced in the expansion of territory which was School District No. 1 in 1877 and totally surrounded by that district were Districts Nos. 2 and 3. Keno was one of these districts and the other was somewhere in the southwest corner of the county. When Pine Grove was organized into a district it was numbered four.

These boys and girls, the first eight pupils of the first district

of our county (then Lake), had to climb a knoll to report for study. The site of the present Medical-Dental building was a stiff little hill sloping away from Ninth and Main down toward Seventh and Klamath. This hill became a nuisance to the progressive little village and a contract was let to R. A. Emmitt for \$2800 who had it removed by hand labor, cutting Main street through but leaving the school on a slight raise of land.

At the foot of the hill in the middle of Main street stood a fine old willow tree, in front of our Pine Tree theatre. Nearby was a beautiful spring and from this came the drinking water for the school. A good child might take the bucket and bring it back brimming with spring water and pass the old tin dipper from thirteenth mouth to thirteenth mouth. According to Mr. Grigsby, "Old Doc" quenched his thirst from a bottle.

The little rough-board school was built of lumber hauled to town from a mill near Spencer creek. The room was situated on land donated for school purposes by Uncle George Nurse and occupied for such purposes until the Central school was torn down to make way for expanding business.

C. R. DeLap in 1881



(Lent by C. R. DeLap)
This choice old-time portrait shows C. R. DeLap, prominent Klamath pioneer and still an active business man, as he appeared in 1881. Mr. DeLap was Klamath county's first elective school superintendent, taking the job in 1884. This picture was taken by the San Francisco Gallery, which advertised on the back that enameled photographs were 50 per cent extra and no retouching would be given for "groupes or tintypes."

were in the same grade and took the same studies. "Ol' Doc" Allen was a man

about 60 or 65 when he took charge of this first Linkville school. His pupils well remember the flowing beard, stained with tobacco juice, and the older ones recall the alcoholic breath and none too steady gait. Mr. Grigsby tells of the old board floor with its wide cracks and how Doc could spit through the cracks (sometimes).

After six weeks attendance at this school Mr. Grigsby, then a lad of 15, took a job herding sheep for his future brother-in-law, Henry Conn. When school was about to close Ed Brooks got out a petition to have the term extended for another month or 6 weeks and since Doc's contract had expired Ed was appointed teacher for this additional term. It is hard to determine whether this was a private school, with the teacher paid by subscription (as was the first school at Merrill), or whether he was paid out of county funds. Some of our old timers have one impression, some of the other.

Woodshed Incident
As nearly as we can learn today Allen and Brooks received \$30 or \$35 a month for their services. As the community grew, the little one-room school became inadequate and it was sold to Ludwig Biehn, (father of George Biehn and Mrs. George Humphrey) who moved it across the street behind his hotel and made a woodshed out of it.

This woodshed, which stood back of the location where Charles Whisenant now has Everbody's Drug, was the scene of one of our interesting bits of local history. In 1909 two boys, one quite young the other over 21, held up the Klamath County bank and made off with about \$3500 in gold coin. This they hid in the chips in Mr. Biehn's woodshed, then the younger boy hid in a haystack and the older after changing his clothes at the hotel got on a hay wagon and went out to a field to work. Some citizens suspected the haystack of harboring a thief and had their suspicions confirmed by prodding it with a pitchfork. The young lad was taken and as the hay wagon returned to town that evening the older man was arrested. They were arrested on Friday, confessed on Saturday, indicted and pleaded guilty Monday and were on their way to Salem Tuesday. All but a couple of hundred dollars of the gold was recovered. An amusing incident in connection with this holdup was a telephone call from an agitated depositor who asked the bank employees if his money was with the gold stolen.

Klamath county was cut off from Lake county in 1882 and Herbert Dyar was appointed as first school superintendent at a salary of \$100 a year. He was followed by C. R. DeLap who was the first elected county superintendent, in 1884.

After the removal of the old school house to the Biehn property across the street, a new one-room building was put up, and when it, too, proved too small for the growing town a T was put on. The one-room building became the nucleus of a building which grew until it became quite sizeable as can be seen by taking a look at the apartment house on the southeast corner of Tenth and Pine. This property, now belonging to Marie McMill-

Five More War Years?

Newsman Recounts War Story

By BOB LEONARD
THE British high command anticipates the possibility of five more war years in their modern defensive siege of a gigantic Troy.

