

The Wallace Prairie Years

A chapter in the Saucy Family History

By Paul and Tracey Saucy



© 2015. Compiled by Paul and Tracey (Harrison) Saucy. The book authors retain sole copyright to their contributions to this book.



The Blurb-provided layout designs and graphic elements are copyright Blurb Inc., 2012. This book was created using the Blurb creative publishing service. The book author retains sole copyright to his or her contributions to this book.



Contributions for this compilation were gathered in the form of written stories, audio recordings (interviews that were conducted by Paul and Tracey), and photographs gathered from various family members. Special thanks to Howard Saucy, David Saucy Jr., Verle (Saucy) Irvine, and Tom Saucy for their recollections.

The Saucy family history begins in Moutier, Switzerland.

The three children of Charles and Elisabeth (Rindlisbacher) Saucy, were born and raised in Moutier, as were several generations of Saucys before them.

The Saucy brothers, Charles David and Paul, sold their properties and immigrated to America with their families in 1910. They chose Oregon as their final destination because other Swiss emigrants had told them the geography was much like that of Switzerland.

Charles David and his wife Elisa had six children living at the time of immigration. Paul and his wife Maria (Oegger) were the parents of eight children.

The families were joined by a cousin, Helene Saucy, for the crossing.



Charles David, Marie, Charles, Elisabeth (Rindlisbacher), and Paul, circa late 1890's.

David, son of Charles David and Elisa, was interviewed about the trip in 1986 by his son, Howard Saucy. David did not recall many details of the train trip through France other than that the families rode in crowded, closed cattle cars. Traveling at night was particularly difficult. They stopped in Paris then continued to Le Havre on the coast where they boarded *La Bretagne*

for the United States. The family passed through Ellis Island on August 7, 1910, according to the ship's passenger manifest.

David, age 10 at the time of the crossing, recalled that his mother, Elisa, was seasick the entire voyage. One day he fell asleep under a lifeboat, and during a particularly rough patch, the boat

Few details of the cross-country train ride are remembered. The 19

Family	Individual	Age	Sex	Marital Status	Occupation	Religion	Education	Health	Character	Notes
Lacey	Paul	45	M	Married	Farmer	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Lavin	41	F	Married	Homemaker	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Harold	17	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Augusta	15	F	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	John	14	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Paul	12	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Albert	10	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Louis	6	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Charles	5	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Auna	5	F	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
Lacey	Robert	17	M	Single	Farmer	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Elmer	15	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Harold	14	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Arthur	12	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	David	11	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Bernie	9	M	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
Lacey	Jessie	8	F	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	
	Madeline	5	F	Single	Student	Methodist	High School	Good	Kind	

A man offered to buy David for about \$2,000 in a restaurant in Detroit, Michigan. This was extremely upsetting for the family.

When they arrived in Portland, the two families spent their first few nights in an old hotel on Burnside street. The children slept on the floor and the families ate meals at a Chinese restaurant across the street. Two side-by-side houses were somehow found in Sellwood (SE Portland). The children attended Sellwood school for a short time.



Saucy Family, Moutier, Switzerland, 1910. L to R: David, Jeanne, Elisa (seated), Charles David (standing in back), Madeleine (seated in front), Ruth, Marc and Pierre.

Charles David Saucy - Elisa Miche
1863 - 1949 1868 - 1945
Married 1895 in Switzerland

Children:

<i>Marc</i>	<i>1896 - 1970</i>
<i>Ruth</i>	<i>1898 - 1984</i>
<i>David</i>	<i>1899 - 1988</i>
<i>Pierre "Pete"</i>	<i>1901 - 1965</i>
<i>Jeanne</i>	<i>1902 - 1948</i>
<i>Elie</i>	<i>1904 - 1904</i>
<i>Madeleine</i>	<i>1905 - 1993</i>

Paul Auguste Saucy Family, 1910.
 Back row L to R: Albert, Paul,
 John, Paul Auguste, Auguste.
 Front row L to R: Louis, Charles
 Maria, Anna, Marthe.

After a brief sojourn in the
 Sellwood area of Portland, Paul
 Saucy and family moved to
 Sheridan, Oregon.
 Charles Saucy moved his family to
 the Hayesville area and purchased a
 one-hundred acre parcel of property
 east of Hayesville with the Jacob
 Fuhrer family. The Saucy family
 lived in a tent for a year while
 Charles first helped build a barn for
 the Fuhrer family (much to Elisa's
 dismay) and then built a barn for
 himself. The family used their barn
 as a residence while Charles David
 helped build a house first for the
 Fuhrer family and then finally for
 his own family.



Paul Auguste Saucy Family, Moutier, Switzerland, 1910



Helene (cousin), Pierre, Elisa, Marc, Madeleine, Ruth, Charles David, David, Jeanne, in Salem



Saucy Family Portrait, October 1915, Salem, Oregon
L to R: David (standing), Elisa (mother, seated), Marc (standing, back), Pierre "Pete" (center), Madeleine (seated), Ruth (back row, standing), Charles David (father, seated), Jeanne (standing).



John and Sallie Reynolds

Charles was a trained orchardist and carpenter. He passed those skills to his sons. He was hired by then Salem notable, fruit grower and state senator Lloyd Reynolds, to manage the orchards on his Portland road property.

Lloyd's father, Dr. John Reynolds (mother Sarah Ann, known as Sallie) was a well-known and



Ruth (Saucy) Reynolds

popular doctor who delivered many babies in the Salem area. Charles' daughter Ruth was hired to assist Lloyd in caring for his ill wife, Edith Frizzell Reynolds (married in 1896), and keeping the house.

The house is shown at the site marked on the Metsker map that abuts the east side of the Wallace Prairie farm. (See pg 32).



Lloyd T. Reynolds

Ruth (born 1898) married Lloyd Reynolds on July 23, 1919, following the death of his first wife, Edith, on March 16, 1918.

The photographs of Ruth and Lloyd Reynolds were taken by Salem photographer Thomas Cronise.



Reynolds property off of Portland Road.



Looking north onto what is now Portland Road (Pacific Highway/99E) from the location of the Reynolds' home.



Ruth (Saucy) Reynolds at Portland Road property.



Ruth (Saucy) Reynolds and son John shown in front of the Portland Road house. This photograph was taken as a new entrance to the house was being installed and the driveway paved.



Fruit orchards on the Lloyd Reynolds' property.

Ruth's parents, Charles David and Adele Elisa Mische Saucy, eventually moved in with Ruth, and lived in the Reynolds' home on Portland Road until their deaths.

Verle, daughter of David Saucy, recalls seeing "Uncle Lloyd" only a few times but remembers that those occasions made a big impression on her as he had a huge, open sore on his neck that was described to her as a carbuncle. Lloyd Reynolds died shortly after Verle saw him.. Verle explains:

"As children, we were not allowed to go around freely in the Reynolds' living room, which was always a curiosity. Aunt Ruth was often sick in bed every month for several days. Aunt Madeleine who lived perhaps a mile or slightly more away would come to care for Ruth, even though she had her two boys Jack and Jimmy to care for."

Lloyd Reynolds died November 24, 1930. Ruth never remarried. It was at this point that her brother, Marc, acquired the approximately forty (40) acre parcel located west of Portland Road where their father, Charles, had built the family a house after moving off their farm. This property is shown on the Metsker map under the notation "M. Saucy." (See page 32)

[Note the narrow, gooseneck strip that allows the property to access Claxtar Road.]

Americold cold storage is now located on the Lloyd Reynolds' home site, with its entry on Portland Road. Remnants of a cherry orchard Charles planted for Reynolds was still on the site in the mid-1980s. Charles and son Marc managed Ruth's properties after Lloyd's death.

Ruth and Lloyd had no children of their own but they adopted a son, John, who was killed in the Pacific during World War II. "Johnnie" spent a lot of time with his grandparents, Charles and Elisa. He learned to speak French from them.

Ruth died on December 27, 1984, while living in the Willamette Lutheran Home, north of Keizer.

Her friends Thressa and Mary Hall also retired to that facility. The Hall family property was located on Claxtar Road, just around the corner from Thomas and Nellie Webb's home. The Hall sisters were also good friends of Noma (Webb) Saucy.

David Saucy lived with his family in what is now Keizer, Oregon, on what was called the Wallace Prairie farm, from 1922 until 1942 .

