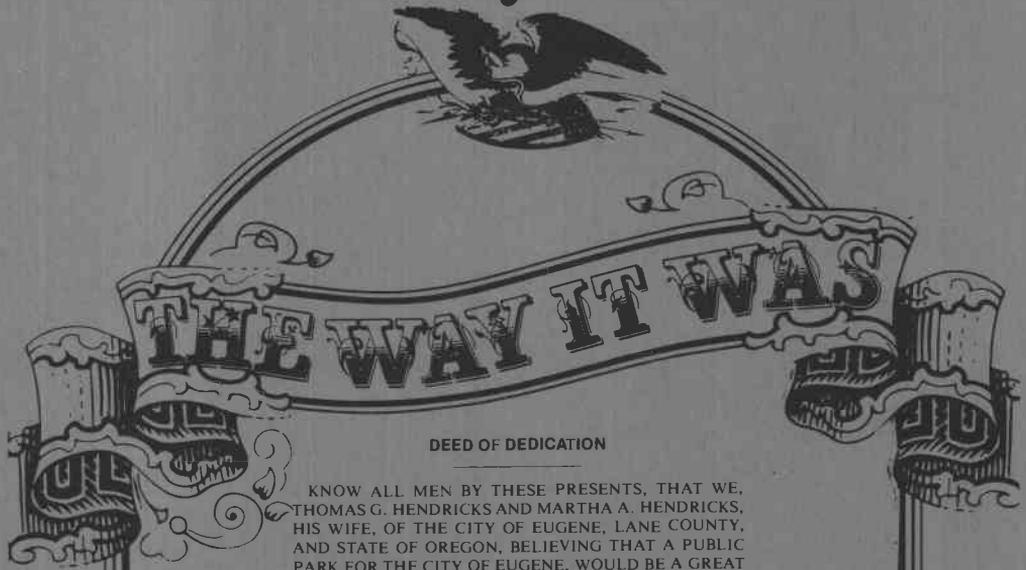


Lane County Historian



DEED OF DEDICATION

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS, THAT WE, THOMAS G. HENDRICKS AND MARTHA A. HENDRICKS, HIS WIFE, OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, LANE COUNTY, AND STATE OF OREGON, BELIEVING THAT A PUBLIC PARK FOR THE CITY OF EUGENE, WOULD BE A GREAT PUBLIC BENEFIT TO THE INHABITANTS OF SAID CITY; AND BEING DESIROUS THAT THE CITY OF EUGENE SHOULD OWN, KEEP UP AND CONTROL SUCH A PARK SHOULD BE SECURED AT THE PRESENT TIME WHEN THE SAME IS AVAILABLE IN ITS NATURAL STATE, TO BE PRESERVED FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS OF THE CITY OF EUGENE, AS A PUBLIC PARK, OPEN TO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF, AND OF THE SURROUNDING COUNTRY FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECREATION, BUT UNDER THE CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT AND SUBJECT TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE CITY OF EUGENE AND REALIZING THE FUTURE GROWTH AND GREATNESS OF THE CITY OF EUGENE AND THE NECESSITY OF PROCURING SUCH A PARK AT THE PRESENT TIME, DO HEREBY GIVE, GRANT AND DEDICATE UNTO THE CITY OF EUGENE, IN LANE COUNTY, OREGON, AND ITS SUCCESSORS FOREVER, AS A PUBLIC PARK TO BE USED FOR PARK PURPOSES, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND

SUCH PARK TO BE DESIGNATED, NAMED AND KNOWN FOREVER AS

"HENDRICKS' PARK"

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD THE SAME UNTO THE SAID CITY OF EUGENE AND ITS SUCCESSORS, FOREVER AS A PUBLIC PARK.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF WE HAVE HEREUNTO SET OUR HANDS AND AFFIXED OUR SEALS AT EUGENE, OREGON THIS 2d DAY OF NOVEMBER, A. D. 1906.

DONE IN PRESENCE OF

W. W. CALKINS THOMAS G. HENDRICKS (Seal)
ELMA L. HENDRICKS MARTHA A. HENDRICKS (Seal)

The Lane County Historical Society

LANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Halle Hills Huntington, President, 89239 Old Coburg Road, Eugene, Oregon 97401

Mrs. Stuart Hurd, Membership Chairman, 90901 Coburg Road, Eugene, Oregon 97401

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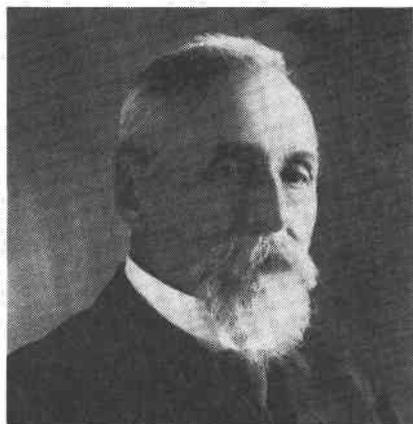
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Beach Cottage of T. G. Hendricks, Newport. Mary and Minnie Chambers on "January"
— Courtesy Lane County Pioneer Museum

T. G. HENDRICKS

by Martha H. Goodrich



Thos. G. Hendricks

I remember Grandpa as he looked in his Golden Wedding picture on January 3, 1919, and shucking corn at his beloved McKenzie River summer home, Poujade. But others amplify the judgment of a seven year old. Joseph Gaston wrote in his *Centennial History of Oregon, 1811-1911*:

The consensus of opinion on the part of his fellowmen places him with Oregon's most honored and representative citizens. Throughout the state he is spoken of in terms of admiration and respect. His life has been so varied in its activity, so honorable in its purposes and so far-reaching and beneficial in its effects that it has become an integral part of the history of the city of Eugene and has also left an impression upon the annals of the state. In no sense a man in public life, he has nevertheless exerted an immeasurable influence on the city of his residence; in business life as a merchant and financier; in social circles by reason of a charming personality and unfeigned cordiality; in politics by reason of his public spirit and devotion to the general good; and in intellectual circles by reason of his indefatigable efforts in behalf of education, especially in the up-building of the State University of Oregon, which largely stands as a monument to his public spirit and high ideals . . .

100
45

Interesting as is the business and public career of Mr. Hendricks equally attractive is his home life and many agree that he is seen at his best at his own fireside . . . Vol. 11 p. 241-3

Grandpa was born June 17, 1838, in Henderson County, Illinois, I believe across the Mississippi from Keokuk, Iowa. He was the third of twelve children born to James M. Hendricks and Elizabeth Elkins Bristow Hendricks, of border or southern origins. J. M. Hendricks made the journey west in 1848 to join his father-in-law, Elijah Bristow, with three wagons, eight yoke of oxen and a number of cattle. A letter of T. G. Hendricks named their company consisting of 15 persons and their families, probably largely relatives. He wrote:

"I was but a small boy, your brother Tom was about my age and my fast friend . . . we were inseparable."

