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THE TABLE ROCK SENTINEL

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTHERN OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Director's Corner

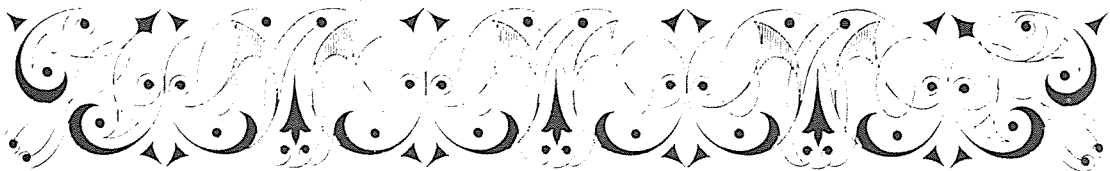
It seems that everyday I witness a common confusion about SOHS on the part of the general public. What is the Southern Oregon Historical Society? What is the Jacksonville Museum? Are they one in the same? In 1950 when the Society had only the old courthouse as its museum building, the two could be considered one. Over the years, however, the Society has added several more buildings to its holdings. They are: the Beekman House, the Beekman Bank, the Armstrong House, the Rogue River Valley Railway Depot, the U. S. Hotel, the Catholic Rectory, the Old Jail now converted into a children's museum, the Ferguson and Hanley buildings just behind the courthouse, the Wilson House, the Gwin House, and the PP&L substation.

Since all these buildings are in historic Jacksonville, it is easy to understand why some people think the Society is only interested in that community. This same belief has caused residents of Medford, Ashland, Central Point, and other communities to be reluctant in giving the Society artifacts from their areas. One Ashland lady was quoted as saying, "I'm not giving my Ashland family antiques to the Society to have them displayed in Jacksonville." This same attitude has also kept many county residents from joining the Society. I guess the Society suffers from a "Jacksonville only" image.

The Society's trustees are aware of the problem and are studying ways of changing that image. One way being considered is the establishment of small museums in other communities. This will be done only after careful planning, and only if the Society can afford the additional responsibility.

Jacksonville will no doubt always be the area of major emphasis for the Society. It is the county's oldest community, a National Historic Landmark, and the birthplace of the Society thirty-five years ago.

Bill Burk



Cover Picture Identification

This issue's cover photograph is the Central Point graduation class of 1904. They are identified as Julia Olson, A. J. Hanby (probably the principal), and Nora Beebe.

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HOFFMAN FAMILY COMES WEST IN 1853

*A*n abiding faith in religion was the dominant note in the lives of William Hoffman and his wife Caroline, early Jacksonville pioneers. They lived according to their spiritual beliefs and, unlike many people of the time, truly merited the paeans of acclaim which poured forth in their obituaries.

Squire Hoffman was born in Baltimore in 1801; Caroline, in Anna Arendel County in 1813. They were both of German ancestry and both were educated considerably beyond regular elementary schooling, although, for the most part, each was self-taught. Existing records reveal their skill in writing and their knowledge of literature, especially of the Bible.

Hoffman attended both German and American schools until he was thirteen when he began making his own way as a grocery clerk. During his early youth he held various positions in the mercantile business in towns in Maryland and Ohio, eventually becoming a partner in a firm in Cincinnati. In 1832 he opened his own store in Attica, Indiana.

He met Caroline in 1836 and they were married that same year. They were ideally suited to each other in temperaments, backgrounds and aspirations. Both were members of the German Reformed church and in 1837 they established a church of that denomination in Attica. Hoffman, having been dedicated to the church even in his teen years, was chosen ruling elder.

In 1840 he was elected county recorder and held this office for twelve years until he moved with his family to Covington, Maryland. In that place William and

HOFFMAN KEEPS DAY-TO-DAY DIARY

Caroline organized the New School Presbyterian church and he was again elected a ruling elder. The family remained in Covington for thirteen years where he was prominent in business, church and politics.

At the beginning of 1853 William was 51 years of age. He and Caroline had a family of six daughters: Mary Henrietta 16, Julia Elizabeth 14, Ann Sophia 11, Emma Arilia 9, Florence Ella 5, and Kate Freeman 3.

At that time Caroline was suffering severely from asthma and her brother-in-law, Dr. Henry McKinnell, recommended a change of scene, the far west. Accordingly, in April of that year they left Covington for the six months' journey across the plains.

Their party consisted of the Hoffman family of eight, his two unmarried sisters a third sister and her husband, Dr. Henry McKinnell, and seven hired hands, eighteen people in all. There were five wagons, nine yoke of oxen and seven cows, a heavy carriage for the Hoffman family and four horses. Shortly after starting out the journey they added several more families who had started out alone but had become frightened of making the long trip without traveling companions.

Hoffman maintained a daily journal on the trip. It reveals the determination, dedication and faith which they demonstrated each day. They faced many of the same obstacles as those faced by the Hill sisters of Ashland who had crossed the plains a year earlier [see Volume I, No. 4], yet the challenges of the Hoffman trek do not appear so arduous as those described in the Hill memoirs. Hoffman's diary emphasizes the continual search for feed and water for the livestock and for game and firewood for the travelers. The clouds of mosquitoes which followed them was a constant torture yet the Indians on the plains appear to be less hostile and the last lap of the journey was completed under more favorable weather conditions.

An entry in the journal for July 9th describes a disquieting day:

We commenced our Journey this morning at half past seven, expecting to arrive at a good place to noon [take the midday meal] but did not find it; about eleven o'clock we saw Six Buffaloes on the Bluffs and six of our young men went in pursuit of them; soon after our men had left, a number of Indians came to our Wagons; the absence of our men left us destitute of a sufficient number of fire Arms, but we made the best show we could in case the Indians had evil designs upon us, which we somewhat feared from the fact that they held several conferences among themselves; After some delay we concluded to proceed and were not molested. About 2 o'clock, Four of the men returned; the other two did not get to camp until after dark, which occasioned us a good deal of uneasiness, as the Indians were numerous; We deemed it prudent to tie up our cattle on account of the suspicious movements of the Indians, who are very adroit in stealing and driving off Horses and Cattle; We also doubled our watch. Our travel today is about 18 miles.

