

SOCIETY

EARLY SCHOOL HISTORY OF SALEM RECOUNTED

Back in the '90s, when Professor John Garrison, now retired, was conducting a writing school in Salem, the late A. Bush was once in need of someone who was a good penman, so naturally he went to Mr. Garrison with the request that if he had a really good penman in his school he should send him over to the bank. Well, Mr. Garrison had just such a person, and shortly afterwards young Oswald West, later governor of Oregon, applied for the position and was accepted.

This is only one incident in connection with the early history of Salem schools, all of which reads like a most interesting story; and yet, outside of those who are left of those days, and their personal friends, little is known of that happy period when the capital city's educational system was in embryonic formation.

How many Salem residents know that the building now occupied by the Salem Laundry company, just off of State street, on Liberty, was formerly the First Methodist Episcopal church; once standing where the William Brown residence is now located, just west of the present First church, and that this same building was at one time leased by J. A. Sellwood, now retired and living on North Front street, as a place for his growing private school? Or who knows that the building in which E. L. Stiff & Son are located, corner of Court and Liberty streets, was the original East Salem school; or that Commercial hall, corner of Commercial and Center streets, and now partially occupied by a junk shop, was once Salem's most imposing public school building—the "Big Central"—which, with its lesser companion, "Little Central," occupied the ground where the high school now stands?

Speaking in the language of the street, "Those were the happy days," and many of Salem's best known and honored citizens who were identified with the city's activities at that time, live over again in memory this happy period, as they relate with half-shut eyes, incidents that transpired at the "old institute," as Willamette university was then called, or at "big" and "little central."

George P. Litchfield is one of these, and what he knows about the original history of Salem's institutions of learning would make a very considerable and readable volume. Mr. Litchfield was for many years a member of Salem's school board, and is the only resident member of that original body under the new regime—that is, after the grade system was introduced.

Sol Darbin, now visiting in California, has the distinction of being the only resident member of the first school board before the grades were established. That was back in the '60s and '70s.

District No. 24, which was Salem district, had at that time about 1100 pupils, while now it has something over 5000. This district included, of course, Ruth Ritchie.

The Passion cantata, "Olivet to Calvary," as sung by the First M. E. church choir last Sunday evening under Mr. Mendenhall's direction, is conceded by all to be probably the most beautiful work yet produced by that organization. Its theme is sublime, while the music ranges from deepest pathos to an almost overwhelming dramatic intensity in keeping with the thought, the choruses "Crucify Him" and "The Savior King goes forth to die" being especially effective. The quartette consisting of Mrs. Mendenhall, soprano; Miss Ruth Fugate, alto; A. A. Schramm, tenor, and E. R. Jones, baritone, rendered two numbers, and solos were sung by Mrs. Mendenhall and Messrs. Schramm and Jones. Because of their unusual beauty and of their artistic rendition, particular mention should be made of the soprano solo, "Another Temple Awaits Thee, Lord Divine"; the tenor solo, "Ye Who Sins, and ye who sorrow"; and the arietta for baritone, "A new commandment give I unto you." The organ selections by Mr. Roberts were also enjoyed.

Tuesday afternoon Mrs. B. L. Steeves entertained the mothers class of the Methodist church. Piano numbers by Mrs. Ira Morton were enjoyed. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. E. B. Millard and Mrs. H. H. Vandervort. After the usual business a discussion followed concerning systematic summer occupations for school children.

I. G. McDaniels, of the Commercial club, sketched, in an interesting manner, the purpose and plan of that organization in securing vacant lots throughout the city for the use of school children in the gardening contest.

The Mothers class is leading its assistance to this movement, and in order to further the proper appreciation of out door occupations for children, it has secured the services of Prof. C. F. Hodge of the University of Oregon. Prof. Hodge, who is well known as an exponent of gardening and out door life will lecture at the auditorium of the public library on April 8. It is hoped all parents of school children will hear this speaker.

The mothers class has carried on much philanthropic work since its organization and is interested in all movements which tend toward a better Salem. Special plans are being made for "Mothers Day" in May. It is suggested and urged by the class that the beautiful prayer of Tom Dillon, recently published by the Capital Journal, be sent by every person in our community to his mother before the Sunday set aside as "Mothers Day."

Among the enjoyable club gatherings of the week was that of the "Quince Turn" at the home of Miss Joy Turner, Wednesday evening. The guests were surprised when a large birthday cake was served, and the announcement made that the event was on the occasion of the hostess' birthday. Music and cards filled to capacity a most delightful evening. Beside club members were Mrs. Murch Hatch Beaman, of Albany, and Mrs. Virgil Lloyd of Spokane.

