

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

YAMHILL COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1981 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Lafayette Youth and Senior Citizen Activities Center, Lafayette, Oregon
POTLUCK: TURKEY, DRESSING, AND GRAVY WILL BE PROVIDED. Please bring a
salad, vegetable or dessert and your own table service.
PROGRAM: Early history of the Lafayette area

MUSEUM NEWS

We received two family autobiographies from Mr. James Kuhn, Librarian at Columbia University in New York, of his grandmother, Ellen Ora Parks and his mother, Arlena Jeppson. Mrs. Jeppson was postmaster in Dundee and her picture appears in the Early Dundee History book by Marion Brumback. They had lived in the county many years and died here. Mr. Kuhn thought it better to file their autobiographies here than in the east. We thank him very much.

We received a drum from Elery Parrish. It had belonged to Earl Parrish who played for 50 years in various Newberg bands. He also played for the Berrians, who were well known for their appearances in the Portland Rose Festival Parade.

There are three school desks left to sell. We would like very much to close them out. There are also some books from No. 7 school in Amity to sell. If you have grandchildren who enjoy books, come down to look them over.

A horse drawn binder has been offered to the museum from the Rex Hill area. How shall we transport it?

Sunday October 18 was a very busy day up to 5 p.m.. It is very nice to have people come and enjoy our museum..

I am taking the pioneer story to my great grandson's class in Salem. He is writing the story of the area and they will be coming to visit our museum too.

Mr. Long, one of our members, cleared the eavetrough that was plugged and pouring water over the front door. Thanks, Mr. Long. We still have several books to sell!

ROMA SITTON

HISTORY NOTES

Submitted by Ruth Stoller

The Telephone Register for July 18, 1913 contained an interesting article entitled "Comparative Cost of Living". It read:

"Much is being said of the increased cost of living over 20, 30, and 40 years ago. Joe Matthey (of Lafayette) has an old day book used by some merchants in Dayton, Ore., in the year 1870, from which we are permitted to take the charges they made on many staple articles of household use and compare them with present-day prices. It will be observed from the following list that present day prices are really lower in most cases than they were 43 years ago. Here is the list (partial):

| | 1870 | 1913 |
|--------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Sack of flour | \$ 1.13 | \$ 1.15 |
| Av. suit clothing | 20.00 | 15.00-18.00 |
| Flannel per yard | .50 | .50 |
| Eggs per dozen | .16 | .25 |
| Print per yd. | .12 | .06 |
| Tea, per lb. | 1.00 | .40-.50 |
| Wheat per bushel | .60 | .85 |
| Flour per lb. | .02 | .02 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Butter | .20 | .32 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Bar of soap | .25 | .05 |
| Shingles per M | 3.00 | 2.25 |
| Spool of thread | .10 | .05 |
| Nails pr lb | .08 | .03-.05 |
| Gallon of oil (coal oil) | 1.50 | .15 |
| Box of matches | .25 | .05 |

Mr. Matthey is of the opinion that the cost of living is not as high now as it was then, and these figures prove his claim. A McMinnville man states that it is not so much the high cost of living as the cost of high living; that we are most of us living at too fast a pace.