Towards the end of July, within sight of the Rocky Mountains, they joined a "Missionary Train" made up of Methodist-Episcopal ministers. The group then consisted of more than twenty wagons. Hoffman was delighted to have so many churchmen in the train. Sunday devotionals must have resembled a camp meeting of evangelists. In his journal he describes a Communion service at which twenty ministers participated.

Hoffman wrote in August: "In consequence of some difficulty between our hands and the hands of the Missionary train, we separated again and travel alone." One might suppose that with twenty pastors in attendance a satisfactory peace would have been resolved, but after the separation the Hoffman train met up with the Missionary Train only rarely although they occasionally camped in proximity of one another.

On August 28 the entry states: "A number of Trains for California passed our encampment today having some 1800 heads of cattle with them." The Hoffman train frequently met up with other trains enroute. So many westward bound pioneers on the trails made the search for grass more difficult and the large number of travelers is in great contrast with the few seen by the emigrants a year earlier who had plodded along for months over vast distances without seeing another white man.

On September 22 Hoffman wrote:

Started this morning at 6 o'clock and traveled until nearly 11 over a barren sandy region with scarcely any appearance of grass on the route; our nooning place is very much grazed off, but our stock need water and rest...Today we met the first abandonment of property of any considerable amount--consisting of sundry large tin kettles and boilers, a spade, a tub, a chair, etc., etc., doubtless left by someone whose cattle were failing.

As the wagon trains neared their destination the condition of the animals weakened increasingly day by day. Primitive roads, sometimes too sandy, sometimes too rocky, caused their feet to become painfully tender. The constant pulling of wagons, the uncertain grazing lands and the frequent stops without water exhausted them. They would fall by the wayside, too spent to travel, and the train would move on without them. After lying on the ground for some hours, they might struggle to their feet and stumble after the train, catching up only after the emigrants had stopped for the night. Many of course never made it to the encampment. In addition to exhaustion, animals fell victims to bloat, drowning, and alkalai poison. By October the Hoffman train had lost thirteen cattle and two horses. Today, under such conditions, the SPCA would demand that at least one veterinarian accompany each train. Tribute to those valiant animals is long overdue.

The physical condition of the travelers was weakened as well. Several of the families were without any provisions and were forced to subsist on wild game only. It became necessary to travel on Sundays and forgo religious observance of the day.

On the last lap, from the Sierra Nevadas, they met with extremely hostile Indians, and Hoffman wrote that:

We are now in that part of the country, usually considered dangerous on account of the Indians...We exercise unusual care and prudence to avoid difficulty with them...There is a state of Open warfare between the whites and the Indians all along this region and Emigrants are considered in constant danger unless in large force or protected by Rangers; Each kills the other and no quarter given.

Bands of Rangers were on constant patrol in the area. Some of them joined smaller wagon trains to provide protection. The Indian threat to the Hoffman train was continual through the mountainous region until they reached Klamath Lake, about six days' journey from the settlement there. In that area the presence of the Rangers kept the Indians at a distance. After leaving the lake country on the way to the Rogue River valley, the emigrants were considered to be out of danger. The difficulties of the trip however did not abate as they neared their destination, and the weather by late October was threatening to become wintery.

On Sunday, October 30, the train reached Mill Creek (Ashland) where there were some scattered farms. The next day they arrived in Jacksonville. The relief and wonder at finally coming to the end of the long ordeal must have been unendurably overwhelming. The occasion seems to call for a general falling to the knees, and a heavenly chorus of alleluias, followed by fireworks, yet Hoffman's journal continues for several more entries in the same prosaic, taciturn manner. One must conclude then that to Squire Hoffman hosannas were reserved for church services.

FAMILY SETTLES IN ROGUE RIVER VALLEY

The long journey over, the Hoffman family and the McKinnells moved into an old cabin which they acquired from a Mr. Tucker. It was located about six miles from Jacksonville near Phoenix. They made it habitable for so many people by placing two covered wagons at the sides of the cabin to be used as extra bedrooms.

It had a rough wood floor and a ceiling and at the rear was a covered shed, open at one end with a dirt floor. The six Hoffman girls slept in the attic, which they reached by means of a ladder.

Mr. Hoffman and Dr. McKinnell at once began seeking an occupation in order to provide for their families, contemplating, at first, the construction of a saw-mill. This proved to be impractical and they soon decided to purchase some land with the intention of farming it.

Two years later, after losing thousands of dollars, they deemed the enterprise a failure and abandoned the farm. Dr. McKinnell moved to Portland and established a successful medical practice. Hoffman was nominated for the office of County Auditor under the Territorial Government and also as Justice of the Peace. He held these offices until Oregon became a state and in that year he was elected County Clerk. He continued in this office for twelve years. During this time he acted also as U. S. Commissioner, land agent, and as a representative of several life insurance companies. In 1866 he became a partner of Hon. Henry Klippel in the tinsmith and hardware business.

He and his family became members of the Jacksonville Presbyterian Church and the Pioneer Society of Southern Oregon. Hoffman served the latter organization as both president and secretary.

In 1885, in his 85th year, William Hoffman died. An item in the Jacksonville newspaper stated that his funeral "was one of the most largely attended ever known in [Jacksonville]."

Five years later, in 1900, Caroline died. In a tribute to her the paper wrote: "[She] and her honored husband...did as much, possibly more, than any other two persons in southern Oregon in bringing order out of chaos...and planting Christianity on a solid and enduring basis among the people of the valley."

In 1855, after he had given up his attempt at farming, Squire Hoffman moved his family into Jacksonville. He purchased land on an elevated knoll at the foot of the cemetery hill, where the TouVelle house now stands, and had a rudely-built, temporary cabin constructed.

In 1866 the Oregon Sentinel reported that "William Hoffman has had his old residence torn down, and is building a new residence." The Hoffman house was a large frame building with Gothic features. Facing Oregon Street, it appears in many Peter Britt photos of Jacksonville.

Sometime between 1901 and 1912, after Caroline's death, the property was sold to Judge Frank TouVelle. At the suggestion of his wife and, using her designs, TouVelle had the house reconstructed to its present state. Parts of the original Hoffman house remain, incorporated into the later construction.