This was the report of Virgil Pinkley, European manager of the United Press association, who visited Klamath Falls briefly during the week.

At best, British military leaders don't foresee an ending within the next two years and predict it will be three or four years before the flames of Hitlerism are beaten back and finally extinguished, according to Pinkley.

The brilliant sandy-haired young newsman with the trigger-quick mind and finger-tip memory, was winding up a two-month vacation trip in the United States after 12 almost continuous years of foreign press service when he stopped here.

HOPES BASED ON TWO ATTACK LINES

A veteran of Finnish-Russo war covering, reporter on the inactive western front during the "phony war" period, Moscow visitor, and eye-witness to the first three weeks of the air blitz on London, Pinkley, in the war years and before, has usually been on the front news lines when "top-head" news has been in the making.

British authorities base their hopes of an ultimate victory on two main lines of attack—one passive and the other active—the experienced observer said. Both depend on continued and increased United States' aid in all branches of military and economic warfare.

In brief, Britain believes that in time German reserve supplies will run out and German home morale will falter.

BELIEVE HITLER WORKING ON RESERVE

Neither revelation is new but here's Pinkley's fuller report of each:

The British believe Hitler's juggernaut is subsisting 25 per cent on newly produced alloys and petroleum products—and 75 per cent on reserves. They emphasize Germany, Italy and France produce only seven-tenths of one per cent of the world's oil supply within their continental borders, and, even with Rumania, can turn out only 2.8 per cent. They believe it is only a question of time before these reserves will run out.

The British think that with constantly increasing bombing attacks over the homeland, combined with an ever-decreasing German food supply, continental civilian morale will sink to a point where spontaneous and simultaneous British-inspired sabotage and revolt will flare in all occupied countries as well as Germany itself. Anti-axis leaders predict a 50 per cent drop in European farm produce next year and point to the Scandinavian countries' slaughter of animals and poultry for lack of feed.

HITLER HAS THREE COURSES

British leaders say that even now their agents have been forced to hold back sabotage attempts in isolated instances in order to save possible future underground leaders from discovery and the Hitler chopping block.

Pinkley said most observers see three courses open to Hitler. He can either attempt an all-out invasion of Britain, continue to hammer away through the near east and build a bridgehead in North Africa, thereby cutting British Mediterranean lines, or withdraw to the continent and consolidate his new order before resuming the offensive. The second

course was used as a school until the Central school was built.

Of the eight scholars forming the first school in our history, three are still living. Mr. Grigsby, who furnished most of the material for this article, lives in Klamath Falls. Hattie Brooks lives somewhere outside of our state, and John Hanks is also still alive. The name of Hanks has been identified with school history for three generations. J. L. Hanks served as director in the early years of the district; his son, Marion Hanks, as director in the next generation, and Mrs. Eva Hanks Clemens, daughter of Mr. Marion Hanks taught in the system for a number of years prior to her marriage.

Quincy Brooks and Jim Pearson have long been gone. Mrs. Ella Hanks Eastwood died several years ago in the Merrill Valley. Wait Allred was killed in the tragedy involving an Indian car crossing the Darris railroad track some years ago.

(Continued Next Week)

Tells War Story



Virgil Pinkley, European manager for United Press, says war may last five more years.

ond course is the apparent one, if British contentions of his reserves are true. He will not, Britain says, attempt an invasion unless chances of success are nine to one.

Hitler, Pinkley observed, is still being underestimated by most Americans. Far from being only a warrior with a mighty machine, he is also a political, diplomatic and military genius with an uncanny sense of timing. Hitler's ability to merge all psychological and material units of attack into the proper moment for attack has thus far spelled one of the chief differences between victory and stalemate.

BETTER NEWS UNDERSTANDING

A guide toward better American understanding of foreign news was offered by the engrossing news expert.

"Attempt," he said, "to separate the news you read into two classes.

"If the story is an eye-witness one or attributes information to 'usually well-informed' or 'unimpeachable' sources, it can be accepted as the truth as far as it goes. If, however, it quotes a government spokesman or news agency, it should be treated with reserve as it probably contains propaganda."

All three major American news services with representatives outside the United States are doing a fine job in the face of repeatedly difficult situations, Pinkley maintained. There are now over 750 trained reporters on the foreign scene in contrast to six in operation at the start of the last war, he said.