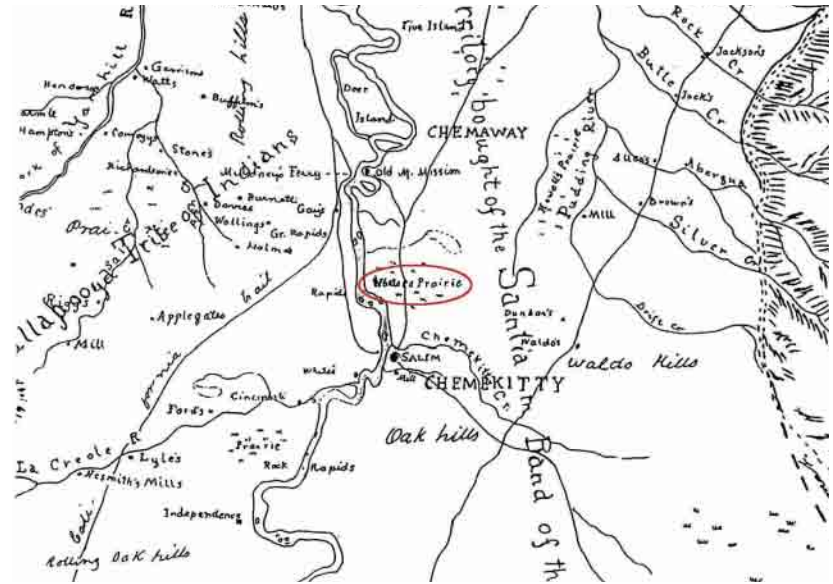
Keizer historian Ann Lossner provided the following historical perspective to Howard Saucy in a letter dated January 3, 1996:

Asahel Bush purchased the Wallace Prairie Farm directly from the owners of Donation Land Claim #68. My 1878 Atlas shows the acreage to be 614.58 acres.

The deed does not show acreage and I was told that such a deed would not be valid today. However, he purchased all the rights of John and Mary Force in the DLC for \$500. At that time they were living in Tehama Co., California.

The transaction took some time--The Marion Co. Deed Index shows the sale to have taken place on May 29, 1877, and was recorded June 1, 1877, with grantor being Mary B. Force. The deed as executed in California shows May 4, 1877, with both Forces as grantors.

An 1878 map shows Bush owning 565 acres, with Horace Holden owning 80 or 90 acres at the north end.



1851 Map. Wallace Prairie is a designated area, circled on the map in red.



1878 Atlas Map. A. Bush property shown under the "OR" in NORTH.



Claxtar Station. Photograph courtesy of Keizer Historical Museum

There have been four generations of A. Bush with the same name. The original purchaser of the property was Asahel Bush, Sr. (1824-1913). The farm was owned by his son, Asahel Nesmith Bush (1858-1953) during the period the Saucy family lived on it. Sally Bush is Asahel Nesmith Bush's sister.

The Wallace Prairie farm was a

large parcel approximately 565 acres, sitting squarely in the middle of residential properties as shown on the 1929 Metsker Map. (pg 38). Residential properties in the 1920's typically included sufficient room for a large garden and often farm animals. The farm was bordered on the west by what was then known as Lover's Lane (now Cherry Avenue). Both Claggett Creek and

the Oregon Electric Rail line cross the property. The 1929 Metsker map denotes the property owner as A. Bush and shows an access lane to the house from public Lover's Lane just south of where it intersects with River Road. That lane is now Alder Street.

Of note on the Metsker map are the following reference points that have been added or highlighted for visual and geographic reference:

Claxtar (later Claxter) describes a neighborhood area rather than the current Claxter Road. The Oregon Electric Rail line had a station at Claxtar. Its location is denoted by the black circle where the rail line and the now named Claxter Road intersect.

The Rickman, Webb, and Wesley families lived on Claxtar Road between the Claxtar Station and the curve where Claxtar Road turns from west to north in direction. The Newton, Hall and Savage families lived on the now north heading portion of Claxtar Road.



At the time David Saucy took over management of the Wallace Prairie farm it consisted of a house and a large barn. The Wallace Prairie farmhouse was located at the end of the access lane (driveway). The Jason Lee Ox barn was later taken down and two modern barns were built in the 1920's.

The farmhouse still stands on Arnold Way, but remodeling over the years has made it unrecognizable from earlier photographs. The western boundary (then Lover's Lane and now Cherry Avenue) consisted of 100 acres of very large, presumably old growth fir trees.



Left: The back of the farmhouse in 1986.

Below: An aerial view shows the location of the farm house in relation to the Webb house (both are still standing). Real estate records in 2015 state the farm house was built in 1905 with its current address as 4157 Arnold St. NE. It is described as having 1,518 square feet, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, and an unfinished basement. The lot size is given as 7,740 square feet.





Hayesville School, circa 1912. Ruth Saucy, 3rd from right in front row. David Saucy (Sr.), 4th from left in middle row.

Charles and Elisa Saucy's children attended the Hayesville School, although education was not a priority for the family as the children needed to work and contribute their earnings to support the family. Each child turned over his or her earnings to Charles until age 21, at which point they received \$500 and thereafter retained the right to his or her earnings.

School was difficult for the non-English speaking Saucy children. Marc and Pierre "Pete" often fought as a way of proving themselves, with Pete reportedly the frequent instigator of a fight. David claimed that he always carried a piece of rubber hose in the upper part of his bib overalls just in case he got into a fight.

David was enrolled in the first grade class even though he was 11 years old because he knew so little English.

David gradually moved up through the grades, and graduated from the eighth grade at approximately age 15, when he turned to employment as a farm laborer.



The Saucy brother's lived at the YMCA while attending Mechanic's school. David, 4th from right in front; Marc, center with mustache, front standing row.

Though David only had formal education through the eighth grade, he and Marc did attend a facility in Portland to learn to be mechanics. They boarded at the YMCA. David worked at a local bowling alley, setting up pins.

David later worked milking cows on a farm near the Columbia River in Portland, however, he became ill

and had to return home. While recovering, he was hired to milk cows and drive tractor on the Menaffee farm in Dundee (David and Noma bought this 450 acre farm in 1941). Mr. Menaffee asked David to run the farm, but after Charles and Elisa visited it, they felt it was too large of an undertaking and discouraged David from accepting the job.

David worked one summer for Thomas Walker of Middle Grove and after a dispute with his father, Charles, he went to live and work at Walker's dairy farm, milking cows.

Another boarder at the Walker farm was Noma Webb, a graduate of the Normal School in Monmouth who was working as a teacher at the Middle Grove school.



Top: The Webb's home in Enid Oklahoma.

Bottom: Noma Webb as a child in Enid, Oklahoma.



Thomas Sylvester and Nellie (Browning) Webb took up residence on Claxtar Road in Keizer with their children, Gladys (16), Noma (12), Ernest (9), and Ezra (5), in the summer of 1914. Noma's older siblings Clifford (age 25, by that time married to his wife, Irene), Newland (age 21, married to wife, Clara), and George (18), remained in the states of Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas.

Interestingly, Noma and her brother Ernest were allowed to choose their own middle names after they moved to Oregon. The two children wanted their names to be similar so Noma chose Clarys and Ernest chose Clarence.

The house on Claxtar road was offered to the Webb family by Nellie Webb's parents, Thomas and Amanda Jane Browning, after the Webbs fell on hard financial times. The only condition was that Nellie was to assist Amanda whenever she might need help, which turned out to be almost daily. The Brownings lived on 17th and Market Street in Salem. Nellie boarded the Oregon Electric train at the Claxtar Station, making it an easy trip into Salem. [see photo, pg 15].

Then about another 300 yards was the Oregon Electric RR and train station known as CLAXTAR. A general merchandise store was also located there opposite the station and owned by Mr. G.I. Newton and his wife, who also operated the store.

~Ezra Webb

Left: Nellie Webb outside her home on Claxtar Road. Nellie loved to garden. The house had an outhouse in the rear, and on the 5+ acre property was a chicken coop, a vegetable garden and concord grapes. Below: Nellie standing in her kitchen in front of a wood burning stove, which was typical of the time. The same type of stove was used for heating and cooking in the Saucy home. Verle (Saucy) Irvine carried scars from where she was burned while trying to warm herself on cold mornings. A pot of water was kept on a shelf behind where Nellie is standing, as the house had no running water at this time.





