

Adrian Women Hear About Missionary Work

The Womens Association of the Adrian Community Presbyterian Church met Thursday afternoon in the church social room. Mrs. Edna DeHaven was hostess and Mrs. Bill Toomb co-hostess. There were twelve ladies present. Mrs. Bill Toomb, president presided at the meeting. Roll call was answered by the number of friendship calls made during the past month. Secretary and treasurers reports were given by Mrs. Dyre Roberts and Mrs. John Fahrbruch. A report of the December dinner and bazaar was given. New books for the year were passed among the group. A report was given that a telephone had been installed in the kitchen. The least coin article was read and dish passed. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Mable Piercy. The meeting was turned over to Mrs. Marie Moore, program chairman. She as-

ked the group about the resolutions they had made in January of last year, and asked if they had accomplished their goals. Some of the goals reported were—read their Bible more, did more calling, sent more cards to the sick, self improvement, and had more prayer for others. Mrs. Moore suggested they write their goals for 1976 and keep track of how they are doing. Mrs. Moore then reported on Missionary Work in Surma, South Africa. How the people needed a tractor to help with their crops. Said a tractor and oil tank was provided, told of the trouble they had getting the tractor and tank to Surma. They went through dense forests, crossed rivers and canyons, climbed mountains. Trees were chopped and rocks moved. On their last day, they climbed, 125 feet in six and one half hours on their trek to Surma.

ORDER OF EASTERN STAR

Golden Rule Chapter No. 131 met at the Masonic Hall, January 19, with 29 members and 5 guests present. Escorted and introduced were Myrtle Sasser, Grand Representative to Utah in Oregon; Kathryn Williams, Worthy Matron of Golden Chain Chapter No. 103 of Vale. Initiation was held for Gloria G. Smith. The next meeting will be February 2 at the Masonic Hall. Hostesses for the evening were Danny and Kathy McGinnis, Roy and Marie Holmes.

Samba Group Meets

Mrs. Frank Morris entertained members of the Samba Club last week. Guest for the afternoon was Mrs. Harry Miner. Mrs. S. P. Bybee took high honors with Mrs. Shorty Brandt taking second high.



LOMBARDY POPULAR TREES lined the road going into Arcadia School in the early 1900's.



PAUL, GEORGE AND FRITZ MOELLER day. An old fashioned hay stack is piled high in Knickers, the boys best garb of the day. Hay sold for six dollars a ton—all you could raise.

Pioneer Of Arcadia District Recalls Days Of Childhood

By Neil Bowers

This story was told to the writer by George Moeller, a pioneer of the Arcadia district. His story is as follows:

Anyway this is how it was for me. Me and my two brothers, my mother and father lived in Nebraska on a farm near Omaha. Father got Oregon fever, so in the fall of 1915, the family came to Ontario, Oregon. We stayed with a cousin until February 12, 1916. My father arrived at the Arcadia station with all of our possessions in a railroad car. He had taken all the machinery apart and loaded it with all our household goods and last, a team of white mules (we kept them till they died). He had fixed a platform in the car, above the mules and he came with the possessions. This was called an immigrant car. I wonder how many people came to the Arcadia district by immigrant car? The railroad company encouraged people to settle up a new area by this method. They made a cheap rate so that a family could take all they owned and even live in the car while enroute if they needed.

My parents were from the "old country," originally. The "old country" was any place across the seas. My mother came from Switzerland. She came to a half-sister, who had come to Nebraska before she did. My father was from Germany. He was only 14 years old when he came to America. He settled near Omaha, Nebraska. We know a little about where our mother was raised and her life in Switzerland, but we never did know anything about our father's young life or family. I guess we never asked them. However, they met and married in Nebraska.

Father bought the place where we would live in Arcadia from a man named Houseman. When father arrived, with the help of neighbors, Ed Ingraham, Clarence Rees and Will Rees, the railroad car was unloaded. Everything was hauled over the bumpy roads to the new home and we moved in. The house was the same one that is there today. The farm is located at the corner of King Avenue and what is known as Alameda. My brother lives there, yet today.

I was seven years old when we came to Arcadia. No one can imagine how it looked then. Anyone, now, riding in a car over paved roads can not imagine the torture of riding in a wagon on those unpaved, ungraveled roads. The road from Arcadia station was located where it is now. It is called Gem Avenue. In the summer, the dust was so deep, then in the fall the rains came and it became a sea of slick mud with holes that were softer and mushier than the rest. Then, freeze-up with no beforehand smoothing of rutty tracks. After the spring rains came and it began to dry up, the ground became nearly as hard as when it was frozen. Wagons and buggies bounced until it was hard for a person to stay in the seat.

