

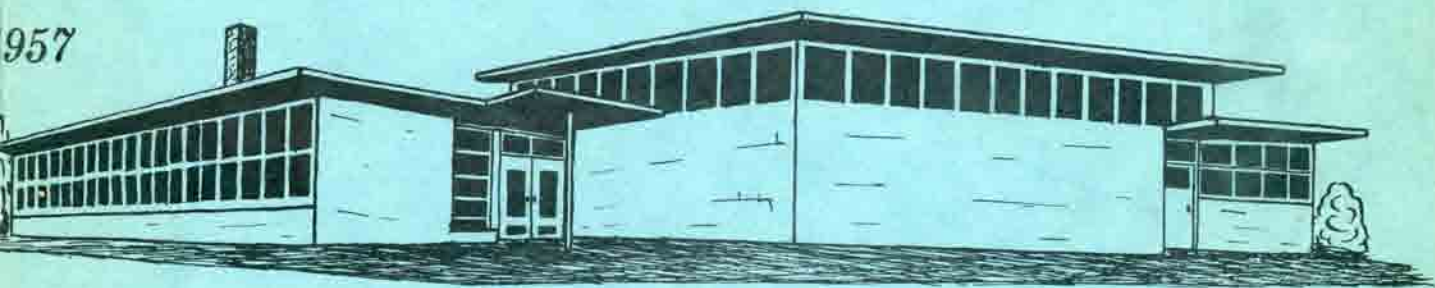
A PROGRESS  
REPORT



100 YEARS

OF EDUCATION

IN MARION COUNTY



An Educated People Moves Freedom Forward

This book "100 Years of Progress in Education in Marion County" is presented to:

West Salem Library

in commemoration of the 100th year of the National Education Association by the Marion County N. E. A. Centennial Committee. This Committee represents the

Marion County O. E. A.

Salem Classroom Teachers Association

Salem School Administrators Association

Marion County Elementary Principals

Silverton Education Association

Stayton High School Association

## PREFACE

This compilation of histories of Marion County Schools is the culminating project of the Marion County N. E. A. Centennial Committee who also organized and sponsored a Birthday Banquet April 5, 1957. Governor Robert Holmes, the featured speaker, addressed an audience of two hundred educators and distinguished guests with a speech in keeping with the Centennial theme, "AN EDUCATED PEOPLE MOVES FREEDOM FORWARD".

In 1956, each Local Association of O. E. A. - N. E. A. members was asked to appoint a centennial committee to plan various projects to celebrate and publicize the 100th year of the National Education Association.

Members of the various committees in Marion County combined forces in October 1956 to plan several county wide projects. The members of this county committee are to be commended for their high regard for professional ideals, diligence, careful thought, planning and many extra hours they put in to see that these projects were finished in the finest manner.

These committee members are:

James Brents	-	Salem Heights
Alvirda Brown	-	Liberty
June Emmerson	-	North High
George Forgard	-	Rosedale
Martha Fox	-	Englewood
Loren Mort	-	Leslie
Ethel Ramus	-	Central Howell
Irene Roubal	-	Silverton
Paul Wilmeth	-	Salem Administration Office
Harry Wray	-	Stayton

Others to be commended are those who helped make the Banquet such a success, all who wrote these histories, the area chairmen who collected the documents and forwarded them to Paul Wilmeth, Project Chairman, and the Oregon Education Association for printing the final copy.

Unfortunately, a history for each Marion County school is not included because they were not received by the committee. Some of the histories are compilations in themselves as they contain the histories of many schools that consolidated.

Some of the histories are short, some are long. All reflect the efforts of the many types of authors. These were written by students, parents, teachers, principals, 'old timers' and school board clerks. All are interesting.

They contain factual data relating to school finance and growth. Many humorous incidents show that schools were populated by 'human' people in the years gone by as they are now.

In editing this group of histories we deleted only material that we felt wasn't relevant to the growth and progress of education in that area. Grammatical changes were kept to a minimum so that the original thinking and intent of the authors could be maintained.

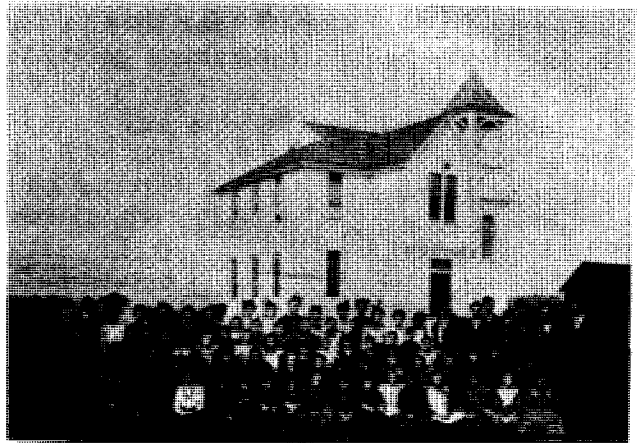
The growth and progress of Education is shown in the consolidation of many schools, to allow for more efficient operation. While the schools represented here present a span of over 100 years, some earlier schools started in the 1840's no longer exist. We hope you enjoy reading this review of the past 100 years.

- Wally Turnidge, Chrm, Marion County NEA. Cen. Comm.

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## AUMSVILLE SCHOOL



The first school building in the area that is now Aumsville was located at what was then known as Porter Springs. This location, about one and one half miles Southeast of Aumsville, was on property now owned by Andrew Bishop. The first teacher, so far as is known, was William Porter, who had been a teacher in his native Illinois before coming to Oregon in 1848.

Site of the school was changed in 1856 to a location one-and-one-half miles north of the present town of Aumsville on what is now the Charles and John Smith place. It was while the school was there that children were caused to hurry to and from school due to roving Indians and loose cattle which were inclined to take after stragglers.

Location of the school changed again in 1889, when one was established in a blacksmith shop that stood where the Aumsville Coffee Shop is now. This was the first school building in the town of Aumsville.

The first school building to be built on the present school grounds was in 1893, and was replaced in 1922 by the present building, which is said to have cost from \$22,000 to \$25,000. Half of this amount was supplied by Mrs. Cornelia Turner Davis in memory of her husband, Amos Davis. Aumsville was named by her father, Henry Turner, who was fond of his son-in-law "Aumus". The new building bore the name "Amos Davis High School". One stipulation of Mrs. Davis' was that there should be no dancing in the building. Another was that the pictures of her and her husband should be displayed in the building. The pictures are still there, though perhaps not in as conspicuous a place as the donor might have desired.

During more recent years the Aumsville District has been enlarged through two consolidations. The Witzel District became attached to Aumsville in 1943 and the Rocky Point District in 1947, to complete the boundaries of the present Aumsville School, District 11c.

With the establishment of Cascade Union High School in 1948 and the transfer of secondary pupils to the new high school building in the fall of 1950, Aumsville school entered a new era, that of being entirely an elementary school for the first time in many years. The present enrollment is between 190 and 195 pupils with a faculty of eight teachers and a principal.

Aumsville School has one of the oldest established lunch programs in the State of Oregon. The district maintained and supported its own hot lunch program long before there was a State or Federal Lunch Program. At that time the cost to the pupil was less than 5¢ per day. Nor has the charge risen to a high degree, since the cost to each pupil for an "A" type lunch is today but 15¢.

Prospects are for an ever increasing enrollment. To meet this, the community, School Board of Education, and teachers are all striving to continually make the school a better one. Much credit for this is due to a fine PTA organization which today, as in the past, is accomplishing good things for the school.

## BETHANY SCHOOL

\* \* \* \*

"An act passed September 9, 1849, the formation of districts was provided for. The school commission in each county was required to lay off the county into convenient school districts before January, 1851; but the people of any town or neighborhood were given the power to form school districts."

"1845 was the first year the County School Superintendent kept any sort of record and no tax money was paid to teachers prior to 1855. In that year, the only money collected as taxes and paid for instruction was \$33.95."

When the county was divided into school districts, a school was opened in Silver-ton in 1849. The building stood on the north bank of Silver Creek about one mile north of Main Street. Pupils came from two to three miles around. Thirty-one pupils were in attendance, among them were children of Peter, Elias, and Gideon Cox who owned donation land claims in this community.

In 1854, there were 12 organized districts in the county. In 1856, there were 56 organized districts and in 1864 there were 61 school districts. The first district in the county was Donald. Silverton was No. 4, Evergreen No. 10, Brush Creek No. 19, Central Howell No. 40, and Hazel Dell No. 41.

No. 63 was carved from Evergreen District No. 10, which extended to the Abiqua. In the County School Superintendents' Office, the boundaries established April 22, 1865 are recorded as follows: North, bank of Abiqua, on the west by Pudding river, south by Silver Creek, on the east by School District No. 4.

In the first minutes for district No. 63, dated May 6, 1865, indicates the meeting was held in Silver Creek Church. "Thomas C. Shaw was chairman and George H. Barnett secretary. The directors elected at this meeting were Perry Watkins long term, G. S. Cox second long term, and M.D. Cox short term, and Thomas C. Shaw clerk. It was moved and seconded that the directors be authorized to select a lot or site on which to build a school house."

May 13, 1865, the directors reported "they had selected lot No. \_\_\_ in the town of Bethany, county of Marion for a school building." George H. Barnett and George R. Pottorff were appointed a committee to draw a draft of said school house. The first draft of the school was to be 40' x 24', four rows of desks, 12" brick walls or 3 bricks thick, 12' ceiling and one half pitch roof. Later the size was reduced to 38' x 24'. To avoid levying a tax, a subscription was circulated and a little over \$400 was raised to build the school house. The amount required was \$600. Eleven men volunteered to make up the rest of the money.

George H. Barnett was the first teacher in District No. 63.

During the board meeting of April 1, 1867 "the meeting agreed to send Geo. R. Portoff as a delegate to the County Teachers' Institute to be held at Belle Passi on

the 13th of August, A. D. 1867. "

On April 28, 1868, it was moved a tax be levied to keep a six months school. It was defeated, 8 to 6 votes.

Up to this time, it is not recorded where the school was held, probably in the church building. April 28, 1868 at a board meeting it was "moved and seconded that the directors rent a house to teach a three months school. " Later the school clerk was authorized to pay Dr. Hutton six dollars (\$6.00) rent. This is the only time rent is mentioned in these early minutes.

Something must have happened, because in the minutes of January 4, 1869 "the directors were authorized to buy a schoolhouse. " At the April 5, 1869 meeting, the directors reported they had bought of Elias Cox a house to be used as a district schoolhouse for the sum of \$100 minus his equal portion.

The first school house stood on the west end of the school grounds. Around 1890, a new one room school building was erected on the east end of the school lot. Part of this room is in the remodeled primary room today. This building faced the road. It had a hall across the north end with shelves on the east and west ends of the hall where lunch buckets were kept. On the south wall of the hall were nails on which coats and hats were hung. A rope hung in here from the belfry and was used to ring the school bell.

There was one outside door in the middle of the north wall. The school room was entered thru doors from the hall, one on the east side and one on the west side. A platform at the north end of the room held the teachers' desk and chair. The stove which furnished heat for the room was about one third the distance from the front of the room and in the middle from east to west. There were windows on the east and west sides of the room. Two long benches were in front of the teachers platform and to the left of the teacher. The class was called to these benches when it was time to recite its' lessons.

There were blackboards on the east and west walls of the room also on the north wall between the two hall doors.

All subjects and all eight grades were taught by one teacher. If a pupil chose to day dream or his mind wandered from his lesson, he could hear some other class reciting its lesson. To the pupil the other class was more interesting than his own at times.

Often the teacher did the janitor work, at first without pay, later from \$2 to \$5 per month was added to the salary. Sometimes an older boy would do the work for pay.

The woodshed stood at the back of the school building.

Very often Friday afternoons were used for Spelling Bees or Arithmetic Matches. The rivalry was keen and spirited. Programs were held for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Arbor Day.

The school population increased. In 1910, a new room was added to the northwest of the first room and joining it. Mr. Arnold was upper grade teacher. He was called Professor Arnold. Miss Emma Hague taught the primary grades.

Teachers during 1865 to 1880 boarded around with the parents of their pupils,

usually one week in a place. Their salary was from contributions and tax money. When the salary was raised, the teacher boarded with one of the families of the district and paid from \$10 to \$20 for room and board. Several teachers from Silverton walked to school each day so they could stay at their home. After automobiles became common teachers drove from farther distances from Salem and Woodburn to teach here.

Children coming from outside the school district to school here were charged tuition. \$2.50 was charged for a term and was later raised to \$3 a term. In the 1920s, the district from which the child came paid the tuition. Children from this district going to high school in Silverton were required to pay tuition. Their parents paid their tuition until a law was passed that the school district from which the child came paid the high school tuition fee.

In 1953, District No. 63c became a part of Silverton Union High School District.

The boundary lines of District 63 have changed several times. Most of the changes have been on the southwest and west boundaries. These have changed six or seven times. The last change was consolidation with Hazel Dell, District No. 41, in the year 1948, forming District 63c.

In the summer of 1950, an automatic pump was installed in a drilled well that was finished a short time before. An addition to the south side of the school building provided modern lavatories and a hot water tank. A drinking fountain was placed in the hall.

The roofs covering the three rooms were removed in the summer of 1953 and replaced with a single roof covering all three rooms plus an addition to the northeast so the building would be square. A kitchen and library room was partitioned off from the addition and the old porch.

The summer of 1954 the primary room was remodeled, new furniture was provided for it, and oil furnace to heat the entire building was added, first aid equipment obtained, a concrete block placed in front of the school building, and the double garage was moved back and a concrete floor was poured for it. This same year a row of Douglas fir trees was planted on the south side of the school grounds.

In 1955, the upper grade room was remodeled and new furniture purchased for it. A movie projector was bought to be used for educational and entertainment purposes.

In 1956, the concrete slab in front of the building was widened. Modern windows were installed in the south wall of the gymnasium and the windows at the back of the stage boarded up.

This history would not be complete if some of the recent clerks and directors were not mentioned. Clerks: Mrs. Albert Grinde, Mrs. Conrad Henjum, Otto Dahl, Mrs. Ted Sweeton, and Al Brown.

Directors: Nels Torresdal, Ted Sweeton, Henry Johnson, Harold Satern, Reider Poverud, John Gwinup, Silas Torvend, Henry Torvend, Ed Overlund, Anton Dahl, A. R. Everhardt, L. Meisenheimer, Tom Martin, Leo Peterson, Wm. H. Schwarz, Nels Nelson, Mrs. Ted Sweeton, R. W. Herr, Albert Overlund and James Philips.



## BETHEL SCHOOL



Bethel District, one of the older outlying communities, is situated about five miles east of the city limits on State Street. In the early days this locality was covered with very large timber, and a sawmill owned by Dan Early was operated on the present site of the school building. The commercial timber became exhausted and the sawmill was torn down.

Dan Early, who died in 1953 at the age of 92, gave the site and provided the lumber for the Bethel Church which was built by the Dunkards. These people sought an education for their children and maintained a "subscription school" supported by contributions from the pioneer families. As the years passed some of the leading families of the church moved away, and the remaining families found themselves unable to maintain the church.

In 1903, a new school district was formed from territory taken from Fruitland, Macleay, and Rickey districts. The unused church building was purchased and became Bethel School. School was conducted there for many years. In September of each year, a reunion is held for the old time pupils and their families. The old school bell, which summoned them to their studies in the long-ago, its voice silent for twenty eight years, now is rung electrically, and welcomes them back to their familiar district.

The present school building was erected in 1925. In 1934 a full-size, all-modern basement was added. Small additions were made to the district at various times. In 1953, Oak Ridge District, who was transporting to Bethel, was added to the Bethel District.

In 1955-56 school year, it was necessary to employ two full-time teachers. So in the 1956-57 school year, a new primary room with basement was added to the school house. Bethel School serves the community as its social center.

\* \* \* \*

## BUENA CREST SCHOOL

Buena Crest School District No. 134 was formed from parts of several existing districts to provide a school more convenient for children living in the communities near the Hopmere and Quinaby stations on the Oregon Electric Railroad. Each community wanted the school. County School Supt. W. M. Smith suggested a compromise, and the schoolhouse was built halfway between the two settlements.

E. L. Rogers was chairman of a public meeting on January, 1914, when it was decided

to make necessary plans to provide a school. He appointed as temporary board members J. C. McFarlane, chairman, Homer Gouley, and Bruce Jones, with Albert Egan serving as clerk. These same men were re-elected at the annual meeting. A bond issue of \$4000 was voted to build and equip a modern school with a basement and furnace. Fred Legge drew the plans for fifteen dollars and Carl Engstrom, a Salem contractor, built the building for \$3700.

School opened October 5, 1914 with Miss Gladys Carson and Miss Evelyn Nash as teachers. There were 38 pupils in the upper grades and 43 in the primary room. The school was active in athletics, and several county championships were won in baseball along with softball championships in later years.

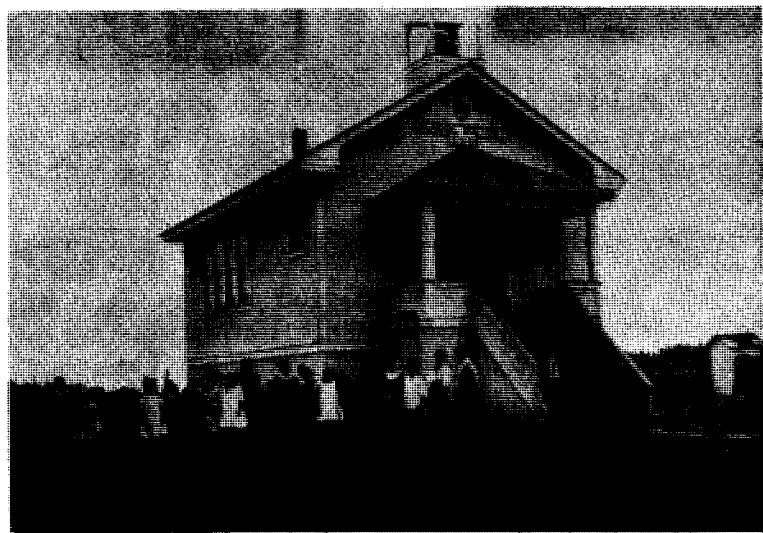
An active "Literary Society" met at the schoolhouse for many years. Using local talent, they presented plays, debates, and programs. The money was used to buy a stage, curtains, and other equipment for the school.

Improvements on the buildings and grounds were made later with a P. W. A. project. Modern restrooms have been added, the cost of which was almost as much as that of the original building.

There were less than 25 pupils in 1941, so only one teacher was hired for a few years. At the present time (1957) it appears that an additional room will soon be a necessity.

## BROADACRES SCHOOL

By: Mrs. Fay E. Williamson,  
Clerk.



Pursuant to a petition filed in the Office of the County School Superintendent of Marion County, Oregon, March 27, 1909, the District Boundary Board of Marion County, Oregon did on the 9th day of April, 1909, establish a new School District which shall be known as School District #130.

On the 28th day of April 1909, those that were interested in the new School District met to elect the new School Board and Building Committee. James Hunt was elected temporary Chairman and J. R. Jackson temporary Clerk. James Hunt, J. R. Jackson and G. A. Ehlen were elected Directors, and G. A. Pendleton, Clerk. A. J. Simmons and A. S. Whitney were appointed as assistants to the board for the building Committee.

On June 26, 1909, a meeting was called for the purpose of considering plans for the new School Building. It was voted to build a School House 24 x 26 ft. x 20 ft.

high and 7 ft. basement. I was also voted to purchase one acre of ground from James Hunt for \$100.00. The contract for building the School House was let to S. E. Palmer for \$680.00

The first day of school started October 18, 1909, with 16 pupils enrolled with Pearl Vincent teacher. The following year the enrollment grew to 22 with Lizzie Fikan teaching.

The enrollment steadily increased until by 1922 it had reached an all time high of 53 pupils. It now was evident that either an annex must be added to the old building or a new School House be built.

Accordingly, a meeting was called on Aug. 15, 1922, at 8 P.M. for the pupose of considering the situation. They voted to raise \$2900, to remodel the old building. A motion was then made to take a vote on a new building. The vote being 16 to 7 in favor of the new building. It was to be built in 2 rooms. Mr. Jensen's bid was accepted, as contractor.

The new School House was opened in the fall of 1922 with Anna Kennedy and Leona Butsch as teachers.

Mrs. Henry Hunt was elected Clerk at the Annual School Meeting held in June, 1924 and continued to serve in that capacity until 1944.

In 1948 the Board of Directors voted to build an addition 20 x 30 ft., extending from the back entrance South of the School House, to house modern rest rooms, drinking fountains were installed at the same time. A short time latter a room was built on to the upper grade room to be used for a Library.

About 2 years later an additional acre of ground was purchased from Henry Hunt to enlarge the School Grounds. Many improvements have been made in the last few years to meet the requirements for the Standardization Program set up by the State Department of Education.

At the present time there are two teachers employed with 55 pupils in the School and 64 on the roll for the year.

\* \* \* \*

#### CENTRAL HOWELL SCHOOL

School District Number 40 was established by William P. Pugh, County Superintendent, January 21, 1856, but it was not recorded until January 13, 1869, by William Ramsey, County Superintendent. The land was donated by Judge T. C. Shaw. David Taylor planted the maple trees. The pine tree in front of the Central Howell store was set out in 1876 by George DeSart, father of Wesley DeSart, and grandfather of Zelda, Earl, Glenn, and Clyde DeSart.

The first school was presumably a log school house and is said to be across the road from the present building on the corner which is now the Roth property.

A one-room frame building was put up and a second room added later. This was succeeded by a modern building put up in 1923 which burned down after five years of

use. School was held in the Central Howell church during the remainder of the year. The school building, which presumably caught fire from a defective flue, burned a number of weeks before school was out. The new building was ready for occupancy the next fall.

The first teachers boarded around a week at a place and received twenty or thirty dollars in cash each month beside their board.

Jim Buff, one of the earliest teachers of Central Howell, was a character long to be remembered because of his unusual eccentricities. He taught here about the year 1887. In those days it was usual for boys of about 21 to attend school. George and Joe Cavanaugh boasted of their fighting prowess so Buff agreed to fight the two of them provided that he could choose the place. The top of a stile was the place chosen and he was able to topple both of them to the ground when the word to start was given. This stopped the fight and the boys' bragging. One morning when Mr. Buff came to school the boys had him locked out with the result that there was no school that day. Buff was the first on hand the next morning and when school was called to order he reached into a drawer of his desk and pulled out a six shooter, laid it on the desk with the statement that he expected to have law and order.

The Central Howell School district was so prosperous that in an early day they were able to have rings and other play equipment. Mrs. Hull was Ada Stone, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Stone. She was attending school then and tells how mortified she was when some of her playmates played on the rings despite the fact that their red flannel bloomers, which were very much in vogue at that time, were very conspicuous, contrary to the good taste and customs of that time.

Dan J. Steiner has an interesting picture of the school taken when he taught. There was only one room at that time and a stove was put up in the front hall which was used as a recitation room. The pipe was extended out of the window. A second teacher was employed at this time which was the late nineties.

A course of study came into use about this time, but was not generally adopted as yet.

At this time literary society was held every week, this being the principal social activity of the community.

An incident which Mr. Steiner remembers concerns a little red-haired girl (Dori Elliot Baller) who had taken a fancy to a Simmons boy. When marching out one day this little girl tickled him under the chin and said: "I lika you, tootsie". This was in the hearing of all the children, and Simmons was teased about it for some time.

The method of punishment for whispering in Sally Olinger's time would not conform to present day standards of sanitation. She tied her handkerchief over the mouth of the erring children.

In the year 1955, Brush Creek expressed the wish to come in with Central Howell District 40. So an election was held and they voted to have the consolidation. The district number was now changed to 540C, and Central Howell became a three-teacher school with an enrollment of 76.

A bond issue was passed to build a new room south of the old building. This was completed in October, 1955, so school was held in the old Brush Creek School until the completion of the building, with the first three grades in session there. The school had an enrollment of 86.

The year 1956 gave an enrollment of 90. In January 1957, it was again decided a new room was needed as Central Howell is growing. In September, 1957, Central Howell will consist of 4 rooms.

So the history of Central Howell has been one showing change and progress, but we are very proud of our bell which still hangs in the tower.

## CLEAR LAKE SCHOOL

By: Mrs. Delbert Bair and  
Mrs. T. C. Mason



Early records of the Clear Lake School in existence date back to 1895; however, the school boundaries were established in 1892, and old residents of the community affirm that the school started about that time. It was a one-room building on a woody and brushy acre donated by John Calvin and Edna Bair. The first school teacher was Miss Emma Massey, a cousin of W. R. Massey. She later became Mrs. Wilmont Cooper of McMinnville.

The names of the first school board members are not recorded as such, but it is very likely at least some of the names recorded in 1895 were of that board. They were: Charles Yakley, A. L. Beckner, and H. A. Hunt. J. R. Leisy was the clerk.

Prior to 1892 children attending school walked to the Keizer school which was then situated at the corner of what is now North River Road and Wheatland Road.

From the very beginning the school house was the community center for not only education, but also worship and entertainment. The Seventh Day Adventists used the building on Saturdays and the Christian Scientists used it every other Sunday for some time. No other church services were held in Clear Lake for a number of years. So in demand was the school house that the school board in 1899 voted to charge all traveling shows and entertainment two dollars for the use of it.

By 1896 it was evident that an acre would be too small for school grounds so an additional acre was purchased for fifty dollars. The school property, including the building was valued at \$550.00

Teacher's salaries were thirty dollars a month, and the contracts were issued every two or three months. If a teacher proved satisfactory in the first three-months period, another contract was issued. During the school year of 1895-96 three different teachers were hired consecutively.

Early records show the following purchases: wood for \$1.20 a cord, 12 chalk erasers for 50¢, a broom for 25¢, a 10' x 12' additional room for \$75.00, and an

outhouse complete in rustic design with cornices and good flooring plus two coats of paint for \$12.00. The outhouse was actually received for \$11.00 as it didn't come up to specifications and one dollar was withheld.

Tuition for outside pupils was fifty cents a month, payable in advance, and collected in advance by the teacher.

Thirty pupils were enrolled in 1896.

The Clear Lake Literary Society, mentioned frequently in old records, was closely linked to the school in its interests. In 1898 W. S. Clements asked that the society be allowed to build an additional room, the control of which would be vested in the school directors. The Literary Society was the forerunner of what is now the Community Club.

1908 a special election was held, deciding that the ninth grade should be taught in District #122. For several years thereafter it was taught, with pupils paying a small tuition for the privilege of attending.

Mrs. Ella Powell Bair recalls that at one time Clear Lake School had only five months of school. She and May Chittenden walked to the Mission Bottom school to finish the school term.

By 1907 the one-room school became so crowded that the younger pupils were seated in chairs in the aisles. The teacher, too busy to give to each her individual attention, had the younger ones taught by their seatmates.

Bids were let for a second school-room in September of 1908. The same month brought also a well and pump on the school property for \$142.80. Teacher's salaries had advanced to \$45.00 a month. Janitor service was provided by two small boys, eight and nine years old, for the sum of four dollars, provided they did a good job and scrubbed the two rooms once a month.

About 1910, T. C. Mason recalls, the community had a box social for the purpose of purchasing a bell for the school. The social was well attended and \$65 was realized.

Quite a crowd gathered on the day the bell was installed in its tower. Joyous anticipation was soon dispelled for the bell was cracked either when it arrived or soon after by its enthusiastic ringing and it gave forth a poor sound. Even so, the community continued to use it for a few years until the school district purchased the bell that is still in use.

On April 20, 1921, the school district voted 16-1 in favor of electric lights for the school. The approximate cost for installation was \$165.00

On November 15, 1924, the voters decided unanimously that Thanksgiving and the following Friday, and also New Year's day were to be legal school holidays provided that the teacher made up the days later; however, if school progressed satisfactorily, the days would be excused.

During the 1930's the two room building was lifted and a basement was dug. Soon it was complete with a furnace and restrooms.

The school remained very much the same until 1952 when the community began to grow.

With plans for an eventual all new modern plant a new one-room school unit, complete with modern fixtures and a stage was constructed in 1953 just south of the old school. A third teacher was then added to the payroll.

This was not sufficient for long. In late 1954 the school enrollment increased enough to warrant a fourth teacher, which required another room; so an additional fifteen feet was added to the new building, and folding doors were installed to break it into two rooms. The stage was again constructed at the end of the second room. When the folding doors are opened, there is a fair sized auditorium for community gatherings.

Still the community grew.

In 1956 an additional two-room unit was completed on the north side of the original school.

Although the old school with its two rooms is not used for regular class rooms at the present time, it is used for music and play activities.

The present enrollment in the school is 116 pupils. Expenditures for the year 1955-56 were \$28,805.00 as compared with \$393.75 in 1896.

\* \* \* \*

#### CLOVERDALE SCHOOL

By: Nellie E. Hammer

In the year 1911, the forefathers of Cloverdale School District 144C, located in the County of Marion and State of Oregon, saw the great need of an institution of learning wherein their youthful prodigies could be taught the "Three R's" and some other things.

The result was that the Cloverdale two room school was built in the summer of 1911. Mabel Baker and Hubert Starr were the first teachers.

For a time all grades up to and including the ninth grades were taught.

Cloverdale School District was formed by taking portions of Summit Hill, Pleasant Valley, and Battle Creek districts.

At the present time there are two teachers. The District owns a school bus transporting all children. Hot lunches are served to forty-five children.

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#### CROOKED FINGER SCHOOL

One thing is certain - The Crooked Finger School District is old - and dates back to some time before the turn of the century.

It was named, as was this ridge, after old Chief Crooked Finger who was said to be buried under some maples in Mr. Hetwer's yard. The Daughters of the American Revolution came and removed the bones; but the question still remains as to whether they belonged to the old Chief. One of the pioneer ladies, a Mrs. McCowan who lived here at the time of the Indians and the famous battle of the Abiqua, sturdily maintained that

Indians were buried there, but not the Chief. However, his name remains with us.

The present school has been in use for over 56 years and many of the "Old Times" here learned their "readin, ritin and rithmetic" within its walls and gathered the wild violets and lambs tongues in the school yard just as their grandchildren do now.

Before the present school was built around 1890 - the school was held for a number of years in a little old church, which stood near what is now known as the pioneer cemetery.

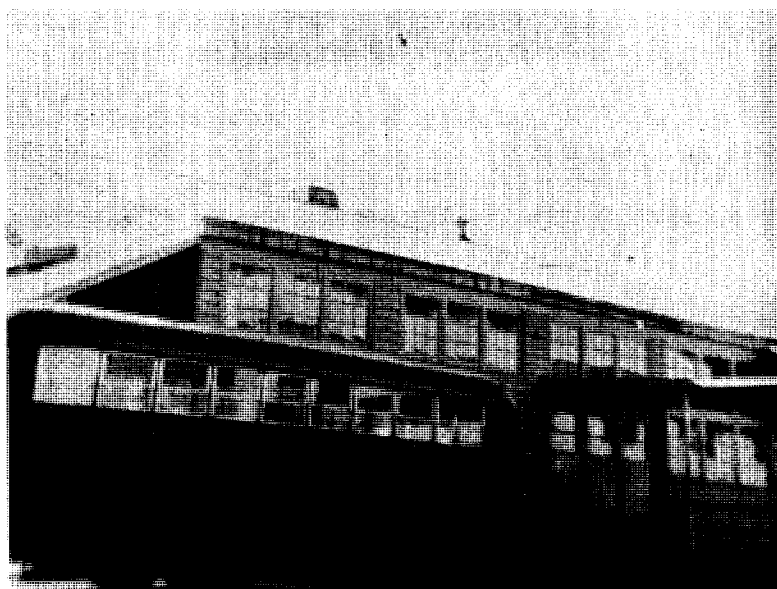
The grasses and flowers and bushes have tangled over these long forgotten graves but one story and grave is always fresh in everyone's memory, the grave of a small girl. It seems the child had tuberculosis and her parents came to the higher altitudes for her sake. This, then, was the first family to pioneer on Crooked Finger.

Just how and why the Bucket Camp School was organized we could not determine, but it was united with Crooked Finger about 30 years ago.

The school is changed now to a new location, a piano has replaced the ancient organ, polished floors the rough planks, an electric pump the bucket and spring, but the quiet spirit of the hills still broods over the small white school and the phantom voice of "long long ago", when school is out, can be heard over the years raised in joyful shout or earnest recitation.

## DETROIT-IDANHA SCHOOL

By: M. Cokenour



High in the Cascades at the foot of rugged, icy, Mt. Jefferson is the school district of Detroit-Idanha #123J. This district is not only composed of land in two counties, but of several communities. As you travel the highway eastward you leave Detroit and Idanha and Marion county coming to Marion Forks. This little Linn county community, once the meeting place of hunters, trappers and homesteaders now has a modern lodge where once stood a typical store of the trading post era. At one time the road from Detroit wandered over Pine Ridge, and across the Marion Flats. In 1931 a modern road was begun to link the Willamette valley with the Bend country, and in 1938 the Marion Forks Community was on paved highway. From that time on this sportsman's paradise began to grow. These early children got to school the best way that they could. Now transportation is provided. At the present time the school bus makes the route each day to gather the children from the State Fish Hatchery and modern homes that are being built.

The Detroit Ranger Station has been a distinct community since early days.



Old timers tell that it was located in the same place below old Detroit until the relocation. In the early days children walked from there to school. Later the school bus made the trip, as it does today to the very modern relocated station on the Detroit Lake.

Idanha grew up near the site of the old Hammond Logging Camp #15. Idanha is built along the old railroad grade, and as late as 1950 was the end of the line for the railroad.

Idanha is the industrial center of the district. In the height of the logging boom it had two large sawmills, a shingle mill, and a veneer plant. The shingle mill burned, and smaller mills have replaced the larger ones, and while it seemed for a time the community might die, it still furnishes the majority of students for the district.

In the late 1800's and early 1900's the entire district depended on the railroad for transportation. During this time the school moved to the community with the most children. It was about 1898 that a log school was built on the flat above Detroit.

