

CFR 0994

Chas and Veda Bailey, Darwin and Florence Hale

See Hale, Darwin + Florence
Lane County

See Bailey, Chas + Veda
Lane County

REGISTRATION CENTURY FARM CELEBRATION

OREGON STATE FAIR, September 6, 1960

1. Check which year you received Century Farm Award:

1958 _____
1959 _____
1960 _____

2. Name: Chas & Veda Bailey

3. Postoffice Address: Wati

4. What county is your Century Farm in? Lane

5. How old is your farm? 104. How old are you? 77

6. Who founded your Century Farm? Capt Hales

7. How many miles did you travel to come today? 35

8. How many years have you belonged to the Oregon Historical Society or your County Historical Society? 3

9. How many generations of your family live on the farm today? 3

10. How many exhibits do you have at the 1960 Oregon State Fair? none

What are they? _____

CFR 0994
See Darwin & Florence Hales
Application

REGISTRATION CENTURY FARM CELEBRATION

OREGON STATE FAIR, September 6, 1960

1. Check which year you received Century Farm Award:

1958 X
1959 _____
1960 _____

2. Name: Darwin & Florence Hale

3. Postoffice Address: Noti

4. What county is your Century Farm in? Lane

5. How old is your farm? 104. How old are you? 74

6. Who founded your Century Farm? Captain Hale

7. How many miles did you travel to come today? 50

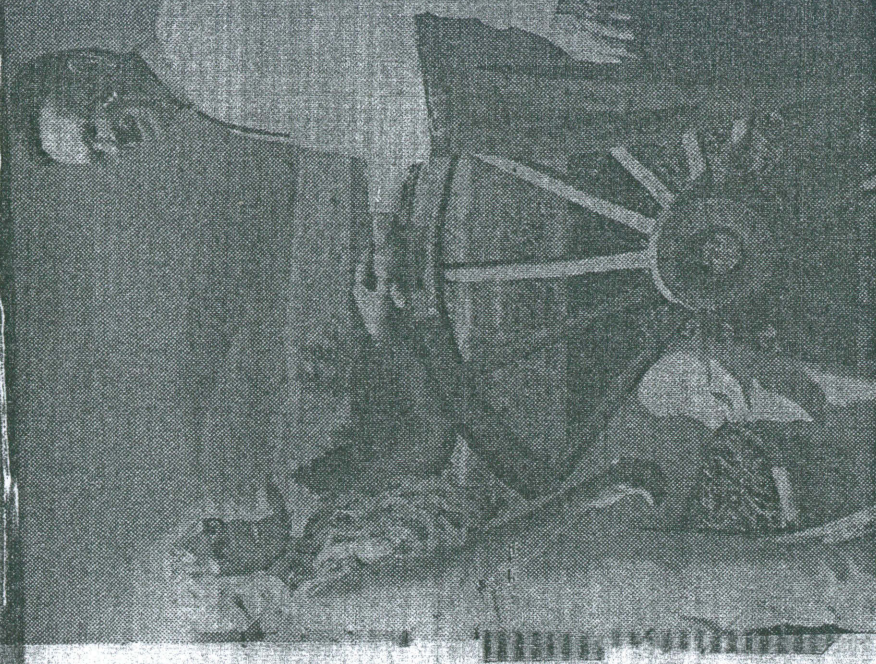
8. How many years have you belonged to the Oregon Historical Society or your County Historical Society? 3 years

9. How many generations of your family live on the farm today? 2

10. How many exhibits do you have at the 1960 Oregon State Fair? 1

What are they? _____

305



JOE AND Betty Dodd take time out to enjoy a summer day on their centennial ranch (100 years in same family) in Tygh Valley, south of The Dalles.

Family Notes Century Of Ownership Of Farm

By **GEORGE LINDSAY**

Staff Correspondent, The Oregonian

counties, McNeal noted, and its remnants amount to 2,38 square miles, less than two per cent of its onetime size.

At one time Judge May was called the wealthiest man in city of The Dalles, McNeal said, and was "the largest single owner of horses in Oregon."

