

PIONEER DIARY...

"I having always had a great anxiety to cross the Plains I concluded that I would Seek my fortune elsewhere...", so said J.S. McClung, author of an Oregon Trail diary which will be the subject of the next meeting of the Troutdale Historical Society, Monday, April 18, 7:30 p.m. in the Troutdale City Hall.

We will read excerpts from McClung's diary which, though he was a terrible speller, tell a vivid story of his adventures on the Oregon Trail.

A NEW FRIEND...

Last month's speaker, Ed Culp, is a retired railroad man and, naturally, delighted that we are preserving the Troutdale depot. When he got home in Salem Ed decided to present the Society a telegrapher's key for the depot. Such items are scarce as hens' teeth and we are grateful to him for his thoughtfulness.

He also donated an 80 year old coupler and a picture of the Troutdale street car depot we have never seen before. In his talk last month, Culp gave an account of the street car engineer on his first run to Troutdale who mistook the lights of Camas across the river for Troutdale and consequently over shot the end of the line.

ABOUT THE DEPOT...

City police are remodeling the warehouse end of the depot to make a police station. They are building offices, a locker room and a restroom in the warehouse section. They have added a rear exit and police cars will be parked in the basement garage below. In addition, they plan to complete painting of the depot and their work has resulted in the necessary wiring needed for the entire structure.

The major changes you will see are the loading dock doors which have been filled into to provide windows and doors to the warehouse section. They hope to be moved in by May 1 which means the time is not far off when work can begin on the museum portion.

Incidentally, workmen were astonished to find that the depot building, even though it has been moved, was as straight and true as the day it was built.

TO THE MUSEUM AND DEPOT...

We have received a number of museum donations in the last month. Milo Coons gave a huge axe. Alex Jones presented the Society a set of scales. Fay Davis gave a carpenter's plane and a bucker's bottle used to hold oil while felling trees. Bob Keralake gave a Southern Pacific railroad water barrel and Nathalie Wilson donated several straight razors. Bill Fritz stopped by with a delightful picture of the Troutdale Bank taken the day after robbers blew the safe, and almost everything else, up.

Gladys McGinnis has written a history on the old home for delinquent girls on county farm property and Mary Wright gave a donation to the refreshment fund.

In addition we have received a number of gifts in memory of the late Teresa Doolittle.

WELCOME TO THE CLUB...

Malcolm Bosler, Connie Johnson, Mae Robertson and Shirley Lambert are all new members.

WANT TO BUY A PICTURE?...

We have made arrangements with Gateway Portrait Studio to copy our historic pictures. They will retain the negative to each picture copied there and sell them to persons who want prints of some of our old pictures. We are setting up a system with numbered negatives to use in quickly identifying the picture you want.

Of course, the more copies the studio sells the less they will charge the Society for the process of copying the pictures.