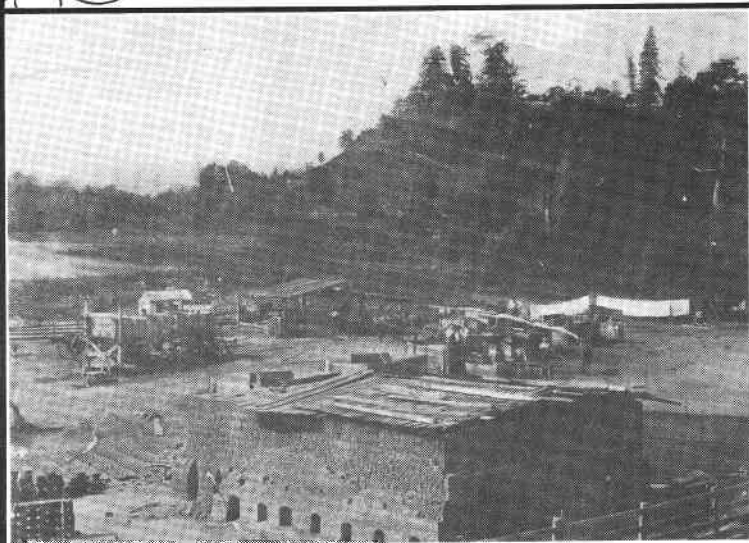
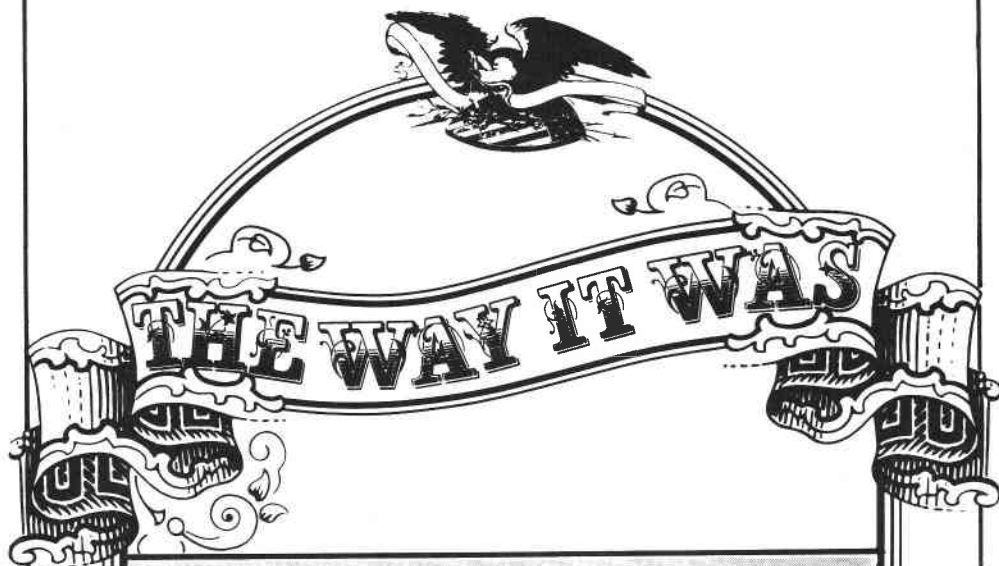


Lane County Historian



The Wallace brickyard east of Mount David began operations in 1891 and supplied much of the brick for the present Main Street commercial buildings.

The Lane County Historical Society

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LANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Cottage Grover Creamery, 1907. l to r Edith Stiller (Mrs. F.G.), Robert A. (Bert) Trask with cream can, Frank G. Stiller inside, Abigail Trask (Mrs. Smith S.) Courtesy Dove Trask.



COTTAGE GROVE CREAMERY

MAKERS OF

Red Rose Brand

BUTTER AND ICE CREAM

COTTAGE GROVE, OREGON

This Red Rose brand was registered with Oregon Secretary of State February 4, 1914. It appeared on cream checks paid to farmers as well as on butter and ice cream packages from the Creamery. Courtesy Burdick Trask.

HISTORY OF COTTAGE GROVE CREAMERY

— 1904—1951 —

by Dove M. Trask

The Chamber of Commerce was thrilled at a February meeting in 1904 to report the possibility of a creamery for Cottage Grove. By 1905 the business had become a reality. The man to begin this venture was F.G. Stiller.

Mr. Stiller was of Dutch descent and lived in the dairy country around the Great Lakes states. He graduated from an Agriculture School and was interested in a creamery at Elk River, Minnesota. There he met and married Edith Nickerson of that village. Around the turn of the century they came west to the Portland area. There Mr. Stiller rode a bike out into the surrounding country soliciting cream for a large creamery business. With his characteristic thrift he saw the possibility of a creamery for himself, and in 1905 came to Cottage Grove to establish the first business of this kind in town.

The first building was on Silk Creek,

just across the creek and north of the Flour Mill. They built a dwelling on what is now River Road. The place is now owned by Mrs. Sam Tucker.

Later the creamery had a new build-



Frank G. Stiller who brought a creamery to Cottage Grove in 1905. Courtesy Dove Trask.

ing located at 7th and Whiteaker Streets about 1908. There a two story building was erected. This had the shape of a large square building with a rectangular addition on the east for the steam engine with which to operate the machinery and for wood storage of which it took a great quantity. There was an apartment above the main part of the building where the Stillers lived. Mrs. Stiller did the office work as well as serving in other capacities.

Raymond S. Trask, a nephew, had come west by this time and became interested in the business. In 1909 the S.S. Trask family arrived from Minnesota. Mrs. Stiller and Mrs. Trask were sisters. By 1913 F.G. Stiller left Cottage Grove to establish a creamery business at Newport, Oregon on the coast. Raymond S. (Ray) Trask became the owner of the creamery in Cottage Grove.

In the creamery building located at Seventh and Whiteaker Streets the making of ice cream was added to the production. Buttermilk to drink, cook with or feed to hogs, which was a by-product of most creameries, was sold very reasonably for five cents a gallon or given away. By 1925 the creamery was again moved, this time to Eighth and Whiteaker Streets where S.L. Godard had erected a new tile block building for Ray Trask. Ice cream making was continued in the new location and became an important part of the creamery's work. A cold room with heavy sawdust-filled walls and a refrigeration plant had been added to the Seventh and Whiteaker building. The Red Rose brand of ice cream was made from scratch. No mix was used for years. This was done only shortly before

Ray Trask retired. This product had an exceptionally fine reputation in and around Cottage Grove. Butter and ice cream were taken to Drain, Yoncalla, Elkton and Creswell, at least once a week.

Cream was gathered by truck from the farmers up the Coast Fork, to London and the Shoe String country, Row River, Mosby Creek as well as down the river as far as Creswell. Long before home freezers came in, walnuts and several kinds of fresh fruit were kept in the coldroom to be added to the various flavors of ice cream. In cooler weather 50 gallons of ice cream were made per week, but in warmer months and times of special days that much was made daily, six days a week. This was stored in the sharp room to harden. Much of it was put in 5 gallon cans which were lined with a heavy paper and delivered to special functions, picnics and parties just when and where you wanted it. Many of the older residents of Cottage Grove will no doubt remember having perhaps a joint of venison stored in the creamery sharp room, always on a gratis basis.

The large refrigeration system which froze the fruit and nuts, made the ice, and stored the ice cream used anhydrous ammonia under high pressure as refrigerant, for it is more efficient than the almost odorless freon used in the usual "home type" refrigeration units. Anhydrous ammonia is neither odorless nor tasteless, as anyone who has used household ammonia for cleaning can attest! When on one occasion the high pressure system developed a bad leak and the wind was right it cleared the Cottage Grove Hotel much more rapidly than any fire alarm. No injuries were



Second creamery building, 7th and Whiteaker Streets. Courtesy Dove Trask.

reported and the pungent ammonia soon dissipated in the spring breeze. In fact, there were those who claimed it helped to clear their sinuses.

When the last move — to the third building for the Cottage Grove Creamery — was completed, a brine type of freezer was part of the up-dated equipment. Ice was made in large cakes of about 200 pounds. The large cans of ice were lifted out of the brine freezing unit, cut and placed in the cold room to be sawed into smaller pieces for delivery to the housewife for her ice-box refrigerator. This came into her home by the help of a man with large tongs. Sometimes ladies had a standing order for the iceman to keep the box filled. Others ordered as they wished, and when homemade ice cream was on order the ice was supplied by the man with

the large tongs. One could go to the creamery and buy the size of ice block he wished.

