

CHARLIE BROWN . .

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raised up and told him that I wanted my property, and for him to throw up his hands. I had scarcely spoken when he commenced shooting, and we began firing. I do not think the first shot struck him as he did not fall, and kept on firing. We fired again and he fell on his knees and hands in a stooping position. We kept advancing and firing until we got within ten feet of Brown. The last I remember of Brown doing before the last shot was fired, was trying to cock his six-shooter. We got the buckboard and horses, one of which was a mare that I had traded to Smith for a two-year old stallion. We told

everyone we saw that we had Smith's mare and saddle, and where he could find them. We also brought a saddle that Brown had belonging to Jack Lindsay and left it at The Rocks for him. All this happened in Owyhee County, Idaho Territory."

L. N. Gates who had acted as coroner substantiated the above report. The prisoners were discharged and took their departure for their homes on Sunday. So ended the legal technicalities of the case, and Charlie Brown was written off in Owyhee County history.

Smith was the first one to notify the public of Brown's death. He ran from the scene of the shooting and went to the Sommercamp ranch below the mouth of Squaw Creek canyon, where he allegedly told the following story:

"He was to be employed at the Sommercamp ranch on Squaw Creek through the summer months, and Brown had agreed to take him and his belongings there with the team and buckboard. They camped for the night on the French John hill and turned their horses loose to graze. When they went out to get the horses the following morning they were met by a fusillade of gunfire. Neither was hit and Brown told the boy to get out of there and that he would see what was causing the gunfire. Smith said he ran and after going a short distance he looked back and Brown was on his hands and knees trying to cock his gun. He is said to have stated that no one except Brown was in sight at this time."

After telling his story, Smith left the country, probably on the advice of friends, leaving behind his most cherished possessions, his horse and saddle, which must have broken the heart of a sixteen year old boy. The tri-weekly Statesman of April 14, 1885 mentioned the episode briefly in the following nonchalant manner: A gentleman just returned from Sucker Creek says the body of Brown, who was shot and killed in that locality, was placed in a watering trough, wrapped in a blanket and merely covered with a little dirt, and that the stench arising therefrom may be observed a long distance from the place.

A rancher's wife on Succor Creek was said to be gifted with a clairvoyant power, and could converse with the spirits of the departed. She was urged to communicate with the spirit of Charley Brown during one of her seances, and find out if possible where he was. In due time she reportedly contacted Charley and confided that he was now in hell. In response to the inevitable question of how he liked it there, he replied without hesitation, "It's better than being on earth."

John Ward, who had become a rancher on the lower Owyhee River never forgot his friend, Charley Brown. He always planned on locating the grave and to put up a monument there. But time passed and he never got around to carry out his good intentions. Eighty years after the killing, his son Audrey Ward of Nyssa started to carry out his father's wish. In the fall of 1965 he enlisted the aid of Mr. and Mrs. Walt Adams of Hometown to locate the grave. Senneca Walker, a rancher on Squaw Creek said that as he had ridden by the grave about 30 years ago, he noticed that badgers had dug up some of the bones and scattered them about. Walker replaced them and piled more rocks on the original ones.

In early November of 1966, Granville Givens, now a resident of Nampa, and one of the last of the old-time buckaroos of that area, consented to show the searchers where the grave was. Although he could not walk down the steep hillside, he readily recognized the location and pointed out the spot. The first rocks piled on the grave were almost obliterated by dirt drifting around them.

However, the ones that Senneca Walker had placed there were plainly visible.

Mr. Ward selected a sandstone slab to mark the location where his father's friend died. It is a rugged and fitting monument typifying all the old west had to offer in 1885. The stone, hand chisled from a sandstone ledge along the Owyhee River, was once used in the foundation of an old building at Watson, now under the waters of Owyhee Lake.

John Ward obtained the stone, and helped his father set it up to be chisled. Tom Johnson, a friend of many years, and a descendant of a pioneer family, assisted with the lettering.

It was decided that the monument should be placed near the old French John road, while the grave about a quarter of a mile downhill from the site, will be marked with a smaller stone. An arrow on the back side of the monument points toward the grave. On the front side is the simple inscription--Charles Brown, Victim of Violence, March 12, 1885.

Newell Heights

By Dale Witt

NEWELL HEIGHTS — Mr. and Mrs. K. I. Peterson of Adrian and her brother, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hanson of Spokane, Wash., were Saturday evening dinner guests in the M. L. Kurtz home. Sunday afternoon callers at the Kurtz home were Mr. and Mrs. Edward Pease of Wilder, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Hutchinson and daughter of Emmett. The Kurtz couple had known the women years ago in Ten Davis. The couples were enroute home from a trip to Owyhee Dam.

Renee and Lorna Hardman saw the film "The Restless Ones" last Thursday evening in Nampa with other young people of Owyhee Community church. Weekend guests of Mrs. Sid Hardman and daughters were the Rev. and Mrs. Shipley and Judy of Pendleton. Ray Calhoun and Dennis Tomjack joined the group for Sunday dinner. Mrs. Jack Glaze, Tim and Joy were Sunday afternoon visitors.

