

Early Times In Arcadia

(Continued From Page 6)

the dining rooms. They had many single men who ate there. There were houses along that side of the road, where they slept. On the other side of the road was the barn. South of the barn was the evaporator where they dried fruit. Also there was a building, where they made boxes for the fruit. There were fields of sugar beets along there, too. This was all built and going on before we came. Grandma Thompson boarded a lot of the men who did not want to eat at the cookhouse. Many of them spoke German and Dutch. One man could only say two words of English, "sugar beet". So they all called him "sugar beet." Grandma Thompson's daughter-in-law was German so she could talk to the men and teach them English. Schreiber did not last long. One day, they had word that he had died, and a coffin was carried from the house, but years later, it was rumored, that some of the Dutch people that had gone back, saw him over in Holland.

Clyde Long was telling me just the other day that he worked in the evaporator and also made boxes. Clyde is Otis' brother-in-law. A deaf and dumb man was overseer of he and John Zittercob, building boxes. All that 80 acres that lies along Gem and the highway, was all in apples, Wolf River apples they were called. They were 8 or ten inches across. The only thing they were good for was drying. Then they raised "Winter Bananas", Yellow Pear-maids" and "Romes." There was a cannery along the railroad track, south of the station. They canned tomatoes, peaches, pears and prunes. They also raised a few cherries and pears around Arcadia. There were lots of prunes. They packed them in a packing shed along the lane that goes to the schoolhouse. The old Nevada ditch came across just north of the place you used to live when Ira Ure farmed it, the one on Imperial Avenue. We called it the Kimball place. He was the one that took it out of the brush. The Nevada ditch came out of the Malheur River and wandered across White Settlement and ended up on the Jake Groot place. They brought the water here but it played out. There were too many farmers taking out of it, took all they wanted and of course it fizzled out. Then they got the Owyhee ditch through.

"When was all this land above the Shoestring ditch settled?"

As soon as the water came, farmers tried to raise hay and grain. Both did well but they had no market for them. Then the sheepmen started bringing in the sheep off the desert to feed them through the winter and lamb them out. There were a lot of sheep sheds around Arcadia. There was a sheep shed along the drain ditch east of where Arie Bakker lives. There was a sheepshed behind the schoolhouse. There was one where Larry Fujii lives. John Wentworth built those sheep sheds on the place where Stringers lamb, now. You see, the sheepmen had free range in those days. When the Taylor grazing Act came in, a lot of the sheepmen quit. They would not pay for the grazing. It was hard times again for the farmers.

They kept talking and talking about the Highline ditch. Of course, my folks were enthused, too. So they bought 80 acres, the 40 acres where George Moeller lives and the 40 east of it. They got it all for \$2500. No water on it, lots of sagebrush. But O! the Highline ditch was coming. Not a thing had been done to it and this 40 had sagebrush on it tall enough to hide a man riding on a horse. Great big nice brush. In the spring of 1912, they cleared the land. They railed it off with a railroad iron pulled by a team of horses. That uprooted it and then they

"Oh that was in 1907 and 1908. Everyone was so excited because they had been promised that the "High-line" ditch would be put in. So people, from all walks of life, rushed out here to homestead the land under the ditch. They came and proved up on the places; then when the irrigation did not come in, they just had to pull out and leave them. The place where Feiks live, the Cable boys homesteaded that. Then a fellow, by the name of Jim Beck, lived where Edmundsons lives, but he didn't stay long enough to prove up on it, so another man came in and proved up. Then they all moved out. After that a bunch of Norwegians came in, Sundquists, Lundgrin, Lind and Hagen. They took over the homesteads, proved up on them and they stayed till they sold them. Where Bradys lived is part of the Hagen place. Part of the Houston place was homestead when they came and part they bought. The Shoestring ditch went in about 1912. That helped the people who lived above the Owyhee ditch. That was the Longs that lived on Gem Avenue. Grandpa Long lived on the place where L. E. Robbins lives. He had 160 acres. When the Shoestring went in, he gave each of his married children 10 acres. Uncle Al Thompson ended up with 30 acres on the corner of Gem and Clark which he later sold to Clyde Long. Al moved up where Owen Froerer lives now. Clyde dragged a couple of the abandoned homestead shacks down there and built the house that was on the Jack Shenk place. Shenks lived in it for a while. The place where Donald Bullard lives was the first established home above the Owyhee ditch. They had a good deep well, so of course it was a stopping place for people. Wallace Cable lived there. The man who homesteaded it was New. That was 120 acres and there were prunes in it all up the hill. He pumped water out of the Shoestring. A. J. Fleming built the Jake Groot house and owned all the land from there up the hill including the place where Merrildean Robbins lives. That old house on the corner of Clark and Gem was built by a man named McKibben. He took up a desert claim there.

