

FAMILY GROUP No.

Husband's Full Name *Samuel Love Gilbreath*

This Information Obtained From:

Husband's Data: Day Month Year City, Town or Place County or Province, etc. State or Country Add. Info. on Husband

1st Samuel had a brother Joseph who came west with him.
 Birth 25-3-1825 Denking Creek - Knox/M^e Nixon - Tenn Was of Scotch descent
 Chr'nd
 Mar. 17-3-1859 Albany - Lewis - Oregon
 Death 24-6-1906 Dayton Columbia Wash Grandson of

2nd Samuel's father born Auguste Co., Va
 Burial Pioneer Cem - " " Gilbald, Rowan 3rd
 Places of Residence
 Occupation Governor of Texas

3rd Samuel's mother born North Carolina
 Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar. 1st Nancy Cobb - d. July 1852 on Deer Trail - 2 days after age
 His Father Joseph Gilbreath Mother's Maiden Name Elizabeth Love

4th Margaret had a brother, Elias & sister, Charity
 Wife's Full Maiden Name 2nd Margaret H. Francis (13/10)
 Wife's Data: Day Month Year City, Town or Place County or Province, etc. State or Country Add. Info. on Wife

Birth 24-6-1844 Jacksonville - Morgan - Ill 15 yrs old at marriage
 Chr'nd
 Death 26-9-1922 Walla Walla - Walla Walla - Wash
 Burial Pioneer Cem - Columbia - Wash

Places of Residence
 Occupation if other than Housewife
 Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.

Her Father Sam'l J. Francis Mother's Maiden Name Nancy

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
		Birth	19	3	1860	Dayton - Columbia	Wash		(Exp. 1888) Wash buried
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							1 st in Walla
F	Sarah Jones	Death	5	6	1862	Columbia	Wash		Walla - moved body to Dayton later
		Burial				Pioneer Cem - "	"		
		Birth	17	5	1862	Columbia	Wash		
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							
M	Thomas Beauregard	Death	10	1	1864	Columbia	Wash		(Exp. 1865)
		Burial				Pioneer Cem - "	"		
		Birth	12	5	1864	Columbia - Wash			
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.	19	12	1886	Dayton - "	"		
F	Annie E.	Death	17	1	1888	" - "	"		(24 yrs)
		Burial				Pioneer Cem - "	"		
		Birth	3		1866	Dayton - Columbia - Wash			
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							
F	Nancy Elizabeth	Death							78 years
		Burial							
		Birth	4	3	1868	Columbia - Wash			
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							
F	Mary Emeline	Death				Seattle	Wash		
		Burial							
		Birth	15	3	1870	Dayton - Columbia - Wash			Ellen died
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar. (1)	11		1891				29 Mar 1894
M	Samuel Lee	Death	25	11	1930				40y 5m, 16d m th 1 Sept 1906
		Burial				Pioneer Cem - Columbia - Wash			
		Birth			ca 1872	Dayton	Columbia - Wash		
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.	11		1898	"	"		
M	Joseph William	Death	1		1939	Seattle	Wash		66 yrs
		Burial							
		Birth	4		1874	Dayton	Columbia - Wash		
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							
F	Susan E.	Death	4	12	1959	Mountain View	Calif		85 yrs.
		Burial							
		Birth	20	9	1877	Dayton	Columbia	Wash	
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.			1918				
F	Ada Rose	Death	4	9	1970	Seattle	Wash		93 yrs
		Burial				Washelli Cem - Seattle	Wash		
		Birth	1		1879	Dayton - Columbia - Wash			
	Full Name of Spouse*	Mar.							
M	Charles W	Death	21	3	1969	Seattle	Wash		90 yrs.
		Burial				Pioneer Cem - Columbia	Wash		

*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. info. on children" column. Use reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.

FAMILY GROUP No. _____ Husband's Full Name Samuel Lane Gibborth (cont)

This Information Obtained From: _____

Husband's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Husband
Birth							
Chr'nd							
Mar.							
Death							
Burial							
Places of Residence							
Occupation							
Other wives, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
His Father				Mother's Maiden Name			
Wife's Full Maiden Name							
Wife's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Wife
Birth							
Chr'nd							
Death							
Burial							
Places of Residence							
Occupation if other than Housewife							
Other husbands, if any, No. (1) (2) etc. Make separate sheet for each mar.							
Her Father				Mother's Maiden Name			

