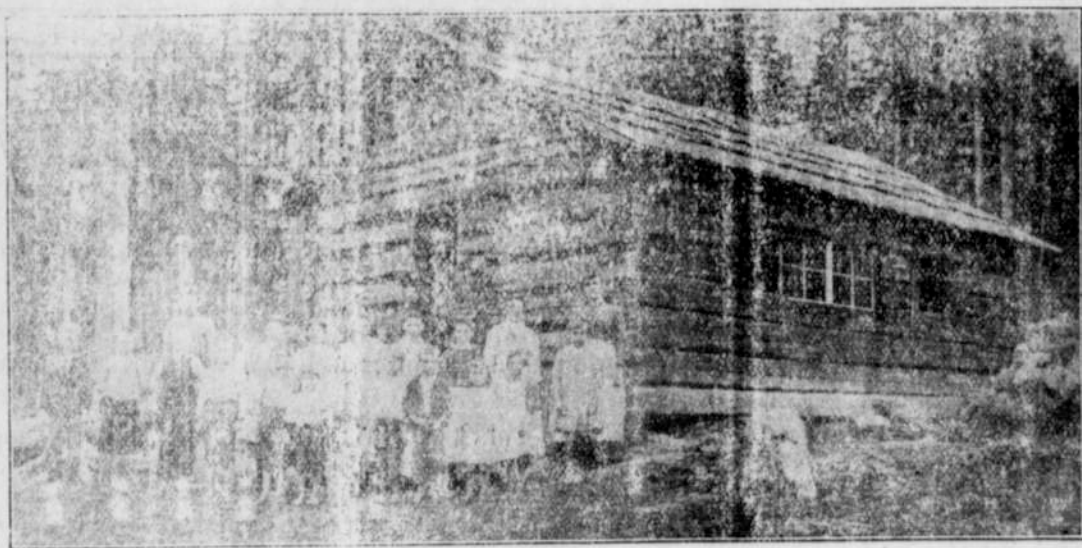


FIRST SCHOOL HOUSE IN VERNONIA



This picture was taken over thirty years ago and a "few old timers" will recognize the faces of the pupils of that day. It was a log room built in the woods where the thriving city of Vernonia now stands with its three, large new modern school buildings and seven hundred students.

GRAND OLD MAN OF THE NEHALEM

Judson Weed is justly entitled to the sobriquet, "Grand Old Man of the Nehalem." While he does not antedate the big fir of the beautiful Nehalem, he does antedate practically every living person now a resident of the Vernonia country.

Mr. Weed was born in Jackson county, Ohio, on April 14, 1846, and recently celebrated the eightieth anniversary of his birth at his farm home three miles south of Vernonia. He "homesteaded" his present farm on July 6, 1876, and will rounded out 50 years residence at the "old place" this coming July. "When I came to what is now Vernonia," said Mr. Weed, "there was no Vernonia, not even a cabin. Joseph Van Blaircom had located a homestead on the present site of Vernonia and had cut a little brush.

Mr. Weed left Ohio in 1875 and went to San Francisco on an emigrant train, and from there he took the wheel steamer "John L. Stevens" landing in Portland May 20, 1875. During his first year in Oregon he taught school in Linn county and spent some of his time in Portland. In company with Oziah Cherrington, an Ohio school teacher, the two struck out for the Nehalem valley in the summer of 1876, each having a pack mule which carried their belongings.

TRAIL ENDS AT VERNONIA.

The trip was made into the valley by way of Cornelius through East Dairy creek. At that time there was a small sawmill at a place called Mountain Dale, which was operated by D. O. Quick, father of E. E. Quick of St. Helens, who was then a mere lad. They then came down Pebble creek to the present site of Vernonia, where the trail ended. From Vernonia to Mr. Weed's homestead there was not even a trail. The entire section was occupied by heavy timber which was cleared a little at a time and burned as there was no market for the timber.

Mr. Weed was married on July 13, 1878, to Emma Van Blaircom, a niece of Joseph Van Blaircom, who homesteaded the present site of Vernonia. There are four living children as a result of this marriage: O. G. Weed, at present justice of the peace of Vernonia precinct; Gertrude Weed, a teacher in Rose City park school, Portland; Mrs. Ethel Kauffman of Los Angeles, and Lesta Weed a teacher in the Vernonia schools.

LONG LINE OF ANCESTRY.

Judson Weed can trace his ancestry back 35 generations or to King Egbert, the first Saxon king of England, who ruled from 800 to 835 A. D. The Weeds emigrated to America in 1629, landing at Watertown, Mass. and from there the family moved to Stamford, Mass., where Jonas Weed secured a land grant from the king. Mr. Weed was recently elected a member of the "Society of the Founders of Norwich, Connecticut" by reason of being a descendant of Thomas Tracy, one of the founders of the town. Mr. Weed also has Lincoln blood coursing through his veins. Asa Branch, his great-grandfather, married Hannah Lincoln, a daughter of Thomas Lincoln, ancestor of Abraham Lincoln.

