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At this point the prisoner pulled a revolver from an inside pocket of his
chaps and shot the ^{DEPUTY} sheriff several times in the back, killing him instantly.
The assailant then carried and iraged the sheriff cut into the sage brush
beside the road and made a hasty get-away. A reward was posted at once
and scouting parties were dispatched to all of the surrounding country
in search of the killer. A quantity of posters with the amount of reward,
a picture and detailed description of the killer was mailed out over
the country and was posted in as many public places as possible.
A sheep man in Montana had hired a herder and on one of his trips to
town this reward notice attracted his attention and he recognised his
newly hired herder as being the one wanted. He arranged with the sheriff's
office to send a couple of deputies to the ranch and hide in the barn.

After arrangements had been made for the officers at the barn the
boss went out and requested the herder to go to the barn and harness a
team, whereupon the herder refused, saying that he had hired out to herd
sheep only. The boss then decided that he would do a little fishing
and when the sheep were brought in to the nearby creek for water, the
boss asked the herder to help him catch some grasshoppers for fish bait
and while the herder was in a stooped position pulling a grasshopper
from under a willow stick that he was using for the purpose, the boss
hit him over the head and when the herder regained consciousness, he
was shackled and on his way to the county jail. The criminal was
returned to Riverville and was tried and convicted of murder. The Adams
County sheriff surrounded himself with an adequate force of deputies,
fearing that this gang that "Jesse James" had been surrounded with
before his crime would make a try at gaining his release by an attack
on the jail, during this confinement the jail was under armed guard,
continuously. The sheriff had been one our neighbors and a very close
friend of the family, the result was that my father served as a deputy
during this time. Mother spend some time with the sheriff's wife and
family during the trial and I, being too small to leave at home, was there
also. I spent a large part of the time in the audience and got a
very good conception of how such matters are handled. During this trial
I became much interested in the legal profession and decided that I
would prepare myself so that law would be my life's work. This idea was
not followed through and have grave doubts if such a program would
have been successful. This matter was continued in the courts for two
or three years, an appeal, a hearing by a higher court and other delays,
the final result was a sentence of twenty three year in Walla Walla
State prison. I feel quite sure that this was the first murder trial on
record in Adams County. The fact that this criminal slept his first night

In my father's house, that my brother had been responsible for the name that stuck with him for years, even after his conviction, I feel that if you should go to Ritzville now and approach any of the old timers and ask them who Jesse James of that locality, they would respond at once by telling you of this murder and might finish by telling you that his real name was Alfred J. Symes.

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My first recollection of mail was that it came to Ritzville and because of the distance was not received too often, however within a year or two after my family's arrival, a country postoffice and a tri-weekly delivery was established. On this carrier's route were two post offices and the last one on his route was only four miles from the homestead, so some member of my family would arrange a saddle horse trip to the office, generally, on Saturday afternoon. This job fell to me as soon as I had gotten old enough to be trusted that far from home. The other post office included in this tri-weekly route was located about four miles southeast of the present town of Ralston. This town came into being about 1900 and is located on the Milwaukee Railway main line. Often this trip to the post office only paid off with the two issues of the Detroit (twice a week) Free Press. This paper came to our home for many years and was our only contact with the outside world.

About the time of the establishment of the post office, a school house was built, quite closer than the Post office and it was there that I began to acquire a little education. The school term only lasted for a period of three months each year, and was generally held during the months of December, January, and February. These were the most extreme months, weatherwise of the year, and with walking to and from school, and for financial reasons, no suitable footwear for that season of the year, the only alternative was to wrap the feet in grain sacks to keep out the cold and snow. On arrival at school in the morning, these foot wraps were removed, shaken vigorously and hung up to dry and reapplied in the evening for the return trip home. The teacher, most often a woman was paid thirty dollars per month. She arranged for board and room with some one, living as close to the school as possible, for which the customary charge was three dollars a week. The location of a place to board and room was important to her, since she too had to walk, and it was imperative that she arrive early enough to have the fire built and the school room warm by the time that the youngsters would arrive. She also was the one to do the sweeping and dusting, remove ashes from the stove and have sufficient fuel in to take care of the hourly stoking

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of the coal burning heater. The teacher watched the rewrapping of feet in the evening and assisted when necessary so that the job would induce for the trip home. This task being completed, the kids would grab books and other necessities for home work, their lunch buckets, that pair of mittens that their mothers had made and start the long trek home. Paper was not plentiful, the result slates and squeaky slate pencils were universal. I succeeded in completing the first seven grades in this type of school.

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My first recollection of Ritzville and the surrounding country was that the first house after leaving the homestead was a neighbor's one mile from home, the next was three miles, the next about six miles and located about one mile west of the present site of Ralsion, a small town on the C.M. & STP Ry. The next place of interest was a small timber culture claim located about five mile south of Ritzville. This claim had about five acres of three or four year old locust trees and stood out to me as trees were almost non-existent in that part of the country. About three mile farther was two sections (six hundred forty acres each) one on either side of the road that had been fenced with a very sturdy wire fence and was spoken of as the Ritz property and I am of the opinion that from this was derived the name for Adams County's county seat.

My first recollection of Ritzville is as having a Grocery store, a General store, Post office, a small bank building, a doctor's office, a livery stable, a small hotel and a railway depot. There was about two blocks with side walks, built of lumber and perhaps twenty small dwellings. I have a faint recollection of a lumber yard, a small hardware store and a school house. The Northern Pacific Railway had been built since the middle 1880's and is still the only railroad serving the town. The sidewalks were skirted by hitching racks ¹ placed for use of the homesteader who came to town to make a few purchases as not unusual to see several saddle horses and teams tied to these racks and often with nose bags attached. Often the farmer would tuck a little grain into the wagon and while he shopped would put this grain into the nose bags so that his horses might eat while they waited.

I will endeavor to get back to the development of this town later after filling in on more of the fringe elements that have been by-passed.

I have elaborated somewhat on the discovery of the wheat growing possibilities of this locality, of the influx of settlers when this discovery was made, and purchase possibilities of railroad land and the results. Now lets go back to the time of the partial solution of the water problem. With the increase in the number of horses required to properly farm the acres, an increase in the consumption of water resulted and in order to make provision for this increased consumption, it became necessary to provide power for these pumping operations. This was overcome by the ones having wells by the installation of windmills to operate the pumps, and to those who still had a waterhauling problem, the lack of wind at that season of the year when water was more needed because of heat and a consequent increased consumption, and a busy time of year, namely harvest, the problem of storage on these wellless farms, an idea of digging cisterns and plastering the walls and bottoms with a mixture of sand and concrete, thus making them water tight, thus providing storage for large quantities of water which could be hauled and stored before the windless days and extreme heat set in. This arrangement made it possible to get over this period without too much worry. Eventually gas engines became available and were used to supplement the supply when the wind was not sufficient to take care of the problem.

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For a few years following the more vigorous farming operation is was necessary that a file be carried on the plows for the purpose of removing the tiny beards that formed on the cutting edges of the plowshare. The grass roots in the soil were the cause of these beards and if not removed periodically the plow would push the soil ahead of it and not turn it over as was intended. After a few plowings and the rotting of these roots, this periodic filing of the plowshare was no longer necessary and with this condition, the action of the wind, especially severe during the early summer, began to move the top soil, similar to the action of wind on dry snow. This caused the soil to drift, and in its movement was inclined to damage the growing crops. As time went on this condition became worse and it was not unusual to see entire fields completely bare.

A few of the settlers became discouraged and moved away, leaving vast areas unfarmed. A goodly number bowed their necks, so to speak, and began to give this problem serious study, resulting in new methods of cultivation. The new methods were not always successful, but from these failures new ideas developed and changes in equipment were made and a large portion of the land that had been giving trouble has been reclaimed. The types of farm equipment now on the floors of the implement dealers has very little resemblance to the early day types.

The methods of harvesting and handling of grain has undergone a radical change over the years. The early settlers began with use of the cradle, mower and rake, self-rake reaper, and header. AS SOON as the individual became large enough, the header and stationary thrasher became standard. The first method was the heading and stacking of grain, after which a custom thrasher would move in and do it's job. These early thrashers were of the horsepower type and the farmer's wife was the one to provide the meals. The horsepower became obsolete in a few years and was replaced with steam engines for power.

With this change over, it was possible to operate a longer day and with this came the cook house which was stationed a short distance from the thrashing operation and the purchase of groceries and the cook and helper wages were paid by the operator. Steam eliminated the use of livestock and with its use it was possible to begin operation at four A.M. and at six A. M. a shut down of one half hour for breakfast. A return to work at six thirty, a shutdown again at noon for an hour, then at six P.M. another shutdown for one half hour for the evening meal, then back to work till eight P.M. The engines were fired with straw, so the only expense was a fireman and the hauling of water.

The manpower element for this harvest job required the hiring of a large number of migratory workers, then spoken of as "bundle stiffs" who were not, as a whole, not too dependable and often not capable of rendering satisfactory service. This condition was perhaps the leverage that encouraged to consideration the combined harvester, a machine that had been developed by two or more concerns in California, which, as the name implies, replaced the header and stationary thrasher. It could be operated by four men, sometime five were required if the yield was heavy of the ~~farmer~~ farmer was a large operator and required the larger machine. These "combines" were spoken of as being ground power, meaning that the wheels, while rotating transmitted power to the machinery.

These machines required the use of thirty two head horses for the larger sizes, a lesser number for the smaller ones.

These harvesters were so equipt that the straw could be dumped in piles that might be picked up and stacked for winter feed for live stock, and the sacked grain could be dump in lots of three to five sacks in a pile. these sacks of grain was generally picked up and filled as soon as possible after being dump, the reason, primarily was that the action of the sun ~~was~~ the sacks and bursting and loss of grain would be thus materially reduced, if piled soon after thrashing and sacking.

This piling of this sacked grain was the most strenuous of any of the harvesting operation. These sacks weighed about one hundred thirty five pounds, and since the were laying on the ground and necessitated the lifting of them onto a wagon, perhaps four or more feet high, the picking up, loading onto a wagon, hauling to piles on about each forty acres of the field, there unloading them and piling them five sacks high, meant that four to five hundred sacks daily, was sufficient to make sleep and relaxation at evening time for the man who did the job. The would cover about the days output and often the job was paid for on a piece basis, so the man on this job was anxious to take care of the out ~~work~~ put, daily. Generally the first thing of importance after the finish of harvesting was to get the required amount straw stacked in order to protect it from the fall rains. After this was taken care of, either the hauling of the grain to market or the seeding of winter wheat for the next year's crop. The rainfall had considerable bearing on which job was done first. The marketing of the crop was one of the severe jobs, especially for my folks. We lived fifteen miles from the nearest railway station where the warehousing of grain was practical, which meant that a daily round trip meant thirty mile of travel. In order to make this schedule, long hours were required. It was our custom to load our wagons in the evening and be

on the road by five thirty in the morning. It took at least six hours to make the trip to town, one hour to unload and unhitch and water the horses. They were then tied to the wagon and given the ir noon ration of feed, while they ate, the driver would eat his lunch, sometime for a lunch bucket, sometime at the restuerant. This took an hour after which the horses would be hitch to the wagons again for the trip home. On arrival at home, the wagons were greased and driven to the grain pile in the field where the load for the next day's trip was loaded. These hauling outfits generally consisted of six or eight horses and two wagons, one a trailer,

The road were dirt and were subject to deep and violent holes that heavily loaded wagons would create, thus setting up considerable hazards and often severe breakage of equipment. King bolt, the pin used in the front bolster, was the most subject to breakage, and when this did occur, it was necessary to unload the grain and replace with the extra that was always carried in the jockey box. These breakdowns meant delays of one or more hours, thus lengthening the day that much.

The M & Smith's

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Time of arrival at the warehouse was an element in the program also. A large part of the haulers had a condition somewhat like our own which meant that the waiting line for unloading would be the means of delaying the unloading, sometimes as much as an hour. It was not possible to take care of the feeding of the horses until the load was disposed of. The average load for a six horse rig was from sixty to seventy-five sacks and the driver was required to pile these sacks onto a table, provided for that purpose by the warehouse, whereupon the warehouse men took over. Their job was to put these sacks of grain, five sacks to a warehouse truck, wheel it onto a scale and after weighing wheel it to a proper place in the building and set it against a wall or other settings of similar grade and variety. If the grain

was, or had been sold, it was loaded on freight cars for shipment to destinations authorized by the buyer, if not, it was piled, called "bulkheaded", often to a height of twenty sacks, for storage until sold by the producer. This storage (bulkhead) piling was a matter of considerable hard labor. The early process was the use of benches of sacked grain. Two men would lift the sacks up to a bench and another team of two would lift them to the next bench until the desired height had been attained. This custom became obsolete very soon and a small gas engine was used. It was equipped with a winch and rope with a pair of tongs, so built that they would not damage the sacks, and with this rope run through a sheave pulley attached to the rafters of the building, the sacks of grain was lifted from the floor and delivered to the top of the pile in one operation. This equipment was later replaced with a gas engine powered elevator, or conveyor, that did the job much better and faster than the rope and pulley rig.

With the completion of the Milwaukee Railway, shipping facilities became available ten miles closer to the farm which was considered "as pennies from heaven"

A law was passed by our state legislature which provided for a road building program known as the Dohmhue Act which provided for the securing of signers by property owners whose property was anywhere within three miles of the ~~proposed~~ proposed road, this petition authorized the state to assess the cost of construction to this property. The costs were fixed on a percentage basis, fifteen percent on ten year collection basis, the state providing the other eighty-five percent. This act was the first seed planted in that area out of which a very satisfactory road system developed. This system of roads has made the use of trucks very practical and they have replaced the old team and wagon system.

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These methods of handling grain has undergone a vary radical change over the years in that part of our state known as the Big Bend country. The use of bags for grain has been replaced by the use of bulk grain handling equipment. A large percentage of the old time warehouses have been replaced by elevators, and the present day harvesting equipment is now fitted for the handling of grain in bulk. The farmer now drives his truck out to the harvester and it is filled from the bin on the harvester, he then drives to the elevator and onto the dump scale where his load is weighed, then with power equipment the scale is tipped and the grains runs into a hopper and is elevated to the proper bin by power. The weighing and unloading is completed in a few minutes and he is on his way back to the farm for another load.

The livestock element has been replaced by power equipment and the old struggle with old time sacking problem has passed into history. Along with it has gone the endless hours of feeding, currying, harnessing of horses or mules, the cleaning of the barn daily, the hitching and unhitching, along with the ~~strutting~~^{teething} of livestock for harness sores and colic and the other ills that horseflesh is heir to. The uselessness of fences has been a blessing also. With no livestock to worry about fences are needless and with their removal, as is quite universal, the weed problem is not so bothersome. Cultivation can now be extended to the roadway and this has improved to general appearance of the entire country. The harvesting machine of their present day is a decided improvement over the old method. The present equipment is power driven and the cutting element is now built on the front of the machine, rather than at the side as of old, which eliminates the requirement of cutting removing the cuttings on a strip around the outside of the field before harvesting could begin. I had tried to get financial assistance to build a working model of such a machine

In 1917 but being a home town boy, no luck, I tried to finance the same idea in another locality, but still no luck. Fortune had failed to smile on me when it passed, and even though while connected with a major harvester sales organization who were working on a self propelled harvester and had working models in the field, made a study of their product and suggested a change to a model much similar to the popular model of to-day, I was told by their management that I had a lot to learn and until that time came, my ideas were worthless. Two years after this advice, this firm took thirty five of the new machines that they had built for sale, out on a vacant lot and burned them, each item had been built with a sale price of seven thousand dollars each.

In the spring of 1901 I had finished the seven grades of school that was available at our country school, so soon after the beginning of the school session in Sept. 1901, my parents arrange for me to board and room with a family who then lived in Ritzville but had been neighbors of my family on Reitter's Flat. I was entered in the eighth grade of the public school in town. I distinctly remember the reception that I received as a country lad entering into city school. Now long after entry I began to feel a little opposition and as time passed this opposition took on more and more of a physical aspect. To avoid unpleasantness, I took the back street on my way to and from school, and after a few days the head of the house where I then called home discovered that there was something amiss, and in a very mild manner suggested that if for any reason that I didn't have time to come home for lunch at noon that he would glad bring a lunch to me. This suggestion took root with me and the result was a few black eyes and a few bloody noses. After a few alley frays, the atmosphere cleared and I discovered that I had a lot of very good friends among my classmates.

During my school day there I had been able to pick up considerable after hours and Saturday work which gave me a lot of very good experience also a little money to purchase little needed items that I might have not had otherwise. I was favored by a very splendid teaching staff who I respected very much. The teacher student relationship surely has had a very decided influence on my later life, and to them I shall be eternally grateful. One of my instructor stand out for the fact that he was the promoter of a debating club that met at the school weekly at 7:30 P.M. under his supervision. We were assigned subjects on political and economic matters and were encouraged to gather all information possible. After a couple of weeks of research and study the matter was debated before the assembly and often ministers and attorneys were invited in to act as judges as to the side presenting the best arguments and also were invited to diagnose and criticize or line of reasoning and delivery of our conclusions. I have been able to use this education obtained there in the every day walks of life.

It was the era prior to the primary election program of the present and it was the custom, on election years, for nominees to arrange with a few of the other candidates of their party to make public appearances at the various communities with the intent of furthering their candidacy. We were encouraged by this teacher to attend all of these meetings, regardless of party, and at our next meeting would discuss the attitudes of the speakers on the then political questions.

Dr. Lemman was in Spokane Monday combining business and pleasure.

Mrs. Lemman Is Buried Here

Interment services were held at Ritzville Memorial cemetery Thursday, December 21, for Mrs. Gertrude Lemman, who died at the Emmett, Ida., Nursing home December 18. 1941

The Rev. Donald Cramer officiated with Danekas Funeral home in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Lemman came to Ritzville in 1886 after having been born in Hamlet, Mo., May 13, 1879. She married Dr. George Lemman, a dentist, in 1897. Dr. Lemman predeceased his wife in 1948.

Mrs. Lemman moved to Spokane in 1949 and has spent the last eight years at Emmett where she is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Charles E. (Violet) Zemp. A sister, Mrs. Grace Lacey, survives at Hayden Lake, Ida. There are two grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mother of
Violet Lemman
(Kemp) Class-1928
never stay at
their home

As a result of ~~this~~ training, I was chosen as one of a team of three to debate other school teams. I think that this Ritzville's first inter-scholastic debating team.

One of the other instructors had had considerable experience in coaching athletic teams; the result, we had a basketball team, a foot ball team, an ~~which~~ I played center, ~~at~~ even attended a and participated in the inter-scholastic field meet, a yearly event at that time, at W.S.C. at Pullman, Washington.

As the end of my senior year drew near, the problem of how and where to hold our graduation week's events. We finally planned to use a then empty grain warehouse. A building suitable was not a part of Ritzville at that time at to make the best of a bad situation, the warehouse was our best bet. The work necessary to make this building usable required a lot of work, so realizing this, we got busy about a month before graduation to make the necessary preparations.

We arranged with a beer wholesaler to get the loan of a quantity of empty beer kegs, a deal with the local lumber yard for the loan of planks to be placed across the top of these kegs to provide seats, with the manager of the light company to give us the necessary instruction to wire the building sufficient to meet our needs. A ~~photographer~~ photographer who was also a sign painter volunteered to paint an advertising curtain and a little scenery for the stage. We then solicited the merchants of the town for paid space on this front curtain which would bear the ad of their choice, the proceeds of which we used to purchase those items that would not returnable.

This building with the additions that we had created handled the entire program, graduation ceremonies, class play, baccalaureate, in fact, it seemed that we were there for some public occasion for an entire week. Following the public week, we spent two or three days removing the additions that we had set up, and restoring the building to its original status. The year 1906 will be a memorable year to me for the rest of my life. The school had become a full twelve grade institution and the class of 1906 was the second class to graduate as having completed the entire twelve grades.

Wm M E Smith

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After the very impressive, to me, graduation, I returned to the farm as had been my habit during all of my school years, to lend my bit to that operation for the period of the vacation period, and often a couple of weeks extra. I had yearned for a college course in engineering and had hoped that this might be arranged. This suggestion met with marked opposition and after considerable arbitration and negotiation I accepted a settlement for a six month's course in a business college. On the first of December of 1906 I entered a school of that type in Spokane and centered on a course in bookkeeping. During the month of May 1907 I completed the course and had taken an examination under Civil Service for employment in the Spokane Post Office.

At the time of completion of the business course, I received a letter from my brother advising that the family had purchased an adjoining farm and had borrowed \$13,000.00 to complete the purchase and that my help would be much appreciated to retire this loan.

The result was that I packed up and returned to the farm and spent the next two years assisting successfully in retiring the obligation. About the year 1900, a number of farmers had entered into a deal to set up a grain marketing corporation to be operated under the direction of a Board of Trustees. The entire capital stock of the company was used for the purchase of a warehouse, leaving no working capital. To overcome this element the stockholders entered into a deal with their local bank to honor overdrafts, with interest to be charged for withdrawals in excess of deposits, this overdraft element to be secured by a joint note signed by the stockholders. A manager was employed to operate this venture. This arrangement had been quite successful, except that the Y had declared dividends rather than build a working capital backlog. During these years, through death, crop failures, etc. a large number of these signers of this note had become of no value to the security. During the early spring of 1910, the manager was caught by a sudden decline in the wheat market with a large amount of wheat on hand, and before he was able to find a buyer, prices had declined so that the loss amounted to

more than \$20,000.00. The note carried an interest rate of ten % per annum and with stiff buyer competition and this added interest made the problem most difficult. My father and brother being the list of responsibility, insisted that I should be the one to take over the management, not with the idea that I was exceptionally smart but that I might be able and inclined to keep those financially obligated, advised and thus afford a better chance of protection to them. This request was accepted by the board and I assumed the management and desperately attempted to dig out.