Noma Webb with a group of strawberry pickers.

Finances were tight and everyone worked, contributing earnings to the family. Noma is second from the left in the first standing row, directly behind the young girl with crossed arms.



Noma Webb's class when she was teaching at Middle Grove School, circa 1921. Noma is standing up, near the top right at the edge of the doorway, wearing a white blouse.



Thomas Sylvester Webb worked at various endeavors over the years. During this time featured in this photograph he primarily made his living trading livestock. He would trade his milking cow for another man's dry cow (and a little cash).

Thomas has been described by descendants as having a high opinion of himself and a low opinion of everyone else.

Thomas also kept bee hives for a time. He would rent them out for pollination or secure permission to put the hives on various farms. His main purpose was to gather honey. He would drive his wagon, loaded with hives, through town. Occasionally the hives would fall off of the wagon in the middle of town, creating a stir as he fought off the angry bees while trying to get the hives back onto the wagon.



Webb Family, on the steps of their Claxtar Road home. Top (L to R) Newland, Ernest, Ezra. Middle (L to R) Gladys, Nellie, Thomas, Noma. Bottom (L to R) Clifford, George.

Thomas S. Webb - Nellie Browning

1859 - 1931 1867 - 1947

Married 1882

Children:

Thomas "Clifford" 1885 - 1947

Fred Oran 1888 - 1890

Newland Perry 1892 - 1943

George Byron 1896 - 1970

Gladys Browning 1899 - 1989

Noma Clarys 1901 - 1974

Ernest Clarence 1905 - 2002

Ezra Sylvester 1906 - 2002

David heard that Asahel Bush was looking to hire a manager for the Wallace Prairie farm in Keizer, with an eye toward broadening the new hire's responsibilities if he lived up to expectations. He had had grown up in Hayesville and knew both the area and the farm.

David applied for and got the job in 1922, on merit, but Lloyd Reynolds and Mr. Bush certainly knew one other, and possibly there was a conversation between them about David who was by this point in time Lloyd's brother-in-law. Certainly Mr. Bush was not above taking advantage of the practical skill and knowledge that had been passed from one Saucy generation to the next. The Willamette Valley was well known for its fruit orchards at that time, particularly prunes and apples, and David's father, Charles, was a trained orchardist.

David held the position of farm manager for Mr. Bush from 1922 until 1942.

Family lore is that Mr. Bush did not like the idea of hiring single men as permanent employees. David determined that he had to find a wife in order secure the job.

David, on several occasions explained to his grandson Paul, with a wry smile on his face, that he really only knew one young lady at the time he needed to find a wife, and that was Noma Webb, a girl in his Sunday school class.

Thomas Sylvester Webb had no interest in religion. Nellie Webb and daughter Gladys on occasion attended the Christian Church in Salem and Noma attended church services with the Hall girls (Thressa, Alta and Mary) at the Keizer School.

David attended the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Salem, where his father, Charles, preached.

It is not certain that David and Noma ever attended the same church as young adults. Some accounts do mention Hayesville church as a possible meeting location. However, it is known that both David and Noma boarded on the Walker Farm in the Middle Grove area.

Regardless, an offer of marriage was made by David and was soon accepted by Noma.



David Saucy, circa 1922.



Noma Webb's Normal School graduation photograph. Noma's Oregon State Teacher's Certificate is dated December 31, 1920.

David could easily reach the Webb home on Claxtar Road from the Wallace Prairie farmhouse by cutting across Claggett Creek directly, or by way of the railroad bridge.

Unfortunately, Noma's father (Thomas Sylvester Webb) had very strong prejudices and did not think too highly of the young man with the strong French accent. WWI was still fresh in everyone's mind and anyone with an accent was considered a foreigner and not to be trusted.

Noma had no other suitors, however, and David needed a wife so the match was made, despite the soon to be father-in-law's disfavor of the match.

David delighted in recalling how on one occasion Noma's father climbed up on the roof of the Claxtar Road residence, taking potshots at David with a rifle as he traversed the field in order to court Noma.

The Marion County Sheriff's office dispatched a deputy to get Mr. Webb off the roof and calm the situation down. He claimed his goal was not to actually hit David but to make sure he was serious about his daughter.

David was able to move onto Wallace Prairie farm in 1922, and the wedding took place on March 11, 1923, in the Webb home on Claxtar Road.



David and Noma were married at her parent's home on Claxtar Road, March 11, 1923. After the wedding they drove to the Wallace Prairie farm in a horse and buggy. This formal wedding photograph was taken a short time after the wedding.

Noma gave up her teaching job to marry David and never returned to teaching, although educating her five children was always a priority in her life. In fact, David would eventually serve on the Keizer School Board and the Dayton School Board. Noma worked very hard with David after their marriage to eliminate his French accent, an effort that was successful and certainly helped him in his business and other ventures.

David could read the newspapers, albeit with some effort, and he was good at keeping business records. Noma taught sons David Jr. and Howard to read before they entered first grade. Noma had received negative feedback from the school for what was perceived as her effort to move her children ahead of the other students, so she backed off with Verle after living with the criticism about David Jr., but felt that Verle was not taught well so she returned to her prior practice and taught Howard to read before he entered school. Howard spent a few weeks in the first grade at Keizer Elementary School before being advanced to the second grade because of his reading skills.

Howard graduated from Keizer School in 1941. The graduation announcement lists his father, David, as the Chairman of the School Board.

Mother loved to learn and was interested in many things. A piano was purchased when Howard was a baby. Noma taught herself to play a number of church hymns by spending a few minutes practicing every day. Noma like to sing while working in the kitchen, a favorite song being "In the Garden."

~Verle (Saucy) Irvine

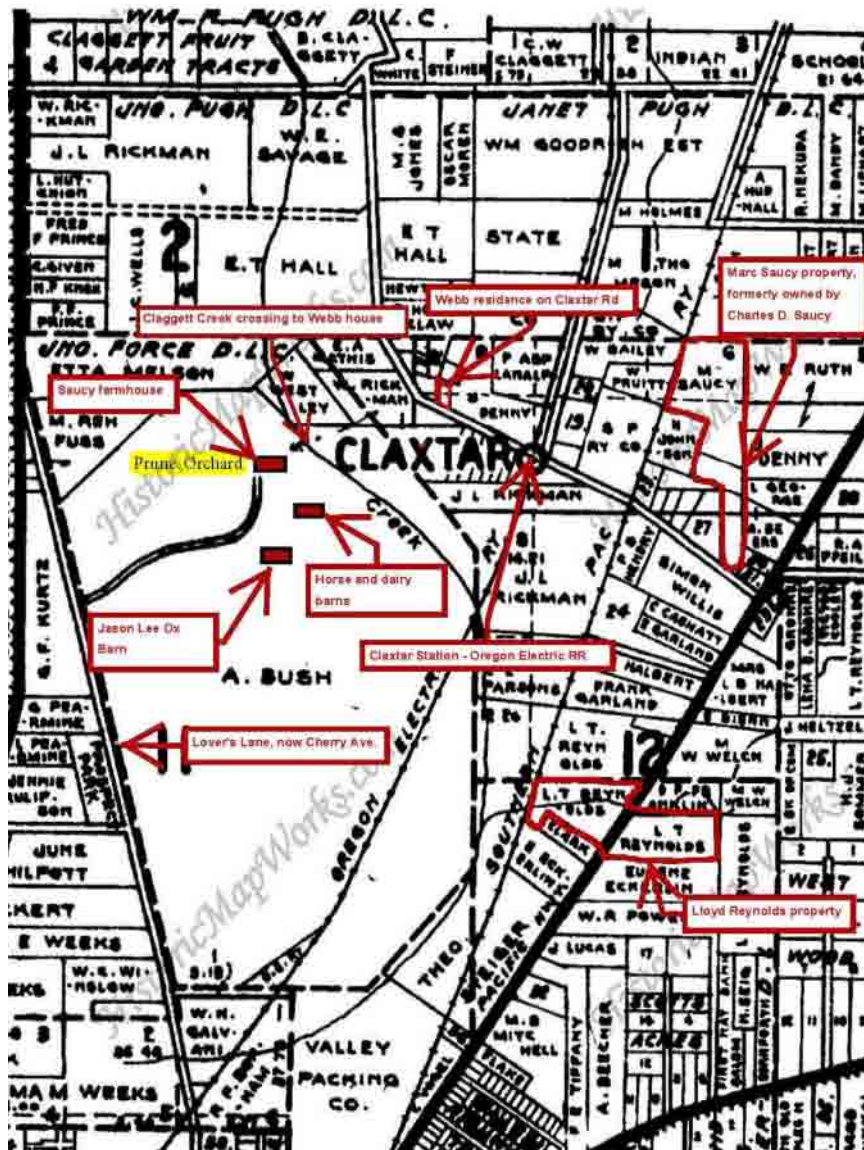
Noma loved flowers of all kinds, roses were perhaps her favorite, and she loved to share her flowers with others. She also enjoyed photography and took many pictures of her family and of the farm.

