

First Ladies Of Oregon

Editors' Note—This is the first in a series of articles on the story of Mrs. Zenas F. Moody, written for American History Month by Mrs. Bert C. Thomas, Eulalia Chapter, DAR, on the subject "First Ladies of Oregon."

By MRS. BERT C. THOMAS

Few pioneers are more intimately identified with the progress and the development of Oregon than ex-governor Zenas F. Moody and his wife, Mrs. Fred Lockley Moody, who lived in Salem and he wrote Mrs. Moody's reminiscences. They were published February, 1914, in the "Oregon Journal" in his column called "In Earlier Days." I am quoting Mrs. Moody's words as he transcribed them.

She said, "I was born on April 18, 1836, in Lebanon, Indiana. My maiden name was Mary Stephenson. My father died when I was seven years old and my mother the next year. From the time I was eight till 12 I went to live with Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Henry. When I was 16 they decided to go to Oregon. I was anxious to go with them but my guardian refused to allow me to go. I went with them to Madison to see them off, in the latter part of March, 1852. They were going to take a boat for St. Joe from which place they would start for Oregon. I remember the boat's name was the Kate Sweeney. The more I thought of their going and my being left behind, the less I liked it. I asked them if I could go along and work my way across. The Henrys told me if I would do the cooking and drive their cattle they would board me and take me along. I knew that before word could be gotten to my guardian, we would be on the way, so I started. As a matter of fact my guardian did not hear of my going until I wrote him six months later from Oregon that I was here. Mr. Henry shipped his wagons on the boat to St. Joe but his oxen and provisions he secured in St. Joe. I had come simply to bid them goodbye and of course had no outfit but at St. Joe bought what I needed for my trip across the plains. We crossed the Missouri River early in May on a rope ferry at the point where Omaha is now located. After crossing the Missouri River we never saw ploughed ground until we came to the Willamette Valley. You may be interested in knowing what the emigrants had to pay in those days for their provisions. At St. Joe good oxen sold for from \$50-\$65 each. Ox yokes cost about \$1.50. Hard bread cost from 2-2½ cents a pound, a peck of beans cost 90 cents, ½ bushel of salt 40 cents, 300 pounds flour cost \$7.50, and 15 yards muslin \$2.55 or 17 cents a yard.

"When a person thinks of the trip across the plains, scores of scenes are recalled: The campfires of sagebrush, the prairie dog villages, the circle of wagons with the women cooking in the inclosed space, the alkali dust rising from the feet of the cattle, the graves by the side of the road. It is all as plain as though it were but yesterday. It is hard to realize

that Mr. Moody and I were married after coming to Oregon and have celebrated our 60th anniversary.

"Mr. Henry with whom I came out to Oregon was an old man. He had turned all his property into cattle so that he had in addition to his work oxen, a large number of loose cattle. It was my job to do the cooking and also to ride after the cattle and keep them from straying. It was sometimes a pretty dusty job, too. We had about 20 or 25 young girls in our party and probably more than 50 young men. In addition to this we had a large number of young married couples, so you can see we had a very jolly, congenial company. In the evenings we would sing or talk and each evening there was a Bible class held. We also had frequent lectures.

"Most of our party were from Decatur or Rush counties in Indiana with a good sprinkling from Ohio. There were many college graduates in our party and some ministers. Rev. James Worth, who used to conduct the Bible class, had his wife and five children with him as well as his father who was 75 years old.

"In a large party there is always bound to be some friction and dissatisfaction. We had been stopping Sundays, as many of the company did not think it right to travel on Sunday. Toward the close of May, we made a poor camp on Saturday night so Captain Worth gave orders next a.m. for us to move on to a better camp. Some were anxious to go forward and some refused to go. Finally a meeting was called and vote taken. The majority decided to stay where we were; some, however, were dissatisfied and withdrew. Four of our party, the Hunts, Watkins, Craigs, and Stroups with their six wagons refused to abide by the decision of the majority and went ahead.

On May 5, we passed through the last town east of the Rocky Mountains until we came to the Willamette Valley. The town was called Linden. Mr. Worth was elected president of our wagon train. Dr. Robert H. Crawford from Clarksville, Indiana, a son-in-law of Mr. Henry, was elected captain. Dr. Crawford had a young woman named Harriet Snyder with him, who like myself was an orphan and who also like myself was working her way across the plains. I was her bridesmaid later when she married a man named Gallier. After his death she married a Mr. Helm. He died and she married Mr. Balch. Her son, Homer Balch, wrote "The Bridge of The Gods." She and I had been chums at home long before we started and we were together much of the time on the way across. Our train was very well prepared. Just as an instance, our wagon beds were all caulked so that we crossed the streams by pulling the wagon beds across with ropes like boats and swimming the cattle. It was about the middle of May when we passed the first graves we had seen on the trip. They were about 45 miles from the old fort. Three days later we struck the river

'Ready To Pay,' Says Coors Wife

GOLDEN, Colo. (AP)—The wife of missing millionaire Adolph Coors III broke a week of silence about his disappearance Monday night.