Censorship, according to Pinkley, is naturally one of the newsman's major problems but looming almost as large is the constantly-shifting obstacle of communication. At the war's outset, realignments were made which were to exist for nearly eight months. With the blitz across the lowlands and France, Amsterdam, which had become the city desk of Europe, was no more and Zurich, Switzerland, was to take its place.

UNITED PRESS CASHES IN

Pinkley's service cashed in heavily on the big Dutch city, however, before it died. In 1936, the United Press began to work on the possibility of an exclusive telephone line between Amsterdam and London. It took three years of doing, but by 1939 the United Press had established their line under the listing of a state department wire.

With first reports of the German move on May 10, half the UP's 12-man Amsterdam staff was spread over the whole of Holland, each near a telephone. As the battle developed, each man's report was phoned to the headquarters bureau, written into a whole and shunted to London, from where it was sent overseas.

Meanwhile all lines between the continent and the British Isles except for state wires had been cut, leaving the United Press with the only direct pipeline from the battlefield. For five hours the Amsterdam boys continued to send a complete story of actual fighting while other associations were forced to fall back on meager reports from word-of-mouth and diplomatic sources.

POST-MORTEM CENSORSHIP

Zurich held on as a central news point until the Balkan sweep but now it's pretty much catch-as-catch-can on spot news reporting. Sometimes as many as nine similar messages are sent out over as many routes with a prayer one will arrive in the not too distant future. Stories sent at the same time have

been known to arrive over 36 hours apart.

German post-mortem censorship, Pinkley said, is the most free but the most devastating. Each correspondent is free to write and release what he pleases, but is held strictly and personally accountable. Thereby, if the story doesn't please Dr. Goebbels' propaganda ministry after it's sent, the writer is very likely soon on his way out.

POODLE DEAD, POODLE ILL

Earlier in hostilities, American newspapermen were often able to slip into a double-talk slang jargon which fooled even the British, but the censors finally caught on and it's rarely used now.

A quibble over the Zurich-Bucharest telephone during last fall's Iron Guard rioting in Rumania did get by, however.

The Rumanian telephone censor at the riot's beginning refused to let any mention of casualties pass. Several attempts by the Zurich U. P. staff to query Frank Stevens, Bucharest manager and poodle fancier, on the number of dead and wounded failed.

Finally Zurich asked for permission to inquire into the health of Stevens' two "ailing" poodles. The censor, a dog-lover, agreed.

Stevens' reply was that the first poodle, whose name ended in three zeros, had died, and the second poodle, whose name also ended in three zeros, was still sick. There was the answer: 1000 dead and 2000 injured and wounded.

WARTIME LIVING UNDER HARDSHIPS

Regardless of censorship difficulties, the American boys are usually able to get the gist of a story through, Pinkley said, and quoted the British and German moves into Syria and the recent Hitler-Mussolini meeting as examples.

Life under wartime conditions the news executive reported as being exactly as described in many press dispatches. American cigarettes are virtually extinct in Europe. If obtainable, one package will bring \$1.55 in Switzerland and \$1.85 in Sweden, both neutral countries. In Berlin, a reasonable facsimile costs \$2.50 per pack.

Hot water is priceless in most occupied countries and can be used in Sweden only between the hours of 4 and 9 p. m. on Saturdays. Fuel of any kind is utterly scarce and many schools have had to be closed for lack of heat.

But despite the hardships, the danger and the uncertainty, Pinkley is going back to the big show. From here he went by rail to San Francisco and was scheduled to fly back to New York before returning west to clipper Manila-ward. By KLM Dutch Airways he'll fly from Manila to Singapore, then transfer to British Airways for a series of hops ultimately landing him at Cairo destination—from San Francisco to Egypt in nine days.