The large churn would make as much as 400 or 500 pounds of butter at a time. This was lifted and packed into wooden boxes, and later was cut into 80 pounds of butter from one box. It was then wrapped by hand with the Red Rose brand on each paper. At the later date, before the creamery closed, a few quarter pounds were supplied on request.

Terry Mooney worked for Ray Trask for fourteen and a half years. By then the Trask boys were able to help with the heavy work. They helped with the cream pickup as well as delivery. The older son acquired his butter maker's license. There were many exciting experiences along the creamery routes,



Raymon S. Trask, nephew of Edith Stiller, who managed and later bought the creamery. Courtesy Burdick Trask.

but since the boys are not here to testify, it had better be left untold.

Kathleen Allen Mooney worked there two years and in 1923 married Terry Mooney. Other girls who helped in the office, and wrapped many pounds of butter were Frances Cox Lamb. Lois Compton Leonard, Gene Allison Puckett, Berniece Whitsett Crabb, May Wilson, Lela Ferguson Bennett and Elsie Chestnut. This was a summer job often times, but there is no doubt they enjoyed the good ice cream which came from the freezer soft and spread over with delightful fresh fruits and nuts helped compensate for hard work. Herman Scott was buttermaker for a year and a half.

The R.A. (Bert) Trasks lived in the apartment in the building on Seventh and Whiteaker Streets for a few months, while awaiting the renovation

of a property on Quincy Avenue. Two interesting experiences came about. The first was Bert's attempt to put a car up on the second floor, over the old boiler room. He wished to work on the engine of the 4 cylinder Buick as well as make a new top, one which would fold back. The first thing was to get the car up there. There being no way to lift heavy equipment in those days, the best way was to drive it up, so he thought. He constructed a temporary ramp up to the top of the shed roof, backed the car off to get it in line and started up. Before he could reach the level which he was seeking it was out of his sight. Not having any extra width in which to maneuver he put on the brakes. This kicked the planks out from under the car and down it went, driver and all. Fortunately it landed right side up. The noise and commotion brought the usual town kibitzers on the run. No damage was found, just Bert standing there with eyes as startled and wide opened as an owl at midnight.

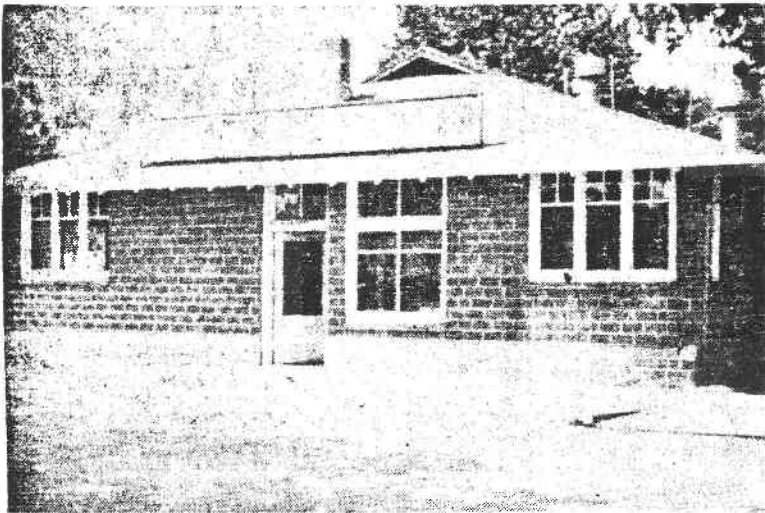
The other incident was when their baby son had a severe cold. The nurse, sister-in-law, had cautioned them to keep the room air warm and protect the baby from any draft. Therefore a fire was kept in the fireplace three days and nights. The third day the wife began to complain about smoke. The answer always came, "You are imagining that. There is a little piece of wood sticking out I expect." This kind of discussion continued all through the evening, the wife being more sure she could even see smoke, but another reasonable excuse came. During the following night smoke could really be seen she knew, but Bert was sleeping away. Watching over the baby often she kept looking for that

"stick" which was causing the problem. By daylight she was at the crib again. This time she had evidence, her bare foot stuck in hot paint on the floor. As she stooped to get the paint off her foot she was little trails of smoke coming up from the cracks in the flooring. These looked like the smoke from a passing train. There now was no doubt about the source of the smoke. She shook the protester vigorously and declared there really was smoke and look for himself. He rose to look through his legs as he sat on the side of the bed. The answer was, "Well, there really is smoke." Then he got his hat, put it on, lit his pipe and went into the front room and set a fire in a little stove in there. This was to keep the room air warm! By this time the wife was frantic, dragging the baby bed out, getting buckets of water, calling a boy who slept in the front bedroom. It was difficult to get him awake. In her haste she kept calling and pulling covers to get him out. He hung

on to the blankets. Unknown to her he was sleeping "in the raw" and was really awake by now, but did not want to shock her by jumping out of bed.

At this junction she called brother-in-law Ray Trask, his response was "Don't get water in my sawdust wall". This was the wall over which the fireplace set. She assured him he had better get there soon. She had gone down into the creamery room and saw where the wall of the cold room was bulging and smoke was coming out through those cracks. The sawdust was not only wet but burning. As soon as the fire could get a draft the whole thing would go up in smoke. Ardie Ebby, the boy who slept in the front bedroom, ran for the hose cart (fire department) and had it ready for use by the time Bert Trask had cut a hole in the floor to get at the fire. There were timbers in that building which were pure charcoal.

These were the days of do-it-yourself in any emergency.



—Sentinel Photo

Red Block building put up for Ray Trask in 1925, from unidentified news clipping furnished by Burdick Trask.

BLUE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL, DISTRICT #31

— 1860—1982 —

by Dian Missar

President, Cottage Grove Historical Society

On January 16, 1860, 10 years after the first settlers came into the area, School District #31 paid \$3.00 to John W. and Rebecca A. Richardson for one acre of land in the shadow of Blue Mountain, eight miles east of Cottage Grove out Mosby Creek Road. Even the creek name was as fresh as its mountain waters, since David Mosby had built his log cabin and weathered his first winter in 1852. (The creek's earlier name was Brumbaugh River, for Samuel Brumbaugh). Some of the earliest homesteaders up the creek were John Allen, William Spong, George Downes, Billy Griggs, George Lowry, Bona Patten, John Gray, John Neat, Elmer Lee, Jack Brumbaugh, the Millers, the Licketys, and John Palmer whose place was the farthest out, on the fourth ford across the creek from Cottage Grove.

By 1877 School District #31 had its own one room log cabin, a school to be known through three reconstructions and 105 years as Blue Mountain School. Dates known for other schools nearby are Latham School, 1853; Currin School, 1855; Shields/Walker School, 1862; Cottage Grove primary 1880 and high school, 1892; and London School, 1890.

In 1884 Carrie Downes (Mrs. George Layng) crossed Mosby Creek on a single "foot log" and went to school for four months of the year. In 1980, the *County Superintendent's Record of Annual Reports* described amended boundaries of District #31. The rough map shown leaves to the imagination the

density of virgin timber ridge to ridge, all subject to State Timber Tax of which a regular portion was dedicated for rural school support. Also on July 21, 1890, District #31 leased 2½ acres from John and Mary Neat. At the end of school, March, 1890, an attendance of 13 was recorded and the value of the building and grounds was \$12.50. The next spring property value was \$150.00, suggesting a new school building. Faye Hampton Robertson was the teacher in 1906 and later wrote:

"The old schoolhouse was built out of rough lumber and single construction. I recall I could sweep the dirt through one inch cracks in the floor. I did my own sweeping and built the fires, except when some of the youngsters did it for me. We got our drinking water out of Schoolhouse Creek, just north of the school, and I recall taking a walk one day and discovering a dead cow a few yards above where we were getting our water. I boarded with Mrs. Anna Lyons who lived one mile further south of the school. She had three bachelor brothers (Tim, Rufus and Gill) and a widowed sister (Sara Rollins), and we had quite lively discussions on politics, etc. I have often thought about my first day at the school. There was a boy named Homer Patten who brought a .22 revolver to school the first day. He wanted to impress the boys and on the way home pressed the gun to his

head and said, 'Watch me shoot myself!' He hadn't known there was one bullet, and he did shoot himself. Fortunately it didn't kill him. But in those days there were no telephones up that way, and it was very muddy. It was several hours before a doctor arrived."

Mrs. Robertson went to Eugene to teach from 1913-1952. Her landlord Annie Lyons, had taught before her, in the original log school. Teacher Minnie Comber is pictured at the new structure with the class of 1905. The rough building was situated in front of the Neats house, the site of the present buildings.