She taught herself to be a good seamstress and made all of her everyday dresses and aprons (she always wore an apron).

Noma was a good cook and cooked first on a wood kitchen stove, then later on an electric stove. She prepared three meals every single day for her family, as well as a hired man who lived on the property, and sometimes for work crews.

She also enjoyed reading, even if only for a few minutes at the end of a busy day.

Noma spent time studying the bible and enjoyed Sunday school class at Jason Lee Methodist Church in Salem. She had formed her own religious beliefs, which were quite different from her father-in-law, Charles, who was a minister. Charles was not shy about expressing his opinions to Noma, which on occasion caused Noma to shed tears.



The Saucy family occupied the main house shown in the farmhouse photograph. The woodshed was enlarged over the years to accommodate laundry facilities.

The wood stove was used to heat wash water. The shed was eventually connected to the house, and is at the right (east) side of the house where there is an opening. The tacked on leaning addition, next to the wood shed with the open door, was the hired man's living quarters. This included a small room with a wood stove, a bed, and a small area with a sink and running water.

The building in the bottom right corner in the farmhouse photograph, right, is the maintenance shop. It was connected to the house by a board walk. A fenced area between the shop and house was used to keep farm fowl, including chickens, geese and turkeys. A large garden is located to the right of the house. David Jr. explained that it was not fenced because wandering deer were not a problem then as they are now. Note the prune orchards are in bloom in the distance. The roadway enters from the left of the photograph from Lover's Lane and turns right moving across in the foreground to the barns.



The Wallace Prairie Farmhouse.

Valley Packing Company, a meat slaughterhouse, bordered the farm on the south. Livestock occasionally “escaped,” crossing the briar patch on the south property line to gain access to the farm. There were also commercial gravel pits at the southern end of the farm bordering Lover’s Lane, several of which were actually on the farm property.

The Marion County Poor Farm was located between Lover’s Lane and River Road, approximately a half mile from the farm’s southern boundary. David, on occasion, tried to hire workers from the Poor Farm but they seldom worked out because whatever the worker earned had to be turned over to the county as compensation for room and board the county provided.

Noma at first would feed out-of-work individuals who walked from the rail line to her door asking for food, but stopped when she discovered that somebody had placed a notice where the rail line crossed Claggett Creek pointing out that food was available at her door.

According to Verle an “old man” from time to time walked from the poor farm to their milk house, perhaps to get milk from David or just to visit with him. The man gave Verle a silver necklace with a bunny picture on it on her 6th birthday, which she still has in her possession.

The acreage east of the Oregon Electric Railway line sometimes flooded during the winter so it was used as pasture. Livestock accessed the pasture by walking under the railroad bridge where the railway crossed Claggett Creek. The rail line itself was fenced to prevent livestock from walking onto the train track.

The marshy area is now the location of Weddle Elementary School. The Saucy family members most often walked one or the other of the overland routes when visiting their Webb grandparents because it was much faster than driving up the access lane to Lover's Lane, then to River Road, then to Chemewa Road then backtracking south on Claxtar Road. A path led from the railroad bridge northwest, along a ridge eventually turning north, making an easy and dry walk across Claxtar Road to the Webb house.

It was possible to walk directly from the Saucy house to the Webb house, but a direct line from the house across Claggett Creek to Claxtar Road meant crossing wet, marshy ground. The area was swampy, and the children would leap from dry spot to dry spot to get across to the far side. The direct route was the favorite, particularly after David built a small dam across the creek to create a pool of water for summer irrigation purposes because it had a wooden plank walkway across the top.

The area surrounding the farm was also known as was Painter's Woods. According to David and Noma's son, David, Jr., David spent years clearing the northern 40 acres of the woods over the years. The trees were so large that they were cut five to seven feet above the ground by men standing on springboards, as can be seen in photographs of turn of the century logging operations. To be precise, "clearing" meant taking out some trees but mostly it involved dynamiting the huge stumps remaining from the earlier logging operations. David Jr. described the 40 acres as a "stump patch." This ongoing effort usually took place in the winter when daily farming chores were not as pressing.

The lane was called "Lover's Lane" by locals because most people had cars by the 1920's and this was a secluded place close to the population center where romance could take place on a lightly used road. David Jr. reported that it was common to have four or more cars parked on the lane in the early evening virtually daily, but particularly after movies. The 1930 U.S. Census lists the David Saucy family as living on "Lover's Lane" so the name had some formality as well as being commonly denoted by what the lane was often used for. The lane was busy enough that parking spots at times were limited, which meant cars would sometimes park on the Saucy's driveway.

David delighted in pulling up behind such parkers and preventing them from backing up. He enjoyed forcing them to drive the length of the driveway to turn around in the lane that led to the hired man's house.

The access lane (driveway) to the farmhouse from "Lover's Lane" (now Cherry Avenue) was roughly one-half mile to one mile in length. It is clearly visible in many photographs of the farm.

The northwest sixty acres of the property were planted primarily in Italian prunes, a popular commercial product of the day. At one point there were 20 acres of Petite prunes but these were not as popular as the larger Italian prunes so the trees were removed. Much of the remainder of the property was planted in grain and corn to feed livestock and as pasture.

The prune (Petite variety) orchard is on the north boundary of the Wallace Prairie farm (see photo, page 33). The ten acre field in front was often planted in corn, with the driveway leading to Lover's Lane clearly visible in front of the orchard. The roadway (now Arnold Street) intersects on the left of the photograph with what is now Alder Street.

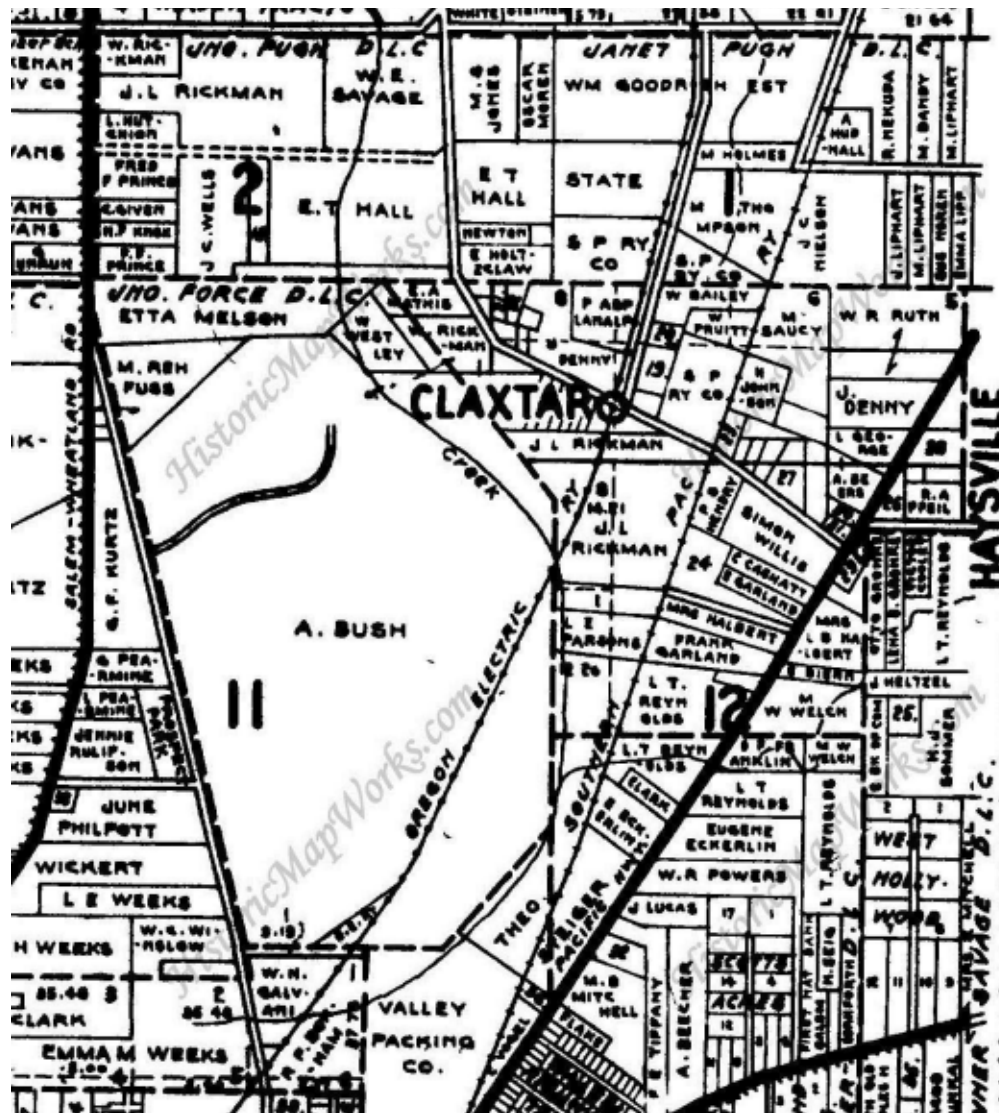
The farmhouse site was known to be the location of an early stage stop. The way station had room for people to sleep while stage horses were put up for the night in what the family referred to as the Jason Lee Ox Barn. The location of the ox barn is noted on the Metsker map. (see page 32)