"Of course as a boy I remember more distinctly heroic members of the train who were most active in braving dangers in shooting buffalo, in swimming rivers, and leading in all the dangerous undertakings incident to making the journey."

"Our train crossed the Missouri River at St. Joe on or about the 20th of October."

"Our teams got frightened at buffalo and ran



Martha Stewart Hendricks Golden Wedding pictures
— Courtesy Martha H. Goodrich

away giving us more trouble along the South Platte than elsewhere. Buffalo were very numerous in that country then and our teams seemed to be seized with a desire to run with them when the herds came near us.”

“I remember William Blackerby, your brother, quite well. When Tom and I got into trouble with larger boys we could always depend that we had a big brother who would take sides with us.”

When they began the trip in March Grandpa was nine, celebrating his 10th birthday enroute. One account records: “Young Hendricks had to make himself useful during the day by driving the loose cattle, for the purpose of riding one of the few ‘American’ horses the party owned Occasionally the driver of some wagon would want to go hunting, and then the lad would have to take his place on the wagon.” He was “too young to stand guard in camp” and was free to amuse himself.

The Barlow trail brought them over the Cascades. One account describes the grass of the Willamette Valley belly-high to the animals; another that it was so lush and tall it could be tied over a horse’s back. The train camped at Elijah Bristow’s cabin at Pleasant Hill October 20, 1848.

Elijah Bristow had staked claims for each of his children, choosing “a spring, a piece of fine timber, a strip of good pasture.” The boundaries were so irregular a problem was later presented surveyors and engineers. But for the settlers an open fall assisted home building.

The Hendricks’ claim was south through the “gap” (showing Southern terminology) to the Cloverdale side. Indians were everywhere, not troublesome, but annoying. Grandpa played shinner, a form of hockey, with Cuffy and Gudgo.

Elijah Bristow was responsible for the Christian Church and School District #1 of Lane County at which Grandpa obtained his early training. He also attended Cascade Academy at Cloverdale for three years. His

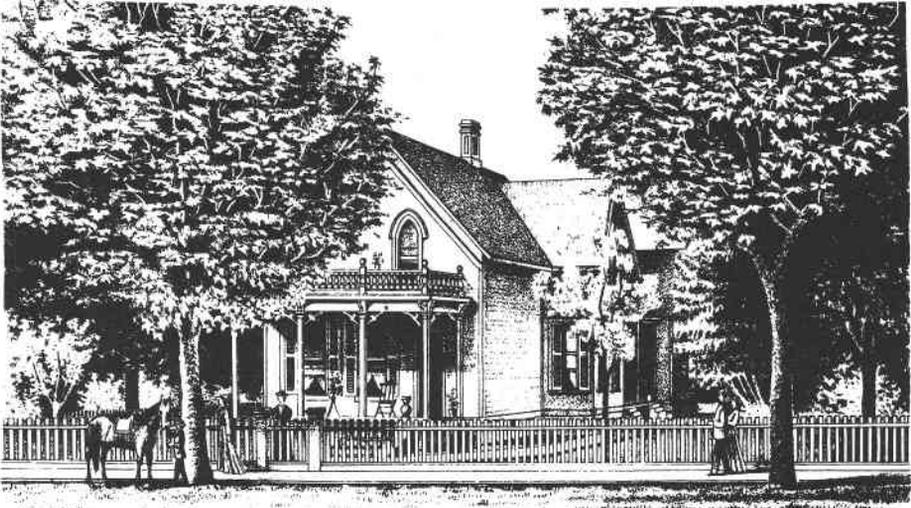
boyhood ambition was to be a country storekeeper at that crossroads. A year, 1857, at twice-burned Columbia College, an academy under the auspices of the Episcopal Church, in Eugene, completed T. G. Hendricks’ formal education.

Tom Hendricks began his business career as a clerk in his uncle’s mercantile store in Eugene in 1858. He became a partner and then sole owner 1874-84. The store had constructed the first brick building in Eugene in 1866. There is an account that the Molalla Indian chief, Moses, traded his furs at the Hendricks’ store then spent the night in the Hendricks’ home rolled in a blanket with his feet to the open fire.

On December 16, 1883, T. G. Hendricks and Stewart Eakin opened a private bank in their names, and Grandpa disposed of his mercantile interest to J. D. Matlock. The Hendricks and Eakin Bank received a National charter in 1886 and the name became First National Bank of Eugene. T. G. Hendricks was president for thirty-three years when he resigned “to turn the reins over to the young men whom (he had) brought up in the banking business.”

In civic service T. G. Hendricks served as county school superintendent, initiating the practice of visiting and studying school needs; he was one of the first councilmen of Eugene, serving several terms; he was twice mayor. He was a member of the State Senate for a term. He was one of the organizers of the first water company for Eugene and helped found the Public Library. But had he written an epitaph commemorating his public service I think he would have chosen “A founder of the University of Oregon and regent for twenty-four years,” and “Co-donor with Mrs. Hendricks of the nucleus of a City Park while the land is available in its natural state to be preserved for the future generations of the city of Eugene.”

From 1872-76 citizens of Eugene and



Residence of T. G. Hendricks. N.E. corner Broadway & Charnelton. Eugene. from Walling's *History of Lane County*, 1883
— Courtesy of Lane County Pioneer Museum

Lane County attempted to meet the stipulations of the State Legislature to provide a suitable site and building, representing an investment of about \$50,000, to secure the location of a new State University. The Union University Association worked diligently and some times hopelessly. Hendricks was secretary and was appointed a regent in 1872, serving twenty-four years. Dr. Henry D. Sheldon in his *History of the University of Oregon* writes the campaign to finance the building succeeded thanks to "the unshakable resolution of a few leaders." Among these he wrote "the most important name was undoubtedly Judge Joshua Walton . . . T. G. Hendricks, whose first-rate business ability was always at the disposal of the Association, next to Walton probably spent the most time and energy on the project . . ." Walton wandered through the countryside, frequently returning with a calf, a few pigs or a box of apples. Hendricks always managed to convert the farm products into cash. In 1881 some debts of the Union University Association threatened the fledgling school. It was saved by a donation of \$7000 from Henry Villard, the railroad magnate. The event

coincided with the birth of my mother. When Grandpa consulted some friends concerning the name for his new daughter, she was given her middle name, Villard. Dr. Sheldon commented on Mr. Hendricks' contribution as a member of the Executive Committee of the Board of Regents — he was on hand when emergencies occurred and policies were to be initiated, a dominant personality, "he was closer to the actual administration of the University than Judge Deady . . . He was a man of unusual force and shrewdness."

