

Hazel Creek Station To Go Down Under Hammer Blows Of Road Progress

By PEGGY WALSH
 DUNSMUIR—For one hundred years Sims Station has "rolled with fortune's punches," adjusting to growth or stagnation, according to the demand of each new transportation age.

Hazel Creek Station, present name for the historical spot, will shortly pass into oblivion. It stands in the inexorable path of the last segment of the freeway scheduled for construction this fall.

Sim Southern arrived by pack train from the town of Shasta in 1859 and built a hotel and stage stop on Hazel Creek. Later, when the iron horse replaced travel by coach, the railroad station established at that point retained Southern's nickname, becoming Sims Station.

The hotel, with its stately veran-

das, remained a landmark and social center for the area until 1928. It was torn down and materials salvaged to build an early-day motel, auto court, store and service station.

Present owner of Hazel Creek Station, Jess Mitchell, has visited every country except Russia and Nepal. A little over 11 years ago he and Mrs. Mitchell began their search for the ideal place to "live out their years." Two months and 22,000 miles later, they bought the old station 10 miles south of Dunsmuir. They were attracted to it originally because Mrs. Mitchell's name is also Hazel.

Mitchell says Hazel Creek is the "least pretentious spot in America," but he relates proudly that it has been visited by presidents. He tells of seeing a letter written

by Mark Twain while he was traveling with Gen. U. S. Grant, in which Twain extolled the meals and "wonderful black cherries" to be had at Hazel Creek.

West of the highway survey stakes, two lone gravestones are encircled with a pipe railing. "L. Southern," (perhaps a relative of the station's founder) who died before the turn of the century, shares the small cemetery with "Lafferty," first name unknown.

Motorists speeding past on the new freeway will have little time to note the historical marker. The story of Sims Station on Hazel Creek will become as obscure in time as the forgotten occupants of the tiny graveyard.



HAZEL CREEK STATION, 10 miles south of Dunsmuir, was the site of an early-day hotel and coach stop connecting California and Oregon settlements. It will soon be demolished to make room for the last part of the freeway being built near Dunsmuir. The picture plainly shows the ancient cherry trees extolled by Mark Twain who stopped at the hotel when he was traveling with Gen. U. S. Grant.



REMINDER OF THE PAST, this small cemetery by the freeway near Hazel Creek Station, 10 miles south of Dunsmuir, contains the bodies of two residents of the area who died there around the turn of the century.

—Photo by Peggy Walsh

TODAY'S 2-MINUTE MYSTERY

THE CASE OF THE MYSTERIOUS STRANGER

By Donald J. Sobel

Ron Williams, America's best built man, lay on the beach, starting into the sun. Driven neatly into his publicized 50-inch chest ("53 inches expanded") was a slender black knife.

Inspector Winters and Dr. Haledjian peered down at the incredibly muscled nude body, which was tanned so expertly that no area of flesh was darker than another. Only the white swath where had been worn bikini swim trunks broke the extraordinary evenness of the tan.

He charged, but the fellow was too quick. He stabbed Ron, scooped up the watch, and, taking our clothes, dashed toward the road.

"You're correct, inspector," said Haledjian. "A far-fetched story, and one a person as vain and jealous as Eric might believe impossible to disprove."

Why didn't Haledjian believe Eric's story?



"Williams and his pal, Tom (Best Legs) Eric, were sunbathing when it happened," said the inspector. "Eric has placed second to Williams in the last five muscleman contests, and maybe that's your motive. Now Eric is Boy Beautiful Number One. His story of a mysterious killer is so far-fetched, however, that it just might be true."

Eric, who was covered by a borrowed raincoat, repeated the details of the murder for Haledjian.

"The Mr. Hemisphere title is coming up next week, and Ron and I have been coming to the beach to get bronzed up. You get extra points for little things like skin and grooming."

"The beach was deserted today. After we'd been here about 15 minutes, a fellow with a knife in his right hand appeared. He waved it at us while he went through our stuff. I guess he was pretty sore we didn't have much money."

"Then he made us strip," went on Eric. "Next he told Ron to take off his wrist watch and toss it over. As Ron tossed the watch,

"We'd been on the beach about 15 minutes, a fellow with a knife appeared."