HOFFMAN GIRLS MARRY PROMINENT MEN

The Hoffman girls grew up in Jacksonville, the younger ones completing their education in the Jacksonville school. They all married prominent men of the area. Mary became Mrs. George T. Vining of Ashland; Julia, Mrs. C. C. Beekman of Jacksonville; Ann, Mrs. David Linn of Jacksonville; Emma, Mrs. George Dorris of Eugene; Florence, Mrs. J. C. Whipp of Fallon, Nevada, and Kate, Mrs. Horace Hoffman of Jacksonville.

Mary Henrietta

Mary, the oldest, at the age of sixteen, started a school near Phoenix in 1854. Her pupils, 12 in number, met in a cabin with a dirt floor. They had no desks other than rude benches made of slabs of wood. Each textbook was different, but Mary gave them an introduction to the three R's. Students paid 'tuition' in vegetables and poultry. This was probably the first school in southern Oregon.

In 1855, at the age of 17, Mary married George T. Vining. They first lived on a farm near Jacksonville but later moved to Kirbyville where he built and operated a store and hotel.

In 1864 they moved to Tacoma and there he acquired another store. Ten years later, while he was taking a shipment of merchandise to San Francisco, the ship, while fog bound, collided with another vessel and all on board were lost.

Mary moved her family of eight children to Ashland where she became a beloved and honored citizen. Irving, one of her children, was a prominent lecturer and teacher at the Ashland Normal School.

Mary was 94 when she died in 1935.



Julia Elizabeth

In 1861 Julia married C.C. Beekman, who had come west in 1849 as a carpenter. He spent a year mining near Yreka and in the early 1850s came to Jacksonville where for awhile he rode as express messenger between Portland and San Francisco. He was appointed agent for Wells Fargo Company and established the Beekman Bank, a business he operated for the rest of his life.

Beekman was prominent in town, county and state affairs and played a leading part in the development and growth of Jacksonville, being especially interested in the development of the school and the Presbyterian church.

The Beekmans had three children: Lydia who died in infancy, another daughter Carrie, and a son Benjamin who, after teaching Latin, Greek, algebra, and geometry at the University of Oregon, was admitted to the bar in 1888. He served as director of the Oregon Historical Society.

Julia died at the age of 92, having lived in Jacksonville for 78 years.

The Beekman House, a County property managed by SOHS, is open to the public during the summer and on appointment during the winter.





Ann Sophia

In 1860 Ann married David Linn who had come west from Ohio in 1851 in search of gold. After spending a few months in Yreka Flats, he moved to Jacksonville where he built a furniture store and planing mill. His business was located on the site of the present telephone building. Equipment in his mill included a steam sawmill which he had purchased in Ohio and had shipped to Oregon around the Horn. He constructed many of the buildings in Jacksonville. Two in which he had a major part are the Methodist-Episcopal church and the Presbyterian church. Some of the furniture which he made may still be found locally.

Linn was a democrat and served in several public offices. He was county treasurer from 1854 to 1868. Duties of this office included making an annual trip to Salem, overland on horseback, carrying \$12,000 to \$14,000 in gold and currency to the State Treasurer. He served on the city council and was at one time the mayor of Jacksonville.

The Linns had seven children, including the late Fletcher Linn of Portland who recorded events of early-days in his memoirs.

Ann died in 1907 at the age of 65.

Emma Arilia

Emma married George B. Dorris who at the time of the marriage was in the hardware business in Jacksonville. He had emigrated west in 1854, coming to Oregon in 1863. Having studied law during his nine years' stay in California, he soon sold his hardware store and went into the law office of B. F. Dowell. In 1865 he was admitted to the bar and in 1866 he and Emma moved to Eugene where he became a distinguished attorney.

He practiced law for over fifty years. During that time he served fourteen years as Councilman and several years as member of the State Legislature. In 1874 he was elected Mayor of Eugene by a majority of five votes. From 1891 to 1895 he was State Senator from Lane County.

Newspaper reports indicate that Emma and Mr. Dorris were prominent in Eugene society, frequently entertaining important political and social gatherings. They owned a gracious and imposing home which stood on the site of the old Register-Guard building on Willamette Street. They had three daughters.

George Dorris died in 1921; Emma, in 1936.



Florence Ella

In 1867, when she was 19, Florence married T.H.B. Shipley. Shortly after the wedding he became a County Judge. In the fourth year of their marriage he died of pneumonia.

While she was a young widow, Florence became interested in philosophical writing, eventually presenting one of her essays at the annual Teachers' Institute. Her literary pursuits apparently ceased when she married J.C. Whipp who operated a monument works in Jacksonville [Sentinel, Volume 1, Number 5].

Their first child, Caroline, died in infancy. Placed on her grave in the family plot at the Jacksonville cemetery is a small, ornately carved marble stone, set apart by carved granite fencing, both examples of the excellence of Whipp's monuments. Florence had two more children, a boy and a girl.

Whipp closed the shop in 1903 and moved his family to Nevada where he purchased a ranch in Fallon County, near Reno. After living there for 23 years he died at the age of 81. Florence lived on at the ranch until her death.

Florence, T.H.B. Shipley, and J.C. Whipp are buried in the Hoffman plot beside Father William and Mother Caroline.

Kate Freeman

Kate, who was a tiny girl of three when the Hoffman family crossed the plains, must surely have remembered little of the ordeal they had faced or the threat of Indian attacks during their first year in southern Oregon.

She received her education in Jacksonville and spent all of her life there, a dedicated member of the Presbyterian church and a neighborly and sociable citizen of the town.

In 1902 she married J. Horace Hoffman who, being a distant relative, had the same surname. Horace Hoffman had come to Jacksonville from Baltimore in 1871 and worked as a tinsmith. At the time of the marriage Kate was 52 years old; Horace, almost 60. He died in 1905, only three years after the marriage.

Kate continued living in the same house with only her housekeeper, Mattie, for company for the next thirty years.

They were two gentle little ladies from another age who lived alone, accepting changes but bewildered by them. They made artificial flowers and presented them to their friends.

Kate died in 1934 at the age of 84. Her house has now become the Grapevine Gallery.