The Saucy children used to play at a ford on Claggett Creek where the stage crossed the creek. David Jr. and Howard found arrowheads in the field near the ford across Claggett Creek, proof that the area surrounding the creek was once used extensively as a camping location by Native Americans.

At some point the way station burned. The Wallace Prairie farmhouse was built over the way station's foundation, which was made of river rock, straw and clay formed into bricks. The bricks could be seen clearly in the basement. On occasion groups of local history buffs would show up at the house, wanting to look at the bricks that made up the foundation and chimney of their house and the beams from the old Jason Lee Ox Barn that had been used to build the new maintenance shop. Someone would crack open a brick to show that it actually was a large river rock, shaped with mud and straw. This happened often enough that David and Noma began to keep bricks in the basement for demonstration purposes to prevent the overzealous from seeing for themselves what the inside of the bricks looked like.

David Jr. remembers hearing one guide (a professor from Willamette University) explain that the property was the site of the original Oregon Institute school which later became Willamette University. Further research proves this was true but it does not appear that a school building was ever completed on the site nor were classes held there. An article on early Oregon pioneer Jason Lee published in the June 14, 1906, edition of the Daily Capital Journal newspaper explains:

"The Oregon Institute was established in 1843 on Wallace Prairie. Next year the Oregon Institute moved to the site of Lee's mission school and he purchased the property. This comprised a mile square of land and a \$10,000 school house. This sale was effected [sic] by Mr. Geary, who was sent out from the east by the mission board of the Methodist church."



Above: 1929 Metsker Map, showing the A. Bush property known as Wallace Prairie.
 Right: 2015 Google satellite map overlay of the same 1929 Metsker Map.



The Ox Barn is purported to have been an early Jason Lee site. The barn and original way station were of that era and were presumably built by members of the Jason Lee party. The stage line crossed Claggett Creek heading west from the station. Local historian, Ann Lossner, wrote a letter to Howard Saucy which provided the following information about the roadway:

"As for the wagon road--neither the State Hwy. Dept. or Marion County Historical Society has been able to find anything helpful. The Highway Dept's oldest available map is from 1936. The young clerk helping me referred to it as an "old map". She suggested that the Oregon Elec. railroad tracks might have been laid over the old road, but the OE used tracks laid by the Oregon and Calif. RR. which are shown on the 1878 map."

An article in the November 14, 1915, *Oregonian* newspaper reads in part: ". . . Jason Lee held a meeting on January 17, 1842, at his home in what is now called North Salem, but which was then known as Chemeketa, to discuss plan for the proposed school. . . At the meeting on February 1, 1842, it was decided to select a site, raise additional money and found a school. Rev. Gustavus Hines' suggestion that it be called the Oregon Institute was adopted. The committee on location selected a site on French Prairie.

"This was abandoned in favor of Wallace Prairie two and a half miles north of Salem. . . On October 26, 1842 the Oregon Institute was formally transferred to the Methodist Church. Although work was well under way on the building of the Oregon Institute, when Rev. George Gary, who had been sent out by the missionary board to close up the work of the Methodist mission to the Indians, offered the Indian Mission Manual Labor School at Salem which had cost \$10,000, to the trustees of the Oregon Institute for \$4,000, the offer was accepted.

". . . the Oregon Institute opened its door in the Fall of 1844 . . . "



Known as the Jason Lee Ox Barn



There was a flock of geese residing near the barn who would signal anyone coming or going with very loud honking and wing flapping.

The Jason Lee Ox Barn was built with 12"x12", 10"x10", and 8"x8" timbers that were hewn with an axe. The barn listed to the side and the roof leaked so it was not used much. David decided in approximately 1927-28 to tear it down. He thought it would be an easy task so he looped a cable around it, hooked the cable to a team of horses and pulled, but without success. He then hooked his tractor to the cable, again with no success. The beams and timbers were tongue-in-grove, dove-tailed in some spots and held together with large wooden pegs (no nails). The barn could not be pulled down so it was finally dismantled board by board.

Many of the beams were used to build a maintenance shop and a modern barn used for the farm's dairy herd, a project that Mr. Bush had never used the property for, but dairy farming was a natural for David. The ox barn floor was roughly four or more feet off the ground when it was dismantled. It soon became clear that prior users had made the decision that it was less expensive to lay a new floor over the old floor rather than remove manure and replace rotted boards. The floor height actually was the result of layer upon layer of new flooring being added to the then existing floor.

A separate residence was eventually built that could be occupied by a hired man and his wife. Water came from a well by the house. David Jr. remembers an electric pump supplied water from the well to the house and barns, although water certainly came from a hand pump in the kitchen before electricity came to the farm. There was a privy for all to use until a flush toilet and septic tank system was installed in the late 1920's. The Webb family installed a flush toilet, bathtub, sink with running water and a septic tank system in their house much later, although most of the neighbors installed flush toilets, bathtubs and sinks with running water within about a ten year period.

Howard vividly remembers walking down the boardwalk in back of the Webb's house to the outhouse at a time when he enjoyed a flush toilet in his own home. Nellie was a stickler for cleanliness, even in the outhouse. She bathed every Saturday night, heating the water over the wood stove then filling a large tub in the kitchen. Nellie would hang newspapers on a line around the tub for privacy.

As was common at the time, it was Noma's responsibility to provide care for her children, cook food for the family and hired hands on a wood stove, and perform all of the chores that were expected of a farm wife. Farm wives were judged by the food they cooked - and it was discussed everywhere in the community. One of the stories about Noma's early cooking was that when she first canned cherries, she canned them without removing the pits. One of the first meals she cooked for a group was topped off by cherry pies and the cherries all had pits in them. It was a long time before she lived that down in the community.

Preserving food was an important function. Noma canned peas, beans, corn, tomatoes, beef, prunes, peaches, pears, cherries and berries. Most of this food came from her garden and the fruit trees. The beef would be from a farm heifer fattened especially for this purpose. There were often more than 1,000 quarts of preserved goods in the basement at the beginning of winter. Noma also prepared all the jams and jellies the family used in a year.

Work began by 5 a.m., and they would work a couple of hours before breakfast, which was always a large meal. They had oatmeal with the cream from their own milk, and then they ate either ham or bacon and fried eggs and pancakes to top off the meal.