Born on April 14, the date of the death of the Great Emancipator, Judson Weed is intensely patriotic. The Weeds have served through practically all the wars the United States has engaged in. Gilbert Weed his great-grandfather, served three years in the French and Indian war. Mr. Weed has a copy of the receipt his great-grandfather gave for his three years' pay, which called for the sum of \$50.00. He also served in the Revolutionary war, as did also his great-grandfather on his mother's side, Asa Branch.

FOUGHT IN CIVIL WAR.

The Weed family was conspicuous by its numbers in the Civil war. "Just step in here," said Mr. Weed, "and I will show you something." In the parlor he pointed to a large pic-

ture on the wall. It was the picture of his father and mother and their seven sons, all of whom served in the Civil war. Mr. Weed was but 14 years old when Fort Sumpter was fired upon by the Confederates. He was too young to enter the army, but three of his older brothers entered at Lincoln's first call for volunteers, and it was not until 1864 that Mr. Weed was allowed to enlist.

During one of Morgan's raids, so famed in Civil war history, Mr. Weed was made a prisoner when a mere youth. When Morgan and his men came through Jacksonville, Ohio, on one of his raids, Mr. Weed and one of his brothers who was still at home got their squirrel rifles and with a half dozen other small boys of the village struck out to make war on the raiders. Weed, his brother and two neighbor boys were captured and held prisoners of war for 12 hours when they were released on account of their youth. "I expected to be lined up and shot," said Mr. Weed.

ONE BROTHER LOST IN WAR.

On this picture on the wall were the pictures and war records of the seven Weed brothers. They were Columbus Weed, William H. Weed, Andrew J. Weed, Chas. M. Weed, Oscar F. Weed, Judson Weed and Oren Weed. One brother, Andrew J. Weed, was killed at the battle of Kerntown in the Shenandoah valley. One of the brothers was wounded in a hand-to-hand fight by being struck over the head and knocked off his horse. He died suddenly after the close of the war, supposedly from this injury. Mr. Weed served in Company I, 172 Ohio Infantry.

Few there are in Columbia county who have had thrust upon them as many honors as has Judson Weed. His first official position was that of county school superintendent, to which he was elected in 1878 and served one year. "At that time," said Mr. Weed, "there were but ten school districts in the entire county and there was not a two-room schoolhouse in the county. The St. Helens school occupied one room in the old courthouse, with F. A. Moore, now a justice of the Oregon supreme court, the teacher. Rainier had a

little school taught in an abandoned dairy barn owned by John Dibblee. There was nothing in Clatskanie except a little postoffice. Enoch Conyers has a small store. There was a schoolhouse some place, but I do not remember where, but think it was in the present limits of the town."

MORE OFFICES

At the close of his first year as superintendent, Mr. Weed resigned to take a school in Washington county. In 1888 he was elected county assessor and served nearly one term and before the close of his term he was elected to the legislature and at the close of his first term was re-elected. While in the legislature he served as chairman of the committee on counties and was a member of the committee of federal relations. Asked if he had originated any acts which became laws, Mr. Weed stated that "he was not guilty of this charge." The only act which became a law was the act incorporating the town of Vernonia, which was a necessary step in those days.

In 1894 Mr. Weed was elected county clerk. His deputy was Judge W. A. Harris, then a young man, and now a resident of Vernonia. In 1914 he was elected county commissioner which position he held eight years.

HOW VERNONIA WAS NAMED.

Mr. Weed was not the first school teacher at Vernonia, but he was the second teacher and he helped build the first log schoolhouse. It was built near Andrew Parker's place, just below the bridge on the north side of the Nehalem. There were about 12 pupils in the district when it was organized and there were not over 15 when Mr. Weed taught.

After a time new settlers came in and the question of having a postoffice came up for consideration. A petition was circulated and signed by all of the settlers. Then the matter of choosing a name had to be settled. So all of the settlers gathered at the log schoolhouse one evening to select a name for the postoffice. It was agreed that names submitted should be written on the blackboard. Mr. Cherrington, who accompanied Mr. Weed into the valley, was the

teacher and he had a daughter in Ohio by the name of Vernonia, so Mr. Cherrington wrote the name "Vernonia" on the blackboard. "Auburn" was also suggested, after Auburn, Minn., and other names were written on the blackboard. Mr. Cherrington being a man of some influence with the settlers, they desired to favor him, so the name "Vernonia" was selected. For a long time, however, the voting precinct went by the name of Auburn and when Vernonia became a village the county court changed the name of the precinct to Vernonia.