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I had decided that the habit of wheat farmers was and had been for many years, to resist a sale on a rising market but were inclined to sell when the decline in prices began to show, especially if they had obligations falling due in the near future. My only defense appeared to be that if possible to know when those mortgages were due, if the market showed symptoms of a break was to sell the customer's crop at the peak, knowing that he would be selling to meet his obligations and any lowering of prices would speed up the selling act. In most cases I was able to realize for the company an additional cent or two per bushel in addition to the regular margin of profit. I spent considerable money in obtaining a list of chattel crop mortgages from the county records also phone bills to keep closely advised as to the market conditions. This was fairly successful but became a heavy mental burden to me. As time went on, I became more worried that I might make a bad guess and get involved as my predecessor had and realized that the salary was not justifying the chances taken, so advised the calling of a stockholders meeting at which I rendered a financial statement of the business and an honest confession as to how I had been operating, and advised a sale of the assets and as satisfactory liquidation as possible. My suggestion was accepted and a sale was negotiated for the building and equipment on a cash basis and immediately the bank took legal steps

to liquidate the obligation. The brought suit and filed an attachment on our farm with an order to the sheriff to sell at once. The result was a legal battle that went to the Supreme Court. During these two years of litigation, those signers who could contribute, did so, the final result was a payment of approximately \$4,000.00. The Supreme Court's ruling complicated my personal interest in the estate, on the death of my parents, which had not been too pleasant to look back upon.

During these years of warehouse management and litigation, I married a very lovely and deserving woman who bore three children for me, and who lived and was a my constant companion and inspiration for forty years. We moved away from the place of my childhood in the spring of 1909 and have lived in this town for fifteen years. My family are all married and have families of their own, and I am exceedingly happy to report that they are all doing well for themselves, and are upstanding citizens in their respective communities. This lady that I married had three children when we met and they have been as close a unit of my family as the other three and their success and happiness is equally important to me.

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As I now look back over the events of the life in Adams County, and visualize those pioneer days, of school life, the daily chores that was a part of it, the trips that members of my family made at various times ~~made~~ to work and use the proceeds of that labor to provide fruit and vegetables for our table, items that could not be grown on our farm because of the lack of rain, how father spent time and labor to 'rustle' coal for our winter fuel, picked up removed railroad ties for summer fuel, how my father repled soaked grain on fence posts to keep it up from the ground and covered it very deep under straw and after four years, marketed it for sixty-five cents a bushel rather than haul it fifteen miles and accept nineteen cents a bushel. This was one of the events of the year 1893. During these years the ground squirrel problem was severe also. At this time there was a large acreage of bunchgrass adjoining almost every field of wheat and these ~~ground~~ squirrels moved in from this grass land and made vast invasions on growing crops. The settlers fought them with poison wheat and other exterminators which were all expensive and required considerable labor. The coyotes invaded the farm yards and made off with domestic fowls, even small pigs, in fact, anything that was of animal nature and edible.

There was an all year lake a few miles from the homestead surrounded by several thousand acres of bunch grass and it was a common practice to drive the young cattle to the lake in the early spring and leave them there to spend the summer. When the crops were taken care of in the fall the chore of rounding up and returning them to the stubble and straw stacks on the farm was often a week's work. The herd would break up and range with other herds, so it was only possible to go and wait at the lake and separate and bring home those that showed that day. The next day another trip might result in a few more. The herd was not too large to remember the different individual cattle and together with the number it was possible to determine when the entire herd had been located and returned.

I can well remember the school days in Riverville where I obtained after school and Saturday jobs such as splitting and piling wood, distributing hand bills, shingling new buildings being erected, the proceeds being used for school supplies, clothing, entertainment and sundry items.

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From a character building angle, this town was not below the average. They claimed, at one time, of having nine churches and nine saloons and seemed to get a lot of satisfaction in remarking that they were all doing a good business. They also had a district which was by-passed by all morally upright people, and the population of this district dressed in a manner that made their identity very pronounced. I have sometimes wondered if this condition possibly might have had a marked effect on the younger generation. It is a condition that I think I now see, the ladies and girls could go anywhere, night or day, without any fear of any hazards, and dangers were not necessary to ensure their safety.

It is a decided degree of pleasure that I have many times checked the status of the group that I knew there and find that that district has produced a very large percentage of very prominent people. Their town is now in the hands of legal talent that is 100% 'home grown' and are a credit to any community, one of their former 'homegrown' attorneys is now and has been for several years a member of our State Supreme Court, another is their Superior Court Judge, a few are on the state's roster of important officials, many have made their mark in the teaching profession. It is an outstanding fact that they have produced sufficient ability to handle their own problems and to contribute liberally to the needs of other communities as well.

I had made an analysis of the periods of residence in two or three communities in which I have lived in assessing this Big Bend country. I rate a few unpleasant moments, some perhaps of my own creation, also many very pleasant ones, of which I can extend credit to others. One of the things that gives me extreme pleasure is to be able to say 'I LIVED THERE!'

Ben Berry Neighboring Farmer

21 Sept 1991

In the summer of 1901 I went out to Rattlesnake Flat with Rudolphus Pizarro Smith and spent the summer on his ranch. It was just across the road from Ben Berry's place. I met Ben and went over there many times.



to watch them harvest the wheat crops. I couldn't understand how a man could drive 32 mules with one "jirk" line. Ben Berry married one of the girls who before had worked for Mr. Smith on his ranch. Warren Smith's ranch was 3 miles west.

NOTHER HISTORIC PHOTO—This is the groundpower combine operating in 1902 on the Benjamin Barry ranch on Rattlesnake Flats 20 miles south of Ritzville. Known as Adams county's first "wheat king," Barry raised nearly 80,000 bushels annually. Driving the 32-mule team is F. O. LeGore, now of Spokane. Also aboard the combine are the header puncher and machine man. Beside it are the sack sewer and sack jig. The foreman, Russ Berry, is on the horse. Behind is the wagon which picked up the sacks of wheat. LeGore, who supplied the photo, married Iva Glenn in 1906. They have lived in Spokane the past 30 years.

The Gilsons; - N

Christmas Season, 1960.

We are all, more or less, inclined to neglect writing a letter to our friends but when this season arrives it encourages a little special effort to do just that; it is a season that encourages a little thought of the year just ending and a review of our accomplishments and short comings. In other word a time of taking stock and the striking of a balance sheet in order to decide if the year just passing has been one to look back upon with any degree of satisfaction and if not, why not. To me this a season that lends a little sadness but I would not have it otherwise. It gives me an urge to see and decide if I might have made happier for myself and those that I classify as friends.

This year has been like the last four, idleness with a few aches and pains, of which I should rightfully expect. I realize that being under the shadow of my 75th birthday I have been much more fortunate healthwise than a lot of people. It has been said that the good die young which perhaps accounts for me still taking up space and antagonizing a lot of good people.)

My activities has been decidedly confined to home, because of a trace of gout that has habit of coming to the surface on very short notice. Too, I find myself in the class illustrated by a story of a close friend. He said that it was not unusual for people in their declining years to remember and describe in detail a lot of things that happened in their younger years. The second stage that they went through was when it was difficult to remember names, then the following stage was when the men failed to zip up their pants. I found myself in that stage not long since and now buy trousers with buttons instead of zippers.

I do not get much information of any of the happenings from east of the mountains, I get no word from Warren or any of his family so conclude that no news is good news, fact is I am not too sure if he should pass on I would not hear of it for months. The last time I saw him he was showing his age quite vividly. He will be 84 on his next birthday.)

We have been having very good weather for the time of year, no frost except for three nights with a reading of 25 degrees. A little rain is now showing, might get to be a good one in a day or two.

I trust that yourselves and the rest of your families are enjoying good health and have had a good year. I surely hope that this election result will not be a dud, and I don't think that anyone else could have been more of a ~~runner~~ dud than the outgoing President. I have a lot of respect for Ike as a man but as President, to me, he has been a perfect zero. I have decided that the Executive head couldn't be any worse than it has been for the last eight years. I think perhaps that I had better get off this subject for it is a splendid development friction and I am not inclined to do that intentionally. ~~Political~~ Political and religious faiths are something that is everyone's God given right and that is the backbone of our Country.

With a sincere wish that you and yours enjoy a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year, I will close. Margaret joins me in this Holiday wish. Very sincerely yours—we remain N. E. SMITH

I guess he was afraid of losing the picture book. I will buy
before I forget it, of a picture book.

feel to make a copy of that Photo of
father & mother, the sixteen helpers & all
the young people. Let me know and I will
 send it to you. Remember now & don't
 have

would be let it get away. But can
at first time enough for you to get
a copy. That is the only picture I have
of my Mother except one taken in Michigan
a family group with me less than a
year and sitting on her lap.

11115 letter of
July 13-1939

P.S.I guess that I am really slipping. Since starting this I have started on a little story of those early days but realized that my typing & the proper use of the language are both items that I am short on, so have been a little negligent about finishing it. However will get busy one of these days & close it up. I doubt if it will be of interest to any one but will mail you a copy & you can use it to kindle a fire in your fireplace. I was a little depressed or my last trip to Ritzville to see how quiet the town gets about sundown and & such a lack of activity I realize that this ailment has overtaken most of the smaller towns but it is a little more depressing when it happens to one you have known so long. Last year('59) I left home in the pink but before my arrival there my right hand & wrist were in bad shape. They were OK on my return. I went to Spokane to visit a step-son & family there. Also saw a lad I shared a room with while at Blair Bus. College during '07 yearwhm I had not seen since Feb. '13.

I have 3 nephews who were raised in Canada & they have told me that where we say to a friend on separating, "Be Good" or "Don't take any wooden money" and as a parting thought will quit now. So long

I have 3 nephews who were raised in Canada & they have told me that where we say to a friend on separating, "Be Good" or "Don't take any wooden money" and as a parting thought will quit now. So long

MS. A. 9. 2. 9

Heard

28
 11B. 1906 P 30
 Jan. 23rd. 1961,
 N. E. SMITH

Dear Friend Roy and Wife:-

I failed to get your usual very welcome letter at Christmas time and I soon began to wonder if any form of illness or other calamity may have 'snuck' up on you. I felt that possibly the rush of mail at that time might have been an element, I suppose that occasionally that mail does get lost.

I tried to give you as much of the 'gossip' as I could think of at the moment that I thought might be interested in. Neither of us have any great complaint to make about our health or the treatment that the people that we know.

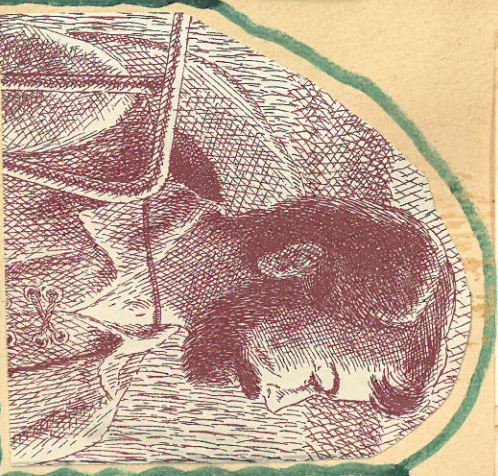
We got very nice cards with letters enclosed from those two girl friends that I have who live in and near Spokane. You perhaps recognize who I have in mind. They both have the same first name (Laura). They are two of the people whom I very sincerely respect and appreciate. Mrs. Simpson tells me that she is living at the same old place and expects to make it her home. Mrs. Johnson is still caring for an elderly gentleman (in his eightys) and advises that he has developed a paralytic condition which has made he duties a little more complex that when I saw her last. I would say that she is quite at peace with the world and it's people which is a splendid frame of mind for anyone to have. I suspect that the only thing that has disturbed he materially is the result of the presidential election.

If you got my letter you will recall that I went into detail about some of the unpleasant events of recent date, or did I? Warren has been hospitalized since early November and a suggestion of a malignant condition exists. I got a letter from a son and daughter-in-law telling me of it. I have asked them to keep me advised as to his condition but have had no further word. An ex-padrner of mine was killed in Walla Walla in November also. He and I were interested in a machine shop for several years and I had a lot of respect for him and his family. Also a fellow that I had worked with for some time who lives in Great Falls Montana who son mailed me a card and advised that his father had suffered with a loss of speech and was not able to write. He said that this condition had been existant for about four years. Suspect that it is a paralytic condition. All this coming at Christmas time had its affeets and prompts me to make enquiry about yourself. I realize that with the passing of the years that we are all getting into the 'danger zone' and that there is nothing that we can do about. The result we me is that I am trying to prepare myself for the worst and if it should not happen I can rejoice. Will close for now and trust that my fears are groundless but will be a little unsettled until I know. With best regards to you both, I remain as ever

Your sincere friend

Harold

Pioneer Parents



Ed Gilson
 2250 West 24th St
 Astoria, Oregon
 Oct 21/24
 R.P. Smith
 infant of his
 house on Knob
 Hill across
 the street
 from Ralph
 Alena (seid)
 residence.
 112 W. main.

This record written by my
 father - E.D. Gilson - 3rd son Roy
 above person Ralph S. P. 5-191

RUDOLPHUS PIZZARO SMITH. Father of Warren and Newell Smith who left Michigan in 1887 and came to Adams County and Ritzville. He was born in 1848 and died in Ritzville in 1936, age, 88. Mr. Smith was a distinguished looking man with a full beard and heavy head of hair. He kept a diary of his everyday life for 65 years. When I was staying at his farm I used to watch him write it down every night in his big book. He kindly invited me as his guest on the ranch for 2 summers 1901 and 1902. How well I remember those experiences there on Rattlesnake flat vividly. We would leave Ritzville in the early morning in a hack driven by 2 trusty but slow horses, named, Dolph (after his owner) and Fidget. (He was a little fidgety). It took us 18 hours thru Ralston and over the hills to his ranch. When we arrived we were all covered with dust but happy to be in the country for the summer. He would talk to me and laugh at the questions I would ask about the farm, animals, and the names I would give to parts of harness and other farm articles. I really could write a book on my trials and tribulations but I was determined not to go home until school started. I remember I did get homesick at first but I got over that soon. I had a horse, Sank, to ride, gathered eggs and fed the stock. Mrs. Smith, Janet was a kindly lady and I grew very fond of both of them. Roy Gilson.

MOTHER
 MARTHA M SMITH
 1887 - 1935

Took this snap
 in 1955 - Roy S

Mr. & Mrs. Dr. Roy Gilson:-

March 14, 1961.

NP
106
p31

Father-

31

Dear Folks

I recieved your very much appreciated letter some time ago and have been intending to answer but you know the story, too much T.V., reading and visiting.

When I wrote you after the holidays I have built up the idea that you might be ill, it never occurred to me that any one else besides myself could be busy. What gave me the idea that you might not be well was, perhaps, the fact that a lot of the older ones, and occasionally those not so old are suffering illnesses and often sudden heart attacks, and are passing on.

One thing that prompted that feeling was Warren's codition of which I am still not sufficiently advised, gives me a more serious thought along that line. The last word, a letter from his son who lives in Yakima, about three weeks ago advised that he was able to sit up for a few minutes each day. I appreciate that his age is very much against his recovery, but after all, we put of passing until the last. I recd. a nice note from Mrs. Simpson at Christmas time in which she advised that he had settled back and was at home and feeling very well.

I also get a line from Mrs. Fred (Laura) Johnson occasionally with all of the activities of our mutual acquaintances. She mentioned that the Emersons have entered into a retire- setup in Spokane, she also mentioned an other couple who I dont recognize at the moment as having also moved into a similar set up. She enclosed a few Newspaper clippings that she thought I might be interested in. An account of a Walter E. Lenhart of Ritzville (whom I do not know) also a Mrs. Lottie F. Lee of Ritzville whom I suspect was the wife of Carl Lee, one of the pioneers of that town, a Sylvia M. Newland, wife of John H. Newland also of Ritzville who Laura thought might be some of the Frank Newland Family of Ritzville. These have all passed on. Laura tries to keep me informed as to the things that she thinks I would be interested in and I appreciate her efforts very much. She tells me that she has a patient that is past 80 and is not too sick but needs constant care. She has been on this case for about eighteen months.)

We have had a very nice winter and an especially wet Feb. and this much of Mar. More rain in this past six weeks than Adams County get in a year. There has been no snow and only two or three nights that it went below freezing. I have not made any progress on that story that I have been dreaming up, have been bothered some with this old ailment (gout) but I am feeling better now and will roll up my sleeves one of these days and finish it. When I do I will mail you a copy for your criticism. I perhaps told you that I have one volume of Father's diary and if you would enjoy reading it I would mail it to you so that you might go over it. I have been holding on to it as is the one covering the period from Jan. 1st. 1886 to Jan. 1st. 1903

and covers that period during which I was born, also his trip west and the arrival of Mother and Warren and I and I have promised that my son could have it to keep, for ~~sentimental~~ sentimental reasons when I pass on.

If you would like to have for a time under those conditions say the word. *asked him to sent it but he didn't do it.*

I have hopes that I may be in physical condition that I may attend the Alumni gathering next year. I am going to try and be sure that there others of my class of 1906 also planning to attend. It was a little depressing last year being the only one, ~~ask~~ too, the darned GOUT had taken a spurt. It landed during the night while on my way to Ritzville. If Amanda ~~Barr~~ had not projected herself into the picture I would have followed my inclination to come home before the Banquet. I am glad now that she did just that. All of my immediate family are well and busy, for which I am very gratified. Considering my age, I should add do feel very much favored. I have, in trying to be funny, advocated that a law should be passed and rigidly enforced legalizing the execution of all persons at the age of seventy. I am beginning to be sold on the idea myself.

Regardless of the fact that I will be five years past that age on the 23rd. of this month, I still think it would be a splendid idea. I have used what little energy for the past year in trying to promote National legislation to provide for medical care for the aged through Social Security, and will exert more until it is defeated or passed. I dont expect it to be available for me even though it is passed, but it might act as a buffer in substitut-

It has been my desire

to leave the world in better shape than it was when I came on the scene but my last survey leads me to suspect that I have failed. In my efforts to write this article that I had mentioned, I find myself living those younger days over and am reminded of the poem, 'Turn backward, turn backward, O time in thy flight, make me a child again, just for to-night! We are reminded daily of that affliction of the elderly element of our people, of that strong tendency to live in the past. I am realizing that I well nito my second childhood so I should have no further worry along that score.

Enough of this foolishness for this time. I trust that you are both enjoying good health and with an invitation to drop me a line at any time that you can spare the time and are in the mood, I will now say "thirty" for to-night, I am

Very sincerely

Maell

RUDOLPHUS P. SMITH
1848 1936

Photo - 1936
was a great stu-
of Maconny the
best I ever come
in contact with.
Ritzville

Died in Ritzville - age 88

Rudolphus Pizzaro -
Smith - Born - 1848



Dear Friend Roy; May 3, 1961

Your very fat and interesting letter just arrived and will hasten a reply, the reason will be evident before its end. I have been looking forward to this trip to Ritzville for several reasons. I suspect that this might my last trip there and, too, I have a Stepson in Spokane also a fellow that I roomed with while taking a bookkeeping course the in the late fall of 1906 and early 1967 who I have not seen since 1913 we took our marriage vows in his home on Feb. 10, 1913. I talked to him on the phone last year while in Spokane and promised that I would make an effort to see him on my next trip. The wife of Dr. G.H. Lemman whom I boarded with one year at school and who taught me a lot about the manufacture of dental plates lives on the Apple Way, and whom I have not seen for more than fifty years but would like to see for a few minutes. Also my wife has a sister who lives with her husband at Oleika Lake which is about thirty miles north of Spokane. Laura Simpson, as you know out of the city and all of these people are on my list as possible prospects for a call from me. Laura Simpson has advised that she does not plan on being at Ritzville and intimated that the reason was that the absence of so many of her acquaintances will not be there would have a decided depressing effect that she would rather not go. Laura Johnson has assured me that she will be there. I got a letter in the same mail with yours assuring me that she will. She has retired from her profession and is so busy relaxing that she is a little confused. She is now visiting her brother at Almiria and is going to Grand Coulee, in fact the letter was mail at that place.

The thing that has been a little of a problem with me is that I have a Packard car and would very much enjoy having it for this trip, in order that I might get all this visiting done that I have mentioned, but since I have not driven much of late and because of the increase in traffic, I am inclined to dread the trip alone. I have dreamed about starting a day early with the idea that I could drive at a more moderate speed and if I should get tired I might arrange to stop over night and rest up. If I had a friend who might be planning a trip at that time to go along for company and take over the driving for a part of the trip, I might be inclined to drive the car. I could ever arrange to pick this party up in Portland if he were available.