Hoover was at one time a thriving little town. Then came a forest fire that trapped and killed three men. Three days later Hoover was in ashes. The people lost everything they had.

The school was also at Larson creek, Camp #17, Old Detroit, and Hall's Camp. In about 1913 there were three schools in the canyon. These schools were well taught by three sisters; remembered by the older residents as the "Bostrack Girls". Most of the teachers in these early times seem to have remained for several years, with classes of over thirty children, and all eight grades. The records show that the students worked hard and with a few exceptions were of excellent deportment.

The school records for the early years were not kept. The first official record dates from 1911 at the school in old Detroit. About that time a new school was built there. However the high school records are more recent and begin twelve years after a road was built into the canyon. The First High School class was held in 1938. A grade school room was remodeled, and Annette Adcock conducted a one room high school with five freshmen, three sophomores, three juniors, and one senior.

The following year a high school building was built, and the school became a joint district, of Marion and Linn counties with Mr. N. Walter Shelby as its first Superintendent. This year there were twenty students. The new high school offered the standard high school courses and had athletic activities in football, basketball and baseball.

In 1939 and 40 the Detroit High School cooperated with the Camp Mary Creek CCC Camp and graduated their students who finished at the camp, which offered twenty-five courses for high school credit.

In the fall of 1952 the high school was relocated at New Detroit on the site of old camp #17, three years after the grade school had moved into the new eleven classroom school, complete with library, office, cafeteria, and kitchen, as well as a large gym. These buildings were built by the Federal Government to replace the old schools to be flooded by the Detroit Dam.

During the construction of the Detroit Dam the grade school enrollment climbed to 250 students and the high school near fifty, but with the completion of the dam the enrollment dropped to the present 102 in the grade and 19 in the high school. The community is now made up of many homeowners who hope for a growing and progressive school that will serve all the communities of District #123J for many years to come.

## BUTTE CREEK SCHOOL

Butte Creek School is located at Marquam, Oregon. It is a consolidated district. The schools Marquam, and Glad Tidings of Clackamas County and Thomas School in Marion County consolidated in 1948.

The first school was built at Marquam in 1847. The second school was built in 1870 - the third school was built in 1889. These three schools were one-room schools. In 1904, a double story two-room building was built. This school served the community until 1949.

In 1949 a modern one-story brick building was built. It has four class rooms, a large gym and auditorium combined. It also has a modern and well equipped cafeteria. It has two school buses that serve the large area of these three consolidated districts. The eighth grade graduates of this district attend Molalla Union and Silverton Union High schools.

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Until the consolidation in 1952, Eldredge School was three separate schools: Mission Bottom, Waconda, and Eldredge.

## ELDREDGE SCHOOL

Mission Bottom was the first one built, in about 1870. This building still stands and is now a residence. In the 19th century the school was a subscription school, that is, the families paid what they could to the teacher; when there was no money to pay him, the school year ended. In the 1880's there were "Spell Downs" at this school which every one attended.

F. E. Eldredge donated the land for the first Eldredge School. It was a small one-room red schoolhouse built near the present school. A bigger one-room white schoolhouse took its place in the early 1900's, and in 1933 the present two-room schoolhouse was built.

Waconda School was built in 1914. This building still stands and is now part of the Eldredge School. Its two rooms take care of grades five to eight, while the Eldredge School has the lower grades. Boys and girls all the way up to the age of 21 attended these elementary schools.

A Mr. Miller attended the present Eldredge School around 1890. He related that one day a man came running on horse back past the school and said that the Eldredge residence was on fire. While all the children ran to the window, the teacher locked the door so they couldn't run to the fire. When the children got to the fire after school, all that remained of the house was the chimney. He also said that there was always a very large birch stick hanging in the front of the room to remind them to be good. This sometimes had to be used when the boys started throwing apples around the room. They got these apples from the apple orchard across the road from the school. When Mr. Homer Egan was attending this same school, in the beginning of the 20th century, the teacher had a dozen pointers made out of hazel which he put to use frequently.

Mr. William H. Egan and his sister, Mrs. Ellen M. Massey, taught for many years in the Mission Bottom and Eldredge schools in the 19th century.

## EVERGREEN SCHOOL

By: Edith Kaser, Clerk



The boundary line of District No. 10 has been as variable as that of a sea coast. Before the first division it reached from the Abiqua to a point a mile south of Drift Creek.

In 1892 the line crossed the Pudding River to include a group of families who were on the far edge of Central Howell. About 1897, Brush Creek, or as it was then called, Dutch Flat, District No. 19, was formed on the north and Centerview on the south.

The first change came about because of the difficulty of reaching the Bethany Church where school was held. The parents on the south end desired a division. A meeting was held at Bethany Church House on Silver Creek, November 14, 1862, to organize School Dist. No. 10, electing directors and clerk to serve until the next annual meeting.

On April 23, 1863, a meeting was held and a committee of three selected for the purpose of selecting a location for building a school house in Dist. 10 and on May 28, 1863, another meeting was held, at which, they reported that they had selected a location near where the road crossed the Sexton Branch. It was also agreed that each side of School Dist. 10 locate and build a school house to suit themselves and at their own expense.

On June 2, 1864, the committee selected to make arrangements for building the school met on the location where the road crossed Sexton Branch. The subscribers who agreed to do an equal part in furnishing labor and money were as follows: Fred Mascher, J. M. Blackerby, Wm. M. Mascher, J. T. Cox and T. J. Wilcox. Books to be used were as follows: Wilsons Series Readers, Thomsons Arithmetic, Bullions Grammars, Monteiths Geography, Websters Spellers and the first teacher was to be C. H. Barnette.

The annual meeting of April 3, 1865, after a very animated discussion, voted to rescind the proceedings of a meeting held on May 28, 1864, which contained an agreement that each side of school Dist. 10 should locate and build a school house to suit themselves. Boundaries of Dist. 10 (towit). The portion of Marion County bounded as follows - - on the north by Silver Creek, east by Dist. No. 4, south east by Dist. No. 35, south by Drift Creek and west by Pudding River. The district included the land claims and parts of land claims at this time of: N. D. Symond, S. S. Cox, Wm. L. Mascher, C. Eisenhart, L. M. Pitman, J. M. Blackerby, J. T. Cox, Fones Wilbur, F. Mascher, L. D. Pitman, S. Blackerby and T. J. Wilcox. Meeting the third of May, 1865, W. L. Mascher introduced a resolution as follows: Whereas School Dist. No. 10 has been divided with Silver Creek as the line of division and as there public funds on hand at the time of division, that they readopt the plan previously drawn up for a school.

May 9, 1865, the school district met to plan and let out a contract to the lowest bidder. They agreed it was to be a box house 16 x 30 x 10 ft. high with 6 ft. anty room. School to be dressed and painted outside, good cedar shingle roof. Also a fireplace, eight, six foot benches with desk backs, six windows 12 x 12 and one batto door. The building was to be finished Oct. 10, 1865, and the undertaker was to furnish a \$500.00 bond to the directors to insure the finished product on the above mentioned date. The contract was let to Wm. L. Mascher for \$310.00. The school district met May 10, 1865, at the Wm. L. Mascher house to vote on a tax to build the school and the money was raised by subscription. Subscribers were as follows: L. M. Pitman, \$60., F. Mascher, \$60., J. M. Blackerby, \$40., Wm. L. Mascher, \$40., J. T. Cox, \$40., S. G. Blackerby, \$10., J. R. Gist, \$10., H. Allen, \$10., N. D. Symons, \$15., C. C. Eisenhart, \$15., L. D. Pitman, \$10.

October 10, 1865, the school house was accepted by the directors and they also agreed to the division of the public money on hand between District 10 and District 63.

F. Mascher bid to put up the black board for \$4.50 and got the job. They also agreed to support a quarter at \$5.00 per scholar, if it was necessary, or less, and allow outsiders to send their children at the same rate. They received fourteen subscriptions and Miss Ruth Fletcher was teacher. Mrs. Sarah Riches Adamson, a first grade pupil in 1865, related at an Evergreen School Reunion how Miss Fletcher let the pupils out in the yard so they could watch the soldiers of the Civil War come home.

On the 2nd of May, 1891, the contract for a new school was let to L. Ames and E. Hinkle for \$700.00. F. M. Starett, architect. Also bought one acre of land from I. B. Small for \$50.00. Sold the old school house for \$15. The new one room school was accepted by the board August 5, 1891, after Ames and Hinkle gave a written guarantee that the walls would stand intact and not settle out of line for a period of five years. Directors were Fred Kaser, Fred Krug, and Peter Herr. R. D. Allen, clerk. At times there were eighty pupils in the one room, all quenching their thirst from a common water bucket and dipper, cost of same being eighty-eight cents.

In 1906, a second room was added at a cost of \$375. P. Geiser was awarded the contract. Board members at the time were M. M. Elliott, F. D. Knight, G. H. Ottaway, James Finlay, clerk. Teachers wages were generally \$50. a month, and according to old minutes were hired for six months. In the old days, the list of teachers leaned heavily on relationship, close or distant, to some board member. The school year of 1925-26 is the last year a relative of a board member has been employed in school District 10, but probably only because there has been no relative qualifi-

In 1905, A. L. Gregg was the teacher and each class had an interesting exhibit at the World's Fair in Portland, called the Lewis and Clark Exposition. A picture of the school members won a blue ribbon. This picture had each pupil in an individual pose with the number of his grade prominently displayed on the right shoulder. Of the fifty seven students in the picture, forty are still living. At the annual Evergreen picnic the year 1955, a fifty year reunion was of special interest. Twenty who were in the winning picture were present, coming from Canada, Montana, Washington and many points in Oregon.

In these early 1900's, it is interesting to note that janitor work for the school was contracted for \$2.50 a month, and wood bought for \$2.50 a cord, delivered and piled.

Construction began on our present school house in 1947, after a bond issue was approved for the amount of \$14,000.00 The last payment on this bonding will be made

in September, 1957. Harvey Kaser, Reuben Klopfenstein and George Kaufman were directors, Ethel Oveross, clerk. Miles V. Ottaway and S. McClung were the carpenters. The building is 72 x 38 with a full basement and oil furnace. The bell from the old school house was mounted over the back porch. The pupils moved in for classes in February, 1948.

Evergreen can boast of their near-great, but to mention one and leave out others would not be proper. Descendants of several of the families mentioned in old record books are living in Evergreen and nearby Silverton. There is only one member of the first 8th grade graduation class alive, she being Letta Ottaway Bye. (Mrs. R. H. Bye). In olden days, the Evergreen School was dubbed "The Educated Corner". Tall, thick forests of evergreens, mud and wild animals made the trip to school an adventure. If it were possible for those progressive pioneers who sat in the Bethany Church House in 1862 for the purpose of forming Evergreen, School Dist. 10, to see the percentage of above average students still graduating from "The Educated Corner", they could say "well done!"

## FRUITLAND SCHOOL

By: Charles Baker,  
Principal

Fruitland District 113, Marion County, was founded February 18, 1889 during the office of D. W. Yoder, County Superintendent of schools. The meeting for organization was held at the old Slocum place presently the residence of the Leo Newell family. It seems fitting that the organizational meeting place is today the home of the first school. It has been moved there and serves as a chicken house and general storage!

The school has had four main physical revolutions, the first being its original construction in 1889. This job was undertaken by Mr. Jake Hockett and his son Luke. In 1906 the district was changed, part of it going into the newly organized Bethel District. The next major change came in 1936 when the old building became a hen house and a new one was erected in its place. This building is still a part of Fruitland but was enlarged by the addition of two modern classroom units in 1953.



Along with other schools Fruitland has had its growing aches and pains. The membership in 1889 was about twenty-four. By 1925 the enrollment had jumped to forty-six. The next decade saw a decline to less than thirty, this number remaining fairly constant through the 1930's. Today's school population has risen to sixty-five.

A few people educated at Fruitland and still living in the community are Mr. Val Gerig attending in 1890, Mr. Ernest Gerig - Class of 1930, and Mrs. Norman Gydesend - Class of 1931. Some of the boys and girls attending today are going to the same school as their grandparents.

Fruitland, along with other schools, has gone through the stage from boarding teacher to commuting teacher. Of course, the salary has also jumped considerably since the first custodian-teacher-principal drew down his first month's pay.

Some of the teaching personnel over the years have been Mr. Frank Mills who was the original teacher in 1889, Mrs. Jane Moser who taught at the turn of the century, Mrs. Nellie Hammer teaching during the mid-twenties, and Mrs. Remoh Schuler a former Fruitland student herself, teaching for a number of years through the 1920's. More recently Mrs. Mary Ellen South has been doing an excellent teaching job and is finishing her eighth year in the primary grades this year.

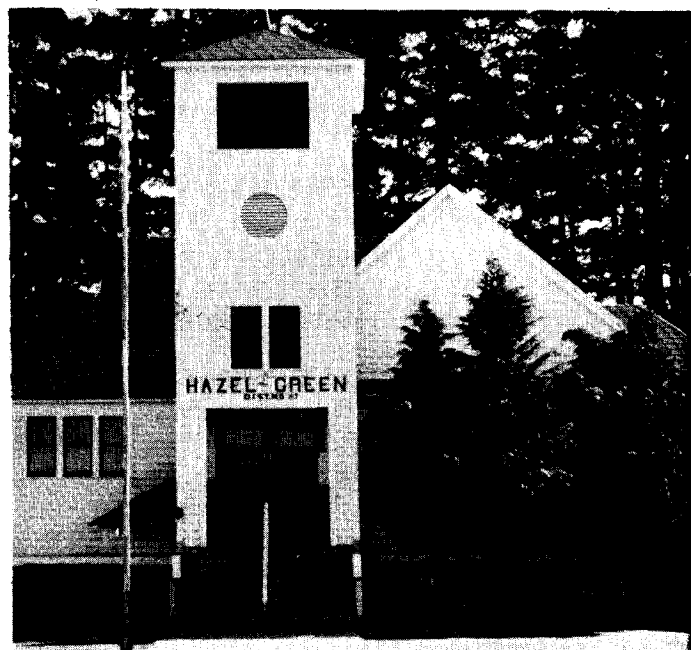
In any study of a school's history it becomes readily apparent that much community spirit, hard work, and good will have been woven into the past. These things working within the community add up to good citizens being turned out by the school.

It is impossible to pay tribute to everyone connected with the school through the years and many deserving people will be neglected.

Special thanks are extended to Mrs. Emma Runner and Mr. Val Gerig, residents since the founding, for their help.

## HAZEL GREEN SCHOOL

The Hazel Green School District was organized in 1865, the year the Civil War ended. The school was called Hazel Green because of the undergrowth of hazel.



The first schoolhouse, a frame building, was located south of the Forest Simmons home near the edge of the woods on the Amer Wood's farm. It was furnished with homemade desks planned for two pupils, but often serving three. Mrs. Louisa Johnson, who is now almost ninety, attended the first school and is the only living pupil of that era. She makes her home with Mrs. Robert Beer, her daughter, in North Howell.

The first school building was replaced in the late 1870's by a better structure on the west side of the Pudding River. Mr. and Mrs. John Davis donated an acre of ground with the understanding that the building could also be used as a church. Teachers in the 1870's were Frederic Anderegg, Miss Ann Baughman, and Mrs. Allen May. One of the teachers left this notation "School closed July 9, 1876, days 26, dollars 16."

Teachers in the 1880's were Mrs. Charles Weller (Nora Chamberlain), E. B. Fletcher, Miss Ida Wade, Miss Kate Dearborn, Otto Wilson, Ed Kirby, and others. Miss Anna Hass taught eight grades with sixty pupils enrolled in 1895. The pupils' ages ranged from six to sixteen. The homemade desks from the first school building were still in use at this time.

Directors in the early days were Charles Arnold, J. L. Wood, Joe Hughes, J. A. Looney, James Norwood, N. P. Williamson, and George and Charles Zielinski, Srs.

The schoolhouse was the meeting place for social and religious activities until the late 1890's. The Literary and Debating Society with the paper "The Hazel Green Star", Frank Salesbury, editor, the Sing-in School led by George Applegard of England, and spelling matches attracted attention and drew visitors and talent from other districts. The debators were Harold Salesbury, John Howell, Preston Wood, I. Keys, A. J. May, and others.

The religious life was encouraged by church services and Sunday Schools in the school building. We find recorded Baptist, Methodist, Dunkards, United Brethern, and congregational denominations.

The second school building was remodeled in 1897. Becoming too small in 1913, the building was moved across the road and made into a dwelling by Frank Zielinski. The new schoolhouse that was built had a cloakroom, two classrooms, and a basement. Hazel Green was the largest and richest rural district in Oregon until 1920, when about a third of the district became a part of the Labish Center District.

Through the years many improvements were made on the third schoolhouse. The Community Club financed the building of a stage and a room for a library in 1935.

The days are gone now when pupils drive deer from the school grounds, when boys ride work oxen to school, and when small boys run home in terror as the trees make a noise that sounds like a panther's scream. A bear trap was only a stone's throw from the door in the first of the Hazel Green school buildings. The first teachers of the district "boarded around",—spending a week in each home. Sunday was moving day, and the teacher had an opportunity to become acquainted with parents and to see the home environment. With progress, all has been changed.

The year 1954 marks a year of great progress for Hazel Green. Five acres of land one mile west from the third school building, which still stands, was purchased from Mrs. Dorothy Zielinski. A new modern school was built consisting of four classrooms and an all-purpose room to be used as an auditorium, gymnasium, and cafeteria.

In September, 1954, the new Hazel Green school building was completed. The building has been inspected and has been rated as standard according to Oregon law.

Hats off to the men and women who laid the foundations!

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## JEFFERSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The first institution of learning in the city of Jefferson was the Jefferson Institute, incorporated by the Territorial Legislative Assembly in January, 1857. On April 5, 1856, the subscribers met and adopted a constitution. This provided for a Board of Trustees of 15 to 25 men, the membership not to exceed 15. One-third of the board were to be elected annually, each group holding office for three years. The constitution further stated that in no case should political or religious views be a "test of qualification" for teacher or office holder, that not more than one-fourth of the Board of Trustees might belong to any one religious denomination,

and, further, "males and females shall have equal chances and advantages of education in Jefferson Institute."

In January, 1857, the Board of Directors employed Charles H. Mattoon to take charge of the school at \$65.00 per month - "he to board himself". Tuition was to be \$10.00 per term in the primary department, \$12.00 in the secondary, \$16.00 in the preparatory, and \$20.00 in the higher department, each term to consist of six months.

In 1856 Jacob Conser donated 100 acres in north Jefferson for school purposes. This land was surveyed into lots and offered for sale at public auction. Since there was no other school in the district, funds from School District No. 14 helped to finance the Institute. It derived some income from time to time by renting rooms to lecturers, Sons of Temperance, and others. Students were allowed to live in some of the rooms. In 1860 it was decided to tax each scholar 25¢ per quarter in order to buy wood for the school.

In January, 1862, the Board recorded its approval of the system of whipping scholars "on the backs and legs" rather than on their hands. During the Civil War period the Treasurer's reports records some losses by use of "greenbacks" and the board voted to pay all bills in U.S. coin or legal tender. Some subscriptions were paid to the Institute in gold dust.

In 1876 the Board voted to require assistant teachers to possess first class certificates from the County School Superintendent. At this same time Jacob Conser addressed the Board of Trustees at some length upon the question of free schools, taking the position that it would be better for all concerned to levy a tax upon the people of this district and run a free school. No action was taken on the question, however.

April 6, 1877, Professor J. C. Campbell made a very complete report of the school work, listing 47 textbooks in use. These ranged all the way from Primers to Trigonometry, Surveying and Navigation, and Greek and Latin readers. Total enrollment was 109 -- 57 boys and 53 girls with average attendance of 65. In 1878 the Board voted to adopt the textbooks recommended by the State Board of Instruction.

In 1879 the Board forbade the carrying of revolvers, large knives or other weapons by the students on pain of suspension for one term. At the same time, the rule forbidding teachers to inflict corporal punishment was repealed.

In March, 1891, a meeting of voters in School District No. 14 was called for the purpose of separating the public school fund, belonging to District No. 14 from the Institute fund. It had been provided in the Charter that if there was no district school maintained in District No. 14, the Institute might, on making all reports required by



law, draw district school money. This had been fortunate, for the Institute which could otherwise have found it almost impossible to develop as it did. The voters, realizing that they had had full advantage of the district fund even though administered by the Institute trustees, and knowing that if the funds were separated the district would have to build a new school house, voted by a large majority to continue as before.

However, poor loans and financial difficulties forced the decision in 1897, to apply the Institute funds to the erection of a public school building. Public meetings were held, a district organization effected, and a tax of 20 mills on the property of the district was voted. Authority was granted by the legislature to appropriate Institute funds to the use of the newly organized district. At the annual meeting of the trustees on March 6, 1899, it was ordered that the funds should be diverted, that the school grounds should be deeded to the district, and that the old building, for 40 years the home of the school, should be replaced by a modern building.

Although the Institute during its 42 years of activity did not become the great institution of learning its founders had dreamed, it did maintain high standards and earned an excellent reputation among Oregon's earliest chartered schools. Many well known persons were connected with the Institute in some way. George H. Williams, one of the incorporators, was a United States Senator and Attorney General under Grant.

Many members of the original Board were pioneer settlers in the community whose families still live in and near Jefferson. Some of these were Jacob Conser, N. R. Doty, E. E. Parrish, W. F. West, Jabez Terhune, J. L. Miller, Manual Gunsaulus, Thomas Holt, Charles Miller, Absalom Smith, E. N. Thomas, J. W. Waterman, Eli Vaughn, J. M. Bates, and Bartley Reeves.

In 1899 a new building replaced the old Institute, and was considered as one of the best in the state. At this time, as a tribute to the memory of those who "labored for the upbuilding of our school and people" a library was established and named the Jefferson Institute Library. In 1906-07 1100 volumes were listed, and this library was considered one of the very best libraries to be found in the public schools of Oregon.

This building served the Jefferson School District very well until September, 1938, when it was replaced by a modern one-story brick veneer building at an approximate cost of \$48,000. The district was aided by the PWA with a grant of \$21,600. This building housed both the high school and grade school. The September enrollment in 1938 was the largest enrollment in the history of the school at that time. One hundred and two were enrolled in high school, and 167 in grade school. The Jefferson school district now included the Parrish Gap district, which voted in November, 1937, to consolidate with Jefferson.

In 1951, due to increased enrollment and consolidation with four rural districts - Talbot, Sidney, Conner, and DeVaney - ground was broken on February 4, 1952, for a new high school building and gymnasium. The corner-stone was laid on May 3, 1952, by Jefferson Lodge #33, A. F. & A. M. This modern plant was completed at a cost of approximately \$300,000, and during the current school year has an enrollment of approximately 140 students. The building erected in 1938 is occupied by the Jefferson Grade School with an enrollment of 298. Three of the rural schools are in operation - Talbot, Sidney, and Conner - with a total enrollment of 74. Mr. Irving Miller is currently superintendent of the public school system.

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Oregon schools are just over 100 years old. Today Oregon is accredited as having one of the finest school systems in the nation.

## LABISH CENTER SCHOOL

In matters of square miles, we are a small district, situated mostly along the banks of the onion growing beaverdam. A long time ago we would have been along the shores of a lake bordered with a swampy marsh and covered with brush and could have been bought for \$10 an acre, so said one oldtimer, now deceased.

In 1913 the Hayes interests of San Jose, California, started drainage procedures, having acquired a large block of this rich land from Mr. W. H. Miller for \$19 an acre. They were also instrumental in getting a Drainage District organized of all the land bordering the Pudding River.

(River so-named because blood pudding was the favorite food of the very early settlers. After the land was drained and dried, L. O. Herrold took the contract for clearing and cleaning off the brush and debris, using tractors and teams of horses shod with wooden shoes; from the very first, onions were grown on these ever increasing acres. This brought in a lot of people and the Hayes Company rented out the land in small parcels.

Up until 1920 the children of school age walked to Hazel Green School, a matter of several miles for some, so it became necessary to form a new school district. In forming this district, the land was taken mostly from Hazel Green and North Howell School Districts. The schoolhouse was built on land acquired from the E. G. Hornschuch farm and was erected in that year. The first school census taken October 28, 1920, contained 49 names, of which six are still residents in the district. The first elected school clerk was F. E. Rape, and the first school board contained the names of D. R. DeGross, H. E. Boehm, and A. Weinert. The first schoolteacher was Anna Meyers. She had all eight grades and an enrollment of 31 students.

The district grew, and in 1931 a newspaper clipping stated, "Mrs Florence Burr will again be in charge of the largest one room school in Marion County", so another room was added and another teacher hired. We have maintained a large enrollment ever since and have kept activities and equipment up to standard. A Community Club was in force for some time which was turned into a Parent-Teacher Association recently.

Who remembers the Community Parade put on by all the Community Clubs in Marion County on May 25, 1929? When we paraded all along Salem's principal street and on up Court Street to the Capitol (the old Capitol building) to be reviewed by Governor Patterson. Keizer won first prize with their large delegation of 40 carloads of people, totaling 235 in number. Honor for the most unique float was divided between Stayton and Labish Center. Other entries included Mt. Angel, Salem Heights, Silverton, Aumsville, Rickey, Aurora, Hubbard, and Molalla.

Stayton's entry boosted their cannery products and part of their idea consisted of a large tin can of Santiam Beans walking along in an eye catching manner.

Labish Center told of our product - onions! It was a large float decorated with green boughs and yellow blooms - - eight lovely girls dressed in yellow on the float called attention to a large sign, on each side saying, "We know our onions". In the center of the sign was painted a picture of a large onion.

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## MARION SCHOOL



The Marion School District #20 had its official birth by an act of the Legislative Assembly of the Territory of Oregon, passed on January 12, 1854. Excerpts from a letter written in February 1855 by District Clerk W. F. West to County Superintendent William Pugh, reads as follows: "We organized January 5, 1855, and as we had no house convenient to have school in, we resolved to build a schoolhouse by taxation as soon as practicable. We have thirty-one scholars - over four and under twenty-one years of age. We have not had school since we organized."

On July 18, 1871, a special meeting was called at the schoolhouse for the purpose of selecting a place to build a new school and to vote a tax for the same. Marion was chosen as the site by a vote of 10 to 0, at which time the directors were authorized to proceed to contract for the building. Dimensions were to be 26'x 40'x 16'. Jerry Parrish and Reubin Davis were chosen to assist the Board as a building committee.

By the year 1903, Marion District had grown to the point that it became necessary to erect another building. On October 12, 1903, Chairman S. H. Russell called a special meeting for October 23 to ask the legal voters of the district to authorize the Board to contract a debt of \$1500.00 to build the new school, to authorize the Board to issue interest bearing notes for the indebtedness, and to levy a tax on real and personal property for the debt incurred. A tax of six mills was voted to be levied on each dollar of taxable real and personal property to pay the notes.

It became evident by the year 1950 that the district could not delay another building program. Not only had the district outgrown its buildings but was also faced with the problem of meeting State standardization. The most economical course in the long run was to build a new structure rather than add to the old ones. At a special meeting of the board, called by Chairman J. L. Calavon, March 13, 1950, a petition was presented, requesting the board to call a special election of the legal voters of the district to authorize the contracting of a bonded indebtedness of \$72,000.00. The outcome of it was that the district voted a bond issue of \$67,605.00. In due course of time the contract for the building was let to Larson & White. On September 10, 1951, the building was accepted by the Board of Directors. December 12, 1954, will mark the one-hundredth anniversary of School District #20.

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The Rev. George H. Atkinson is called the father of Oregon's public schools. He urged a system of common schools for the Oregon Territory and was president of the Oregon State Teachers Association in 1867.

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## McKEE SCHOOL

Mr. and Mrs. James McKee was the first family to settle here. They took up a homestead of 640 acres, known as the "McKee Donation Land Claim." This was in the year of 1852. The land around here was all timber and brush at that time, now it is almost all cleared away. Our school got its name from this family. Tony Vandercovering lives on this land claim now.

Mr. McKee's son, David A. McKee, built a home where Mr. John Beyers lives now. Mr. McKee had the first postoffice in his house, later in the year F. G. Fladeland built a store on the corner at the crossroads, they moved the post-office to it. He also built a chopping mill and a warehouse. There was also a blacksmith shop located at the crossroads. The narrow gauge railroad came through here in the early 1870's. The train ran from Woodburn to Springfield. A depot was built at the crossroads. It was called the McKee Station. From 1914 on to 1925, we had four passenger trains each way every day, and one freight train each way. Since the McKee Post Office and store were closed by the owner, Mrs. P. W. Oure, the trains have been dropping off until now we have only one freight train leaving Woodburn. The buildings have all been torn down that were located at the McKee Station.

Monitor, which is located about 3 miles east of McKee, got their mail and freight here at McKee. It was the shipping place, as the railroad company had built a switch side track there. All of the farmers shipped their hogs, veal, chickens, eggs and cream to Portland, Oregon.

The Rural Free Delivery Route came out from Woodburn, down through McKee, Monitor and Belle Passie in 1904. The farmers set up their own mail boxes. Grove Todd, our first mailman, delivered the mail in a wagon pulled by a team of horses. There were no gravel roads in those days. Mud was axle deep in places. It was this way until 1920, when gravel was shipped in by car loads to McKee siding and hauled on the roads by team and wagon. Mr. Twillinger of Woodburn, went on as our mail carrier in 1910. He drove a horse and cart and in 1918 he drove a Ford car to deliver the mail as the parcel post was put on then. He was our mail carrier until 1940. Or Leary is our present mail carrier.

The children went to Grassy Pond to school until Jan. 1, 1899, when the first school house was built at McKee. The boards for the desks were 1" x 6" rough lumber with the splinters shaved off. The desks were for 2 pupils and were bought second-handed for McKee District. The first stove was a big, long iron stove. It set in the middle of the room, and cord wood sticks were used for fuel. The first teacher was Hattie Stuart of Silverton. She boarded at the W. E. McKee home. Byron Ballweber and Ed Vick drilled the well at the school house in 1909. The old school house was torn down in 1936 as the new building was built just south of the old one. In 1952 a new annex was added to the school, consisting of adequate rest rooms and a big spacious library and kitchen.

McKee today, is a big thriving community, having a variety of industries. Dairy farming, poultry raising, grain, berries, fruit and truck gardening keep the community families busy the year around.

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## MONITOR SCHOOL

Monitor, like most Oregon towns, began as a pioneer settlement. In 1848, William Eastman and his wife, of Virginia, migrated to Oregon securing a Donation Land Claim of 360 acres south of Monitor, where he built his home.

Other pioneers arrived and the little community grew and prospered, especially after a grist mill was erected by John and Joseph Eagan and James Garriet on Butte Creek where water power was available.

The mill was completed during the Civil War. The first grist was ground on March 9, 1862, the day of the famous battle between the "Monitor" and the "Merrimac". The mill owners suggested naming the mill "Monitor" for the victorious ship. Later the same name was given to the little town that grew up around the mill.

A great part of the community was composed of members of the Adventist religion who soon built a church and a school in which to educate their children. This parochial school operated for more than twenty years. Many of the older generation, who still live here, received their education there.

The Monitor community was part of the Harmony public school district with a school about a mile distant.

In 1919, the citizens of this little town decided they should have a public school of their own. Not having a building, they rented part of a pool hall and so began the first public school of Monitor.

Butte Creek, which runs through the little town, is the boundary line between Marion and Clackamas counties. When they decided to build a school, it resulted in a feud between the residents of the two counties, as to where the school should be built. After about a year of this, Marion county won the fight and the school was built on that side of the creek.

In 1920, the building, which is still used for the four upper grades, started and continued through 1922 as a one-room school with Miss Jessie Nelson as teacher.

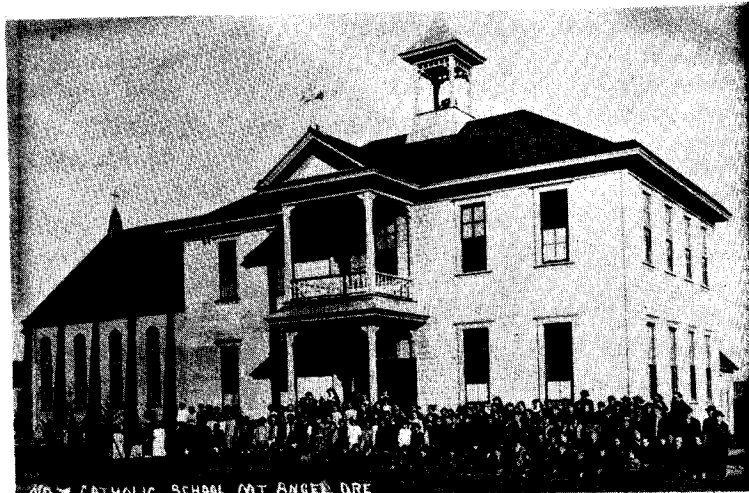
In 1948, consolidation was talked about with Harmony and Grassy Pond in Marion county and Monte Cristo and Oak Lawn in Clackamas county. A petition was filed and was voted on in the separate districts during the summer of 1948. Oak Lawn finally decided to drop out and the other three districts consolidated.

Since there were two districts from Marion and only one from Clackamas county, it was agreed to build the school in Marion county.

In 1949, the school grounds were enlarged and the building which now houses the four lower grades and a gymnasium was built. In September of that year, Monitor started as a four-room school and transported its pupils. The teachers that year were: Mrs. Ethel Campbell, Principal; Mrs. Georgia Versteeg, Mrs. Erna Damewood and Mrs. Zeta Brock. Mrs. Versteeg had taught in Monitor five years before the consolidation.

It is still a four-room school with the present enrollment 113. Teachers at present: Theresa Dehler, Principal and 7th. and 8th. grades; Odelia Park, 5th. and 6th grades; Georgia Versteeg, 4th. and 5th. grades; and Fides Welf, 1st and 2nd. grades.