Hendricks Park, that is 47 acres of it, was the gift of my grandparents to the city of Eugene in 1906. At the same time the city purchased 31 acres. Inquiry last summer verified that its present area adds to 81.5 acres, meaning a subsequent addition of only 3½ acres. The cost of my grandparents' gift was \$3,590.00. Imagine 47 acres in that area today for less than \$3600! The original purpose envisioned a park kept as nearly in its natural state as commensurate with its best recreational use. I think it was the vision of my grandparents, Mayor Marion Wilkins and the Council in 1906 which gave us the splendid legacy we enjoy

in the park today.

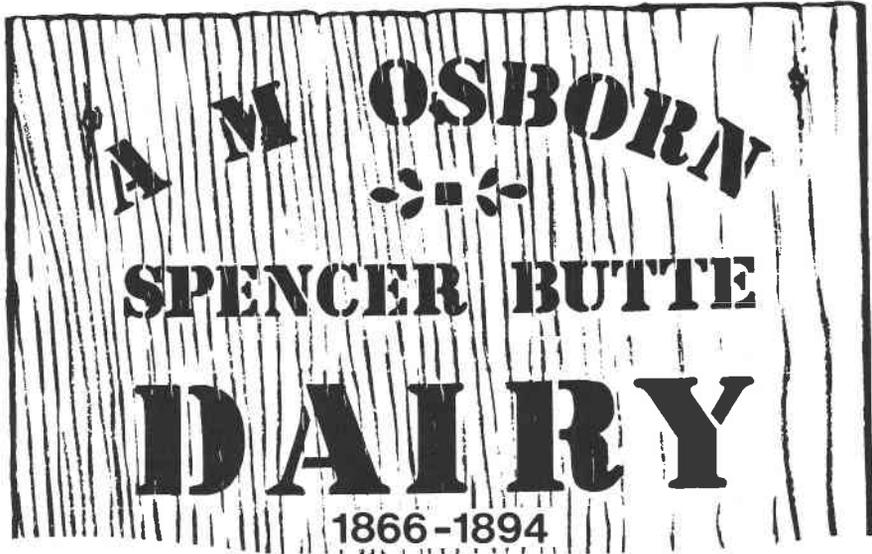
In the introduction I quoted Joseph Gaston that T. G. Hendricks was "attractive" in his home life, "seen at his best at his own fireside." In 1861 he married Mary Jane Hazelton, who died in 1867. Their son Harry died in infancy and today rests in a common grave with his mother in the Masonic Cemetery. A daughter Ida was born in 1886. On January 3, 1869 Grandfather married Martha A. Stewart, a pioneer of 1852 from Missouri, whose father's donation land claim covered much of Eugene southwest of 8th and Lawrence. As their wedding trip they took a side wheeler steam boat to Portland. High water forced them to stay over at Albany. It was Mrs. Hendricks' first trip away from home and visit to Portland. The story is told that she thought she had chosen an excellent wardrobe — there were other dresses like hers — then she realized she was seeing herself in the mirror! Their two daughters were Ada, born in 1876 and Ruby, 1881. The Hendricks' home was the center of much Eugene social life. And wash day was a busy one, with skirts for three girls. Mother often told how Grandpa would arouse the household early. "Girls get up, it's wash day!" Everyone was expected at the breakfast table regardless of the time of retiring. Summer meant picnics, long camping trips with several families at Swing Log, a cottage at Nye Beach, Newport. Grandpa gave us all a legacy of his passionate love of the out of doors.

Our family can claim distinction as a three generation family of University of Oregon graduates. Ida was graduated in

1885, probably from the normal course, and was followed by her daughter Mary Chambers Brockelbank, and her granddaughter, Leslie Brockelbank Gray. Ada was graduated in 1896 or 7. Ada's daughter Margaret Ann Smith Slocum and two grandsons, Tom and Barc Slocum, were all graduated. Mother and I can offer only two generations.

Any sketch of T. G. Hendricks requires mention of his association with the church. His grandfather, Elijah Bristow, was a member of the Christian Church, and in 1850 the church was organized at Pleasant Hill, in a small house built for school and church purposes. Elijah and Susana Bristow, James M. and Elizabeth Hendricks were charter members of the Pleasant Hill Church. When the Christian Church was organized in Eugene in 1866 T. G. Hendricks was a charter member and deacon, later elder and trustee. His wife and children were members of the congregation. He played a role in establishing Eugene Divinity School, now Northwest Christian College. The erection of the core of the present First Christian Church building in 1911 at 12th and Oak Streets proved a severe financial burden for the congregation. I have heard my mother say in his later years, that he hoped he might live long enough to see the end of World War I and the liquidation of the church debt.

T. G. Hendricks passed away following a brief illness on December 12, 1919. Armistice had been declared November 11, 1918, and a dynamic young pastor had virtually eliminated the church debt.



A M OSBORN
SPENCER BUTTE
DAIRY
1866-1894

by Lois Barton

The Christensen Brothers Rodeo Ranch south of Spencer Butte now occupies land which was formerly the site of a large dairy and cheese-making business. The valley was originally homesteaded by George W. Rinehart of Adams Co., Ill., who settled on his claim January 1, 1854. Rinehart sold the claim to Joseph L. Brumley in 1860 and moved to Creswell.

Alexander M. Osburn, a music and math professor from Allegheny College, Meadville, Pennsylvania, bought the Brumley ranch south of Spencer Butte in December, 1866, at a sheriff's sale. The deal included 1000 acres which sold for \$3805. In addition to Rinehart's DLC, Brumley transferred title to the John Blanton, Garnett Riggs and George Ritchie claims.

Osburn's granddaughter recalled that his first wife died while crossing the plains.

After he had "located his land" he returned to Pennsylvania and married Sarah J. Ring. He brought his new wife west by way of the Isthmus of Panama where her bridal trousseau was stolen during the mule portage.

Once settled in their valley, the Osburns apparently lost no time establishing themselves in the cattle and dairy business. They added the Washington Jewett, William Renshaw and Jonathan Riggs DLCs to their holdings during the next few years, bringing their total acreage to 1993.52 acres. The ranch stretched from what is now South Willamette Street on the west to Dillard's on the east, and south from Spencer Butte to Camas Swale.

When Preston surveyed the area in 1853 he described the terrain as rolling prairie country with oak openings here and there,

brush in the bottoms under balm of gilead and ash trees, and occasional clumps of fir or yellow pine. Mr. Osburn hired some of his neighbors, including Charlie Swaggart and Nick Toll to keep his pasture clear by cutting out seedling oak and cedar trees which tried to get a start.