SOCIETY MEMBERS ENJOY OVERNIGHT

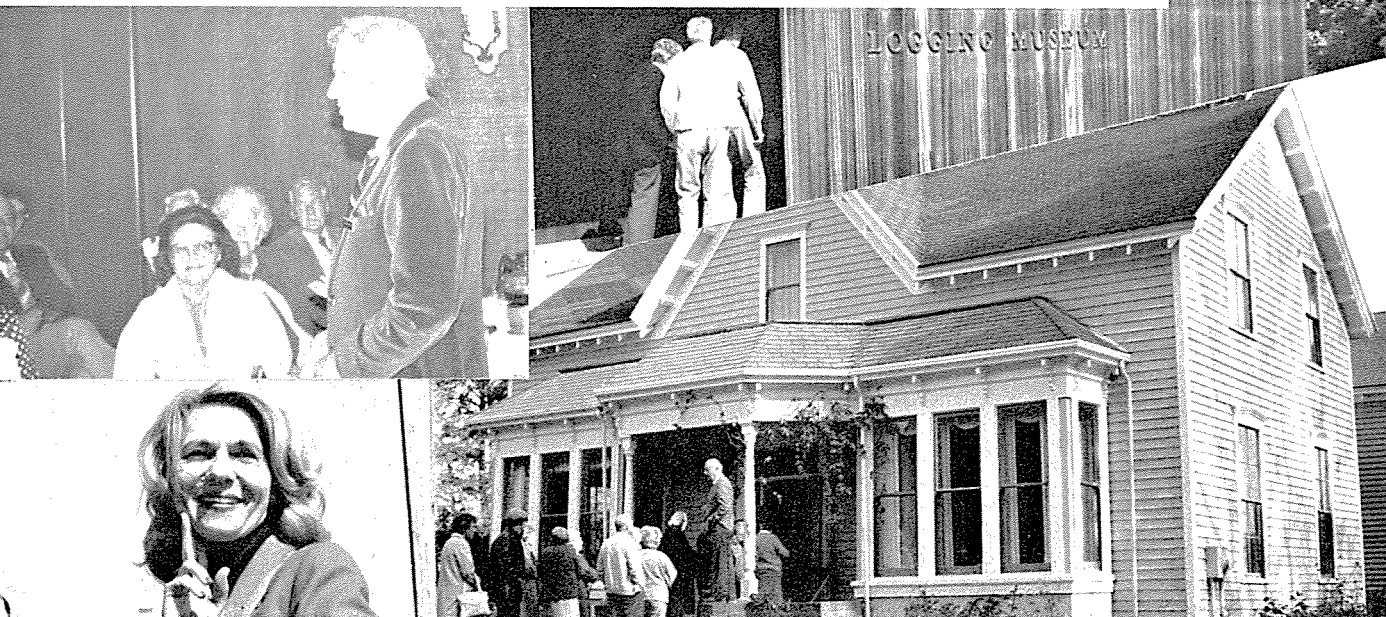
Forty-three Society members participated in an SOHS-sponsored tour of historic sites. From left to right, above, are the Ingomar Club; a lunch stop; the Ferndale Museum; a stop at Crescent City. Below, left to right, Joe Ford, driver, assists "Pepper" at the Ferndale business house; Ted Oberdorf, member of the Humboldt County Historical Society, is seen with the director; Chalmers Crichton, president of the Humboldt County Historical Society, is seen on the site of Fort Humboldt; Richard Harville, host for the Ferndale tour, is seen at the 1860's. The overnight tour was so successful it is being repeated on July 1860's.





HT VISIT TO HUMBOLDT COUNTY

sites in Humboldt County on May 2 and 3. On this page, pictured from Ferndale business house; luncheon at the Samoa Cookhouse; and a bus Thierolf; Eureka Inn where tour members stayed overnight; another iety who acted as the Eureka tour guide, and Joy Nagel, SOHS programs , as he greets visitors and introduces the evening program; the Logging r, a highlight of which was Fern Cottage, the Russ family home of the d 15.



KISSES FOR ALL, SAYS MISS WICK

Grace, in Race for May
Job, Airs Program

Grace Wick, who was no
for congress in a beer pa
years ago, announced
that she will be a cand
moving on a platform of

Crusading Efforts Recalled Locally

Miss Grace M. Wick, 7
perennial crusader of man
issues, died Sunday at a
nursing home.



Woman Parades Through Streets Clad in Barrel

An even 40 carefully worded po
slogans decorated the barrel
in which Grace Wick
she paraded

MERRITT DIVORCE CASE POSTPONE

MRS. MERRITT IN MO

Grace Wick-Merritt, who left
a few months ago for Los Ang
company. Madame Tracy
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MERRITT DIVORCE CASE TESTING THRILLS /V

GRACE WICK, CRUSADER, MAKES HEADLINES

her campaign program
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In 1916 Gracie and George eloped to Greenwich, Connecticut, and were secretly and blissfully married. They lived happily ever afterward--that is, for about six years afterward--until George brought Gracie to the family home in Jacksonville.

Grace, being an actress from the worldly east, must have alighted from George's touring car into drowsy Jacksonville with all the subtlety of a dollar cap pistol.

The Welcome Home party at the McCully house surely included John F. Miller, the Judge Hannas, Kate Hoffman, probably Emil and Amalia Britt and several other members of the first families, all eager to embrace the wife of dear Aunt Izzie's nephew George, and press her to the collective Jacksonville bosom. Did anyone think then that the marriage couldn't last?

Grace Wick was born in Harlan, Iowa, in 1888, the grand-niece of Lucretia Mott, the famous woman social reformer. In 1910 she received a teacher's diploma from the Columbia College of Expression in Chicago and taught school briefly.

A classroom of budding orators must have been gratifying but, as an audience, it surely wasn't grand enough for Grace. She soon joined the Forbes-Robertson Shakespearean Company, an English dramatic group which toured

the United States and Canada. She was the only American member of the troupe.

It must have been at this time that she met George Merritt. Coming from southern Oregon, he surely found her glamor pretty heady stuff, but, who knows, both of them certainly foresaw an exchanged future. In any case they soon ran off to find a justice of the peace.

Newspaper reports indicate that from an early age Grace found politics fascinating. Of course political campaigns provide built-in audiences for publicity-minded actresses, and no opportunity for coverage is to be ignored. In 1920, while Grace and George were still living in the east, Grace made a campaign speech for Channing Cox, a republican candidate for governor of Massachusetts. She told reporters that "although I am a democrat I gladly spoke for Mr. Cox. I happen to know the democratic candidate."