The house was empty by 1910 and was soon burned in a careless fire.

The pranks and practicalities of the early school are fresh in the memories of octogenarians Arnold and Violet Duerst. Arnold started at Blue Mountain School in 1908 and is pictured with Roxie Pringle's barefoot class of 1910, in front of the third school building. Sturdy and always painted white, it stood the next 50 years. Violet came in 1913 as an eighth grade student. The Duersts' school day went from 9 to 4 in all weather. Everyone walked, the farthest coming two miles across hills and on forest trails. In the winter dark-



The first Blue Mountain School on the present site, 1906, shows rough construction of a one-room building. Mrs. Harry Castle, Mosby Creek correspondent for the *Sentinel* has succeeded in naming some of the people in the picture. Standing, l-r on steps: Myrtle Hubble, Nellie Patten, Minnie Comber (teacher), Grank Lee, Ivy Allison, Edith Brunbaugh in white blouse, Bob Wiscarson, Arthur Patten and Delbert Hubble. The girl in white seated on the steps is Dale Groves. Her brother is on her left. Leaning against the steps is Willie Brumbaugh. Minnie Brumbaugh is in the white pinafore. Next boy is Ernest Lee. In white, Gladys Lee. Small boy next to end is Tom Patten. Others not identified. School pictures courtesy Dian Missar.

ness the children shared coal-oil lanterns. Arnold walked barefoot in the snow or rain: if you carried your shoes and socks you could put them on warm and dry after thawing your feet at the school stove. There was singing some mornings in the 15 minute opening exercises, the high school and primary together around an organ which two girls could play. Other mornings everyone gave "memory gems" recitals. Lessons were worked quietly at your desk and drilled by the teacher who called each age group in turn to work at the blackboard. Around 10, if the tiredness of the morning walk was showing, some napped. At noon everyone opened their "lunch buckets" except Violet who opened her "dinner pail" as it was called in her Minnesota home; a bucket would always be a huge wooden container to her! For the lunch hour the school grounds were boundless as the boys ran off for a chase game called "Dog and Deer" or went skinny dipping in the pooled creek. The girls preferred a picnic clearing where the trees hung heavy with long strands of moss which they draped into woodland rooms. Through the long afternoon of learning the schoolhouse windows offered changing vistas for distraction. Seasonally Everett McCoy would be across the road logging with his trained bull, Buck, and the sounds of saws in the woods around meant families were always nearby working. When the school bell was rung to end the day, it told the children's time to the whole valley and kept family and neighbor in a common daily rhythm. The history of the bell is pieced together: the Duersts corroborate what the photographs show, that the bell probably came at the time of the high

school in 1913. No bell tower is pictured before then.

In 1913 a one-room addition was built to house a high school, the pride of parents whose own education had stopped at fifth or eighth grade. Violet was in the first class and did a full course that included biology in the up-to-date laboratory, typing in the cloak room so it wouldn't disturb the others, and German lessons. Expensive microscopes and typewriters were never denied, whether the class had 3 or 16 pupils. In the case of Blue Mountain "remote" meant rich. The school budget included substantial State Timber Tax money paid by Booth-Kelly Lumber Company whose virgin timber surrounded the isolated homesteaders and made up most of District #31. All the allotted funds had to be spent each year or the extra be returned to the State. Saul T. Rose took the high school in 1924 and recalls he could order anything, best quality, without question. He was as thrilled as the parents on the School Board to offer an enviable academic environment; when called to defend its credentials as a two-year high school by the four-year school in Cottage Grove, he was successful.

It is Violet's opinion that "... pupils learned better in the small schools out in the country because the emphasis was on the basics. We didn't have all the outside activities. It was all just pure school work and that's why what we did get, we got good!" She recalls little socializing among the teens during the school day, when "everyone was just chums and friends". Once Arnold brought his harmonica to school and at noon the older pupils met in the woodshed to sing along. They got going on

"Skip to My Lou", didn't hear the bell, and remember to this day being embarrassed to be walked back in by the principal, right in front of the primary children.

Sports meant everyone choosing up sides for most games. In 1925 Saul Rose coached some basketball and baseball, as did his brother, Phineas, who was principal of Walden School four miles west. Their good natured rivalry brought about more inter-school competition than usual for the long distance between: "We beat 'em!" Saul says.

Parties and dances were held Saturday nights around at the parents homes. Arnold and Violet had their Saturdays together until 1917 when Violet graduated and entered Lynx Business College in Portland. There she boarded and worked two years at the Altenheim Rest Home for German people, and even used some of her Blue Mountain German. She was working there the day World War I ended, but the young employees' spirited celebration was silenced because the old German people had mixed loyalties to their defeated homeland. Portland was exciting, but the mountain and Arnold called her home to marry. Their five children attended Blue Mountain School during 1930-1950.

Community life came to center at the school and around the children. The Community Church was a second, later bond, being built in 1908 by Elmer Lee opposite the Brumbaugh Cemetery. Through the 1930s depression years the school was the vital link of solutions with problems. Erma Myers Green recalls 1931 as a seventh grader:

"When my sister Ila and I did the janitor work, we received \$8.00 a

month and this was in warrants as the District was in bad shape financially. We found an older doctor in Cottage Grove who cashed them for us. You got quite a few groceries for that amount then. We took three warrants and bought a young cow that was milking from Arnold and Violet Duerst so we could have milk, butter, cream and cottage cheese one winter and for many more winters. One family with 5 children had it especially hard — sometimes they would have only popcorn in their lunch pails. We would sometimes take them home with us for lunch. We didn't have much either, but our parents always seemed happy to share."

In spring, 1933, high school at Blue Mountain was discontinued and for several years the older pupils had to complete the compulsory four years as they could. That first fall Erma boarded with a cousin to the north in order to attend tiny Walker High School; Fall 1934, Erma and Ila boarded with their grandmother in town and attended Cottage Grove High; Fall 1935, Erma "patched them back and forth" in a car over the rough gravel road that tore up a car tire weekly; and in Fall, 1936 — their graduation year — the first school bus came. Actually it was half-a-school-bus, as the town shop had crudely cut and welded off the back half to accommodate the small load and the bad road. The embarrassing thing was called "the Hootenany".

About 1936 primary teacher Emma Gregory started a school lunch program to insure the children had one substantial meal a day. Families sent donations and teachers were known to

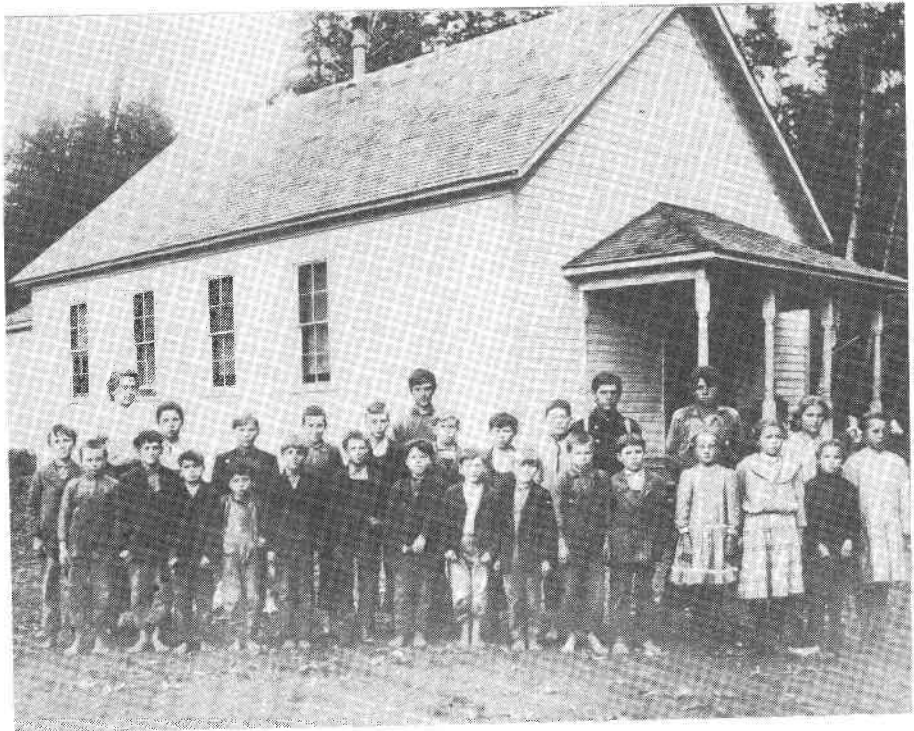
bring meat now and then. Once a week Mrs. Gregory started the stew pot and parents sent cleaned vegetables along that day. There was plenty of extra milk from the neighbors, too. In the fall the boys picked apples, and mothers made time for extra canning of beans and fruit on the school wood stove. The position of school cook was added then, and the neighborhood women who took the job over the years came to be trained in nutrition and mass feeding as state standards for protein content, food safety, etc., came into being. Berta McGuire Jarrard remembers the mark of a resourceful cook was to plan a meal for all ages so that what the fussy little ones wouldn't eat, the growing big ones would hungrily devour. "Empty jello" was everyone's favorite! About 1940 government surplus food came to supplement the lunch program although the Mother's Club continued with menu planning and fund raising for additional food. The first government commodities were dried foods or bulk foods that could be kept in cool storage sheds. Early powdered milk solidified regularly into unusable blocks, and pounds of butter soured in storage although there was a trick to disguising the strong taste. Berta hid sacks of bulgar in the hamburger as extender but the kids found it. Then she created a roll with bulgar added that was tasty and popular. Canned commodities came next replacing the "unsafe" home canned goods. When frozen foods, including meat, was available, they purchased a freezer. Berta's mother, Mrs. Henry (Gladys) Castle, wrote the Mosby Creek column for the *Sentinel* for years, and her scrapbooks are a great resource.