In the 24 years since their marriage, Joe and Betty Dodd have earned recognition for breeding and showing Arab horses, ranking among the oldest exclusive growers of that breed in Oregon.

One hundred years of ownership of the same ranch by the same family was recognized last week by the Wasco County Court for the Mays-Dodd ranch at Tygh Valley, operated for the past 24 years by Mr. and Mrs. Joe Dodd.

The family will be cited to the Oregon State Historical Society for the issuance of a public document certifying the family lived in Wasco County 100 years ago and has retained continuous ownership of the farm.

Three similar awards were made in 1958, Oregon's centennial year, to the Mesplie family of Mill Creek, the Marsh family of Hidden Valley, and the Boltoh family of Boyd, said Wasco County Historian W. H. McNeal. The Dodd family is the fourth such centennial family.

County Once Largest

Original settler on the Tygh Valley property was Judge Robert Mays, who was born in Tennessee in 1828 and settled on the centennial ranch in 1862, trading a farm near Dufur acquired four years earlier.

At that time newly created Wasco County was the largest county in the United States, said McNeal, embracing some 120,000 square miles and extending eastward to the summit of the Rocky Mountains, including Yellowstone Park and from the Columbia River south to California.

Now Wasco County ranks 112th in area among Oregon

Century Farm: Saga of a Family and Progress

By **VAL THOENIG**
Of the Lane County Extension

Agile and small, his humor as sparkling as his blue eyes, 77-year-old Darwin Hale easily shrugs off the years at Century Farm located near Noti.

And as he recounts the experiences of the Hales' start in 1852 in Lane County, the history and adventure, the proud progress of agriculture and the promise of the state's future are compressed into one.

The 100th birthday of the United States Department of Agriculture on May 15 was the reason for the visit with Hale. But as was hoped for, the story of the Hales and the development of their Century Farm became the bright thread to follow.

From the living room of the two-story white frame house, some 150 crossbred Romney and Suffolk sheep and 34 head of whiteface Hereford cattle could be seen grazing.

"The Indians used to graze their horses and cattle on that same land," Hale noted. "My grandfather didn't have to clear it when he homesteaded in 1853. The Indians had kept the fields burned clean as a whistle to encourage the spring growth of grass."

But there'd been a big measure of agricultural progress between those early Indian burnings and the current scientific farming.

On up the road was a huge weather-beaten house—once the stage stop and a postoffice the Hales operated for 26 years. Now it's the residence of Farmer Hale, Darwin's first cousin.

Farmer Hale led the tour—first upstairs to point out the rooms still bearing the metal numbers "1" through "8," the big pictures of Grandfather and Grandmother Hale looking proudly out of ornate and gilded frames, the spinning wheel, a delicately carved rosewood organ; then downstairs to the broad hallway, once the postoffice, and to the fireplace literally carved from sections of solid rock.

Farmer Hale introduced his 16-year-old son, James, a junior

at Elmira High School and one of 30 students in Oregon whose speech on the United Nations won him a place on the U.N. Pilgrimage of Youth sponsored by the Odd Fellows and Rebekah Lodges. The "pilgrimage" left in June for two months in New York where the young people will study and observe the U.N. in action.

It seemed an appropriate honor for a family whose forebears include Great-grandfather Calvin Thomas Hale, Lane County's first commissioner; and Grandfather Charles Kansas Hale (Darwin's father, Farmer's uncle) a member of the University of Oregon's first graduating class in 1880 and a legislator.

"If father had been a Republican he'd gone all the way to the top," mused Darwin Hale. "But he'd been rocked in a Democratic cradle. After two terms in the Oregon legislature he returned to farming."

The very fact that the hub of the Hales' 110 years of agricultural progress is near Noti instead of near Creswell (site of Grandfather Calvin Hale's first homestead) can be credited to rattlesnakes.

But first the story of Grandfather Calvin Hale himself.

Calvin Hale first came to Oregon as the driver of an oxen team for the Bristows—Lane County's first homesteaders. Born and raised in Kentucky, Hale proved himself adept at handling the slow-moving oxen over a trail that was soon to become familiar to thousands of pioneers.

