



Mid-Valley Genealogical Society

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 1986

ANNOUNCEMENTS - a fall Seminar - Oct. 25 - West Benson Hotel Portland, 8 - 5 pm. Speaker: Dr Arlene Eakle. Workshop topics: Tracing ancestors thru the ppalachian triangle- SW Virginia, E Tennessee, NW Kentucky and NE Carolina. 2) Tracing the ladies on your pedigree 3) Tracing a pedigree across W New York 4) Dusting off family skeletons. Register by Oct. 20 @ \$30 (1st 200 includes lunch) \$35 at door-no lunch.

- Genealogy Computer Users Group meeting- Oct 18 10 - 12 noon. Multnomah County Library, Rm E., SW 10th & Taylor.

REMINDERS - save Flavor Pac and Santiam labels. Give these to Audrey Broadley who will redeem them for money for the book fund.

- Take items for sale to OSU Folk Club Thrift Shop or ask Damaris Reynolds for help. Consignment hours are Tu & Th-9:30 to 2:00, Fri 9:30 - 12:30, Sat 10-11:30. Mid Valley Genealogical Society - number 492.

1987 membership dues are payable now and due before Jan 15th (at which time the new roster goes to print) Dues are \$4 for a year.

Our society has archival supplies for sale. For info and to purchase- see Danell Knight (754-6183).

WHAT'S HAPPENING - the nominating committee will be working hard to secure the slate of officers to be voted on at the November meeting. If you want to serve, tell Edna Wiese, the chairman of the committee. If you are asked to take a position, do give it your full consideration. It's easy to say "let someone else do it" but it is more fun if everyone does their share.

BITS AND PIECES - (extracted from the Willamette Valley Genealogy newsletter) **MEDICAL RECORDS:** some of the terms you might run into in your research are "white death", "white plague", "consumption", and "decline" all meant tuberculosis; "grippe" meant influenza, "fits" meant seizure possibly epileptic; "apoplexy" meant either epileptic seizure or an hysterical reaction and, "dropsy" meant congestive heart failure.

(from Eastern Wash Gen. Soc. Newsletter, July 1986)- Did you think that when a person signed a deed with an "X" that he was illiterate? Not accordin to Roots Digest "Questions & Answers" by Gen. O.G. Peruking who says "Only Christians could buy and sell land, so this was just his Christian mark, or proof he was not a pagan."

BENTON COUNTY PIONEERS

researched & written by Mabelle Martsching

By the time they settled as Pioneers in Oregon, Jesse & Jane BELKNAP had crossed the United States from New York state. The family moved to Hardin Co., Kentucky where four of their children were born. From there to Licking Co., Ohio to farm a few years and the last two children were born. Not yet ready to settle, the family moved to Iowa where plans were made to move to Oregon with a wagon train. They left on May 5, 1847 and arrived October 5, 1848. They received a donation land claim of 502 acres near Alpine, OR. This is the home they were seeking-- the family became a part of the growing community. However, Ransome A BELKNAP, Orin, son of Jonas BELKNAP and two son-in-laws, Lorenzo GILBERT and Samuel F. STARR went to the California mines in April 1849 and returned back home by November, 1849. Plans were made for building the school house (Ebenezer) in the area and materials were gathered for a church in 1860 and erection started in 1861.

Jesse BELKNAP was born January 26, 1792 at Cherry Valley, N.Y. to Jonas Newton BELKNAP and wife Esther Parker Belnap. He was married March 26, 1812 in N.Y. to Jane GARLINGHOUSE, daughter of James and Eleanor Hunt Garlinghouse. She was born March 26, 1792 in New York. Their children were: Keziah (Hawley), Hannah (Gilbert), George, Ransome Amos, Talitha Cumi (Starr), Corrington Gavitt and Harley Augustus.

RAKING THROUGH THE LEAVES by Mildred Hawkins

TRACKING DOWN SCOTTISH ANCESTORS - I have talked to several who are interested in Scotland. I would like to suggest some books that I have found helpful.

Smith, Frank: **A genealogical gazetteer of scotland**, Everton. 1971. a "must" to locate county and parish.

Black, George Fraser: **The surnames of scotland, their origin, meaning and history**. N.Y. 1946

Sims, Clifford Stanley: **the origin and signification of scottish surnames**.

Stuart, Margaret: **scottish family history**. Gen Pub. co. Baltimore 1978. A guide to works of reference on the history and genealogy of Scottish names.a way to locate where pedigrees and family histories might be found in Scotland. You should always check this one.

Hamilton-Edwards, Gerald. **In Search of Scottish Ancestry**, 2nd ed. Gen. Pub. Co. 1984. I use both editions.

Baxter, Angus: **In search of your British & Irish Roots--** a complete guide to tracing your English, Welsh, Scotch and Irish ancestors. Gen. Pub. Co. Baltimore 1986. VERY GOOD

MAPS The Official Tartan Map. John Bartholomew & Son, LTD

12 Duncan Street

Edinburgh 9, Scotland.

Historical map of Scotland by L.G.Bullock. County map, 12" to mile.

British Isles Road map; 16 miles to an inch

Half-inch Great Britain series; contoured. 62pp.

Road atlas of Great Britain. 96pp. 5 miles to inch.

Are you familiar with the catalogs put out by Gen. Pub. Co of Baltimore, MD?

They publish a yearly catalog, seasonal catalogs and flyers of new titles. There are thorough reviews of old and new titles. They are well categorized by state & country. I use these constantly for authentic references and for an update on new books being published. In a few minutes, you have access to the best-known resources of records and genealogical work in the world. The Society has many of these..I am continually adding new titles to my growing shelf of books. I can bring these to our meetings if you ask me ahead of time.