In 1940 all rural high schools were absorbed into the newly built Cottage Grove Union High School. In 1944 the community men strung the wires to bring electricity out from town to their lantern-lit homes and school. Still the new electric refrigerator at school stood next to the wood cook stove, and the fathers and sons kept the woodshed full as ever. Water was piped inside when Arnold Duerst directed a group of men in developing a spring on the property. Later they dug a well and encountered their first problems with poisonous arsenic water. Oil for heat and cooking came about 1948, last to come were indoor toilets (in 1961!)

The time of the tin cup dipped in Schoolhouse Creek had to end: it was the 1950s — everything was "modern" and the timber boom was on. Mosby Creek became a log pond upstream and heavy trucks and dust flew along its banks during the school day. Still, on June 19, 1952, the *Sentinel* wrote:

"The school is located in a setting which no Hollywood scenarist could improve. Majestic Blue Mountain looks down on the small white school with its adjoining kitchen and lunchroom, rest room facilities and enclosed gymnasium. The whine of saws from the area's logging activities can be heard, and now the newly completed tracks extending the Oregon, Pacific and Eastern Railroad run past the school."

This "Mosby Creek branch" was installed to carry as many as 150 car loads of Booth-Kelly logs *daily* past the school during the areas logging peak. By 1965 the number of rail carloads had dropped to 60-90 a day with labor costs making railroad transfer more expen-



The second Blue Mountain school (1910-1961). Teacher - Hoxie Pringle. Back row l-r: Tommy Patten, Arnold Duerst, Charles Allen, Nelson Whipps, Charles Whipps (tall one), Oakley McGuire, Charles Wiscarson, Leston Downes, Goerge Duerst, Bob Wiscarson, Rose Duerst. Front row l-r: Arthur Gilbert, Maxwell Whipps, Vernon Whipps, Herbert McGuire, Clifford Wiscarson, Johnny Gilbert, Ray Patten, Kenneth Wiscarson, Frank Miller, Vernon Gilbert, Clifford Allen, Clifford McGuire, Owen Mooney, Louise Duerst, Rose Ellen McGuire, Bessie Mooney.

sive. In 1970, after 18 good years, the OP&E run stopped and the tracks were torn out. Torn down, too, was the familiar white schoolhouse.

City politics and country politics were thick around the issue of consolidating city and rural school districts. "The old Blue Mountain building won't stand many more years," went the argument. "Don't take our timber money — let us build a new one" came the answer. The local school board made the clever decision three years before anticipated consolidation to legally save timber funds in a new building account. In spring 1960 the

neighbors dismantled the wood building and took the pieces of wood and memories home. In June, Umpco Construction of Roseburg put up a solid cement block two room building for \$40,629, and school opened only two weeks late that September. Would it buy them release from the 1961 consolidation? No.

It did buy 21 years more school time, but it was different — buzzer time, not bell time. The last School Board of District #31 had the architect design a special tower for the old bell, but buses and buzzers kept local and outsider mixing and moving and the bell

couldn't keep up. After-hours use was stopped then because of janitor schedules. The community center was gone for good. The subtle link between education and community is commented on by Miriam Howell and son, Tom Howell, an earlier student and a present parent. Miriam writes:

"The new building wasn't much warmer than the old one. No one on the creek wanted it. The old school had cracks that let in fresh air. It was heated with a wood stove which necessitated a woodshed, boys to split wood and haul it, and other chores that taught them if they wanted to be strong and have muscles, they should use them. In country schools children grow up knowing how to read, write and

factor and also what to do with their hands and feet besides getting into trouble."

Tom writes:

"Picture it for yourself. All the children in this small area associated with one another on a daily basis. Kids communicate. If John Doe comes to school in ratty clothes and leaky shoes, the kids notice ... living conditions were common knowledge among the children and were passed on at home to the rest of the family. There were both advantages and disadvantages to this arrangement. There might have been some gossip and a bit of meddling, but there were fewer people who were lonely and uncared for. Everyone had a place in the community



Blue Mountain school classes, 1952, with Principal Louise Wiskendoll, cooks Berta McGuire and Mona Moore. Building torn down 1961.

and acted that way. Then the school changed and the foundation of understanding and cooperation was destroyed. Could a neighbor starve and no one know? Then, no. Now, perhaps. It is not that no one would care ... it is just that no one would know. How did such a change come to pass?

"It started when local School Boards were centralized into one, district wide. Before, Board members were next door neighbors; suddenly they were remote, authoritarian, claiming to know the best for your children. Before, your vote and opinion meant something; now they seemed diluted, drowned in the clamor of the crowd. Parents felt they were no longer needed, and teachers no longer felt the necessity to be as responsive to parents since they answered to the School Board. Responsibilities formerly taken by parents such as school maintenance came under the jurisdiction of professionals. Parental participation in the school's everyday life declined.

"Then came perhaps the cruelest blow when, for economy, the grades were separated and regrouped by bussing, 6th-8th to the Junior High in town and 4th-6th to Mount View School. This effectively restricted each to his peer group, then the children were not able to know and be comfortable with those of other ages who made up their community at home. The generation gap and personal isolation grew.

"Finally the school closed for good. We had a community; now we don't. True, our kids are being taught computer techniques and speeded up

in math. But in earlier days we learned how to get along with all ages, learned real responsibilities, struggled with authority, made ingenuity work, found that the flash and clamor of things does not necessarily determine their worth. These lessons were built into the system then. Are they now?

In June, 1982, time and money both ran out. To save the District \$177,000 in operating costs the consolidated South Lane School District 45J closed Blue Mountain School, along with Mount View School, for the 1982-83 school year, transferring students on a full size bus along a road finally paved in the 1960s. The end.

Maybe not. In November, 1982, the Board leased Blue Mountain School to Able Computer Company of California for a research and Development center. A small group of employees chose the site as the best place for them to concentrate — quiet, contained, with covered recreation space and countryside surrounding for breaks from intensive work days. They are looking forward to meeting the neighbors — a blend of work and community life was important in their search for a location. And they love having the old school bell! Someone had scrambled up to tap it — a nice sound — and be sure it was operable, and bell rope is on the shopping list.

ED. NOTE: Due to space limitation we could not include a list of teachers and dates of their service. This information is available from the Cottage Grove Historical Society.

HAMILTON WALLACE: BRICK MAKER

by Philip Hinckley Dole

Note: Much of the information for this article came from relatives of C. H. Wallace and others including: Nettie Morss Gawley, Anna Morss Rissue, Frank McFarland, Lena Veatch McFarland, Wanda Veatch Clark, Bert Simmons, Dove McGee Trask, Albert Wooley.

"All preacher and brick maker" was a frequent and affectionate recollection of Hamilton Wallace. Charles Hamilton Wallace was called Hamilton, or Uncle Hamilton or Preacher Wallace, rarely Charles. His preaching, his brick work, and his family life all interrelated. He was famous for stories and highly original practical jokes. Unfortunately there is not space here to retell them. To the extent that personality and work can be related, one could ascribe the rather original and lively character of some of Wallace's masonry to his volatile, humorous and imaginative personality. For quality and originality, no other nineteenth century Oregon chimneys approach those of Charles Hamilton Wallace.