NOSE FOR NEWS

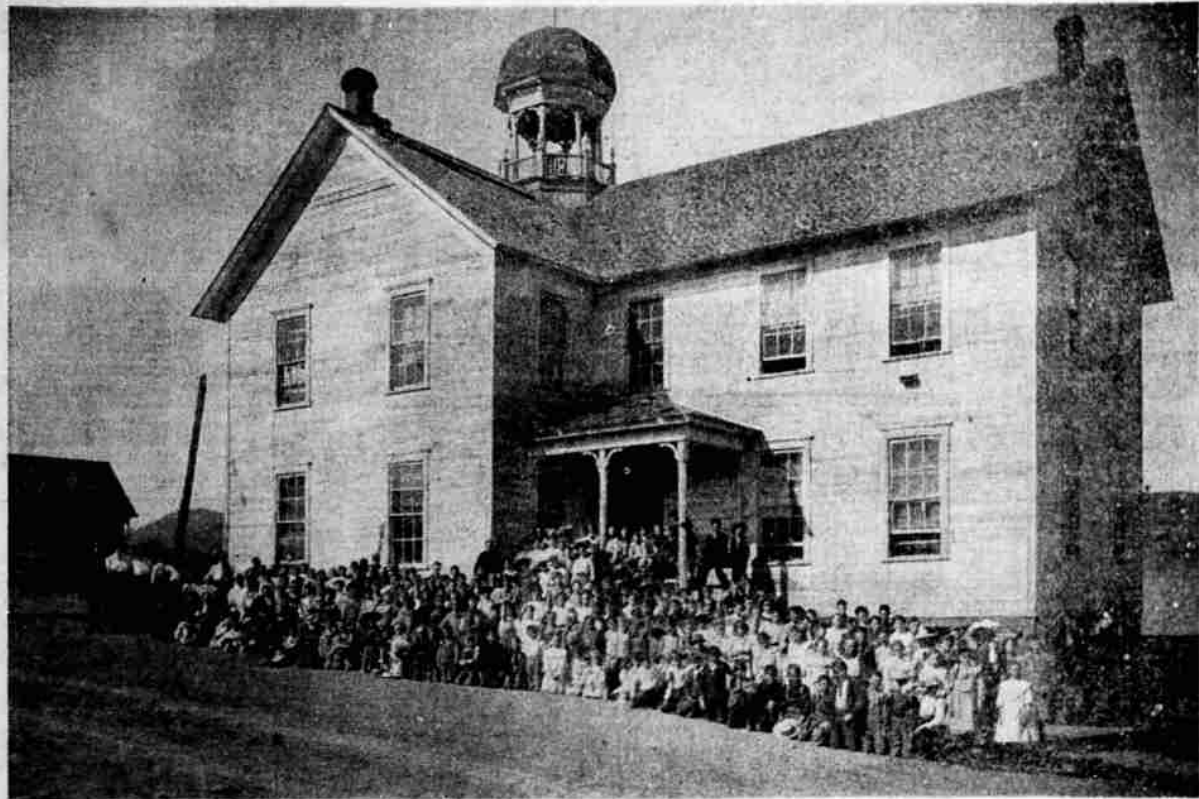
FINDLAY, Ohio, (AP)—Robert Rosencrans, a reporter for the Findlay Republican-Courier, got a story on his regular call at the draft board.

The board had a new quota, calling for one man about July 11—Robert Rosencrans.

Slugger Wallace



Vice President Henry A. Wallace singles in game between Hamilton Fish's "Statesmen" and Lowell Thomas' "Nine Old Men" in charity softball game at Griffith Stadium, Washington.



(Lent by Mrs. George Humphrey)
Recognize this building? It's the old Linkville school, which stood where the Medical-Dental building now stands. The picture was taken about 35 years ago. The old school building still stands, having been moved long ago to the southeast corner of Tenth and Pine streets, where it is now used as an apartment house and belongs to Miss Marie McMillan. That group of youngsters was the entire Klamath school attendance at the time the picture was taken.



(Lent by Mrs. George Humphrey)
This rare picture was taken about 1892, showing the upper-class of the old school that stood on the site of the Medical-Dental building. Many of the children shown in the picture still reside here. The boys, left to right: Guy Hamaker, Robert Baldwin, Walter Marple, Tom Kenney, Homer Marsh, Roy Hamaker, Charles J. Martin, Don Steele, Claude Fountain, Charles Hamaker, Bradford Carter, Charles I. Roberts, (Dr.) George I. Wright, Richard Smith (now of Eugene) Joe Kessler.
Middle row (girls): Dollie Baldwin Uerlings, Minnie Lee Henry, Carrie Hilliard, Nettie Thorpe, Frances Breitenstein Nail, Emma M. Van Valkenberg, Daisy Summers, Merrill, Louise Biehn Humphrey, Maude Baldwin.
Upper row: Professor Eckert, Mae De Puy, Jennie Smith, Amelia Heldrich Hanks, Lydia Marple Lennox, Fannie Haynes Griffith, Clara Breitenstein, Mollie Haynes.