## MT. ANGEL SCHOOLS



The oldest known school in the vicinity of Mt. Angel was located at the foot of a lone butte known to the Indians as Tap-a-lam-ho, "The mountain of worship." Lone Butte School was established in 1855, constructed of clapboards, split-log benches, and a massive fireplace. Its rugged design was befitting the pioneers of the time. William Cline, the first teacher, had 8 first grade students. His roster was as follows:

Nimrod Jenkins  
Elam Ross  
Richard Stout  
J. C. Dinsmore

Robert L. Milster  
R. C. Gibson  
S. M. Sever 1.  
Milton Young

Ten years and six teachers later the school was disbanded because of growth in population and division of the school district.

About fifty years following the arrival of Mr. John Ball, Oregon's first teacher who conducted a school for Dr. John McLoughlin within the confines of Fort. Vancouver; two Benedictine Fathers were traveling through the Willamette Valley. Their mission was to find a suitable location for a monastery.

In 1881, through the influence of Mathais Butsch, a member of one of a dozen families living near the foot of "The Butte near Fillmore," the two Priests came to Mt. Angel. They found the setting to their liking and very similar to that of their Motherhouse in Engelberg, Switzerland, from which the town of Mt. Angel bears its name. It was their decision to build a monastery on the "Butte." Thus began the formal higher education in the vicinity of Mt. Angel. Only five years prior to this, Chief Joseph of the Nez Perce Indians said upon his surrender on Bear Paw Mountain of Montana, "From this spot I'll fight no more." The militia returned from the Indian Wars, the gold seekers, from the scattered fields with empty "pokes." The pioneer settlers were no longer troubled with the fever of gold and Indians. They had time to think in terms of improving the culture and education.

During the late "80's" Oregon was being bound by bands of steel. James J. Hill made the statement that if you, "Give me enough Swedes and whiskey, I'll build a Railroad to Hell." The pioneer settlers of Mt. Angel were thinking in terms of traveling the other direction. In 1882 Reverend P. Adelhelm, one of the two Priests mentioned before, traveled to Switzerland to arrange transportation for 26 Priests, Brothers, and Sisters. With this nucleus of religious people, a monastery and convent were built. In 1888 the Mt. Angel Normal School was established by the Benedictine Sisters.

1. MT. ANGEL, OREGON, 1848-1912, Sister Ursula Hodes

During these years a little white schoolhouse was built near the Southern Pacific Railroad. This one-room structure had as its first teacher Mary Casey who later became Sister M. Pacida. Another Pioneer pedagogue was Mr. Rufus Young who later became principal of St. Mary's Public School and remained in the profession for about 40 years.

In 1901 a new schoolhouse was erected which listed among its modern conveniences, a board sidewalk and an electric lighting system. This was a two-story frame building, complete with a bell-tower and "Captain's Walk."

The oldest public school records date back to September 11, 1916 with Mr. Rufus Young as principal. Miss Helen Keber was the third grade teacher with 41 students in her class. Miss Keber, incidentally, is still a member of the faculty at St. Mary's Public School, as efficient and as active as ever.

In 1920 a new, modern, brick, building was completed. It now contains sixteen classrooms, four auxiliary rooms, a large cafeteria, and an auditorium.

Education is, without a doubt, the largest interest and concern of the people of Mt. Angel. For a small community of 1445 in population to support St. Mary's Grade School with 180 parochial students, St. Mary's Public School with 270 students, Mt. Angel Preparatory School with 130 high school boys, the Mt. Angel Academy with 180 high school girls, the Mt. Angel Women's College, and the Minor and Major Seminary is certainly documentary subscription to the words of Thomas Carlyle, "Of all things which man can do or make here below, by far the most momentous, wonderful, and worthy are the things we call books."

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## NORTH HOWELL SCHOOL

By: Mrs. Thomas W. Bump

The history of North Howell School began about one hundred years ago when the covered wagons began to roll into the community. In spite of the many problems involved in living in a new land, inhabited by hostile Indians, the new settlers soon saw the need for a school for the children.

The first school in this community was a log cabin north and east of the present site of the North Howell Grange Hall. The cabin was built of second-growth fir logs, notched, laid up, and pinned with wooden pegs. Chinking was done with moss and clay. The cabin had a dirt floor, but — there were no windows to supply light. All light — came from the fireplace, or from a door in the opposite end of the room. The children sat on benches made of split fir logs, fitted with wooden pegs for legs. These were set the long way of the room to take full advantage of what light there was. The boys sat on one side, and the girls on the other. As these benches became quite splintery after the logs dried out, it behooved the pupils to sit quietly and give attention to their lessons. There were fourteen pupils, and only two books — a reader and a speller that had been brought in by a settler.

Prior to 1855, schools were privately supported, but by 1856 the Marion County School System was fully organized and the district was given the number 51. The first records of District 51 show that Elisha Peavy was clerk. Between 1852 and 1857 the number of pupils had increased from fourteen to fifty-seven. A new schoolhouse was then built near the pine tree on the present grounds. It was built of rough boards, but

it had windows and desks. Two pupils who attended school in this building are still living. They are Mina Vinton McIlwain and Erma Stevens Bateson.

Later a new schoolhouse was built near the pine tree. It was a very nice one for that time. It had six high windows with green shades, lots of blackboards, maps, and charts. There was a stage in the room from which the first eighth grade exercises were held. The building was constructed of planed lumber, painted both inside and out. The number of pupils increased to sixty and more room was needed. An unsightly addition was built in front of the original building. This, however, was used but a few years.

In 1906 an entirely new schoolhouse was built. At that time it was very modern. It had a seven foot basement all above ground, which was used for storage of wood, and as a place for the children to play when the weather was bad. In 1927 it was deemed not safe for the children to play in, and the building was lowered to the ground. New floors were put in, and the building was used for thirty years. John Schaap was the chairman of the board when this building was built.

In 1956 the people of the community voted bonds to build a new schoolhouse. It was completed late in the fall and classes were moved to the new building. It is a three-classroom building with a gymnasium-auditorium, kitchen, health room, and storage rooms. It is of modern design and is a far cry from the log cabin of the 1850's. The chairman of the present school board is Marinus Schaap, son of John Schaap, who was mentioned previously in this story.

Perhaps, there were those who had a feeling of nostalgia when they saw the old building being razed, yet the people of North Howell are justly proud of the progress made in their community.

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#### NORTH SANTIAM SCHOOL

A group of twenty pupils gathering each day under the supervision of a young school mistress in a two story frame house, donated for that purpose, by a public spirited citizen of the community, was the nucleus of a now thriving rural center of elementary education.

The year was 1903, the place a small farming community, located on the banks of the North Santiam River, which was to give its name to a thriving community and school. The citizens of this community after long and seemingly futile negotiations, seeking to set up their own school district, finally decided to sponsor a subscription school for the younger children of school age, upon whom it felt to be a distinct hardship to walk such a distance as they were then compelled to do.

Myrtle Van Nuys Howard, who now resides in Salem was the first teacher of this subscription school. Walking the mile and a half from her parents home at West Stayton and back again at night, she thus collected her teachers' earnings each month of a dollar a head or twenty dollars a month, since she taught twenty pupils.

This little subscription school was maintained for two years, part of the time being held in the two story frame house owned by a Mr. Henry Chance and located near the Southern Pacific Branch Line, on what is now part of the Hofmann Brothers' farm.



This building was used but a short time, then pupils and teacher moved to a building used as a church by a group of people who called themselves "Saints". This building was located on the J. A. James farm. During these two years three teachers served beside Mrs. Howard, Bernice Neal, Iva Baker, and Nora Splawn. Of the original pupils four are known by Mrs. Howard to be still living.

While the teaching of this subscription school was going on, a petition was being put before the court in Salem, by the residents of the area, which stated their desire to withdraw from the school district which was now serving them and set up one of their own.

The question of withdrawal and setting up an independent school district, started repercussions which were felt throughout every home affected. The arguments grew heated to the point of violence.

There is an old saying to the effect that there is nothing causes trouble between neighbors like line fences and school boundaries and the case in point is no exception. Feeling ran high on both sides because residents in one area feared higher tax rates from losing so many patrons, and those in the proposed new district were anxious to set up an independent school district.

There is an amusing incident told about an ardent supporter for withdrawal, who, living at the extreme end of the old district, fervently worked for setting up a new school closer to his home. Although many and long were the hearings in Salem this farmer never missed a chance to sit in, thus keeping abreast of which way the hearings were going. Upon returning to his home, and passing the home of a neighbor who was against the proceedings, and with whom much argument had brought to the point of not speaking, a white handkerchief tied to the top of the buggy whip would indicate triumph for the side of withdrawal that day, a defeat was signified when it was seen flying a half mast.

Finally the great day came. The community received a letter, signed by the County School Superintendent, E. F. Moore, dated May 5th, 1905, granting permission to call a special meeting for the purpose of creating an independent school district, and for the purpose of electing three directors and a school clerk. Voting for a special school tax was also on the agenda. These orders were promptly put into effect, and August 5, 1905, was the date of the first meeting of the board of directors: W. J. Houser, J. D. Barber, and John Miller. Ira Thomas was clerk.

Even with the formation of their own independent district people found that their woes were not over, for it was found necessary to build an addition to the schoolhouse, thus making room for older students who had been attending the other district, as well as the younger pupils who had been attending the subscription school.

New additions took money, which in turn meant a higher tax level for members of the district, which for some was a most unwelcome result of having their own school. In fact, it is said of one man that he felt so strongly on the subject that, leaving nothing to chance, he took his gun along with him to a special school election. But be that as it may, this tax payer must have found, as many have after him that you cannot stand in the way of progress, for in due time the new room was added, thus making it a two-room school.

The land upon which the school stood was purchased from Mrs. C. A. Davis, of Turner, for the sum of \$50.00. The present building stands on this original site of one and three-quarter acres.

On July 24th, 1909, at a special meeting, the ninth grade was voted in as a permanent feature of the district. Chairman of the school board was then J. A. James. This ninth grade continued through 1917, when on May 19, a special meeting was held by the district to discuss and vote on discontinuing the ninth grade. When all ballots were cast it was found that the people had voted against discontinuing the ninth grade. This feature of the school was finally voted out in the early 1920's.

According to the census report, dated June, 1908, the district consisted of 31 legal voters and 52 children of school age. At this time school was taught 8 months the year.

Of special interest to the average taxpayer living in the district at the present date is the annual financial report, dated June, 1907. Average monthly salary of the female teacher was \$50.00, estimated value of the schoolhouse and grounds, \$600.00, estimated value of schoolhouse furniture and apparatus, \$200.00.

In 1936 a new building was erected with two rooms. The dedication was held on September 5th., with late Senator James W. Mott as the speaker of the day. At that time there was an enrollment of 85 pupils.

Since that date many new innovations have been brought into being, not the least of which has been a dining room in which the 106 pupils are served hot lunches each school day. Beside two additional classrooms in 1947, a fully-equipped gymnasium has been completed. Mr. Stanely Whipple of Scio High School was hired to teach organized sports part time. School grounds have come in for their share of improvement also, having been landscaped in 1952.

The school has enjoyed the services of the same principal since 1945, Mrs. Grace Roach, Rte. #1, Aumsville. Other teachers on the staff include: Mrs. Grace Fallis, Salem, Mrs. Odessa Kollin, Rte. #1, Aumsville, and Mrs. Lottie Genre, Salem.

An interesting comparison between the annual financial report for the district for 1956 and the one quoted above may be drawn from the following statistics: average monthly salary of teachers, \$441.00, estimated value of school grounds \$1500.00, estimated value of building, \$3800.00. Equipment is now valued at \$6000.00

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District 50's first school was conducted in a log house on the farm now owned by Henery Powell.

#### PRATUM SCHOOL

By: Pearl Andrews

Before June 30, 1862 A.D. a second school building had been erected where the Pratum Methodist Church now stands on the land of Levin Nelson English, Sr., The building belonged to the district, but the land continued to be the property of Mr. English. The trustees at that time were L. N. English, Jr., John Kays, and John Sapp. Mr. English, Sr. was evidently a strong southern sympathizer. If anyone wishes interesting reading about the district in Civil War days

I refer him to the Oregon Statesman of July 14, 1862.

In 1903 District 50, by then known as Pratum, built a one room school on land to the east of the railroad track in the village of Pratum. A second room was added in

1908. That building served until 1929 when the present two room building was erected.

Pratum has many times had a registration of close to sixty pupils. It is said that during earlier days as many as fifty were taught by one teacher. The present enrollment is forty-six - evenly divided between two teachers.

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#### PARKERSVILLE SCHOOL

It would appear that the first school at Parkersville was not originally built for school purposes. When the need for a school arose, a building was moved from elsewhere. This building was of ample size being about thirty feet by fifty feet. However, it was poorly lighted, having three windows on each side. These windows were made of 8 x 10 panes of glass. As the glass was broken out it was not replaced, so lighting became more inadequate. There was one door to the building in the east end. This school was located on the John Thomas Smith farm, adjacent to the public road leading from Parkersville to old Waconda, and at a point just west of the Murry A. Wade

farm line.

Miss Rosetta Jenkins of the Abiqua area taught the last term in this building. The blue-eyed and jolly Miss Jenkins, twenty years or younger in age, had among her pupils the following: Minnie and Ida Wade, Inez and Albyn Esson, Olive and Guyer Coonse, (Olive being Mrs. T. Benton Jones of Mission Bottom) Jane Harpool, Anna Webb, Albert and Clara Smith, Roxie and Emma Ringo, Christina and James Grashong.

In the year 1873, a new location on the Wade farm about halfway between the old school and the Parkersville Mills was chosen. This was a triangular plot bounded on the east by a public road leading toward Bell-Passi. Elisha N. Vesie and Edward S. Browley, Sr., then operating the Parkersville Mills, were the chief instigators in getting the building ready for the fall term of school, which opened on or about the first Monday in September of that year. Edward Engle of Bell-Passi was the first teacher. Luke D. Smith, Minnie Wade, and Ida Wade were among former students of this school who later taught at Parkersville.

The second school was constructed of dressed, or sized, lumber and painted white. The floor was 1 x 6 tongue and groove dressed boards. Shoes had by now become quite a bit more common, which contributed to an easing of foot damage. About the Mid-Nineties a belfry was added and a bell, easily heard throughout the district, installed.

Shortly after the turn of the century, another room was added on the west side. Additional windows, as well as a small library, were installed. Construction here also included a woodshed of unpainted material which was later replaced by one of frame and rustic and was painted.

As the population of Parkersville grew, better facilities were needed, the school desired standardization. This need was most evident during the early "depression years", but with the aid of the Federal Government, a new school was built with the help of W. P. A. labor. This third school was built across the road from the location of the second school, south, which is the building being used presently for District 82. This was constructed in the year 1937, being a modern, two-roomed school, with stage, library, and a kitchen. There is a full basement which is used for play on rainy days.

In the fall of 1923, Mrs. Ertz Smith and Mrs. Milton Hoyser got up a petition to move Riverside School on the hill.

## RIVERSIDE SCHOOL

Mr. and Mrs. George M. Hoyser deeded two acres to erect a new school.

By: Mrs. Milton Hoyser &  
Mrs. G. S. Higgins

With a new modern school and playground the board had a dedication service and presented it to Mrs. Fulkerson, Superintendent of Marion County schools, in April, 1924. Mrs. Fulkerson gave a note of thanks to all who had taken part in the new school.

A banquet was held after the program. Miss Mamie Vincent of Woodburn was the teacher at this time. A wonderful teacher and loved by every one in the community, she passed away April, 1956.

During the years the following teachers have played a great part in the Riverside School, Miss Elsie Flink of Portland and Mrs. Evelyn Steidinger of Tillamook who organized 4H clubs and also a large Red Cross club during the 11 World War. Programs and ball games made Riverside a community center during these years.

Through the years many outstanding teachers have taught here.

I feel mention should be made of people who helped to keep Riverside School 100% active in the past; Mr. and Mrs. D. P. MacCarthy, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Chiltend, Mrs. Willard Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Caulthorn, Mrs. and Mrs. J. B. Parke, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Joyser, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Bowler, and Mr. and Mrs. Cash Burch. The people who through the years served on the school board did much to make this a modern one room school.

Mrs. Rhoma Dodson of Independence has taught the past ten years. It has been a very successful and happy school under her supervision. Music and arts and her interest in her boys and girls have made these years outstanding for the pupils who graduate and enter Junior High Schools. ----Mrs. Milton Hoyser.

The school house was built in 1888 by my Uncle Sherman Parker. My father J. Parker, school clerk at the time, was against having the schoolhouse built on the bottom, where the old building is still standing, on account of the high water nearly every year. But the majority of the neighbors lived there, also the directors, whom I believe at that time were Sol Cox, Charley Mattison, and John Cox.

In the 1889-90 flood the school building was washed down the stream into the bottom. After the flood, the schoolhouse was moved back, and it was put on a rock and block foundation.

I started to school in the spring of 1891. I walked with George Colby who lived above us. My teacher's name was Mrs. Shupp, and one day her daughter and I were down in the woods across the road from the schoolhouse, making hats out of the maple leaves when the school bell rang and she said, "We don't have to go", so I just stayed there, but we were punished by having to stay in during the recess. I don't remember anything else in the spring of 1891 except a short poem I had to recite the last day of school.

The pupils that I remember who went to the old schoolhouse during my time there were: Loe, Jessie, Will, Grover and Topsy Mattison; Lillian, Milton, Henrietta and Herbert Hoyser; Frank, Maude, Claud and Albert Cox; Frank Butler; Mable and Fred Cox; Clyde Wilson; Bill and Lucy Durham; Fred, Lepard and Stella Trout; Ada, Carrie and Louis Dunn; Minnie Whiteside; Willy Chandler; the Dugger family, Emmett and Minnie Maxfield; Mabel, Myrtle, Charles and Ena (nick-name for Lorene) Parker. There was a family who moved in, their father worked in the hop yard, I don't remember their names, but the lunch they brought to school was New Orleans molasses and sour dough biscuits thrown in a two gallon pail. When eating their lunch at noon, they set the bucket on a stump east of the schoolhouse and the children gathered around and fished out the biscuits with their fingers and stooped over to eat them, so as not to get the molasses on their clothes. This was so much different from what the rest of us were used to, that it was quite a circus for us.

We had great sport playing anti-over the schoolhouse, because we could stoop down and look under the schoolhouse and thought we could figure out the way the other side was coming with the ball to tag some of us. Other games were town ball and hopscotch. There was a big fir log that floated in during a high water and landed just west of the schoolhouse and the older boys put a board across it for a teeter-totter, there was a knot on the log so that the board tipped some and the girls would all scream, the boys got great sport out of it and I think the girls did too.

One exciting incident that happened at school one afternoon was when Mattison's dog chased a chipmunk into the schoolhouse and the big girls in the back room let out such screams that Lillian and I, who were sitting near the front row knew it must be something terrible so stood up waving our hands in the air and screaming as loud as we could. The chipmunk ran up front and landed on the teacher's shoulder and the boys started throwing anything they could get hold of at the chipmunk, the teacher soon quieted every one down; they caught the chipmunk and the teacher took it home for a pet.

In our early days when we walked down to the schoolhouse we planned to meet the Hoyser children at the foot of our hill. So we had it arranged that the family who got there first was to put a stick across the road and would walk slowly along and the next family would take the stick out of the road and hurry to catch up with the party ahead. In the spring on our way home we always stopped to look at a Lady Slipper blossom that came up a little ways from the road.

In the later years when Sol Cox moved his family to their new home on top of the hill above the Parker place, Claud Cox rode his pony to school and Charles and I rode our pony, the boys put the horses in a barn across the slough from the schoolhouse and at noon they would rush over to feed the horses and rush back to eat their lunch, so they wouldn't miss any play time.

The names of the teachers that I remember who taught at Riverside during my school days were: Minnie Timm, Liberty; Cora Snell, Independence; Watson Townsend, Rosedale; Pearl Montgomery and Florence Pemberton, Rosedale.

Christine Thompson and Mellie Colby came after I finished the eighth grade.

Cora Snell liked to get up programs and planned several during the year she was here, and put them on for the neighbors and parents.

Other teachers had Christmas programs with the school room decorated for the occasion and sometimes sponsored a basket supper or pie social if they wanted to raise some money for Christmas treats or something special for the school room.

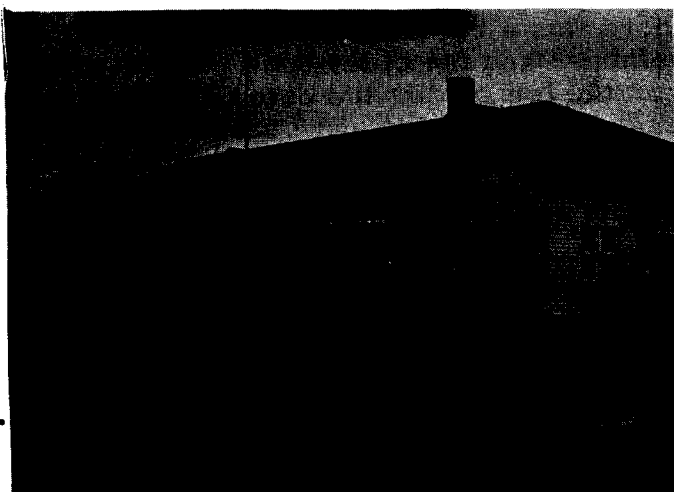
At one time, some of the Christian Church members in Independence held Sunday School services in the schoolhouse during the summer months and had a good attendance.

One winter when Watson Townsend taught our school, the river started to rise and came up so rapidly that he had to close school in the middle of the day and he started and cleaned out all our desks and put our books up on the ledge above the door and by that time the water was so high he had to take his shoes off and wade across the streams in the low places - -- Mrs. G. S. Higgins.

\* \* \* \*

## SALEM SCHOOLS

### AUBURN SCHOOL



School District 118 was established June 24, 1891 by a petition of the majority of legal voters and residents. D. W. Yoder was County Superintendent of Schools for Marion County at this time.

In 1902 a Union Sunday School was formed and conducted at the schoolhouse under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Williams and their daughter Mable (now Mrs. Cady).

Mr. Joe Albert, who owned considerable property in this area which he named the Auburn Subdivision, was so pleased that the Sunday School -- and hence the schools were named "Auburn", that he donated a large sum toward the purchase of the Sunday School piano. The late Rev. Poling, Sr., of the Salem Presbyterian Church was serving minister for this Sunday School.

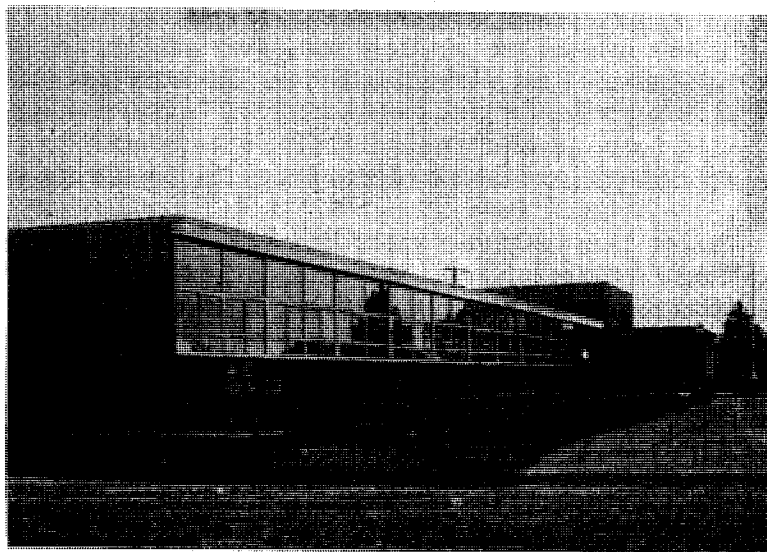
First record of a teacher hired was in 1903, Marion Hetrick - for a salary of \$35.00 per month for a seven month period. Then in 1904 Evelyn Nash, who started at \$45.00 and received a raise each year until in 1907 she received \$60.00, was teacher. Directors at this time were Martin Hohl, A. Williams, and Prof. J. J. Krapp (operator of a Normal School in Salem). Other early directors were W. Mathey, C. Bradley, and A. Perlich.

In 1923 the original one room building was sold and moved to a location on "Misery Alley" (now Monroe Ave.,) and converted into a residence by Mr. Krapp and Mr. Brownlee. At this time the first two rooms of the present old building were constructed at a cost of \$10,500.

In 1937 a room was added at a total cost of \$9,240. but at a cost of only \$1,200. to the school district as the labor and some material were provided by the P. W. A. with labor being done by the W. P. A. A play shed was also constructed but collapsed during a snow storm within a few years. In 1938 another room was constructed for \$4,762.

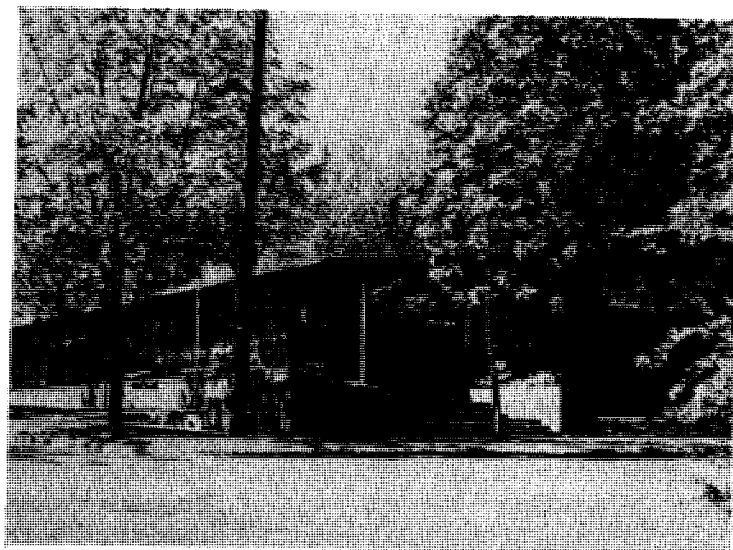
Auburn School was one of the first schools to consider consolidation with the Salem Schools and in 1946 the board which included John Olson, E. C. Sunderlin and Lloyd Lee met with Agnes Booth (as representatives of Dist. 118) and Mrs. Faye Wright and Mr. Bennett (representing Dist. 24) to discuss the matter. As a result Auburn, Dist. 118, became consolidated with Salem, Dist. 24, and has remained as such.

In 1955 the present new building was completed at the cost of \$248,631.95. It is a brick veneer and frame building with 8 classrooms, multi-purpose room, library, office, health center and special education room. Dr. Walter Snyder was Superintendent of School District 24CJ at this time.



\* \* \* \*

## BAKER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



It was recommended in 1950 by Dr. Frank B. Bennett, then Superintendent of Salem Public Schools, that a three-room primary school be built in the Fairmount Hill District. The purpose of this school was to lessen the existing congestion in the primary departments of Bush and McKinley Schools.

On November 1, 1950, the Salem School Board authorized the purchase of two lots at the corner of Lefelle and Saginaw Streets for a site for this primary school.

This property had been in the possession of the Chester Baker Family for generation. At a later date the school was named Baker Elementary School in honor of this pioneer family.

The site was vacated, and construction began May 1, 1951. James L. Payne was selected as architect for this building. H. G. and Gordon Carl contractors erected the building. A modern one-story brick and wooden structure was planned. One large existing oak tree and six walnut trees were left on the grounds. A large blacktop play area was provided in the rear of the building. The school consists of three classrooms which accommodate grades one, two and three, an office area, entrance hall, teacher room, auditorium, small kitchen, lavatories and furnace room.

The school was occupied on September 17, 1951, one week after the beginning of the school year. Much of the interior finishing was completed after its occupancy.

Since the children attending this school live within a six-block area, no cafeteria facilities are required, and no bus service is necessary. It is a policy to maintain the attendance at approximately 75 or 80 children.

Mr. Harry B. Johnson, then Assistant Superintendent of Salem Public Schools, was named the first Supervisor of Baker School. Mrs. Bess Thompson was elected as Teaching Principal. Upon Mr. Johnson's retirement in 1954, Mr. Marion Miller, then Principal of Morningside School, became Supervising Principal. Two years later in 1956, Arthur Myers, Assistant Superintendent of Salem Public Schools was appointed Supervising Principal.

In September, 1951, a Mothers' and Dads' Club was formed by the parents of this area. The following officers headed this first organization: Mr. Jason Lee, President; Mrs. L. A. Rowan, Vice-President; and Mrs. John Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer.

This experimental primary school has enjoyed a unique position in the Salem School System. It is felt to be a well integrated part of the small community which it serves.

\* \* \* \*

An accurate history of Brush College School is limited due to the lack of documentary evidence.

## BRUSH COLLEGE SCHOOL

By: Raymond Burleigh

Fire swept the Polk Court House in the latter part of the nineteenth century, destroying virtually all original transcripts and records. Very few of these papers were restored or re-established.

The greater part of this information to follow is the result of an attempt in 1923 by public spirited members of the community to record the Brush College history while some of the "Old Timers" were still alive. Their manuscript has disappeared and hence credit must also be given

to R. J. Hendricks; Oregon Statesman, "Bits for Breakfast", August 23 and 24, 1939, for printing many excerpts from that history.

Brush College is a pioneer school. Many of the original settlers bore the names most closely connected with its founding and operation. Jesse Harritt (or Harriett),<sup>1</sup> and James Marshall came by covered wagon over the long Oregon Trail in 1844.



Other "firsts", established by Donation Land Claims in 1849, are: O. C. Hosford, A. S. Hosford, R. W. Hamilton, A. S. Hamilton, John Martin, Francis Moffitt, and Lewis Parkhurst. The 1850 Land Claims listed for this area: Horace Rice, Robert Godfrey, E. V. Gohlson, and J. C. Chitwood.

A pioneer society was composed of a vast cross-section of interests and personal goals. However, wherever the proximity of families was such that it might be called a community, the citizens sought to give their children the advantage of education; a privilege which to many of the adults, circumstance had denied.

James Emmett, an early resident of Brush College, was a well educated man.<sup>2</sup> With children of his own to educate, he saw a real need to establish some situation wherein the children of the area could receive the rudiments of learning. He opened a school in his own log cabin in the Fall of 1852. It is described as being located near a good spring above the Fred Myer home on Gibson Road (Eagle Crest Road).

The James Emmett school was in session only one winter. In the Spring of 1853, residents of the area opened the first public school on the Lee Gibson place about one and one-half miles from its present location.<sup>3</sup> No information is available regarding financial or census statistics. It is stated in the footnote reference that Malinda Hosford was the teacher. The one and only text was the Bible.

School District 31 was organized in 1860. At this time residents erected a one-room 25' by 30' school on the present site. Lumber was brought from nearby Eola Hills and the construction is credited to "Breeze" Gibson, John W. Harritt and Daniel Emmett.

The land, donated by either David Prettyman or A. S. Hamilton, is from the O. C. Hosford Donation Land Claim.<sup>4</sup>

The first (1860) school board directors were: Jesse Harritt, Daniel Emmett and Robert Hamilton with Adam Hamilton the Clerk. Among the first students were: "Breeze" Gibson, John W. Harritt and Alice Harritt (Emmett). Their teacher is remembered only as Mr. Williams.

The unusual name of Brush College is often a matter of debate in reference to its origin. An amusing tale is related by Alfred Apsler; Oregon Journal, "This 'College' Really Isn't", February 13, 1955, Portland, Oregon, which recounts a conversation in which the name first appeared. The principals of the narrative are John and Byron Harritt, "Breeze", Darr, and Cass Gibson. The account which follows, based on the R. J. Hendricks article is judged the most reasonable by this writer.

The school was called "College" in diference to the fact that it was the center of the highest learning available to the pioneer children in the area. "Brush" is characteristic of the ground cover surrounding the adjacent area. Indians were accustomed to annually burning the brush to facilitate hunting. The pioneers, mainly interested in farming, had allowed to brush to grow. It was, then, truly, a school out in the brush.

Brush College was a nick-name for many years. When later residents wished to establish an official name, community sentiment remained with the title "Brush College". The first available communication referring to the official title "Brush College" is dated November 3, 1893.<sup>5</sup>

The legal boundaries were established or re-established December 7, 1889. What they were before this date is not available. The following is taken from the Clerks Book of Records, 1889:

Beginning at the quarter mile post at the center of the northern line of Sec 7 T7S. R3W thence South to the northern boundary of the E. M. Barnum donation Land claim thence East to the Eastern boundary of Said Claim thence South to the northern boundary of Sec. 19 T7. S. R. 3. W. thence East to the N. E. corner of Sec. 20 T7S. R3W thence north 1/4 mile thence East to the Willamette River thence down Said River to where the township line between T6 and 7 Crosses Said River. thence West along Said line to the Eastern boundary of W. M. Walkers donation land Claim thence South with Said Land claim to the S E Corner of Said Claim thence west to the Center of Sec 6 T7S R3W thence South to the Place of beginning

A second boundary description appears in the 1911 Clerks Book.

An attempt by some Brush College residents to partition Districts 31 and 32 (We Salem) in 1893 and establish a separate district was not successful. District 32 protested and some petition signers in District 31 withdrew their names. Feelings were ameliorated by a District 31 board decision to move the school to a more central location.<sup>5</sup> To date, 1957, this move has not been accomplished. An additional acre was purchased in 1899 from Ed Loose on the North for \$100.00.

The 1860 school was razed to be replaced by a new school. Voters authorization was given March 20, 1909. The contract was let June 21, 1909 to McFarland and Wintermute for \$1155.00. This is the South room of the present structure. In characterizing the old school, K. W. Harritt said, "It had a lot of knot holes and when the wind blew the folks on the wind side had to huddle around the old stove."