I have had no word from any of Warren's family of late, I do not know if he is in the Hospital yet in Spokane or not. His son who lives in Yakima wrote to me of his condition ~~was~~ at Christmas time and I have had one letter since advising me that he was getting his information second hand but would go to Ritzville soon after Easter and the would have all the dope for me. No letter yet. I asked him to call me if anything serious developed, so, feel that conditions have not changed materially.

I note what you said about the diary and will bring it with me I have done nothing with that story for some time. We have a finished basement and because of this being a duplex it was almost necessary that my desk should be put in the basement. The weather has been wetter than normal and I have been too shiftless to heat up this part of the house to a point of comfort so have been letting the story rest. I think that we will have a little relief from this excessive rain soon and then I may get back to it. Our rain fall has been 13 inches above normal for the four months of this year. It is getting a little monotonous

I noted with interest your fraternal activities, and feel a little slighted that I was so confused with work until I was too old to participate in those activities. I had looked forward to a time when I might be able to afford the time and finances to participate in more fraternal activities. I have appreciated the Blue Lodge and its teachings very much also the fact that Father enjoyed so much attending local and Grand Lodge, and I think that the most thrilling moment of his life was when he got a dispensation from the Grand Lodge to allow me to petition #101 for the Degrees and that he was allowed to sit in the East and confer those degrees on me. I appreciated these things more as I got older. I am now a member of Kelso #94 and was requested lately to get all the dates and "dope" on my past history Masonry for their records. I had served as Master as a member of Lind #145 but was not to sure as to the year and now find that I was Master there two years, 1917-18. John Ott is Sec. at Ritzville and in his letter with the information, he advised that his Daughter, her husband and Daughter were killed in that major plane crash near Hong Kong just a few weeks ago. He advised that they were patiently for the arrival of the bodies for burial at Ritzville. The husband was a W/Sargent ~~with~~ with the U.S. forces on Formosa and were on a little shopping trip to Hong Kong preparatory to being returned to the States. Before I forget it, Laura S. advised that Hattie's husband was in a Spokane hospital and had had a leg removed, I think she said that it was necessitated because of a blood clot. I get letters from Laura Johnson occasionally and she is the scourge of most of my information about happenings there

I had taken the Ritzville Times for several years but got careless and allowed it to become delinquent, so now have to depend on the 'grapevine'. I do not think of anything more at the moment so had better close. If you should know of any one who would like to make that trip to Ritzville by car on Wednesday or Thursday before May 20, tell him to get in touch with me and advise where I might pick him up, otherwise I probably will arrange to leave here not later than Thursday eve and will plan on spending my night at the Ritzville Hotel while there. Thanks very much for the Birthday card and pardon me for forgetting that anyone else might also have a Birthday. If I had thought that you might be in the age bracket you mentioned I surely would not have mentioned the proposed legislation that I have been working so diligently to amass support for. I sincerely hope that I am able to make this trip, as I have been dreaming about it for weeks. Will see you, at least, at the Marcellus Hall on May 20, 1961.

Very Sincerely,
Your friend
Newell

Newell
Rec'd 5/16/61
4003 5-5161



142
1406
34

Dear Friend Roy:-

I arrived home on the evening of the 29th. and am getting pretty well sobered up, so thought that a line to you would be in order. You were apparently plenty busy with your job while in Ritzville so didn't make too much effort to visit with you, in fact, when I saw you you were apparently much preoccupied with the task at hand that I refrained from 'hounding' you.

I had Father's diary with me and planned to give it to you but noted that your arms were filled with other items so decided that I would mail it to you upon my return home. I noted a different return address on your envelope after I had mailed my reply and wondered if you had moved. However I am mailing this to the 14th. St address and if you get it O.K. I'll mail the diary to that address as soon as I get around to finding a suitable wrapping for it.

I had a wonderful time on the trip. A bunch of us were invited to the home of the Proctor's and it turned out to be an almost all night party. Laura and I went to Spokane on Sunday and I visited with a stepson and family, also with a sister-in-law and family. I found Warren with daughter who lives near Dear Park and went out to see him. I found him in very bad shape, looks like a month more at the most. He doesn't recognize anyone, not even his own children. The youngest son is there also assisting with his care and they are doing a very splendid job of it too. I am reminded of that quotation "when our greatness is still aspiring we fall like autumn leaves to enrich our Mother Earth."

I suspect that you are not feeling quite up to par after your trip. I realize that you had a strenuous job and I think that you did it magnificiently and are entitled to a lot of credit.

On my trip I was reminded that I have a lot of very good friends in and around Ritzville for which I am very thankful. They all tried and succeeded in making me feel like an old friend who had returned for a little visit and I sincerely appreciated it. I hope very much that I may be able to repeat again next year.

I trust that you are surviving the trip O.K. and that I may have an opportunity to visit with you when we get together again. Drop me a line when you should have the time and get in the mood and I will try and get up ambition enough to mail the diary one of these days soon.

Enough for this time, so Bye now, as always
Your friend

Newell

Dear Friend Roy:-

July 13, 1961

Just a hurried note, I need a letter from Laura Johnson yesterday with a couple of clippings and suspected that they might of news to you so and forwarding them on to you post haste. The one regarding the Shipman lady in no one that I have any knowledge of but suspect that she might be of the family of the Shipman who was associated with the firm of Meyers & Shipman of the long ago. This firm became known as Meyer Shepley in during my time there in school.

The passing of Will Danekas was of no surprise to me or Laura as we were both convinced that this might happen at any time. We called on the Danekas family while in Ritzville and Laura had had some experience with his ailment and mentioned the fact that he might pass on at any time.

She advised that her father has had the same affliction which was the cause of his death. These items that appear in the daily papers remind us that one of these days we, too, may "fall like autumn leaves to enrich our Mother Earth."

I have had no definite word as to Warren's condition but know that it is only a matter of time.

We are having a burst of tropical weather, 105 yesterday but with a forecasters suggestion that it may be a little cooler to-day. Here's hoping.

My wife took a trip to Spokane and on to Hot Springs, Montana after my trip to Ritzville, and returned with a very severe cold, and I am guessing that a little virus also which has made her quite miserable. She is beginning to show signs of recovery and I hope to get a little of the chores that I have been neglecting taken care of very soon. One of them is to wrap and mail the diary that I had planned to send you. Before I forget it, thanks for the two pictures that you enclosed, I appreciate them very much. I have no other picture of Laura since our Junior year in school, and am not sure that I even have one of you since that time. I might be able to find you in some group of that time but am not sure. When our home burned in 1923 a lot of the pictures of my school days was lost, several that I had prized highly, especially the individual ones of my class.

I think that this will have to do for now but will dig up your letter and try to cover all the items suggested in it and when I mail I'll try to have found wrapping material for the book and mail them doth at the same time. I trust that this finds yourself and wife in good health. I say bye now, with best regards, as always
Your sincere friend
Newell

Newell

1414 9th. Ave.,
Longview, Wash.
May 31, 1961.

Rec'd 6/14/61 - Aug 5 9/3/61

LONGVIEW
MAY 31
8-PM
1961
WASH.

118 1906-733

Rodolphus Rizzaro Smith
Father - Newell Gay Smith
Mother - Mary Amanda

1st wife - Kate P Bosom
Married 6-4-1891 at

Montague, Michigan
Born 10/27/1894

Died 4-2-1936 age 88

Jeanette Phoebe McLean
Born 11/17-1894

Married 4-1-1895

Father - Alexander McLean

Mother - Phoebe Johnson
Died in Ritzville, Wash. 1935

Warren Alexander Smith

Born - 8/24/1871 - Burnside, Mich.

Died 9/1/1941 - Spokane, Wash

Buried Ritzville, Wash. 1948

Newell D Smith

Born 3/23/1886

Died 3/24/1961 Postland

and 14-11 mo - 21 Dec

Warren was Born

8/24/1871 - at Burnside

1/2 of Burnside - 6 mi -

from North Branch - mid

Smith from Marquette

which is 4 mi - from

Marquette, P. D.

Dear Friend Roy:-

Tuesday

9-12-61

Notes

Rec'd Sept 14-1961

Ans'd - with sympathy card

I am enclosing a clipping from the Tuesday Journal that will give an idea of why I am dropping this note. I thought that you might not get the Ritzville paper and that this would be of interest. I got the word on Friday P.M. and took a bus to Ritzville on Monday and was present for the services and being under a little apprehension regarding the condition of Margaret's daughter-in-law who has been confined in a Portland hospital since Aug. 2nd. and under the care of special nurses, I was anxious to get home as soon as possible. I returned on Wednesday. I saw no one that I was acquainted with except Amanda Bär at the hotel.

Since my return home this daughter-in-law has shown marked improvement and my tension has subsided somewhat. I had been expecting word of Warren's passing for several and every time the phone rang I expected that it would be a long distance call regarding him.

This tension has had a little bearing on a few little things that I planned to do, so now am renewing my plans for those items. I came home from Ritzville a little disappointed in the sermon, the floral and the local turnout, however these were matters that I had no control over, so will try to forget it as soon as possible.

We are both as well as can be expected considering our age, but still feel that the suggestion that I made to you in a previous letter, at seventy is should be legal and mandatory that an execution be carried out.

I rec'd. a letter from Laura Johnson this A.M. with a clipping from a Spokane paper of Warren's passing. I suspect that she feared that I might not have been advised. She writes occasionally and I appreciate her letters very much. To me she is a very wonderful person and has been for, at least 54 years. While I am discussing this lady, I want to thank you for the picture of her that you sent to me, I think that I overlooked acknowledge of it before.

The tone of her letters indicate that she is in very good health and is now spending a lot of her time looking after the care and welfare of her family.

It is not possible to think of the old days without realizing that time is passing and with it are those that we knew and respected. In my case every time I have occasion to return to the old home town I find that the ranks have thinned since the last time. At the funeral there was only three people that I recognized and had known.

I had better close for now, suspecting that I have spread enough gloom for now. I trust that yourself and wife are enjoying normal good health and that that continues for many more years.

Drop me a line when you have the time and are in the mood and I hope to return to normalcy one of these days and answer a few letters that I have received during the last few months. Perhaps this is a little cowardly to try to justify my shortcomings by this argument, but a fellow has to have some thing to hold himself with. With the very best of regards for both of you, I am

Very Sincerely yours Newell

Newell

11

LONGVIEW
SEP 12
4-PM
1961
WASH.

Margaret & Newell

MS. 1906 Page 34

for Warren Smith - His Brother

Fresh Plowed Soil

There's something beautiful
In fresh plowed sod -
Its very perfume
Speaks of God.

Where once have lain
The winters' snows
The happy farmer
Plows and sows.

Now down, now back
In hardy toil,
Goes the workman
Of the soil.

The soul is like
A fresh plowed field;
None knows but God
Its coming yield.

Mrs. Naomi Sherwood



Dear Roy:-

Longview, Wash. April 3, 1962,

Your letter & birthday card arrived and I appreciated it very much. Thanks a million, I have been quite well for one of my age. I spent a couple of weeks at the Rinehart Clinic at Wheeler, Oregon immediately after Xmas & have been much better since. However, I broke down a couple of days ago and ate a couple of helpings (liberal) of cured ham and have been paying the penalty for it. Lean pork is not good for my rheumatism. I am hoping to be in good shape soon as I got a notice from the R.H.S. Alum. Ass'n that they are having their get-together on the 5th of May and would like to attend provided that a few of my Dear Friends and a couple of my old Classmates are there but I attended one last year when I was the only one of the 1906 Class who was there and I saw no one else who I was well acquainted with & it had a rather depressing effect on me & am going to try to hedge a little this time.

I got a letter from Laura Johnson a few days ago & in it she said she was not at Hunter's now as the lady she had been attending had died; also that she was not too sure that she might attend the banquet. However, I am writing her today to find out if she and Mrs. Simpson can't arrange to attend. If not I, perhaps will stay home also. Laura Johnson being there made the event so worth while that without her it would be punishment rather than pleasure for me.

I noted that you mentioned May 12th and wonder if the 5th may make it possible for you. I am hoping to get definite information so I can make plans. You know that at 76 it is a good idea to peruse the obituaries each day and I have decided that this may be the last chance I have to deliberate. I would like to be in RITZVILLE on May 5th and go on to Spokane and visit an old roommate of business College days whom I have not seen since Feb. 10th, 1913. I remember the day because he went to the Courthouse as a witness when the Marriage License was bought, arranged without consulting us for a minister for the ceremony to be in his home & followed it with a very splendid dinner. He and I took the C.C. for Postal employment and I passed up the appointment to go home and help Warren retire a \$13,000 loan that he had taken out to buy an additional 320 acre farm. This friend took his appointment and worked in the Spokane Post Office beginning July 1st, 1907 and retired a few years ago.

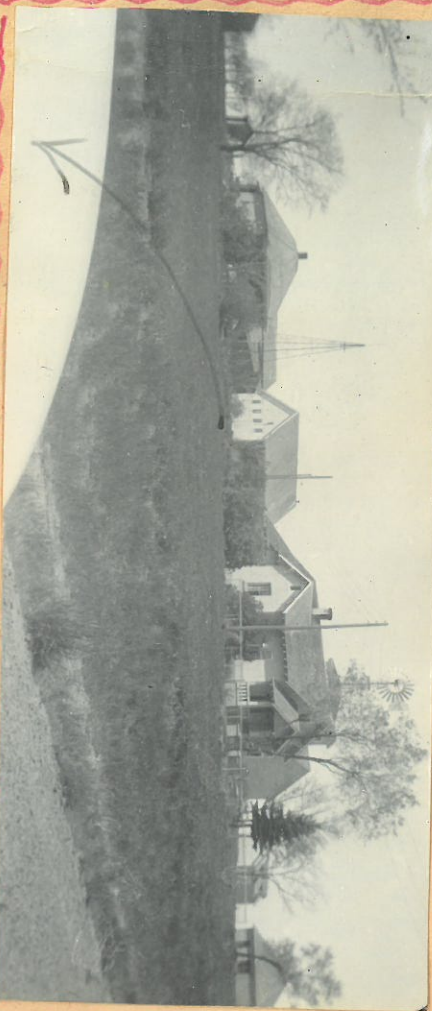
I note the report on your activities and am sure glad that you can enjoy them. Regarding Mrs. Harder I think one of her family was killed in a car accident a few months ago. She is the one who wrote the booklet that I bought at your request. She was the widow of Jacob Harder, the extensive shop man.

I noted in a recent newspaper article that Jacob Ott's wife had been selected as the Mother of the Year. I tried to keep the paper long enough to clip the article but it has disappeared but you will no doubt get it in the next issue of the Ritzville paper.

I think I have exhausted my stock of gossip for the moment so will close. I am hoping that I will get favorable reports from both of my girlfriends as I want to go this year for I suspect that it will be my last chance. My time has arrived when I can live in the past and think of the few real friends I have acquired in these 76 years, and watch the crowds pass and realize that my ability to get out and mingle is over.

If this change in dates should change your plans I would appreciate knowing about it. With regards to both of you.

Harold



This is a snapshot of Larsen Smith's ranch on Battle Mountain that taken in May 1955. His sons run the place now and I think Larsen lives in Ritzville. For two summers viz, 1900 and 1901 I spent with Larsen's father, Rudolphus Pizano Smith at his home 3 miles away from this place and it was one of the most pleasant experiences of my life. As soon as school was out I left immediately the very next day with Dolph, as his wife called him in the back chain by the two horses Dolph and Sam and it took us 3 hours to cover the 18 miles each foot brought me closer to his ranch where I was to enjoy a wonderful vacation.

I could write volumes on my experiences there

DR. E. LEROY GILSON
209 DOWNEY AVE.
MODESTO, CALIF. 95354

Charles
Bushman took
me out there
in his car in
May-1961
Roy Gilson



Rec'd
4/26/62
ND
1906
P
36
Ans'd - 4/29-62
my 71st Birthday

Dear Roy:-

April 25, 1962.

Since my last letter to you I have gotten an expression from a couple of ladies that I am seriously interested in, stating that they had no intentions for attending the 1962 Alumni Gatering this year and gave probably acceptable reasons for their decision.

Mrs. Simpaon suggested that there were so few of her old crowd who would be in attendance, and too, she is planning on attending a wedding of her grand daughter in th very near future which will consume some of her time. She mentioned that Mr. Emerson had just latly gotten so that he was able to handle that artificial limb when trouble started in the other leg so they have decided not to attend. Mrs. Johnson replied to my enquiry and advised that she had recently been relieved of her charge at Hunters because of the death of the lady whom she had been attending. As soon as that was out of the way she had gone ot Richland to spend a few days with her grand daughter and two great grand children also that one of her two brothers was confined to a hospital with a

malignant condition and she want to be free to go to him at

any time, so that eliminates the two that I was concerned about. I have been a little handicaped with a rheumatic condition and that has had a little effect on my desire so have decided that I will arrange to make a trip over that was a little later, perhaps in June if all goes well. I have a grand daughter that plans a marriage for herself on the week immediately after the Fourth of July and the daughter has suggested that while in Tacoma for that that we arrange to go on to Seattle for the Fair, but when I think of the walking that would go with it I have about decided that I will give it the go by also.

There is very little to write about that would be new or interesting. I get the Ritzville paper but there are so few there that I know that I dont get much out of it. A lot of names appear that are familiar with but I realize that they are a least two generations away from the ones that I knew, so I cannot be too concerned about them.

I am enclosing a little reminder that you have a birthday soon and we both hope that it will be a happy one and you will continue to be able to enjoy many more of them.

I had a very sp lendid birth day, the son and family drove down from Portland on Sunday and after breakfast we all got into the car and drove to Tacoma where his twin sister lives and we spent the day in an old time gab fest. I have a picture of my twins and myself and will send you one the next time I write. The negatives are in the photo shop, now for some additional copies. I received as a gift a kodak for my Christmas and have just gotten started to taking a few shots and I find that this kodak bug grows on one.

You mentioned that you planned on attending the Seattle fair and it just occurred to me that if you should make the trip by car that we would be extremely pleased if you could arrange to stop ofhere for a night or two, we have sleeping facilities for four additional people, so would suggest that yourself and wife give this matter a little thought.

We are having mostly March weather but it is improving and will perhaps be bearable one of these days.

I think that I have rambled on long enough for this time so will say "Thirty" for now and with a sincere wish that you enjoy a happy Birth Day I remain,

Your very good friend,

Newell

Newell E. Smith was Born 3/21/1886
at Little Rock, Ark. Finished 4th Grade
in Country School in 1901. and in Sept-
1901 went to live in Ritzville. He Boarded
a Roomed at Dr. G. H. Lemman and Residence
Ritzville. Dentist-Entered 8th Grade in
1901 and Graduated from Ritzville High
School in 1906-

NS 1906

for

37

Newell

Smith

after Graduating from
R.H.A. on June 1906-He
went To the Fair

Business bookleg

for a Business course

which he completed in

May-1907-Then he

Took a Civil Service

Examination for the

Post Office in Spokane

But he turned down

an appointment to

help his Brother

Warren on the Ranch.

In 1910 he left Ritzville

and married a woman

Myrtle Ross Hall who

Born him 3 children.

He lived with her for

40 years-1909 to 1949

at Blonquiere Wash.

for 15 yrs.

married Mrs. Chae

Frazier who had 3

children. Dies at

Portland, Ore Oct. 2

1967 age 81 yrs

Dear Roy:-

June 11, 1962.

Your letter of the 8th arrive in due time and was extremely glad to hear from you. And especially glad to know that it will be possible for you to spend some time with us, either on your way to Seattle or on your return. If I don't get any word from you will be looking for you on the Monday that you suggested but if that does not work out satisfactorily for you a post card with the information as to when you will arrive will be appreciated.

I am not going into any lengthy discussion as to my conduct as I can do it much better face to face. I am enclosing a rough sketch which I hope will make it possible for you to find us and on it I will attach my phone number and if the road instructions are not comprehensive you can call and advise where you are and I can grab the car and come and pick you up.

Well will be at home for the reason that we have a little redecorating in our rental side of the duplex as we are getting a change in tenants. We have a decorator coming to do the work, in is only necessary for us to be here to see that he has the proper moral support and give him a check when he finishes.

At last we are threatened with a little agreeable weather, it has been colder and rainier than usual this spring but it is looking much better as of now.

I am looking forward to a nice visit with you and wife and trust that you will not be so rushed that it will shorten our visit.

I'll save all the items until you folks arrive.

Will close now in anticipation of a very nice visit with you folks. DRIVE CAR FULLY ON your trip, accidents are somewhat in excess of demands so it is not necessary for any contributions from you.

As ever, Newell

Dear Friend Roy:-

I was a little disappointed on my return home to find your note in the mail box but suspect that it was one of those things that could not be helped. I had planned to be home when you arrived on the 25th. -as you had suggested. However I realize that we are not able to arrange everything to work out as we had originally planned.

I have been dreaming of making a trip to Ritzville and Spokane some time during this summer but nothing definite has developed as yet. I have been trying to work out definite arrangements so that I could see everyone that I have on my list but as of now nothing for sure.

Too, we have rather unsettled weather, a lot of clouds and threatening rain but even with all the threats the spring has been a little shorter of rainfall than average.

As you know, I got the Ritzville paper each week but find very little of interest in it. I find names of a lot of people that I knew at one time but realize that they are descendants of those that I knew so it fails to be of too much interest.