Ada Strong, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Simpson and Terry visited Sunday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Eason at Hometown. Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Pratt heard from their son, Michael, last week. He

was near Yokama, Japan. Mr. and Mrs. Gene Simpson and family were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lewis at Nyssa. Mr. and Mrs. Howard Fenn, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Simpson were Sunday evening visitors in the Carl Fenn home.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Witt were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Fahrenbruch. Late Sunday afternoon visitors in the Witt home were Mr. and Mrs. Bert Domy, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Domy and Barbara of Boise, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Van Dewater and Kent of Big Bend were Sunday evening callers. Mrs. Kenneth Farr returned April 10 from Utah where she spent four days visiting her daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Van Dahl and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gale Aldred and family. She also visited a sister, Mr. and Mrs. Lamar Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Garner went to Emmett Sunday afternoon to view the blossoms and visited Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dewey there.

The Carl and Rollo Fenns went to Beulah to fish last Thursday and returned home Sunday. It snowed everyday and froze ice each night.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ward and grandson, Johnnie were recent afternoon callers at the Rollo Fenn home.

Mrs. Dudley Kurtz gave a birthday party Saturday afternoon for her daughter, Jodi Holcomb. It was her 10th anniversary. Present were nine small guests and her grandmother, Mrs. Gladys Morfit of Nyssa. The children played games and refreshments of cake and jello were served by Mrs. Kurtz.

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Kurtz went to Ontario Sunday afternoon to visit her aunt, Mrs. Emma Wilson. The Kurtz couple attended funeral services for her uncle, Vernon Wilson, held Monday at Ontario.

Mrs. Kay Grooms and Darin arrived Friday from Pineville and are spending several days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jake Borge.

A baby shower was given Saturday afternoon for Mrs. Ernie Eilers. Hostesses were her former high school and college classmates. It was held at the home of Marilyn Parker in Adrian.

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Borge entertained with dinner Sunday evening. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Eilers and Peggy, Mrs. Kay Grooms and son, Dale Borge and Ray Calhoun. Mrs. Luit Stam celebrated

her birthday anniversary Saturday evening with a dinner. Her guests were her children, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Stam and family, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Stam and family of Fruitland, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Miller and family of Big Bend.

Mr. and Mrs. Luit Stam attended the Koopman-Warrington wedding reception held Sunday afternoon at the home of Mrs. George Warrington in Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. L. C. Mc Dermott went to Boise Sunday to visit their eldest son, Charles, who is a patient in the Veterans' hospital. He and his wife had just moved to Nampa from Salt Lake City when he became ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Webster of Adrian were Sunday afternoon visitors in the home of his son, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Webster and family Mr. and Mrs. Bel Burgess of Ontario were Sunday evening guests in the Webster home.

Mrs. Marie Moore received a clipping from the Sacramento, California Bee which lists her granddaughter, Sig Linda Jacobson of Chester high school as receiving one of the outstanding achievement awards during the Central Valley Science Fair in Chico. There were over 300 student exhibitors.

Mrs. Marie Moore and Mrs. Charles Willard attended the Saturday AAUW Tasting Luncheon at the Moore Hotel in Ontario. After the luncheon they attended a Delta Kappa Gamma meeting in the Walnut room.

Recent Banquet Reveals FFA Award Winners

The twenty-fifth annual parent-son banquet was held Monday evening in the NHS cafeteria.

Dinner was served by FHA girls under the direction of Mrs. Virginia Steffens, and prepared by the cafeteria cooks.

Guest speaker was Barry Fujishin, Oregon State FFA president. Named as Chapter Sweetheart was Marcia Jackson, with Sallee Morgan and Kathy McGinley as other competing contestants.

Chapter foundation awards were presented to Connel Peterson, for dairy farming; Axel Stephen, farm electrification; Karl Smith, crop farming; Fred Espin, farm mechanics; Bob Ure, soil and water management; Charles McConnel, public speaking; Gary Moss, livestock farming; Ted Freitag, home improvement; Bob Ure, star chapter farmer, highest award given at chapter level; Allen Cleaver, star greenhorn; Sam Smit Sr. was named honorary chapter farmer.

New officers installed were Karl Smith, president; Clinton Robbins, vice president; Manuel Silva, secretary; Connel Peterson, treasurer; Fred Schilling, reporter; Fred Espin, sentinel.

Members of the Nyssa High school FFA have asked the Journal staff to express their appreciation to all area merchants for the farm machinery displayed.

There were approximately 200 area guests and residents attending this special occasion.

CHECK YOUR HOME FOR FIRE HAZARDS

Inspectors who check homes for fire hazards find some surprising conditions when making their rounds during Spring Clean-Up Week.

After a snow-bound winter in a New England town a few years back, inspectors found 40 per cent of the residents had discarded their dried-out Christmas trees in their basements, rather than having them taken away and destroyed. A dry Christmas tree presents an exceptional fire hazard, the Association says, and people everywhere should dispose of them promptly after the holiday season.

If there is any question about potential hazards in your home, your local fire department will be happy to give you advice.

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