On June 19, 1911 the directors agreed to cement the basement and pipe water to the school from the Harritt spring. (This spring is in the Community Club park. A December 11, 1929 water right allows .02 cubic foot per second use.) The North room of the present school was added in the Summer of 1912. The fold-doors which still separate the two original rooms were added in 1914 after a visit to inspect West Salem's doors. The year 1916 saw the completion of cementing in the basement. This was accomplished by volunteers of the Parent Teachers Association. The marvel of electric lighting came to Brush College in 1923. In the year 1939, Work Projects Administration labor enabled the district to build a playshed at a total cost of approximately \$300.00. By the Fall of 1956 student enrollment made necessary the construction of a third classroom. It was planned as a possible beginning of a third school on the present site. Its only physical connection with the old plant is electrical plus an air circulation duct.

Brush College has always been the center of community activity. An early (1908) organization was the Brush College Literary Society. The year 1910 saw the organization of the Brush College Sunday School. (85 persons present the first meeting.) Other organizations using the school as a focal point have been: The Brush College Grange, 4H, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and a short lived theater group.

The Parent Teachers Association was organized March 4, 1914 with the following officers: President: Mrs. A. R. Ewing; Vice-President, Mrs. Ed. Loose; Secretary, Mrs. Helen Cook; Treasurer, Mrs. N. L. Miner. This organ served the function of ministering effectively to school needs until 1925.

Cornelia B. Harritt bequeathed to the community of Brush College a six acre area to be developed into a park. Since no corporate body existed which could hold title, a community club was organized in the year 1925. It was felt that two parent organizations were superfluous and therefore the Parent Teacher Organization was discontinued.

The major function of the Brush College Community Club was to administer and improve the park which lies on the East side of the road fronting Brush College School. However, acting in the spirit and letter of its stated purpose, the club has ably served as a school organization. These stated purposes are:

"To contribute to the development of the physical, mental, moral and spiritual life of the community embraced in and surrounding Brush College School District 31. To promote and give expression to all forces and agencies working for the welfare of democracy and good citizenship."

Incorporators of the Brush College Community Club were Al. H. Steiner, U. L. Lehman, T. C. Ewing, John Schindler and Emma McCarter.

R. J. Hendricks reports these previous teachers as having risen to a more prominent position. Joe Bell (1911) was in 1939 a prominent physician in St. Louis, Missouri. Grace Hendrickson, a 1923 primary teacher, became a supervisor in the Salem city schools. Minnie Fulkerson became the Marion County Superintendent.

The residential fingers of Salem stretched out, leaped her original confines and suburban living for city workers grew to the position of commonplace. By 1955 the Brush College area, though still retaining a strong rural flavor due to much of the land being under the plow, had developed into a definite Salem Suburb. Schools all over the state and specifically those on the fringe of Salem had developed a trend of consolidation. For various reasons the majority of Brush College voters who exercised their franchise chose to cast the lot of District 31 with that of District 24CJ, Salem Public Schools.

Salem Schools administration has attempted in all consolidations to retain the identity of these small elementary schools. Hence, Raymond E. Burleigh, previously of Englewood School (Salem), was designated Teaching Principal under the direction of Suburban Schools Director, Arthur V. Myers, and the physical plant and identity of Brush College has been retained.

- 
1. James Marshall remained only a short time. He and two others, Mr. Bennett and Mr. Staat were the discoverers of gold at Sutter's Mill, California, January 24, 1848. All these men were from in or near Salem, Oregon.
  2. Personal information regarding James Emmett, from Mrs. K. W. Harritt, descendant, a resident of Brush College.
  3. Maxwell, Ben; Capitol Journal, June 5, 1947, Salem, Oregon
  4. The confusion of names results from a recorded land grant dated February 6, 1867; grantor, A. S. Hamilton, and the memory of "an early resident" in the 1923 community history project.
  5. From an untitled book of records in the Polk County School Supt. Office.

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## BUSH SCHOOL

The Bush Elementary School was constructed at University and Mission in 1936. The first classes were held in September of that year with 368 students in 12 classrooms.

Bush School replaced the Yew Park School and the Lincoln School. The Lincoln School was located where the present St. Paul's Episcopal Church now stands. The Yew Park School was located at 14th. and Mission.

The total cost of the original 14 rooms, auditorium, two playrooms, principal's office and teachers' room was \$192,531.83. The local district provided \$115,036.83. The remainder of \$77,495.00 was secured from the U. S. Government through a W.P.A. grant.

The name of the school was in honor of a pioneer banker, Ashel Bush, who was a newspaper man.

The basement was designed for two playrooms and two music rooms which were later used for lunch rooms and classrooms. The ground floor was designed for the first three grades and the second floor for the intermediate grades. In 1939 the third grades were moved to the second floor and the sixth grades were transferred to the ground floor because the oldest students were needed for cafeteria and other type helpers.

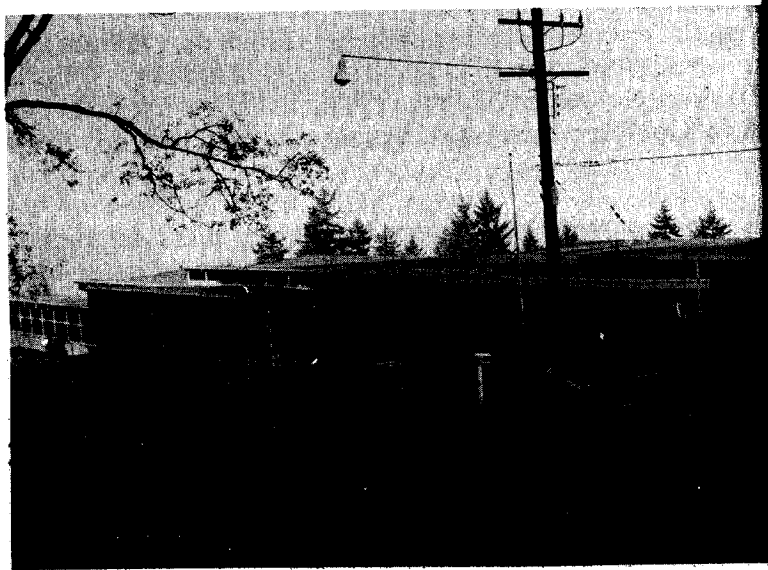
In the original planning, four classrooms were to be added at each end of the building with a gym under the auditorium, however, in 1949 six classrooms and two additional lavatories were added on the north end for a total cost of \$102,402.54.

Bush was the first elementary school in Salem with an intercommunications system. It was also unusual because fireplaces were installed in the first grade rooms.

Mr. Walter Beck was principal from 1942 - 1956. Mr. Al Hoerauf became principal in the fall of 1956. The enrollment this year is 460 in 17 classrooms.

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## CANDALARIA SCHOOL



Contracts were awarded for the construction of Candalaria School on February 23, 1955. The total contract price of \$285,000 included the general construction, heating, plumbing and electrical work, but did not include the land cost or the architect's fee.

The building will house approximately 360 pupils and has a total floor space of 23,579 square feet. The cost per square foot was \$12.11.

The building contains eleven classrooms, one library room, a multi-purpose room with stage, a health room, an office, four toilet rooms, one boiler room, one janitor room, and a covered play area.

The school was first occupied in September, 1955, with a beginning enrollment of 210 students. At the end of the school year, June 1956, the enrollment was 220.

Beginning September, 1956 the enrollment had risen to 290 and has remained at approximately this figure during this year.

In the year 1955-56 there was a staff of 8, including a teaching-principal. Also, there was a part-time secretary, custodian, cook and cook's helper. This year, 1956-57, the staff includes principal, secretary, ten teachers, custodian, part-time custodian.

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## CUMMINGS SCHOOL

By: George Wright,  
Principal

The Cummings Elementary School opened its doors to students November of 1953; approximately nine months after a bond election was held by the Keizer School District #88, Marion County, Oregon for a bonded indebtedness of \$154,000. This money was used for constructing, furnishing and equipping this new elementary school.

Cummings School is located at 555 Cummings Lane, Salem, Oregon on a ten acre tract between Cummings Lane and an extension of Dearborn Avenue, west of Delight Avenue and a line extended south. This site was selected

because of its proximity to large centers of population within walking distance of the school. The school serves all children of elementary school age.

The land, which was purchased from the Springer Estate for the sum of \$15,000., was originally owned by the Cummings family, one of the oldest families in the Keizer district. Mr. Arthur Cummings (for whom the school is named) has long been active in community affairs.

The actual construction of the plant began in June of 1953. The building was designed by architect Lyle Bartholomew. Mr. Erwin E. Batterman was the general contractor. The total area of the building is approximately 16,200 sq. ft.. All exterior walls and floors are of reinforced concrete. The outside of the building is finished in stucco. The original plans called for six or seven classrooms with a multi-purpose room, but the plans were revised to include ten classrooms, cafetorium, kitchen, health room, teachers' lounge, workroom, general office, principal's office, boiler room and book storage room.

Every room in the building is one hour fire resistive by the use of gypsum lathe and plaster. All coverings in all rooms are acoustically treated. All floors, except restrooms, are covered with asphalt tile. The restrooms, are covered with terrazo. The classrooms are assured good lighting by the large windows and sky domes. The school is automatically oil heated. Steel sash is used thru-out the building. The plant is designed for future expansion over a long period of years.

Each year the enrollment and staff of Cummings School has continued to grow. Mrs. Elda Bradfield was the teaching principal for the school year 1953-54 with a student enrollment of approximately 200.

For the school year 1954-55, Mrs. Mildred Odgers was the teaching principal with an enrollment of approximately 215.

In the Fall of 1955, Keizer School District #88, Marion County, Oregon consolidated

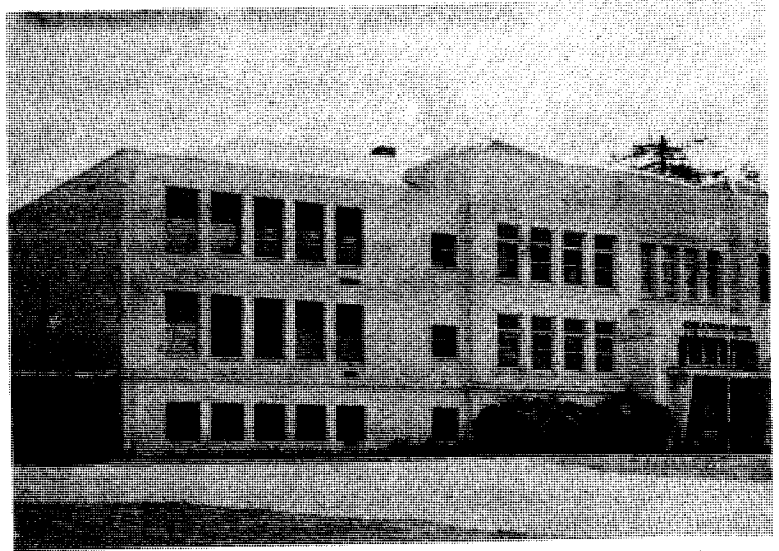
with the Salem School District 24JC. Mrs. Dorothy Carpenter was the teaching principal for the school year 1955-56 with an enrollment of 234.

Mr. George B. Wright became the principal in 1956 with a staff of ten teachers, secretary, cook and custodian. Enrollment for 1956-57 averaged 279 students.

Cummings School continues to serve the fast growing area in and around Manbrin Gardens.

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## ENGLEWOOD SCHOOL



At one time our Englewood district was included in the J. L. Parrish 640 acre donation land claim. Later it was divided into smaller farms.

Before Englewood School was built all the children from these small farms attended Washington School, located at 12th and Center Streets. People thought this was too great a distance for the little children, so the school board began to plan and work for a school right here where Englewood is now.

In November 1909 the school board committee bought the front strip of our school yard for \$1500. The school board felt that this would not be enough land for our school grounds so they decided to try to buy the adjoining piece of property from a Mr. Miller.

When the committee first talked to Mr. Miller about selling part of his farm for the school grounds he refused. The committee told him that with such little land they had purchased, the school would have to be built in such a way that from his house and barn he would never be able to see the western sky or the sun set. Mr. Miller decided to sell the land and move his house and barn.

Mr. Miller's well for water was located where our auditorium now stands. He had a vegetable garden at almost the same place as the main part of the building was built. The fir trees in front of the building were here before our building was built.

Since there was not enough money in the building fund to pay for the building of the school, the school district had to borrow the money. Two loans in the form of bonds were arranged. One bond was for \$20,000. and the other was for \$10,000.

There was no city water nor sewers in this district then, so a water system and sewage disposal had to be planned for. Two wells were dug to supply the school with

water. Pumps were installed in the room that is now room 4, on the first floor.

The planning and building of the water and sewage systems cost about \$3000.

There was electricity out here then, but there were no streets and no sidewalks.

The school board committee was given \$20. to buy shrubs for the school grounds. The chestnut tree, linden tree, holly trees, and cedar trees are all still on our grounds.

Our school was finished and ready for use in October 1910. The school had eight classrooms. Open House was held when the school opened.

In 1934 the auditorium addition was constructed at the south end of our building.

In 1950 a 6 classroom addition was constructed at the north end of our building.

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## FOUR CORNERS SCHOOL



Construction of Four Corners School was completed in September, 1949.

The first principal was Arthur Myers. The school served the area of the old Rickey (Dist. 8) School, part of the Auburn School district and pupils transported from an area that is now served by Hoover School.

The bulding was composed of eight classrooms, a multi-purpose room, a library, a kitchen and a music room. In 1949, there were eight teachers.

In 1950, Virgil Lamb became principal and served until October 15 of that year when he was recalled to active duty with the Army and Mr. Boyd Hillesland replaced him until his return in 1952.

The first enrollment of the school numbered about two hundred and at the present time it has grown to about three hundred with eleven teachers.

To care for the additional pupil load the library and music rooms were used for classrooms in 1955 and 1956. In the summer of 1956, four additional classrooms were added to the building and also one set of restrooms. The new rooms were used this year for the first time and the library and music rooms are free for their original purposes.

Activities of the school include the publication of the student paper, "The Echo", a fall open house held in conjunction with the Mothers' Club annual dinner, a Spring Festival and open house each May and assembly programs presented for the parents by each room.

The student government consists of an elected slate of officers and representatives from each room make up the student council. Student body officers change twice a year with the vice president automatically becoming the next president.

Four Corners School has a very active parent organization known as "The Four Corners School Mothers' Club". It has presented the school with many useful items including the public address system, projectors, and drapes, as well as effectively interpreting the school program to the public.

The most recent project of the entire Four Corners School student body has been the construction of a large mosaic mural depicting the arrival of pioneers to early Oregon. It is on permanent display in the school library.

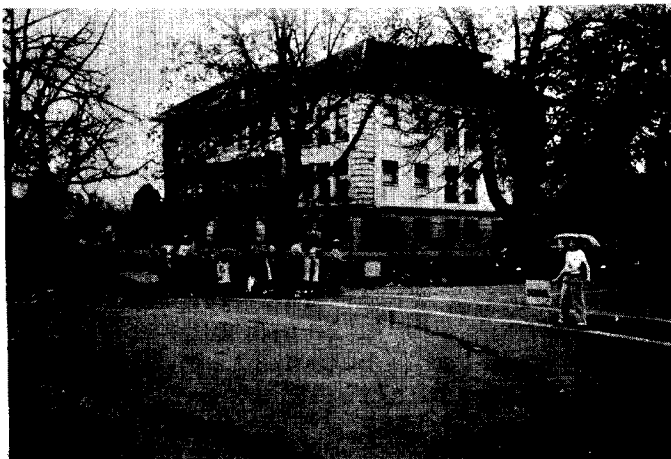
The Four Corners School is very proud of its Bicycle Safety program. This program includes a bicycle proficiency riding test given each year. Licenses are issued to those successfully completing the tests.

The teachers of Four Corners School have served on numerous curriculum and other educational committees of the Salem district. In addition to this committee work, teachers continue their professional training, and at the present time four hold the Masters Degree in Education.

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## GARFIELD SCHOOL

Garfield elementary school, located in the downtown business section of Salem, was completed in 1910. It was named for James A. Garfield who was the 20th President of the United States.



Garfield is one of the oldest buildings currently being used, but is in excellent repair.

A unique factor concerning this building is that since its erection it has had only three principals. The late, Miss Margaret Cosper was the first, ending her career in 1935. Mrs. May R. Smith was the second, retiring in 1955. Mrs. Edna Fery Schmitz has been principal since that time.



## GRANT SCHOOL



As we turn back through the pages of school history we find evidence that the problem of providing adequate housing for the ever growing school population is not one unique to the present day school administrator. In fact, this problem was responsible for the establishment of the North School, and it has been faced numerous times since the building of that school in 1866. The Civil War had scarcely ended when the Board of Directors of District 24 took action on this matter of urgency facing the people of Salem. A quotation from the board minutes of March 23, 1866, states:

The attention of the friends of education is respectfully called to the subject of the great want of accommodations for schools in the way of suitable buildings. The house at present occupied (Centre School) has been crowded to excess during the past year. Accommodations at least equal to those already existing are imperatively demanded if we would have our district school meet the just expectations of its friends and the wants of the youth of the city. We can do so only by providing suitable school rooms so that all who desire to attend may be accommodated.

On motion this report was adopted:

Notice having been given in the advertisement calling the meeting that a tax would be levied for the purpose of raising funds to build additional school houses, it is resolved that a tax of 5 mills on each and every dollar's worth of property in the school district, not exempt by law from taxation, be levied for the purpose of raising funds to be expended under the direction of the school district in the erection of two or more school houses, one to be erected in North Salem, and one South of South Mill Creek.

School Board Minutes of April 1st, 1867, declare that two "handsome" and "commodious" houses have been erected in the district, one in North Salem, and the other in the southern suburbs of the city. These houses were "fitted up in good style", and furnished with new and improved seats, together with outbuildings. The total expense of these houses, including the cost of the ground, fitting up the interior, wells, etc. amounted to near \$4,500.00. The "North School", as it came to be known, was the forerunner of the present Grant School, and it was built on approximately the same site as the present building.

Mr. D. B. Cooley, an old timer who attended North School during the 1870's recalls that this house was a one story frame structure with the length of the building extending north and south along Cottage street. Behind the school was a woodshed, and beyond the woodshed two outbuildings, one for girls and one for boys, with a high board fence between them. All grades were contained within the large room. Pupils sat in pairs at

desks that were hooked together in groups of six by means of two by four's. Books were kept in a space beneath the top of the desk. Heat was supplied by a large cylindrical wood stove that had a large flue system above to extract as much heat as possible from the fuel. Thirsty scholars had to go outdoors to the pump to get a drink of water. Pupils were required to pass a written exam before being promoted to the next grade.

During the 1860's and 70's the school year consisted of four terms, or quarters, of eleven weeks each, with such vacation and holidays as the board of directors should declare.

To give one a picture of the salaries paid to teachers at this time, Miss Hannah Carroll was employed to teach in the North School in 1871 for a monthly wage of \$40. and if duties assigned were performed to the satisfaction of the board, she was to receive a salary of \$500.00 for the school year.

In the administrative field, Mr. L. Thompson was hired as principal of the North School in 1873 at a salary of \$750.00 per year.

By May, 1876, the problem of providing additional facilities for the growing school population had to be faced again. A building committee was appointed to study the situation. Their recommendation was as follows:

Taking financial matters into consideration it would be best not to purchase new grounds or erect the proposed central building during the present year, but instead build additions to North and South Salem buildings, doubling the capacity of these houses by adding a second story, or rooms to each, according to plans to be adopted hereafter, and also paint and repair other buildings of the district.

Randall Brothers submitted the low bid for the addition to the North House, and they were selected to add a wing of equal size to the existing structure. Their bid was \$927.00. Mr. Cooley tells us that this addition was constructed in the same fashion as the original building, and the length of the addition ran east and west along Market Street giving the school house an L Shape. When this school house was abandoned to make room for the new building constructed in 1890, this new section of the school was moved across the street and converted to a dwelling. It is now the Harry Louie Apartments, located at 1250 North Winter Street.

For the most part, the Salem Schools ran smoothly during that next decade. Excerpts from the Board of Directors' Annual Report for 1889 indicate that staff morale was high and the educational program was moving ahead in good style.

The superintendent reports that there is little cause for fault finding with teachers of the Salem Public Schools. An earnest effort to make his or her room the best seems to be the motto, and most are improving.

They had an "in-service" program too!

The teachers' monthly meeting is attended by all and is a means of much improvement. Books and papers on teaching and school management are in the hands of all the teachers, and it is expected that they shall, if they retain their places, be up with and abreast of the times.

An insight into the educational philosophy of the day:

This important part of a child's education (moral training) has been well

attended to. A very perceptible moral growth has been the result. The children have been taught the duty of love and respect to parents, teachers, and friends. Obedience to law has been developed and strengthened. Truthful statements in well chosen words have been insisted upon. Profane language has become almost unknown. Pupils are polite and respectful to each other and their teachers. A due regard to the rights of public and private property has been taught in connection with the necessary care of the school-houses and grounds. These are kept scrupulously neat and clean. An excellent impression is thus made upon the pupils. Seeing everything kept in such good order about them, they learn habits of neatness and order. They like it too, and appreciate the public spirit which makes such things possible. It has become an accepted fact that the better the school surroundings and accommodations are, the better will the pupils be, and more efficient in the school. The aim has been to make good citizens, and to prepare the boys and girls for lives of active and intelligent usefulness. The aim we know is good. The means employed to reach it are the best that could be obtained, and the results are very gratifying.

And on the subject of discipline:

The schools are mainly in fine running order. System is introduced wherever possible to prevent confusion and lighten labor. The order on the school grounds and in the rooms is good. Whispering has been reduced to the least possible minimum. Children love an orderly and well managed school, and respect the teacher who can secure it. They feel that it is for their good. Our pupils are diligent and attentive, and very much interested in their work. Truancy is almost unknown. Instead of trying to keep away from school the pupils love to attend and hate to be absent a day. Tardiness also, is less frequent than formerly. Regularity and promptness of attendance are indispensable to progress in study. Parents are recognizing this and frequently assist the teachers in regulating attendance. The strict rules upon this subject, requiring written excuses from parents and guardians in all cases of absence and tardiness, stating the reasons for the same, and defining valid excuses, are producing excellent effect.

The Board of Directors Annual Report of March 3, 1890 again mentions the rapid growth in school population and resulting need for additional school facilities. We quote from that report:

The rooms in all the buildings in the district are overcrowded and it is necessary to have four more school rooms for another year, and we should recommend the building of an 8 room school in North Salem, 4 rooms to be finished and furnished for the coming year.

Plans called for an "unpretentious" structure 2 stories in height and containing 8 rooms. Basic cost of the building was to be \$10,500.00, but furniture, furnaces, plans and supervision raised the price for the district to \$13,278.59. Seating capacity was given as ample for 200 pupils. The construction job was delegated to G. Craven, contractor. The Board of Directors Report of March 2nd, 1891, makes this comment:

According to instructions we have erected a new eight room building in North Salem, with money procured by sale of the bonds ordered by the district. Without wishing to speak in our own praise, or to detract from the labors or judgment of other directors, we are free to say that no better school building, for the money expended, can be found in Oregon,

and it affords us pleasure to know that so far as we have been able to ascertain public sentiment, it is one of unreserved approval. No better lighted or convenient school rooms can be found anywhere. The heating and ventilation are equally good, and the structure has no expensive part exposed to the elements to add expenses year after year for repairs, besides being built for a sum which precluded the possibility of any wasteful expenditure of the money of the district.

In 1891 the staff of the new North School included Professor J. A. Sellwood, Principal, A. W. Lang, Mrs. M. V. Rork, and Mrs. Mattie Meyer. Pupils registered numbered 194.

This structure served the community for 64 years. In February, 1908, a resolution was presented to the Board of District 24 to change the name of the North School to Grant School. In the March meeting the resolution was adopted and the building has since been known as Grant School. From 1915 to 1924 it housed a junior high school unit which included students from Chemawa. This organization was discontinued with the opening of Parrish Junior High School.

Because enrollments outgrew the building, because the building was the type of structure on which additions could not be made, and for safety reasons, a new single story structure was authorized by the Board of District 24CJ in 1954. At this time the Grant building was the oldest operative school in Salem.

The original plan was to use the old structure while the new one was being built around it, but pupil safety became a larger factor than was first anticipated, so school was dismissed one week early and the old building was razed to permit the construction of the present Grant School.

When it came time for school to resume in the fall two classes of children were housed in the Garfield School, two in the Highland School, one in a portable classroom and one class in each of 3 homes purchased by the district on the building site.

The new Grant School was completed in the spring of 1955, and was dedicated April 14 of that year. The new building is functionally designed for all those who will use it; pupils, teachers, cooks, custodian, and community groups. It contains 11 classrooms, a library, a multi-purpose room, a health room, combined faculty and special education room, a kitchen for serving two buildings, and an office suite. The building is exceptionally fire resistant. The total contract cost of the structure was \$277,338.00.

Grant School staff at the time of the dedication of the new building include the following:

First Grade	-	Mrs. Neva Mundinger and Miss Bernice Singree
Second Grade	-	Mrs. Helen McLeod
Third Grade	-	Mrs. Clare Laurance and Mrs. Gail Kimmell
Fourth Grade	-	Miss Elizabeth Dugan
Fifth Grade	-	Mrs. Elenor Pierson
Sixth Grade	-	Mrs. Zola Schwiesow
Secretary	-	Mrs. Ada Bedsaul
Custodian	-	Mr. Albert Williams
Cook	-	Mrs. Ethel Marsh
Principal	-	Mrs. May Smith

Principals who have served in the building since 1866 include the following: Mr. Royal, Mr. L. Thompson, Mr. George Meacham, Mr. Howard Morris, Mr. S. A. Randle, G. A. Peebles, J. S. Graham, Mr. J. A. Selwood, Mr. E. A. Miller, Miss Gladys Tipton, Mrs. May Smith, Mr. Alvin Hoerauf, and Mr. Howard Bay, present principal.

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## HALLS FERRY SCHOOL



At the time it was founded our school was christened "Riverview". Then later was changed to "Riverdale" after nearby Riverdale Park. After a few years the school was officially named Hall's Ferry School. This name was taken from the Hall's Ferry Station.

Before 1917 the children from the Halls Ferry Community attended school at Roberts which was organized about 1870 and was a one room school until 1916.

The Roberts school became so crowded that the people in the Halls Ferry Community petitioned for a separate school. This was granted. In February of 1917, Mr. E. M. Croisan, donated one and one-half acres of land for a school. There were two requests by Mr. Croisan, one that no trees be cut unless the idea be approved by 2/3 of the people of the community and that the property donated for the school, revert back to the original property owner if the time should come when it is not used for school purposes.

The new district was bonded for \$1200 to build the school. The building was placed on a knoll with slopes on all sides. In 1938, this knoll was cut down and the building lowered eight feet. At the same time permission was granted to make wood of some of the trees and level off a few more humps and hollows, which gave the children more room to play. About 1942, the district hired a large grader and worked the grounds to the present condition.

When school convened in 1938, 64 children registered for work in the one room school. The woodshed was converted into a temporary primary room and within a week school was in session. The next year, with the aid of the P. W. A. and \$800 negotiable interest bearing bonds the present primary room was added to the building.

Then came the inside plumbing and next the kitchen and playshed. Material for the playshed was bought with money earned by adult programs, Mother's Club dinners, etc. The actual construction was done mostly by donation of time. Even the ladies of the community helped to lay shingles

In 1953 the Halls Ferry District consolidated with the Salem School District #24CJ. In 1956 for reasons of economy it was proposed to close the school and transport the children to Rosedale School. Due to poor road conditions between Rosedale and Halls Ferry and many protests from the Halls Ferry Community this was not carried through.

At the present time Halls Ferry is a two room school with a total enrollment of about 40 students.

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### HAYESVILLE SCHOOL



Hayesville School had its beginning in 1858 when Adam Stephens, one of the first of the early pioneers to settle in the area, donated lumber from his neighboring sawmill to build a schoolhouse on his property. A second one-room structure was built in 1882, a short distance north of the site of the first building. The 1882 schoolhouse was located on what is now the present site of Hayesville School. It stands immediately north of the R. H. Baldock Freeway interchange and on the west side of the old Portland highway, now known as Portland Road and U.S. Highway 99E. It was Joseph J. Basey who donated the land on which the present schoolhouse is located.

An interesting account concerning the old 1882 structure was found in a report which was filled out by a teacher regarding the then aging building. In answer to the question, "What means of ventilation, good or bad?" she wrote, "Plenty of ventilation through the roof and walls."

On October 10, 1898, a new teacher came to the school. Her name was Miss Meda Hobart, later she became Mrs. Meda Hobart Brandt. As a rather interesting sidelight Meda's granddaughter, Katherine Brandt, is now teaching in Salem at Middle Grove School. Meda was also a first cousin to the father of Mrs. Ethel Hobart Carothers who is presently teaching at Hayesville. Before her death in 1951, Meda related to Mrs. Carothers about an incident involving a band of gypsies. The school doors were kept tightly closed, but the children were allowed to go out to have their fortunes told. Having no money the children were the only ones who profited --experience wise.

The school at that time had no well and water was carried in a bucket from a neighbor's well. The bucket was placed in the school and a common dipper served everyone.

This old schoolhouse was moved from its foundations to make way for a new school.

which was completed in 1909. There was an important feature that went with the new one room building. For the first time in over fifty years, the school had its own well!

As the community grew, there came a need for a larger school to house an increasing number of children. Consequently, on August 23, 1924, a meeting was held to decide what should be done. For some reason it was decided that they should keep the old one for a while longer. However, as the story goes, fate decreed that a new schoolhouse should be built, and late that same night the old building mysteriously burned to the ground.

A few days after the 1924 fire, it was decided to build a \$10,000 two-room school. On December 5, 1924, it was appropriately dedicated and a free chicken dinner was served to all. Mrs. Mary Fulkerson, then the county school superintendent, complimented the community on the splendid showing they had made. A picture of this then ultra modern structure appears in several old Oregon history texts as an example of the excellent school facilities to be found in rural Oregon.

The new building, presently serving as the front two rooms of the new five-room structure, was constructed to include a folding door between the rooms and a stage at one end.

A third room was added about 1935, followed by a central hall and a fourth room in 1938 on the north side of the hall. The fifth room, an office for the principal, a conference room and a combination storeroom and boiler-room were constructed after the district voted to consolidate with Salem School District 24CJ. This took place on September 12, 1949, with 102 voting for and 17 against the proposal. Upon consolidation the seventh and eighth grades were transported to Salem to attend Parrish Junior High School.

For the school year 1956-57 the sixth grade, totaling 14 pupils, were transported to two other suburban schools. Those pupils living on the west side of the highway went to Middle Grove while those living on the east side were sent to Auburn.

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## HIGHLAND SCHOOL



A strange type of front architecture seemingly was not in ill repute, as it would be today, during the period from 1910 to 1915. During those years Salem Built five of its still used elementary schools. Highland being one of them. The style surely was highly approved at that time, as two of the schools were built 2 years before Highland, one built the same year, 1912;

and one built 3 years later. On entering any one of these 5 schools from the front entrance one is slapped in the face by an ascending stairs. But the stairs have stood the test of many years, and will undoubtedly continue to do so for many years to come.

Although Highland School is 45 years old, and undoubtedly in that length of time hundreds have been in attendance, there seems to be little source of pertinent information about the school. One would assume that 20 years ago there was a definite growth in this area of town as there was an addition built to the north of the original 8 rooms in use. This addition also gave to the school an auditorium with a large play area beneath it.

The large basement play area has since been converted into a cafeteria which also doubles as inside space for P.E. classes.

Those at Highland now feel especially favored by the 1937 addition because it gave to them a separate auditorium, a luxury which the recently built schools in Salem do not have.

Because of the lack of new buildings in Salem for a long period of time and in order to house youngsters, several bus loads of pupils were transported to Highland from the area of town now serviced by Washington School. After World War II, when the big rise in school population became a real housing problem, it was discovered that the Highland district by itself was supplying enough boys and girls to fill the building. Basement rooms, which formerly had been used for storage or playrooms had to be converted to classrooms, and no transported youngsters were sent to the school. Even that did not satisfy the demand, so again in 1950 an addition of 6 classrooms, 2 on each of the 3 floors was added to the south end of the building. The new addition also included new and modern toilet facilities on all three floors.

At the time the 1950 addition was constructed, all of the classrooms of the old part of the building were modernized, with new chalk and bulletin boards, sinks, drinking fountains, enclosed counters, tile on the floor and new paint. Progress now is being made with the ceilings being acoustically treated.

A modern kitchen and dining room at this time also replaced the inadequate old ones. Hallways and stairs areas were tiled and acoustically treated, fire doors installed and at long last, with its many new exits, the school was no longer the fire trap it could easily have been.

Thus, at the present time, in spite of its age the building is quite modern. Although one must admit, the building renovation is similar to taking an elderly man to the barber shop. He can be given a hair cut, but his wrinkles cannot be erased.

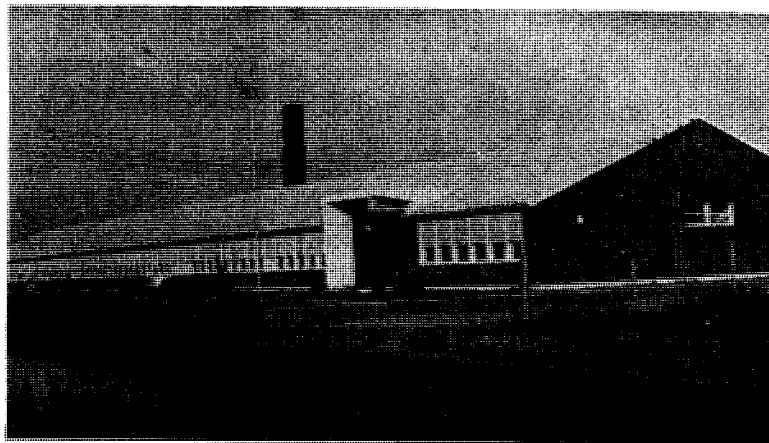
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The first rustic schools had hardly been established in the pioneer Oregon Territory before our professional predecessors held their first professional meeting in Salem on October 17, 1855. They formed the Association of the Teachers and Friends of Education of the Territory of Oregon. Their public spirit was epitomized in the constitution which they adopted. It declared the object of the organization was "to promote the intellectual improvement of its members, and diffuse a sound, healthful, and thorough education among the mass of the people."