George was a true native of southern Oregon so from the first he probably regarded his stay with his family in the east as temporary. After six happy years in Boston and New York they made the trip west. They had mutually agreed that she would keep her professional name, but in Jacksonville she was known as Grace Wick-Merritt.

Once in awhile the Jacksonville PTA gave a benefit play and frequently folks had musicals where local amateur singers

displayed repertoires including gems from "The Bohemian Girl" and "Lo, Hear the Gentle Lark," but there were no big-time theatricals to satisfy a professional performer.

Far from being content to become a domestic-minded, everyday young matron, Grace, shortly after her arrival, took a position selling advertising for a local newspaper. She soon enthusiastically endorsed Walter Pierce in his campaign for governor. Her political activities in his behalf placed a strain on the romance and it began to grow a little threadbare.

Almost every issue of the weekly Jacksonville Post reported that Grace was spending several days in Medford or was motoring to Ashland for a weekend with friends. In 1924 George sued Grace for divorce. The Post sadly announced that Grace Wick-Merritt had been evicted and was seeking an apartment for herself and three cats.

The divorce suit, strongly contested by Grace, received state-wide attention. George was represented by Attorney Frank J. Newman; Grace, by Attorney Gus Newbury. For eight days at least forty witnesses presented testimonies. It was alleged that Grace had used profanity and had smoked cigarettes. But Grace had discovered letters written to other women and George's relatives had interfered in the marriage. George had a bad temper but Grace had gone to a party wearing her yamma-yamma suit. John F. Miller, a life-long friend of the plaintiff, testified that as far as he was able to observe Grace "was always lady-like," but George won.

In a January 2, 1925, issue the Jackson County News reported that "Mrs. Grace Merritt was given...a Christmas present...a divorce decree." Lucky Grace. She was awarded \$30 a month and George had to pay all court costs. He had successfully disposed of his only claim to immortality.

The marriage wasn't the only thing that went badly. Grace, who had been so

fervent in her praise for Walter Pierce in his successful campaign for governor, now felt that he betrayed her. The Cody family, an older couple living in Jacksonville, had won her friendship. They were gentle, unassuming people, but their son, Archie, had got into trouble with the law and had killed the sheriff of Harney County. He was sentenced to be executed, and Grace immediately came to his defense. She pleaded with the governor to pardon the young man, but Pierce refused to intercede, and Archie Cody went to the scaffold. Grace was vehement in her denunciation of Governor Pierce. She waged a one-woman campaign against him and wrote and published a pamphlet, "The Mascot," which was scathing in a satirical attack upon him.

During visits to Ashland Grace had become a close friend of Madame Tracy-Young, a concert pianist and teacher. Madame Tracy reportedly had studied in Vienna with Leschetizky, although it seems that in those days almost every serious pianist studied with Leschetizky. There had to be a covey of Leschetizkies. As soon as the adolescent student had plowed through the Theodore-Presser Graded Piano Studies, Book VI, his teacher began hinting of advanced study with--catch your breath--Leschetizky!

In any event Grace decided it was time for the world to hear Madame Tracy-Young, and, acting as her agent, she booked Madame Tracy on a grand west coast tour. Not long after the divorce was granted, Grace and Madame Tracy left southern Oregon, headed for Los Angeles.

Perhaps it would have been better if Madame Tracy had acted as the agent and Grace as the performer, because, in Hollywood, Grace decided that with her theatrical background and her training in elocution, she could lend the pictures a touch of class. She abandoned Madame Tracy, who continued her triumphal tour alone as Grace settled in to become a luminary of the

GRACE CHALLENGES LOCAL, NATIONAL POLITICS,

silent silver screen.

By June of that year she had appeared in a motion picture but her performance was not destined to become one of Hollywood's immortal high-lights. Movie Digest announced however that she was on the threshold of a successful screen career and "had demonstrated great beauty and talent." Included in the magazine was "a very artistic photograph of Miss Wick." But at a time when youth was the prime virtue of the ingenue and when the ideal beauty was as fragile and blond as an unbaked biscuit, Grace, who was nudging forty, was no instant threat to Lillian Gish. Apparently no one asked her to sink her little feet into a slab of concrete for the future ecstasy of her fans.

The Jacksonville Post on June 12, 1925, reported that Madame Tracy, having completed a strenuous season of concerts, was spending the summer revitalizing her energies at the Summit Ranch in the Siskiyou. Faithful to the end, she told the press that Grace was winning recognition in Hollywood, and that the movie world was predicting great success for her.

In 1927, however, Grace invaded Portland, Oregon. She had turned her back to the films and had returned to her first love--politics. The Oregonian reported that during the year she stormed the City Council chambers several times and frequently picketed agencies "with which she was at outs, among them state public welfare."

Still a wavering democrat, she backed Al Smith in his campaign for president and in 1928 she was named Chairman of the Oregon State Women's Smith-for-President Club. During the depression she championed the cause of pensioners and the unemployed and began her continuing campaign to seek higher payments to senior citizens.

By 1934, thoroughly disenchanted with the democratic party, she ran unsuccessful for Congress on a

Progressive-Independent ticket. She announced her candidacy at the Columbia Gardens, a beerhall in Portland, where she secured the 100 necessary names for her petition from the patrons during the floorshow. The master of ceremonies nominated her from the stage and Miss Wick made a gracious appearance.

In 1936, again as an independent, she ran for the same office. To announce her candidacy she made plans to enter the Rose Parade as a float. She appeared dressed as an enormous red rose. The officials, afraid her costume was tailored precariously or not wishing to sponsor her platform, ousted her from the parade. She was unsuccessful in her second campaign as well.

That same year in the primaries she ran as a candidate for mayor under the slogan, "A Kiss for Everyone in Portland." Before the final election, however, she withdrew in favor of Ralph C. Clyde and donated her supply of candy kisses to some other more promising undertaking.

As the depression continued she grew increasingly bitter against President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the WPA, welfare and 'social insecurity.' She became an avowed enemy of communism and an exponent of adhering to the Constitution. She published a booklet presenting her stand on "returning to the pioneer principles of this country."