RATTLESNAKES AND HORSE THIEVES

Life wasn't all a bed of roses. Sarah Osburn had to kill an occasional rattlesnake. The *Eugene City Guard* of 12-5-1868 speaks of HORSE THIEVES as follows: "Our citizens should be careful in purchasing horses from strangers just now, as it appears that quite a lively business in the way of stealing horses has been recently going on in the valley. Our sheriff has received several telegrams making inquiry of horses stolen from below. Mr. Chichester purchased a horse at auction during court week, which was claimed and taken from him. *Mr. A. M. Osburn* found an animal in Salem which was stolen from his pasture on the Brumley ranch a few weeks ago. Mr. Graves had one he purchased some three months since, proved and taken from him. A stranger left one at Mathew Wallis to be

pastured which is claimed by a gentleman in Salem. It seems that their mode of doing business has been to steal horses below, bring them up the river, sell them, and steal another to ride back to dispose of below."

In spite of these and other hardships Osburns moved ahead with their business. Again the *City Guard*, July 10, 1869 carried a clue.

"Mr. Killingsworth of the Star Bakery has shown us a magnificent lot of cheeses (sic) which he has just purchased from the dairy of *Mr. A. M. Osburn*, and which he is offering to sell cheap for cash. We have not tasted them, but have been informed by those who have that they are very fine."

Alexander and Sarah had seven children. George Chester, the oldest, took a wagon load of cheese to Medford, traveling alone over that long road when he was 15 years old. He also helped with barn chores regularly, milking twenty cows every day for years. Another hired hand, probably a German-speaking Swiss immigrant neighbor named Ziniker, taught Chester a few German words which he remembered and used in later years. Chester became an accountant, working most of his life with Bell Telephone company.

Other Osburn children were Paul who



Alexander and Sarah Osburn — Courtesy Mrs. Charles Meador

went into real estate in Portland, Morris who died at 17, Albert who established a store in Roseburg, Wade who became county assessor at Newport, Ruth, a secretary who settled in Bend, and Guy, a commercial fisherman on the Columbia.

Ruth, the sixth child and the first girl born to them, brought such joy to her father that he rode clear in to Eugene City to tell all his friends he had a girl child at last.

Charlie Swaggart told his family the Osburn kids used the cheeses that "went bad" as wagon wheels by fixing an axle between two cheeses. They worked fine till the cheeses got wet.

A BULL STORY

Leonard Ziniker of Creswell says his father worked for Osburn. He tells this story about an Osburn bull.

"My father and another hired man were sent on the Butte to bring home the Holstein bull. He had a ring in his nose. A rope for each man was tied to the ring as they started to lead him home.

'This isn't going to be too simple,' Mr. Ziniker said. 'This bull is going to take a lunge for one of us sooner or later, and when he does, for goodness sake hang on.'

Presently the bull lunged for Albert and the other fellow lost his hold on the rope. There were no trees nearby around which to snub the rope, but there was a ditch. Albert fell into the ditch. The bull fell too, but a little distance away. So they had the bull down in the ditch and the fellow got ahold of his rope again.

Albert said, 'Next time he's not going for me because he thinks I put him in the ditch.' By this time they were into a grove of scrub oak trees. Sure enough the next lunge was for the other fellow, but he was able to wrap the rope around a tree and hold the bull.

About that time a gravel wagon came along, running empty with a tub of dishes

sitting on the gravel bed. The driver offered to hitch the bull to the wagon and let the horses pull him along. Ziniker warned, 'Now, listen. This bull is pretty mean. Don't ever stop, 'cause if you do, he'll get his horn in the wheel and upset the wagon.'

They went along and pretty soon something happened that made the driver stop. The bull went right for that rear wheel and upset the wagon and the dishes. There wasn't one whole dish left in the bunch."

Life wasn't all work on the ranch. Another *City Guard* story dated August 8, 1887 refers to Osburns. The paper had been damaged so that some words were incomplete. With those blanks the story reads as follows: "____ester Osburn has returned from Port____ where he has been since the excursion. ____ understand that a sister of Mrs. Os____ is visiting at the dairy. She hails from ____and. ____r. Alexander of Scotland who has been ____ing cheese for Mr. Osburn this summer ____ed for New Zealand the for (sic) part of the ____."

A second news item dated December 27, 1887 - dateline: Spencer Butte. "The Spencer Butte literary society meets Monday evenings at 7 and speeches made by some of the young people are wonderful indeed. At an election held last Monday the following persons were elected to hold office for the next four years: Pres. L. Parker; V. Pres. W. W. Dillard; Sec. *Bert Osburn*; Journalist, Theodore Renshaw; Assistant Journalist, W. W. Dillard."

Like many of their neighbors and other valley cattlemen, the Osburns pastured cattle in eastern Oregon during the summer months. The November 15, 1890 *City Guard* notes "Mr. Osburn brought his cattle in last week. The greater number are in better condition than the average cattle of the valley. He lost several head on the road and Johnny Hampton has gone after them for him."

Harry Taylor and his mother went to work on the Osburn ranch in 1893. Mrs.

Taylor helped with the milking and cheese making. Harry, a boy of 14, split rails for fence, then brought in the milk cows in time for evening chores. According to him Osburn pastured about 400 head.

He told about the time he helped Osburn trap a wild pig.

A WILD PIG STORY

“This sow was runnin’ loose, part of the stock that had got away from the early settlers and run wild for years. They lived on acorns and bracken root. We seen she was with pig, so we made a tight pole corral right about there where the barn sets (on the Riggs DLC). We baited the trap with corn. She’d sneak in and eat the corn when nobody was around. After about a week we was able to slip up and drop the gate and then we had her. We loaded her into a spring wagon with high sides on it, and hauled her over to the Osburn place. We’d made a pen there and dumped a couple wagon loads of oak leaves in for bedding. When we turned her loose in that pen she dived in under them leaves and we never seen her for about two weeks, but every morning the whey was gone. She had a nice litter of little porkers after a while and that bacon sure came in handy, ’cause that was a mighty hard winter — ’93.”

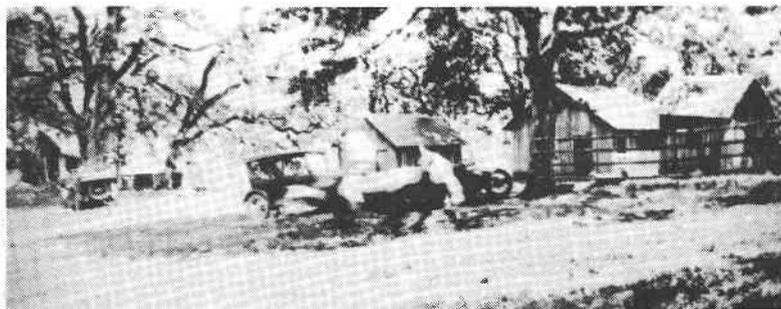
July 28, 1894 Mr. Osburn, aged about 65, sold his entire ranch to C. L. Roper for \$34,000 plus mortgages due to Mary

Walker. He lived out his years in the Troutdale area east of Portland. His wife celebrated her 88th birthday there May 15, 1930 according to the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* #3, P. 214.