But at that time, Grandfather didn't have an eye for farmland, said Darwin Hale. He saw the Bristows settled near Pleasant Hill, then continued toward his goal—California and the gold fields. After two years of just "so-so" luck in prospecting, Hale boarded a windjammer, made the trip around Cape Horn, returned to New York and married Grandma.

Two years later the young couple bought a new wagon, a fine team of horses and supplies, and joined the caravan in Missouri for the trip to the Oregon country.

Grandma's spunk couldn't be doubted. On the Platte River

she gave birth to her first son and named him "Nebraska" in honor of the state. Two days after his birth she was ready to continue—resting with her newborn son on a bed made in the back of the jolting wagon.

RECALLS FIRST THRESHER

They arrived in Oregon in the fall of 1852. And it was only natural that they took up a donation land claim near Camas Swale—"just a good horseback ride from their friends, the Bristows."

"But come the next spring, Grandmother changed her mind about the desirability of the location," chuckled Darwin Hale. "The warm sun brought out the rattlesnakes. And Grandmother was as scared of a rattlesnake as an elephant is of a mouse. She told Grandpa he'd better start looking for another place or she'd start back east on foot."

"To satisfy Grandma, Grandpa got on his horse and started looking," Hale continued. "He rode a long ways before he found this place. Grandma liked it too. Each took out a donation land claim for 320 acres."

As their fortune and family increased (to three sons and four daughters) Grandfather constructed three houses—each with the fireplaces that Grandma liked so well.

Grandfather Hale was a subsistence farmer. He raised his own cattle and pigs and chickens, and produced the feed for them. The remnants of his orchard still stand—trees started from cuttings from wild trees or from trees other settlers had brought West.

"The soil would grow anything," Hale said. "Foreign weeds hadn't been introduced. Grandfather grew big crops of Gray oats and grain. He cut his grain with a cradle scythe and threshed it with a flail."

"I can remember the first thresher," Hale continued. "Six teams of horses walked round and round in a circle while a man in the center fed the grain through the thresher."

Darwin Hale's father (Charles Kansas Hale) was a "well-read man" who headed the farm into the era of mechanization. The binder, a side-delivery rake, baler and motors helped ease a man's labor.

Charles Kansas Hale, Darwin Bristow and George B. Dorris were "close as three peas in a pod," says Darwin Hale. The three batched together, studied together and were members of the first class to be graduated from the University of Oregon in 1880. It was in honor of these friends that Hale named two sons.

Charles Kansas Hale served two terms in the Oregon Legis-

lature before returning to the farm. Even then he tempered his interest in agriculture with that in education and politics. He was a teacher in the first school in Crow and taught school for 12 years in Lane County.

It was 1927—the year his father died—that Darwin Hale inaugurated still another era for the Century Farm, this time, specialization.

He invested \$600 for 10 cows and calves all registered Herefords of the Domino strain, began his flock of registered Lincoln and Romney sheep, operated a 22-cow dairy.

In 1932, working closely with the Lane Extension Service agents he took his first soil samples, planted his first 30 acres of improved pasture, and applied the first fertilizer.

"In those days the government gave farmers lime to improve the soil," Hale said. "My allotment was four tons. Hauled it here from Eugene in an old trailer."

HALE EASES UP

Hale liked to load up his prize Herefords to show at the Pacific International. And the grand champion and champion ribbons they won remain favorite keepsakes. His two sons—both 4-H'ers—assisted him showing sheep at the county fair.

His two sons—Gordon and Wayne—are now owners of the Allis-Chalmers agency in Springfield. Gordon is a graduate of Oregon State University with a degree in logging and engineering. Wayne took a special course in technical forestry and engineering.

Two years ago following a siege with pneumonia the elder Hale sold his herd of 180 registered Herefords. Now he keeps 34 head of Whiteface stock. The aluminum milking parlor stands unused. And the flock of registered breeding sheep has been replaced with crossbred Romney-Suffolks. He numbers some 50 Romney yearlings in the flock and is proud of a 125% lamb crop from 140 crossbred ewes. Hale was among the first sheeplemen to sign up his spring lamb crop for cooperative marketing through the Lane Lamb Pool this month.