In middle age Grace's interests grew more and more right wing. "She wrote hundreds of letters to elected officials--local and national--and many letters to Portland newspapers."* She joined radical organizations such as the America First Party, the Auxilliary of the Sons of Union Veterans, and the National Gentile League. She enthusiastically supported any association which stood against Roosevelt (and later Eisenhower), integration, conscription and the United Nations.

*Grace M. Wick, Papers, Mss 49, Oregon Historical Society, Portland.

V. LANDMARKS NO LONGER IN EXISTENCE

Oh! Dear Walter, I like to recall
The pleasure we had at Vite Schultz hall,
... The fun that we had I'll n'er forget
Nor will I ever those days regret ...
To make the girls laugh was our intent
Whereever they'd go, of course we went.*

The above immortal lines were written about the Viet Schutz Brewery in 1874 by Colonel Robert Aubrey Miller, an attorney and prominent democrat in Oregon in early days.

Veit Schutz (the name is misspelled by Miller) operated the largest brewery in Jacksonville. It was constructed in 1856 and was located on West California Street just below the Britt gardens. In addition to the brewery it featured a bar and an elaborate dance hall although, according to Fletcher Linn, a Jacksonville historian, it was not visited by "the better class of young people." Reports indicate, however, that even members of the better class of young people were known to shoot up the town from time to time so, if only rowdies patronized Shutz's Brewery, activities there must have frequently become somewhat uninhibited.

* Robert A. Miller papers, University of Oregon Library, Eugene



NEW DEAL AND WPA

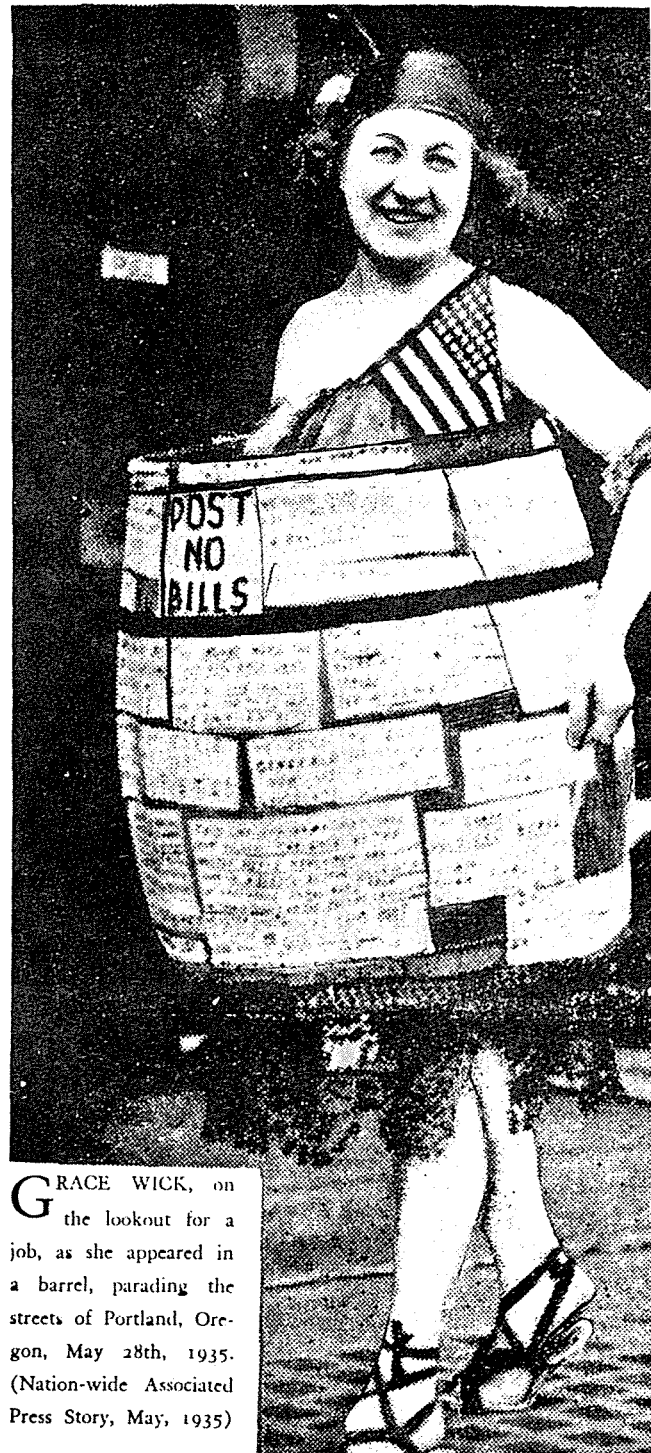
During the 50's she campaigned "against fluoridation, the zoo and Monroe Sweetland."

In 1951 she announced that she had received articles of incorporation for the establishment of a new American Women's Party in Oregon. She informed the press that she would be the first Chairman. To put the party's ticket on the ballot at that time would have required almost 25,000 signatures. What became of the petition is not known.

During her years of crusading Grace had to support herself. George Merritt was dead and her token alimony payment had long since been terminated. She worked as proofreader and as bookkeeper for the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

For years her future plans had included the publication of a book about her beliefs and about the important people with whom she had been associated. But by the middle 1950's Grace had been on the political scene for a long time, and she dropped the project, finding it too depressing because so many were gone.

In November, 1958, after an illness of several months, she died. For the most part she had been destined to endorse the losing candidate and to back the failing cause. Perhaps she was ahead of her time, but, more likely, she was behind it. She only rarely approached the winner's tape. At the time of her death she lived alone with a dog and four cats.



GRACE WICK, on the lookout for a job, as she appeared in a barrel, parading the streets of Portland, Oregon, May 28th, 1935. (Nation-wide Associated Press Story, May, 1935)

GRACE ATTACKS OREGON JOURNAL, ROOSEVELT

Grace sharply attacked President Roosevelt. She backed the Frazier-Lundeen Social Insurance Bill, designed to provide for the poor by taxing those who were making \$5,000 or more each year. In May, 1935, she walked down Broadway in Portland wearing a barrel plastered with 40 carefully worded political slogans. Some were:

We must have new cards before we can expect a new deal.

Smelling salts, Farley! The New Deal of Oregon stinks!

If Eve's fig leaves, I hope my barrel stays.

"Red" as I seem, I'm as white as you are, you yellow Oregon Journal!

