



# HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING  
DATE: Tuesday, November 11, 1980  
PLACE: American Legion Hall, corner of Yamhill and Bridge Streets  
Sheridan, Oregon  
POTLUCK: Bring your own table service  
PROGRAM: Slide show and discussion of old school houses  
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### MUSEUM NEWS

The newsletter was so late in being delivered last month that this will seem to be a continuation of it. Lafayette Post Office mailed the them October 3rd so the Portland Post Office was the one holding them. Even with "DATED MATERIAL" marking they didn't reach us in time for the meeting. What to do? Try again for better service.

We are very short of visitors. We need to advertise or have a program to make the public aware of our historical effort to preserve the past.

The First Methodist Church in Newberg was a lovely meeting place. The program was very good and the dinner good, as always.

Sheridan will be a good meeting and every one remmber our meetings are always the second Tuesday of the month. If newsletters are late again watch for notices in newspapers or listen to KCYX -- both of these cooperated when the postal service let us down.

I still need help at the museum to repair and place articles, hang pictures, move articles, etc. There has not been anyone to record cemeteries. Did you seel a book "Old Yamhill" this month? There is work at the Museum Tool Building to do also. Men who like to clean and help display our machines would be welcome. We still have school desks and books from Amity School #7 to sell, also census records of 1850 and Historical Sights of Oregon. For appointment call 472-7935

ROMA SITTON

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### HISTORY NOTES

Old photographs can be approximately dated if the photographers name is on he photo and if we know when the photographer was in business. However, many of the first photographs taken of Yamhill County people did not have the photographers name on them. This was especially true of pictures taken during the 1860's and 1870's. Traveling photographers were common and since they were only traveling through the area, did not seem to feel the need to sign their work.

One of the earliest established photographers was Francis A. Ford, who had his shop in McMinnville by 1868. He was still here in 1870 but sold out to William Starkey sson after that date.

Another early photographer in Yamhill County was W. F. Catterlin, who had a studio in Amity soon after 1870. Many of his photographs have his name stamped on the back of them. I have found his advertisement for a studio in Dayton and also in Lafayette, so he may have traveled between the threeplaces.

By 1876 John P. Tourney had opened a studio in McMinnville and was still there in 1880. Apparently, he left soon after 1880.

An identified picture taken in 1880 in McMinnville has the firm name of Stewarts Imperial Gallery on it. In the late 1890's there was still an Imperial Gallery in McMinnville (probably no longer Stewart's) that had a branch studio in North Yamhill.

In 1881 the Fritz name began to appear on photographs taken in McMinnville. An 1881 photo has Fritz Superior Gallery printed on it. Later photos were by C. Fritz and even later ones by C. Fritz and Co.

The Hogg name on McMinnville photographs is found soon after 1890 and possibly even before that time. During the 1890's some photos have J. Hogg Excelsior Studio on them and some just Hogg. Later a common imprint on photographs was Excelsior Photo Co., possibly no longer associated with Hogg. J. W. Montee was also a McMinnville photographer about 1900.

During the 1890's L. Bradley had a studio in Dayton, and many Dayton photos of that era were done by him. In Amity J. B. Long was a prominent photographer for a time before and after 1900.

No doubt many other photographers came and went in Yamhill County before 1900, and many local photographs bear the names of Portland and Salem photographers. The Dictionary of Oregon History edited by Howard M. Corning has an article on photographers in Oregon that help date Portland and Salem studios.

RUTH STOLLER

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