Four of Alexander Osburn’s brothers also settled in Oregon. They were Billy, whose son Frank was the Osburn of Osburn and Delano Drug Store in Eugene; John, who donated the land where Oregon State University was built; Ed, who was employed in the Lane County Post Office; and Alfred, who settled near Albany.

The ranch south of Spencer Butte changed hands 8 times in the next few years, then was broken into 40 acre lots and dedicated as Porter Acres Subdivision in 1912. A Mr. Charles Sexton mortgaged the land to the Alliance Trust Company in Dundee, Scotland, for “\$4000 in gold coin to him in hand paid with interest at 10%” in 1900. Terms of the mortgage required that he “keep improvements in good repair and the present buildings insured against fire for \$500.”

About 25 years later Lawrence and Molly Christensen arranged to rent 300 acres from Eugene bankers Chambers and Snodgrass. After renting for seven years they bought the first of many parcels, gradually enlarging their holdings to exceed the acreage of the Osburn dairy which flourished from 1866 to 1894 on the sunny side of Spencer Butte.



First Christensen Brothers Rodeo (late 1920's). Osburn buildings in background. Note spectators in car.
— Courtesy Mrs. Henry Christensen

JOURNAL OF THE WEATHER

BY Jasper Wilkins

This handwritten diary was kept from March 26, 1880 through March 29, 1882. The original belongs to Grace Wilkins Clark, Coburg, Oregon. A copy has been given to the Pioneer Museum. (Ed.)



Jasper Wilkins



Clara Seavey Wilkins "Wid" — Courtesy Grace Wilkins Clark

excerpts —

March 26, 1880: Cloudy and rained by showers sowed two acres of oats north of house I cleaned tenn bush wheat Pa came from town went to a leap year party at Coburg there were two boys to every girl

27 — Snowed most all day from the south hauled 4 loads of manure from lower barn to garden then went up in hills & got an oak log for bolsters & single trees

28 Sunday — Snowed most of the forenoon Pa went to Wheelers Amos went to Millers the hounds ran out a deer Geo & Amos

gave chase Geo succeeded in getting as far as Wards

29 — Snow by showers from south west Pa went to lower place Amos Charley & I went to put up a levy to keep the watter off the oat ground

30 — Cloudy and rained a little all day Pa Charley & I went up in Murches Hills hunting run three deer in the rise just above the bride Amos and Albert worked Specks colt

31 — Cloudy Amos went to Eugene Charley and I went to work on a ditch north of the field to widen it out Geo M. come down at night

WILKINS FAMILY NAMES

Mitchell Wilkins, pioneer of 1847, homesteaded near Coburg (see HISTORIAN, Vol. VII, No. 1, p. 2-7)

m

Permelia Ann Allen Wilkins

Their children:

1. Marion m Emma
2. Jasper m Clara Alwilda Seavey in 1888
3. Amos m 1. Emma L. Pierce who d March 24, 1881
2. Virian Babb
4. Angeline m Sam Holt
5. Lida m Albert Bentley
6. Etta (Henrietta) m _____ Kays

Hired hands mentioned in the JOURNAL: Albert, Charley, Colins, Strange, Milt, Taylor.

April 1st — All Fools Day Cloudy Geo & I went to Harrisburg Pa & Charley fixed fence next to Murches & Charlie chopped in the eve Got home at 6 P.M. Addie B & Lou Cleavers wife were here they started home got out in the pasture when their horse got to kicking broke the shalves out & finally layed down and then they screamed for all that was out so Charley & I had to take them home got back at 9 P.M. Cloudy all day but no rain

2 — Rained most all day Pa went to F. G. Vughans shop and put a sight on the gun Amos fixed saddle Charley & I worked on slab and Bursted a log opened with powder nois equal to thunder

9 — Cloudy & rained some in eve We sowed wheat & oats till 5 P.M. took the sein and made a draw in the ditch & caught 28 nice fish Amoses & Holt folks came at 6 P.M.

10 — Cloudy wind from south west Rained in evening Marion Amos Charley & I went up on the hills and down on West Point got hom at noon 1:30 P.M. Got in hack & went to the Republican con 42 voters present Denham 30 T VanDuyne 29 Thompson 23 G. R. Ward 15 J. W. 27 so Denham Van-

duyn & I were elected to attend the Co. Convention on the 16th The wimen folks all went over to Mr Holts place got home at 5:30 P.M. Almon tree in full bloom

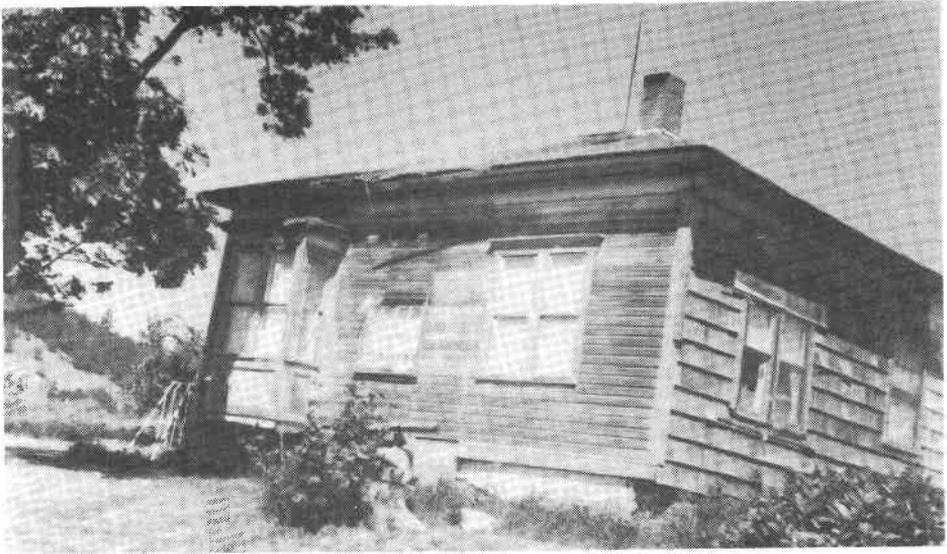
15 — Cloudy & raining I went to Eugene in the hack W. G. Vaughan went with me the Co Convention met in caucas at 7:00 P.M.