Mr. Weed taught several years in the Vernonia school. In 1898 he removed to Philomath, Oregon, temporarily that he might give his children the advantages of the United Brethren college at that place. He remained there eight years during which time he ran a small grocery store to aid in making family expenses. After his children were through school he returned to the old homestead where he has since resided.

Mr. Weed's original house was 18x28 feet and was made of split boards with a puncheon floor. It served the family until 1912, when the present comfortable Weed home was built.

PIONEERED EARLY INSTITUTION

The outstanding accomplishments of Judson Weed, aside from his great work in pioneering that section of the country, was the initiation of the movement which culminated in the construction of the Pittsburg-St. Helens market road, which he sponsored and put well on the way to completion during his terms as county commissioner. He also initiated the movement of a county agriculturist in Columbia county—an idea which is today bearing excellent results. It might also be said that Judson Weed was a friend of the county fair, and while county commissioner he lent his aid and assistance in getting aid for that institution from the county that it might become the successful yearly event that it is today. Mr. Weed also had the great pleasure of being one of the passengers on the Nehalem branch of the S. P. & S., on the first train which went over the new road to the town in 1922. "I just happened to be in St. Helens," said Mr. Weed, "for 46 years I had looked forward to that day." Mr. Weed is the only surviving member of the Vernonia Grand Army of the Republic. Though past 80 years, his memory seemed perfect and data and information was given without reference to written documents or memorandum. Indeed, Judson Weed can justly be called "The Grand Old Man of the Nehalem."

DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK

By Edson R. Waite
Shawnee, Oklahoma

That if the majority of the citizens of the home city don't stand together, the city will have no standing anywhere.

That worth while citizens live in the days of today and tomorrow—not in the days of yesterday.

That live citizens pull together, work together and keep pace with the progress of today and tomorrow.

That in many cities there is quite a gap between what the city is and what it should be. It takes men of vision and spirit to build a city.

That a city without progressive leaders starts nowhere and gets nowhere.

That some cities have too many citizens who should be leaders, who are living only in the days of the past.

That progressive cities have leaders who live in the present and work for the future. These men are men of vision and real leaders. All citizens should cooperate with them.

You should boost your city morning, noon and night. You can't say enough in her behalf.

You should not run in a treadmill. Don't go around in a circle. Have faith in your city. Take the straight road and boost her on her way.

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Gilbys
for
Used Cars



1925 CHEV. TOURING	\$550.00
1921 FORD, 2 DOOR SEDAN	\$250.00
1920 ESSEX TOURING	\$200.00
1924 FORD TOURING	\$225.00
1919 STUDEBAKER TOURING	\$250.00
1923 CHEV. COUPE	\$350.00
1922 HUDSON TOURING	\$600.00

Gilby Motor Co.

STEIWER IS THE Strong Candidate



More than 40 newspapers in Oregon have indorsed Fred Steiwer for the republican nomination for United States Senator. What would be a better indication of strength?

All of the other candidates for the nomination have centered their fire upon Steiwer and contend that he is the man they must defeat. No one ever attacks a weak man.

Democratic leaders are exerting their efforts against Steiwer. They fear him. They know they cannot defeat him in the general election.

A vote for Steiwer Friday is a vote for a republican victory in November.

VOTE 20 X STEIWER

Paid Adv. Steiwer for Senator Committee ISAAC STAPLES, Chairman

GIFTS for the BRIDE or Graduate

This is the season of gifts when you have many occasions for buying tokens for those you love and esteem. Nothing is more lasting than jewelry.

YOU CAN BUY GIFTS ON CREDIT

You will find gift buying at our store to be a real convenience—we gladly extend credit to all trustworthy persons. Buy Graduate and Bridal Gifts without ever missing the money.

—On Anything in our Entire Jewelry Store.

A. L. KULLANDER
Jeweler--Vernonia

Gifts for the Bride

Gifts for the bride should be selected with the utmost care, because they serve as a remembrance and portray the individuality of the giver.

Here are a few suggestions:

- Wrist Watch \$20.00
- Pearls, Silver Plate
- Fancy Stone Rings, Clocks
- Silverware
- Bracelet
- Pendant

Any of the above gifts will be appreciated because they reflect thought on the part of the giver

FOR THE GRADUATE

FOR HER—

- Wrist Watch, Diamond
- Engagement Rings—All Styles,
- Pearls,
- Fancy Stone Rings,
- Silverware

FOR HIM—

- Strap Watch \$25.00
- Diamond Scarf Pin
- Link Buttons, Rings,
- Pocket Watches