Whitehead at this only. And Williams' body showed line when removed. which leaves a white on a tan would never be a body builder sunbathing to get

State Claims Illegal Sale Of Insurance

SALEM (AP)—Atty. Gen. Robert Thornton filed suit in Marion County Circuit Court Friday to stop 11 benevolent societies from selling insurance.

Thornton, bringing the suit on behalf of state Insurance Commissioner Dean Musser, said that the societies are selling death and disability insurance without the approval of the state insurance commissioner and in violation of state law.

He complained that the societies have no lodges, so therefore aren't fraternal benefit societies.

He said the societies "constitute and maintain a public nuisance detrimental to the public welfare and interest of the state of Oregon and neighboring sovereign states in that great numbers of elderly and infirm people are being wrongfully deprived of their limited means."

Thornton asked the court also to dissolve the societies and appoint a receiver.

The suit was filed against Benevolent Order of Countrymen, the Countrymen Society, the Independent Countrymen, American Countrymen Assn., Oregon Benevolent Society, Western Benefit Society, Western Mutual Benefit Assn., Western States Service, Benevolent Order of America, United America, and Pioneer Pacific.

Salem Could Annex Lands

SALEM (AP)—There is no legal objection to Salem's annexation of land occupied by Hillcrest School for Girls and Fairview Home for mentally retarded persons, said Atty. Gen. Robert Thornton Friday.

His opinion was asked by the Board of Control.

The annexation will add about 3,000 to Salem's population.

OVERTURE

TOKYO (AP) — South Korea, apparently at American urging, today made a major overture to patch up its frayed relations with Japan. Korean Ambassador Yiu Tai ha told Japanese Foreign Minister Aichihiro Fujiyama his government is ready to return to the conference table to discuss an over-all settlement.

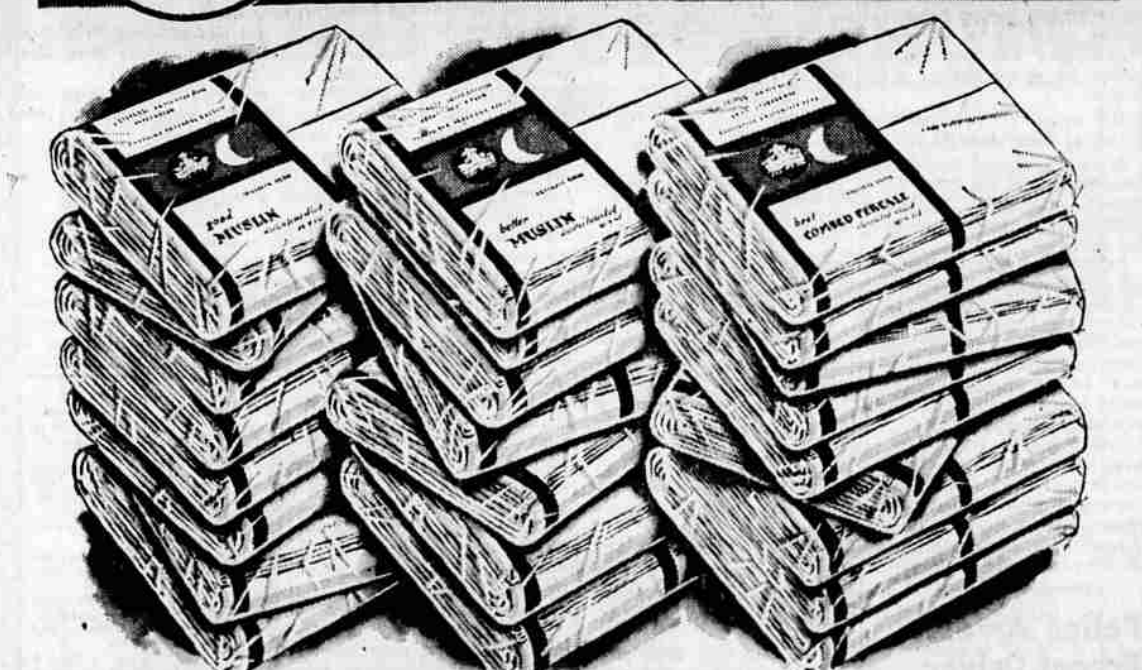
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