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## HOOVER SCHOOL



Hoover School is one of Salem's newer elementary schools, located in the East Englewood area, just outside the city limits, on Savage Road. The school was named Hoover for the former president, Herbert Hoover, who spent part of his youth in Salem. A life-sized portrait of Herbert Hoover hangs in the front hall. Penned on the border of the portrait are the words "To the Hoover School of Salem, Oregon, with the good wishes of Herbert Hoover."

Hoover school opened its doors September 10, 1952, with a staff of nine teachers and an enrollment of 200 children. It is a single-story building of brick veneer and glass block construction, having 13 classrooms, with special facilities of multi-purpose room, library, office, health center, and special education room.

Hoover School is located in a community with a rapidly-growing population. In the past five years the enrollment has increased to 386 children. At the present time the library is being used as a classroom.

Hoover School has an active Parent-Teacher organization that has contributed much to the general welfare of the school and the community. Each year the Parent-Teacher organization purchases several pieces of equipment for the school. They have also defrayed the expenses of two teachers and principal to attend educational conferences.

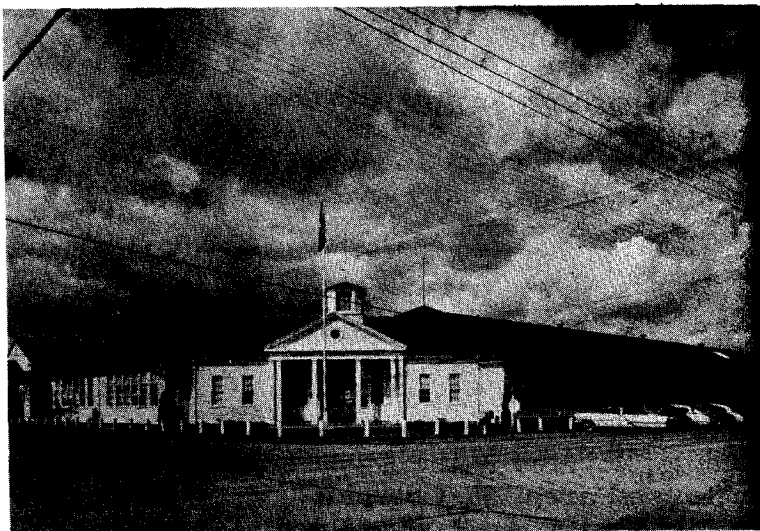
Youth organizations, such as Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Bluebirds, Campfire Girl, and 4-H Clubs have been sponsored by the Parent-Teacher organization.

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The tall, native grasses of the Willamette Valley still grew breast-high to a man riding on horseback when Oregon's teachers held their first professional meeting. Indian uprisings and difficulties of transportation frequently restricted attendance at the meetings.

But those pioneer teachers knew the values of professional association. They met in Territorial days and the early years of statehood to discuss their common problems, to take appropriate action to advance the causes of education, and to lay plans for the future. Our present Oregon Education Association has a long history behind it.

## KEIZER SCHOOL



Location of the First School Site. The Keizer Community lies on the northern fringe of Salem, Oregon. It is one of the fast-growing suburban areas in Oregon.

Charles William Pugh, son of John Martin Pugh and Sally Ann Claggett, was born November 7, 1854 at Claggett. He was married to Joan Hamilton on October 3, 1875. The couple resided on their farm in the Claggett District, later called Keizer. Mr. Pugh studied law at Willamette University and was always civic minded. He believed in schools and churches, and promoted these ideas as his father before him had done by donating land for school and church purposes. He gave an acre of land for the school site, where Keizer School now stands. The old log building, where he attended school was a little north of the present school, on land owned by his father. A new building was constructed on the present location about 1880.

The name of the school was changed from Claggett to Keizer at a later date. The name Keizer came from Mr. J. B. Keizer, an early home-steader, who was also civic minded and who helped in the development of the Keizer School District.

This district, at first a farming community, has many small farms in the area today, where hops and fruit crops are raised. The Keizer School District comprises a tract of about eleven and three-fourths square miles.

Development of the School Plant In 1911 a building containing four classrooms and full basement was constructed on the present site of the school plant. It has not been possible to find the cost of this building but the replacement value today (1952) of this original construction is estimated at \$50,000.00

Keizer began its first period of growth soon after the construction of this building and in 1939 the first wing of the new building was begun. It consisted of four classrooms, a health room, a teachers' lounge, a kitchen, an auditorium, and the principal's office. The cost of this building was \$131,300.00; the funds were provided by a special bonding program.

Families began to move north from Salem into Keizer and in 1948 an addition to the new building was necessary. It consisted of ten classrooms at a cost of \$144,026. This upswing in enrollment made it necessary to bond the district to capacity in order to add these rooms.

The community had not yet reached its limits; farms were divided into small tracts, new homes were built; and more people moved to Keizer. One year later, in 1949-50, it was necessary to add five classrooms, two storerooms, and a teachers' lounge at

the opposite end of the building.

During the construction of the last five classrooms, it was necessary to use a basement room in the old building. Later this room was used as a music room and another section of the basement was changed into a school library. These rooms were used until the end of the term in 1955.

Due to the increased enrollment both basement rooms were needed for classrooms the next fall. This necessitated the use of the front of the auditorium for a music room. The back part continued in use as the cafeteria.

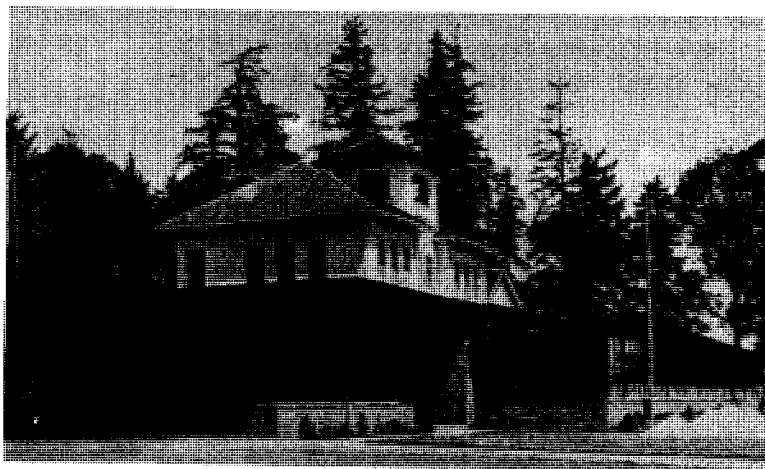
District #88 consolidated with the Salem District 24CJ in August 1955.

High School students beyond the eighth grade level have always been transported to Salem by bus. This fall, 1957, the seventh and eighth grades, as well as the high school will be transported to Parrish and North High.

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## LIBERTY SCHOOL

By: W. E. Turnidge



Liberty School, Salem Public School District 24CJ, was formerly Marion County District 71. When the "Liberty Old Timers" meet August 3, they will see the sixth construction project designed to enlarge and improve Liberty School.

The school began in a 16 x 20 foot building in 1868 on land donated by a Mr. Swegle. There were fourteen voters at the time of origination, and the teacher was Sarah Towner.

The present new addition (to be added in 1957) is the fourth building used by school children in this community.

Shortly after 1885, the first schoolhouse was replaced by a larger one room building. Later a one room addition was built. Water was carried to the students and staff from across the street.

Two students of this era are still residing in Salem. They are Mrs. Daisy McIntyre and Ed. Jory.

In 1906 the school became crowded again. The staff at that time was Mrs. Ernest Free (who still lives in Salem), her sister, Mrs. Mae Cleveland Mrs. Rebecca Smith.

Because of crowded conditions Mrs. Free conducted her classes in the Dorman Dance Hall above the Smith Store warehouse. This building is still standing. Known now as the Grange Hall, it is being used as a warehouse.

In 1908 a two story, four room school was built. The older building was moved to the south end of the grounds and was used as a community hall for many years. The "new building" as the old timers call it, had a dirt basement that was destined to become two more classrooms and entrance to modern restrooms.

In 1953, a six room addition with office space and special rooms was built on the South and East sides of the "new building."

Liberty still feels the pangs of population increase. In 1956 it was planned to have eight classrooms, but eleven were needed. To meet the population growth, a six room addition is to be built in 1957. Even so, it is estimated that two rooms in the "new building" (1908 vintage) will be needed, and that the school enrollment will be doubled by 1962.

Liberty School has one of the most attractive and inviting school grounds in the country. A wide expanse of grassy play area is flanked on the South and West by a grove of fir and oak trees. The architect has planned a low contemporary building using native woods and brick to enhance the appearance in these natural surroundings.

So Liberty has grown from a 16 x 20 foot house with a staff of one to an eleven room establishment (not including gym, cafeteria and special rooms) with a staff of 18.

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## LINCOLN SCHOOL



On June 30, 1888, a group of citizens submitted a petition to the Polk County School Superintendent, setting the boundaries for the Lincoln School District. This first school was located at lower Lincoln which was situated right down on the river. This was a thriving community supported by the river traffic. Grain was brought from near and far to the grist mill located there. There was a church and a blacksmith shop and a huge warehouse and a big loading dock there on the river bank. The old schoolhouse was torn down, but the crumbling remains from the old warehouse can be seen there yet.

The river traffic died out and the bulk of the population and the traffic shifted up to the present Lincoln community. A new schoolhouse was built at the present site

about 1912. This was a one-room structure with a big bell in a bell tower on the top. In both buildings all eight grades of classes were taught until the district was consolidated into the Salem City System. Some of the teachers who taught at the present Lincoln School were Mrs. Mickey, who still lives at Lincoln, Mrs. Hammer, who also lives there. Mrs. Martin, the wife of the Assistant Superintendent also taught there at one time. In 1952 when the consolidation took place, Mrs. Lanta Hirsch was the teacher.

After the consolidation the change to the present system of teaching only Grades 4, 5, and 6 at Lincoln, with Grades 1, 2, and 3 being taught at Zena was begun. Grades 7 and 8 go in to Lexli Jr. High. The Lincoln area now takes all of the children from the old districts of Spring Valley, Lincoln and Zena who are in Grades 4, 5, and 6.

Lincoln School is located on Spring Valley Road just off of Wallace Road, 6 miles north of Salem.

The old bell tower was removed because of a leak in the roof which did not seem to be easily repaired. The old bell was given to the old Lincoln Community Club.

This report was written by Vestal Loveall, teaching principal of the Lincoln School for the past five years.

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## MCKINLEY SCHOOL

By: Dorothy Rea

First mention of a proposed school site in South Salem appeared in the board minutes, Nov. 14, 1914 in a communication to the Board from B. C. Miles and Sarah A. Judson. In January 8, 1915, motion was passed that the Board receive deed and accept title for tract of land known as the Voget Site, situated on South High and McGilchrist Streets for the sum of \$5,000. Geo. M. Post was engaged as architect. The name McKinley was accepted at a regular Board meeting April 12, 1915. Plans and specifications were adopted April 30, 1915, with bids to be opened May 14, 1915. Each bid must be accompanied by a thousand dollar check. Bids were received from 10 contractors. Salem Building Council "prayed" the board that Salem workmen be employed in the construction of the school. Snook and Travers, with a bid of \$20,128., were awarded the contract. George M. Post was hired as supervisor of construction. S. A. McFadden was later hired at \$5.00 per day, representing the district in the new construction.

The construction was completed and the building opened for use the fall of 1915. The faculty consisted of Emma Kramer - principal and teacher for grades 2 and 3, Delta Dillard - grade 1, Lulu R. Walton - grades 4 and 5, Ermine Bushnell - grade 6.

It is interesting to note the decline in enrollment as indicated by the faculty for 1916-17 which was composed of: Ermine Busnell - principal and grade 6, Grace H. Nick - grades 1 and 2, Lula R. Walton - grades 3 and 4. In 1917-18: Helena Willett - principal and grades 1 and 2, Alta Patterson - grades 3, 4, and 5.

Due to continued small enrollment and need for hospital facilities during World War I, McKinley School, for an interim of two years, was used as a hospital. The sick were cared for and babies drew their first breath in the "educational atmosphere"

of the school's classrooms. It was reopened as a Junior High in 1920-21 with LaMoine Clark as principal and the following faculty members: Bolin, Foster, Hale, Halvorsen, Hamilton, Kreamer, Rotzien, White, Power and Ringheim. It continued as South Salem's Junior high school from that year thru 1926-27, with increasing enrollment and faculty.

It became an elementary school again in 1927-28 when Leslie Junior High was opened. W. A. Davenport was named to the principalship of both McKinley and Lincoln and there was a McKinley faculty of 8 teachers.

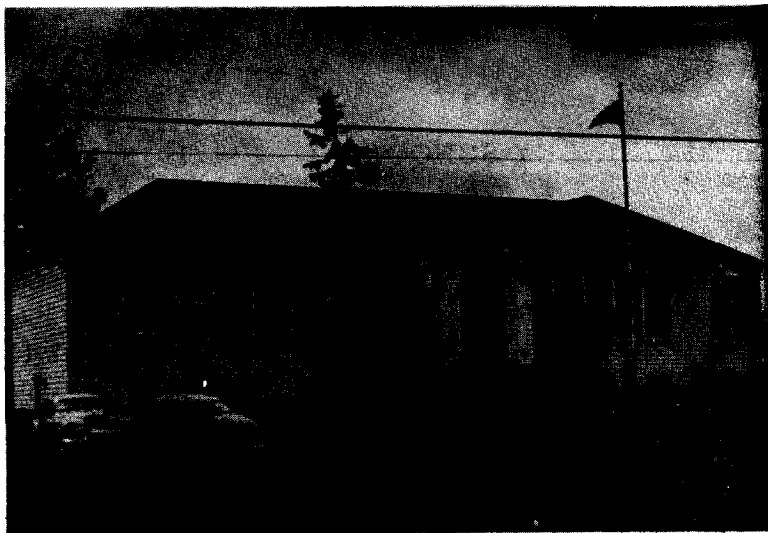
In 1928-29 Dorothy M. Taylor was named as principal of the two south elementary schools, McKinley and Lincoln. In 1932 the board decided, for evident reasons of the greatly increased enrollment, to name a principal for each school. Miss Taylor was named for McKinley and Mrs. Daugherty assumed leadership at Lincoln. McKinley School continued a gradual growth as the surrounding territory was opened up for home building. In 1950 two wings were constructed by E. E. Batterman, to the original building adding four new classrooms and a multiple purpose room and cafeteria.

The school has an approximate enrollment of 400, with a supervising principal, 14 teachers, 1 cook and 1 1/2 custodians.

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## MIDDLE GROVE SCHOOL

By: Ron Lee, Principal



School District #3 was organized February 23, 1857. The first school was a home located on property bordering McCain Avenue, near the Reubin Hilfiker residence. This building was later moved to the present site of Middle Grove School on Silverton Road, the land which was donated by the Walter Estate, as a more central location and this fact plus a large grove of fir trees located on this site gave it the name of Middle Grove.

In 1910 the original building was again moved, this time one-half mile North East on the Silverton Road to the Fletcher Farms and became the present home of Mrs. Kate Vent.

The first school was then replaced with a more modern three room school that stood among the tall firs until 1940 when it was replaced by the WPA with the present building core of two rooms. Since 1940 there have been three major additions to the school, the last being two classrooms and a multi-purpose room in 1956.

With the Salem City Limits having periodically been extended beyond the Fairgrounds, the Middle Grove School District #3 was reduced in size and in 1944 was

consolidated with Salem School District 24CJ. The original boundaries reached from the Fairgrounds and the Hayesville District on the west and north, to the Pudding River on the east. The present school is located about three miles east of the Fairground on the Silverton Highway. It is in the center of a natural hub where several roads cross and intersect one another making its location easy to reach from every direction. Its rural setting has been changed into a lovely community with many attractive homes and businesses.

The early settler's interest revolved around the community club which held as its main purpose community betterment and sponsored all activities for community improvement. This club worked harmoniously with the Public School District #3 and functioned as the Parent Teacher's Organization for many years. Through the efforts of the community club, the present school was erected. New additions to the school have been made under the Salem School District.

At present the first through the sixth grades attend Middle Grove School while the seventh and eighth grades attend the Parrish Junior High School.

Among those who attended school in the original building in the 1890's, and still living in the community or in Salem are Mrs. Lydia (Bartruff) Ross, Mrs. Anna (Bartruff) McDonough, Mrs. Katie (Jefferson) Fletcher Vent, Frederick and Bessie Mitchell, and Mrs. Lydia (Herndon) Scharf.

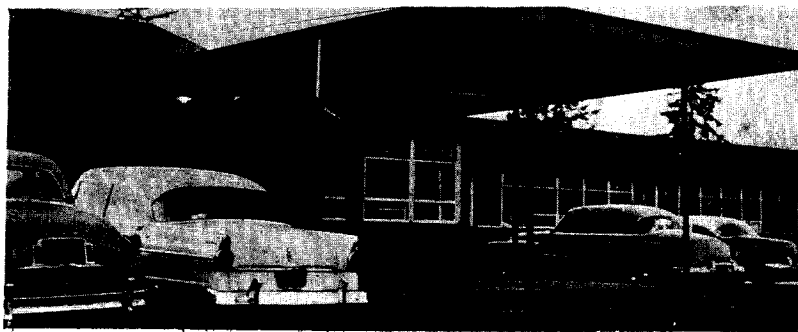
Materials gathered by Mrs. John Van Laanen and Mrs. Lydia (Herndon) Scharf.

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## MORNINGSIDE SCHOOL

By: Marguerite W. Wright

A record of chievement  
rivaling the honors acquired by  
other schools with generations  
of history has made Salem's  
four-year-old Morningside School the pride of its teachers, parents and pupils.



In its first try in 1957, Morningside School won the Freedoms Foundation's highest award for a project contributing to a "better understanding of the American way of life," and sent Teacher Margaret Pierce and Student Jeffrey Hogensen to Valley Forge to receive the honors.

Morningside students have won many blue ribbons in the annual Northwest Science Exposition for outstanding work on science projects.

The school was chosen to launch a successful experiment in a new method of

teaching reading, using colored slide projections of book pages -- a technique later adopted by other Salem schools.

Also adopted by the Salem school system was a new report card form originated by Morningside's first Principal, Marion Miller, who was later promoted to director of the 13 suburban schools. Walter Beck replaced Mr. Miller as Morningside principal, after a long and successful tenure as principal of Bush School.

The scholastic and professional achievements of the school's faculty and students have been matched by the activities of the parents. Through the Parent-Teachers Association, fathers and mothers of the young student body have taken an active and enthusiastic interest in school affairs and welfare.

Even before the school building was begun, parents of the future pupils organized to ask the school board to provide adequate safety precautions -- a move which resulted in petitions that secured construction of footpaths along 12th Street.

Organizational chairman and First president of the PTA was Paul W. Harvey, Jr., followed by O. K. Nielsen and E. A. Bamford, who served two terms. Ronald Blundell is 1957-58 president-elect.

A \$1,000 intercom and loudspeaker system was financed by the PTA, and funds were raised for other major projects including playground equipment, an opaque projector and ceramics kiln.

Directories of Morningside parents and teachers, financed by advertisements, and family dinners held annually in the all-purpose room were money-raising projects sponsored by the PTA.

Morningside School at 3113 South 12th Street, whose lovely name was originated to identify the building with the area it represented, was officially dedicated on February 24, 1954 with School Superintendent Walter E. Snyder officiating at the ceremonies. Opening of the school had been delayed until January because of unusual construction difficulties. Huge basalt boulders, the result of pre-historic volcanic flow, hampered excavation by Contractor Robert D. Morrow. Architect was William I. Williams. The bid for the 24,000 square foot structure was \$268,972.00.

When the school opened there was 160 pupils and 7 teachers, with the principal sharing his time between Morningside and Salem Heights schools. By January 1956, population in the Morningside area had increased to the extent that the school board was planning a five-room addition to the school.

That fall, with a record enrollment of 433, classes were being held in the library, in the cafeteria, on the stage and in the hallways. Before long the new rooms were completed and the school, with a teaching staff of 16 and 442 pupils in the spring of 1957, was looking forward to more expansion -- and added achievements -- in the future.

\* \* \* \*

Early problems of schools included the need for textbook uniformity, adequate tax support, compulsory attendance laws. The meeting of 1855 in Salem emphasized need for solution to these three problems. Subsequent action of the Oregon Education Association has led to laws covering all three areas and hundred of other school matters as well.

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## MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL

By: Caroline Blake, Principal



Mountain View School is located on Orchard Heights Road about two miles north and west of the heart of Salem.

Perched as it is on the crest of a hill, Mountain View has a magnificent view of the surrounding Cascades Mountains.

In 1904 parents of children in this area decided that their children were having to walk too far to school. They petitioned to have a new district formed which would be made up of portions of Popcorn, Brush College, and West Salem school districts.

The land on which the school stands was purchased from the Schindler family. The school was built by Mr. Livingston.

This district has not always been called Mountain View but was at one time referred to as "Peanuts". Thus as one traveled up Orchard Heights Road they saw two schools - - Peanuts and Popcorn.

Thinking it rather undignified to have their children attend a school named Peanuts, the parents were finally able to have the name changed to Mountain View.

During the years since 1904, Mountain View has had fifty seven teachers. The first teacher was Mr. F. O. Seaton. Some of the teachers who taught in this school are still living in the district and still take a lively interest in school affairs.

Mountain View started as a one room school, but as the population increased rooms had to be added until at the present time it is a "bulging" three room school

Mountain View district consolidated with the Salem City School district in 1953. There are now 83 students enrolled in the school in the first six grades.

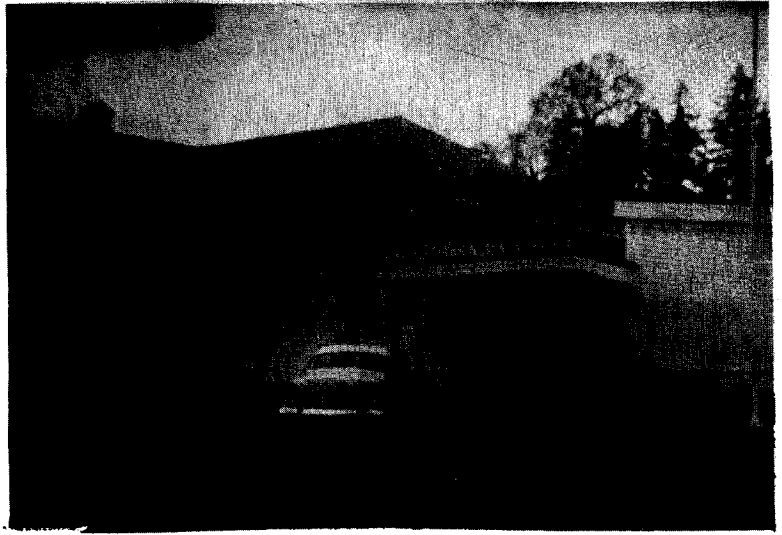
This school is truly a community school. The building is used as a meeting place for such organizations as the Farmer's Union, the Mothers' Club, and the Mountain View Community Club. The members of the entire community are interested in the school and are always ready to lend a helping hand when it is necessary.

\* \* \* \*

The first school built by the Portland school district was erected in 1858 at a cost of about \$4,000. after being opposed by one of Portland's leading citizens because the city would soon have to erect a jail and citizens could not afford the additional burden of a schoolhouse.

## PRINGLE SCHOOL

By: Glen Mick



The Pringle Community and School was named for the family of Virgil K. Pringle and his wife, Pherne Tabitha Brown, who were pioneers of 1846. Mr. Pringle was born in Connecticut, July 29, 1804, and died in Salem, March 24, 1887.

The Pringles with their seven children, Mrs. Brown, aged 63, her son Orus Brown and her brother-in-law left Independence, Missouri in the spring of 1846 with a large immigrant train bound for Oregon. It was Christmas day about two o'clock when they reached Salem, after many hardships, and travelling by foot the last stretch of the trip from near the site presently known as Corvallis, Oregon.

Pringle School District was established on April 16, 1856 as School District No. 21 by William P. Pugh, county school superintendent. The land was donated to the school by the Pringles. This building was used until 1898, at which time a new building was constructed.

In 1870, Maggie Rector was the teacher. Books in use in the school at that time were Montgomery Geography, Spencer Penmanship, Davies Arithmetic, Clark Grammar, Nelson Reader, and Elementary Speller. The building used at this time was built in 1855 and valued at \$600. The teacher was paid \$17.50 from district tax money and \$72.50 from the county fund. Number of quarters of school taught was listed as one, and the number of scholars in attendance was 20.

In 1935 the W. P. A. built two new rooms, now the multi-purpose room. In 1946, the Pleasant View school was consolidated with Pringle and that building was moved to the Pringle grounds. This was connected to the two new rooms.

In 1948, Pringle was consolidated with the Salem Public Schools, District 24CJ. In 1952, 4 classrooms, office, teacher's room and library were built and the multi-purpose room was remodeled.

The centennial of Pringle school was observed in 1956, at which time Wallace Turridge, a former pupil, was principal of the school. This observance was marked by an all-day program of varied events, culminated by an evening barbeque and speech by Mark Hatfield, soon to become Secretary of State.

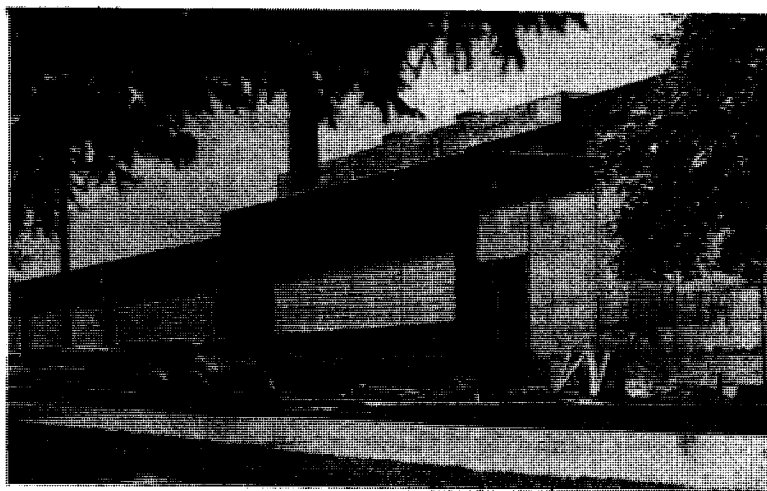
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Oregon Territorial Legislature chartered "Walamet University" in Salem in 1853. Willamette University is the oldest institution of higher learning west of Missouri.

\* \* \* \*

## RICHMOND SCHOOL

By: Jean Thibeu  
Janette Buck  
Leta Elam



Richmond School was once referred to as "The Ivy Tower". It must have been a beautiful sight with the red brick making itself known in some spots. The schoolhouse was built in the near middle of a block, surrounded by Mill, 24th, and Simpson Streets and facing Richmond Avenue. The sidewalk leading to the main entrance was bordered by a rosebed. The front was in lawn, and on either side of the grounds was a play area.

Today, 1957, the school takes over the north play ground area. The latest addition to the building on the Mill street side, is mostly in window glass, with red brick trim. The 24th street side finds the first addition to the school with many windows and glass brick. The playporch area does not show from the street, but it leads out from the main building to two of the present first grade rooms.

The main entrance to the school was changed in 1950. The rosebeds and the ivy have long since disappeared. The building is surrounded by shrubbery typical of the many varieties seen around the Salem area.

The original building was three stories high; the first floor was considered the basement. The two additions are only one story, and the basement area was then considered as part of the first floor. The principal's office was changed from a small office, which was located over the entrance stairway, to the south side of the new main entrance.

The building today has 20 classrooms in use by 18 teachers, principal, a secretary, two custodians, and three cooks.

An area in the city of Salem was called the Richmond Addition back in the nineteenth century. By 1910 the Salem School Board decided that the school system should have a school in that section of the city. Thus, begins the history of Richmond School, District 24CJ, Marion County, Salem, Oregon.

In 1910 it was recommended to the Board that plans being made for the 1911-12 school year include accommodations for relieving class loads. The best solution proposed was the erection of two 4-room buildings, one on the site owned by the district in the Highland Addition, and the other on a site to be selected south of State Street and east of 21st. Street.

The Board recommended the building of one 8-room schoolhouse in Richmond Addition and one on Block 8, Highland Addition, both to be modeled after the Garfield and Englewood Schools with provisions for kindergarten, if required. Buildings would cost at least \$40,000 and heating plants, \$5,000. The first payment of the Richmond block was \$500.

The first type of heating used at Richmond was wood. Records showed a purchase from the Sear Wood Company for 50 cords of wood at \$2.57 a cord to be delivered to Richmond.

The school was opened Monday, September 23, 1912. The first teaching staff included Christabel Jewett, Catherine Pooler, Elsie White, Frances W. Pohle, and H.F. Durham. In June, 1913, W. E. Moses was elected as principal of Richmond School for ten months at a salary of \$100 per month. Most teacher salaries averaged around \$75 a month.

The first janitor of Richmond was C. H. Green, assigned in 1912. Mr. J. R. Bull was hired in 1914 as janitor at \$60 a month.

The seventh and eighth grades were removed from the elementary schools around 1915. The change left these rooms at Richmond vacant, and they were used for an auditorium.

The furniture of the classroom during this period included old type desks screwed to wooden floors. They varied in size with portable foot rests for very small children. Each desk had an inkwell. Pendulum clocks were used. The cloak room was at the side of each room. The windows were usually decorated with pupil art work.

The north side of the basement was assigned to the girls and the south side to the boys. Each had a playroom about the size of a classroom. The east side of the basement was the furnace room.

There were four classrooms on the first floor; the principal's office was over the front stairs. There were two south rooms on the second floor. The north end was one big room which was divided later in 1921-22 to make two rooms. Also, there was a small room over the office area which was used as a health room.

The building was heated by a wood furnace. The boys' playground was always stacked with long slab wood piles. It is believed that there was a floor heater in the lower hall which was handy for drying wet clothing.

Gym classes were held in the basement; there was a cement floor with benches around the walls. In the Southwest corner there was an old Victrola used for folk dancing. We are still teaching one of the folk dances that was taught then, "Dance of Greeting."

Although the change has been gradual, classrooms of today exhibit a sharp contrast to the rooms of yesterday. We use blond tables and chairs. We have sinks and drinking fountains in each room, and inter-communication system, acoustical tiles, indirect lighting, and electric IBM clocks. Ink wells are not necessary now since ball point pens are used. The floors are covered with tile. Today we dance in the cafeteria.

Comments from past pupils reveal they enjoyed watching the process of putting the long slabs of wood into the furnace. They recalled feeling sorry for the janitor whose job was to cut the long slabs with a sledge hammer and wedge.

It was also mentioned that the janitor had the job of ringing a hand bell to call the children to their classrooms. It was said that Miss Fisher was always at the door to meet them and to see that they marched up the stairs in a proper manner. It was also the janitor's duty each day to check the temperature of each room.

The average classroom load during these early years was around 30 and up to as

high as 54. Today they try to give us a lighter load.

Each grade level had A and B classes, with promotion or failure between these two classes. There were no graduation exercises then or now.

Throughout the years many systems of report cards have been used. A copy of a report card issued in 1914-15 had two semesters of three six-week periods in each. The grading was with 1, 2, 3, and 4, being failure. Today the primary grades use a plus for satisfactory or a check to indicate that improvement is needed. The upper grades use A for "excellent", S for "satisfactory", and N for "needs improvement."

There was one teacher for each grade, and the teachers within the building taught the art, music, and physical education activities. Apparently this was an exchange among the teachers. Classes were conducted under such titles as geography, citizenship, drawing, physiology, conduct, and deportment.

For noontime play children played outside in good weather, with the girls on one side and the boys on the other. In bad weather the children played in the basement, boys on one side and girls on the other. However, children were encouraged to eat at home and needed a reasonable excuse to bring lunches to school. Children had to live more than nine blocks from school to bring a lunch. No hot lunches for children were served until 1935. The basement room was used as a lunch room, and teachers took turns in supervising. When the room was too crowded, children ate in their own rooms or with teachers who had brought their lunches. A hot plate was at the school for teachers who wished to cook their lunches. When hot lunches were introduced, mothers volunteered to prepare and serve the food. Hot plates were used.

The P. T. A. employed the services of the Works Progress Administration, through action of the school board, to serve hot lunches without cost to the district by making use of W. P. A. labor and Federal Surplus Commodities. A special P. T. A. meeting was called to consider problems of serving hot lunches at school in 1938.

Mrs. Leah Smith, who was employed between 1937-43, was among those working with the lunch program. She states that the lunches were served in the basement, cafeteria style. Mothers of the children and the janitor helped with the beginning lunch programs.

Today, 1957, we have a well-equipped kitchen and a large room with ten tables in which to serve the children. These tables are folded into the walls when they are not used for programs seating or eating the noon lunch.

This program is self-supported with federal commodities being used in many instances. Around 300 children are served daily. At the present time all children are encouraged to participate in the lunch program.

The children from the fourth through the sixth grades help with the many kitchen duties during the lunch hours.

The dishwashing equipment was inadequate in 1954, and at a cost of \$300 the dishwashing area was enlarged.

The library, back in the 1915 era, consisted of books in the principal's office and a few books on shelves in the classrooms. The first library was in a small room on the third floor. This arrangement was made after Miss Marjorie Chester became supervisor of Instructional Material in 1946. After the 1951 building addition the library

was moved to a classroom on the second floor, where it is now located.

Classes in band and orchestra are relatively new. There was a rhythm band at one time. Red and white capes and berets were used in 1936-37. A few of these are still among stage properties at Richmond School.

One Arbor Day some trees were transplanted with the aid of Miss Cochrane. Sixth grade boys planted trees near the railroad tracks, but the trees did not survive. In 1915 the P.T.A. requested that some trees be planted. Reports are that one there were pine trees, a cedar tree, a cluster of small oak trees, and several nut trees on the school grounds. Today we have 17 trees around the school block.