In the year he came west Hamilton Wallace was thirty-three with twenty years or more experience as a mason if not quite as many as a preacher. We can expect that he had had a typical, early and rigorous apprenticeship to a skilled mason; his attitudes and his ideas developed long before he arrived in Lane County. Leaving Davis County, Iowa in the early part of 1864, the large Wallace clan was made up of Hamilton and Ann, four children, several of his brothers or sisters and their families as well as his parents, John and Sarah. John Nesbitt Wallace and Sarah Hamilton Wallace located ten miles

from the city of Stockton, California and died at their ranch in June and in August of 1883. Hamilton and Ann had come on from California to Oregon living for a year or two near Coburg in Lane County where a daughter, Frances, was born in 1865.

A number of stories refer to Hamilton Wallace's trips for preaching or work engagements which usually involved extended periods living away from home. These trips have probably confused recollections of where the family lived. There are only firm indications for Coburg, Cottage Grove and Mosby Creek with perhaps a short stay at Creswell although Albany, Corvallis, and Eugene also have been mentioned. The comings and goings of Hamilton Wallace for the most part seem to have been to and from the ranch on Mosby Creek where the family lived until about 1893. Sometimes his wife and other members of the family went along, too, and lived in tents at the site while Hamilton and his sons worked on the building.

Perhaps Wallace came to Oregon under a prior arrangement with the Cumberland Presbyterian Church to preach as a circuit rider. At any rate that is what he did almost immediately upon his arrival. His circuit has been described as from Salem south to Ashland and he is thought to have

recorded marriages in many counties. Scattered evidence points to preaching in Benton, Lane and Linn Counties. For example he is listed as recording marriages in Benton County in August of 1866, and June and September, 1867.

Only scattered evidence indicated the circuit Wallace made in his preaching and even less clear is the number of years he devoted to being a circuit rider preacher. But probably his preaching on circuit had ceased by 1885. From that date the quantity of work undertaken by Wallace around Cottage Grove indicates a heavy local building schedule. But it was on circuit in his earlier years at least that Preacher Wallace found the opportunities for the masonry work he would return to do in the summer. "He traveled all up and down the Willamette Valley building chimneys, fireplaces, preaching, marrying people and burying them too no doubt."

The chimneys of Charles Hamilton Wallace cover a forty year period, the most recent being those on South River Road in Cottage Grove and the earliest known example is east of the city on the David Mosby House. The long residence of the many Wallace connections around Cottage Grove has kept the record of his work clearest and most extensive in that city.

For the chimneys of an isolated farmhouse the brick would be made near the site. The nature of brick making and chimney construction make it a summertime and fair weather job. Clay is readily available in the Willamette Valley and "he knew where all the best clay was". The process was lengthy and fussy, especially the managing of the kiln constructed just for the specific job, but here as elsewhere Wallace's sons

provided an experienced crew. The quality and the color and even the size of brick measured $8\frac{1}{4}$ by $2\frac{1}{4}$ by $3\frac{7}{8}$ inches, while in the Bean House near Junction City the typical brick is unusually small, $7\frac{1}{2}$ by $2\frac{1}{4}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. When we see special shapes in his more fancy chimneys it is easy to understand the convenience and even the temptation in handmaking brick on the site to cut, like gingerbread cookies, unique pieces. The oversized hearts may have required a special form but most fancy shapes, the diamonds, the stars, were cut from a regular brick.

The tradition that Wallace fireplaces were of stone or had stone faces has not turned up examples although his own house on Quincy Street may have incorporated stone in its two fireplaces. While not as common as brick, such fireplaces were built in houses between 1850 and 1880 throughout the Willamette Valley. Often they were of three large pieces carved into an elegant, finely-made shape such as a pointed arch. The Mosby hearths are of flat stones, a large central rectangle rimmed by smaller pieces about one foot in width. For that and other foundations, the stone was probably hauled from "up on Mosby Creek". Across from the Wallace farm was a rock ledge which Wallace made use of for stone work including foundations and facing for some fireplaces. It was very soft to cut, "cut like butter," but hardened upon exposure.

Chimneys by Wallace fall into four types. The first two were each very common, characteristic of the work of many brick masons. Of these first two types those known to be by Wallace do not have any identifying characteristics or

exceptions to the prevailing modes. The first of these common types which Wallace used is a very old form, called here a Colonial stack, built to serve fireplaces. It is a sturdy, rather heavy chimney, built to serve at least two fireplaces; the dimensions to enclose the flues are large and rectangular in shape, thirty to thirty-six inches in each direction. The exterior treatment is utilitarian with flat, plain surfaces. At the top there is only a slight band, of three or four corbelled courses. The main chimney on the Mosby House is the one known Wallace example.

The second of these common types which Wallace used is called here a Victorian stove chimney, built to serve one or more stove pipe connections. It is frequently found on kitchen wings but for houses favoring stove heat over fireplaces this chimney form was used

throughout. These are usually "hung" chimneys, supported by a ceiling or an upper wall. As it rises out of the roof, however, the chimney is thickened for a short distance to give it a visible "base" then it thins for the "shaft" and flares out again at the "cap" in a series of striking corbelled courses. Examples known to be by Wallace are the kitchen chimney on the Mosby House and that on his own house which stood on Quincy Street in Cottage Grove.

The last two chimney types, characteristic of the work of Wallace, are each highly individual and carry unusual characteristics which make it possible to surmise that certain unrecorded examples must also be his work. To a degree these last two Wallace types are similar for both are representations of the Gothic Revival style. This is shown in their basic form which is



The Gothic chimneys on the Obadiah Bean house, 1870, Junction City vicinity are the finest C.H. Wallace built. (All but one of the pictures in this section courtesy of Philip Dole.)

always divided into three distinct parts (base, shaft and cap) and the tall, varied silhouette achieved by the form.

One of these chimney types characteristic of Wallace may be called a square paneled Gothic chimney. It is always found on the roof of the kitchen wing of a house and serves both the kitchen and the adjoining dining room. It contains a flue for a wood stove in the former and a larger flue for a fireplace in the latter room. An example built by Wallace is the chimney on the kitchen wing of the Obadiah Bean House (later Harper).

The second type of Gothic Revival chimney typical of Hamilton Wallace's work serves one or two fireplaces, the parlor in front and perhaps a bedroom behind. It sits on the main or parlor roof of the house. Here we will refer to it as a pilastered Gothic stack. The chimney stack is framed by projecting pilasters or columns at each corner which are joined by an arch which features a pronounced keystone of brick. The corbelled cap contains one course of brick set edgewise and at an angle to the face. In the recess between the pilasters and below the arch is a composition of raised figures such as stars, diamonds, and hearts each made of specially cut or shaped and fired brick. The figures often sit against a background of bricks laid flatwise or tiles. The example known to be by Hamilton Wallace is the main chimney on the Obadiah Bean House.

The farmhouses Wallace did chimneys for in the eighteen-seventies were generally rather plain and conservative versions of the popular Gothic Revival Style. That style was evident in their sharp, steep roofs and T-shaped plans

consisting of a main two story parlor and bedroom portion and a lower dining room and kitchen wing. A few, such as the Stevens and Campbell houses, are more emphatically Gothic in having a tall pointed, lance-shaped window in the second floor. But nothing added quite such an air of style, more or less Gothic, as their Chimneys - built by Hamilton Wallace. The illustration of the Obadiah Bean house shows this T-shaped Gothic form which presents both the higher main roof of the house and the lower kitchen wing to the approach or street view.

The first work known to be by Wallace is in a house built for David Mosby in 1868 which is of a plainer and older character than the Gothic Revival style and the tall main chimney is suitably constrained. It is the one example by Wallace of the use of the Colonial stack type.

Two years after the Mosby work Wallace worked on the Obadiah Bean House on River Road, Junction City. Fig. 1. The house is a lovely example of the popularized Gothic Revival, seen here in such exterior details as the porch posts and porch railing. The kitchen wing chimney is of the *rectangular paneled Gothic* type. The main chimney has a *pilastered Gothic stack* and the figure in brick beneath the arch is the Masonic emblem with a diamond above it. Both Bean and Wallace were members of the Masonic order. The house foundations here are brick piers and Wallace also constructed a brick basement under the back part of the house. Certainly the brickwork here makes these Wallace's finest chimney group in design and execution.



This chimney on the Robert Campbell house, 1873, Springfield, looks like an example of work by Wallace.