16 — Cloudy raining snowing and sunshine all at the same time The Convention met at 10 A.M. after selecting the various counties and adjourned until 1 P.M. I was elected to go to the State Convention

17 — Cloud cold raining & snowing Pa & Ma came home in the hack I and Marion Van (Amos & Charley went grousin but did not succeed) Duyne came home horse back the roads were very muddy

18 — Sunday Cloudy but nice and warm sunshined in the eve Etta Linna Charley Amos & I went to church the preacher failed to come so we came back & stopped at S.J.V. where we found Wards young folks had singing instruments music & a jolly time in general Jessie Simmons & wife came up on a visit and took home a pet lamb

May 11 — Rained May showers Charley



Jasper & Clara's first home as it appeared in 1967. This house was built by Jasper on Miller DLC, former home of Joaquin Miller.
 — Photo by Alice Forrester

hauled wood & I hunted cattle in forenoon went to Coburg in eve got a tub and spaying knife Amos came home

12 — Clear & nice in forenoon & rained in eve Amos & Charley went to River bottom and hauled a load of stock I hunted cattle in the fore noon We broke two fillys to lead Pa came home was elected president of the Quick Silver Mine The assessor was here & assessed us at \$9,125.00

13 — Rained most all day Charley cut wood in for noon we spaid four calves in the evening

June 3 — Cloudy & rained a little by showers this is the day that Chicago Convention meets to place before the people a man for the office of U.S. President Charley cultivated the meadow & Amos & I worked on road we all came home in the eve & found out Wards folks had been over to see us and us not at home

4 — Cloudy & warm Charley hauled gravel Amos and I pulled & brought cockel out of

the wheat & went to Dunhams & brought home 4 yearlings that got out & went back Etta & Albert went up in the hills and got ½ gallon of strawberries

15 — Clear with a few fog clouds in morning Pa & Amos went to Eugene horse back Charley & I taged sheep in the forenoon & I and All B Lida & Etta went to town in eve and attended the society reunion at night Pa went to the mines at Oakland

23 — Clear and pleasant Commenced shearing sheep Jas Taylor Wm Barger Charley & I sheared. Pa mowed in for noon sacked wool in evening Sheared 162 head I sheared 49

July 4 — Sunday clear & cool got up at 3 A.M. at 4:25 A.M. Amos Etta Charley & I started for the fairgrounds where we reached at 5 P.M.

5 — Clear & warm Grand Salute at Sun-rise by 10 A.M. there were about 20,000 people on the grounds two races came off in the afternoon grand display of fire works at

night I was with Miss M.R. and came near getting killed to many girls around me

6 — Cloudy & warm As I was Superintendent of Division P I spent the forenoon on the vegetable department George M. & I went to see the pedestrians

8 — Clear & cool wind from S.W. I was Superintendent on Division Y Equestrian-ship after selecting two Judges I then escorted Miss Ida May out to the grand stand and gave her a seat until after the ladies rode I then took a seat and we wated till after the races and then went to see the horses We then took dinner and I took Lida All & Rosa down to the boat and bade them adeax Charley came home on Spokane

24 — Clear & warm Amos & Charley took load of hay to Eugene from lower place Charley worked on harness in eve Nettie Willoughby & her mother spent the day here I reap grain till noon & went to R.R. meeting & stopped at Lodge and was installed as (V G)

Aug. 2 — Clear & cool Amos & Charley bound & shocked grain I and Albert went to Dunhams and got the separator I worked on it in the afternoon Pa went around to get subscriptions for the R.R.

6 — Clear & warm Amos Charley & Pa worked on header bed & power I went to G. J. Vaughans to reap barley the horses fell through the bridge

Sept 6, 1880 — Forgot what we done

12 — Sunday Clear & pleas Pa & Ma went to Eugene at 2 P.M. Wards folks & Geo M & Horace came over to spend the eve & eat watter mellon & black berries and have music and I want you to know we had fun

24 — Some floating clouds Amos & Charley worked in well I got cattle out of Millers place & hauled a load of rock for shed foundation Geo M & I went to the party at Eugene in the bugy

November 1 — Cloudy C.P. Wray started for home on the Herican deck of a Cayuse Amos went to Harrisburg bought a filly at the sale \$57 was the price Collins plowed and sowed oats & wheat I worked on vat Pa came home from mines

2 — Cloudy & rained most of the day My birthday & the day on which Jas A. Garfield was elected President of the U.S. Amos & Collins went to Harrisburg after the horse he bought I brought hom a load of lumber

3 — We went to lower place to fix for dipping sheep Pa went to Eugene Wash Vaughan came to get a cow fogy & cold

12 — Cold & fogy all day like to froze to death I took some lumber & 423 lbs of wool to Eugene got \$105.75 for it brought home load of flower also E. L. Pierce Colins & Amos hauled manure sowed oats & killed a deer Pa & Ma went to Eugene

25 — Thanksgiving day 1880 Cold & clear freezing all day in the shade ice 1 inch thick in the ditch Amos went to Wheelers after beef cow & drove sheep down home from Vaughans I went after a load of chop we gathered apples in the evening Kate & Bertie Steward came up & we all went to Coburg to a party — that night had a gay time 16 couples present Bert Willoughby & Coalman killed two cougars Pa came home from town

Dec. 16 — Clear & foggy killed 7 hogs in for noon. Colins Albert & I plowed in after noon Amos put a flore in the smoke house

17 — Clear & foggy for a portion of the day Amos Pa cut up the hogg & salted them down made sausage rendered lard Ete Colins Albert & I plowed

Jan 12, 1881 — Warm rain untill noon wind turned from north Amos & I went over and steaked the bridge down to prevent it from washing away Watter just going over the top Got after a deer in the eve but failed to get it River raised 5 or 6 feet at 7 P.M. The Boom broke and the logs began to scatter

13 — Foggy wind from the north Rained in the eve watter was higher than ever Hiram Smiths logs gone out of the mill race and also up the river 30 head of sheep drowned loss 10,000 dollars Pa went to lower place I moved rose bush in the after noon went to Office Amos & Em washed water higher than it has bin since 1861

17 — Cloudy & pleasant Rained a little in morning Pa & I started to town but failed to get across the river Amos & Albert hauled wood hounds run out a deer That old mule Jack died on the 17th 8 P.M. when he breathed his last He died at the ripe old age of 104 having outlived 3 generations of the human race