We are grateful to Arthur Spencer, Steven Holloway and Layne Wollschlager of the Oregon Historical Society, and to Miss A. Byrnes of the Multnomah County Library, for providing us with information about Grace's political experiences in Portland.

This fact apparently didn't prevent the enterprise from being a success, and the brewery served as a community gathering place for more than thirty-five years until it closed at the death of Schutz in 1892.

For sixty-six years, from 1892 to 1958, the building stood unused and empty. Finally the officials, fearing that it might collapse, ordered its demolition.

The fragments of information about Veit Schutz indicate that he was short of stature, enough so that he was called Little Veit, although, in all probability, not to his face; he seems to have had many of the characteristics of a bantam rooster.

He was born in Bavaria, Germany in 1823, coming to Jacksonville in 1852. For a short time -- less than a year -- he operated a dry goods establishment. Being "a very nervy little fellow [who] knew no fear," he must have found selling dry goods a pretty tame occupation for he soon gave it up. In association with other Jacksonville citizens (one of them was Peter Britt) Veit fitted out several mule pack trains and was among the first to carry goods from Crescent City to southern Oregon. At that time, when the angry Indians were making their last stand, the drivers faced constant danger, a situation Veit appeared to appreciate.

After about ten years of derring-do Veit was ready to settle down. He built the brewery, went into business, and advertised for a wife:

Viet Shutes requests us to say to the marriagable ladies that he is on the marry; that he is not old, nor young, nor is he extremely ugly, or handsome; he is not rich, nor is he poor, but makes good lager, and has a comfortable and well-furnished house; that he is desirous of marrying, he will not be very particular, just so the lady is not very old or very young, of moderate size; if not handsome, not to be considered ugly; to be a good house keeper and not too extravagant; not to be a scold, but have fair spunk; if not rich, to have a fair portion of the spondulix.

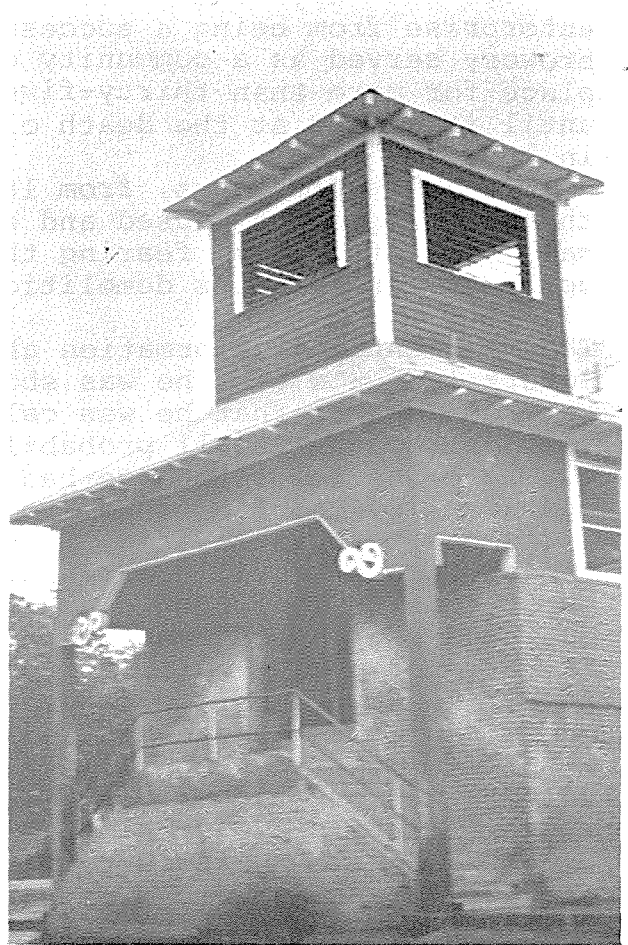
Yet the last item will be easily dispensed with if the previous ones exist.

The advertisement was doubly successful; he married twice. In 1866, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, he married Josephine Rollman whom he eventually divorced about fifteen years later. At the home of John Orth he married Johanna Lubcke in 1883.

During the years in which he operated the brewery, he was occasionally mentioned in the local papers. Items appeared at the birth of each of his seven children. In 1886 he was found guilty of selling liquor without a license. In 1888 he was charged with selling liquor to minors. Apparently the courts and populace were willing to forgive and forget because he continued operating the brewery until his death.

In his obituary he was called "an honest, upright citizen... good natured, jovial, a whole-soul man, generous to a fault." His eulogists do concede that he "may have had his faults [although] his merits were many and his many good deeds ... will remain ever fresh in our recollections."





APPLEGATE SCHOOL RECEIVES MARKER Over 100 Years As Community Center

An application to the Southern Oregon Historical Society for a historic marker for the Applegate School was approved in October 1979. The school has been in continued use since 1878.

In 1876 a primitive school building was built on the west bank of Humbug Creek. This school was temporarily called the Bridge Point School. In its second year it received its permanent name, the Applegate School. The first teacher was Charles Prim who received a total salary of \$30 for a three-month term.

Thirty-five years later, in 1912, the school was moved to its present location. It was then a two-room brick building that housed grades one to ten. In 1919 the mines at Steamboat were exhausted and that school district was discontinued. The Applegate district received those students, and added two more rooms and a four-year high school program.

In 1926 the high school was discontinued, and the Applegate School District furnished tuition to secondary students to attend other senior high schools.

Today the Applegate School has a greatly increased enrollment and continues, as it has for over one-hundred years, to serve the community as a civic and social center.