Numbers of houses in the northern part of Lane County bear the unquestionable stamp of Wallace workmanship although there is only the intrinsic evidence. Two wonderful, almost identical, chimneys which must be by Wallace are the main chimneys on the Springfield houses of Robert Campbell, 1873, Fig. 2. on Aspen Drive and, one mile due north of it, the John Stevens House of 1875, on Game Farm Road. They are the *pilastered Gothic stack* type. Their interior fireplace arrangements are similar, too. The illustration shows the Campbell House. The major difference on the Stevens House is the diamond, rather than a star, above the heart.

The numerous references and inferences regarding brick work by Wallace around Eugene and Springfield indicate two phases of work, one in the first half of the eighteen-seventies and the other in the late eighties. The buildings include unspecified houses on Skinner's Butte and Deady and Villard Hall on the University campus. For the latter two buildings, built in 1876 and 1885 respectively, all brick was supplied by the McMurry brothers of Eugene. Each building had its architect and contractor; Hamilton Wallace was probably not a foreman but one of the masonry crew. But with houses his role was quite different. Then he was in charge of the masonry work throughout; making the brick on the site, foreman of the masonry work - two chimneys to each house and sometimes foundations, and a basement in at least one. But above all, it was he who designed the fireplaces and the chimneys.

One must admit that while Hamilton Wallace built the most imaginative and appealing Oregon examples of the Gothic Revival style in chimney design, these chimneys are naive, perhaps provincial when compared to the sophisticated detail and execution of the pure versions taken more directly from a scholarly or "bookish" source; for example, the chimneys on the Surgeon's quarters at Fort Dalles, Oregon taken rather directly from Andrew Jackson Downing's design for a "Symmetrical Bracketed Cottage" out of his book, *The Architecture of Country Houses*, first published in 1850.

Wallace must have known such pattern books, too, for it is from books such as those by Downing, Calvert Vaux and others, that for instance the con-

cept and the description of chimneys with "a base, shaft and cap" would be derived.

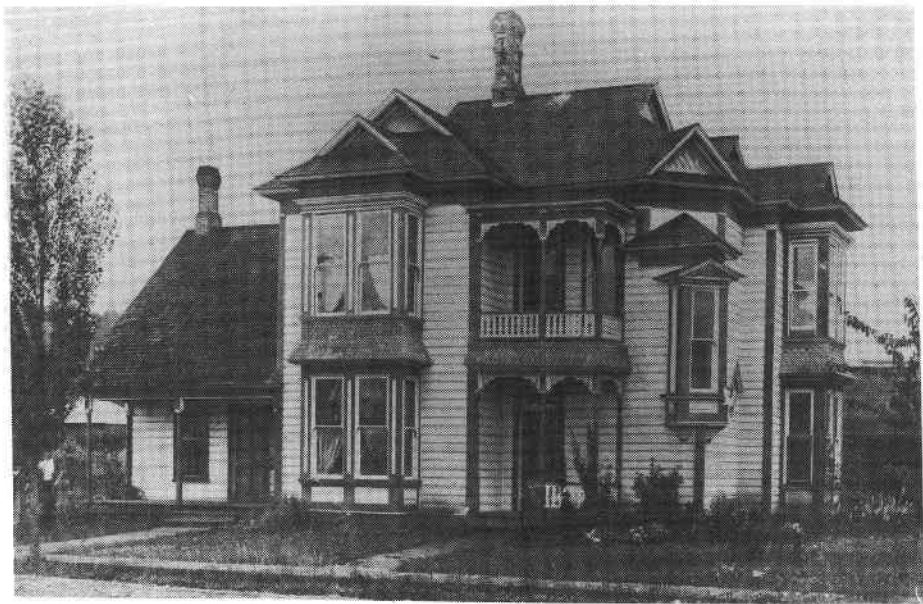
There are still a number of houses standing in Cottage Grove which display brick chimneys by Wallace and his crew, and not all of them can be discussed here. Attribution to Wallace for work on the following buildings has been made by two or more descendants. Distinctive masonry and architecture characterized most of these buildings. At 305 Washington is the house built about 1890 by the carpenter Isaac Thomas Jr., (Fig. 3.) and across the street, at 117 Third, a house built in 1904. Their handsome matching chimneys are a modification of the Gothic shafts Wallace had built on farmhouses a generation earlier. The chimneys and



C.H. Wallace built the chimneys on the Isaac Thomas, Jr. house, c. 1890, Washington Street, Cottage Grove.

stone foundations of several houses on South River Road are attributed to him: that of his brother-in-law, the Hon. Robert Veatch, built in 1896 at Number 653, the nearby C.H. Stone house, 1898, and also, in 1898, the J.E. Young house at Number 553. Attributed to Wallace is the masonry on the Aiken house built in 1904-06 on the southeast corner of the lot on M and Birch Streets. The very lovely house at 39th and I Streets, built in 1895 for Lewis who couldn't afford to finish it, later occupied by the Bergs and for many years by the McFarlands, has two remarkable chimneys by Hamilton Wallace.

Houses such as the home Hamilton and Ann built on Quincy Street at Third about 1890 (Fig. 7.) were made possible by the range of production of the planing mill which Markley and Stoeffler, the proprietors, started in Cottage Grove in January of 1883. It is described by Walling as ... "where every manner of moulding, planing and shingle making is carried on" and it certainly appears that the Wallace House made full use of this rich diversity. The arrival of planing mills of this type had a similar impact on architecture everywhere. These mills emerged at the same time as a great exuberance in design multiplied forms, elements, detail and moulding types. One expression of this abundance in the Wallace House is in the use of four types of shingles, while the number and kinds of roofs on the house is almost indescribable. But the kitchen wing is a plain rectangular shape with a simple roof in a very different spirit to that on main part and a different window style. The kitchen wing is practical in expression, it is in the mood and has the detail



About 1890 Hamilton and Ann Wallace built this home on Quincy with good examples of his chimney designs.

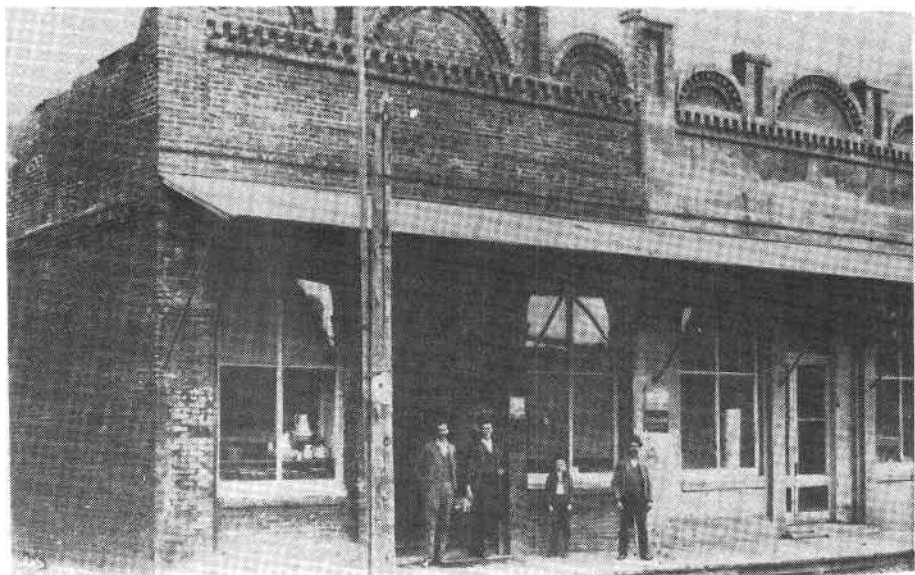
of the type of farmhouse kitchen which Wallace had helped work on a generation earlier.

Despite the rather impressive appearance of the Wallace House the life within was as industrious and unpretentious as that had been on the ranch on Mosby Creek. "Mrs. Wallace was a meticulous housekeeper. Her floors were white — no finish on them; they were washed with lye. She had very little furniture but kept it carefully."

Brick and masonry work were exuberant and personal in this Wallace house, too. Back of the house stood a large brick dairy or milkhouse with troughs for cooling milk. The kitchen chimney was a good example of the *Victorian stove type* common throughout Oregon. But the main chimney is of

Wallace's *pilastered Gothic stack* type. In such details as the corner pilasters it is like the main chimney Wallace had built on the Obadiah Bean House near Junction City a generation earlier; beneath the arches the recess is more simply treated, just two brick diamonds. The Wallace chimney is not in the style of the house; something similar to the chimney which Wallace built on the Thomas House at about the same time a few blocks away would have been appropriate. Here we have Wallace himself, probably with the assistance of his family of masons and carpenters, designing and building. Brought together in this structure was almost a lifetime of ideas and favorite themes and practical prejudices.

Wallace's first masonry work in Cottage Grove was as early as 1873.