David was paid a monthly salary, and the residence was part of his compensation package. He worked the Wallace Prairie farm himself, but also had a full-time hired man and other laborers as needed to help with the day-to-day work. David's days were often spent visiting farm properties that Bush Bank had an interest in during the depression era. This was a task that Mr. Crawford of the bank had previously handled, but Mr. Crawford was no farmer, whereas David was; thus he was in a better position to not only talk "farm" with the farmers but also give advice, determine who was and was not doing a good job, etc.

David Jr. remembers being in meetings with his father and Mr. Bush where they would talk about various farmers, farms and farming matters. He describes Mr. Bush as somebody who put his faith in people rather than on balance sheets, a philosophy that the U.S. Bank did not necessarily subscribe to when it purchased Ladd & Bush Bank in the early 1940s. Mr. Bush wanted to keep farmers on their properties, especially during the Great Depression.

Unfortunately, some farmers were not as good as others. It was David's job as the bank's representative to monitor the condition of each property the bank had an interest in (whether owned by the bank or the farmer owed the bank money).

The bank required farmers to manage their farms in whatever way David directed as a condition of retaining ownership of their farms during those difficult financial times. The goal was to assure that the farmers who owed Mr. Bush's bank money were successful and profitable so they could pay off their loans. It was not mandatory that they follow David's direction, but most knew that it was wise not to cross Mr. Bush if they wanted to keep their farms.

Some of what David did was cursory supervision, but some farms were visited daily to provide instruction for the day as in "go out and plow that field, now!" It was a politically difficult job, as one might expect, telling a long-time farmer how he was to farm his own farm. Some worked hard in order to keep their farm. Others simply walked away, abandoning their farms to the bank.

David's territory ran from Albany to Newberg. Often cited as an example of the type of decision David was expected to make is a story involving a Keizer area farmer with serious alcohol problem. The farmer was instructed to either to stop drinking or lose the farm. He ended up losing the farm.



David Saucy Jr., was born March 28, 1924. The birth was assisted by Dr. Pemberton at the farmhouse, as were Verle and Howard's births.



David Jr., and Verle Noma Saucy. Verle Saucy was born July 18, 1925.



Howard Saucy was born March 26, 1928.



Verle, David Jr., and Howard.



David with David, Jr.;
Noma on porch with Verle and David, Jr.
David with Verle and David, Jr.

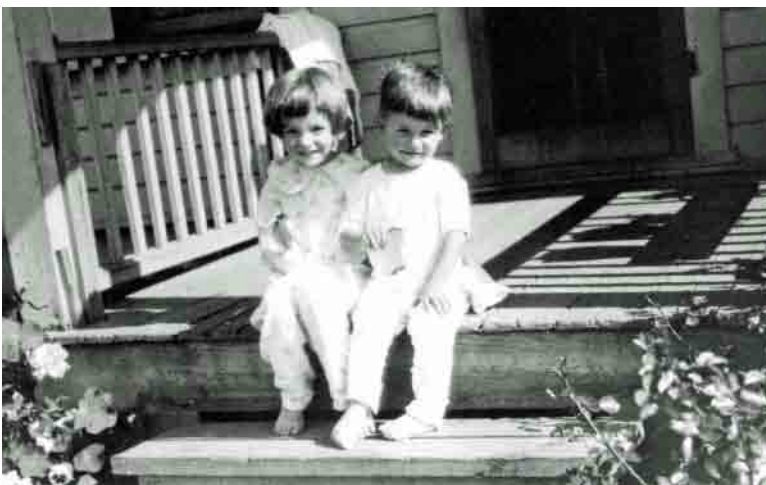


Verle, David Jr., and Howard.



Howard, Verle and David Jr., with horse named Happy.





Top L: Verle and David Jr. approaching Howard, asleep.
 Bottom L: Verle, David Jr., and Howard with puppies.
 Top R: Verle and David Jr.
 Bottom R: Verle and David Jr. on farmhouse front porch.



Note the horse teams as well as the motorized vehicle in the photograph.

Grain harvest was a communal event in which all neighbors participated. They would gather first at one farm and then proceed to the next so that all capable hands were available for the task of threshing the grain as well as piling and removing the straw. Albert Petzell owned the threshing machine. The children enjoyed sliding down the straw stacks after

the threshing machine left. The thresher was powered by a Romney tractor, but horses were still needed, and it was common for there to be ten to fifteen teams of horses involved in the effort. The sacks of grain visible in the photograph were actually emptied into the grain silo rather than stored in the sack.

"I helped with the shocking of the

grain. The grain was cut and then bundled, usually with a binder, into sheaves which were tied up and stacked upright in what was called a stack so the grain heads could dry. They were put up six or eight to a stack, depending upon how thick the grain was.

"The threshing machine was set up in one spot and the wagons would go to haul the grain bundles, one person on the wagon and one pitching on, or two pitching on, and they pitched the sheaves onto the wagon and stacked them so they could load the wagon up. There was a long chute that came down from the threshing machine. The wagon would drive up alongside the chute and they would toss the sheaves and then they would go into the threshing machine. It had a huge pipe where the straw was blown out and it made a straw stack. One of the charms of the thresher machine was that after it left we would play on straw stack, climb to the top and slide down the straw. The straw was either used for bedding for the livestock or bailed." ~Howard Saucy



After the thrashers, the bailers came for 3-4 days. They bailed the straw to be stored for farm animal bedding. Noma cooked lunch for all the bailers, generally ten extra workers.



Top Left: Standing on top of threshing bags, perhaps Ernest Webb, Jr.
 Top Right: Standing on top of the straw pile are cousins (L to R): Ernest Webb, Jr., Verle Saucy, Ann Webb, David Saucy Jr., and Howard Saucy.



Because of heavy snow this particular year, David brought the goats in from the woods to the barn to be fed and watered.

Angora goats were used to clear the brush growing in the stump patch. Being able to sell the wool was an added benefit, but unfortunately, the goats were difficult to manage.

Occasionally David would get a call from the city of Salem, informing him that the goats were in town, and so he would have to go round them up and bring them home. It was thought that there was a place in the fence that the goats were able to get through, but one day David was working in a field by the enclosure and saw that the goats were in fact jumping up onto a large tree stump near the fence, and launching themselves over the fence from the stump. The switch was eventually made from goats to sheep.





David sheared his flock of sheep every spring. The wool from each sheep was rolled in a bundle and sold. This picture shows the sheep in the 2 1/2 acre field in front of the house with the filbert (hazelnut) orchard behind them. There were walnut trees beyond the filbert orchard.



Prunes packed and ready to go to the dryer. The prunes were hand-picked and loaded into bushel size wooden boxes for shipment as reflected in the photograph. Howard recalls that he was paid 5¢ per box. David is on the far right. David Jr., holding the dog, Howard, center, in overalls. Albert Brownlee, who lived with his family in the hired man's house, is sitting in the truck.



Prune Orchard, 1937



David Saucy Jr.

David farmed wheat, oats, grain, corn, raised dairy cows, pigs, goats, sheep and horses as well as maintained fruit orchards.

Apple, peach, and cherry trees provided fruit for personal consumption while the large orchard of Italian prunes were for commercial use.

There were about 50 acres of Italian prunes, and 15-20 acres of French petite prunes. The trees were shaken and the prunes picked by hand (from the ground where they had fallen) and placed in buckets, from which they were loaded into bushel size wooden boxes for shipment. Each evening the boxes were hauled into town. The Saucy children remember their pay as 5¢ per box.



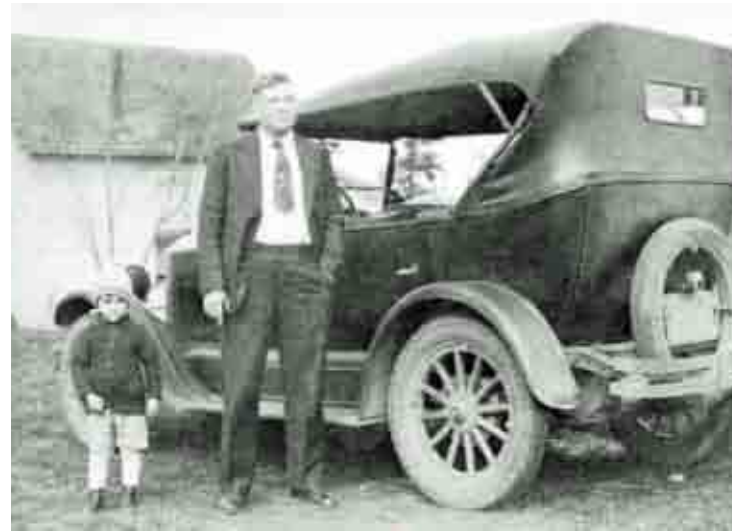
Top: David driving the horse drawn hay rake.