SENTINEL PRESENTS CATHERINE WENDT

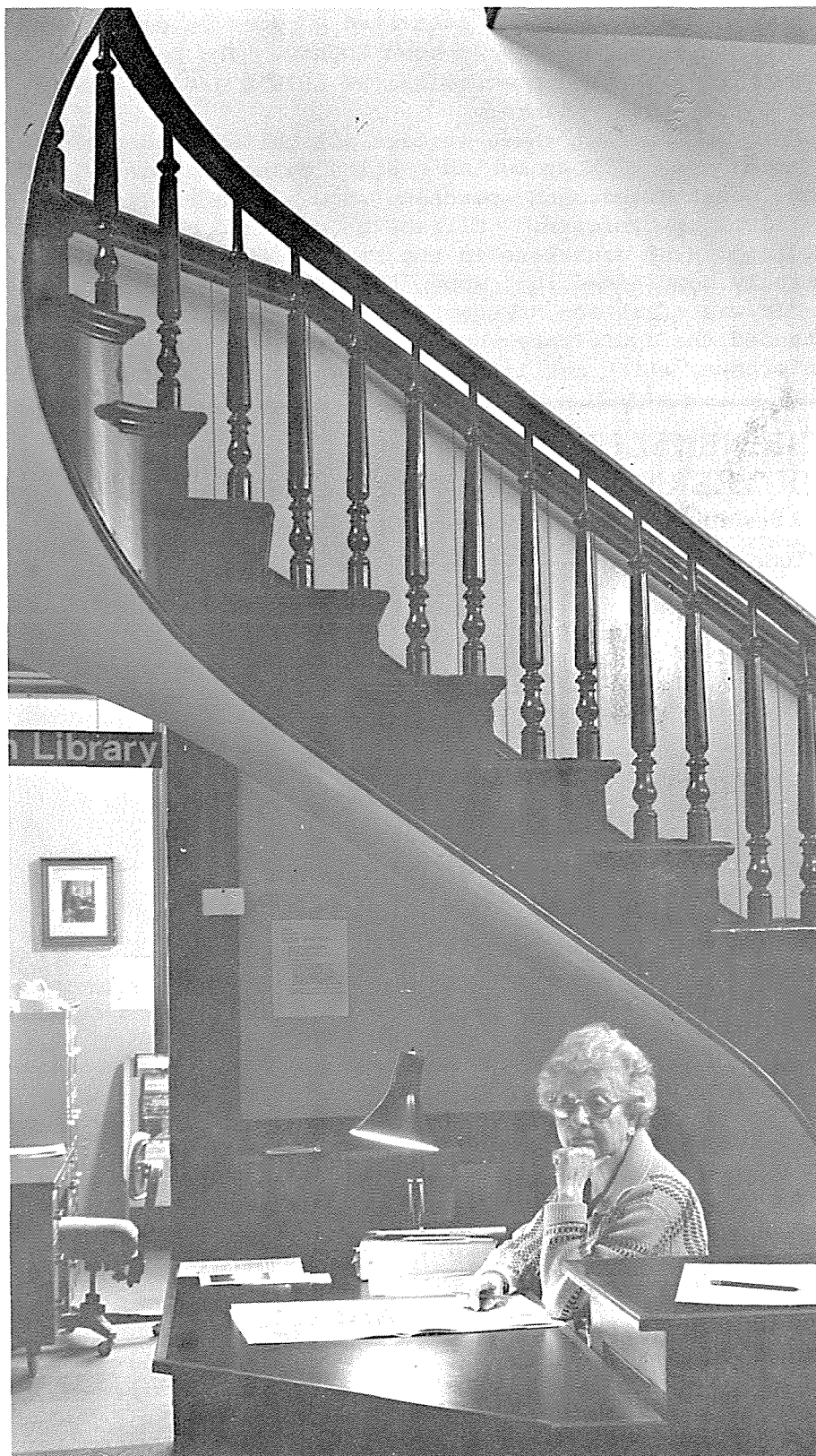
Catherine Wendt, who now serves as receptionist, joined the museum staff in April 1971. She acted as a guide at the Beekman House for several years.

Coming to Jackson County in 1922 from Washington, she married George Wendt in 1923. She has two sons, George and Don. Don is publisher and editor of the Jacksonville Nugget; George teaches in Modesto.

Catherine was organist at the Jacksonville Presbyterian church for twenty years. In addition she has been accompanist for many valley musicians. In 1931 she played at the funeral of Mrs. C. C. Beekman.

For many years she has been interested in local history. She served as a volunteer, assisting Myrtle Pearl Lee, the first museum curator. Catherine recalls helping serve dinner at a meeting of the Southern Oregon Pioneer Association. The meeting was held at the museum, and the present Britt room served as the kitchen.

Many repeat visitors are delighted to see Catherine once again, and all visitors enjoy hearing her historical anecdotes.



LIBRARIAN PRESENTS PAPER AT CONFERENCE

Acting librarian Peggy Haines traveled to Victoria in April to attend the Pacific Northwest History Conference and the Northwest Archivists' conference. At the History Conference, Peggy presented a paper on men's and women's thoughts on the nature of woman in early Jackson County. The paper, based on the writings of Jackson County residents during the 1870's and 1880's, is available in the Society's research library.

Peggy found that these writers all believed in the existence of "a universal feminine nature," but couldn't agree on how to define it. Their editorials, poems, obituaries, and speeches "show a wide range of attitudes, from idealism to frivolous cynicism." Elizabeth Goodchild of Ashland wrote of women's "courage, Ever dauntless in the right," while Jacksonville's Robert A. Miller jokingly complained that women "never tell [men] the truth."

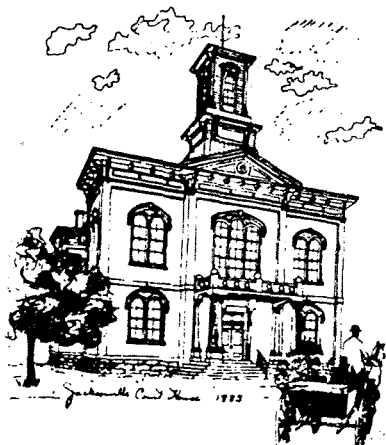
"It was great fun," Peggy said of the conference. Some of the historians who attended the conference reminisced about the 1965 Pacific Northwest History Conference, which met in the U. S. Hotel in Jacksonville.

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NEWSLETTER FEATURES PIONEER RECIPE

For over forty years this recipe was thought to have come from the Table Rock Saloon. Recently it has been credited to Frances Kenney whose family lived in Jacksonville for many years. It was presented to us by Mr. Darrell Huson who long ago acquired it from Mrs. Mark Taylor (Geraldine Latham)

Mustard Sauce

¼ cup sugar
4 teaspoons Coleman's
dry mustard
1 teaspoon salt

½ cup milk
½ cup vinegar
butter size of an egg
2 eggs

Mix all ingredients, adding vinegar last. Cook in double boiler until thickened, stirring constantly. Comment: Delicious on baked ham, meat loaf, etc.