When we got here, Arcadia had begun to be developed by the K S and D Lands. There were orchards of prune and apple trees everywhere. There was a lane of trees that went up the lower road to the Headquarters house, near where the Arcadia school stands, today. There was a school building there and a small house for the teacher.

The road that now is Highway 201 was called "The Boulevard," by the people who lived there. And indeed, it was, having been graded a little and been covered by the local variety of "gravel," which varied in size from baseballs to young boulders. But on each side of the road was a row of trees, all the way from the Morgan farm nearly into Ontario. All of them are gone, now, having given way to progressive farming, except for the Ted Frahm place where there is still a row of shade trees. The next road to the east, toward the river, was called "The Lower Road". It left on third street north and meandered toward Ontario, taking the easiest and most solid ground. When it came to the Gem Avenue crossing there was a row of shade trees on both sides of the road to the Lane that went to the Arcadia School. The road went on across a drain ditch, over an old wooden bridge that fell down in the 1940's, right past the Moeller farm and staggered on into Ontario.

Our new house was a two-story building. The upstairs had not been finished, so that was where the boys slept. This was a different culture in America, where children were not considered before the parents and grown-ups. There was no central heating, no furnace, no wall-to-wall carpeting (carpeting was confined to the "parlor" if they were so lucky) as nowadays, and in the cold weather it did not take the Moeller boys long to crawl into their clothes and head for the cookstove in the kitchen, where a fire had been built and a good hot breakfast was waiting.

Spring came and farming began. This was Father Moeller's first experience with irrigating. He said, "We will keep the water running all the time." The Owyhee ditch had been in for quite a few years by then. There were farmers all along the ditch who had water rights. Some that lived above the ditch had a right to pump water out of the ditch onto their land. But this was the only water up to then in the Arcadia district. It came from the Owyhee River near Mitchell Butte. In the spring, it was fine. But as the days grew longer and hotter, the water began to dwindle and one day when I was sent to the ditch to get more water, there was no more to be had. My father could not believe it when I came back and told him there was no more water. He was puzzled but said, "Well, in Nebraska, we raised dry land grain, I guess we can do it here." But it did not work that way here. The dryer it got, the more the ground grew hard and tight around the plants. The few rains we had did not soak into the ground. So the grain shriveled up and made no heads and very little straw.

Irrigation had many problems which have gradually been worked out through the years, until now water is handled easily and changing water is a "chore" and not a full time job. The Shoestring ditch was in the process of being put in. They put a pumping plant in the Snake River. Some kind of a deal was set up so that in the dry part of the summer, water could be pumped into the Owyhee ditch. But there were still open ditches, grown up to weeds. These ditches had to be dug out by hand, regularly, by a man with a shovel. All of the Moeller boys learned how to use a shovel, early in life. Of course, everyone worked—father, mother, and all the boys. Mother was a city lady, but she adapted herself to the job that had to be done. This was how the small farmer made a living while he developed the land, kept his farm, all of the family helped. Alfalfa hay was a big crop in the Arcadia district, then. And they had a ready market because of the sheep that roamed the deserts in the summer and came into the sheep sheds to winter and lamb. Hay sold for six dollars a ton—all you could raise. There were sheep sheds about two miles apart on the lower road of the boulevard. This provided work, too, for many people, who were having a hard time to get through the winter. Sugar beets were tried in the Arcadia district. German and Dutch families were brought in. They were industrious people with large families. They raised small acreages of beets. The family took care of them, doing all the thinning, hoeing, and harvesting by hand. They were hauled on wagons by teams to Arcadia station and loaded onto railroad cars to be sent to Twin Falls, Idaho for processing. The crop fizzled out before long because of the white fly that came off the desert and killed the plants. Some of the families stayed and kept farming and other drifted on. Lots of the names of people who came to settle the Arcadia and Valley View districts are still heard—Keisel, Bullard, Groot, Stam, Frahm, Seburn, Oft, Stewart, Rees, Butler, Dail, Zittercob, Long, Davis, Moeller—

It was a great time. I wouldn't have missed a bit of it! As time goes along, more of these old memories will unfold—memories of the Moellers in Arcadia and their neighbors and friends. A looking back into 60 years spent in the Arcadia district of Oregon.