There were four fir trees planted southwest of the building. The names of two soldiers who were killed in World War 1 were placed in bottles, and the bottles were placed in tin cans and buried deep under the fir trees. These two boys lived on Richmond Avenue.

As classrooms were needed, the auditorium rooms were used. The assembly programs were held in the second floor hallway, and the children sat on the steps or in chairs along the wall. The children participated in Christmas programs, May Day Festivals, music festivals, assembly programs, a triangle orchestra, celebration of Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays, Memorial Day, and Arbor Day. The May Day program, which was held outside, included a queen and king, costumes, and the May pole. Health pageant programs were given only by honor students from the primary and intermediate grades.

Residents relate that houses have changed around Richmond School, and the streets have been paved. New housing has mushroomed to the south of Richmond. There were wooden sidewalks which have since been replaced by cement sidewalks. State Street was the only paved street near the school. Although bridges are being constructed of cement, there still are a few wooden bridges crossing Mill Creek in the Richmond district. 1957 will record a new bridge on South 25th. Street. Mill Creek runs within two blocks of Richmond School. It used to flood up to eight inches all the way to Trade Street on 24th Street and Richmond Avenue.

Miss Anna Fisher was one of Richmond's early principals, working for \$950 during the school year of 1915-16. Records show that she was a second grade teacher along with principalship duties. Miss Fisher is said to have ridden a bicycle to school.

Minor repairs during the 1915-20 period were due to trouble with the heating plant and needed roof repair.

During 1919 the Improvement Club of Richmond School District was granted a request to hold their meeting at the school building. The 1923 bond issue election for improvement of Richmond and other schools was passed.

Part of the upkeep of the building in 1924 was the staining of the woodwork of the interior, staining and varnishing teacher's desks, staining and varnishing office chairs, installing washable baseboards in both basements and applying washable paint around the basins.

Records show that Charles Goveley was the custodian. He retired in 1937 to be replaced by Walter Biggerstaff.

In 1938 the board was requested to provide inside bicycle storage space for the children. A door was cut through the partition in what is now Room 7, near the

position of the present sink facilities. Richmond now has a bicycle shed with extra racks placed around the shed. This shed was built in 1945.

1938 saw Miss Anna Fisher and Miss Adona Cochrane retire from Richmond's teaching staff; both had served at this school since at least 1916.

Lloyd Girod was transferred from the Leslie staff to the principalship at Richmond in November of 1938. He retained this position until he was given a military leave of absence to serve with the Navy in February of 1943. Walter Snyder, then curriculum director within the Salem School system, acted as building principal for the remainder of that school year. In May of the same year J. Parker Lineberry was employed on a permanent substitute basis for principalship at Richmond. After the war Mr. Girod returned, and he resigned as principal in 1946. Our present principal, Miss Gilles, assumed duties at this time.

It was interesting to note that Richmond received aid from National Youth Administration and W. P. A. as did many schools during the year of the "initial aid."

An N. Y. A. project beginning in 1940 was to cut the grass to level the grounds. Termination of this project is not known.

A religious program was carried on at the schools during 1940-42. Leona Strong was in charge of the program at Richmond.

In 1943 approximately \$250 worth of equipment was purchased for installation of equipment for the library. A furnace was constructed and installed in July of 1944.

Richmond has grown continuously, sometimes expanding faster than additions could be made. In 1944 arrangements were made to transfer students from overloaded grades to Washington and Bush Schools.

In 1948 the P. T. A. had its first booth at the Oregon State Fair. During this year, the P. T. A. bought three radio-phonograph combination sets to be used in connection with health, recreation, and music appreciation programs. Our Ampro-Movie projector and Opaque projector were purchased by the P. T. A. in 1946-47, from funds raised through their carnivals.

In December, 1948 assessment of \$969.38 for paving Mill Street at Richmond School from 23rd to 24th streets was ordered paid from the construction fund.

Sidney Hayslip was architect for the additions planned for Englewood, McKinley, and Richmond Schools. Light fixtures for Richmond were included in the plans.

In addition to principalship for Richmond School, Miss Gilles was recommended by Superintendent Bennett in 1948, to also serve as principal of Pringle School. This was ended after a two-year period and the tremendous increase of school population at Richmond.

The September, 1949, enrollment adjustments made it necessary to construct classrooms in the basement playrooms at Richmond School. A covered play area was to be constructed. The last basement playroom was to be used as a classroom. Several sixth graders were transferred from Richmond to Bush School to ease the class loads.

In 1949, the north and south boundary line between Bush and Richmond was changed from 17th street to include both sides of 17th street in the Richmond District. The

alterations to Richmond were to be completed by September of 1950 and the heating plant changed to an oil-fired steam system to accommodate the present building and further additions to the building. Fred L. Bernardi was awarded the contract for these alterations.

Plans to complete a four-room addition to Richmond by the school year, 1951, were made. The addition was to the east side of the school. Glass brick for the upper window space was used. "Island" cabinets were a part of the interior plans for each room. Two of the rooms facing the playporch have individual lavatories.

In 1953 there was a delay in the opening of school so that the bean industry could be saved.

Continued increase in enrollment at Richmond made it necessary to add four new rooms. This addition was made on the north side in 1955. Hayslip and Tuft were the architects for this addition. Robert D. Morrow had the contract for \$58,675.

School enrollment at this time, April, 1957, is 460. Since Richmond School was erected, the enrollment, teaching staff and maintenance had more than tripled. Curriculum areas have changed in philosophy and technique; the school's appearance is greatly modified. Many, many changes have occurred in a time span of approximately 45 years at Richmond School. Richmond today is proud of its beginning, its progression, its growth, and its present status. But most of all, it's proud of the groups and groups of youngsters who make the citizens of today and tomorrow and had their early training in Richmond School.

The School song written by Wilma Osborn, echoes through the halls . . . .

"Richmond School is my school. I'll stand by her today.

We have such happy times here, both in our work and play.

The teachers are so nice, the children are, too.

We'll all do our best, and to our school be true.

So we will boost for Richmond, for Richmond Grade School.

\* \* \* \*

## ROBERTS SCHOOL



The first school was held in the Roberts District in 1879 in a building on the site of the present Grange Hall. At that time the district was called Croston. The term was of 6 months duration extending from



April 13, 1879, to October 3, 1879, with the exception of the month of August. The first teacher was J. S. Stephens. His salary was thirty-three and one third dollars per month. Some of the pupils during the first term of this school are still living in or near Salem. They included Jesse Pettyjohn, Samuel Matheny, John Dyer, George Higgins, Ida Higgins, Edith Matheny, and Maude Fiddler.

In 1901, the older half of the present Roberts schoolhouse was built at a cost of \$1400.00, the money being borrowed from Ladd and Bush Bank. The name of the school was changed to Livesly, as Mr. T. W. Livesly owned a very large hop ranch in the neighborhood. There were times when as many as 60 to 70 children were in school in the one room building.

In 1916, an addition was built on the east end of the schoolhouse, resulting in the building that is now being used. About this time the Livesley interests were sold to John J. Roberts and the name was changed to Roberts.

The district was consolidated with Salem District 24CJ, in Jan., 1951.

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## ANKENY SCHOOL

By: George Forgard

The original Ankeny school was built about 1853, a short time after the Jory brothers established their Donation Land Claims. The school, a log cabin structure about 3/4 of a mile southwest of the summit of Bunker Hill and near the south boundary of what is known as the Harold Jones farm, was first located.

Some of the early teachers were Frances McDonough, C. H. Mattoon, and Lizzie Sager, the later being a survivor of the Whitman Massacre of 1847.

This schoolhouse was probably the first one built in Marion County, south of Salem and between the present location of the Pacific Highway on the east and the Willamette River on the west.

Between 1870 and 1880 a school was built farther north called Fairview School. This was a one-room structure set up on oak blocks. There were double rough-hewn handmade desks. Harold Jory of Salem recalls that in 1898 when he first enrolled there, the rough desks had already been worn smooth and that the floors were quite uneven. An enrollment of 12 was considered large for all eight grades, most of the pupils coming from the Hartley and Jory families.

In those days all money for the operation of the school was raised by local subscription and school was held for three-month periods. The teacher was paid \$30 per month and boarded out in the homes of the children for one month or two weeks at a time.

Due to this school falling into disrepair, a new school was built around the turn of the century across the road. This school was also called the Fairview and is the building which now stands on the east side of the highway.

About 1940 the name was changed to Ankeny because of the conflicting name with Fairview Home in Salem and because the name of Ankeny would more fittingly identify

the district.

Ankeny school closed in 1945 because of the small enrollment and the difficulty of obtaining one teacher to teach all grades. During one year the teacher changed three-times. In addition, the building was obsolete and run down, and would require considerable expenditure to bring it up to state standardization.

After closure the pupils attended Sydney school to the south, until the consolidation with the Salem School District, whereupon pupils living north of the boundary line now attend Rosedale School.

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### PROSPECT SCHOOL

By: George Forgard

The first record of school in this area was a class taught by Mrs. John P. Gaines, wife of one of the first territorial governors of Oregon. This was around 1857, before Oregon became a state. The Gaines place was on the present Cartwright Farms.

Later, the children of the area went to Liberty School.

Prospect School was built in 1885 on Skyline Road which, even in those days, led from Liberty to the Willamette River.

The school could always be located by a grove of trees on the summit of a hill nearby with an immense fir tree right in the center. This group of trees was known as the "capitol dome" from its resemblance to the old capitol building, and could be seen for miles in every direction.

Skyline Road was a red mud road in wintertime. It took all day to make the round trip to Salem in horse and carriage, the horses never going faster than a walk through the mud.

This was wheat farming country in those early days.

Mabel Robertson of Salem recalls that their farm was just across the road from the school and that the teacher boarded at their place. She was paid \$25 besides her board. School was held for two three-month periods during the year.

The Oregon Land Company began buying up the large wheat farms, clearing the land of "grub oak" with Chinese labor gangs, and planting much of the area in fruit orchards, mostly prunes. The farms were split up and more people began to come in. At one time all the hills and valleys as far as one could see were covered with orchards and were a beautiful sight in spring.

A vestibule was built on the front of the school in 1890.

Enrollment varied from as low as five in the early years to the point when a second room was added in recent times.

The school was the center of the social life of the community. Church services were held there on Sunday, and social gatherings of all kinds were held at the school. The teachers were always part of this social life.

Sometimes the teachers were quartered in the old Gaines farmhouse on Cartwright Farms.

From 1907-1947 Ralph Cartwright played a great part in molding the unity of the community and contributing to its welfare. During the most part of those forty years he served as chairman of the school board. He had a great feeling for community relationships, oneness, and security. He fostered and kept the community together.

In 1927 the school still had oil lamps. Electricity was brought in 1930.

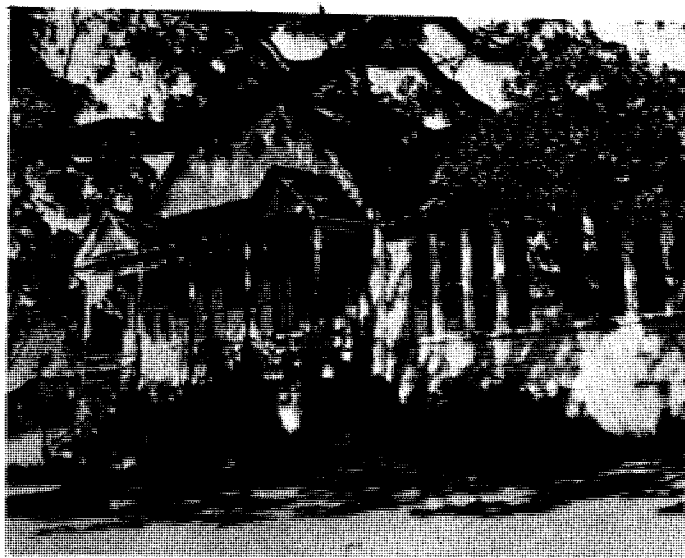
In January of 1952 Prospect was consolidated with the Salem schools along with Ankeny and Rosedale, and a new school was built at Rosedale for the pupils of the three districts.

The old school building is now being used for church services.

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## ROSEDALE SCHOOL

By: George Forgard



The history of Rosedale goes back to the Donation Land Claim of John and Caroline Jory who moved into their claim in the year of 1850. They crossed the plains from Illinois by ox-team in 1847 and bought a "squatter's right" from a man who had taken the claim.

The Jorys settled on or near Battle Creek, and at one time the Jory brothers together owned 2,560 acres of land in a compact body from Rosedale south to Ankeny. The land was farmed by the Jorys who raised wheat and other grain, but was covered with small oak trees called "grub oak." The Oregon Land Company purchased part of the Jory claim, among others, and began to bring in workers, including many Chinese coolies, to clear the grub oak off and plant prune orchards.

These orchards were known as the Sunnyside Fruit Farms and were widely publicized with promises of an easy life off the annual prune crop. Many settlers, including members of the Friends Church, were attracted by these offers, among whom were William and Robert McGilchrist who purchased land near Battle Creek in 1892. That was the year the little town of Rosedale was platted and several houses built. A blacksmith shop, operated by Lambert Coppock, the smith, was set up close by the creek on the main road, which was the original 99E route south. A large square two-story house was built and used as a boarding house for the workers of the land company and was kept by Mr. and Mrs. Edmundson.

In that year the Rosedale school district was formed and the first school was held in a house next to Battle Creek near the present Fredrickson place on Reese Hill Road. The teacher at this temporary school was Hula Cox. There were 15 pupils that first year, among whom was Frank Teter, who still lives in the community.

The Land Company donated a 5 acre site for a school and in the summer of 1893 William and Robert McGilchrist built the original Rosedale School at a contract price of \$900. It was a one-classroom structure with a cloakroom, and a woodshed in back, and put together with wooden pegs.

The lumber came mostly from Scotts Mills and was hauled by the Land Company's four-horse teams. James McGilchrist, son of William McGilchrist, recalls that his father brought some of the lumber in their own wagon from Illahee, and that they made a total profit of \$300 on the whole contract.

The school district comprised fourteen hundred acres and was bonded for twelve hundred dollars/

The first teacher in the new school was Charlie Abbot who was paid \$200. the first year. The second year there was a small prune crop and his salary was boosted to \$400.

William McGilchrist, Jr. was the first pupil to graduate from the eighth grade and James McGilchrist was the second.

James McGilchrist has a lot of stories to tell about the early Rosedale days. The worst thing was the necessary trip to town in the winter-time. There was no drainage on the roads, and the horse and buckboards had to travel slowly through the mud. The trip took all day, starting at 4:00 o'clock in the morning. Finally, the farmers themselves graveled the road from their own quarry, which is still in the locality.

It was not surprising to see pupils of all ages in class. James McGilchrist relates that when he was in the second grade, he sat next to a man 32 years old. One night a group of these older students bound and gagged the teacher, Walter Townsend (who, it is said, actually was a very fine teacher, but very strict) and left him in a cold barn all night. He showed up the next morning and never said a word about the incident.

About 1920 the school was remodeled and a second room added. Three or four years later an enclosed play area with a sawdust floor was built, with a cement floor added afterward. This play area was the scene of many a good time in later years. Oil heat replaced the jacket stoves and a stage was added by extending the east end of the building in 1933. It was built by community labor and with material donated by the community.

On Sunday evening, July 20, 1952 a roaring fire with flames shooting high into the darkening sky ended, in a little over an hour, the career of the historic old school, a landmark and community center for over five decades. Starting in the shed at the south end of the building around 7:40 p.m. the fire burned itself out in the northeast corner, leaving nothing but two brick chimneys standing. Cause of the fire was unknown. Loss was estimated at around \$12,000, including \$2,000 worth of books, desks, chairs, maps, and an old upright piano.

There were 77 students, Grades 1 through 8, and three teachers in the structure during its last year.

It was in January of 1952, six months previously, that the Rosedale district had

decided to consolidate with the Salem School District, along with the districts of Prospect and Ankeny (whose histories are included separately), and to build a new consolidated school on Bates Road not far away. The new school was well along in construction at the time of the fire and was ready for occupancy at the beginning of the school term in September of 1952.

The new school building is a four-classroom brick veneer structure built at a cost of around \$90,000 on a six-acre tract purchased from Floyd Bates. It includes a stage, auditorium, kitchen, office, and other work rooms.

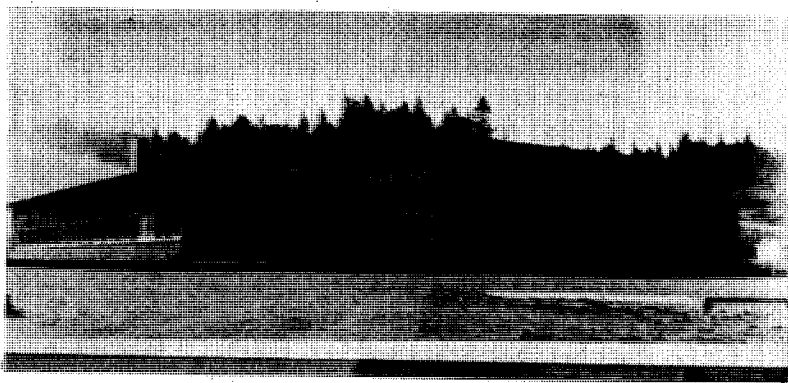
Since consolidation, Grades 1 through 6 only have attended Rosedale School, Grades 7 and 8 going to Leslie Junior High in Salem.

Attendance has climbed from 54 in 1952 to 70 as of this year. The largest single class enrollment in its history, 16, is scheduled to register in the fall of 1957.

Some adults still living in the community who attended the old Rosedale School are: Frank Teter, Floyd Bates, Mrs. Helen Berndt, Kenneth Cole, Mrs. Shirley Thomas, and Mrs. Berchen Caldwell. Mrs. Caldwell is a member of the present teaching staff and some of her pupils today are children of former students she once taught in the old school.

The old Rosedale School bell is preserved in a glass cage and is on display in the hallway of the new school today.

Insurance money left to the old Rosedale Community Club fund in the amount of approximately \$175 was used by the members of the club to finance the preservation of the bell. The case was constructed by Lee Fredrickson. The rest of this money was used to buy colored lights for the stage of the new school and to purchase a firing pin for the new school.

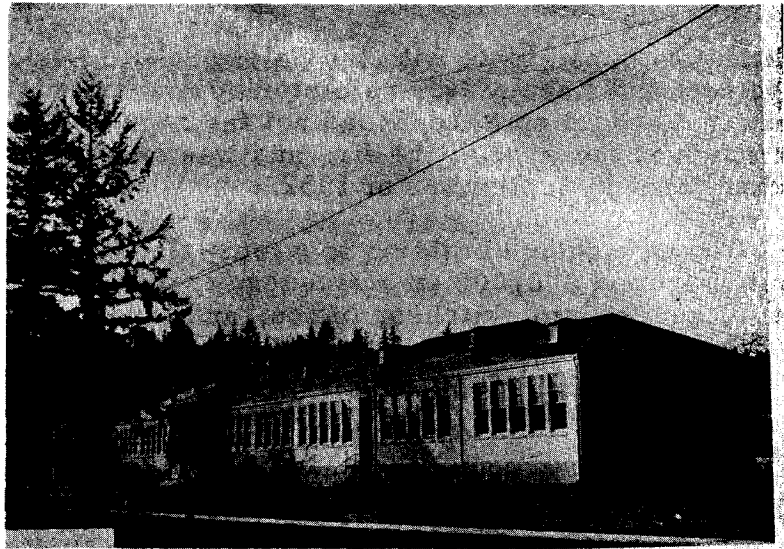


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The pioneers of Oregon were determined to possess the agencies of refinement and civilization, and so they made provisions for schools, churches, and libraries. The first free public schools were opened in 1845. Half a century later there were 800 schoolhouses, with 3,200 teachers and 58,000 pupils. High schools have come to Oregon, almost entirely in the present century, for in 1900 only Portland, Astoria, The Dalles and Baker had high schools. Churches took the lead in establishing academies and colleges, but later the western ideal of a public educational system extending from the primary grade to the graduate institution was achieved.

\* \* \* \*

## SALEM HEIGHTS SCHOOL



The first four rooms, office, and supply room of the present school were built in 1929. Ten years later, in 1939, four more rooms were added, making the two wings to the West. Still another ten years later, in 1949, the addition to the North was added; this addition included three rooms.

The school had a staff of 10 teachers at this time.

In January of 1947 the cafeteria was started. This was done by the help of mothers who volunteered to assist the program. During this same year an election was held to consolidate with the Salem School District. The consolidation was turned down with a 37-37 tie vote. Those wishing to become a part of the Salem School System petitioned for another election in the Spring of 1949. This time the election carried with a large majority and the Salem Heights School District #128 became a part of the Salem School District on July 1, 1949.

The seventh and eight grades at Salem Heights School began attending Leslie Junior High that Fall.

The enrollment here has grown steadily. In the Fall of 1946, 145 students enrolled. By 1949 the building was again full, and 60 students (7th and 8th) were sent to Leslie Junior High.

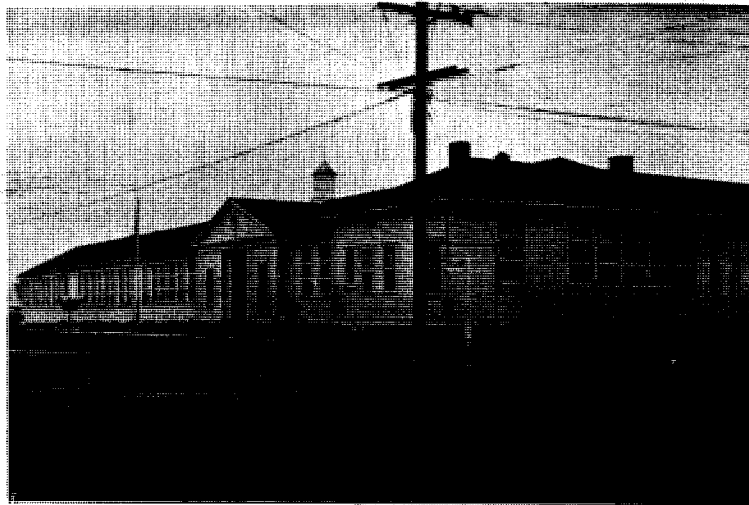
By 1953 the school was again full. Morningside School was built, and 85 of the Salem Heights students were transferred to the new Morningside School. School boundaries were changed to take care of this transfer. The enrollment continued to grow. In the Fall of 1955 a large number of Salem Heights students were sent to the new Can-dalaria School, and the boundaries were again changed. This still did not take care of the growth.

As the 1956-1957 school year closes, we find the school with a staff of 11 teachers and 340 students in grades 1 through 6. A major addition is planned during the Summer of 1957.

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From the March 1925 issue of the State Teachers' Association Quarterly comes the following: We are spending now for the education of every child, taking the nation as a whole, sixty dollars and sixty-seven cents a year, but for the education of the rural child we are spending only an average of forty dollars and forty cents a year. You see we are giving the rural child only about two-thirds as much per capita as we are giving the city children.

## SWEGLE SCHOOL



Swegle School was first built around 1900. George Segle donated the land for the school in the Garden Road area east of Salem. It was formerly part of District No. 3; then it became District No. 78 when school boundaries were changed. In 1903 the one-room school had nine students and one teacher.

In 1923-24, a new plant was built and the old building was moved to the north of the new building and later was removed from the property. It was a one room school until 1930-33 (dates are indefinite) when it became a two room school.

In 1937 it was a two-room school as yet, but a small building across the street became the third room. This was in use until 1938 when two more rooms were added. It then was a three-room school with an all-purpose room or gym. There were four teachers and one custodian employed. It was operated by a school board, consisting of a chairman, clerk, and member.

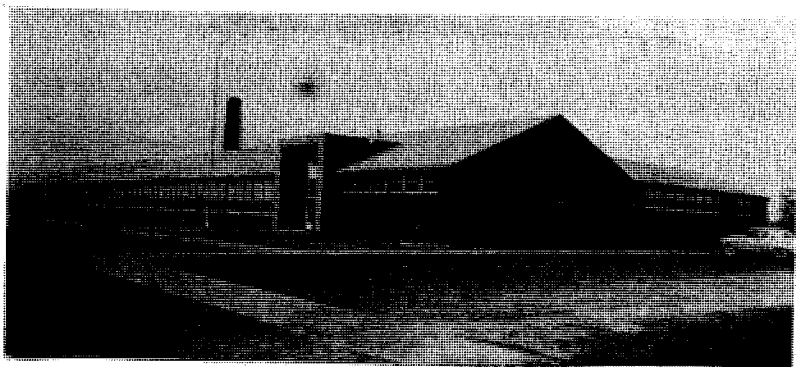
On March 11, 1947, it was agreed by the voters of District No. 78 to consolidate with Salem Public School system, Dist. # 24CJ. The school census at that time, inclusive of 4-19 years of age, was 189.

The last addition was built in 1950 with four more rooms being added. It now operates as an 8 room school with seven teachers, a cook, and custodian. In 1957 the daily membership in school was 190.

The P. T. A. was organized in 1939 and has helped in many beneficial and useful projects; one being the provision of hot school lunches in 1943 for ten cents per child.

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## WASHINGTON SCHOOL



Washington School is located at 3165 Lansing Avenue, Salem, Oregon. The construction of the

new Washington School was completed in October, 1949. During the month of September and October of 1949, the pupils attended the old Washington School, located at 12th and Center where the Safeway Store was erected a year later.

The original building consisted of eight classrooms, a library, visual aid room, multi-purpose room - cafeteria. In the summer of 1950, four additional classrooms were added and in 1956 another addition of four rooms was added making a total of sixteen classrooms.

Four of our present teaching staff who were teaching at the old Washington School before moving into the new school are Mrs. Genevieve Currey, Mrs. Lucille Wardle, Miss Hendra Klabo, Miss Eva Wolfe, and Miss Gladys Tipton as principal.

A Mothers' Club was organized with an average attendance of 30. At the present time we have a very active club with an average attendance of 95. One of the major activities of the Mothers' Club during the first year was the purchase of a public address system which added educational opportunities to all pupils through local and state radio programs.

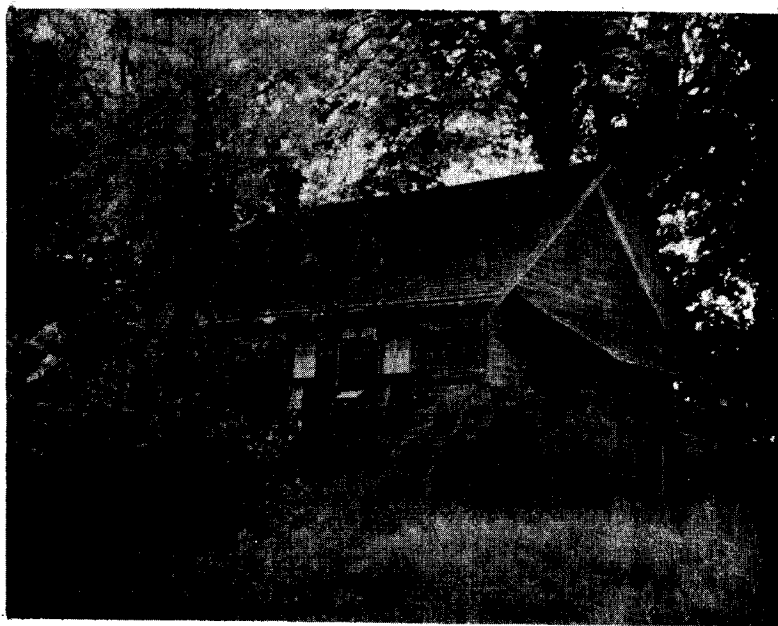
Our cafeteria has been an active part of our school program and at the present time we are serving an average of 225. The first year we had an average of 125.

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## WEST SALEM SCHOOL

By: Tom Means, Principal

According to the Salem Daily Record April 6, 1868 the Fairview School was opened a mile south of the ferry. Mrs. Chapman was engaged to teach for six months.



The article mentioned that tuition was \$2.50 and \$3.00 per quarter. There seems to be no way of knowing whether this indicated it was a tax supported school in the beginning.

This building which was started in 1867 is still standing on Moore Lane, just off Fair Oaks Way. Until rather recently it has been the home of Mrs. Sally Damrell.

The exact date when the school was moved to the present tract seems to be somewhat uncertain, but Mr. Ira Fitts, whose older sister attended school her first year on the hill, estimates the move was made between 1901 and 1903.



The first building on the present site was a one room school located back of the present building now used by the adult education classes, on the corner of McNary and Elm Streets. It seems to have been used as a community hall and church as well as a school.

The present adult Education building was built in 1911. The old one seems to have been continued for some years as the West Salem Methodist Church until the present Church building was erected, after which the old one was torn down.

Miss Bessie Shinn, who finished teaching a half year in 1917, says there were only two teachers at that time, although the building had four rooms. She said the grounds were covered with rose briars, and in addition to planting the maple tree on the corner, they spent Arbor Day digging out rose briars.

In 1927 a concrete building of four rooms and basement facilities was built about 100 feet south of the east building.

During the depression in 1938, the present gymnasium was built with W. P. A. assistance,

In the spring of 1947 West Salem School was consolidated with the Salem School system. In the fall of 1947 the Salem Schools established West Salem Junior High School in basements, lunch rooms, etc., and started to build an 8 room addition connecting the 1927 building with the gymnasium. This addition was not completed till the spring of 1949, making it necessary to move two primary rooms into the Kingwood Church basement the second year.

In 1951 a second room addition was completed between the 1911 and 1927 buildings.

As the end of the 1953-54 year, on completion of South Salem High building, the West Salem Junior High was discontinued and students transferred to Leslie Junior High. The same year, adult education classes were moved into the old East building.

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## ZENA SCHOOL

In the late 1800's and early 1900's there existed at the cross roads of the Lincoln, Bethel, Brush College and Spring Valley roads a busy little town called Zena. According to legend it was named after the daughter of one of the early pioneers. At one time the town boasted of post office, church, store, hall, grange hall, blacksmith shop, wagon shop, school and houses.



After Rural Free Delivery was established the post office was closed. The other buildings, with the exception of the church, were torn down or moved away.

On June 30, 1888 a petition signed by James R. Shepard, George T. Wait, M. V. Mann, W. A. Pike, William Madden, Charles Phillips, S. S. Gimble, Samuel Phillips, John Wamckie, J. E. Phillips, C. C. Walker, P. F. Clark and D. G. Henry was sent to the Polk County School Superintendent's office asking that the boundaries outlined in the petition be established for the district.

The first school was built near the junction of the Bethel and Spring Valley Roads. How long it was used and why it was moved is uncertain. A second school was built on land donated from the Walling donation claim. The sills of this building are still there in what is now the yard of the late James S. Mott. Some of the old seats are treasured there, too.

The school was moved once more to land donated from the Crawford claim. This land will revert to the Crawford estate when it ceases to be used for school purposes. That was also true of the land on which the second school stood. This third school burned. The present building was erected in about 1922. At this time the school had its largest enrollment making it necessary to have two teachers.

When a few of the large families moved away it became a one room school again and continued so until it became a part of District 24CJ, on January 1, 1952. At that time Lincoln also voted to become a part of the Salem School System. Two years later Spring Valley voted to join also. Zena became a primary school with grades one, two and three. Lincoln took the intermediate grades. The Spring Valley School building was sold to the Lincoln Community Center Association and is used for all community activities. The children of the three districts are transported by station wagon to Zena and Lincoln.

## LESLIE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



Leslie Junior High School opened its door to students twenty-nine years ago, on September 19, 1927. During its twenty-nine years Leslie has provided the surrounding community with an educational center. Information for this story was obtained by compiling information received from teachers, students, records and other such sources. Improvements have continually been made. In 1938 the basketball score board was purchased. In 1942 the first motion picture projector was purchased and motion pictures were first used in classrooms. The swimming pool was

d-constructed in 1940. Every spring during Mr. Ravenner's stay at Leslie a spring "clean-up" day was sponsored to clean up the ground and school.

Mrs. LaMoine R. Clark was the first principal. During her twelve years at Leslie, Mrs. Clark showed great interest in the school and in the students. She had lots of pep rallies which she led herself, and she organized a P. T. A.

Mr. Tavenner became principal in 1938 and was at Leslie six years. It was during his six years that the cafeteria started. One highlight during his principalship at Leslie was the short weekly assembly that followed the progress of the war. Mr. Tavenner spoke to the students in these assemblies for approximately 20 minutes.

After Mr. Tavenner left, Miss Joy Hills took over as principal of Leslie and was here five years. She, like the rest of the principals, entered full-heartedly into her job. Improvements continued to be made during her stay at Leslie.

Mr. Charles D. Schmidt followed Miss Hills. Mr. Earl Hampton followed Mr. Schmidt. He is in his fourth year as principal of Leslie.

November 23, 1936 marked a great day in the history of Leslie. It was on this day that the auditorium and the gymnasium were dedicated. The auditorium addition provided for four new classrooms in the basement. The shops, which were previously held in a small barn-like structure, occupied three of the rooms. The band and orchestra occupied the fourth room. The auditorium accommodates 1,200 students and seats 912 on the main floor.

The gymnasium addition provided for four new classrooms and a complete gym. A partition through the middle gives space for both boys and girls to take gym at the same time. The balcony will accommodate the entire student body. In the basement, dressing rooms are provided for girls and boys. These dressing rooms are equipped with showers, a basket room, teacher's office, lockers, dressing stalls, and several toilets and wash bowls. The gym and dressing rooms are well ventilated with fresh air from outside.

Governor Martin spoke at the dedication to a group of 850 people. The dedication of these additions occurred in Mrs. Clark's period of principalship at Leslie.

The "Rocket" is Leslie's annual. Although it was first published in 1949, it is fast becoming a tradition at Leslie. Eight issues have been published so far.