A SPRING TONIC

Old Reliable Hood's Sarsaparilla is Pleasant and Effective.

In the spring your blood is impure and weak, eruptions appear on your face and body, you lack vitality, strength and animation, your appetite is poor and you feel all tired out. Get Hood's Sarsaparilla from any druggist. It combines just the roots, barks, herbs and other substances that you need.

It purifies and strengthens the blood—makes the rich red blood that you must have to feel well, look well, eat and sleep well. This is confirmed by thousands of letters from people in all parts of the country.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is the best spring medicine, but is not simply a spring medicine—it is an all-the-year-round blood purifier and tonic. Remember it has stood the test of forty years. Be sure to get Hood's, and get it today.

As it does now, schools outside of the city limits, but at that time, however, both the North and South schools, now known as the Grant and Lincoln, were not in the city proper.

Among the early instructors in the Salem schools were many who were recognized as the best in their line. There was, for instance, M. G. Blain, brother of James G. Blain, secretary of state under Garfield. The former was widely known as a disciplinarian, and after his connection with the South school as principal was transferred to Chemawa, where he was principal for a number of years.

J. A. Sellwood was reared in Salem, and was one of the early graduates of the "old institute," and also one of the first members of the teaching force of Salem's public schools. For several years he taught at the Central school, later teaching at the North and South schools. Eleven years made up the time he was principal in these schools, and afterwards being appointed principal of the Chemawa Indian school.

For a number of years he conducted a private school, and in this work he was especially successful. His first school was in a building owned by Dr. J. C. Shelton, on the alley between Front and Commercial streets. Later he outgrew this place and removed to the building now used as the guild room to St. Paul's church. This eventually became too small, until finally he was forced to take his growing classes to the vacated First Methodist church, now used as a laundry. Three pupils constituted his first class, over 100 taxing his teaching capacity when he closed. Miss Margaret Cosper, principal of the Garfield school, was one of his pupils, later teaching for him.

Other members of the early teaching force were: Professor Richard H. Dearborn, Dr. W. A. Casick, J. G. Wright, Dr. D. Payton, Rev. O. Dickenson, Leo Willis and his son, Captain Willis; Judge Bonham, William Kaiser, George A. Peables, Mrs. Price, Governor Pennoyer, Professor Crawford, Professor Pearson and Professor Gregg, the latter instituting the grade system here. Some of the above now live in Salem, others have moved away, and others have passed to the Great Beyond.

Of the pupils of these earlier days few remain in Salem. Among them are Ed and George Croisan, Eber La Faro, A. N. Moores, Mrs. P. H. Raymond, Mrs. W. H. Eldridge, Mrs. William Brown.

Quarterly Postal Receipts Break All Past Records

If the post office receipts are any barometer of the general financial conditions of a community, then Salem and the surrounding country covered by the rural routes have no reason to complain.

When conditions are bad, the post office is the first to show a decrease in its receipts. When conditions are good, receipts increase.

According to a report just compiled by Postmaster Hickenstein, the business of the first quarter, or from Jan. 1 to April 1 of this year, is the largest in the history of the local post office in the amount of business transacted.

The receipts for the three months have been \$19,829.20.

The gradual increase in the business of the Salem postoffice, is shown by the following figures, which give the sales for the first three months of each year:

Table with 2 columns: Year, Sales. 1912 sales \$14,758.47, 1913 sales 18,437.91, 1914 sales 18,497.51, 1915 sales 19,829.20.

Naturally, Postmaster Hickenstein is rather proud of the showing for the three months of this year and the fact that these receipts show a generally healthy condition throughout this section of the state.

Rural Carriers Have Hands Full On Routes

The nine rural routes running out of Salem deliver mail to 2087 families. All of the nine routes are in Marion county, excepting routes 1 and 2.

Lyman McDonald, carrier for route 3, delivers to more families than any of the nine carriers. He has 334 families to serve, delivering their mail to 250 boxes.



Easter Time, Spring Time, Housecleaning Time

At this season of the year the good housewife is thinking and planning changes in the home that will make it more attractive and pleasing to the eye. The old carpets and rugs are taken up, cleaned and made to serve as second best in the upper rooms and new ones of correct style and pattern are to be purchased. Our large stocks give you a wide range of selection and an opportunity to select patterns that you won't feel disappointed with after having seen what somebody else has. Let us counsel with you. Let us show you what can be accomplished for a given sum, and let us explain fully what a small amount spared weekly—if you do not wish to pay cash—will do toward furnishing a home.