FFA Public Speaking Contest

Nyssa FFA Chapter's Annual Public speaking contest will be hosted by the Oregon Trail Grange Thursday, January 29 at 7 p.m. The evening will be kicked off by a potluck dinner to begin at 7 p.m. at the Grange Hall. The public is invited to attend.

Dinner Set For Teacher

Guess who's coming to dinner? Nyssa school teachers will be issued invitations to attend "Teacher Appreciation" dinners in the homes of their students during the week of February 15 thru February 21, according to Mrs. Melvin Feik, chairman for the event. She will be assisted by the Nyssa PTSA Executive Board. Anyone interested in hosting a teacher may call Mrs. Feik, 372-2617 or Mrs. Dee Garner, 372-2490.

Also named at the PTSA Executive Board meeting on January 13, were the nominating committee for next year's PTSA officers. They were Mrs. Owen Froerer, Mrs. Carl Barnes, and Mrs. Dorothy Wilson.

Plans were also made to hold a fund raising dinner at a later date as the funds are needed for scholarships.

Social Scene

Luis Rementería returned recently from a year's visit with his family in Spain. He has been employed at the John Stringer Ranch for many years and is now back at work.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Griffin visited with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Favorel and family in Parma Saturday evening. Mrs. Favorel, Mrs. Griffin and granddaughter Zoann attended the Parma Basketball game and watched Curtis Favorel play.

Friday overnight guests of Mr. and Mrs. Owen Gann were his niece and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Henson Didier of Irrigon, Oregon. They were returning from a six weeks vacation through California, Arizona, Mexico, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas and Wyoming. Saturday morning the Didiers took Mrs. Jenny Grider of Ontario to Hermiston to visit her sister, Mrs. Bertha Busler. The two ladies will return to Nyssa in about a week and visit in the Gann home.

Sunday afternoon callers and dinner guests of Mrs. Merle Johnson were her daughter and grandson and family, Mrs. Pat Sweeney and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Sweeney and daughter Shannon all of Caldwell.

ANK Garden Club

The ANK Garden Club met Tuesday, January 13 at the home of Mrs. Blake Lowell with Mrs. Lila Hoover as co-hostess.

The club will plant a Golden Rain Tree in the spring in the Parma City Park in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Jean McCormick.

The program was given by Mrs. Muriel Judd on World Gardening. Members are saving stamps which will go to purchase seeds and supplies for 4-H projects in India.

BRIDGE ACTIVITIES

Mrs. A. C. Sallee was hostess for the Tuesday Afternoon Bridge Club at her home last week. High honors went to Mrs. E. Otis Smith and Mrs. John Worrall took second high.

Members of the Wednesday Night Bridge club were entertained last week at the home of Mrs. Lucile Myrick. Mrs. Roy Hirai was guest for the evening.

Saturday evening dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Don Savage, Kris and Randy were Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fordyce and infant daughter, Kimberly of Payette.

The Dirick Nedrys entertained with a buffet supper Sunday afternoon. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. George Sallee, Mr. and Mrs. Dick Tensen, Tiena and Bill, and Mr. and Mrs. W. L. McPartland. Guests came early to watch the Super Bowl game on TV.

Ken Brown Honor Student

Kenneth Brown, a senior student at Oregon State University in Corvallis, has been named as an honor student in Agriculture Economics in which he attained a 4 point grade average. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Brown of Nyssa.

News About SERVICEMEN

S/Sgt. Jensen

Spokane, Wash.—An official at Fairchild AFB, Wash., has announced the promotion of Ronald A. Jensen to staff sergeant in the U.S. Air Force.

Sergeant Jensen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Darwin E. Jensen of Route 2, Nyssa, Oregon is a ground radio repairman with a unit of the Strategic Air Command.

The sergeant is a 1966 graduate of Nyssa High School. His wife, Leslea, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford G. Hawkes of Route 1, Vale.

Community Calendar

Sunday, January 25 - All Star Bowling, Sugar Bowl, 2 p.m.

Monday, January 26 - Hospital Auxiliary, Malheur Memorial Hospital, 2 p.m.

Tuesday, January 27 - Yellow Rose Rebekah Lodge #202, IOOF Hall, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, January 28 - Nyssa Senior Citizens, Clubhouse on bower, potluck, 10:30 a.m.

Job's Daughters Bethel #33, Masonic Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 29 - VFW Post #2697, Nyssa Eagles Hall, 8 p.m.

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