Bottom: The manure spreader filled with bales of hops from the Egan farm. They were unable to sell the hop bales, so they were brought to Wallace Prairie farm to spread as fertilizer on the prune orchard.+



Albert Brownlee, standing with horses. David is standing by tractor, and the children from left to right are David Jr., Verle, and Ruth Brownlee, who was the oldest child of Albert, the hired man.

This tractor is a Fordson tractor, which was mass produced by Henry Ford companies from 1917-1932. Note that the tractor is working alongside a four horse team drawn plow. The hired man complained about the gas powered tractor which he had to "crank" across the field because it did not start very well.



Above: David and Noma, 1934.
Top R: Howard with Newland Webb.
Bottom R: 1940 Chevy in front of the
Wallace Prairie farmhouse.



Ira Rogers, who stayed in the hired man's quarters and ate all his meals with the Saucy family, is shown with the horse team: Ben, Babe, Cap and Jimmy.



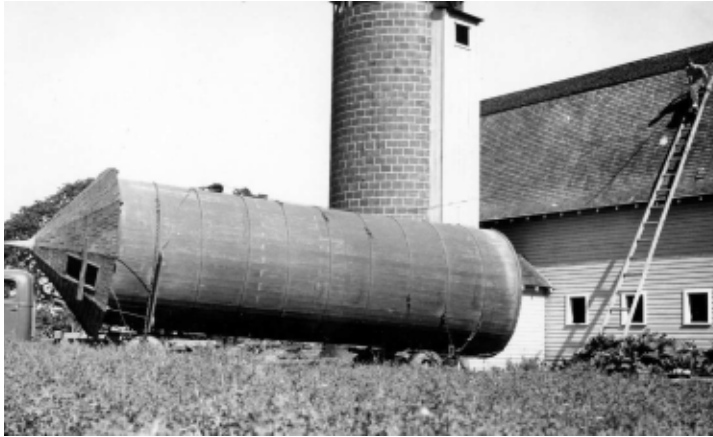
David standing next to his McCormick-Deering 10-20, a tractor built by International Harvester in Chicago, Illinois from 1923 to 1939. The list price was \$785.



David grew onions for seed for several years.

Left: David is standing in the field wearing a hat, seated in the middle wearing a cap is David Jr. The other two individuals are believed to be Albert Brownlee and his son.





David grew his dairy herd to the point where he needed another silo so he purchased a used wooden one.



The silo were filled with chopped corn to feed the cows during the winter months.



This series of photographs show the used wooden silo being raised up beside the older, tile silo.



The horse barn is to the far left of the photograph showing the three barns, with the milk house in the middle and the dairy barn on the far right. Stalls in the horse barn were located near the back side, the front of the barn was for grain storage. Milking occurred twice every day about 5 a.m. and 5 p.m. Each milking session would generally last about 2 hours. Milk would be stored in 10 gallon cans and taken to Salem. David Jr., at age 15, started delivering the milk before heading to school.

David was the farm manager for Wallace Prairie, which meant that what was not grown for his own direct personal use (the family's garden, located to the east of the farmhouse) belonged to his employer, Mr. Bush.

David made significant improvements to the farm during his tenure as manager, including starting a dairy operation, building horse and dairy barns and a maintenance shop. Mr. Bush, as the farm's owner, paid to remodel the house, build the two new, modern barns (one for the dairy cows and one for the horses), purchase tractors and other farm equipment, etc.

By the early 1930's the financial arrangement had changed. David now rented, rather than managed, Mr. Bush's Wallace Prairie farm. David continued to act as the bank's representative, supervising and watching over both Mr. Bush and the bank's agricultural interests as previously described, but now the Saucy family got the direct benefit from their labors on the farm.

The dairy barn was the latest design, with a guttered concrete floor and thirty stanchions for the milking cows. There was an elaborate set up for removing manure, moving it into a pile along (but not in) Claggett Creek. The Saucy children always swam upstream of the manure pile when they wanted to cool off on a hot summer day.

The barn included a room lined with hollow tile and a concrete tank where the ten gallon milk cans were stored until taken to the dairy co-op for processing. Vertical coils through which water circulated from the well David drilled twenty feet from the barn kept the cooler cool and the concrete tank was filled with the well water. The cooling system worked well, keeping the milk cold even on the warmest summer days. The cooling water was circulated from the cooler into the horse barn to fill the horse watering trough. The trough was four feet wide, six feet long and three feet deep, with a six inch wall of concrete. The Saucy children, when younger, would fill the horse trough with goldfish. The fish did very well, growing big and fat off of grain falling from the horse's lips.



Above: David is standing on the right in both photographs.
Left: Howard with his 4-H calf.



Left to Right:
Howard, age 10 with 4-H calf;
Howard with dog; Verle, David Jr.
and Howard with mule; Howard
with dog; David Jr. with sheep.





Verle wearing her Halloween costume.



Nellie (Browning) Webb with grandchildren
Verle, David Jr., and Howard.



David Jr. and Verle.



Top Left: Noma.
 Top Right: David Jr., Howard and David Sr.
 Bottom: Crew and children with cornbinder machine.



In later years David also provided services for Mr. Bush's sister Sally Bush at the Bush residence, now known as Bush's Pasture Park (a Salem public park and botanical garden), and the Bush House (which has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and operates as a museum).

Some of those services were direct: providing firewood, yard maintenance, mowing the pasture several times per year (which was David Jr.'s job from age 12), but David also oversaw others who were providing services to the property.

Photo's: The Bush photographs are shown courtesy of Bush House Museum, Salem Art Association.

Top to Bottom:

Sally Bush, circa 1913, id#bh0156.

Asahel Bush, circa 1930, id#bh1334.

Bush House, circa 1947, id#bh0011

Bush House woodpile, circa 1910, id#0926

David Jr. and Howard have described Sally as being very interested in keeping her property as “natural” as possible. She did not want living things killed, whether animal or plant. They remember Sally's gardens were filled with weeds and the grounds with squirrels, moles, mice and rats.

David and his sons delivered thirty sacks of grain to Sally each year which she used to feed her five Angus cattle, along with the resident squirrels, rats and mice.

The house maintenance staff reportedly would secretly weed the garden and shoot as many rats as they could see whenever Sally was away.



Oregon State Capitol Fire, 1935.

On April 25th, 1935, David and Noma attended a banquet in Salem. Howard accompanied them. It is not clear exactly where the event took place, but it was the night the Oregon State Capitol building burned. Howard remembers a clear view of the fire. The banquet room had high windows, so the guests pushed tables up to the windows, and the evening was spent climbing from table to table, window to window, to watch the fire and firefighting unfold.



Top Left: David and Noma, Thanksgiving dinner. Top Right: Charles and Elisa Saucy at far left. Back row, possibly two Jacquet daughters, unidentified hidden woman, Pete Saucy. Front Row L to R: Mrs. Henry Jacquet (Bertha), son Paul Jacquet, and daughter Alice Jacquet, David Saucy, Sr., and Noma Saucy.



Neltje Saucy (married to Pete Saucy), unidentified child, unidentified woman, unidentified man, David Saucy Sr., Pete Saucy, and Noma Saucy at a family picnic on Wallace Prairie Farm, circa 1937. The girl sitting on ground next to the bicycle is Anne, daughter of Pete and Neltje. Photo circa 1936.



Charlotte Louise Saucy was born July 29, 1940. David took Noma to Salem General Hospital for the birth, but had to return to work on the farm before Charlotte was born.

July was grain threshing time. This meant that while David, David Jr. (age 17), and the threshers were working in the field, Verle (age 15), and Howard (age 12) were responsible for preparing all the meals for the working men. They cooked and served breakfast and supper. David, went daily to pick up his sister, Madeleine (Saucy) Berger, who helped with the noon meal. Verle and Howard also picked and canned 27 quarts of green beans during this period.

Verle ran screaming to the barn where David, David Jr., and Howard were working when the hospital called the farm to relay the news of Charlotte's birth. Verle was thrilled because she had always wanted a sister.



