

50th Anniversary

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ond floor and there, too, on Saturday nights, the fun-loving Czechs in the tradition of their homeland, brought their families, stowed sleepy children on benches or against the walls, and danced and sang. Folks from as far away as Bly, curious about the new settlement came and danced too, taking three days to make the round trip.

More than dancing, the Bohemians loved a barbecue. John McNeil, W. C. Dalton and Charles Beardsley were initiated into the ritual of cooking meat in a pit and they helped with the first big barbecue that was christened with a sandstorm.

Water receded from Tule Lake as the Bureau of Reclamation drainage project progressed and the 70,000 acres of land that was covered, was largely drained to become rich farmland both in Oregon and the Tulalake area.

The first barley sold went to the Martin Brothers Mill at Merrill for 65 cents per sack, weight not known. Later when alfalfa was raised, hay sold out of the stack brought \$5 per ton.

There was little illness among the settlers but doctors were a long distance by buggy or horseback and neighbors helped one another. Mrs. Joe Ottoman Sr. was a midwife. Some families gave her \$5 for her services. Mrs. Kalina recalled giving her material for dresses and food for her family.

Eggs were scarce and a hen egg in January was talk of the town.

Reminiscing, Mrs. Marie Kunz, who could then speak no English, remembers buying groceries at Kalina's, including a gallon can of kerosene, starting home in a wagon over a rutted road and losing the potato stopper on the spout of the oil can. Result was

ruined food and no more money. Mrs. Vaclav Drazil was left with only a dime when her husband went to work in Klamath Falls. She spent that on stamps to write and tell him all was well.

The Frank Paygrs, out of money, ate roasted wheat and roasted rabbits, ground roasted rye and wheat to mix with chicory for coffee . . . others ate blackbirds, geese and ducks.

Mrs. Anna Polivka came by train from New York to Sacramento. She, too, could speak no English and because no one could understand her questions or her answers, a station agent who thought she wanted a bed, locked her into a small room until she missed a train. In Klamath Falls she was taken from the railroad station to the Kern Hotel and later to Malin by taxi . . . the charge was \$8.

Joe Smidl, the first ditch rider, rode horseback from Adams Point to the Carr (Dalton) Ranch, a distance of some 25 miles. Horse and saddle were furnished. The pay was \$75 a month, a magnificent sum.

Many such instances can be recalled. Today the families laugh at the hardships. With few exceptions those who stayed have earned comfortable incomes.

On October 1, 1916, first anniversary of the arrival of the settlers, they invited neighbors and had a picnic and a dance. The few farm products grown were displayed and funds collected from the dance helped build the old Bohemian Hall in Malin, used for a gathering place for many years.

The first rural telephone line was built by A. Kalina about 1915. The first irrigated land opened to homesteading was taken up in 1919. Electricity reached Malin in 1921. A cheese factory built in 1921 used milk from the dairy herds. Two fine brick schools, high school and elementary buildings, replaced the wooden structures, a church was built, utilities were financed, the town grew



VISITORS TO MALIN about 1914-1915 found bed and board in this two-story home of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fredenberg where accommodations were arranged after the original Malin Hotel burned. M. M. Stastny, still living in Malin who arrived about that time to teach school, rented the room in the upper right corner until Mrs. Stastny and son, Edwin, arrived. Aboard the mules are Mary Halousek, left, and Della Coffman, daughter of Mrs. Fredenberg. Mary was daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Halousek, among the first settlers.

ties were financed, the town grew and was incorporated.

Fine homes have been built, revenue from farm crops now runs into hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Athletic teams have won state championships.

The town boasts one of the finest parks in Oregon.

From the privations and work of the original 66 men and women, prosperity has followed.

Of those who came to Malin on that day 50 years ago, few are left. The second and third generations have married outside Czech families.

Malin is a peaceful town. There is a minimum of law infractions. The jail is seldom used. Men and women still help their neighbors. The land is still tilled and continues to produce.

This year on August 1 and 2, the town will celebrate its 50th anniversary. Those who live near the blue haze of the tree-covered hills will begin another half century.

And Malin, a name euphonious and short, will continue to bring

to mind those folks whose ancestry is linked with the Old World, will recall the Czech homeland, for the name in the Czech tongue means "wonderful country, a paradise where crops never fail."

FIRST GROUP
The Zdrzeni Ceskyh Farntaru V. Maline, was the first organized group in the new settlers. Translated, it was The Bohemian Farmers Association of Malin.

THE COVER

Five granddaughters of the original Czech settlers wear the beautiful, authentic, costumes of the Old World. All were brought to Malin by travelers to Europe and all represent different parts of Czechoslovakia and Moravia, original homes of the settlers. Brilliant hand embroidery, exquisite laces, aprons and bonnets complete the costumes.

Seated, left, is Vlasta Rajnus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Rajnus. Right, is Mrs. Arthur Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Rajnus. Standing, left to right, are Donna Micka, daughter of Mrs. Ruth Kalina Unruh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vaclav Kalina, and Mrs. Henry (Marie) Vacknitz.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES
TO THE MALIN COMMUNITY
ON THEIR 50th ANNIVERSARY
Dr. Craig Pearson
Malin Osteopathic Clinic

CONGRATULATIONS TO MALIN, OREGON 50th ANNIVERSARY

BEN FRANKLIN STORE

LOCALLY OWNED — NATIONALLY KNOWN

Poul D. Lewis & Audrey A. Lewis

Merrill, Oregon



VACLAV KALINA is general chairman for the 50th anniversary celebration for settling Malin to be observed Saturday and Sunday, August 1-2 in Malin. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Kalina one of the first families.

MALIN TOWNSITE

The birth of the Malin townsite was on November 15, 1905, when A. Kalina signed papers for 40 acres of land owned by W. C. Dalton. The legal record shows the land was in the SW quarter of the NW quarter, lots 1-8, section 15 and the SE quarter of the NE quarter, lots 4-5 of section 16 in township 41, south range 12, East Willamette Meridian. Prices of every piece of land sold are contained in the original documents of the Lakeside Land Company in possession of A. M. Collier, secretary for many years. The company, a corporation formed in 1907, was dissolved April 16, 1920 after having served its purpose, disposal of lands.