"We are ready to pay for my husband's safe return," she said in a statement.

Coors, missing for two weeks today when his station wagon was found on a dirt road he had taken from home to his office, was kidnapped in the opinion of his father and Sheriff Arthur Wermuth.

NEW WAREHOUSE

PORTLAND (AP)—A new \$331,000 warehouse on the Portland waterfront will be ready for occupancy by mid-March, the Commission of Public Docks said Monday.

bottom of the Platte River which was nearly two miles wide. I will never forget the wonderful prairie wild flowers. We used to gather many of them. Near the Platte we stopped to see the grave of an Indian chief. The Indians had killed his horses to send him to the Happy Hunting Ground. His grave was surrounded with the skulls of 32 horses. On the 22nd of May Mr. Finlayson's child died. It was the first death in our company. The Finlaysons buried three of their children on their way across the plains. The last two of their children died of cholera.



EARL KESSLER, right, fall term graduate of highway technology at OTI, was interviewed recently by Marion L. Gardner for a position with the U.S. Geological Survey. Kessler came from Oklahoma City. He was an honor OTI student.

Mountbatten Death

LONDON (AP) — A second member of Britain's noted Mountbatten family died today. He was the 73-year-old Marquess of Carisbrooke, last surviving grandson of Queen Victoria.

The marquess was a cousin of Earl Mountbatten, whose wife died Saturday while on a visit to Borneo. He had been ill for some time after suffering a cerebral hemorrhage.

Ski Team Injured

WEST POINT, N. Y. (AP)—A bus carrying West Point's ski team skidded on a sharp curve near here Monday, barely missed a deep ravine, and crashed into a parked station wagon.

Ten cadets were hospitalized at the Academy, and four were treated for minor injuries and released. An Academy spokesman said none of the cadets was in serious condition.

Greetings Sent Akihito

WASHINGTON (AP) — Official Washington sent its warmest congratulations to Japan's popular Crown Prince Akihito and Princess Michiko today on their first-born child.

Sen. Mike Mansfield (D-Mont) assistant majority leader, summed up the reaction of most congressmen.

"It gives me great pleasure to join with your many friends throughout the free world in congratulating you upon the arrival of the new prince," he messaged, "and to express the fervent hope that he will grow up in a world of peace and freedom for all people."

Mansfield expressed hope that both Japan and the United States "would play a prominent and statesmanlike role" in attaining the goal of a peaceful world.

In the absence of President Eisenhower, a cable of felicitation was prepared by Vice President Richard M. Nixon for the imperial couple.

High State Department officials also expressed gratification.

Workers Killed

ALLENTOWN, Pa. (AP)—Three road-maintenance workers were killed Monday by an empty auto carrier which plowed into them after the brakes on the truck failed.

Africa Views To Be Given By Reporter, Adventurer

Africa, now in a period of furious political ferment, will undergo analytical dissection next Monday



BARON HANS DE MEISS-TEFFEN

by Baron Hans de Meiss-Teffen, longtime reporter and adventurer, when the Klamath Knife and Fork Club meets at 6:45 p.m. in the Willard Hotel.

Fred Southwell, president of the Klamath club, says he was informed by an officer of the Knife and Fork Club in Bend that the baron is one of "the best they've had."

A Swiss of wealthy parentage, de

Meiss-Teffen early wearied of the placid banking career to which he became heir. So he struck out to see the world and has since spent six years in Africa.

He returned recently from a two-year safari during which he covered Southeast, East and South Africa for National Broadcasting Company's "Monitor" program, and shot three-dimensional photos for the Viewmaster Corporation.

He left that country at the eruption of World War II to join the Swiss Army and to become the United Press correspondent in the Balkans, the Near and Middle East and North Africa. He experienced a series of chilling adventures then as a "Nazi spy" who actually was serving the British.

The baron has toured the world; once sailed a 30-foot yawl alone across the Atlantic from Casablanca to New London. He has cruised the Indian Ocean, dived for pearls in the Seychelles Islands, mined copper in Rhodesia, worked in a Palestine commune, and smuggled contraband with Arabs.

He also is the author of "Wanderlust," a biography. Dinner begins promptly at 6:45 p.m.

Duke University — then Trinity College — lost its first basketball game to Wake Forest 24-10. That was in 1906.

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