Mr. and Mrs. Merle Kygar of Nyssa were Saturday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kygar.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kygar had Sunday dinner with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Jenkins.

Mrs. Carl Piercy attended the Wrestling Tournament at TVCC Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Arden Atkenson and Reta Piercy of Ontario were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Piercy.

Monday evening, Mrs. Ed Nedrow and Jimmie called on Mr. and Mrs. Mike Castro Sr.

Lupie Castro was a caller at the Ed Nedrow home Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Klaas Laan left a week ago Friday morning and went to Crescent City, California to see Mike and Mary Macy. They got to see the whales coming up for air in the ocean. Monday they went to Durham, California and visited Mr. and Mrs. Emmet Coon. The almonds were in bloom. They got home on Wednesday.

Mrs. Earl Ervin visited Mr. and Mrs. Willis Conant on Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ervin and sons were guests at a birthday dinner honoring Earl at the home of their daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Radford in Adrian. Melvin Crocker was also a dinner guest.

A house in Kingman Colony burned down Thursday afternoon last week. It was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Saldervar and family. No one was at home. The place is now owned by Klyn Cheney of Homedale, and was the former home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Begeman. The house was burned to the ground when the Saldervars returned home.

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Robb were Sunday dinner guests at the Jim Barnes home in Nyssa. It was in honor of Wayne's father, Hudson Robb's birthday. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Robb, Mead Robb and John Strickland.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Lee Hill and Terri and Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Freitag, Connie and James Aaron were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Phifer.

Mrs. Alice Lewis, Teresa and Lonnie of Nu Acres were Sunday afternoon visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Conant.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Wright and family of Boise were Saturday afternoon visitors of Mrs. Charles Bowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Herschel Thompson and Mrs. Ethel

raked it with a big old thing made out of 4x4's, fixed so they turned on an axle, so that when it turned around, it raked it out of the ground. They made it into windrows and burned this brush clear through the field. Then they raked it again and piled it and burned it. Then they planted the crop. That first year, 1912—but Oh-h-h the irrigation! Then papa got sick that summer and we had all those fresh ditches! Shovel and bawl and shovel and bawl. Just Mary and I, I was about 12. Papa had inflammatory rhuematism and couldn't get out of bed, so we really learned how to work.

"We went to school in Arcadia. Arcadia town started out and there was a building at the station that I understood was built for a Catholic church. When the town kinda died down, they moved this building to the Settlement of the KS and D ranch. That is what our first schoolhouse was. Some of the kids that went to school were Butlers, the Longs, us, of course, the Dails, and the Bullards and all those kids above the ditch that could come. They walked or drove a horse or rode.



SERVING AS PROGRAM LEADERS at a recent two-day workshop in Adult Performance Levels at TVCC were Dr. Michael Colbert, Region X Adult Education Staff Development Coordinator for Oregon State University; Donna Lockard, Adult Basic Education Curriculum Development Coordinator from Chemeketa Community College; and Clifford Norris, Coordinator of Instruction and Student Services, Community College Division of the Oregon Department of Education.