We have both enjoyed very good health, considering our ages. I have a few aches and pains, a result of Gout but have been able to get out to the store and over town every day. I have been solicited regularly to attend the Seattle Fair but am not too much interested. I can visualize the walking and standing in line and when I do that I lose interest. My son Jean and family were up there last week but I have not seen any of them since their return to get report on their trip as yet.

I get a line from Laura Johnson occasionally but nothing of late. The last line I had from her she was in Soap Lake visiting her brother who lives there. She also advised that her other brother was hospitalized and she feared that his trouble was malignant. I have been hoping to hear from her with a report on herself and family.

I had a very nice letter from Laura Simpson soon after the notices of the Alumni Banquet were mailed out, in fact, I wrote to her to find if she expected to attend and her reply was very optimistic. She appeared to be in very good health and apparently quite happy. She advised of pending marriage of a grand daughter and apparently was looking forward to it with pleasure. I noted with interest what you had said about Ethel Walker, I had noted in the Ritzville paper that she was present. I had almost forgotten that she existed. The ranks of the early classes of R.H.S. are getting extremely thin. I noted that she was the only one of the class of 1905 and I think that the class of 1906 was not represented at all. They could arrange to be represented if they were so inclined. Mrs. Pohl, Harry Davenney, Mrs. Guy Lovell, the two Lauras and myself are still in the land of the living as far as I know. I understand that Emma is not enjoying very good health which give me an excuse. I have nothing definite about Harry of Zelma so can't say too much about them. As time goes on it seems that the list of old acquaintances is getting shorter and shorter and with my failure to build up additional new acquaintances I am feeling more isolated.

38 Days 11/2 1962

June 23, 1961. Just returned from my trip to Ritzville for the Alumni banquet went by Longview to see Newell but it being Father's Day he was in Portland visiting his twins so missed him. On June 14, 1962 received his letter and the manuscript he mentioned so much in his former letters of his life and which he titled "I lived there" meaning Ritzville, Washington. A copy of this story is in this book at his consent.

Roy Gilson.

e goes on. I suppose that everyone has that same feeling in declining years. I realize that I am living on borrowed time. I have no one to blame for that feeling. Time drags for me. I have no hobbies, so all I can do to pass the time is a weekly of the lawn and read the papers and criticize the political nt. I woke up to the fact that a hobby is very essential for those linger after their productive years. I never have fished and am physical condition to do any hunting, I have no musical talents pass the time, so you perhaps can realize how time drags for me. I write an interesting letter. I still feel that legalized execution of my age would be a splendid thing. It would cut down on the Security payments, this big discussion of Medical care, the ing of rest homes for the aged, the burdening of the children with are of their aged parents. The fact is that it would simplify of present day problems, so why not get behind a movement for legislation? Exemptions could be included exempting in good health and with financial reserves enough to be entitled mption, with provision for execution at any time that they became t to public help.

I suspect that I have gone plenty far with my ideas but please do not that I am completely out of harmony with everybody and everything. I am all that I have at my disposal to get as much out of life as possible and since I am unable to sell any one on my idea will continue on and be a little burden to those around me as possible. I am enclosing a rough draft of the little item that I wrote last "I LIVED THERE" and after you have read it and realize what it would ask that you return it to me and I might get in a mood to write it and correct a lot of the spelling and shift the various s of it so that it will have little better look to any one who get their hand on it in the years to come. I wrote it as the detail to me and it is very poorly connected and a lot of detail has been ssed. I feel that I can improve on it considerable and when that been done I will then pass it on to the fireplace and use it's. I try to remove the chill.

This is letter is a lot like the enclosure and will verify what I have ady mentioned about my ability to write.

I trust that you had an enjoyable trip up here this summer and that self and wife are enjoying good health. I will enjoy a line from you occasionally with anything of interest. I am hoping that that on your next up this way that I may be able to have a visit with you. I would be very glad if it were possible for you to come our way again when you do arrange to spend a day and night, at least with us. I am closing now with a wish for the best of everything in life for and yours. I almost forgot, when you return this bunch of brain rm, a little criticism will be appreciated. Bye now

Margaret & Maud



By It's 203 D-outside

1414 9th. Ave.,
Longview, Wash.
July 12, 1962.

9-23-1962 Answered with a newsy letter (I hope) and returned to him the manuscript he sent me of the story= "I lived there". Roy

11b 1906 739

Dear Roy:- Longview, Calif. Dec. 15, 1962.

Your card just arrived and I noted your inquiry about one of my Class-mates, Laura Johnson, and will say that theone you have is correct. I am sure she will cooperated with you in furnishing any information she can in regard to the statistics of some of the first graduates. She may also have one of the old annuals. The last time I heard from her she was in Boston, Mass. She advised that she had an opportunity to make this trip cost free and had visited several of the large cities in Eastern Canada. I believe she said she would be home about Xmas.

Have been bust with Xmas cards for several days but have it about whipped now. I have a lot of distant friends who I only write to at thsi time of the year.

I trust that this will arrive soon enough to meet your demands. Will close and get this on it's way. Sincerely yours. N.E.S.

He was a natural born writer - wrote 1200's many short stories

Hevelly E Smith 06

Born Mar. 23-1886 Little Rock, Ark.

Died Feb 26, 1961 Age 81 yrs 11 mo 25 days

at Hays-N. York at Portland Ore

Faith Hope Charity

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Having suffered long, and is kind, charity envieth not; charity counteth not itself, is not puffed up,

Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil,

Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth.

Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail;

whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away.

For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.

But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away.

When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child,

I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things.

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face:

now I know in part, but then shall I know even as also I am known.

And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three, but the greatest of these is charity.

LONGVIEW
DEC 12 5-PM
1962
WASH.

268

12 1906

Jan 2

40

Dear Roy:-

I may be getting out of turn with this letter but I am confined to the basement as Margaret is having her 'hen' party bingo club areas it is the custom for each member to furnish a meeting place in rotation for their gettogethers. She has been a little incapacitated because of her operation and hospital stay this the first time she has been able to take her turn for soe time. We have a finished basement with heat and I have my desk down here and it is a good place to hide out in these cases so am taking a dvantage of the opportunity to write few letters. I got my first from Laura Johnson for several months as she has been away from Spokane. Her letter was a little bit sad as he mentioned that her brother who lives at Soap Lake had suffered a toke, also that a neice had passed away on the 2nd. of January. I also that she, herself, had been down with a little flu. I just finished a line to her and since she mentioned that she had had a letter from you and must answer it, gave me the idea that I, too, might drop you a line. I appreciated you picture that was in your Christmas card and fasted in my snap album.

We are both quite well, Margaret has pretty well recovered from her eye operation but her vision is somewhat impaired. Those operations very delectate and she id perhaps fortunate that she is as well as he is. She has a son who is am Chyroprractic with offices in Portland and his wife underwent an operation for gall stone a year ago and during this proccedre she was stikken with a light stroke and a hernia so developed. Her was decidedly slow and she tried to get built up or another operation to correct the hernia and removal of duodenal .cers. In September of this year she went back for these other troubles and this other doctor discovered that the gall bladder had been removed worry done, in fact only a part of the gall bladder had been removed and it was necessary that he finish the job that had been partly done year previous. The doctor did the hernia, the ulcers and the cleanup the liver all at one setting so she was considerable of a mess when she was able to come home. Margaret went down and spent a month helping out with the care of their home and the daughter-in-law. When she got this taken care of it was Christmas, so you can see I had a batching spree that lasted from August till Christmas.

There is nothing new or startling in the way of news here, I get the Ritzville paper but there has been nothing new or startling in it for several weeks. The fault is mine as I have been away from there so long that there are only a very few that I know anymore. Perhaps you had heard that Rich Ott is now serving as Chief Justice on the upreme Bench of our State Supreme Court. I suspect that they rotate on a seniority basis. I understand that this arrangement will last for two years, and I think that he will have serve his elected term on that bench by then.

I had heard that Amanda Beir was not well but in my letter of congratulation to Rich I asked about her but in his acknowledgement of my letter he failed to mention her.

I trust that you both are enjoying good health and that you winter so far has been fairly decent. We have had a ver y nice winter so far very little rain and no snow, our lowest was in the 20's and then only for a couple of nights. When we read and hear of the weather they are having in the midwest, east and in those overseas countries we should be very thankful for the good the Gods provide.

I am wondering what is in store for us politically at this moment. Our State legislature and the national mill is also grinding and anything can happen.

I cannot refrain from saying that I am glad to hear that you are all well. I cannot refrain from saying that I am glad to hear that you are all well. I cannot refrain from saying that I am glad to hear that you are all well.

Living the matter some thought, for there will be a few left after that will (or should) do a little worrying. I cannot refrain from saying that I am glad to hear that you are all well. I cannot refrain from saying that I am glad to hear that you are all well. I cannot refrain from saying that I am glad to hear that you are all well.

Very sincerely yours,

1414 9th., Ave.
Longview, Wash.
Jan. 23, 1963.

LONGVIEW
DEC 15
6-PM
1962
WASH.

Ans'd - 1/29/63
ND 1906-241116

Dear Friend Roy:

May 19, 1963.

WJG
NE 1906

I have been thinking of you considerably since I got an announcement of the Alumni affair that is being held this coming Saturday, and it is with a little regret that I have found that none of my class are attending also that none of the 1905 bunch will be there either. I wrote to Laura Johnson to ascertain if any of the old GANG of mine would be there and after a letter from her also Laura Simpson I decided that I would be decidedly out of place there and have decided that instead I would spend Memorial Day in Portland and then drive on to Yakima where one of Warren's boys live, then on to Ritzville for a day then on to Spokane where Dalbert, the oldest of the Haas family live. Then back to Lind where they are holding a Diamond Jubilee celebration in commending the establishment of that burg in 1887 when the railroad was built through that part of the "wasteland" and Neilson Bros. started a store there. We visited that town many times during my early childhood, and where I spent the last few years of my residence in Adams County. I met my wife there and our twins were born there. I have had a special invitation to be there and think I will try to be there. Three days June 7-8-9.

I read the Ritzville paper and read with much interest your letter of your trip to Davenport to attend the football game. I remembered that trip very vividly as I played the position of center and returned home with a few sore spots as a result of the abuse those Davenport guys handed out. I had forgotten about you and Pat being in the football squad but dug out a picture of the squad and discovered that you both were in the photo.

After reading your letter I was reminded that it has been truthfully said that one's ability to remember so vividly the events that occurred in our younger days and failure to recall the events of yesterday are concrete proof of the advance of old age. I still contend that the legislation that I mentioned in one of my letters of bygone day in which I suggested that I if I was successful in interesting some one with a little legislative ability to sponsor a bill to create a law to legalize the mandatory shooting all who ~~survive~~ at the age of seventy years. I am still working on it.

We are both quite well considering our age and I hope to be able to drive on this suggested trip. It is so tough to get around without a car and I want to visit at Deer Park and if Laura J. is at Shap Lake I might arrange to drop out that way on my return. I would like to go Walla Walla also on this trip as I suspect that it may be my last one. I have a few friends living there that I have not seen since 1931. Nothing has been rumored if you expect to attend the Alumni ~~Festivities~~

but if you should be in those parts I might run onto you, I might be in Ritzville on Monday eve following Memorial Day. I have a little business to attend to while there, and probably would spend one night there.

There is very little of interest happening here, I get the Ritzville paper but there is not much of interest anymore. Many name that are familiar but realize that they are, perhaps, grand children of the ones that I knew. On one of my trips to Ritzville I walked out to the Cemetery and spent three or four hours walking around and reading the names on the stones and reliving the days of their life in the community and recalling their looks and personalities. When I returned to town I felt that I had almost visited with them as I used to do in the days of my presence in their community. I walked up know hill in the evening and continued that communion as I passed the Burrough's home the J.D. Bassett W.R. Peters, the Shipman and Gilson Homes. The Tom Leonard, the W.R. French Wade Landreth, the Shepley and many others that I was able to locate. It was a little sad for me but I enjoyed it, nevertheless less. This trip brought back to me my recollection of Grays Eulegy in

Country Churchyard! If I could enjoy the company of a close friend of near my own age and repeat that visit again with time to talk over old times it would be a splendid to remember from here on.

I guess that I had indulged in those vivid memories that I have of the past and for fear that I may reveal that I am on the decline I had better forget for the moment and get on to something of recent thought. I trust that you will drop me a line some time at your leisure and tell me something of yourself and family.

Trusting that you and yours are in good health and are getting your usual share of the good thing in life, I will close this out and get in the mail box as they pick up in the next hour. So Bye now with my sincere wish for the best for you, I am as always

Your very sincere friend,

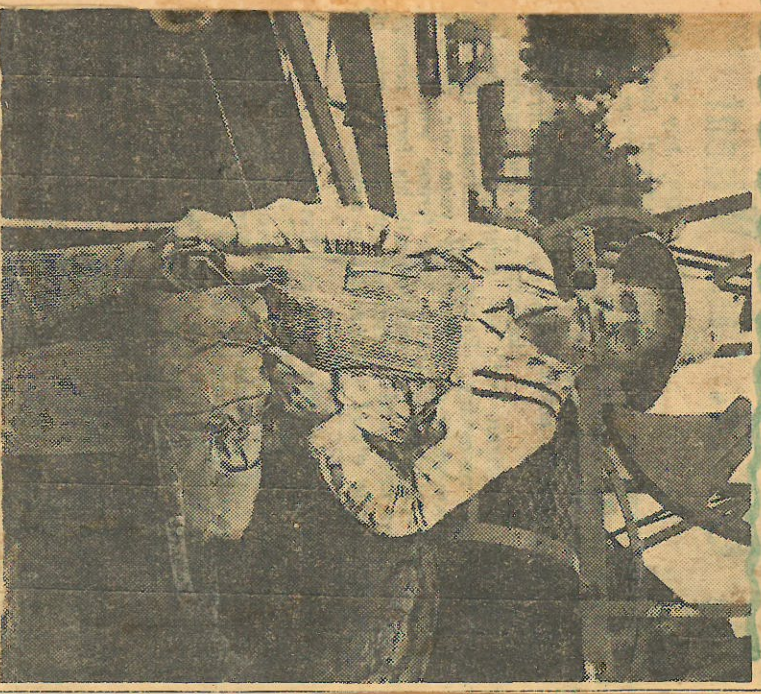
WJG
MAY 19 530PM
1963
WASH.

Dec. 15, 1963;

(41)

116 1906- Jan 243

Farmer, 81, Has His 61st Harvest



Another harvest starts for Warren A. Smith of Ritzville.

Warren A. Smith of Ritzville, Wash., may have a record of some kind.

This year he's taking part in his 61st harvest on a homestead near Ritzville. Of course he has three sons, W. Alex. Smith, Chester S. Smith and Herbert A. Smith, "helping him."

Smith, who will be 81 years old on August 29, got off a train at Ritzville on Christmas eve in 1888. He and his mother were joining the father, Rudolphus P. Smith, who had come out a year earlier to homestead a 160-acre piece of ground.

Ritzville was a little place with two or three stores and a courthouse, he recalls.

He remembers going out the following morning 25 miles to drive a wagon and herd sheep. During his career as a farmer, he says, he had handled the grass scythe, the cradle and walked behind the reaper to bind wheat.

A week after he was 21 Smith took out his own homestead. There he raised a family of 12 children.

What does he think of modern times?

"A man told me it's awful hard to make a living. I told him 'No, it's not. It's hard to keep money these days, though,'" was Smith's sage comment.

Confirmations Honored at Alex Smiths' Sunday

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Smith gave a dinner Sunday honoring the confirmation of their son and daughter, Warren and Janet, who were confirmed at the Ralston Community church. Among those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Wellstrand, Rev. and Mrs. Robert Kennan and Mr. and Mrs. Fred Langenheder.

Alex Two Children

Warren's Name & Sage - Grandson

Dear Roy and wife:- Just a short note, I had gone to sleep and almost overlooked this Christmas season. I got a Christmas card a couple of days ago and then woke up to the fact that it was that time of year, so rushed out and picked up a few card and have been working madly to get a few line of writing into many that are of special interest to me, and of course yourself and wife are in that preferred list. We are both in as good physical condition as we can expect considering age. We have been having a very nice season, no snow yet and not colder than 25 above, but can expect something a little worse as the season advances. We I read of the weather in the middle West and East can feel that we here are among the favored ones, weatherwise. I have had nothing of interest newswise for a long time so have very little to write about. I trust that you are both enjoying good health and that both enjoy a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. We are planning a little gettogether on next Sunday. I have been taking all of the family that can come to a family dinner at some good eating place down town Portland. that has been my practice for several years and I think the family enjoy it as much or more than gifts. We plan on eighteen for this next Sunday. We have planned it for the 22nd. since the kids all work and the Christmas come in midweek so have planned it so that the could attend without neglecting their jobs. I have been getting the Ritzville paper for several years but find nothing of interest anymore, there are so many of the ones that I knew left there that it is all quite foreign to me any more. The assassination of our President has upset out little town and surrounding area and things are not back to normal yet. I have been disturbed as much, perhaps as most everyone else. I admired JFK very much and feel that he will o down in history along with a lot of other great men. Perhaps I should close this up as I have nothing much of interest o write about. So, again wishing you and your the bast of everything, I say Bye now, from one of your very close friends. Sincerely, Russell & Margaret



Letters to the Editor

The Journal-Times welcomes letters to the editor. Letters must be brief, and the paper reserves the right to edit all letters. No letter can be printed without the proper signature and address of the writer.

To the editor: I trust that you will accept a slight correction in an article in your issue of March 7 relative to the removal of some grain handling facilities at Paha and Pizarro.

You quoted a Mr. Urquhart as to the date of the building of warehouses at Pizarro as being in 1905. I beg to advise that this spur railroad loading track was installed in the latter part of August and early part of September, 1909.

I can speak with authority because of the fact that my father, R. P. Smith, negotiated with the Milwaukee railway and succeeded in having the installation made. Out of consideration of his efforts the railway company gave the place its name, my father's middle name.

The Farmers Warehouse Co., with headquarters at Lind built the first grain handling facility there and I was placed in charge of its facilities. This company had a well drilled and an inexpensive building built for the purpose of providing din-

ing and sleeping facilities for accommodating the necessary help required for the operation of the warehouse.

Then sacked grain was the method. The building also provided meals for the farmers that lived so far away that only one trip per day was possible. During this period the Turners warehouse was also built there. The son of J. F. Turner, a pioneer of Ritzville who was manager of a grain concern in Ritzville for many years, was the builder.

I also noted that the mill at Paha was credited with the brand name for their flour of "Krone." I beg to suggest that Ott Brothers, one-time owners of the Ritzville Flour mills, brought that name to your community and used it as their trade name. I believe that you have residents still living in Ritzville who will verify this statement. W. F. Kreeger was manager of that mill for many years and can verify this statement.

The reading of this article brought back many of the happenings of those bygone days. I graduated from your high school in 1906 and lived in your county until 1919. My contacts with the people made it possible for me to call almost everyone in your county by name.

3/21/63

My father homesteaded in Adams county in the spring of 1888 and I was raised and lived there until 1919. I can remember when the business district of Ritzville consisted of the Ritzville Hotel. The Adams County Bank, Spanger Hardware store, N. H. Green Mercantile store, Dr. F. R. Burroughs, Shepley & Son grocery.

Also I can remember when the streets were lined with hitching poles and when the water supply for the town was obtained at a well on the corner of what is now the Ritzville Trading Co., building. Later a well was provided and equipped with a power pump on the corner where the library now stands.

If any controversy should develop because of my remarks, I will be glad to hear from you again and will assist in any way to clear matters up.

Trusting that my interest in this matter is not too far fetched, and that these little discussions will revive interest among the residents of the early history of your community, I remain

Very sincerely,
N. E. Smith
1414 9th Ave.,
Longview, Wash.

Wendell

ms 1906

Have been trying to get at this Christmas letter writing but can't seem to realize that the time is getting short. Have had a rotten summer, one day of sunshine then two or three of cloudy weather. I was drier than normal until about Nov. when it began to rain and it has continued unabated since.

my from getting to 'nasty' at home. I get a letter from Laura Johnson, Loutzenhiser (Ethel Walker) occasionally

My immediate family are all well and working, one boy has just underwent an operation but is now back at his old job again.

Have been. "J

With world conditions as they are, I can only wonder how much longer this world can survive. I just re-read your letter of 12/29/63 and found it as interesting as it was the first tie I read it.

the cause and excuse for that sort of thing.

but find that I have no audience to express myself to.

There is some agitation for a reduction in military facilities on the pretext of reducing expenses, which is good, but, should we cut defenses to a point where our enemies might get the idea that they could beat us into subsection? We have allowed our congress raises in wages of \$7.500.00each for 538 Congressmen plus \$600.00 added expense account plus one additional clerk for each. When we realize that less than 100 men met in Philadelphia in 1789 and drafted a world respected Constitution, to which was added the Bill of Rights (ten amendments) why should it take 538 men months to pass a bill of Rights State's Rights. I think that if we had one Senator from each state and a reapportionment of Congressmen that would reduce the membership one half, that they could pass all the necessary laws in much less time and they would be as good as the one that 538 members now pass, and it could be done at a saving of several millions of dollars less than now. There is an article

A circular postmark from Longview, Washington. The text "LONGVIEW" is curved along the top inner edge, "WASH." is curved along the bottom inner edge, and "DEC 14 1965 PM" is in the center. The postmark is surrounded by a decorative, hand-drawn border.

in the December issue of TRUE magazine. Written by C.P. Gilmore in which he contends that each lawmaker is costing the taxpayer \$300,000.00 annually. You might get a little kick out of reading this article. This Mag. is a Fawcett publication, printed at 67 West 44 St. New York, 36, N.Y. and is on most news stands.