The first brick building in Cottage Grove, Eakin and Bristow's general store, c. 1875, was built by C.H. Wallace.

That year he did stone foundations for a frame building just east of the river. A joint effort of the Presbyterians and the Good Templars Lodge, the lodge had the second floor and for twenty years or more the first floor was shared with the Methodist Episcopal by the Presbyterians. Their first minister was the Rev. W.V. McGee. A Methodist Episcopal Church replaced the structure about 1897.

On the old Main Street which ran in a northerly and southerly direction bordering the Willamette River Hamilton Wallace built the first commercial brick in Cottage Grove.

Both are one story brick buildings so similar in detail as to make it unquestionable that they had the same builder but also that they must have been constructed at about the same time. The single building for J.P. (Polk) Currin's Drug Store carried the date

1884 on its parapet. But tradition has ascribed approximately 1871 to the construction of the double store frontage built for Eakin and Bristow, located about 100 feet north of Silk Creek and near the present number 432 South River Road. (Fig. 4.) The general store half was about twenty-five feet wide and eighty deep; the adjoining "Mdse. storage bldg." about thirty by sixty. The two shared a wall and were identical in appearance. Across them both was a board walk and above a board canopy, carried on an iron frame.

It is understood that Hamilton Wallace had at least two brickyards in Cottage Grove. The brick for this early work probably came from the one "... located at the west end of town between the present hospital and the green house ..."

The brickwork in these early commercial buildings is inventive and carries

pattern similar to the best chimney work Wallace had done on houses in the 1870's. Here the style sense is more clearly Italianate. The shop fronts are an arcade of recessed arched openings, doors and windows alternating. The parapets are a cresting of arches alternating with paneled piers; simple denticulated courses give emphasis to those forms. The echo of the curved forms above with the curved forms below creates an unusually harmonious, unified commercial frontage.

Although the railroad which was responsible for the ultimate shift of business from one side of the river to the other had reached Cottage Grove in July of 1872, the consolidation of Cottage Grove business along the present day Main Street was a long, slow process not fully effected until well after 1900. Walling in 1884 in *The Illustrated History of Lane County* referred to only "one main street"; that would be the original one which flanked the west bank of the Willamette . . .

The depot of the Oregon and California railroad is situated about half a mile from the center of the town where there is every facility for the shipping of stock and grain, the staple commodities of the district. The town itself has but one main street and is fully a mile in length. The river is spanned by a well built bridge.

By 1893 both main streets were in existence. From the detailed plans of the Sanborn maps of that date one cannot easily state from the number of buildings shown on each that either the old or the new main street was the more vigorous.

One of the first responses in masonry

to the shift in Main Street was by Eakins and Bristow about 1890, who, taking their building with them, moved to a point at the intersection of old Main and new Main just west of the bridge. Wallace did the job of dismantling what he had built for them not long before, re-erecting it in a different shape and with two small shops to the west. Apparently it was stuccoed almost immediately. In a corner of the General Merchandise Store Eakins and Bristow had a vault which was the beginning of a succession of the city's banks, around 1903 moved across from here to eastern Main Street. During all this period the Masonic Lodge remained in a wooden building on old Main Street but sometime after 1912, after Wallace's death, the Eakins and Bristow building was refurbished and a second story in masonry added to it. It became the home for the Masonic Lodge.

Just as Wallace had built the first brick on the original main street he also built the first brick on the new main street. Attributions to Hamilton Wallace for brick construction on Main Street come from the personal recollections of one or more descendants. Dates for them are rather clearly fixed by the successive Sanborn maps of 1893, 1898, 1903, 1907 and 1912. Although descendants and other accounts sometimes have given different dates the Sanborn date indicated has been followed here. Thorough examination of early newspapers might confirm these attributions and his role in their construction. No recollection is specific about his involvement with each building cited. The tradition that his brickyard was the first in Southern Lane County suggests

that the bricks were always made by Wallace. Probably he usually was a subcontractor responsible both for supplying the brick and for constructing the masonry work. Hamilton often worked on a building with his sons and together they would make up much of the crew. The Burkholder Building is one example; a photograph exists showing Wallace with six sons standing on the roof. Preaching and brick making were never far apart in the activities of Charles Hamilton Wallace. That view of Wallace on the roof of the Burkholder Building may be part of one more street sermon. Pedestrians who paused to watch the work in progress often brought the worker to a halt and frequently found themselves the recipient of a sermon, a voice calling down, "Are you saved?"

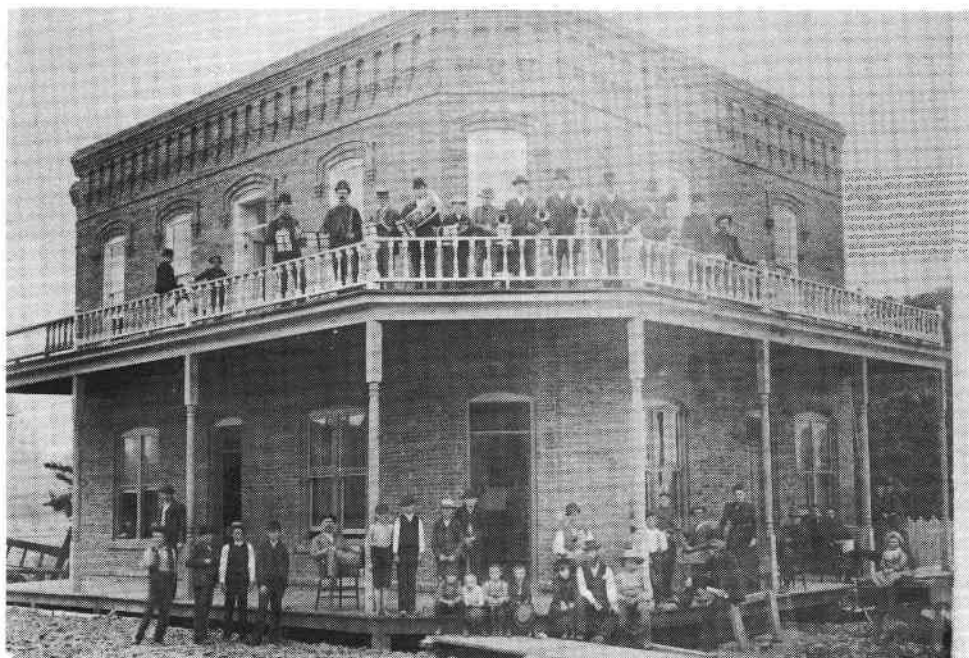
On February 7, 1891 the Cottage Grove Leader reported that "... Mr. Wallace informs us that he and his two sons Willie and Albert will start a brickyard here in the near future. This will be a good paying business and an inducement to those who plan on building in the spring." One of those making such a plan must have been the owner of the Sherwood Hotel. How long this particular yard was in operation is not known. The location of the brickyard has been described (by L. McFarland) as just north and a little west of where highway 99 crosses the river, along the railroad. (See front cover) "He needed a certain type of clay which he found on Bennett Creek ... and hauled in wagons to his brickyard." Examination of the photograph shows tents and laundry of the family in the background. In the foreground is the kiln surrounded by bricks laid out to dry in

the sun. In the middleground on the right is the mixer or pug mill, a large bin or barrel-like structure. Clay and sand are shoveled into it and water poured in. They had to haul water, too. It was mixed by a horse which turned a long wooden pole or sweep. Wagons and raw clay storage are seen on the left.

On some sites the bricks were shaped by hand by slapping the mud into a wooden mould usually made of a hard wood such as maple and divided into spaces for from two to six bricks. The bricks were laid to dry in the sun before firing. On a more permanent brick-making site such as that in Cottage Grove a machine was used to fill the sanded molds from the mixer.

The kiln shown here is of an ancient and very primitive type, made by re-using older brick and stacking within them the brick to be fired. Each time the entire assembly would be dismantled to obtain the new brick. In some ways this was a shoestring operation, a business in effect which could be abandoned at almost any moment. This characteristic does support the sense of Wallace's rather nomadic work patterns. In contrast the Corvallis Brick & Tile Company developed on its site from the 1850s, by 1865 had a permanent kiln of brick, a beehive-like oven with a doorway and flues. The structure was used over and over for almost 100 years.