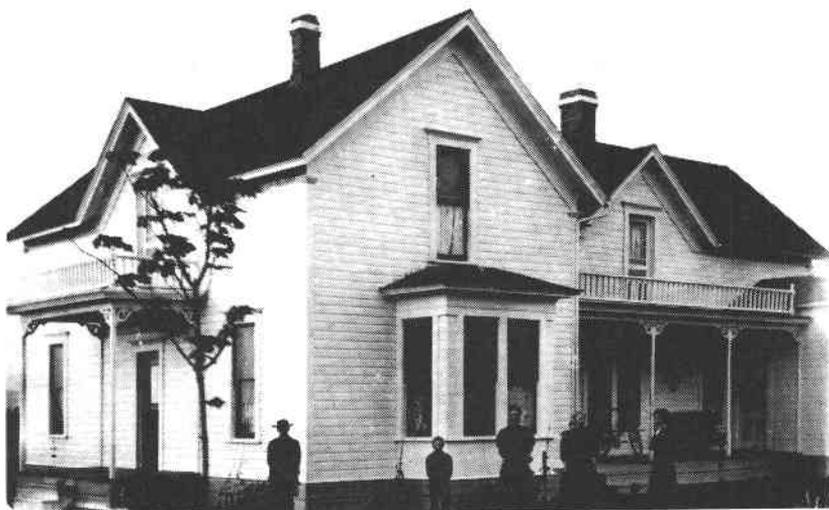
Feb. 7 — Clear with floating clouds Pa & I started to Eugene could not get across the river came back to T.J. Vaughans stopped to get dried squashes Pa left the horses & let them run away through the orchard broke the tong singletree harness & dashboard Got Vaughans wagon & came home Amos & Em washed Taylor mowed briers

Mar 10 — High floating clouds Taylor plowed broke the rod to Miller's plow Frank Coalman came after the hounds as a woolf was after the sheep I went with him but we got nothing I & Albert hauled rails in afternoon Pa went down to Independence on business

13 — Sunday nice & pleasant Sunshined most all day Taylor & I went up and brought colts down from Millers Sammy & An went home at 3 P.M. It was very cold in the eve wind from north Emma is out of her mind & is talking about everything.

19 — Foggy in the morning clear & pleasant sun shined all day Taylor sowed two acres of sod north of grove got done at dark Pa went to Eugene to the Grange meeting Dr. Shelton came in eve also Geo. M. Miller I went to lodge and got H. L. Thompson to go after Doctor Lockhart as Emma was a great deal worse.

24 — foggy and clear in for noon cloudy & rained in eve & at night at 11 ½ A.M.



Jasper Wilkins home, Coburg, about 1908. Mrs. Wilkins and their four children (l. to r.) Mitchell, Herman, Grace, Althea.
— Courtesy Alice Forrester

Emma breathed her last without a struggle she passed away and she now sweetly sleeps with Gesus Farewell Emma. Etta I went to Eugene & back after 2 p.m. Dr. Shelton & Mrs. Pearce went to town Taylor & Albert worked at field all day I sowed wheat till noon Mrs. Miller & Nettie Willoughby came also Burt W. Mattie Nettie Burt & I sat up all night We got from town at 9 P.M.

April 17 — Sunday cloudy and rained a little Jessie Simons brought horse home Taylor & Pa got after a deer George Miller came down and taken two colts home Amos Etta Linna went to the Masonic grave yard to the funeral of Alexander Somerville which was conducted by the Masons in splendid form some 800 being present

18 — Foggy & cloudy in morn clear in eve Frank Angie Linna & I went to Eugene Frank came back I stayed to attend Court Amos & Albert went up in the hills to look after the horses Geo M went with them Pa went to see about the narrow gage R R

19 — Cloudy all day & rained some I was selected on the jury to try John M. Cartwright for murder (this bracketed had been crossed out — had to stay in jury room all night & till P.M. of the next day and then did not agree) Amos Etta Ma & Geo Miller went to Harrisburg Taylor & Albert sowed 1 acre of wheat over again took down 6 chickens Pa came home

21 — Cloudy most of the day The grand jury was discharged till Monday Court adjourned & all of the lawyers and Judges went to the funeral of Joseph Lane the first governor of Oregon territory I came home with Lee Smith Amos & Taylor was breaking horses

July 30 — Cloudy part of the day Amos Elic & Pa went to Eugene Ma came home with them I and Albert fixed fence around meadow I went over to see the chinamen work on RR then to Coburg also to Lodge Board & Skinner joined the lodge

Sept 9 — Clear & cool We sawed 16 cords of wood I went to Harrisburg in the eve The warehouse burned with 10,000 bush wheat

27 — Clear & pleasant Amos & I went down & put up Emmas tomb stone came by lower place & got some apples & pears We went down to Markses and bought 300 bushels of oats at 25 cts Etta & Albert washed

Oct 6 — Cloudy & pleasant Elic & Albert plowed I went down to Dinwadies paid him \$40.00 on oats Came by the narrow gage RR Pa & I got out Coalmans sheep & got cows & horses out of field Pa Elic & Albert went coon hunting

15 — Cold foggy & raining from north for a while it almost cleared off Pa & I went to Eugene to attend the Indignation meeting for the purpose of having the tax rates reduced from 20 to 16 mills a resolution was passed unanimously Amos & Elic broke young filly to ride fixed barn door

Jan 13, 1882 — Clear & froze Amos made ax handle Elic put in sled tongue in for noon We all went up to Lewis place and cut a bee tree and brought home a load of wood doggs caught a deer in Millers pasture

Feb 2 — cloud cold & foggy Al & I went out in hills after a load of wood I killed a peasant had 2 ducks for dinner Amos Albert & three of Rawbols went up and hauled out some post timber Elic went up home F.G. Vaughans wife got killed

March 4 — Snow 4 inches deep all over the valley clear & foggy in fornoon cloudy & warm in eve snow all gone on level ground & foot hills Amos & I went to lower place and got cattle down out of hills in to lower place Albert feed beef cattle & went to Coburg after mail We set out 7 plum trees south of the house

17 — Cold snowing raining & ever thing else to be disagreeable and tough on stock

Amos & I went to lower place sold Wil-loughbies 4 ton hay at 40 dollars cleaned & viraled wheat in after noon

28 — Almost clear wind from south we took the waggon & all went to lower place got out some stake timber & hauled some poles I nailed up fence so we come home Spokan got loose from Amos & run away &

stayed out all night with the saddle on so Amos had to walk home

29 — Clear & pleasant we sowed 6 acres wheat Amos went up in hills & found Spokan feeding around we fixed up the saw & caught 27 fish Thompson came up and took a hand he took home 8 Amos went up to Millers & took two



SOLONS OF OREGON

The Statesman, Undated, possibly 1892 (Part of special insert describing members of the State Legislature for the current session).