Presently Hale and his hired man are preparing another 60 acres for planting to permanent pasture. Hale is keeping a sharp eye on the response of different forage crops to varying fertilizers in the experimental "Testing Tells" fertilizer plot on his farm. He's carrying out practices recommended by Harold Sasser, state farm forester, in the reforestation of 160 acres of timber.

But while Hale "eases up," the aspirations that built the Century Farm continue. For Hale, those aspirations now center around his grandchildren who, he says, "are winning more 4-H championships than my own boys ever did."

DARWIN HALE looks out over his fields and back over the history of Century Farm, founded by his grandfather, Calvin Hale in 1853.
(Register-Guard photo)



An Up-To-Date "Century" Farm

By VAL THOENIG

Agile and small, his humor as sparkling as his blue eyes, 77-year-old Darwin Hale easily shrugged off the years of his Century Farm, located near Noti in Lane County. And as he recounted the experiences of the Hales beginning in 1853 in Lane County, the history and adventure, the proud progress of agriculture and the promise of the state's future were compressed as one.

The 100th birthday of the U.S. Department of Agriculture one day last spring was the excuse for a visit with Mr. Hale. But as hoped for, the story of the Hales and the development of their Century Farm became the bright thread to follow.

The odd words "instant history" kept popping into my mind as we sat in the attractive living room of the two-story white frame house trimmed with roses and gazed out the window toward the fertile green pastures where some 150 crossbred Romney and Suffolk sheep and 34 head of whiteface Hereford cattle were grazing.

"The Indians used to graze their horses and cattle on that same land," Hale noted. "My grandfather didn't have to clear it when he homesteaded in 1853. The Indians had kept the fields burned clean as a whistle to encourage the spring growth of grass."

BUT THERE'D BEEN a big measure of agricultural progress between those early Indian burnings and the current scientific soil testing, the measured application of fertilizers, and the planting of subterranean clover and improved pasture grasses that keep an animal well fed the year around.

On up the road, the contact with history became even more intimate as we visited the big old weather beaten house—once the stage stop and a postoffice which the Hales operated for 26 years. Now it's the residence of Farmer Hale, Darwin's first cousin.

Farmer Hale led the tour—first upstairs to point out the rooms still bearing the metal numbers 1 through "8", the big pictures of Grandfather and Grandmother Hale looking proudly forth from ornate and gilded frames, the old spinning wheel, a delicately carved rosewood organ; then downstairs to the broad hallway once the postoffice, and to the fireplace literally carved from sections of solid rock.

And again the words "instant history" came to mind when Farmer Hale introduced his 16-year-old son, James, then a junior at Elmira High School and one of

30 students in Oregon whose speech on the United Nations won him a place on the United Nations Pilgrimage of Youth sponsored by the Odd Fellows and Rebecca Lodges.

(The pilgrimage went last June for two months to New York City where the young people observed the United Nations in action.)

IT SEEMED an appropriate honor for a family whose ancestors include Great Grandfather Calvin Thomas Hale, Lane County's first commissioner; and Grandfather Charles Kansas Hale (Darwin's father, Farmer's uncle) a member of the University of Oregon's first class to be graduated in 1880, and a legislator. He served two terms in the Oregon legislature before returning to farming.

The very fact that hub of the Hales' 110 years of agricultural progress is in the fertile valley of Elk Creek and Brooker Creek near Noti instead of the Camas Swale area near Creswell (site of Grandfather Calvin Hale's first homestead) can be credited—believe it or not—to rattlesnakes.

But first the story of Grandfather Calvin Hale himself—the colorful and romantic figure who augmented these adventures—and his wife who was as determined as she was pretty.

Calvin Hale first came to Oregon as driver of an oxen team for the Bristows—Lane County's first homesteaders. Born and raised in Kentucky and a lover of horses, he proved himself adept at handling the slow-moving oxen over a trail that was soon to become familiar to thousands of pioneers.

But at that time his Grandfather didn't have an eye for farmland, says Darwin Hale. He saw the Bristows settled near Pleasant Hill, then continued toward his goal—California and the gold fields. After two years of just "so-so" luck in prospecting, he boarded a windjammer, made the trip around Cape Horn, returned to New York and married Grandma.