Rugs

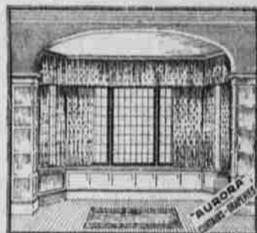
Everybody wants rugs. 300 room-size rugs from which to make your selection.

- 9x12 Sp'l Brussels \$ 9.75, 8x10 Axminsters \$17.75, 8x12 Axminsters \$19.75, 9x12 Velvets \$22.50, 9x12 Body Brussel \$30.00, 9x12 Wiltons \$37.50

Draperies

Your attention is called to our drapery department. We can supply any kind of fabrics you desire.

- Scrims, yd. . . 15c to 40c, Marquisettes 35c to 65c, Cretonnes, yd. 25c to 75c, Voiles, yd. . . 45c to 75c, Sunfasts, yd. . 85c to \$1.75, Sundons \$1.25 to \$1.75



Use Our Exchange Dept.

If you have furniture that doesn't suit—want something more up-to-date and better, phone us or call and we'll send a competent man to see it and arrange to take it as part payment on the kind you want. We'll make you a liberal allowance for your goods, and we'll sell you new furniture at low prices. The new furniture will be promptly delivered and your pieces will go as first payment. Easy terms on balance. Have furniture you'll be proud of.

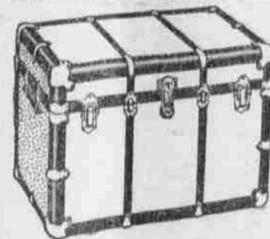
SEALY MATTRESS

When you buy a Sealy your mattress troubles are at an end. Try one for sixty nights at our expense and be convinced. Price, \$21.50.

HOUSECLEANING NECESSITIES HOWARD

The original and only chemically treated dust cloths, wall and floor mops and dusters.

- Dust Cloths \$25c, Handled Dusters \$1.25, Floor Mops \$1.60



If you contemplate a trip this year, look over our trunk and baggage department. We carry the celebrated "Hartman" line of trunks, bags, suit cases. No. 500 fibre trunks like cut, Gibraltar construction, circle bolts, every edge rounded and reinforced, striped cloth lining, two trays. Special, \$16.25.

See the Model Cottage

Buren & Hamilton COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS

Now on Display in Show Windows

OPEN FORUM

Secularian Aid.

Editor Capital Journal: In your issue of March 20th Mr. Sanford Snyder asks about State appropriations for secular purposes, stating that the Catholic church is using much of the money thus appropriated in its institutions. This is nothing new as this secular aid is in favor of such secular aid. In your reply you state that the last legislature and preceding ones have set aside certain amounts totaling thousands of dollars for the use of "Christian institutions" without particularly favoring any sectarian school or "home" or "refuge." So from this no church can be blamed for doing what it has the legal right to do. But the thing itself is wrong because the legislature did wrong in creating such legislation. No legislation for sectarian purposes is pretty well understood to be an American principle though more than once departed from. The citizen needs to be perpetually on guard lest encroachments of all kinds encroach themselves into law and the people be compelled to submit to conditions some times intolerable.

DON'T RETRIEVE.

Ted (at summer hotel)—Those pretty waitresses look awfully fetching. Ned—After you've been here awhile you'll find they fetch nothing.—Judge.

Bitter medicine, like bitter experience, may be the best.

WORKINGMEN'S VIEWS

To the Editor: Will some one please tell me through the Journal what are the working class of people going to live on if conditions remain much longer as they are now. Dear working man and woman, did you ever stop and think what a large mass of idle and worthless bunch of idlers that have to be fed, housed and clothed from the proceeds of your labor. You keep these dressed in the best clothing, feed them on the best of food, house them in the best of houses, while you and your family go hungry, live in some old shack or ten, eat what little food is given you for your hard-earned dollar—the dollar that you gave five dollars worth of labor for—and though same dollar, when you are lucky enough to have one, will buy for you and your family just about fifteen cents worth of food, clothing, housing or anything that you wish to buy! The rest of it goes to feed, clothe and house the idle. It seems to me that there is something wrong somewhere that so great and a glorious nation like our America should allow such conditions to exist as there now exist, and is be-

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