Hon. Jasper Wilkins

. . . . He was born November 2, 1850 on his father's donation land claim, ten miles northeast of Eugene, near Coburg received his first schooling in Linn County, walking three and a fourth miles to school; afterwards attending school at the Vanduyn school house, near Coburg, three months out of each year. In the fall of 1870 he entered Christian College (now the State Normal School), at Monmouth, remaining there that winter. The summer of 1871 Mr. Wilkins spent about the head of Crooked River, in Eastern Oregon as a chain carrier on government surveys for J. M. Dick of Lane County. The following winter he again spent in Christian college, and in the spring of 1872, while yet in school, received the nomination on the republican ticket for county surveyor, and was elected by 108 majority. Mr. Wilkins received a contract for surveying government land from Surveyor

General W. H. Odell, and spent the summer of 1872 in the same country where he had carried chain the year before early in 1874 he graduated from the commercial college in Portland For several years after this Mr. Wilkins looked after the farm, did odd jobs of surveying, etc. Mr. Wilkins was a delegate to the Republican state convention in 1880, 1882, 1884 and 1886. On February 1, 1888, Mr. Wilkins was married to Miss C. A. Seavy, of Lane County, and their home is blessed with two children. Their home is now two miles northeast of Coburg, on the old Miller place, on what is known in Joaquin Miller's poems as "Sunny Ridge." Their house occupies the exact spot where stood the boyhood home of the "Poet of the Sierras." He had several times refused a nomination for the legislature, but in 1890 accepted and was elected by 112 majority. At the last June contest he was re-elected by 350 majority."

BOOK REVIEW

Cottage Grove, Oregon

GOLDEN WAS THE PAST, and GOLDEN WAS THE PAST SUPPLEMENT 1850 - 1970

Review by Milt Madden

Prepared by the Writer's Discussion Group, Sentinel Print Shop, 1970, 204 pp.

An admirable example of a community's efforts to write and publish local history, *Golden Was the Past* provides the reader a plethora of information about the Cottage Grove area. This volume is the product of a local group of interested townfolk and contains the writings of over two dozen community members.

The book is bound in paper and is divided into four sections: early settlement, human interest, industry, and outlying communities. Photographs and line drawings comprise the illustrations in the work.

It is of interest to see the various writing styles in the volume and to note the commonality as revealed in their apparent love of subject.

The style is not flowery. In fact, this reader found the clean, simple sentences almost a distraction. Many of the pages are plainly reminiscences of early residents, and these memories seem to be unencumbered by either complicated syntax or descriptive materials. It is as if memories would recall certain specifics but would balk at copious detail. The one to three sentence paragraph seems to be the rule.

The articles or chapters are short and vary from less than half a page to over a dozen pages. "Early Settlement" includes the Indians, the coming of the railroads, and various area rivalries — including those over the name of the town, its location, and competition for a county seat.

The "Human Interest" section, the most lengthy, contains biographical materials, the community's involvement in mining gold, religion, the arrival of the airplane and many more items rich in local color.

"Industry" runs the gamut from "hotel" to "printing" and "blacksmiths" to the "Village Green." "Outlying Communities" ventures into the surrounding mini-communities, past and present, from Dorena to Silk Creek.

Necessary to the reader is the supplement to the book, bearing the same title, twenty-five more short articles and most important, an index to both volumes. In addition, it contains a foldout map of the area, corrections of the first book, and a chapter of "things to see in the Cottage Grove area" which will be welcomed by those new to the region.

In summary, then, these are two delightful additions to the growing numbers in local history. It is to be hoped that projects such as these will be encouraged and supported in many more Oregon communities.

Editorial Comment on FOURTH and MADISON

My apology to retiring editor Pete Peterson who promised LCH readers the entire text of FOURTH and MADISON, History of the Eugene Vocational School, by David Butler. The book is available in the circulation department of Lane Community College under call No. LD 6501, L 35, B8, and is for sale at the LCC information desk @ \$2.00 or at Mike O'Brien's Living Room Bookstore at the 5th Street Market for \$2.25.

One reader informs us that she attended school at the Geary School in 1891 after watching its construction during the previous summer.

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Your Lane County Historical Society is entirely sustained by membership dues and contributions which are fully tax deductible. Hence, we earnestly encourage present gifts and contributions, devises and bequests under Wills and other forms of deferred giving such as by use of trusts and life insurance policies. For such deferred giving, your attorney should be consulted.

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"I devise and bequeath to the Lane County Historical Society my[specific item or items.]"

WILD LETTUCE TREAT

(From a taped interview 2-23-1976 with Elsie Swaggart Sutton who has Applegate and Goodpasture family connections.)

"In the spring of the year in burned-over land wild lettuce came up, and we gathered it to eat. It was a slender-stemmed plant with a dish-like leaf . . . My mother would fix bacon drippings, sugar, vinegar and cream dressing which she heated to pour over the wild lettuce after it had been cleaned and some chopped green onions added. Then she let it stand, covered, on the back of the stove to wilt. We all loved this wild lettuce and was anxious for it to come in the spring. The recipe was handed down from previous generations."

Measurements for the dressing could be adapted from this recipe for . . .

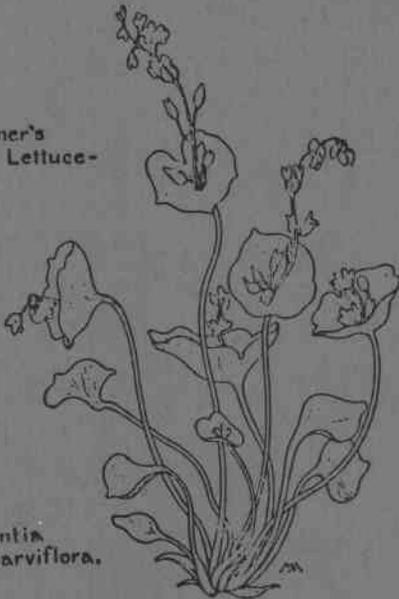
WILTED DANDELION GREENS

N. Y. Times Cookbook, 1961 ed.

1 quart shredded dandelion greens or lettuce
4 strips bacon, diced
2 teaspoons sugar
½ teaspoon salt
dash of freshly-ground peppercorns
¼ teaspoon dry mustard

Wash and chop greens to bite size. Place in large bowl. Cook bacon till crisp. Add remaining ingredients, heat and stir until sugar is dissolved. Pour over greens. Serve. Makes 3 to 4 servings.

Miner's
Lettuce-



Montia
parviflora.

"The Indians gathered these plants for salad . . . It is common in orchards or vineyards and in shady places in foothills and canyons, and has long been cultivated in England for salad. Oregon miners gather it just below the snowline in the Cascade Mountains. Also called Indian Lettuce and Squaw Cabbage." *Field Book of Western Wildflowers*, Margaret Armstrong, Putnam's Sons, 1915.

Lane County Historical Society
90901 Coburg Road
Eugene, Oregon 97401

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