



Yamhill County Museum, 6th and Market Street, Lafayette, Oregon

# COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, September 9, 1980 7:00 P.M.

PLACE: First Christian Church, 1300 Brooks St., McMinnville, Oregon

POTLUCK: Bring your own table service

PROGRAM: Two interesting short talks

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### MUSEUM NEWS

We have had a busy summer, schools are still visiting and asking for information on pioneer articles.

We still need help in the tool and machinery collection.

We have a second fireproof file cabinet. Mr. and Mrs. Dyer of Portland paid for half of the cost, a life member in the county paid the second half. Thanks folks.

The new roof is a great improvement. The cost was great, but had to be done and will last a long time. There were several donations to help in that expense. Donations are tax deductible.

There were several large orders for our book "OLD YAMHILL" the past few weeks.

At our board meeting we had a vote to increase the dues to \$3.00 per person. Our newsletter is costing more each year for postage, paper and permit.

There are school desks to sell and books from Amity school. Did you sell a book for us?

We have the county's first soil conservation maps, 1917, presented at their annual county meeting and picnic at Rex Brown farm.

When Cook School had their birthday program, the museum was presented the framed photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Cook who donated the land for the first school. We still look for rural school photos to copy, do you have some? Also early day photos of the various towns, homes, businesses or people. If you have a family history, would you share with your Historical Society?

If you have a new address, please notify as Third Class Mail will not be forwarded.

ROMA SITTON

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## HISTORY NOTES

For years I have wondered about the small white structure on the southeast corner of Second and Cowls in McMinnville. It has all the characteristics of a very old building, and appears to have been originally built as a house. Several additions have been made to the primary structure. The east end of the building still has its original siding and windows. It is located on lots three and four of block fourteen of Newby's original town. Wm. T. Newby sold these lots to Isaac Eccleston for \$70.00 on December 6, 1865.

Isaac Eccleston was born September 4, 1843 in Missouri and came to Oregon with his parents in 1852. In 1861 he went to the Idaho gold mines and remained there until he came to McMinnville in 1865. In McMinnville he worked as a carpenter and also built a house on his lots. Eccleston sold this property in December of 1867 for \$675.00 to C. D. Johnson. A couple of months later, in February of 1868, he bought lot seven of block fourteen from Newby for \$40.00. That fall he married Mary E. Miller, a daughter of John and Ruth Ann (Franklin) Miller of Polk County. He built another house for his bride on the new lot. The Ecclestons stayed in McMinnville until 1872 when they sold their property to Andrew J. Baker for \$700.00 and moved to Goose Lake Valley in south central Oregon. They were still living there in 1911.

C. D. Johnson, who was a blacksmith, kept Eccleston's first house until November 25, 1874, when he sold it for \$825.00 to another blacksmith, Wm. T. Booth. Booth still owned the property in 1902.

This structure is probably the oldest remaining original building within the limits of the original survey of the town of McMinnville.

### RUTH STOLLER

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### CURRENT OFFICERS, YCHS

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Annual Dues \$3.00, mail to Evelyn Nieman, 1501 S. Baker, #49, McMinnville.

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