The "Broadcaster" is Leslie's school paper. It comes out weekly and in 1949 was the only Junior High School newspaper in the United States that was published weekly. Since the fall of 1950 the "Broadcaster" has won first place ratings in a National contest. In earlier years there was no annual. Instead, a special ninth grade issue was published. The ninth grade advisor had charge of this project.

The band and orchestra were reorganized by Gordon Finley in 1938. Mr. Finley is now with the United States Navy Band as assistant conductor and cornet soloist.

The following figures show the course of Leslie's enrollment since the school was built in 1927.

1927	-	401	students
1928	-	364	"
1929	-	334	"

1942	-	530	students
1943	-	473	"
1944	-	553	"

1930	-	372	students
1931	-	400	"
1932	-	383	"
1933	-	593	"
1934	-	420	"
1935	-	383	"
1936	-	368	"
1937	-	357	"
1938	-	532	"
1939	-	501	"
1940	-	464	"
1941	-	500	"

1945	-	560	students
1946	-	547	"
1947	-	639	"
1948	-	619	"
1949	-	708	"
1950	-	744	"
1951	-	760	"
1952	-	744	"
1953	-	790	"
1954	-	1219	"
1955	-	1320	"
1956	-	1530	"

The first talent shows and assemblies that Leslie had were exchange assemblies with Parrish and Shumway Junior High School of Vancouver. Mr. Tavenner started the talent shows and they have become part of Leslie.

"Cap Day" and "Hello Day" were a part of Leslie in its earliest years. "Hello Day" is still observed. For "Cap Day" a committee of students would make crepe paper hats and sell them to the students. The money received from these sales was used to buy things for the school.

The Girls' League Association is for all girls attending Leslie. They elect their own officers and give special programs such as Mothers' Tea and plays.

The Girls' Athletic Association was organized by Miss Wilson in 1947. Any girl earning 50 points is eligible to be a G. A. A. The G. A. A. was only for ninth graders, but Miss Wilson made it possible for the Seventh and Eighth graders to belong.

Leslie Junior High School won the principal award in 1955-56 and the medal award in 1956 - 57 given by Freedoms' Foundation.

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## PARRISH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Parrish Junior High School was constructed in 1924 and named in honor of Josiah L. Parrish, a pioneer missionary of Oregon who carried on his work in the vicinity of Salem. Mr. Parrish owned a large portion of land which is now in the eastern part of Salem, and the junior high school named for him stands on a part of his former holdings. Josiah L. Parrish died in 1895,



after a long and busy lifetime. He is buried in historic Jason Lee Cemetery. At the time of his death, he was considered the oldest living pioneer in Oregon.

Before the construction of Parrish Junior High School was started, there were two temporary junior high schools in Salem. One of these was the old Washington School at the corner of Center and 12th streets. Due to crowded conditions, the Salem School Board, comprised of Dr. H. H. Olinger, Curtis B. Bross, P. M. Gregory, William Gahlsdorf, L. J. Simeral, and W. H. Burghardt, decided there was need for a full scale junior high school in the community.

Occupied first in the fall of 1924, the enrollment of Parrish was 974 students in grades 7, 8 and 9. Mr. H. F. Durham, formerly principal of Washington School, was named the first principal of Parrish. He and his faculty from Washington School moved intact into the new building. From its inception, Parrish Junior High School has offered a junior high school program consistent with the educational theory existing at various times regarding the purpose of such an intermediate school. It was the first physical plant constructed in Salem specifically for junior high school students.

Mr. Durham remained principal of Parrish until 1939, when Mr. Preston Doughton became principal upon Mr. Durham's retirement. In 1942, Mr. Carl E. Aschenbrenner became principal of Parrish and served until 1953. Mr. Charles Schmidt was principal for the 1953-54 school year. In 1954, Mr. Robert Dow assumed the principalship.

The steadily increasing enrollment at Parrish necessitated the construction of another junior high school in the southern part of Salem in 1936, which is the present Leslie Junior High School. Further growth of the city of Salem demanded new additions to Parrish in 1948-49. At this time, at a cost of approximately \$360,000, a new addition consisting of an auditorium, gymnasium, and three new classrooms was built. These were ready for occupancy in the fall of 1949. The old gymnasium, after remodeling, became the cafeteria. Over a period of years, rooms have been redecorated and new electrical and plumbing equipment have been installed.

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#### NORTH SALEM HIGH SCHOOL

By: E. A. Carleton, Principal

The story of the Salem High School begins in the 1890's when a 9th grade was established in the school known as the East School on 12th street. This is the building which later became the Washington Grade School and was torn down and replaced by a Safeway Store. In the year 1903 a 10th grade was established, and in 1904 an 11th grade. In 1904 the superintendent was L. R. Traver and the principal was J. M. Powers. In 1904 the high school work was conducted in three rooms in the East School. An election was held in the summer of 1904 to decide whether or not a high school should be built and a full high school course given. After a spirited campaign, the election was conducted and the vote was 279 for a high school and 205 against.

This new building was built at a cost of \$70,000, including equipment, on Marion Street between High and Church. The building was dedicated on January 1 of 1906 and at this time J. M. Powers was superintendent and E. T. Marlatte was principal. The first graduation class of 20 students to complete the 12th grade was graduated in June of 1906 in this new building. In 1909 Mr. R. L. Kirk was made principal, and in 1912 Mr. Earl Kirkpartrick became principal. In the fall of 1914, Mr. J. C. Nelson

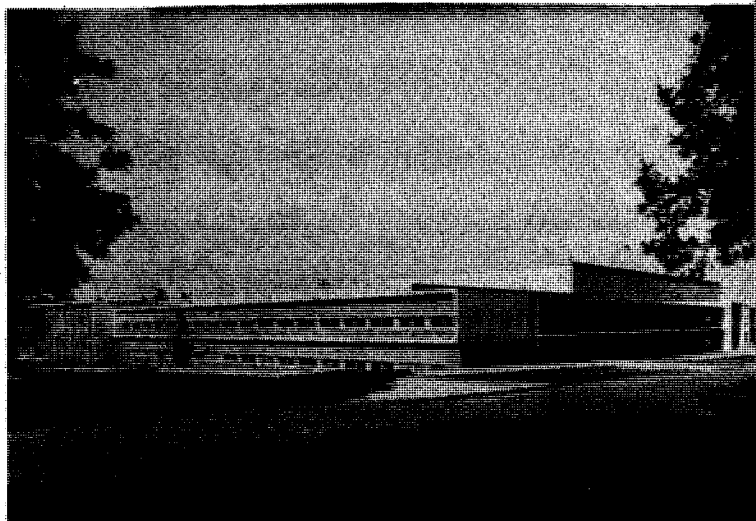
was made principal and the school came under its first lengthy administration under his direction. The High School on Marion Street received an addition at the west end in approximately 1915, and in 1923 a wing was built at the east end with a gymnasium on the second floor of this wing. In the year 1915 there were 97 graduates of Salem High School.

Mr. Fred Wolf was named principal in 1929 and in June of 1930 there were 274 graduates. Mr. Wolf served as principal until 1943 when Walter Snyder was acting principal of one year. In 1944 Mr. Harry Johnson became principal and in 1946 Mr. E. A. Carleton was named principal. In September of 1937 the high school moved to the building which is now occupied by North Salem High School. This building was a P. W. A. project and cost the district approximately \$750,000 with a total cost in the neighborhood of \$1,000,000. Supplementary gyms and a heating plant to serve both Parrish Junior High and the High School were built in 1948 at a cost of \$243,000. It is interesting to note that at the first commencement, in June of 1906, the address was given by J. H. Ackerman who was then the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He later became president of the Oregon Normal School now known as the Oregon College of Education. E. A. Carleton, present principal of the North Salem High School, is the grandson of J. H. Ackerman.

The steadily increasing enrollment of the Salem High School reached a peak of 1,950 students in the year 53-54 with a graduating class on June 8, 1954, of 545 students. At that time the new South Salem High School was ready for occupancy and the student bodies were split in September of 1954. The enrollment in the North High School which occupies the building formerly known as Salem High School in the year 1954-55 was 1,080 students. The graduating class of that year was 316. During the current year the approximate enrollment is 1,250 students and the graduating class will be 350.

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## SOUTH SALEM HIGH SCHOOL



The construction of South Salem high school marked the first major construction of a secondary school in Salem in over 20 years. The new school was the brainchild of Frank B. Bennett, superintendent of District 24CJ schools from 1938 to 1952 who foresaw the influx of school-age population and the eventual need for a new secondary school.

Architects Freeman, Hayslip, Tuft, and Hewlett were awarded the design contract and Contractors Donald M. Dranke and Company of Portland, broke ground for the new structure October 20, 1952. The massive U-shaped structure was completed

September 1, 1954 and officially accepted October 2, 1954. Dr. Walter Snyder, who succeeded Bennett as superintendent in 1952, and school board members Leroy J. Stewart, Harry W. Scott, Gardner Knapp, Roy C. Cates, Faye Wright, and Gus Moore officiated at the open house dedication.

Built at a total cost of \$3,794,166, including building, equipment, play fields, fees, salaries, and cost of additional land, the school was constructed at a per-square foot cost of \$10.40 and a per-pupil cost of \$1230, both figures considered low in large building construction.

The building is a Class A fireproof structure of concrete and brick with non-combustible interior walls, floors, partitions, and roof slabs.

Among the interesting statistics about the building are the 28,000 glass blocks used in windows; 144,000 structural glazed tile; 45,000 yards of plaster; 13,400 cubic feet of concrete, 1060 tons of structural and reinforcing steel; 510 doors; 2700 lighting fixtures; 168,000 feet of electrical conduit; 373,000 feet of electrical wire; and 54,000 feet of pipe for plumbing and heating.

In actual construction the new building was adjoined to Leslie Junior high school. At present Leslie students use many high school classrooms, but the construction of new junior high schools and the eventual increased enrollment in high school will merit use of the total building as a high school in the future.

The Leslie auditorium, capacity 1250, serves both schools, whereas large cafeterias and library rooms serve both schools. Outstanding are the athletic facilities of South Salem boasting three gymnasiums, three dressing rooms, and a first class football field named Bennett field in honor of Superintendent Bennett. Large, well-lighted, airy rooms and well-planned specialty rooms complete the architectural picture.

Parrish Junior High School principal Carl Aschenbrenner was the man picked to head up Salem's newest secondary high school. He had been Parrish principal for 11 years having been an administrator prior to his Salem duties in Idaho. He was appointed for the school year 1953-54 and was charged with the responsibilities of supervising, equipping, and staffing the new building, then under construction.

As his assistant Neil Brown was appointed vice principal. Neil had been vice principal at Parrish for the past 10 years, Robert Voigt, new dean of boys, was a Parrish teacher for 7 years, and Mrs. Lois Brandon, youth counselor from Walla Walla, Washington, was named dean of girls.

The first teaching staff was a combination of new teachers and teachers from the old high school. During the first year the building was staffed by 50 high school teachers and 17 overflow junior high teachers. In subsequent years more and more junior high teachers took over empty rooms whereas the senior high enrollment of 1000 had not varied much.

Besides its daytime uses, the building has had limited usage as a community meeting place and as an adult education center.

First school days of South Salem were also first days for two exchange students participating in the American Field Service foreign exchange program. From Norway came Reidum Iversen and from the Netherlands came Guus Plate. They were followed the next year by Alex Agothanos, student from Greece. This year's student was

Ellen Hauge from Sweden who returned to her native country at mid-year. Next year an Argentinian girl will be enrolled at South.

Selected for summer exchange were students Jane Medaris, Nancy Denton, Ada Hartman, and John Hammerstad. The next year Gary Swicker and Bob Trelstad went abroad under AFS sanction. This year Jim Heltzel will spend a summer in Finland.

The name of the school newspaper was chosen from an Anglo Saxon word meaning "to call" and the annual name was also selected in keeping with the school nickname of Saxons. School colors were Columbia Blue and Scarlet Red.

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## SILVERCREST SCHOOL

This is the history of all the School Districts and Schools which have been formed in the community known as the Silverton Hills. It is as nearly accurate as time, memories, and available records can make it. There have been seven districts in all dating from 1856 to the present time. Their history follows:

District No. 52. The first School District was established in 1856 and was known as Dist. No. 52. The school building erected here was a small box-like structure. The school was named the Porter School. It was located approximately 5 miles from Silverton, on the corner where the Powers Creek Road intersects the Silverton-Silver Falls Highway.

School was in session only about 3 months of the year. The teacher's salary was raised by subscription by the parents sending children to school. These parents took turns boarding and rooming the teacher. The name of the first teacher is not known. James Hutton is recorded as the first clerk, drawing the first school money on April 30, 1856. He was succeeded by Chas. Miller in 1858 at which time the school population was 35.

The first school continued to function until 1861. During the Civil War there was no school. Records do not reveal the reason for this. School resumed in 1867. Philip Hicks taught for one quarter and received \$100. The average school attendance that year was 20 pupils. There were 19 legal voters in the district. In 1870 Mary Simpson taught school for 19 weeks and received \$103. There were 25 legal voters in the District at that time.

A second school which replaced the first was built around 1880 on 5 acres of land donated by John Porter. This, too, was known as the Porter School. It stood across the road from the present L. O. Hadley farm.

One of the most outstanding teachers in the early years, remembered by old timers for his eccentricity and iron discipline, was Jame K. (Jim) Buff. One recalls that in 1895 he became certain that mounds of earth in a pasture a short distance from school were part of an ancient Indian burial ground. Determined to discover treasure and bones, he would take his pupils on a digging expedition to dig into these mounds. It was no doubt good exercise, but all that was ever discovered under the tough sod was dirt and rocks!

District 52 formed a debating society, spelling school, etc. This was held in the school building evenings. People walked 2 or 2 miles carrying lanterns to light their



way, or rode horseback.

This district ceased to exist in 1908 when it consolidated with the Ross District and took on a new number.

District No 93 This was the second school district established in the Silverton Hills. It was established on February 22, 1879. It included roughly the territory North of Drakes Crossing. The school erected here was known as the Mt. View School. The second school built in this district still stands and is used now as a dwelling. The original school stood across the road from the present building. The first teacher and schoolboard is unknown, since early records were destroyed. The earliest recorded board was that of 1888 and consisted of: Clerk, Peter Benson; Directors, H. McAllister, M. Folsten, and Conrad Lang.

This school was disbanded in 1948.

District No. 95 The third district to be carved from District 52 was District 95. The school established here was known as the Davis School, named for two prominent Davis families in the neighborhood. The school was built on land donated by E. S. Remington. It was located approximately 4 miles from Silverton on the Silverton-Silver Falls Highway.

The first recorded school board was as follows: Clerk H. V. Reminton; Directors; James Gordon, Elmore S. Remington, S. Cook.

The first school burned during the Winter or Spring of 1908. The cause of the fire was never known. A second school was built on the sight of the first.

At one time in this school's history a small saw mill was located about a half mile away on Davis Creek. Rumor has it that one day the student body, or the larger part thereof, took off AWOL to visit the mill during recess period. The teacher discovered their absence, cut a big long switch, and with fire in her eye started after her wandering flock. She descended upon her truants with the switch whacking right and left. They returned to the school ground a meek group with backsides smarting.

This school closed in the Spring of 1935 because of lack of pupils. The last teacher was Martha Goodknecht. Her salary was \$55. per month.

District No. 111 This district was established February 1, 1880. The school erected here was known as the Ross School and was built on land donated by Enoch Ross. It was located on the east bank of Powers Creek near the E. V. Ross home. It was a typical "little old red school house". The structure was a box-like reddish brown affair.

Early records are destroyed. Records dating back to 1891 show as Clerk, Enoch Ross; Directors, John V. Smith, Hiram Hartley, and Anton Koob.

In 1907 this District consolidated with the Porter District. School was held for half a term in the Ross School, and the other half term in the Porter School. In 1908 a new school was built known as the Porter school and school ceased for all time in the Ross school.

District No. 107 This district was established February 13, 1888. The school erected in this district was known as the Hult school. It was named for the C. J. Hult family who donated the land, and who lived nearby. This district included, roughly,

the land between Drake's Crossing and South Silver Creek Falls.

D. A. VanGorder, C. J. Hult, and others cleared the land for the first school, and it is believed they also built the schoolhouse. It was of box-like construction and contained three windows, each with eight panes, on either side of the building. Sally Tuggel was the first teacher.

A second school which replaced the first was built in 1910. This school ceased to function in 1940 when the district was consolidated.

District No. 127 This district came into being July 2, 1907 after the Porter District No. 52, and Ross District No. 111 consolidated. The school was built in 1908 on land donated by E. S. Porter and was known as the Porter School. It was located on the Powers Creek Road about a mile from the Silverton-Silver Falls Highway. This school ceased to function in December 1947 when pupils began to attend the new consolidated school known as Silver Crest.

District No. 133 This was the last district to be established in the Silverton Hills before complete consolidation. It was formed October 3, 1913. The school erected here was known as the Bridge Creek School. The site being near the Bridge Creek bridge in the Cedar Camp area.

Fred Hadley was the first teacher. He taught three years. School started October 14, 1914. It was a thriving school for a few years. 1925 records 16 pupils. In 1928-29 there were just 6 pupils, and all of them coming from one family. The school was closed later because of lack of pupils. In 1937 it consolidated with District 107, or the Hult District.

The first clerk of the Bridge creek school was Joe Angelus. Board members were: Nathan Page, Joe Labrinski, and J. A. Patten.

District No. 93C This is the present existing district. It was established in 1940 by consolidation of all the districts, i. e., No. 95, No. 127, No. 93, and No. 107. School was held in Mt. View and Porter Schools until a three room school was completed -- a fourth room has since been added. This school is called the Silver Crest School. Pupils started attending for the first time in January 1948, with an enrollment of 79 pupils. It is located near Drake's Crossing on land purchased from June Drake. Students are transported to school by bus except for a few who are within walking distance.

The first schools were crude affairs. The children sat on crude benches built of rough lumber the like of which was used as siding for the building. These benches were later replaced by factory-built desks and seats.

The teacher sat at the front of the room behind a desk which stood on a raised platform. In front of and below her desk stood the recitation bench where she called her class by number to answer the questions on reading, writing, and arithmetic.

The room always contained a huge old black stove which gave off heat toward the ceiling, but never down toward the floor boards and cold toes.

As a student entered the school building, he first stepped into a hall where rows of hooks confronted him. These were coat and cap hooks. A row of shelves dominated one corner -- these were for lunch buckets. Also on the shelf was a wash basin and bar of soap. A towel was draped over a hook nearby, and there was the water bucket with its one community dipper which served one and all. This water had been

carried from a neighboring well or nearby spring. Later wells were drilled or dug, and one labored mightily over the old black pump which sometimes spewed forth a salamander or the like.

Most of the schools built in the 1900's contained belfries. The bell would toll its warning of approaching school hour and call the children in from recesses and noon hour play time.

Two outhouses stood on the lower side of the school ground. One in one corner of the school yard for girls, the other in the opposite corner for boys. The seating capacity was usually limited to two.

It was a number of years before the necessity of building a covered play area was deemed advisable. These did finally make an appearance and were called "Play Sheds".

\* \* \* \*

## SILVERTON SCHOOLS

By: J. D. Drake



The writer of this school history has been a resident of this community for 77 years and has lived in Silverton continuously since the fall of 1889. I attended the local schools, as did my father, my children, and grand children.

I am thankful to my parents, Edna Brown, Mary Stormer, Hannah Olsen, old schoolmates, and teachers of the past, as well as the present, for their able assistance.

I am especially thankful to our County School Superintendent, Agnes C. Booth, for her willing help.

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The first peioneers who came to the great Oregon country were a hardy-God-fearing people who were not afraid to work. Among them were doctors, preachers, educators, and skilled tradesmen. They had to be, or they would not have survived the awful hardships that confronted them on every hand.

Besides eking out a living, there were two things they wanted most, the right to worship as they saw fit and to give their children a liberal education. One of the earliest homeseekers was Daniel Waldo and family, who took up a Donation Land Claim of 640 acres in what is now the Waldo Hills, arriving there Dec. 1, 1843. Mr. Waldo's first thought was to build a home and then to provide an education for his children.

In 1845, he and some helpers built a log house with a dirt floor near his home, to be used as a schoolroom. He secured a teacher who taught all the children for miles around. Mr. Waldo's son, John B. Waldo, later became Justice of the Supreme Court of Oregon.

The first school, actually built within the limits of what is now Silverton, was a log building constructed in 1849 by the people living close by. This building was at what is now Grant and North Water Streets.

The school was taught by Eliebeth Coffey and there were 31 pupils in attendance. They were from the families of James Brown, Leander Davis, Doctor Blackerby, Harpole, Cox, Smith, Pitman, and others.

The next year, 1850, a more centrally located one-room schoolhouse was built at what is now Oak and Water Streets. This school was built of hewn poles and rough lumber of various widths. It was not edged. The building was covered with shakes. The seats and desks were made of rough lumber; the teacher was Montgomery Barger. The next teacher was a Mr. Grover, who taught one term. Thomas Coon, a new arrival, taught two more terms.

On September 14, 1855, a group of Silverton citizens succeeded in having Silverton School District No. 4 of Marion County formed. John Barger was appointed as the first clerk. Clark P. Crandall succeeded Barger as second clerk and on April 26, 1856, drew \$37.05 from the County school funds.

In 1855, a 20 x 30 ft. two-room schoolhouse was built near where the Silverton Green House on South Water Street is now located. Each room had a fireplace made of rock, clay, and wood. This building was painted white. All desks and furnishings were hand made. The men who taught in this schoolhouse were Paul Crandall, William Cline, and George Dolan.

In the year 1858, there were 59 pupils in the Silverton district.

The year 1862 found a new two-story, two-room school building in use. Each room was provided with an entrance and cloak room, the desks and seats were home made, and all lumber used was hand planed. The building was painted white inside and out and had no belfry at first. One was added in the seventy's when a bell was secured. This building was built on part of Thomas Coon's Donation Land Claim and located between North Water and First, next to Park Street. Dr. P. A. Davis was clerk of the district in 1862 and 1863, and there were 96 school age children in the district.

The district money in 1863 was \$88.77. In 1864, Solomon Hirsch drew the school money amounting to \$180. In this year, there were 66 boys and 54 girls attending school. The two teachers received only \$300 for their services of five months. By the year 1866, the number of school age children in district No. 4 of Silverton had increased to 161, and the amount of school funds was \$228.50. This two-room school building that was built in 1862 still remains in use. It stands at High and 3rd Streets and is owned by the Modern Woodmen.

In 1872, George W. Dolan was clerk. The school population had fallen to 129, as other districts had been formed, cutting away part of district No. 4.

According to the first issue of the Silverton Appeal, published in 1880, Mr. Guild, editor, said, "Silverton has 41 pupils in a two-room school, D. W. Yoder as principal."

This was not all the school age children within the district. Mr. Yoder was a large, obese man and always carried a cane with a crook for a handle, and often used this crook to drag an unruly boy from his seat for punishment.

In 1889, the pupils overflowed this two-room schoolhouse and Helen Hibbard was engaged to teach the older pupils uptown in the upstairs room of the Good Templar Hall. The teachers in the schoolhouse were J. W. Roberts and Grace Blackerby.

In the spring of 1890, the school directors let a contract for the construction of a new six-room school building to be completed in time for the fall term of school, said building to be built in the center of the lot where the old two-room building stood. The old building was sold to the G. A. R. (Grand Army of the Republic) and was moved by J. K. Buff to the corner of Park and First Streets, where the building remained until the land was needed for a High School Building in 1907.

The fall of 1890 found four rooms of the new six-room school in use. The principal was A. L. Briggs; other teachers were Hattie Starette, Grace Blackerby, and Helen White. It was not until about 1900 that all six rooms were in use.

E. T. Moores, a native of Silverton and a graduate of the Willamette University of Salem became principal of the Silverton Schools in 1897 and established classes to the tenth grade. In June of 1898, the first class of students graduated from the tenth grade or what is now called High School. There were eight in the class, as follows: Hilda Olsen, Kate Freeman, Elma Fish, Edgar Fish, Tillie Foss, Sam Foss, Roy Skaife and Emory Drake.

1903 was a sad year for all of the teachers and pupils in the Silverton Schools. During the winter when Silver Creek was on a rampage, Principal William Parker's son, Charlie, who was about twelve years old, fell into the swollen waters of Silver Creek near dark while crossing the railroad bridge and was drowned. The boy's body was not recovered until the next afternoon, when it was found by Roy Fitzjerald about one mile down stream.

Teachers besides Mr. Parker who taught in 1903, were Eleanor Shoenfeld, now Mrs. J. D. Drake; Miss Ethel Lemmon, Now Mrs. P. L. Brown; Miss Clara Sullivan; Miss Carry Ridings, who married Clyde Marquam; and Miss Missamore. Other noted teachers in this school were Mr. Craps and E. T. Moores who became Marion County's Superintendent of Schools.

Later on this school building was named the Emerson. In 1918, this large six-room school building was moved to the corner of First and A. Streets to make room for a new grade school of brick construction. The Emerson School Building burned to the ground during a freeze-up the winter of 1925. The cause of the fire was defective motor wiring and lack of water, as hydrants were frozen up.

In 1907 a six-room high school named Washington Irving was erected. The building had a basement of stone and walls of brick cemented outside. It was built at First and Park Streets and was used continuously for school purposes until 1934. This building was traded to the City of Silverton for the athletic field at the end of Brown Street. E. E. Washburn was superintendent and Mattie Kentner was principal of the school's new high school. Miss Kentner followed by Ward Wray in 1909, who held the position for several years. He was followed by William Goetz who held the position for some time.

The first basketball team to be organized in Silverton was in 1900, at the Liberal University at Grant Street and Bethany Road. It is not known when basketball

entered the Silverton schools, but it soon followed the University team.

The Silverton Schools did not have a gymnasium and they had to rent a room in the Silverton Opera House which was built in 1907. Silverton's high school basketball team won the state championship tournament played at Corvallis in 1909. The coach was Ed Rule of Yale, manager was Wallace (Dock) Cooley and the players were Don Ross, Eddie Fischer, William (Klink) Steelhammer, Charles Reynolds, Erwin Brooks and Chet Woolcott.

The Liberal University of Oregon was named by its promoters - John E. Hosmer, Minnie Page Hosmer and Pearly W. Geer, who first opened a secular school in 1906 in the Liberal Hall which was over the J. Wolfard General Merchandise Store, corner of Main and Water Streets in Silverton. This was an experimental school which was the only one of its kind in the world. After a struggle of three years the number of students increased considerably.

Thaddeus B. Wakeman, a graduate of Princeton and a practicing attorney of New York City moved with his family to Silverton and joined the school's faculty.

In 1899 a Colorado friend of the school deeded his farm to the University as an endowment fund nucleus.

The school board purchased a 40-acre tract of land just outside of the City limits on Pine and Grant Streets, where a two-story wooden building with full basement was erected in 1899 in time for the fall term of school. A boarding and rooming house was also constructed in connection with the school. Students attended from far and near, staying at this rooming house and at private homes uptown.

The faculty of this school included: President John E. Hosmer, Mathematics and Physical Science; A. B. Leonard, M.D., Anatomy and Biology; T. B. Wakeman, Supt., Gen. History, Linguist and Law; Minnie P. Hosmer, Preparatory Dept., History, Grammar; Pearl W. Geer, Secretary, Business and Correspondence; G. W. Hoffman, Physics, Botany, Mathematics; Mary Childers, primary classes; Sophie Wolf, piano, elocution, and English Literature; M. G. Cooley, violin and coronet; Clara Wakeman, Art; Alice Davenport, Stenography and Typing; Emily Wakeman, Domestic Science; Louis E. Ranch, Asst. Bookkeeping and Commercial Arithmetic; and Katie Mattesan, Librarian.

The University also owned and published a weekly paper, "The Torch of Reason".

This school was incorporated for \$50,000.

Some internal dissension sprang up among the officers and the school moved to Kansas City, Missouri, in 1903, where it finally folded up. The building in Silverton was idle for some time, and was finally sold to a Catholic organization.

Silverton's Junior High was built in 1915 on First Street between Park and A. Streets. It was constructed of brick and had a stage and facilities for home economics. This building was taken over by the high school because their building was crowded. The Junior High occupied the old High, the Washington Irving Building. The principal of the High School at that time was Byron Conkle. After the high school moved into its new building on Schlador Street, this school was used for seventh and eighth grades and was condemned in 1955. It was replaced by a new, modern building called Mark Twain School which is between North Church and North Mill Streets at Robinson Street. The new building has nine classrooms, gymnasium, library, and spacious halls. This school was first occupied in January of 1957, with

Tom Cutshall in charge. The sixth grade was moved from Eugene Field school to join the seventh and eighth grades in the new school building.

In 1918 the six-room wooden grade school building that was named the Emerson was moved to the corner of First and A. Streets to make room for a new brick building to be known as the Eugene Field School. The first unit built in 1918 at the corner of North Water and Park Streets contained office space, seven classrooms and an auditorium-gymnasium combination. M. B. Ford is the present principal, having held the position for twelve years.

The burning of the Emerson school caused a shortage of classrooms and a second unit of the Eugene Field School of 10 rooms was built, facing Park Street. In 1925, a third unit of six classrooms and basement was built on the north facing North Water Street.

The Eugene Field Building at first was heated by steam coming from a wood heating plant across the street between the High and Junior High Schools. An oil heating plant was installed in 1954 to furnish heat for the Eugene Field Building.

In 1945, the P. T. A. arranged and had served complete hot lunches in a room set aside for this purpose. By 1948, the directors of the district saw the benefit of the hot lunches for the children and took over the program that was started by the P. T. A.

In 1920, the St. Paul's Church congregation purchased the old Liberal University Building on Grant Street, where they held church and started the St. Paul's School in 1921, with 28 pupils in attendance. This building was razed in 1948, and a new brick school and seminary was built. This school had 97 pupils enrolled January 1, 1950, and 103 in January, 1955.

A new, modern, brick senior high school was built at the end of Brown Street next to the athletic field in 1937. Herman Kramer, was first principal of this school. He was followed by Harold Davis, A. B. Anderson, Howard George, Milt Baum and Karl Kahle, Jr., who is the present principal.

In 1954, eleven outlying school districts voted to unite with district No. 4 of Silverton. They formed a Union High School District to include the small communities near Silverton. This district was called 7J and included Silverton District no. 4C that had previously taken in Silver Falls District No. 85; Bethany No. 63C which includes Hazel Del District No. 41; Butte Creek No. 67J, composed of Marquam No. 16 and Thomas No. 67; Central Howell 40C that combined with Brush Creek No. 19 in 1955; Crooked Finger No. 97; Evans Valley 33C which includes McLaughlin 75, Abiqua 105, and Brier Knob 114; Evergreen No. 10; Mt. Angel 91, ( which absorbed Milster District No. 94 during the early nineteen hundreds, and now rent classrooms from the Mt. Angel parochial school); Monitor 14CJ includes the school districts of Mountain View No. 93, Hullt No. 107, Bridge Creek 133, and Porter 127, which previously took over David No. 95 and Ross District; Scotts Mills No. 73 CJ includes Noble 116; Victor Point No. 42C includes besides itself Valley View 110, McAlpin 54, Union Hill No. 42, Oak Grove 16, Silver Cliff 35 and Center View 86. Willard District No. 30, a small community lying five miles west of Silverton voted and came into the fold of Silverton 7J in 1956.

In 1956, a multi-purpose room, a business education section, kitchen, faculty and a conference room and administration unit were built as an addition to the Union High School Building which brings the unit up to date. To keep the Silverton Schools running smoothly, they are under the supervision of Superintendent Milton Baum, who serves both 7J, the Union High School District and 4C, the elementary school.

Karl Kahle is principal of the Union High School which has an enrollment of 497 students requiring 25 teachers. Thomas Cutshall is principal of the New Mark Twin School which has 260 students in sixth, seventh and eighth grades and nine teachers, a librarian, and part-time band instructor.

M. B. Ford has charge of the lower elementary grade school in the Eugene Field Building, where there are 500 pupils from kindergarten through fifth grades, 16 teachers and a part-time librarian.

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## ST. LOUIS SCHOOL

By: Students  
John McManus  
Margy Wells  
Jackie Corbett

The present St. Louis School building was built in 1906. The district will be one hundred years old in 1959, the old schoolhouse having been located across the road. The bell has been here ever since the school was in existence. In the beginning it was just a one-room school with oiled floors. It was built on stilts. The basement was seven and on-half feet high and contained a furnace. The playshed was added twenty-six years ago.

Up to about fifty years ago, the teachers were Catholic Sisters. A few of the Sisters who taught were: Sister Lucille, Sister Aquinas, Sister Emily, and Sister Genevieve. Here are some of the lay teachers: Miss Vincent, Mrs. Richards, Mrs. Laduke, and Mrs. Harrison. Some of the teachers were paid less than fifty dollars a year.

The children of the early days played in the basement or they could play games outside, such as hide-and-go-seek, baseball, marbles, Anti-over, and Winnipeg. They also played baseball with other schools, among them Gervais, Fairfield, Eldriedge, Waconda, and North Woodburn.

The subjects were about the same as they are now. At one time there were double desks for two children. Sometimes they were so crowded that three children had to sit at a desk meant for two.

The three people interviewed said that they liked Arithmetic best of all subjects. They also told of decorating the Christmas tree with candles.

'The first page of the Primer,' said Mrs. Lawrence Ferschweiler, 'was 'Mama loves baby, baby loves man'.'

As many as fifty children attended the St. Louis School at once, and just one teacher taught all of them. Some of them never finished grade school till they were seventeen years old because of work. Some of the children had to walk two and one-half miles to school.

The oldest living pupil of St. Louis School is eighty-three-year-old Mrs. Joe Rubens of Gervais.

Children haven't changed much through the years. In Mr. Alvin Manning's time, a pupil tied a bell on a pipe under the school. He tied a string on the bell and rang it during school. 'It took them two or three days to find out where it was,' said Mr. Manning.



He also told of a boy's being sent to cut a stick for school-room use by the teacher and being the stick's first victim. Mt. Manning also told of the school's being dynamited.