When I get this Christmas Mail out of my system I'll try and write a more interesting letter, but in the meantime give me a report on your health and anything else that you think I might be interested in. I should have a pretty good line on the health and wellbeing of several of my old schoolmates and will try and pass it on to you. I came on the little joke in this TRUE that I mentioned above and it runs something like this. 'In an engineering seminar the instructor was explaining the process of "brainstorming" a problem. He pointed out that the subconscious mind works independently and will sometimes provide a seemingly spontaneous solution to a problem.

"Why, sometimes you'll even wake up in the middle of the night with a good idea," he exclaimed. "True" rejoined the class wit, "but your wife will not always go along with it".

Must go to the laundry now and pick up some curtains, so will close for now. With the season's Best wishes for you both,

I am as always

I am as always



8 THE MACHINIST, JUNE 20, 1963

THE DISUNITY AMENDMENTS

NEB 1906 Q45

Three proposed constitutional amendments that would radically change the U.S. system of government are moving quickly but quietly through the nation's state legislatures.

The radical amendments, pushed by right-wing extremists, have been described by U.S. Sen. Paul Douglas of Illinois as "time bombs under the American constitutional system."

A survey by THE MACHINIST shows that one, two or even all three of the proposals have been pushed through one or both legislative bodies in 26 states, often with little or no debate. In one state, New Jersey, the State Senate passed two of the amendments but later rescinded its actions.

The proposed constitutional changes, sometimes called "the disunity amendments," are described at left below. The table on state legislative action, at right below, is based on information made available to THE MACHINIST by the Council of State Governments and by Congressional sources. No single authoritative system of reporting such state actions is presently in existence.

The disunity amendments were spawned by a group of state legislators determined to overturn recent Supreme Court decisions, particularly those requiring reapportionment of state legislatures. Working through the National Legislative Conference, an organization made up of state legislators and their staff members, this group quietly circulated the

Amendment 1 • "The Congress, when two-thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, or, on the application of the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states, shall propose amendments to this Constitution, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this Constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several states.

"Whenever applications from the legislatures of two-thirds of the total number of states of the United States shall contain identical texts of an amendment . . . the amendment as contained in the application shall be deemed to have been proposed, without further action by the Congress. . . ."

EFFECT: Would allow states to amend the Constitution without obtaining, as is now required, the approval of Congress or of a constitutional convention. Would provide for amending the Constitution without there having been any national debate. Would make it possible for state legislators representing only 15 per cent of the U.S. population to change the Constitution.

Amendment 2 • "No provision of this Constitution, or any amendment thereto, shall restrict or limit any state in the apportionment of representation in its legislature.

"The judicial power of the United States shall not extend to any suit in law or equity, or to any controversy, relating to apportionment or representation in a state legislature. . . ."

EFFECT: Would give the states a completely free hand in apportioning their legislative districts by placing apportionment of seats in state legislatures beyond the reach of the U.S. Constitution and the Federal courts. Would wipe out recent Supreme Court rulings requiring states to give more equal representation to city voters. Would enshrine present minority rule in many state legislatures.

Amendment 3 • Provides for " . . . a Court composed of the chief justices of the highest courts of the several states to be known as the Court of the Union. The sole issue before the Court of the Union shall be whether the power or jurisdiction sought to be exercised on the part of the United States is a power granted to it under this Constitution. . . ."

"The decisions of the Court of the Union upon matters within its jurisdiction shall be final and shall not thereafter be overruled by any court. . . ."

EFFECT: Would establish a super court with power to overrule U.S. Supreme Court decisions relating to the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. Would make it possible for 26 judges, representing a small minority of the American people, to change the meaning of the Constitution.

amendments to the various states last December. Their goal: to get identical amendments approved by at least 34 legislatures, enough to force Congress to call a constitutional convention.

During the six months since the campaign began, the amendments have been introduced in as many as 40 states. Although several legislatures have rejected the proposals, others still have them under consideration.

The disunity amendments nearly escaped public attention until the AFL-CIO Executive Council and other groups sounded the alarm.

Chief Justice Earl Warren called for public discussion of the amendments, noting that they would "make profound changes in the judiciary, the relationship between Federal and state governments and even the stability of the U.S. Constitution."

Further warnings came from Senator Douglas. Speaking on the Senate floor, the Illinois lawmaker reported that several legislatures, dominated by right-wing interests, are keeping the amendments under cover. Their strategy, Douglas noted, is to rush approval of the amendments next year to "create a bandwagon psychology which will sweep other states into the fold."

The nation's outstanding expert on the disunity amendments is Dr. Charles L. Black, Jr., professor of jurisprudence at the Yale Law School.

"The amendments are radical in the extreme,"

Time bombs under the U.S. Constitution

Black declared recently. "They aim not at the preservation but at the subversion of [the] balance in Federal-state relations."

Black warned that the amendments could take the nation "down that ruinous road" of converting the U.S. back into a confederation of states. He added:

"Together, these proposals would, at one and the same time, place the amending power in the uncontrolled hands of the state legislatures, place the final construction of the Constitution in the hands of judges whose offices are created and whose salaries are paid by the state legislatures, and then exempt the same state legislatures from any effective policing, by courts or Congress, of their representative character."

Writing in *Newsweek* magazine, the noted commentator Walter Lippmann described the disunity campaign as "shocking and sinister."

"The package of the three amendments," wrote Lippmann, "would dissolve the Union into a mere confederacy of separate states. It would perpetuate in the legislatures of these states a system of representation which antedates the growth of modern cities, and it would strip the whole system of the Union of the great constitutional guarantees."

"The amendments strike as deeply at the foundations of the American Union as anything which has been agitated seriously since nullification and secession," Lippmann concluded.

STATE ACTION ON DISUNITY AMENDMENTS

	Amendment 1 By-Pass Congress in Amending Constitution	Amendment 2 Perpetuate Unfair Apportionment of State Legislatures	Amendment 3 Establish New Super Court
Alabama	passed both houses	passed both houses	passed both houses
Arkansas	passed Senate	passed both houses	passed both houses
Colorado	passed both houses	passed Senate	passed both houses
Florida	passed both houses	passed both houses	
Idaho	passed both houses	passed both houses	
Illinois	passed both houses	passed Senate	
Indiana	passed House		
Iowa		passed Senate	
Kansas	passed both houses	passed both houses	passed House
Mississippi	passed House	passed House	
Missouri	passed both houses	passed both houses	
Montana		passed both houses	
Nebraska	passed legislature vetoed by governor	passed legislature vetoed by governor	
Nevada	passed both houses	passed both houses	
N. Hampshire	passed both houses	passed both houses	
New Jersey	Senate passage rescinded	Senate passage rescinded	passed Senate
New Mexico	passed Senate	passed both houses	
Oklahoma	passed both houses	passed both houses	
Oregon	passed Senate	passed Senate	
S. Carolina	passed both houses	passed both houses	passed both houses
S. Dakota	passed both houses	passed both houses	
Texas	passed House	passed both houses	
Utah		passed both houses	
Washington		passed both houses	passed House
Wisconsin	passed House		passed both houses
Wyoming	passed both houses	passed both houses	
Approval completed	12 states	15 states	5 states
Partial approval	7 states	5 states	3 states

¹ Nebraska has only a single legislative body. Action on the amendments is believed to be valid despite veto by Gov. Frank Morrison.

² Version adopted by Utah legislature differs in language from that passed in other states.

The N. E. Smiths
1414 9TH AVE.
LONGVIEW, WASHINGTON

RE 1906
Page 46
Ritz

Warren's Home -ville



706 Division St



Warren Smith &
his house keeper
Gussie Gerlachmidt

May, 23, 1958- Warren Smith of 706 Division Street, Brixville, Adams County, Washington, whom I visited again on this visit and he gave me an account of the Masonic history and life history of his father and my friend Mr. Bro. Rudolphus Pizzano Smith, which account I narrate and put in the Masonic division of my scrapbook. Then I wrote Warren a letter and sent the material back to him. Next I wrote him to find if he can R.E. Smith's diary which I used to sit and watch him write up every day in the evening and which he kept father-fully for I don't know how many years.

I am keeping what I can get some Daily to print

sh. To the Editor :- I am, as all voters of these states, should be concerned regarding the present plan of succession to the presidency, as was necessitated on November of last year upon the tragic death of our President.

are now with only successor in case of another vacancy before January 20, 1965 is our Speaker of the lower House of Congress. I am not inclined to question the ability of our Speaker, but do realize his information as to what the Executive Branch of our government is more or less unclear to him, and while he is absorbing and applying this information, we could, nationally get into serious trouble.

theory is that we should decide on a more direct approach to this problem and enact a law, or a Constitutional Amendment to govern procedure, in the event of death or incapability of our President to have a man fully informed as to what has been done by the Executive Department, so that he may be qualified to proceed fully informed as to what has been done and the reasons for such plans by his predecessor. He should be detailed to attend all conferences, read all communications, and thus be familiar with every detail of the presidential action. These duties should be required, with no authority to criticize the President's actions or decisions, but to know definitely all of the President's acts and know the President's reasons for such acts. He should be in constant contact with the President's official life every day and at all times. This would best prepare him to take up the burdens of the White House at any time and carry on.

This could be achieved by the election two Vice Presidents, the first Vice President to operation in plan already outlined, and the second Vice President could function as of the early custom of presiding over the U.S. Senate. In the case of a tragedy as we realize at the moment, he would be advanced to the position of this suggested First Vice President and assume that person's duties in advising himself as to the plans laid down by position of the one vacated, thus continuing the program unchanged.

the plan of right of trial and punishment for treason would apply to any and all parties involved, and any publicity on any matters classified.

The President and both Vice Presidents should be elected as of now so that in the case of succession, ~~no~~ mistakes could be blamed on the former occupant of the office or the opposing political party.

The Speaker of the House could, in case of a opposite party majority in the house, the Speaker could be on opposite sides of the executive branch, partywise, which might set up conflicts.

I think that U.S. history will verify the fact that no time in its history has wars and rumors of wars have been as great as now, therefore, every precaution should be taken to plug any holes that might cause an error in judgement.

The conditions are the most severe in this respect, since the death of Abraham Lincoln, President Johnson is very satisfactory but remember before his election to the Vice Presidency, he suffered a heart attack and anything could happen, with the growth of Communism and the decided spirit of agitation another ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ assassination could occur and leave us with inexperienced material to step in and carry on.

I would like to hear from others with their ideas of ways and means of fortifying ourselves against another situation like this country suffered in 1865.

N. E. Smith,
1414 9th. Ave.,

**Feb 6 1958
Contributions Sought
for Merry-Go-Round**

L. F. Mason, superintendent of the home for the mentally ill, visited a brief time with Warren Smith Sunday on an errand of soliciting funds to buy a merry-go-round for boys and girls at Lakeland Village.

Persons who may wish to contribute to the fund were asked by Smith to send their donations to Mason at Medical Lake. Checks are to be marked for the "merry-go-round fund," he said.



Warren Smith, in the back yard of his home at 706 Division St

May 23-1945 (45)

1906 Graduate Recalls

Early Debating Activity

these political meetings. I feel that the rank and file of RHS students could vote more intelligently than the average voter of those days.

My observation now is that this element has been by-passed by our schools these days to the detriment of our political picture. We are spending the taxpayer's money for physical education and neglecting our economic education. I feel that the economic education should be a "must" in order to prepare our voters of tomorrow with ability to digest and analyze our current problems and to be able to vote wisely.

THE PROBLEMS of our government are the gravest in my recollection; and they are being by-passed by too many voters. Too many of our people with a voting franchise are too busy at the tavern or watching a western movie on TV to be concerned with what our sickle and national congress is doing.

Those public servants are being paid by the taxpayer and should be watched and guided by those that pay them for their services. These days it seems that those elected to handle our public affairs are forgotten as soon as elected and they make their first order of business after convening to adjust their salaries and expense accounts to suit their desires, and go on from there.

Since the management of our country tomorrow will be in the hands and control of our school students of today, it is our profound duty to at least give them the education sufficient to qualify them to perform that duty. Thus they can and should leave this country in a better condition than it was when they entered.

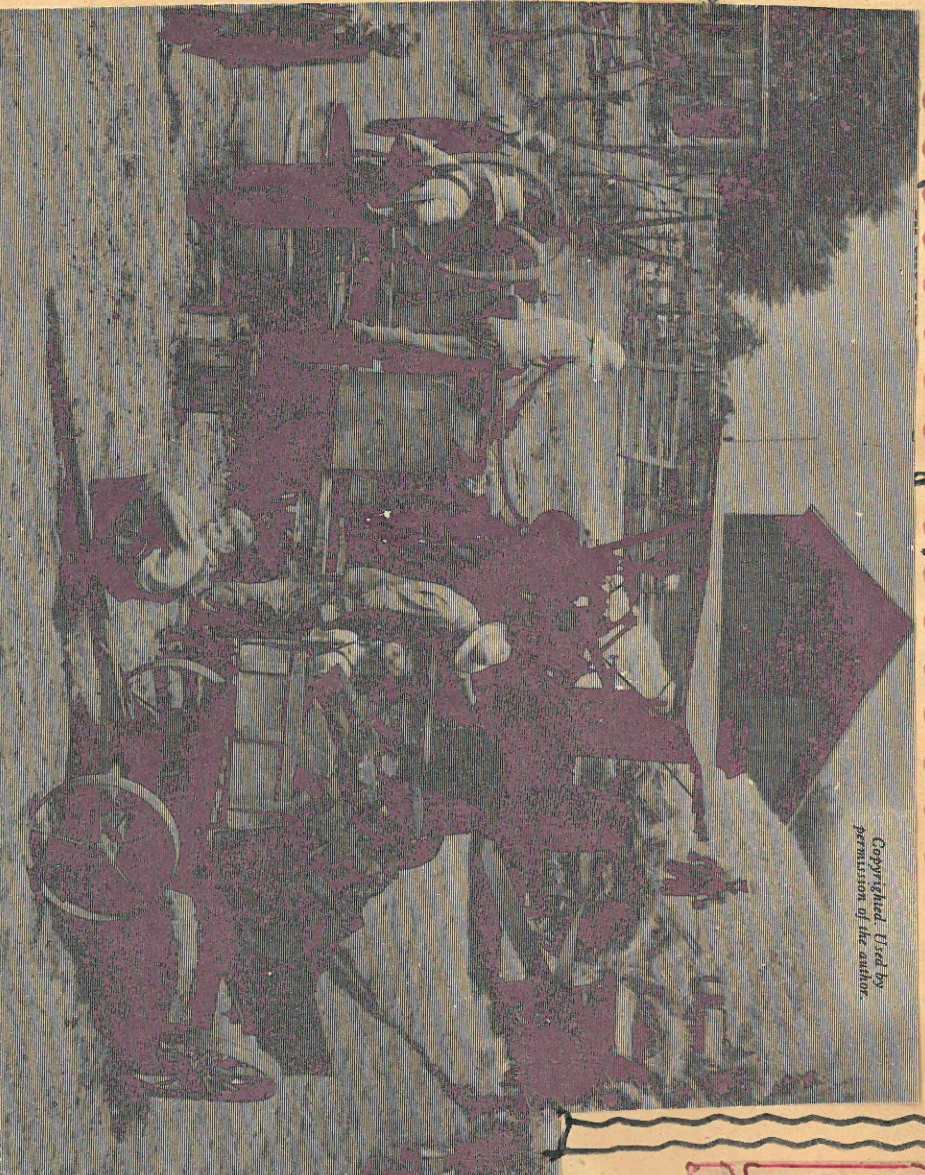
I would have enjoyed meeting with this alumni gathering except that financial and physical conditions intervened. I realize that we in the older brackets do not interest the younger generation, so suspect that I should be heard, only.

Newell Smith
Class of 1906
Longview, Wash.
May 23, 1965

Warten-Died-Sept-1-1961-99

A black and white portrait of an elderly man with a white beard and glasses, wearing a suit and smoking a pipe. The man is looking slightly to the right of the camera. The background is a simple, light-colored wall. The photo is mounted on a dark album page.

The poem is on page 51 - Turn over.



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Warren Shore Pling Snow in RITZville
x - is where we used to drop down it'll

Warren Smith was one of the hardest working men I ever knew and I mean hard work. He certainly deserves and reward he may have reached.



My dear friend Roy:-

Xmas

1944

48

11651906

Your big fat and very welcome letter arrived at Christmas time and I have thought of you often and have promised myself to answer but my letter writing is rather spadematic.

We are both as well as usual and enjoying(?) nasty weather. February was much drier than most February's but on its last we had a severe shower and it has rained almost continuously since. It is quite chilly and considerable wind also.

I suppose that you got the Ritzville Times and know of the death of W.H. Keager, also that they younger Pettijohn boy, also of one of the Helm boy, don't remember if it was Paul or Roy, also passed on lately. I got a letter from Laura Johnson not long since telling me that Emma Basset had written that Emma Crawford, her sister, was suffering from some sort of larynx trouble that was interfering with her speech making it had for her to be understood.

Laura says that she is as well as usual and is still doing some nursing. I, in my reply gave her a decided lecture for doing it. She is only two months younger than I and I feel that she is entitled to some rest and relaxation, being a woman will, no doubt, disregard my suggestion.

I have spent this winter reading, listening to the T.V. and watching the people pass our house and am enjoying it. I have refrained from much outside activities, spent the Christmas season in Portland with my kids and that is the extent of my outside activities.

I am enclosing a reprint which will be self-explanatory. I have written to CBS.T.V. asking that they arrange a panel discussion on their Sunday 'Meet the Press' program but have had not reply as yet. Jack Ruby and Jas. Hoffa seems to be getting the headlines as of now. I heard on T.V. a few minutes ago that Hoffa has been found guilty on two counts of tampering with the jury in a former trial. It is decidedly shocking to hear of the number of plane accidents of late.

I have been watching the Ritzville paper to see when Warren's probate settlement will appear but nothing yet. I feel quite sure that he left a lot of complications that is giving the attorney's a little trouble. The notice to creditors came out only a week after his death which was two years ago last September. That is one thing that my family will not have to delay for long because there will be nothing to worry the courts for long.

I have been reading a loaned book of the life of Thos. A. Edison by Matthew Josephson and printed by McGraw Hill which is very interesting. It tells of his life and his inventive experiences. The predominant element is the number of the moneyed element of that time took advantage of his efforts, money-wise. It seems that every time he made a discovery that Jay Gould or some other millinaire moved in with a little financial help and when things were cleared up Thos. got the short end of the stick. I guess that that has been a overall factor since before Christ drove the moneylenders from the temple. I can appreciate that for I have been through it also. I have no one to blame but myself so will forget it. Unless I hurry up and go the way of all flesh, Taxes and hospital and burial will clean the slate and no worries will be left to my family. My big hope is that my finances and the undertaker will come out even. My career has been extended eight years so I should not complain.

I trust and hope that both of you are enjoying good health and that condition will continue for a long, long time. Some time when writing me please advise as where the rest of the Gilson family are and how their health is. I have had no information regarding any of them for many years. The wife is entertaining a bunch of 'hens' with a bingo party and I am confined to the basement, hence a mood and an opportunity to write letter or two.

I have had no word from Tom Adams for some time, the last word was that he had returned home from the hospital recovering from a severe seige with pneumonia. He lives in Toponish, Washington with his wife who has been headfast for perhaps four years with paralysis, I need a typewriter that is a better speller than this one.

My stock of news is getting well exhausted so there is only one thing to do, close up for this time. So, wishing you and yours a lot of health and happiness and trusting that I may get a line from you when you are in the mood and have time. With my sincere best wishes I am as always

Very sincerely yours,

Very sincerely yours,

Lucy



END BY REGISTERED MAIL
WITH AMOUNT ()
NEED?
ENCLOSED?
ING BEFORE SEALING:
N
11/23/54
Warren
Smith
And y Towers-



Cindy Towers and Warren Smith
in front of Post Office, 1956

May 15, 1965.

Dear Friend Roy:-

I have been expecting a line from you, how these many years, but have decided that it could be possible that I am the one that is behind with my writing. However, will use this to enquire if I might have written something that might have offended, and if such is the case I am offering an apology.

For me the mills of the Gods are still slowly grinding. I have been somewhat handicapped with this rheumatic condition, enough that it is a little difficult to go up and down stairs and get out of a chair, but have no severe pains for which I am extremely thankful for.

I suppose that many people of my age are not fating as well. I manage to make a little trip over town most every day, and have been able to mow the lawn once a week during the last summer. The rainy weather has hit and that mowing job is out for the winter. This has been a little unusual, weatherwise most of the summer, more dry weather than usual but fortunately less forest fires than usual.