TWO YEARS LATER the young couple started out again. They bought a new wagon, a fine team of horses and supplies, and joined a caravan in Missouri for the trip to the Oregon Country.

Grandma's spunk couldn't be doubted. Although "expecting," she dared the arduous journey. Nor did she protest when they had to trade their horses for a team of oxen because the fast-moving horses crowded the mules. On the Platt River she gave birth to her first son and named him "Nebraska" in honor of the state. Two days after his birth she was ready to continue—resting with her newborn son on a bed

made in the back of the jolting wagon.

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"But come the next spring, Grandmother changed her mind about the desirability of the location," chuckled Darwin Hale. "The warm sun brought out the rattlesnakes. And Grandmother was as scared of a rattlesnake as an elephant is of a mouse. She told Grandpa he'd better start looking for another place or she'd start back to Philadelphia on foot!"

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AS THEIR FORTUNE and family increased (three sons and four daughters) Grandfather constructed three houses—each with the fireplaces that Grandma liked so well.

It was also to Grandma's credit that the Hales maintained warm relations with the Indians.

The Siletz trail to the coast and to "worship rock" (the huge rock near Swishome with a face of a man eroded on its surface) led through the Hale property.

"The Indians camped along the creek and stopped to make flint arrowheads in that canyon," Hale pointed to a break in the hills. "Grandpa talked their jargon. And whenever he butchered a beef the Indians were right there. They loved Grandma's looking glass. They'd look in it to put on their war paint, and then they'd hop around for her."

Grandfather Hale was what today would be called a subsistence farmer. He raised his own cattle and pigs and chickens, and produced the feed for them. The remains of his orchard still stand—trees started from cuttings from wild trees or from trees other settlers had brought West.

"The soil would grow anything," Hale said. "Foreign weeds hadn't been introduced. Grandfather grew big crops of Gray oats and grain. He cut his grain with a cradle scythe and threshed it with a flail."

"I can remember the first thresher," Hale continued. "Six teams of horses walked round and round in a circle to turn the geared tumbling rod that powered the thresher."

IN GRANDPA'S DAY the average farm worker could produce the food and fiber for five. But men like Grandpa Hale set the pattern for the future—seeking out the best stock, making use of information from the USDA, and later following Extension Service practices which made the American farmer the most productive in the world. The

Hale's Century Farm is located along Elk Creek near Noti. Below: County Agent Paige L. Hall and Darwin Hale gaze out over a field as rich in historical lore as it is in lush pasture. Where once Indians burned the fields to encourage growth of native grasses, Hale today relies on soil tests, measured application of fertilizers and planting of improved pasture mix.



modern farm worker now produces food and fiber for 26—and his output is still surging ahead.

Darwin Hale's father (Charles Kansas Hale) was a "well read man" who headed the farm into the era of mechanization. The binder, a side-delivery rake, baler, and motors helped which he introduced eased many a man's muscles.

Charles Kansas Hale, Darwin Bristow and George B. Dorris were "close as three peas in a pod," says Darwin Hale. The three "batched" together at Eugene, studied together, and were members of the first class to be graduated from the University of Oregon in 1880. It was in honor of these friends that Hale named two sons.

Charles Kansas Hale, as noted, once served two terms in the Oregon Legislature before returning to the farm. But even then he tempered his interest in agriculture with that in education and politics. He was a teacher in the first school in Crow and taught school for 12 years in Lane County.

"Father kept a daily diary from 1837 until his death in 1927," Hale said. "At the end of each month he noted how many days were rainy, how many clear. If we ever get in a dispute about when anything happened we check that diary. The answer's always there."

Darwin Hale doesn't keep a diary—but "the first of every year you'll see me down at the extension office picking up a record book. I don't know how a farmer knows where he's headed without this record."

IT WAS 1927—the year his father died—that Darwin Hale built the home he and his wife now live in; in 1928, a new barn.

"I remember trading a fat pig for 10,000 feet of lumber," he recalls.

He also that year invested \$600 for 10 cows and calves—all registered Herefords of the Domino strain; began his flock of registered Lincoln and Romney sheep; operated a 22-cow dairy.

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