"But that was after my time," he added.

When asked, "Did you get many spankings in those days?" Mrs. Rush exclaimed, "Oh yes, especially me! One day I stood in the corner all day. The teacher forgot I was there, I guess."

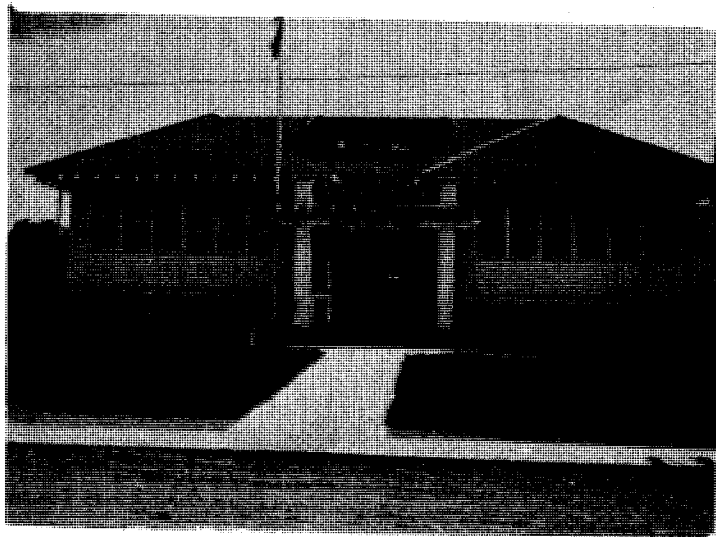
She went on to say that one morning a pupil jumped off a desk and fell through the floor into the basement.

"That was before they put in the new floor," she said.

Mrs. Rush also added that the children drank from an old pump. The water was very cold, and they drank from their hands. When they washed their hands, they had to dry on their handkerchiefs.

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## ST. PAUL SCHOOL



When did the St. Paul Public School first get its start? That question is difficult to answer because records are scarce. There is, however, a receipt in the Marion County Office for \$107.07 from A. Chamberlain, the man who we believe was the first clerk of the school board. The date of that receipt is 1856; three years before Oregon became a state! This money was the first money paid from the county.

The first school was a small square building that sat across the highway from the school's present location. A few years later it was moved to where the gym is now located. How long this building was used it is uncertain, but by 1896 another old hall was moved over from the Kirk residence, which is just west of our present location, and the first school building was used for a stable for cows and horses for a long period thereafter.

In 1912 the new building was built. It is the building that we are now located in. But wait -- that is not the end of the story.

From 1912 to 1923 the school was taught by the Sisters from the Parochial School

and other regular teachers. In 1923 the Garb law was passed. It then became a grade school and two years of high school. In 1924 the present gym was built.

A few years later the High School bought out the Grade School. The grade school was then transferred to the St. Paul Academy where two rooms were rented.

The two rooms in the Academy were used until 1949. In 1949 the old Catholic parsonage was rented, and the public school continued on for one and a half years in that location.

In 1951 our present location was purchased from the high school, and in January of 1952 we moved into it.

In 1949 the enrollment was 17. That 17 was the total enrollment for the whole year, not counting those that moved away. The enrollment is now 140 with an average steady enrollment of about 75.

The school has had its ups and downs, but we think it is here to stay now -- at least until we outgrow it!

\* \* \* \*

School district 77 was organized in 1871, with J. W. Thomas, B. Kimsey, Drury S. Stayton, and Charles Thomas elected to the first board by 14 legal voters.

## STAYTON SCHOOL

The first teacher was Miss Selecta Jane Gardner. Seventeen pupils were enrolled. This was in the fall of 1872. Miss Gardner had conducted a private school in Stayton prior to that time.

The schoolhouse was built at the corner of First and Washington Streets and served until 1890, when the grade school building was constructed on Third Street. Also, in 1890, the freshman and sophomore curricula were added to the first eight grades.

In 1914 the brick building which now serves as the upper elementary school was constructed. It served as the high school building until 1950.

In 1917, a gymnasium was constructed behind the brick building, and was used until it burned in 1949.

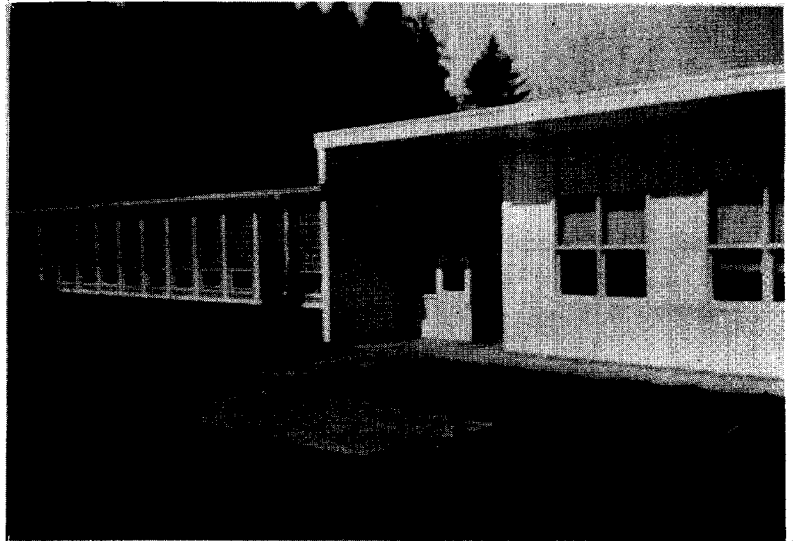
The year of 1950 saw the consolidation of the present district, which makes up 77CJ, and the construction of the new grade school gym. At this time the Union High School District was formed and the high school constructed.

Construction of the present grade school building was begun in 1953. The building was occupied in February 1954.

At the present time, school district 77CJ has 18 teacher stations with a faculty of 18 in the Stayton Grade School and two in the Mehama Primary School. There are 38 people employed by District No. 77CJ -- some of them in conjunction with the Union High School.

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## SUBLIMITY SCHOOL



In January, 1856, Sublimity School District No. 7C was organized. The first building was a log cabin with dirt floor. It was furnished with split log seats and desks. It was erected on the Parker Donation Land Claim. Its site is now occupied by the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Susbaure. Some twenty years after the original log school building, a one-room school, which furnished the first education to many citizens of Oregon, was built at the west end of Sublimity.

In the year 1858, two years after the original log school building, a Sublimity College was established by territorial legislature. It was to be operated by the Church of the United Brethren. A large frame building was built on the property donated by the Denny family.

Milton Wright, the father of the famous Wright Brothers, and Thomas H. Crawford were among the first teachers.

The tuition at Sublimity College was five dollars a term of three months, but for any study above the primary grade, students had to pay fifty cents per term for each additional study. Thomas H. Crawford, who later was superintendent of Multnomah County schools for many years, was a teacher in the college. From 1864 to 1865 he taught higher mathematics and ancient languages. Students taking ancient languages paid nine dollars a term. Higher English cost seven dollars a term, common English was five dollars.

Baseball and ancient languages, somewhat dissimilar subjects, were considered to be strong points of the college. Teams played the Willamette Institute in Salem and a team from the Military Institute which was established north of Sublimity during the Civil War.

Sublimity College trustees included many well known names, including Drury S.

Stayton for whom the town of Stayton was named. Others were J. Denny, Thomas J. Conner, Eli Hubbard, Jessie Herriet, William Bishop, Jermiah Kenoyer, David R. MacMillan, James Campbell, Hadley Hobson, Solomon Albrison, George W. Hunt, J. M. Chandler, Morgan Rudolph and Allen J. Davie.

One building of the college is still standing but it has been moved from its original quarters. For awhile it was used as a living quarters for the first Marion Home until the present new building was erected.

November 8, 1949, School District No. 7C completed a \$50,00 new grade school which was opened to the public. The land, just east of the St. Boniface parochial school grounds, was purchased from Mrs. Mary Bell. The new school has four classrooms, housing eight grades. There is play space under the roof on the north side. It is heated with oil. Glass bricks are used extensively along the south side of the building.

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## CASCADE UNION HIGH SCHOOL



Cascade Union High School was the result of two high schools, Turner and Aumsville, consolidating with five other districts to form a Union High School. The other five districts were Marion, North Santiam, Cloverdale, Crawford, and West Stayton. The vote was very close. In the deciding district, North Santiam, the issue passed by one vote.

Cascade Union High School District went through adjudication in court and won the right to have a Union High School. The bond issue of \$380,000 presented to the people in 1948 passed by a two-to-one majority.

The high school was occupied in 1950 with 286 students. It has since grown to 408 students enrolled in 1956-57 school year. New additions will be necessary soon, as the high school population will press the 500 mark by 1960.

The school at present is standardized by the State of Oregon and is a member of the Northwest Association of Secondary Schools. The school has a modern curriculum in high school subjects plus vocational agriculture and home economics. The vocational agriculture classes have a school farm and experimental plot in which they grow experimental grasses. Oregon State College cooperates with the Santiam Soil Agency and the Cascade F. F. A. in carrying out this project.

The athletic teams at Cascade compete in the Capital Conference which is made

up of eight A2 schools in Marion County. The faculty started with fifteen members in 1949-50 and this year numbers 20.

The original school board was Louis Scofield, Delmer Barber, Fred Bates, F.B. Metcalfe, and Fred Comstock. Louis J. Uhrhammer was superintendent and Margaret Riches, Clerk.

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## GERVAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL

Gervais Union High School was established in 1922 by the consolidation of Districts 76, 59, 26, 13, 82, and 60. In 1956, Mission Bottom and Waconda consolidated with Eldredge and became a part of U.H. Dist. #1. They are now called Elementary District 60C. Fairfield came into District 76C in 1955.

The first Board of Directors included E. Z. Naftzger, Chairman, E. E. Shields, L. G. Ferschweiler, A. M. Byrd, and G. T. Wadsworth, clerk.

The next Board of Directors for G. U. H. S. - included: Sam H. Brown, Chairman, G. J. Wadsworth, Clerk, E. C. Naftzger, John Ferschweiler, John Manning, and Donald B. Durette.

The second class of faculty members were F. J. Dietsch, Principal, Miss Mabel Hearn, Miss Florence Becker, and Mrs. O. L. Rhinesmitt. Carter Keene, Ellis P. MacDougall, and Winifred Gleason were the first students to graduate from Gervais Union High School.

The second class to graduate were Margaret M. Ferschweiler, Frances E. Ferschweiler, Ross E. McDougall, Charlotte E. Cramer, and Gladys May Ditmars.

Members of the present school board are: Roscoe Colby, Clerk, Richard C. Chrz, Chairman, Glenn E. Lucas, Millard Henny, Ernest Andres, Edward J. Jungwirth.

The present faculty members are: Paul L. Reiling, Superintendent-Principal, Albion L. Ringo, Orward P. Hoyer, David B. Ward, Margaret E. Defrees, Robert E. Lewis, Helen Rickey, William J. Ewaliko, Robert N. Hood, Alton H. May, Marjorie L. Tenney, Clifford R. Girod, and Leonard Kunzman, Adult Vocational Agriculture Coordinator, William Uppendahl, Custodian, Nadean Steger, Secretary.

Graduates from Gervais Union High School total 635.

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## ST. PAUL UNION

### HIGH SCHOOL

In writing a history of the St. Paul Union High School, there is an opportunity to bring to light many of the happenings of the past years but there is also a chance that many important events will be left out because of inability of the writer to find actual facts. This history is based on information gathered from old school annuals, the school scrap book, the district

school board's minutes and from a history of the high school written in 1951 by two students, Charlene Buyserie and Steve Bear. I have combined into this report much of what appears to be highlights of each year and listed this in chronological order.

St. Paul itself is one of the historical spots of Oregon and its history can be traced back to around 1836. Many of our high school students can trace their ancestry back to these early settlers in the Oregon Country. The Blanchettes go back to Archbishop Norbet Blanchette who was the founder of St. Paul, the first Catholic settlement in the Oregon Country. The first doctor in the Oregon Country, Dr. John Frederic Joseph Brentano, and the first Postmaster in St. Paul, John Brentano, have relatives who are now graduates of our high school. A great grandfather of the Raymonds, a French Canadian, settled in St. Paul during these early days and took part in the voting at Champoege in 1846. Ronald LaBonte is the grandson of another early pioneer, Louis LaBonte, who helped build the brick church in St. Paul back in 1840. It is believed that he also took part in the voting at Champoege.

The St. Paul Union High School District #3 was started in 1924 with 40 students enrolled in the high school in the building that now houses the St. Paul Grade School District #45 students. Since 1924 the school has grown in size and curriculum and the enrollment numbers about 100 students, with six full-time faculty members teaching in a physical plant valued at \$350,000. The outlook for the future is very encouraging in that the size of the school doubled during the past two years and a continued growth is in sight for the coming years.

In 1924, the first year the St. Paul Union High School was in operation, the students published an annual entitled, "The Mission Chimes", and it is from this source that the following information was obtained. The curriculum consisted of Mathematics, Science, English, History, Agriculture, Latin and Physical Education. During the winter months, extension courses were offered for farmers at night school. The people of St. Paul were also athletic-minded, as the records show they voted unanimously to levy a tax to build a 50 by 100 foot gymnasium. Basketball appeared to be the only sport played by the students, with both boys and girls having a team. Of the 40 students enrolled the first year, the Freshman class was the largest with 12 members.

The years of 1925-28 are lacking records and therefore this period's history is brief and sketchy. Through these years, Herbert Michelbrook continued his fine work as principal of the high school. Baseball was added to the sports program during these years.

The year of 1934 saw a complete change in the faculty of St. Paul U. H. S. Gerard B. Fahey became the new principal and his staff consisted of Mary R. Carter and Genevieve Piluso. The School Board at this time included: Frank Kuensting, Arthur McKay, Charles Mullen, and Henry Zorn. Rose Marie Faber was the clerk.

Others still in the St. Paul community include Tom Jette, Merrill Forsyth, and Jack Coleman. The school was still small with 43 students, but the senior class was now the largest with 14 students.

Mr. James Robinson took over as principal in 1937-38 with John G. Bucknam and Dolores T. Aman filling out the teaching staff.

The year of 1938-39 saw a change in the principalship of the high school with Mr. James O. Russel becoming the head of the high school, replacing James Robinson. Of the 9 seniors this year, a history reported that they had lost 10 students during their four years of high school, but these 9 were to have the honor of being the first class to graduate from St. Paul's new City Hall. Another first this year was the

start of football at St. Paul Union High School.

The year of 1939-40 saw Marcel VanDriesch become the new principal and two new teachers were hired: Mr. Lacy Zenner and Miss Nelson.

It was during 1940-41 that St. Paul High organized its first band, under the direction of Mr. Scott.

The war years of 1942-46 saw numerous changes in the faculty and the school board, as well as change in the athletic name from "Panthers" to "Buckaroos", patterned after the St. Paul Rodeo. The 1942-43 year saw the start of an all-female staff with Mrs. Mabel Lampkin as principal and Margaret Frank and Lillie Mae Wimberly making up the rest of the faculty. This meant a woman coach for the boys' athletic teams for the first time in the school's athletic history. In 1943-44 Mr. Louis Urhammer took over as principal and coach and on the staff were Mrs. Lampkin and Mrs. Trunk. New members added to the school board during these years were U. J. Kirk, Robert Coleman, and Edward Davidson. Remaining members were Herbert Coleman and Curtis Coleman, Jerry Conner clerk.

In 1946 the school was inspected by the State Department of Education, and because of certain requirements not being met, was declared non-standard and the school board at this time considered closing the St. Paul Union High School. However, the people of the community wanted a high school in St. Paul so plans were started to build a new school.

On May 6, 1947, an election was held in the Union High School District to vote a \$150,000 bond issue to construct a new high school. This measure carried by a vote of 252 to 79. At this time a new principal, H. W. Bowers, was hired with the additional job of clerk of the district. Several possible sites were checked into and the present one found to be the most desirable, so an option was taken on the 19 acres comprising our present high school campus today. The land, owned by the Sisters of the Holy Name, was offered to the district at the price of \$8,250. In September, 1947, the firm of Stokes and Allyn of Portland was hired as the architects. After many conferences among the school board, principal H. W. Bowers, and the architects, final plans were completed for the building. On March 12, 1948, the call for bids on the \$150,000 worth of bonds were opened and the low bid of Ladd and Bush Branch of the U. S. National Bank of Portland was accepted. On March 16, 1948, the bids for construction of the new building were opened and Carl Halvorson of Salem was low with a figure of \$157,600. After much discussion and meetings the school board and the building board figured that to build and equip this new plant would take an additional \$45,000. On April 16, 1948, these bonds were voted 235 to 80. On May 7, 1948, Ladd and Bush were again the successful low bidders for these bonds.

A number of residents of the school district were opposed to the building of the new high school plant in St. Paul and trouble in the form of numerous law suits and forced elections began. The first, on April 29, 1948, was an election to allow four districts on the Union High School District #3 to drop out of this district. This move was defeated by a vote of 246 to 114. The next election on May 5, 1948 carried for the new site by a vote of 314 for it and 135 against it. Another election, to allow the students to move from the old building to the new, carried by a vote of 308 to 138. However, by this time, the time limit on the purchase of our bonds had expired and another call for sale of the bonds was held on March 28, 1949. This again went to Ladd and Bush Bank with a low bid of 2 1/2% interest on the first 5 years of bonds and 2 1/4% for the last 5 years. This compared with the first bid of a straight 2 1/4% for all of the bonds. Again, a new series of court actions, election, etc., prevented

the school board from delivering the bonds to Ladd and Bush and the time limit again expired. On November 28, 1949 a new call for bids went out and this time the firm of Hess and McFaul of Portland were the successful bidders with a low bid of 2 1/4% for the first 5 years and 2% for the second 5 years on a total amount of bonds of \$176,000. The other \$19,000 had already been collected through taxes the preceding year. During the original bond campaign, Lawrence Brown served as the school district's attorney. After the school board became involved in more legal court suits, etc., the firm of Winslow and Winslow were hired to handle the court cases, etc. The failure of the various court actions against U. J. Kirk, Robert Coleman, Edward Davidson, Fred Hiller, Herbert Coleman, school board members, and H. W. Bowers, clerk, finally brought approval of the bonds in January 1950 by a legal firm in New York City and in March 15, 1950 bids were again opened for the construction of the building. A new firm, organized by two local men, Walter Bernard and U. J. Kirk, was the low bidder on the job with a base bid of \$159,505 and was therefore given the contract by the school board. Mr. U. J. Kirk was no longer a member of the Union High School District school board, having been replaced by Joseph Pohlschneider.

On January 19, 1951, we moved into the new high school building even though it was not fully completed until the summer of 1951. The dedication program was held on Thursday, October 23, 1951 at 8:00 o'clock in the gymnasium before a very large crowd of interested people.

The year 1952-53 saw the new shop building completed by contractor Chester Davidson and the start of a Drivers Training Program in the high school. Bernard Motors of St. Paul donated the new driver-training Chevrolet car and Mr. Weatherill attended summer school to learn how to teach this course.

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Victor Point 42C, Marión County, is a consolidated district located about seven miles south of Silverton. Six adjacent districts consolidated to form the present district in 1947, and a seventh was added to the group later that year. Approximately 150 families reside in the district.

#### VICTOR POINT SCHOOL

In 1949, a modern building - three classrooms, auditorium and kitchen with hot lunch facilities - was used for the first time. Enrollment has increased from around 65 pupils, at the time of consolidation, to nearly 90, so this year (1957) a new classroom, principal's office and an enlarged kitchen are being added. Pupils are transported in two large busses owned by the district.

Teachers for the 1956-57 school year are: Mrs. Ruth Metheaney, principal, Mrs. Cathaleene Riches, Mrs. Norma Wells and Mrs. Maysel Lyon.

Robert Humphreys has been school clerk in the district since consolidation, in 1947. Other board members at present are: Chairman Goldie Marcott, Martha Riches, Leslie Lowery, Fred Jarvill and Waldo Rue. The clerk and several of the board members are direct descendents of the first school boards in the original districts.

Prior to consolidation, school was held in each of the one room units - Union



Hill, Silver Cliff, McAlpin, Centerview, Valley View, Victor Point and Oak Grove. Then for two years the children were transported to the Valley View and McAlpin schools until the new building was ready for use.

Some of the first school buildings in the districts were of log construction, furnished with home-made desks. Lighting was poor. School was usually held six months a year, a three-month term in the fall and another like term in the spring if there was money enough. Teachers received \$25 a month, and often "boarded around" with the families who had children in school.

Jim Buff, a colorful teacher of the early days, taught in several schools in the districts. It was said he walked barefoot to school from his home in Silverton, carrying his boots over his shoulder.

Subjects taught in these early schools included: Reading, spelling, writing, oral and written arithmetic, geography, physiology, United States History, history, animals, and rhetoric.

Around 1900 the four log buildings were replaced by frame structures with more windows. Beginning of the twentieth century saw the teachers' salaries raising slowly. The term of school was lengthened to eight months. The black potbellied stove that stood in the middle of the room gave way to circulating heaters. The water bucket and one dipper for all pupils became history with the digging of wells and installation of pumps.

Consolidation ended the era of the one-room school. A brief history of the seven schools that are now Victor Point 42C follows, in order of their organization.

Union Hill #42 From old records in the Union Hill community are found the following description of the early schools.

At first there were two schools in the district. One, built prior to 1852, was on the John Morley Donation Land Claim, a short distance east of the Union Hill Grange property. The other was on the David Brewer Donation Land Claim which is now owned by Charles Heater. Both of these buildings were built of logs and had fireplaces which were cut from native white rock. For desks they used boards fastened to the wall as shelves. Seats were benches fashioned from heavy planks with holes bored in them and with pegs fastened in for legs. Pupils sat facing the center of the room, turning to the wall shelf when there was writing to be done.

Children started to school when parents decided they were old enough and stopped attending when allowed to do so by the parents. Consequently, grown men and women were often in school. John Morley, married and donor of the land on which the school was located, attended the school.

Clerk of the district in 1861 was L. D. Heater. Five generation of his descendants have attended school at Union Hill and in the Consolidated District including six who are attending this year (1957). Thomas King was an early day clerk and also a teacher in one of the log school buildings. Six of his fourth generation are in school at present.

In 1866, land donated by E. C. Cartwright was used for a new school site. This school was built and furnished similarly to the first two. One noted improvement was a blackboard which was spaces of wall painted black. The first teacher of this school was John Brewer, son of David Brewer, owner of the land where the earlier school was built.

In 1901, a new schoolhouse was built and this was in use at the time of consolidation with the exception of a time when the small number of children were transported to another district. The Union Hill school building was moved to a new location and is now used as a Community Sunday School.

Silver Cliff Silver Cliff, District #35, was first organized in early 1855, with school held in a log structure for about 35 years. No records as to teachers are available on these early years. On March 4, 1889, a tax was voted to build a new schoolhouse and a new site was chosen. One acre of land was donated by Adelbert Warner, a resident of the district. In this new school, Rose Cummings was the first teacher. On the school boards were: A. N. Sconce, Samuel Stroup, David Dinsmore, with Miles Lewis, clerk. For 57 years school was held at this location. After consolidation, the building and grounds were sold by sealed bids and later the building was torn down.

McAlpin McAlpin school district #54 was organized, April 7, 1856. It was named for Robert McAlpin, pioneer of 1851, who settled in the district.

The settlers turned quickly to education after the first hardships were overcome. This school was organized almost before the land was fully occupied.

In 1869 there were 34 legal voters in the district and a school population of 69. The average attendance daily was 28. At that time the term was 22 weeks, with C. D. Doan as teacher. Some from the Oak Ridge and Victor Point districts attended school here before these communities had organized schools.

The first schoolhouse stood back from the road on property now owned by the Coleman family. The later school was built on an acre of ground near the road exchanged by Mrs. Clymer for the former site. This building was erected in the summer of 1892, built by donations instead of voting a tax. The first teacher in this building was a Mr. Leonard, of Salem.

School was held here two terms after consolidation. When the new building was ready for use the McAlpin building and grounds were sold to Byron McElhaney.

Centerview Centerview school district #86 was formed from the unorganized east part of Willard district #30, when a group of legal voters met at the home of B. F. Davenport, November 25, 1876.

Elected to the first school board were: Albert Davis, chairman; George Riches and Esom Hunter, directors and T. W. Davenport, clerk.

Centerview school, to be 40 feet long, 22 feet wide and 12 feet high with an anteroom six feet wide on the west end, was built on land given by T. W. Davenport. Seven families donated \$302 to be used for construction of the building. Miss Nancy Hunter, who resided in the district was the first teacher.

During his boyhood, Homer Davenport, world famous cartoonist attended school here. Lloyd Haberly, a Rhodes scholar and author also received his early education at Centerview school.

Enrollment at the school ranged from a high of 32 to less than six pupils when the district consolidated with Victor Point in 1947. Later the building was razed and some of the lumber used in the construction of a new home in the district.

Valley View The Valley View School District #110 was organized in 1887, at the home of Mrs. Mary Eisenhart. Mrs. Eisenhart was the first clerk and Allan Simpson was a member of the board.

School opened in January 1888, with William Simpson as teacher. Of those who attended that first school seven are known to be still living: Roy Skaife, Chris Liechty, Ed Sommers, Eda Sommers Aeichliman, Mable Simpson, Al Schindler and Orpha Eisenhart.

The schoolhouse was built by donated labor on land given by Leonard Schindler. Lumber was hauled from a mill at Stayton.

The district was first named Fair View, but as there was another district in the county with this name the name was changed to Valley View. The beautiful view of the surrounding valley was the inspiration for the name which is truly fitting for the location.

The second school was built across the road on the two acres purchased for that purpose. This was a modern building with a full basement. At the time of consolidation Valley View was recognized as one of the more modern and better equipped one-room schools in the county.

After consolidation the building and grounds were sold and have been made into a very nice home by Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Kostenborder.

Victor Point The original Victor Point District #112 was formed from part of Silver Cliff, McAlpin and Union Hill districts on March 9, 1889. A group of interested neighbors met at a family home to organize a new district. One acre of land was donated by J. J. Krenz.

Members of the first school board were William R. Jones, W. D. Eoff and F. M. Miller, directors, and J. D. Darby, clerk. Practically all of the labor in building the school was donated. The lumber was hauled from a mill near Drift Creek Falls. The building had few windows and board benches were used.

The first teacher in the fall of 1889 was Linnie Lewis and for the spring term L. D. Kirby was hired. Clarence Jones and Geneva Burnett Hubbard who attended this first school still live in the district.

The schoolhouse still stands across the road from the recent consolidated district's building. The building remains the property of the district and is used for storage purposes.

Oak Grove Oak Grove School District #16 was organized in 1892. The twenty children, for a time, attended classes in a hop house on the Cooley (now Walter Winn) property, their teacher was Hope Gans.

Henry Hepner was school clerk. Wesley Merrifield, James Cooley and Martin Smith were directors. In 1894 or 1895, Hepner donated an acre of land on which a one-room schoolhouse was built. This building with some remodeling was used until the consolidation was effected, except for some periods when pupils were transported to Stayton, Victor Point, Rocky Point and Aumsville.

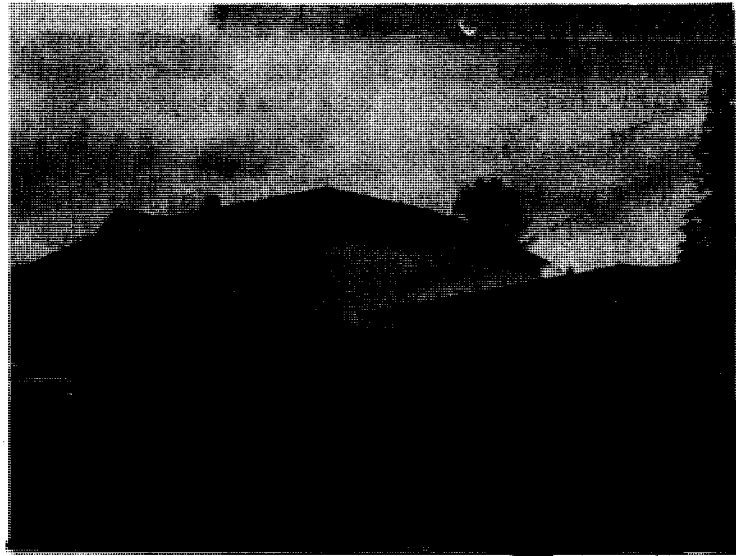
The schoolhouse was sold after consolidation to the Union Hill Grange and was moved to their property where it is now used for a Juvenile Grange hall.

Mrs. Ruth Matheaney was district chairman of the committee to prepare the history of Victor Point School District 42C, Marion County. Assisting with the work of gathering and compiling material were: Mrs. Leslie Lowery, Mrs. Robert Riches, Mrs. F. M. Miller, Mrs. Arthur Mulkey, Mrs. Walter Winn, Mrs. Charles Morley, Mrs. Noah Hunt.

Because of a lack of early day records, the material was gathered from many sources and if errors are made the committee is sorry. Insofar as they know the data is correct.

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### WEST STAYTON SCHOOL



School records in this community have been destroyed, and the only records we have at present date back eight years. The following information was gathered from pioneer residents who have lived in this locality all of their lives.

The first schoolhouse was made of logs, according to Carrie Condit Hammer, who remembers her father, the late Henry Condit, telling of it. It was located near the present schoolhouse site, but a little farther south and west. They had wooden benches -- no desks. He would sit there on the log seats (the windows were down low) and could see the neighbors coming with deer across the prairie. Carrie's great Grandfather, Philip Condit, built the Pleasant Grove Church, the oldest Presbyterian Church west of the Rockies, which still stands here at W. Stayton. 47 acres of land belonging to the Condit family is rented for \$300 a year at the site of the church. The money goes for the upkeep of the Church and grounds.

Information from Anne Savage, who will be 90 years old in November, dates the first frame schoolhouse at 1857. This building was erected on her father's (Calvin Neil) Donation Land Claim. At one time there were 87 children came from North Santiam and this side of Turner, that area being known as the Turner Prairie. Algebra was taught in the eighth grade in those days, and the ages ranged between six and eighteen years.

In 1898-99 they added to the one-room school, making it a two-room school with a cloak hall dividing the rooms. Standard equipment, of course, was the water bucket and dipper set inside the door. Kerosene lights were used when they had socials.

A belfry was erected under the direction and with the help of Rufus Van Nuys who was on the Board of Directors. The old school bell was put up at the back of Paul

McClellan's (present postmaster) store during World War 11 and used for an air raid signal.

In 1918 only one of the two rooms was used. From 1921-22 they tried teaching high school in addition to grade school. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson taught, one of them taking a couple of years of high school. Mr. Nance taught all eight grades in 1920 and after that they had more than one teacher.

In 1932 they completed the new school which is still in use. This structure has four rooms on the main floor with a basement. A wood furnace was put to use. At first, only three rooms were used and the fourth was left unfinished. As the need arose, this room was completed and put to use. The building was erected at a cost of \$8,000 principle and the interest made it come up to a total of \$12,000. It was in 1938 that the children started getting hot soup or hot chocolate to go with their cold sack lunches. A wood range was used to prepare food.

The name of the school has been changed several times. The first name was "Ale School" as the town of West Stayton was called in the early days. Later, when the second room was added, the name was changed to "Washington School" and a tinted picture of George Washington was placed in the school. Now the school is known as "West Stayton School District Number 61".

A modern addition for primary rooms was started in July 1955 and finished in December 1955. A forced air oil furnace was put in the basement, doing away with a need for space for wood. The basement was finished, making two playrooms, and enlarging the lunchroom. In the addition which is a one-story structure, there are two primary rooms and two restrooms with junior sized plumbing equipment.

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## WOODBURN SCHOOL

The Woodburn public school system dates back to 1885 when the first schoolhouse was constructed at the corner of what is now Lincoln and First streets. It was a one-room building that rapidly became inadequate. To accommodate the increasing number of students, a north wing was added. About two years later, a south wing had to be built. Rose Goodman was one of the first teachers.

J. H. Settlemier, founder of Woodburn, donated the land for this first schoolhouse. He also served on the school board for many years.

Woodburn's second schoolhouse was erected in 1891 on the site of the first building. It had eight rooms and was considered to be quite modern since it was heated with a hot-air furnace. There were ten grades with six teachers. This building was known as the "west side" school, serving in its turn as a high school and later a grade school, until the construction of the present Lincoln school in 1933.

In June, 1915, high school commencement exercises were held at the Methodist Episcopal Church. Agitation for a new high school began in July. A structure was needed in Woodburn that would draw pupils from outlying areas. The new high school, located on East Lincoln street, was completed in August, 1916, and was ready for use that fall. Today this building is being used as an elementary school with grades

three through eight.

During the middle Forties enrollment was so great that elementary classes were being held in rural buildings, the city hall, and the present Lincoln school.

The State Department of Public Instruction in February of 1950 notified the Woodburn High School that it was below standard according to a recent survey. Construction on the new high school began in April, with hopes that it would be completed in time for the 1950-51 school year. The new building, located just north of Woodburn at the intersection of the St. Paul and Boone's Ferry roads, opened its doors on September 18, 1951. Lester E. Keller was principal.

Following the completion of the new high school, elementary classes, which had been held in the present Lincoln building, city hall, Gatch Street Washington School, and rural buildings known as Belle Passi and Hall, were reassigned to the two present-day buildings of Lincoln and Washington. The first and second grades are housed in the Lincoln School, where Mildred Odgers is principal. Enrollment is 140.

Grades three through eight attend Washington School on East Lincoln street. Enrollment is 395. Charles M. Campbell is principal.

The high school on Boone's Ferry Road is now six years old and has an enrollment of 265. David E. Cavett is principal.

Frankd P. Doerfler has been superintendent of schools since the fall of 1949.

On May 10 of this year Woodburn High School will celebrate its 50th year as an accredited high school in Oregon. It was the third high school accredited in the state. Special tribute will be paid to Maude McKinney Mochel, first principal of the school after it was accredited. She is now retired.