I have confined myself to the home as Mrs. objects to my driving the car, so when I get out it is when she happens to be in Portland which is quite often, her son is an ~~xxxxx~~ chryopractor there and she goes down quite often to spend the week end with him and his wife. I get the Ritzville paper but it is getting quite foreign to me, all of the ones that I knew there have passed on to their reward so it to me is rather strange. I saw an account of the marriage of Warren's bgrand daughter, also a picture and an article about the new Masonic Hall that they have built, which was of some interest to me. My girl friends that I usually get line from regularly have been a little negligent of the past summer, however I got a very nice and newsy letter from Laura Johnson and in it she gave me the details on Laura Simpson and mentioned ~~xxxxx~~ Mrs. Fred Loutzenhiser (Ethel Walker). I gathered that Mr. & Mrs. L.D. Emerson is still at the Rockwood Manor, and are as well as usual.

I have had a low spot, My youngest Daughter lost her only child, a son 24 years of age and the father of a 5 month old daughter was killed by a passenger train at Rosvelt, Wash. on Nov. 3rd. He had been braking on a freight run for the S.P. & S.Ry. and was switching for the Spokane Portland Passenger train when hit and killed instantly. I have not too much of the details as yet. I didn't attend the funeral at the request of my family. They all seemed to think that I am too old and feeble for such things and opposed my going to Portland for the services. I still have three direct grandchildren, Jeannette has a daughter, age 25 who is a teacher in a school at Bellevue, a suberb of Seattle, and Jean, Jeannette's twin brother has two daughters the older one is attending Brigham Young University at ~~xxxx~~ Provo, Utah, and the younger one is a Junior at Madison Hi. in Portland. I get a letter occasionally from Tom Adams, who lives in Toponish, Washington. He has been nursing a wife who has been bedfast with

pneumonia, but is able to be out and around for a couple of months. He tells me that he is past 81 and beginning to feel a little old.

I often wonder if Harry Daveny is still alive, also if Emma Pohl (Newland) is still living. Ethel Walker tell me that Edna French lives in Spokane and that Elenor Stacer is living in or near Wapato, Wash. If I am able I would like to attend the Alumni affair next spring as it will be sixty years, and if there could be a few of the survivors of the class of 1906 there I would enjoy it, if I should be the only one I would be enclined to pass it up. I would feel decided alone if that should happen.

I had a very splendid life for forty years with a very wonderful wife and a very wonderful family. There was three step children and I feel that they have always respected me and do yet. I spent two years a widower and then married again and that is something that I would recommend to a friend of mine. This last remark is for the square because she perhaps feels as I do.

I trust that yourself and wife are both enjoying good health and that you both will be able to enjoy many more years of activity. I am not attending Lodge only on special occasions and have passes up any political activities. After being retired I got involved for three or four years but am getting too senil for that anymore. I am still sold on the idea of disposing of the ones that are past 70 years of age, that would relive Social Security, Nursing Homes, and the relief of those of their families that are still left.

I know that you will not agree, but remember! difference of opinion is what keep the politician active, also helps out at the races. I trust that the fact that this typewriter is not a good speller and the writer is not exposing his senile condition too much, and that you can find time to drop me a line, you know that when one is more or less of a shuttin, a letter or card once in a while helps to break the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ monotony.

I will try to get a little better organized next time I write and in the meantime be a good boy.

Bill say Bye now, as ever your friend,

115

1961-44

44

Pioneer

Ritzville

Citizen

Recalls

Times have changed since Warren Smith of Ritzville was a boy during the late 1880s to the turn of the century. And the change, as far as he is concerned, is for the better.

"I've lived in a wonderful age, but the next age is going to be so much more wonderful because of the advancements," Warren commented recently when recalling some his many experiences since coming to Adams county on December 24, 1888.

The change is reflected in the peoples' way of life, in the growth of the local economy, and probably most significant to him, in the improvements brought about in farming methods during the 61 years he spent harvesting in his lifetime.

"I've got a good memory of years ago," the 82-year-old pioneer remarked amusingly, "but now I lose my cane."

Warren was born in Lapeer county, Michigan, August 29, 1877, in a log cabin he said was built in the middle of the road so that the family could hold claims on two homesteads.

ALTHOUGH HIS father had come to the Ritzville area the year before, Warren stepped off the Northern Pacific immigrant train on December 24, 1888, to join his father, who had been herding sheep east of town.

Warren Smith 9/8/90



go on
next
page

Christmas 1965.

Dear Roy and wife:

Just a line to go with the card on this Christmas season. I got a late start on my holiday mail so this will be rather short. I have very little to write that would be of interest to you, I am enjoying misable health thanks to Rheumatism, however am thankful that I can still eat and dress myself. I forget when I wrote you and wonder if I told you of the loss of a grandson, who was killed instantly by a passenger train at Roosevelt, Washington on Nov. 3rd. He was a freight brakeman on the S.P. & S.F. He was the only child of my youngest daughter and the shock to the entire family has been plenty severe. It seems unfair to the he with a wife and five month old aughter should be taken at the age 24 while I, old and decrepit and fast becoming a burdento society should be passed by. However perhaps it was th plan of the Devine that it should be so. Our Christmas is going to be a little short this year, normally we all get together at this season but the Daughter who lives in Tacoma and her husband will not be with us, nor the son who lives in Spokane, A step daughter who has gone to St. Louis to spend the holiday with her husband's daughter and family. I would feel much better if I could stay home at the time as find myself a little low as this is the time of year when I catch myself taking stock of the events of the past year and often recall unpleasent item that I perhaps am responsible for, and am not always able to make amends for, so am enclined to be a wet blanket for those around me, so feel that I ma a little miserable and make others a little that way too. I will close with this suggestion, You and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, good health and Prosperaty for the year ahead when and if you should decide to write me a line would be glad if you would give me a little idea of the rest of the Gilson family, howmany are living and where. With this I'll say Bye now, As ever your friend,

April 8th, 1966.

Dear Roy;--I had occasion a day or two ago to go through a drawer in my desk where I have dropped any letters that have come from my old friends and in so doing I came accross several of your letter and it ocured to me that either I or you have been a little negligent ab ut writting, I cannot remember who owes who a letter but decided that I might pass a little time to drop you a line, regardless.

I have been thinking during my idle moments of the old days and had written to a couple or three of my old friends about their intentions regarding the Alumni affair that usually is listed for the later days of May each season. I have had replys to a couple of them and find a lot of indidision as to their intentions and Mrs. Leutenhiser thinks that she will attend, but Laura Simpson expressed a desire because of it's being our 60th. anniversary of our graduation but suggested that there were so few left and so few interested in hey, that she was undecided. I wrote Larura Johnson but have had no reply as yet, I fear that she may not be well or perhaps she might be at Soap Lake with her brother who is older than she and my not have gotten my letter. I am undecided as to my action, since I am in that catigory that I have mentioned that should be shot and removed from circulation. I would enjoy being there if there were a few others in my age group who would be there, provided that I could get permission from my "ball & chair to drive over. There several who I would enjoy a few hours with who are not able to attend, Mrs. L.D. Emerson, Thomas Adams, a stepson who lives in Spokane. Seveveral Weices and Nephews who are scattered over Adams County that I would not be able to see without transportation. Traffic hazard ~~statistics~~ statistics and old age are elements that are to be considered so I may not be able to make the trip. If I am not able to get around and see all of my friends and relatives, I doubt if the trip would be worthwhile. Ethel walker and Laura Simpson both wrote that they doubted that Mrs. Emerson would be able to attend as she is suffering from a rheumatic condition, which would eliminate her, Tom Adams is in Toppinish with a wife confined to her bed with a paryletic condition whkch eliminates him. Edna French, I am told lives in Spokane and Elenor Stacer is in the neighborhood of Mabtop Washington, so have no idea of their action.

We have had a very conseritive winter, no snow of any consequence and only three or four nights below freezing. The last couple of weeks have been very balmy but it is threatening rain to-day. Our national situation is decidedly annoying, fighting in Veitnam, Race riots at home, worries over our national expense, and all the rest, makes one wonder what the final result will be. My family are all quite well, except for the death of my daughter's husband's mother who died a week ago to-day and is being buried to-day in Colville Washington to-day. She was 90 years of age and had suffered a pneumonia about three months ago.

MS. 1906-749.50

Highlight of the trip west, as Warren recalled, were the crude wicker seats on the train and the corn-husk mattresses that were sold to sleep on during the long trip.

After arriving, his father, Rudolphus P. Smith, put him right to work helping as camp tender even though he was 11 years old. His father worked for a man who was grazing 7,000 sheep at the time.

The next spring, 1889, Warren, his father, and several other hired hands began moving 3,300 of the sheep up the coulee near Emil Baumann's land east of Ritzville toward Keystone, which at the time was called Harrison. Warren recalled several encounters with cattle raisers who told the group to stay off their land because they thought sheep would "spoil" the foot-tall bunchgrass for cattle grazing.

The wide expanses of bunchgrass and sagebrush were very marshy that spring because of the extremely harsh winter

with hard snowfalls. Warren recalled seeing hundreds of cattle going down to Cow creek for what food and shelter they could find. Many of the cattle later dropped dead from hunger and weakness.

Smith said most of the sheep were able to survive the winter by eating bunchgrass the herders had cut and put into sacks the summer before. Rations of a handful or two of the grass were all the sheep were given to eat each day.

WHEN THE men and sheep arrived at a site near Harrison, Warren remembers that it was during the time of Grover Cleveland's presidency and members of Cox's army were camped on the upgrade above Sprague on the way to Washington to ask Cleveland for jobs.

"The Democrats had a free trade proposition up at the time and the Republicans were in favor of a tariff. Cox's army wanted the tariff to put more money in circulation to bring the country out of the depression," he recalled.

The next year, in the spring of 1890, he and his father went back to the homestead 18 miles south of Ralston and began plowing bunchgrass to start their first year of harvest. Sheep herding for the family was a thing of the past.

They used a 14-inch Prairie Chief walking plow pulled by three horses to lay the grass over. Forty acres were plowed the first year and bluestem wheat was planted. Later, 20 more acres were plowed and planted in velvet fife.

Warren said after the squrels got through with the first year's crop, he was able to hand-cut and thrash only enough grain in a stationary rig to fill the bed of a present-day pickup. The wheat sold for 21 cents a bushel.

Warren said there weren't many wheat farmers in those days. Out on Rattlesnake Flats, nearly all of the land had been bought from the railroad, but between Ritzville and Ralston not much of the land was tilled.

FARMERS HE could remember that were raising wheat at the time were Bill Lewis, Ed Lemon, Jim Fletcher, Walt Reeder, J. F. Collier, Ike Riggs and George Riggs.

In the next few years, Warren and his father hired Walt Reeder's crew to cut, haul and put the grain into stacks until the stationary thrasher would come along. The header was pushed by six horses. Using the header and thrasher, the farmers were getting yields of from five to nine bushels an acre.

To Next Page

A little Easter activity is showing up around here, as no doubt is more or less the case in all parts of the country. I am thankful that we have a period of Lent and observe the death and resurrection of Jesus, it keeps us a little better in line than if we did not observe this event. I do not attend church, as for many years my employment prevented me from observing the sabbath and since retirement my health has been an excuse for not attending, However I give the problems every day consideration.

I am under the impression that both of Sebastian Ott's daughters are confined to the rest home in Ritzville. My source of news from those parts is very indirect and often wrong. I often wonder if Mrs. Pohl (Emma Newland is still living, also Harry Davenney. I have had

information regarding Mrs. Guy Lovell (Zelma Christiansen) the last heard was many years ago that they have moved to Stevenson, ton.

I realize that I arrived in Washington on Christmas Eve, 1888, entered Ritzville school in Sept. 1901, graduated from that in 1906, was member of this school's first interscholastic team, that I competed my first ten years on borrowed time. I am reminded of that old saying "The mills are slowly grind, but exceedingly fine". My three children, now 52 years old and youngest daughter, 47 came in on Sunday my birthday and we had a pleasant and gratifying day to-gather. My youngest daughter has apparently become quite reconciled over the loss of her only son, who was killed by a passenger train on the S. Ry. while as serving as a brakeman on a freight on Nov. 1965. He was 25 year old and married and the father of a daughter. I seem to me that I had written to you about this.

I think that I about exhausted every item of news as of now, so I enquire about your and wife's health, and close with an assurance of a little line from you at any time, explaining your behavior and anything else that you think might be of interest. It is possible for you to make that journey to Ritzville, I would not a short report on you trip. I trust that you can endure the faulty spelling of this typewriter, she disconnected ramblings of it's operator, and that you are enjoying reasonable health, I'll adjourn sine die for now.

Sincerely your old friend,

I I T L E The Old Settler- by Warren Smith.

I've travelled all over this country;
Prospecting and digging for gold;
I've tunnelled, hydrolicked and cradled,
And I've been frequently sold.

For one who gets riches by mining,
Perceiving that hundreds go poor,
I made up my mind to try farming,
The only pursuit that is sure.

I rolled all my grub in my blankets,
And left my tools on the hill;
And started one morning to shank it,
To the country out south of Ritzville.

I landed flat broke in midwinter,
And I found it enveloped in snow,
And covered all over with sagebrush,
Thick as hair on the back of a doe.

I looked on a prospect so gloomy,
That tears trickled over my face.
Where I thought my travels had brought me,
To the edge of my jumping off place.

I took up a claim in the sagebrush,
And set myself down to hard toil,
Seven years I grubbed and I niggered,
Before I got down to the soil.

I tried to get out of the country,
But poverty forced me to stay,
Until I became an Old Settler,
And nothing can drive me away.

And now that I'm used to the climate,
I think that if any man will,
Find a place to work hard and to worry,
That place will be south of RITZVILLE.

No longer the slave of ambition,
I laugh at the world and it's pain,
As I think of my present position,
Surrounded by acres of grain.

Contrary to what has been written in the histories of Adams county, Warren said he believes the first ground-powered combine was shipped into this area by S. L. Thomas in 1883. The combine was pulled by 32 horses.

In 1904, William Leonard sold him his first ground-powered Haime-Hauser combine. He almost bought one the year before, but fate told him not to after he spit on a wood chip, threw the chip in the air and the chip landed on the wrong side.

The combine was pulled by 26 horses and it took a five-man crew to operate the machine, excluding the sack buck who worked on the ground. Velvet life was the favorite wheat of the time and it took about 25 to 30 days to cut, depending on the condition of the machines.

Warren said harvest in those days was nothing but hard work, but he enjoyed every minute of it. The men worked from sun up to sun down getting the grain into sacks. Then they spent another month hauling the 140-pound sacks 12 miles into Lind.

1910 SAW another change in harvest on the large tracts owned by Warren. He bought a gasoline 45-horsepower Holt tractor to pull the combine and he hired a man to ride along in case the tractor broke down with the new-fangled machine.

Warren remembers that when he would drive the tractor up a hill, oil would splash out of the bearing box all over him and he had to wear a leather cap.

"I figure that's where I lost all my hair," he said with a smile. But life in the early days of the area was not all work.

During the days when he was attending school in Ritzville before he was forced to quit school at the end of the eighth grade because of so much work to do on the farm, he spent some happy hours getting into mischief like any healthy young man.

He remembers one time in particular when one of his friends bet him he couldn't roll a lump of coal off of one of the train cars that had stopped briefly in Ritzville. He picked a 200-pound lump to roll off the car and his friend had the job of paying off the bet by getting the lump home.

Although he said this was just vandalism to see what they could get away with, it was also badly needed as fuel because the railroad would not side-track cars of coal for fuel suppliers in the early days. The main source of fuel was the willow brush hauled from Cow Creek and the old railroad ties that were left to be split up.

Warren's main recreation was the debating societies that were organized to meet in the school houses. Several people would gather to good-naturedly argue the for and against a question and judges would decide the winner.

ICE SKATING on the frozen potholes in the wintertime was also a favorite pastime. Dancing was not as popular then as it is now, Warren recalled, but he thinks people were more sociable. (Continued on Page 9)

51
Newell
Smith
1901

Dear Roy:-

First off, an apology for this stationary, also this poor typing. I have been thinking of you for some time, I decided that I was in debt to you for a letter. I have delayed hoping that I might whip out this grouch over the activities of the RHS Alumni, also the Ritzville paper for the manner of handling their last banquet. The elderly members seemed to get a 'frosty face', I understand that the refunds were aimed at the elderly members mostly and am wondering if their age had any bearing. Until I am convinced that such was not the case I am inclined to resent that attitude on the part of the Alumni and their local paper as well.

I am canceling out my subscription and can say that the Assn can save postage and stationary by checking me off their mailing list. I am more sold than ever now on my idea of an extermination law which I have discussed with you in days gone by. I have been afflicted with a rheumatic condition for several years which is not improving and my family have insisted that we move to Portland so that if I should become helpless that they could assist with my care here than in Longview. I had put up a lot of resistance but finally had to surrender. We are getting quite well settled and suspect that it may be O.K.

I have had no word from any of my friends in Spokane since before the Alumni celebration and wonder if they might have a grouch on similar to mine which has delayed any correspondence. Ethel Walker had written me that she had arranged for a relief baby sitter so that she might attend but have had no word from her since and no mention of any of the elderly being in attendance. It looks to me like those older ones were not desirable, so will accept this attitude and keep out from under foot from here on. We have had normal weather except that that it has been a little dryer than usual, and Oregon is suffering from some rather severe timber fires.

The T.V. and news papers are quite well filled with bad news. World conditions are apparently getting quite bad. I have advocated to my friends that our seniors membership to be reduced to one from each state and a cut of 50% in our lower house should be laid off, thus reducing our Congress to one-half of the present membership of 536, we might get just as good legislation at half the expense and in half the time now used.

When our Constitution was written and our National Government was setup, less than 100 men were involved and our Government was and is the best in the world, so a return to that condition would be beneficial. We have laws no end that has our Supreme Court dizzy, we have a vast army of employees that could easily be rendered useless and eliminated without weakening our Governmental setup, in fact might improve it. However our present condition has been created by our lawmakers and they would have a big hand in any changes which make my idea impossible, even if it should have merit.

I am hoping that now that I am in a letter writing mood that I may shake this antagonistic attitude and the next time I write I may be in a pleasanter mood. This mental condition may be my own fault and I hope that time will eventually correct it. A little physical criticism may help, at least it will be thankfully received.

I trust that yourself and wife are both enjoying good health and that I may receive a report from you one of these days. Also let me remind you that we will be glad to see you any time you might be on your way to Adams County, we are now more in the line of travel so it will be easier, at least next year when you are making your annual trip to the RHS Alumni Banquet. Now with a sincere wish for your good health and happiness to yourself and wife, I'll close, hoping that my weeping has not depressed you and that you can realize that I am decidedly senile and that I'll be out of the picture one of these days, which will be an occasion for rejoicing by my friends and neighbors. Until a later date, I close, with my sincere best wishes as ever your friend,

4023 N.E. 80th.,
Portland, Oregon.
Aug. 13, 1966.

his
last letter
Newell

I thought you would like to know and also understand why there were no Xmas cards or letter this year- He didn't send even one

520 Ave 112 1906

The letter on the left side of this page is the last one I received from Newell Smith. It is dated August 13th, 1966.

In 1962 I received a manuscript written by Mr. Newell E. Smith of 1414 9th Ave, Longview, Washington with his permission to copy it and add it to his pages in the RHS history. Newell was quite a writer in his time and wrote many short stories for magazines for which he received

handsome sums. He is a graduate of Ritzville High School in the Class of 1906 which had 11 members. Newell has been a faithful and enthusiastic member of the Ritzville High School Alumni Association and frequently attended the annual Alumni Banquet held in May of each year and he thoroughly enjoyed them. He especially liked to see his old friends and talk over old times. On Jan. 1st, 1967 I received a letter from his wife which as the ink is rather faint and hard to read I am copying it on the typewriter. Here it is.

4023 N.E. 80th, Portland, Ore.
Dr. E. Gilson:- Modesto, Calif.
Dear Mr. Gilson:-

I am writing a few lines to you as Newell isn't able to write and at this time is in the hospital. I don't know if he told you or not (no, he didn't) but in May (1966) he went to the hospital in Longview and they found cancer spread pretty well thru his body. It was the we decided to come to Portland to live as

we had sold the duplex (in Longview, Wash.) the year before so were only renting it. We have been here six months and Newell has been gradually been getting worse and now is barely able to walk. The trip to the hospital was mostly for a check-up with x-rays etc. He will be there for another five days then will come back here and stay as long as I can take care of him. Then he will be in a home I suspect. These things are hard to predict but I don't think it will be long as he has failed so fast lately. He would like to hear from you I am sure but I don't think he will be able to write. A sad ending for someone who deserves better, of that I am sure. He always looked forward to your letters and enjoyed your great friendship for so many years at Ritzville, thru school etc.

As Les turn these from
you
Sincerely
Newell

March 26th, 1967.

NS-06

Mrs. Newell C. Smith,
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Mrs. Smith:- P53

I wrote this letter to Mrs. Smith after I heard Newell had passed away but never received an answer. Roy Gilson.

I was saddened this week when I read in the Riverville Journal Times of the passing of Newell. I will miss him as a friend, as a graduate of our beloved High School and as a man who had a wealth of information of those graduates upon which I have been depending in the past to give as to the status of the older ones who graduated in the earlier classes. What he has given me has been very valuable and believe me I have made good use of it up to the present.

I received your note on letter of a few months ago of your moving to Portland so you could be nearer your children and I was on hopes that he would live for many years. I had in mind to call on him when I went through Portland on my way to Riverville in May. Are you going to stay in Portland on return to your former home at Longview?