David and Noma (Webb) Saucy.

In about 1940, Mr. Bush decided to sell the Wallace Prairie farm. David and Noma started looking for a farm of their own to buy.

They settled on the old Menaffe farm in Dundee (where David had previously worked), and were able to purchase it from John Getty of Idaho. Only after they made this purchase did they discover that Asahel Bush had hoped David would buy his Wallace Prairie property and continue the farm operation, and would have made it possible for him to do so.

Throughout the first year of his ownership of the Dundee farm, David managed to farm both the Wallace Prairie farm and the newly acquired Menaffe property, which consisted of 450 acres. That was a very busy year for the family.

During the summer of 1942 the move was made to Dundee. The milking equipment and nearly 40 dairy cows had to be milked at Salem in the early morning and moved to Dundee during the day to be milked that evening at the new farm. It was a late, late night. Tire and gas rationing made the move even more difficult as there were flat tires and it was almost impossible to buy tires at that time.

David and Noma settled in with their family at Dundee, living there from 1942 to 1964.

SAUCY FAMILY IN KEIZER As Recalled by
Howard Saucy

[Reproduced from the book, *MORE LOOKING BACK At People and Places in Keizer and its Vicinity*, by Ann Lossner, published 1994]

The Saucy family farmed the area commonly referred to as Painter's Woods, although only about 100 acres of the 553 acre area were wooded. The land actually belonged to the Ladd and Bush Bank of Salem. The Painter family were caretakers for the bank for some years. In the early 1920's the bank wanted to hire Howard's father, David, for the job, but they preferred to have a married couple run the farm. David was "keeping company" with Noma Webb, who lived on Claxtar Rd. near the farm. He promptly proposed to her; she accepted; they married and took over the management of the ranch off Cherry Ave.

David was born in Moutier, Switzerland, and came to Oregon when he was about 10 years of age. In his youth he worked on various farms.

The house where Howard, his older brother, David, Jr., and his sister, Verle Saucy Irvine were born, is still there. In those days a long lane led from Cherry Ave.; now it is located in the 1400 block of Arnold St., hemmed in by houses. The hired man's house is about a block away.

Howard was told that there had been a stage coach stop near the house. It burned down and the brick from it were used for the house foundation, chimneys, and fireplace. He also was told that the Jason Lee School for Girls had been nearby. An article in the Oregon Historical Quarterly places it three miles north of the mill at High St. on Wallace Prairie. A map of land purchases in 1851 shows that all of present day Keizer is in what used to be Wallace Prairie. That would include the Saucy farm. When Howard was very young, his father tore down a large old barn near the house. It had hand-hewn timbers that he used to build a shop and machine shed. Professors from Willamette University used to visit the farm to inspect the bricks and timber, and speculate on their origin.

Horses were used for farming then - only a few tractors - so Howard has many memories of working with them. Two large barns were built there after his father started to farm: a horse barn and a dairy barn. The family managed the operation with the help of one hired man. The hired man's house is located in the park being developed in southeast Keizer off Arnold and is scheduled to be moved.

During World War II farming changed almost overnight from horse power to tractor power. David has a beautiful pair of matched Percherons. After he moved to Dundee, he sold them for \$25, and the buyer did not even come for them. Most horses were sold for fox feed as a labor shortage forced farmers to buy

tractors. Caring for horses was part of most farmers' lives up to that time.

Howard's father used to haul hay, straw and grain for the animals at Bush house on High Street. Howard recalls Sally Bush, and elderly unmarried daughter of the Bush family. She had a huge garden. However, she would not let the gardeners pull out weeds. So they had to weed on the sly and find excuses for missing weeds. In the barn was an electric car which fascinated the Saucy children. Howard often wonders what became of it. Sally also fed their cows and horses. Although they were rolling in fat, she would not permit them to be slaughtered.

A highlight of each year on the Bush Cherry Ave. farm was the cutting of the grain and the threshing. Bundles were made with a binder and then shocked. Albert Petzel, who farmed in Buena Crest, did most of the threshing in the Keizer area. All the men from the neighborhood would bring their wagons and teams and work at each farm until the harvest season was finished.

Howard says, "I have many memories of sitting down for a great dinner in our home during threshing season. Sometimes for supper, also, if rain threatened. Each farm wife would vie to have the best meal. Mr. Petzel would hook his huge Romley tractor to the threshing machine with a long belt; the wagons would come with their loads of grain bundles and fork them into a chute

to be threshed. We always ended with several large strawstacks. They were just great for climbing to the top and sliding down. Then a baler would come and we'd then haul the bales to the barns for bedding."

David raised Angora goats in the wooded area. They kept the underbrush eaten as they are browsers, so the woods were beautiful and easy to walk through. However, goats are notorious for getting through fences and would occasionally get into Salem. So it was decided to replace them with sheep. Then the Saucys had trouble with packs of dogs from Salem which would kill them.

The four Saucy children attended the old Keizer School.

Howard recalls the look, smell, and feel of the old school. The floors were wood, probably fir, and oiled. There was a steep flight of stairs that led to the four classrooms, each of which held two grades. There was a cloakroom off each classroom. The chalkboards were black. Each room had a picture of George Washington and a large school clock. From the belfry the rope to the school bell hung down in the entry hall, which connected to the classrooms, small library, and equipment room. The oiled floors and cleaning fluids gave off a unique aroma difficult to describe. The desks were of the old type on long runners and had glass inkwells and a slot for pencils. Wooden penholders were used in those days. A wood furnace burned four-

foot lengths of cordwood of which a huge stack was kept outside.

On rainy days children used to play in the huge basement where the restrooms were located. Howard recalls that the urinal in the lobby's latrine was a long black trough. The smell was so strong that the boys used to try to hold their breath until they could get out of the room.

As the school population increased, classrooms were built in the basement. Then a play shed was constructed outside on the north side of the school.

In 1939 when David Saucy was on the school board, another single-story school was built alongside the 1916 building. It included a large auditorium where the Community Club and 4-H club meetings were held. For a number of years every pupil who was old enough - nine years - was a member of 4-H, probably because everyone belonged to the 4-H Health Club, a part of health education. However, 4-H was an important part of pupil and community life; there were so many different kinds of clubs, ranging from domestic arts to animal husbandry. Noma Saucy taught the cooking and sewing.

When Howard was in the fifth grade a school band was formed. It was led by Mr. Hassenstab, who later owned the Hollywood theatre on the Capitol Highway (Portland Rd.). Howard learned to play the saxophone with this group. Members wore bright red capes with

gold trim and white trousers. The band participated in many local events, parades, and festivals. He says that he doesn't remember them as being particularly good, but they had fun.

Although softball was played, the main sports event of each year was the county track meet held at Leslie Jr. High School in Salem. Keizer or Hubbard usually won the event and intense preparations were made for several months prior to the meet. A great runner was Nellie Jean Pearmine. Howard says she could run like the wind. Howard's event was the three-legged race. He ran it with Don Sun, a Chinese boy who was killed by a bull a year after the boys graduated from Keizer. It was a shock to everyone.

Another excellent athlete was Pete Hauser, who lived at the Chemawa Indian school, where his father was the security officer. His parents were pure-blooded Indians, but from different tribes. David said he had never seen anyone run or jump like Pete. The Saucy family often attended the Pow Wows held each year at the school.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor the Japanese pupils and their families were sent to internment camps. It was a sad time for the community because there were a number of Japanese children at Keizer School. One of Howard's best friends was Julius Numata. He wrote once from the family's camp in California, expressing his failure to understand why this had happened. Howard never heard from him again.

For the youth of the area it was exciting to go to downtown Salem and see the uniformed soldiers who were stationed at Camp Adair. But after gold stars began to appear in windows and familiar names were included in lists of those who has lost their lives in action, they became aware of the tragedy of war.

During World War II farming changed almost overnight from horse power to tractor power. David had a beautiful pair of matched Percherons. After he moved to Dundee, he sold them for \$25, and the buyer did not even come for them. Most horses were sold for fox feed as a labor shortage forced farmers to buy tractors. Caring for horses was part of most farmers' lives up to that time.

David Saucy operated the farm from about 1922 until it was sold 20 years later. The family then purchased the Menafee farm in Dundee on the Willamette River where David had worked years before as a young man.