By 1893 Hamilton Wallace had built on the new Main Street. In that year the street's fifty odd structures were primarily commercial but did include nine houses. Most of the fifty buildings were in wood frame construction with shingled roofs and stretched east from the river to the railroad station; but



When the present Main Street developed, Wallace built the first brick structures including the Sherwood Hotel, 1891, which still stands. Cottage Grove Museum picture.

there were among them three brick buildings and these are attributed to Wallace. Each of these had a tin (or slate) roof. The two on the south side on the southwest corner of Seventh and Main were the general store for the Burkholders, later Wolfords, 641 Main, and adjoining it on the west another one story brick, but smaller, used as a bank and also known as Peterson's. Apparently it is this bank that was moved from the Eakin Bristow building and in 1911 to the new building at 6th.

The most significant of Wallace's Main Street buildings, considering its age and its original quality must be the old Sherwood Hotel (Fig. 5.), by 1912 called the Hotel Oregon and now Leo's Rexall Drugs, 538 Main at the northwest corner of Main and Sixth. A photograph at the Cottage Grove Museum is

dated 1891, presumably the date of construction. This would be the oldest surviving brick on Main and a good example of a traditional nineteenth century small provincial hotel.

Alterations have modified its appearance. In its original form a one story wooden porch with an upper railing wrapped around its two street frontages occupying the present sidewalk space and thus providing an elevated passage that any pedestrian would use for brief protection from both rain and mud.

Between 1898 and 1903 only one new brick building appeared. It stands on the northeast corner of Main and 6th, number 602. This two story building, occupied since about 1930 by Knickerbockers, housed a general store below and offices above. Perhaps the most intact of Wallace's brick commercial

buildings, other than the Pioneer Hardware store, its upper floor has remained unpainted although the window sash across the front are replacements and, as is typical now, the store front has a comparatively recent treatment. The horizontal emphasis of the brickwork as well as its simplicity give the exterior a very "modern" appearance. It has a brick cornice of corbelled pendants. Belt courses like all the segmental window heads together in one band and their sills in another. This building has an important urban visual function as one of the three early brick marking this street intersection, each of a distinctive function and design: the old Sherwood Hotel, Knickerbocker's and the old First National Bank of 1911. Each has been attributed to Wallace but the bank attribution is doubtful because of his advanced age and health at that time. The kind of brick and the brickwork on the bank are also very unlike anything else that Wallace was associated with.

Other Main Street buildings have been attributed to Wallace. The Garmen and Hemenway Building, about 1904 now Perry's Variety at number 501 probably should not be credited to him. The Case Building, Western Auto in 1971, originally for cigars, billiards and moving pictures, apparently was built between 1912 and 1920 and therefore could not be by him. Between 1903 and 1907 Wallace was involved in the construction of Veatch's Hardware, a large two story building in the block near the bridge, demolished about 1970 when the new city hall was built. Up to 1903 almost all brick on Main was done by Wallace supplying the brick or doing the masonry work,

too. After that date others such as Gleason and Alkinson had entered the field and Wallace was only involved in a few jobs. A general merchandise store with a second-hand store on the west and offices above, now the Pioneer Hardware Store at 737 Main Street may be Hamilton Wallace's last brick on Main, constructed sometime between 1907 and 1912. The store is of interest as being one of his most intact brick buildings including unaltered shop frontages. However after 1908 it is difficult to credit work to him.

In the eighteen-nineties his masonry work included the chimneys and foundations of two churches, the Walker church and the Presbyterian church dedicated in 1892 which formerly stood at Adams and 7th in Cottage Grove. In both he was deeply involved in and responsible for the entire project and it may be true that the Presbyterian Church was "virtually built" by the combined efforts of the Wallace men.

About 1890-1896 Hamilton Wallace had a tile factory in Creswell perhaps with his son Willie who by this time had his own brickyard south of Creswell. In this vicinity Willie (William Lewis Wallace) built his own home about 1900. It is located on old 99 beside the railroad tracks just north of Davisson Road. This bungalow style house is one of the few brick homes in the county. It is laid in a version of the "Flemish bond", in a careful mixture of dark and light bricks. The house is a continuation of lively, original work in the tradition of his father.

Around 1900, perhaps as late as 1904 or 1905, Wallace made the brick and set the boilers in the cinnabar mines at

Black Butte about 17 miles south of Cottage Grove. For this a kiln had to be made and during the process his wife and sons set up tents and lived at the site.

Wallace was known as a man of great energy, working ten hours a day at brick making or masonry work and then in the evenings writing his sermons. This vigor continued well into the first decade of the twentieth century when he was a man in his seventies. But by 1907 his energy had somewhat abated: a news item upon the occasion of his seventy-seventh birthday (1908) said "he retired from his labors in the Presbyterian church only one year

ago." Upon his death five years later the obituary implied complete retirement by 1909 for it stated that due to "a breakdown in health he retired four years ago." Recognizing his advanced age and these contemporary descriptions of his health we cannot attribute to him buildings constructed after 1907, or at the latest 1909. By 1907 apparently Hamilton Wallace and his wife already had sold the large house at Third and Quincy to Al Woodford as the Lane County Directory of 1907 does not list C.H. Wallace as a taxpayer. His death occurred in 1913 at the home of his son John Calvin Wallace on Quincy Street.

BOOK REVIEW

by Dierdre Malarkey

Coburg Remembered, by Edward W. Nolan, assisted by Susan K. Barry. Lane County Historical Society, 1982.

This book is a photographic essay of over fifty photographs from the excellent cataloged collections at the Lane County Museum. Accompanying the photographs are ten pages of text providing what historical information is available on Coburg, Oregon from 1847 until the closure of the Booth Kelly Lumber Mill in 1915. Contributing to the text are selections of reminiscences and descriptions from local residents or visitors, derived from oral histories or diaries. A fascinating visual and written portrait of this small Oregon community results from the combination of the text and photography.

The book has been printed effectively by Eugene Print, a local company knowledgeable in reproducing historical photographs, and the print and design provide an aesthetically attractive publication.

What is referred to in this book as Coburg's "Golden Years" and Coburg's "decline" are situations similar to the County's Gold Years and present decline in its financial support of the Museum, its archives and its library. This book is the result of those "Golden Years" reflecting on the one hand the long-time efforts by the members of the Lane County Historical Society to preserve the County's local history and heritage. These efforts began long before funding was available or academic scholarship found it important to focus

on such history. Those earlier efforts have combined in the past decade with tax-support that have provided trained historians and archivists to continue to collect and organize the materials of residents and pioneers and to preserve them for research and publication.

The Lane County Historical Society, Ed Nolan, and Susan Berry are to be congratulated for working together to create this book, an excellent example of local history, using the variety of research tools available to the historian — oral history, photographs, diaries, and correspondence. It is these tools that enabled Coburg to have its written history at last, and Stuart and Evangeline Hurd, to whom the history is dedicated represent that conviction that such local histories have merit.

The statement from Mrs. Huntington that Coburg and Lane County "are both richer today" because of the Hurds' efforts describes also the efforts of Mr. Nolan who brought his training and experience in archives and history to Lane County and who made invaluable contributions to preserving its heritage. Without his recognition of the value of local history and his dedication in preserving its sources, much would have gone undocumented, and materials would have been discarded or lost.

Susan K. Berry, a Graduate Teaching Fellow in the Department of History at the University of Oregon, provided both

text and captions for the book, thereby demonstrating how qualified research in the Museum's collections can result in such an interesting narrative and selection of quotations.

The combination of what formal historic documentation was available with the selections from diaries and interviews makes for delightful reading. These and the photographs allow the reader to make certain judgments on Coburg's history. Through the photographs the reader/viewer learns about those elements that contribute to a town's growth and decline — the road, the bridge, the railroad. The reader/viewer will also understand through the text and photograph that fabric of social history in such a

community often lost in formal history — the logging and lumbering patterns, the floods, hops picking, family life, architecture, etc. All of us are grateful to view a world of the past and to have a chance to understand a small community better.

Deirdre Malarkey, Ph.D.

Coburg Remembered is available at the Lane County Museum,; from Frances Newsom, 708 E. 11th Ave., Eugene, OR 97403; and from Mrs. Bill Guldager, President of the Coburg Historical Society, 444 N. Willamette, Coburg, OR 97401. \$6.95 plus \$1.00 postage.

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Inez Fortt
Lester Calder
Ray Cornelius
Leta Burnell

Term expires 1983

Mrs. C. A. Huntington
Lynn S. McCreedy
Frances Newsom
Dave Ramstead

Term expires 1984

Lois Barton
Quintin L. Barton
Mrs. Bruce Cross
Mrs. Fred Spores

**LANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
89239 OLD COBURG ROAD
EUGENE, OREGON 97401**

Non-Profit -
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 96
Eugene, Oregon



Last Blue Mountain school building rented in 1982 to Able Computer Company.