I have a section in the 1906 book of the history of RLS and although I have quite a lot of interesting material on him I would be glad to frame anything you may send me in the way of pictures, data on his life, events of his career etc. I have lots of room for more. This is Easter day and we are celebrating our 49th wedding anniversary to day Mar. 26th 1967. We were married in Bend. Oregon on Mar. 26th 18th 1918. I then I went into the service. We have much to say for you on this Easter blessing your mate of 49 years. May God Bless you and keep you.

No Response - Roy and Addie Gilson.

Newell's
only Brother
Warren
A-T-1-P-50

COME OUT OF THE
WHEAT FIELD
GRAMMA YOU'RE
GOIN' AGAINST
THE GRAIN.

side

Warren Smith said he had a picture he wanted to give me and the other one to W. I was surey glad to see and get it as it reminded me of my vacation on Washington state. He said it was the summer of 1902. He also said that it was taken on the horse and as I remember the name of the horse was "Betty". The driver of the combine was John Thompson; at the time it was "Betty". Over those; ten better than, several others; there were it was; with four wheels and four wheels. The horses driven on the old man were with and under.



Roy
Addie
Gilson

Aug. 14-1914 - I was a boy

like this one - The horse

was badly & I had him

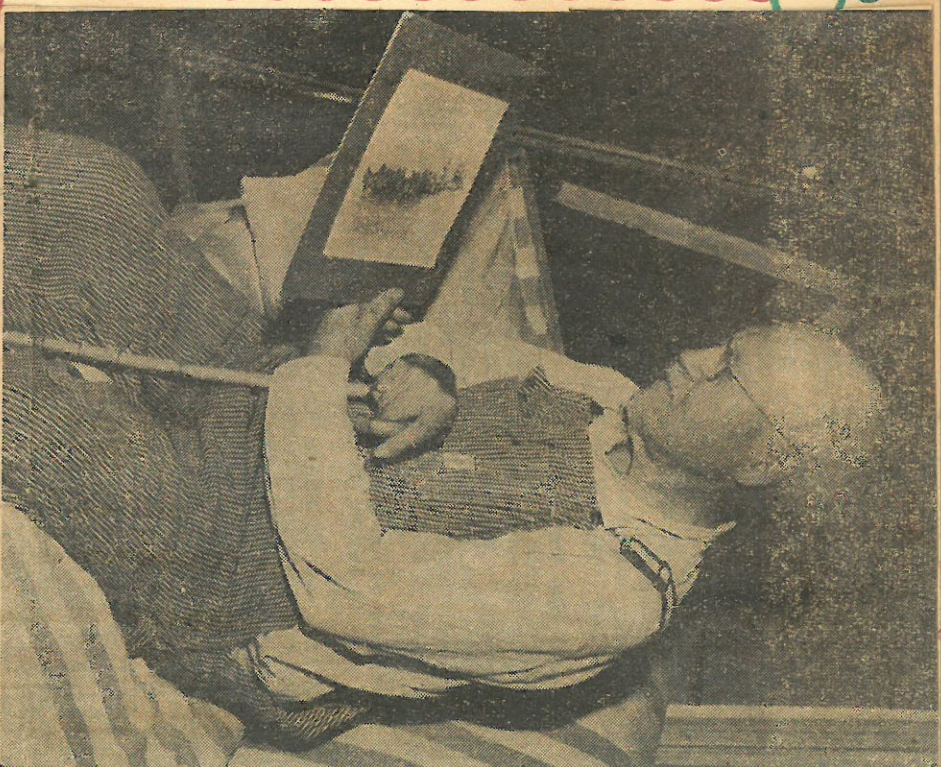
all summer. Did I

enjoy my own horse - yeh

Reilly good for a day

R.S. - Roy of 1950 -

12 year later -



HARVEST PIONEER. 82-year-old Warren Smith, a retired wheat rancher living in Riverville, examines a picture of an early wheat harvest on his father's homestead 18 miles south of Ralston. Times have changed, Smith reflects, and he thinks they have changed for the better. Life in the late 1800s and early 1900s was hard. During his 61 years of wheat harvesting, he has seen the cutting of wheat progress from the hand sickle to the modern combines used today. —Journal-Times photo

Roy Gilson summer
in 1902

Warren
Smith
Gilson



54
93702
4406 East Iowa., Fresno, Calif.

804
NPB
1906

Dr. E. Leroy Gilson, Modesto, Calif.
Dear Doctor Gilson:-
At the suggestion of Mts. Newell Smith I am writing to you in regards to the McVean family tree. I am sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. Newell Smith. I have had some correspondence with him in the past. I am working on Jeanette's McVean's side of the family (Wife of R. P. Smith). I hope that you will be able to add some information. I am enclosing a rough sketch of her side of the family. I would appreciate any help that you may give as to corrections and additions. If there are any children may I have the date of their birth. Any help that you may give will be appreciated. Sincerely-Emmett Berry.

Father. Rudolphus Pizzaro Smith=Born in 1848
Died at Ritzville, Wash. 1936, age 88
Mother, Jeanette McVean Smith Born in 1857
Died at Ritzville, Wash, 1935 age 78
Son. Warren A Smith Born Aug. 29, 1877 North Branch, Mich
Died Sept. 1, 1961 84 years 3 days
son Newell E. Smith Born March 23, 1886 Little Rock, Ark.
Died at Portland, Ore Feb. 1967
Twins born Feb-6=1914.
Married Myrtle Ross Hass in 1909
Jeanette Smith
Jean R. Smith
I daughter Given

Jeanette married E. Earle Allen, 1 daughter Born Apr 20, 1940 Earlyse
Earlyse married Larry Swift

Jean R. married Clara Jones, 2 daughters, Cheryl attending Brigham
Young University 1966
Pamela

Given married Joseph Markel Jr. 1 son (no name given) killed in
Nov. 1965. Married Gwendolyn
1 daughter in 1966

Newell E. Smith
SIGNATURE
Moro N.E. 80th Portland 91213
BIRTH DAY March 23-1886 Feb. 26 1961
BIRTH PLACE Little Rock, Arkansas
FATHER Rudolphus Pizzaro Smith
MOTHER Jeanette McVean Smith
Bro. Warren A Smith
Dates Above

Became ill & moved to Portland, Ore
age 80 yrs
" " me
35 yrs

Emmett and Sally Berry

4406 E. Iowa
Fresno, California
93702

4406 E Iowa
Fresno, California
93702

Sincerely
Emmett Berry

Thrashing Day

Ottis Shink

When I was a boy
And a country lad too,
Those days long ago
I love to think through.
Often back to my childhood
Come scenes like a flash,
Of the days on the farm
When we used to thrash.

'Twas the thrill of a lifetime,
We hardly could wait
For the engine with thrasher
To puff through the gate.
We watched from the fence
With excitement and fear
And each lad wishing
He was an engineer.

A toot of the whistle —
So loud and so shrill —
Our ears fairly tickled,
But oh, what a thrill.
Impressed on our minds
What we never forgot —
Was the picture that day
In the old thrashing lot.

Those were the days
Before thrashing "bees,"
And all men came
With their families,
"Twas a neighborhood picnic
Which folks did enjoy,
In the years long ago
When I was a boy.

How the table would groan
With good things to eat,
They always had chicken
And two kinds of meat.
"Wa' a wonderful meal,
But the kids had to wait
"Till after the thrashers
And grown-ups etc.

The once social thrashing
Began to fail
With the organized "bees"
And the old dinner pail.
The old traction engine
With thrasher and crew
Have passed from the scene
Their service is through.

The combine today
We see in the fields,
Cutting and thrashing
The bountiful yields.
No more social thrashings
In the old fashioned ways —
Just history and memories
Of those lone ago days.

MATTIE WALTON

06



MATTIE WALTON- CLASSICAL Course

Girl's Glee Club 4; K. K. 3; Star- 2-4;
Wheat Staff- 4.

Mr. George Olson 1935

1945- 6th St. Chamberlain

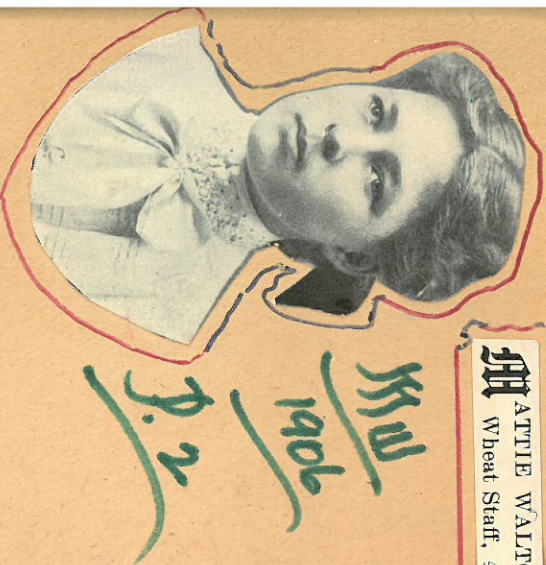
Birth Day

Birth Place

father
mother

SIGNATURE
BIRTH DAY
BIRTH PLACE
FATHER
MOTHER

HISTORY OF THE ALUMNI



THE first meeting of the Alumni was held on May 25, 1905, at which time the following officers were duly elected: Oliver J. Despain, president; Hattie E. Lewis, vice-president; Eleanor Staser, secretary, and Wm. G. Danekas, treasurer.

On the evening of May 24, 1906, immediately after Commencement exercises, the Seniors of '06 were highly entertained at the annual banquet given in the Congregational Church parlors by the Alumni then composed of thirteen members. It was a very serious crowd that joined to feast that evening, for the thoughts of leaving school to enter upon new and strange activities for the future; of parting with schoolmates, some of whom have been life-long friends, perhaps never to see each other again; and of parting from those teachers who, through their devoted interest and never-failing help, have formed a bond of friendship, the strength of which was not realized until the time of separation, held back to some extent the gaiety that otherwise would have prevailed. Still the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The reserve that usually restrains people in a crowd was overcome by the genial hospitality of the Alumni hosts and hostesses. Ollie Despain exercised great ability and foresight as toastmaster by calling on Morton Griffith to speak for the Class of '05, which he did

in his own best style. Perry Schuler responded with his usual gaiety and ready wit. O. R. Holcomb, in delivering the opening address, spoke feelingly in a few well-chosen words of the parting that was so near. Professor Taylor, upon being requested to speak, took for his subject "Work", the keynote of the school year. Upon leaving the table all repaired to the assembly hall where officers for the ensuing year were elected: Morton Griffith, '05, was chosen president; Emma Newland, '06, vice-president; N. Clair Despain, '05, secretary, and Laura Perkins, '06, treasurer. At a late hour each guest departed with many words of pleasure.

The different occupations of the Alumni are varied. In the class of '05, John Hauschild, John Olson, and Wm. Danekas represent the farming industry in the vicinity of Ritzville, while Morton Griffith, with his young bride, Mrs. Griffith nee Inez Couch, follows the same occupation at Soldier, Idaho, Earle Barronett and Harry Pettijohn are taking the electrical engineering course at Pullman, this state; Oliver Despain is taking a course in mechanical engineering, and John Kemble a course in pharmacy at the same college. Ethel Walker has been a teacher, but is now married to Mr. E. D. Eldridge of Colfax. Eleanor Staser has been at Kennewick with her parents; Edna French is in Spokane, and Hattie Lewis is in Ritzville; Miss Lewis

was employed for some time as a typesetter in the Ritzville Times office in this city/. CLAIRE DESPAIN is at home developing her musical talent having just completed a course of lessons on the pipe organ.

The CLASS of 1906 has three students:- THOMAS ADAMS, SAMUEL HUGHART & HARRY DAVENNY, taking the scientific course at Whitman College, in WALLA WALLA, WASHINGTON; 2 students, LAURA LEWIS & LYDIA SHELLY, taking English and Commercial courses respectively, at Pullman; while PERRY SCHULER in preparing himself for the ministry at Drake University, Iowa, while NEWELL SMITH is taking a business course at Blair Business College at Spokane, Wash., LAURA PARKINS has been employed as saleslady at the Ritzville Trading Companies Department Store; EMMA NEWLAND remained at her home in Ritzville this summer and is well employed with social duties; ZELMA CHRISTENSEN married Mr. G. E. Lovell, a local attorney, and sometime during the summer took a course in domestic economy. (How smart she was to do that as the way to a man's heart is through his stomach); MATTIE WALTON spent the summer on her father's ranch, and part of the winter as assistant primary teacher at the Lincoln School here.

This is the HISTORY of the ALUMNI for the years 1905 1906 and 1907. It is the hope of this ASSOCIATION, that, as it grows out of it's infancy into MATURITY, it will be a STRONG, ACTIVE, organization and as incentive to the ALUMNI to come. MATTIE WALTON, 1906, HISTORIAN.

1st Baseball Team

Baseball Rules for 1906

No player who is deficient in etiquette shall be allowed on the field.
 If a player says, "thanks," instead of "thank you," to an opponent, he shall lose caste.
 Every player must be provided with smelling salts, alum powder, chamosskin, and a hand mirror.
 The umpire must see that the players do not borrow from each other.
 No more than two valets may accompany each player upon the field.
 If a player's suit becomes soiled his portable tent shall be brought on the field and the game shall stop while he changes his clothes.
 Players having steel or other hard substance in their corsets will not be permitted in the game.

*Chief leader -
 April 14
 1906*

The Juniors of the Central High school of Ritzville play here Saturday April 28, and a still better game is expected. This game will be returned the following Saturday at Ritzville and the one last Saturday will be returned at Ritzville May 19. Under the agreement each side pays the expenses of the visiting team and as the attendance at the last Saturday's game did not pay the expenses it is hoped that a larger turnout will greet the game next week, so that the deficiency will be made up.

NOTES OF THE GAME.

Prof. Hanna, principal of the Lincoln school, accompanied the Ritzville team and acted as scorer.
 The Ritzville boys are a gentlemanly lot and a credit to any town. Sheriff (Hilson's son is captain.

*These Boys are
 GENTLEMEN
 Ralph-Capt-*



*Hy Siemens-Pitcher
 Ralph-Gilson-Catcher*



R. H. S. BASEBALL TEAM

*Hy Siemens-Pitcher
 Ralph-Gilson-Capt
 Bob News-Pass-1906-OTIO
 Coach-15 Sam Hughes-Pitcher
 Coach-15 Frank Heine-P.*

*Curry Davenport, '06, Samuel Inghart, '06, Virgil Benning-
 '08, and Henry Danekas, '08, left last week to attend White
 College*

*me
 Bro
 Ralph
 Gibson
 08*



1906 P2

1906-More about
Newsp. Smith
family - 189

May 26, 1967

Dr. E. Henry Wilson
Muskog, California
Dear Doctor Wilson: At the suggestion of Mrs. Mabel Smith
I am writing to you in regard to the
Mr. E. Henry Wilson.
I am sorry to hear of the passing of
Mr. Mabel Smith. I have in the past heard had
some correspondence from Mr. Smith.

I am writing on behalf of the family of the
family. I hope that you will be able to add
some information. I am enclosing a rough sketch
of the life of the family. I should appreciate
any help that you may give as to connections
and additions. If there are any children, may I have
their date of birth.

Any help that you may give will be
appreciated. ~~Answers right away~~

Dr. E. Henry Wilson
209 Fordway Ave.
Muskog, California.

4406 E. Tonia
Tucson, California
93702
July 8, 1967

Received your most informative letter
this morning. I appreciate your kindness in
concerning only letters and giving me a list of back
ground. On the way and Smith family history.

Also I am the youngest son of Ben Berry
there were just two of us, my brother Franklin Berry
and myself. My mother was Margaret Berry, whom you
asked for. Aunt Aet, deceased, was a cousin of
my mother.

Ben Berry -
Ratliff and
Farmer married
Margaret Emmett
niece of Mrs. R.P.
(Jeanette) Smith
Emmett was
their youngest
son - Another son
Franklin - Deceased

Forum Debators

1906
(93)



(2) FORUM DEBATING SOCIETY



1. Thiél, Bill
2. Lewis, Ben
3. Harris, Harold
4. Schuler, Perry
5. Langford, Lawrence
6. Tuttle, John
7. Putnam, Bert
8. Lewis, Ollie
9. Wise, Frank

you are inquiring about Warren Alexander Smith's family. Mrs. Alex Smith, Rt 2, Rutledge Mo, 99169 has a complete family tree of Warren Smith. I think she would be glad to let you copy the information off the family record if you wrote to her. It is very complete, giving sets of facts etc. That way you will have first hand information.

Harrell Perry, who married Carter Murphy in Washington, was a cousin of mine. Both Harrell and Carter are first class, as is my father. Carter M. Perry was a actor-in-law of Paul Brown and Paul Gable, and the Kennedy got the Auttlandshe. Let even on Kennedy moved to Madison Wis. May 8 he is back to work.

over
To next
page

You fit in the family picture? I have been working on the 1898 family tree for several years now, and I find that I have more relation than I ever imagined.

1906-84

I am enclosing a diagram or chart of Russell Smith family. I should appreciate it if you would help as find or to make any correction as to date of birth, names and etc. Also, any addition with date of birth and date of death. Please return the copy if you please.

If I can be of further help to you please let me know and thank so much for your help.
And 5-10-51 67
Sincerely
Russell Smith
Sent copy Back RJ

Dear Sister Helen:

H. E. Henry Wilson
209 Perry Ave.
Orlando, California

4406 E. Iowa
Tucson, California
September 26, 1967

I am writing to you to see if you would be given Smith family tree from City Smith. If not, let me know and I will send you what information I have.

Incidentally, I was up in Portland this summer and called on Sam Charles Frazier, Russell Smith second wife. He mentioned that she had some of the notes that Russell had written and would send them down to me to look at. When I was through with them she wanted me to send them up to you. So far, I have not received anything from

Athenian Debating



1. Perkins, Frank
2. Adams, Tom
3. Gilson, Roy
4. Fletcher, Bill
5. Bennington, Virgil
6. Hugbert, Sam
7. Smith, Newell
8. Davenney, Harry
9. Fowler, Paul

9. Fowler, Paul

He give my list. Have you received anything from him
in the last three months? If you have he collect
I should appreciate it as well as he had moved and I do
not know he new address.

you mentioned in your letter that you
were keeping records in the families that graduated from
Academy High School and their children. I am hoping
that you may have some record in the Bradford
family that had a farm south east of Grand Rapids.
This is all I have on the family.

May 20th 1906 married Andrew Bradford and they had

Stephen, Angie and I believe a little Bradford.

Stephen was married twice, the second marriage was to Cynthia Brewster. Did they have any children?

Angie was married twice - 1st marriage was to a German, and had one daughter Berice, who married a man named Hoffman. Did they have any children? I believe they had to Stephen and was a dentist there.

Angie Bradford second marriage was to Ed Halstead, did they have any children?

Now, Ella is some relation to the Bradfords - some people say that she was Ella Halstead but I do not know the relationship.

Ever hope that you may give me the address of the Hoffmans. I have written to both of them. So far, I have only received one reply. The Dr. R. D. Hoffman of Spokane Washington said he was not related. That settles the matter. He is his father's son of the family I was inquiring about.

Dear Dr. Nelson.

Sincerely
Ernest Perry

November 8, 1907

I want to thank you for the two addresses of the Hoffmans. I have written to both of them. So far, I have only received one reply. The Dr. R. D. Hoffman of Spokane Washington said he was not related. That settles the matter. He is his father's son of the family I was inquiring about.

Thank again, for your help.

Dr. Robt. L. Hoffman
9285-51st Ave South
Seattle - Wash

Born 1931
Graduated from
Univ. of Ill 1957
Dr. Kenneth B. Hoffman
Graduated from the
Univ. of Illinois
at Chicago, 198.
Lives at Dishman,
Wash. - Near Spokane
Wash - Population 5000

Sincerely
Ernest Perry.

Glee Club = 1906 ¹⁹⁰⁶ _{Page 7}

Front Row 1 to 12
 Gitson, Roy
 Perkins, Frank
 Casey, Prof. A. A.
 Taylor, Prof. A. W.
 Adams, Tom
 2nd row
 Lewis, Ollie
 Tuttle, John
 Smith, Newell
 Fowler, Paul
 Couch, Otto
 Harris, Harold
 3rd row
 Hughart, Sam
 Bennington, Virgil
 Stoops, Johnnie
 Siemens, Henry
 Gilson, Ralph
 Schuler, Perry



BOYS GLEE CLUB

B 1848
 D-Ripville 1976
 age 88
 Rudolphus P Smith
 Jeannett McLean
 born 1851
 D. Ripville 1935
 age 78

Waverle C. Smith
 B-8/3/1977
 P-9/1/1961
 Burns Eugene
 age 84

newell Smith
 B 8/23-1886
 D-July 1967
 age 81
 11 mo 7
 27 mo

new Charles Fae 300
 2nd marriage
 Carlisle Allen
 20 yrs old 4/19/16

newell Smith
 1st marriage
 1909

Alexander
 Jeannett Smith
 B. 2/6/1914
 E. E. Allen
 Jeannett Smith

Jeannett Smith
 B. 2/6/1914
 Jean O. Smith
 Clara Jones

new Smith
 N.C.
 Fern Smith
 Joseph Smith

Carlisle Allen

Cheryl Smith - attending Stephen University 1966
 Pamela Smith

one son
 one daughter
 1906

W. H. Allen 11/19/15

1906
Page 18

RITZVILLE HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HISTORY & LIBRARY.