News From Big Bend

By Gidlie Roberts

BIG BEND - Mrs. Leroy Bennett, Mrs. Winfield Bennett, Mrs. John Packwood and Mrs. Dyré Roberts attended Women's Association at the Adrian Community Church Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Dyré Roberts was a supper guest of Mr. and Mrs. Delno Brock in Ontario, Wednesday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Varner Hopkins and Mr. and Mrs. Boyce Van DeWater attended a musical presentation in Boise last Monday evening. Mr. and Mrs. Dick Reed were among those performing.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Stubblefield of Parma were Thursday supper guests of Mrs. Winifred Bennett.

Leonard Howes has been quite ill with pneumonia and asthma. He was slightly improved Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyce Van DeWater entertained with a family dinner Sunday. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Dick Reed and Laure of Boise, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bauman and family of Nyssa and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Van DeWater and family of Adrian.

Mr. and Mrs. Darryl Seutell and daughters Christy and Jennifer moved into their newly erected home on the farm recently purchased from Leonard Howes, last week from Nampa. Big Bend welcomes back a local boy and his family. He will farm with his father, E. M. Seutell.

Mrs. Rose Burns of Nyssa was a weekend guest of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Sillonis and

assisted her. The lesson "Over the Counter Drugs" was given by Mrs. Dyré Roberts and Mrs. Phil Clucas. Twelve ladies attended.

Mrs. Darrell English and Mrs. Dyré Roberts called on Mrs. Leonard Howes Monday afternoon to wish her a happy birthday. Mrs. Jerry Osborne of Adrian, Mrs. Brent Hartley of Sunset Valley, Mrs. Stella Moss and Mrs. Reta Ray of Nyssa also called during the day.

Mrs. Winifred Bennett visited Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Wood in Marsing Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Pete Sillonis and girls are visiting relatives in Cathlamet, Washington this week.

Susan Carroll of Sunset Valley was a Sunday overnight guest of Mr. and Mrs. Dyré Roberts. Carlene and Darlene Carroll were Tuesday overnight guests.

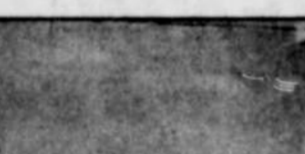
Mrs. Bernice Toomb of Kingman Colony called on Mrs. Dyré Roberts Tuesday morning.

Brad and Russ Roberts, Scott and Kelly Allsop attended the car show in Boise Saturday evening.

Alex Callahan and his father attended the car show in Boise Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Randy York and family were visitors at the Robert Callahans on Monday, taking Alex home with them to New Plymouth to assist them in clearing away an old building.

There is more iron in three large eggs than in three ounces of tuna.



A NEW BEEF PRINCESS was crowned Saturday night during the Malheur County Livestock Association spring meet in Jordan Valley. Johanna Moore, a sophomore at Vale High School, was crowned by Julie Ross, Jordan Valley outgoing princess. The program is sponsored by the Malheur County CowBelles as a part of their project to promote beef. Argus photo.

Community Concert Association Holds Membership Drive

Ontario—The Malheur Community Concert Association will open its 29th annual membership drive on Monday, March 22.

Thompson went to Boise to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Walters. They attended a baby shower for Mrs. Ethel Thompson's great-granddaughter, Mrs. Randy Van Leuven. Mrs. Ethel Thompson remained in the Rex Walters home for a short visit.

Dr. Maulding of Nyssa visited in the Herschel Thompson home Wednesday afternoon.

John and Sharon Thiel of Boise brought their daughter Paula over Saturday to spend several days of her spring vacation with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Don Fox.

Mrs. Harold (Ronnie) Trenkel, Headquarters Secretary and Mrs. Pearl A. Summers, Concert Representative with Columbia Artists Management will be on duty at drive headquarters in the Moore Hotel Monday thru Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Friday from 10 a.m. until noon.

Concert memberships entitle the bearer to four local concerts plus free admission to Community Concessions in Boise, Baker, and La Grande.

