

EVENT: October meeting
WHEN: Oct. 12, 1976 7:00 P.M.
WHERE: Fernwood Grange Hall
PROGRAM: Mrs. Harriet Munnick of West Linn speaking on French
Prairie

Come and bring a friend, potluck at 7:00 P.M. business meeting and program at 8:00.

MESSAGE NOTES

Our book, OLD YAMHILL, is being circulated over the county. It is a history of the beginning of the cities of the county with old photos not found elsewhere. Articles by several members of the historical society are included, as well as the hours of Ruth Stoller's work researching the records and finally getting the wonderful manuscript together. We owe her a great deal for her work. Thank you, Ruth. Newspapers will tell you where the books can be found. They are selling well.

In November there will a showing at the museum of LAFAYETTE IN PICTURES which is now on display at the Oregon Historical Society in Portland. The showing will also have old fancy work on display.

The museum is now open Saturday and Sunday 1 to 4:30. Tourist season is over and we are doing other things.

We have a package of notes to sell that have a picture of the museum on the front and a history of the church and museum on the back. They sell for \$1.00 for 10 folded sheets.

Any group can call 472-7935 for appointment to tour the museum.

Roma Sitton

One of the early Oregon territorial post offices established in Yamhill County was given the unlikely name of Mount Hood--the post office was at least 70 miles across the Willamette Valley from the mountain. The name does not seem so strange when one considers that the office was established about two miles north of Hopewell where beautiful Mt. Hood dominates the view to the east.

The Mt. Hood post office was established on October 14, 1854 with James Richardson as its first postmaster. The office was located in Richardson's home which was apparently near the point at which the Amity road leaves the Lafayette-Hopewell highway. Richardson was active in early Oregon affairs (he was a pioneer of 1843) and served in the territorial legislature. About 1860 he left for California where he founded the town of Willow Springs. He later lived in Idaho and eastern Oregon.

In the fall of 1856 James M. Belcher was appointed the postmaster of the Mt. Hood office and it was moved to his home about a half a mile south of Richardson's. Belcher retained his commission for less than two years. In 1865 he moved to Lafayette and became a merchant there. Both he and his wife lived to be over ninety and spent the rest of their days in Lafayette.

Daniel C. Daugherty became Mt. Hood's final postmaster on June 8, 1858. He lived just north and a little west of James Richardson. The name Mt. Hood must have seemed particularly appropos to him since he must have had a superb view of the mountain from his hillside home. The office was closed on January 29, 1862 and not long after the Daughertys moved to the Grand Ronde-Willamina area where they spent the rest of their lives.

Ruth Stoller