This book has been quite expensive in that I have taken the Journal-Times (2 copies) for many years for information. Also subscribed for the Harvesters purchased 5 or 6 copies each year of the Annual. The Kernel. While visiting the banquet each year hundreds of pictures were taken and I hope placed in the proper place. To do this it took every minute of my spare time of work but I didn't mind any of these things as I enjoyed it so much and I have always been under the impression that it was worth while. That I shall never know for sure. It is my hope that the library will come to rest in the addition that Vic promoted onto the high school building and there they will repose and be available to future generations. If anyone thinks it is necessary to continue the records say on to the year 2000 or more maybe some individual who in his or her dotage has a weakness for cutting out paper collies, saving clippings from the papers, and pasting in pretty picture books will carry on. There must be someone in the around \$500 of us who were fortunate enough to have had the opportunity to attend and gather the fruits of knowledge and experience in Ritzville High School, the finest, the best, the most excellent school on earth.

Roy Gilson

Love to you all
Roy Gilson, Class of 1909.

There are also 25 larger books 15" x 17" beginning with the year 1955, our 50th, which cover the ANNUAL BANQUETS AND REUNIONS, The GOLDEN "RMS", and the honored classes, the 50 year Class, the 25 year Class and the current Graduating Class. RG

This LIBRARY consists of 75 books with loose-leaf sheets and according to circumstances, can be added, deleted, or altered. RITZVILLE HIGH SCHOOL graduated it's first CLASS in the year of 1905 with 13 students. There is a book for each CLASS beginning with 1905 up to and including 1980. In 1956 the school celebrated it's 50th ANNIVERSARY with a banquet at the Marcellus Grange Hall with over 500 in attendance. Our DIAMOND Jubilee will be in May of 1980 when we will celebrate our 75th year. I have no intention of carrying this history beyond that date.

Each book is 12" x 14" in size and the sheets are reinforced with scotch tape. Each SHEET contains the following information: NAME of each GRADUATE, (full name if possible), address, signature, birthday, names of husband or wife and children, their parents and dates, relatives who graduated or attended HS, school and college records, marriage, family, activities, death data, trade or profession and where live and work, and any other data or information which can be gathered from newspapers, magazines, letters, interviews or from any other source.

I have endeavored to arrange the material in a neat and orderly fashion and the names alphabetically and chronologically when possible. I realize many mistakes have been made in placing correct data in the proper place but so many of the names are duplicated. Mr. Vic Rogel helped me immensely in the identification of families also Mrs. Mabel Burrill and Mrs. Robert Clark. (Miller) and many others too too numerous to mention. Of the faculty Mr. Lloyd was wonderful in his assistance.

I started this record in the month of May, the 25th of May, 1905 when I was present at the first graduation at the Old Congregational Church and obtained the signatures of the graduates on onion skin paper and you will notice that when they signed 50 years later the writing was very similar. I then DEDICATED the books to our first SUPERINTENDANT, PROFESSOR JOHN HENRY PERKINS, who started the RHS Alumni Association that night. (Page 56 large book and Prof. Perkins work in the 1905 book.)

Dear Mr. Gilson,

I received your most informative letter and I certainly appreciate the help that you have given. I certainly do you happen to have the address of Mr. Olin E. Hoffman, Seattle Wn.? you did not mention his street address.

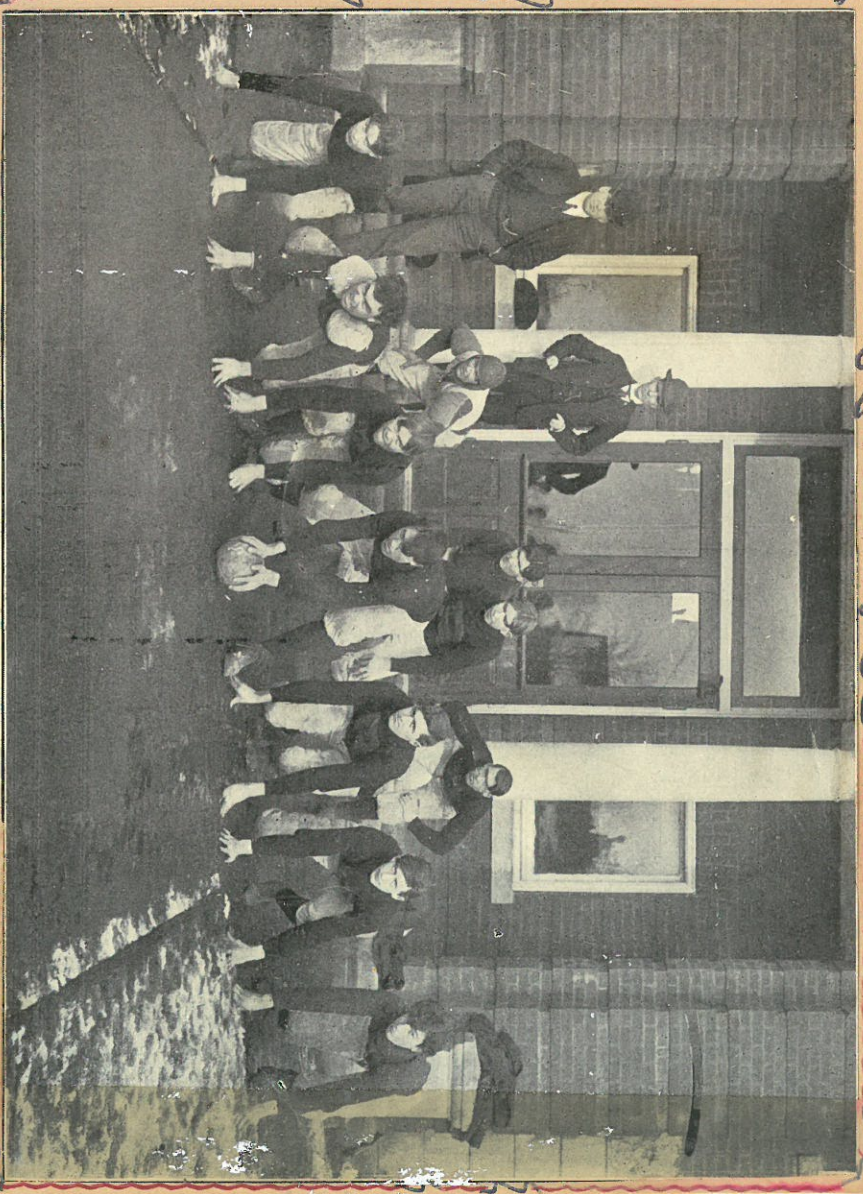
I have at your suggestion, written to Mr. Kenneth B. Hoffman in hope that he may know of the Bradford family.

Again, I want to thank you for your kind help and suggestions.

4406 E. Town
Tacoma, California
93702
October 19, 1967

Respectfully
Kenneth B. Perry

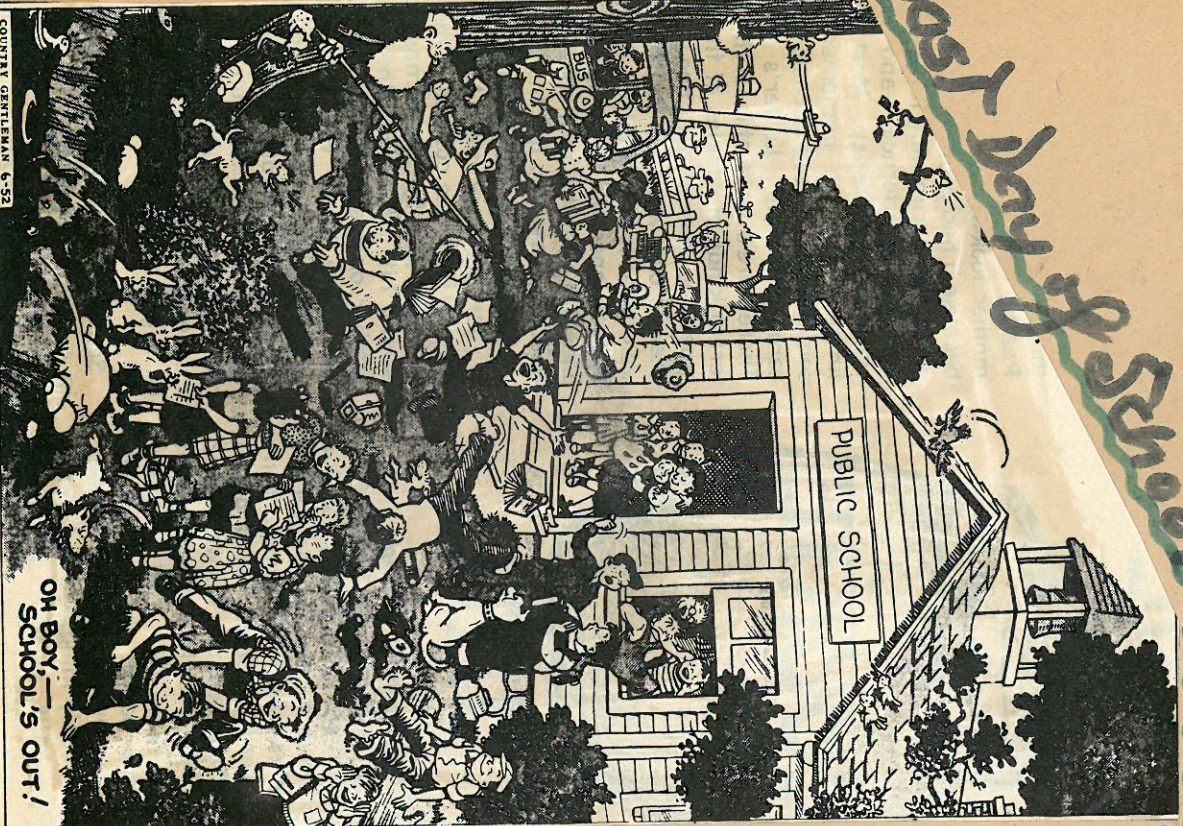
Football-1905-6 1906-1907



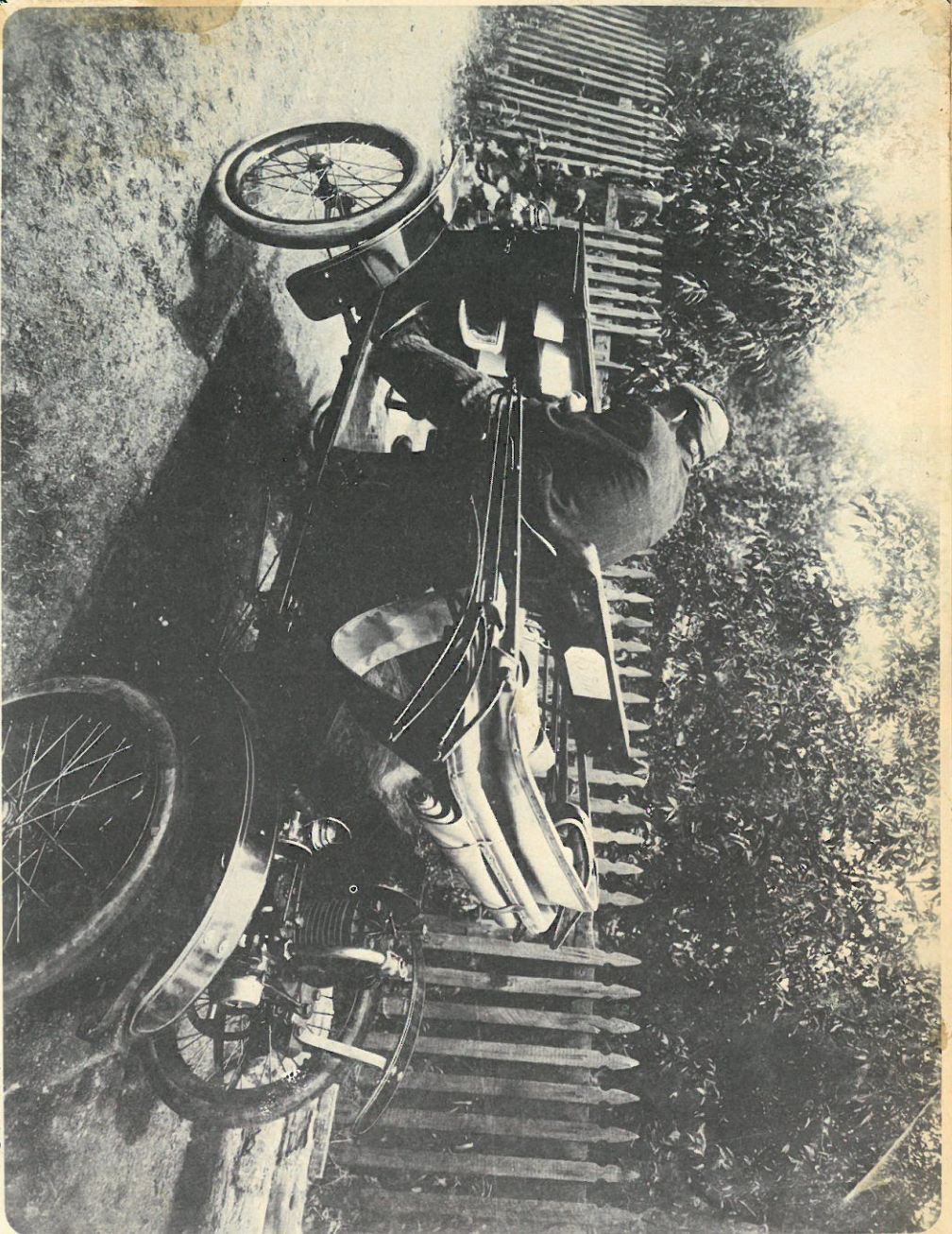
R. H. S. FOOTBALL TEAM

Players on the team	
Hughart, Sam	Fullback
Couch, Otto	Right Half
Adams, Tom	Left Half
Stoops, Johnnie	Quarter Back
Harris, Harold,	Left End
Fowler, Paul	Left Tackle
Harris, Clifford	Left Guard
Smith, Newell	Center
Helme, Frank	Right Guard
Fletcher, Bill	Right Tackle
McGrath, Robert	Left End

Lost Day of School



OH BOY,--
SCHOOL'S OUT!



Library of Congress

REMEMBER THE YEAR?

Life was mellow, secure and optimistic. The President of the United States became the first American to receive the Nobel Prize for peace, in recognition of his efforts to end the Russo-Japanese war. The White House was also a home and the center of family fun as the Chief Executive took part in the rough and tumble play of his six children. Over most of America, social life centered on the family. People loved the front porch and Sunday school picnics. Yet vistas were opening rapidly. Victorian regimentation had relaxed. Women had discarded the bustle and dust-catching skirt lengths. Crisp shirtwaists were tucked into slim-waisted, ankle-length skirts. Heads were adorned with high pompadours and huge hats. Men wore slim suits complete with vests and watch chains. Shirts were always white with stiff collars; ties were drab. Black derbies were worn for winter and white straw skimmers for summer. The Brownie camera was ever present and otherwise conservative adults pranced, grimaced and cavorted before the

clicking shutter. In New York City, the newly rich were clamoring for tables at posh restaurants. Diamond Jim Brady was flaunting his jewels and appetite while dining at Rector's with Lillian Russell. Opera buffs idolized Enrico Caruso. Victor Herbert's operetta, "The Red Mill," was a smash hit. On Broadway, they were singing George M. Cohan's patriotic tune, "You're a Grand Old Flag." On the West Coast, tragedy struck San Francisco in the form of a devastating earthquake and resulting fire. Middle America was slowly awakening! Years before, farmers had won the right to rural delivery of mail, but it had to depend upon horse and wagon because the roads were simply farm wagon tracks. Then, as roads were improved, carriers took to the new automobiles. The horseless carriage in our picture was powered by a rear one-cylinder engine and the mail carrier had installed a handy sorting rack in the dashboard to speed his work. Such were the signs of the times in the progressive year of 1906. ☐

STAY PUT

THEY



Class Flower - Rose

This Book No. 1906
Made - Furnished & Donated by



Mr Mark

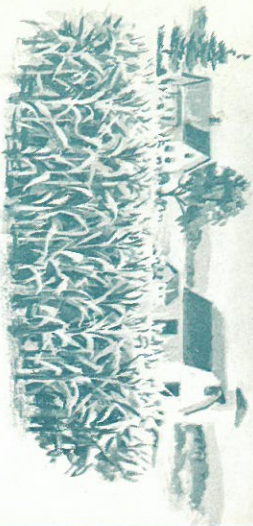
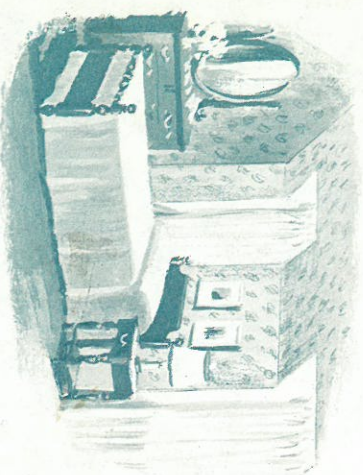
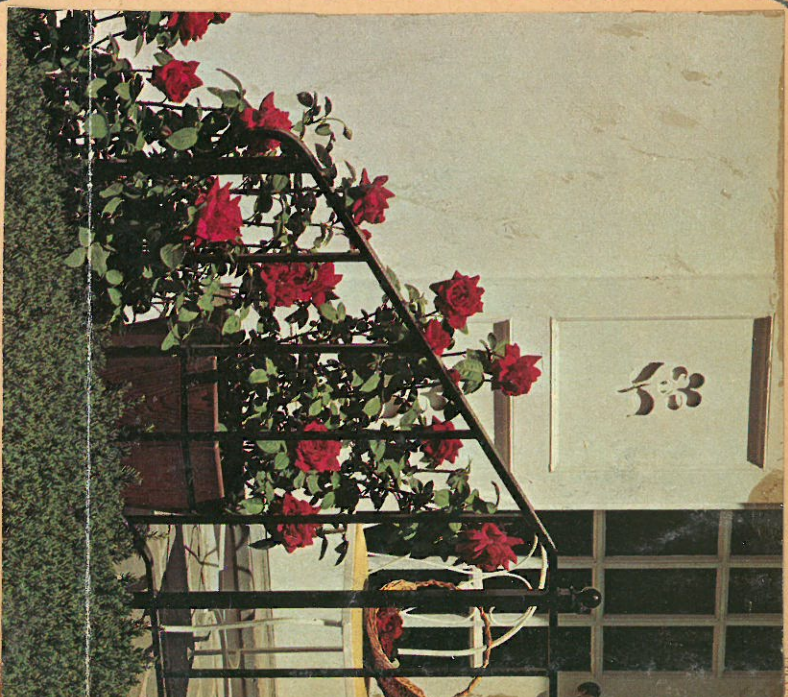
Dr. E. Gilson

Ritzville High School - Class of 1909

DR. E. LEROY GILSON
DENTIST (Retired)

PHONE 523-4509 209 DOWNEY
AREA CODE (209) MODESTO, CALIF. 95354

In May, 1958, Dr. Loyd Haight, Ritzville dentist, gave me a copy of the 1906 annual to use as I wished. So I have taken it apart and the numerous pictures shown here are some of that book
8-15-13 Roy Gilson. '09



I'm Going Back

Ida M. Brookshire

I'm going back tomorrow
To the place where I was born,
To the wide bee-haunted meadows
And the fields of rustling corn....
To walk beside the river
Underneath a clear blue sky,
And watch the sunbeams sparkle
On the water flowing by...
To sleep in the old farmhouse
In my bedroom up the stair,
After visiting in the parlor
With old friends and family there...
To listen to the mockingbirds
Sing their night song, soft and low;
In the tree outside my window
As they did long, long ago.
Many years have hurried by
Since I went to visit there...
In my life, so rushed and busy,
I had not the time to spare.
But I'm going back tomorrow,
And I know that there will be
A warm and friendly welcome
Awaiting there for me.

IT'S MY HOMETOWN

Fred Toothaker

It didn't seem the same at first
when I went back today—
The old hometown where I was raised
and where I used to play.
The trolley cars no longer clanged
on streets that now were wide,
Where man had set the sidewalks back
and pushed the lawns aside.
The sycamores on Seventh Street
were gone, the street was bare,
And friends I'd known from other years
were now no longer there.
The water trough at Whittle Point
I sought, but couldn't find;
Its usefulness had disappeared
with years now gone behind.
The movie at the corner of
the Public Square and Main
Had been replaced and, in its stead,
a shopping center reigns.
The traffic lights in evidence
seemed strange and out of place,
And every glance that came my way
Was from a stranger's face.
The blacksmith shop had disappeared,
the downtown benches gone,
And fountain that I often watched
was gone from the courthouse lawn.
The railroad tracks that used to block
the way were overhead,
And crossings now were safe as streets
passed underneath instead.
Those landmarks, yes, of other years,
had all but been erased,
And dreams of them I had today
appeared as dreams misplaced.
But still there lingered in my thoughts
the days that used to be.



The
Special
Lafayette
of 1906