Two attractions already booked for the 1976-77 season are the famous "Four Freshmen" and the Ford Comic Opera Theatre which will present "Die Fledermaus."

Drive captain for the Nyssa area is Midge Thomson, Phone 372-3515.

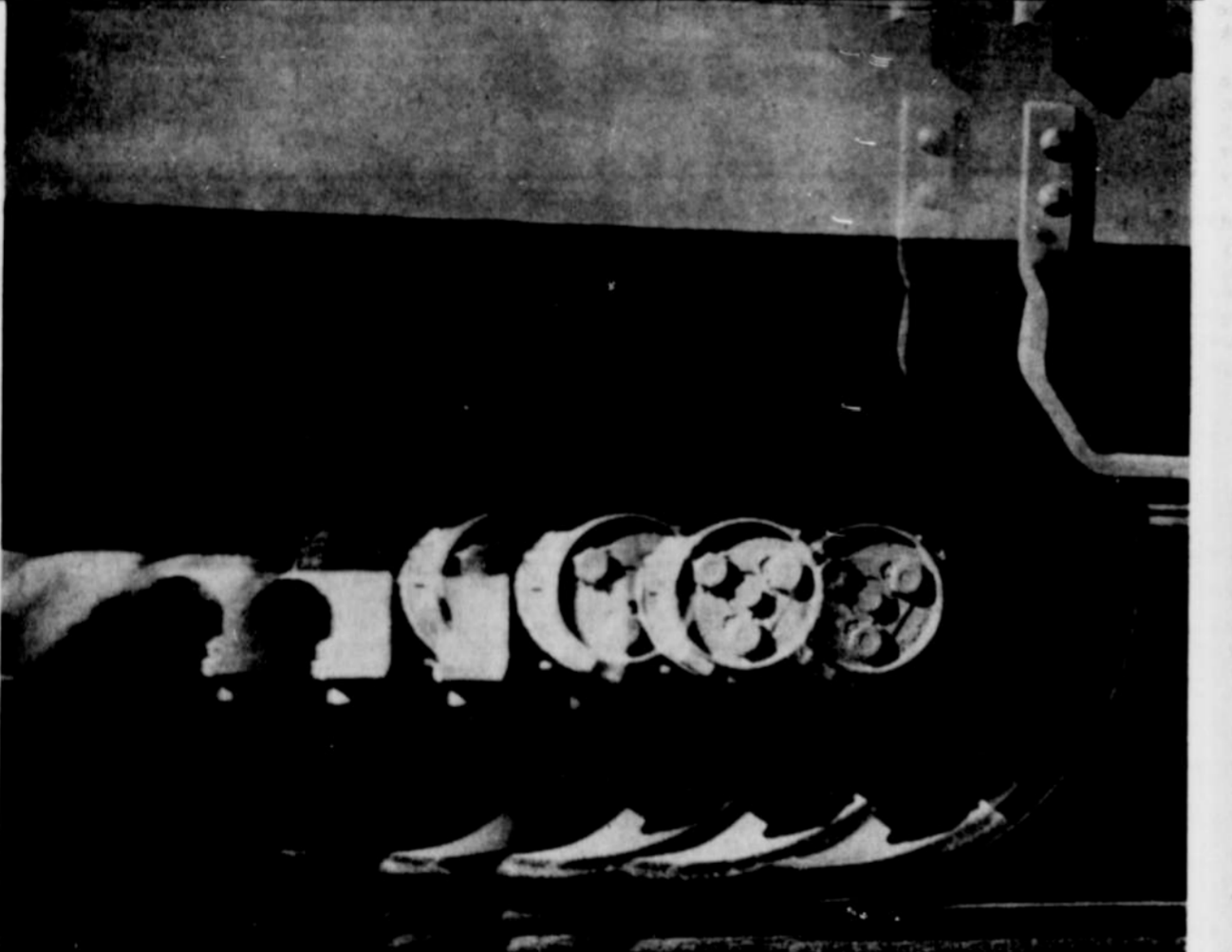
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