Sex	Children's Names in Full (Arrange in order of birth)	Children's Data	Day	Month	Year	City, Town or Place	County or Province, etc.	State or Country	Add. Info. on Children
F	1 1 <u>E. D. Mariss</u> Full Name of Spouse* <u>Edna Grace</u>	Birth	5		1881	Dayton - Columbia - Wash			
		Mar.	6		1909	"	"	"	
		Death							
		Burial							
M	1 2 <u>Matilda Kesser</u> Full Name of Spouse* <u>James W</u>	Birth	12	4	1885	Dayton - Columbia - Wash			
		Mar.			1911				
		Death			1919	Seattle		Wash	
		Burial							
M	1 3 <u>Edna</u> Full Name of Spouse* <u>Wm Fred Zp.</u>	Birth	21	2	1888	Dayton - Columbia - Wash			
		Mar.							
		Death	28	2	1969	Austin		Texas	Bluf
		Burial							
M	1 4 <u>John Cobb</u> Full Name of Spouse*	Birth	24	7	1852	on the Oregon Trail, coming West			
		Mar.							
		Death	19	7	1873				
		Burial				Pioneer Cem. - Columbia - Wash			
	1 5 <u>John is Samuel's son by 1st marriage to Nancy Cobb</u> Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	1 6 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	1 7 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	1 8 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	1 9 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							
	1 10 Full Name of Spouse*	Birth							
		Mar.							
		Death							
		Burial							

*If married more than once No. each mar. (1) (2) etc. and list in "Add. info. on children" column. Use reverse side for additional children, other notes, references or information.

These 2 articles were found in the
Genealogical files in the library. Don't know years or 14 Apr 1938
papers

A BIT OF PIONEER HISTORY

Mrs. J. M. Charters of Seattle, the former Miss Rose Gilbreath, teacher in the city schools of Dayton for a number of years, who was here Sunday for the unveiling of the portrait of Elizabeth Forrest Day at the city library, told old friends a bit of interesting pioneer history.

Mrs. Charters' mother, Mrs. Margaret Gilbreath, wife of Samuel Love Gilbreath, was the first white woman to settle in this part of the country. She came here when no other white woman lived in southeastern Washington beyond Walla Walla, and all of what is now Columbia, Garfield, Asotin and much of Whitman county was a wilderness. This was in 1859 and Indians roamed the country at will and more often than not with no good will towards the white people.

One day while Mr. Gilbreath was working in his fields he saw several Indians riding towards his little home and fearing for the safety of his young wife he hastily joined her. He found to his surprise that in the company were three prominent chiefs, Looking Glass, White Bull and Lawyer, and that their mission was friendly. They came to smoke the pipe of peace with their new neighbor and to assure him that his family and lands would be safe from savage attack. They remained at the Gilbreath home for about a week and enjoyed their hospitality the while.

Retired General Visits Home Town

General Frederick Gilbreath, retired, and his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Charters of Seattle were in Dayton the first of the week on business and looking up old friends. The General has been living in Texas most recently, but he and Mrs. Gilbreath have been spending the summer on the coast and will return to their home after the hot weather has subsided.

General Gilbreath was in something of an uproar while on his visit here. His complaint was the condition of the old cemetery a couple of miles west of Dayton. In that cemetery, he says, besides his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. Gilbreath, is buried the founder of Dayton. He says stock has been allowed to graze in the cemetery and that the Day stone which he caused to be placed there a year ago, has been knocked over and now lays covered with dry grass and weeds.

"What's the matter with Dayton?" he wants to know. "Have you lost your community spirit that you would allow such a disgraceful condition to exist?"

The general's parents were among the first settlers in this community, having come here in 1857, he reports. His mother, Mrs. Charters says, was the first white woman to settle in "these three counties."

OLD CLOCK RECALLS COUNTY HISTORY

A clock, more than 62 years old, was uncovered Friday by county employees in the basement of the courthouse. The time piece, according to a memorandum on its back, was purchased in 1876 by L. S. Gilbreath, first elected sheriff of Columbia

county. The clock was given to Lee Gilbreath, a son of the former sheriff, and has been cleaned and is reported keeping perfect time.

The discovery of this old time-piece brought considerable reminiscences by old timers in the region who remembered the organization of the county.

Originally the region was settled in 1860 following the final Yakima Indian wars, and grew steadily for 15 years with Dayton being the principal town. On November, 1875, the county seceded from Walla Walla county and formed its own organization. The territory included in the county consisted of the present boundaries of Columbia, Garfield, and Asotin. The chief candidates for county seat were Dayton and Marengo, located on the Tucanon, 15 miles east of Dayton. The vote, held on December 15, was close with Dayton winning by a 418-300 count.

L. S. Gilbreath, the first sheriff of the county, was the first permanent settler in the region, having built a place on the Touchet river near the present site of Longs Station. It was in 1859, when Gilbreath and his wife, the first white woman to settle in the valley, located, and in the following year, other families moved into the region.

The Gilbreaths raised cattle and had a small hostelry where travelers en route to the goldfields of Orofino, stayed. Gilbreath, incidentally, was the first to raise grain in the Touchet valley. In 1861, he sold his crop for \$2 a bushel.

SAMUEL LOVE GILBREATH.

Samuel Love Gilbreath, an honored pioneer of Columbia county, Washington, became a resident of Old Walla Walla county when there were few white settlers within its limits, and took up a homestead three miles from the city of Dayton, although it was a number of years later that the town was laid out. He was a successful farmer, loyal friend and a public-spirited citizen, and his demise was the occasion of sincere regret. He was born in McMinn county, Tennessee, March 25, 1825, and was of Scotch descent. He was a representative of one of the old families of the south, being a grandson of Archibald Rowan, the third governor of Tennessee. His education was that afforded by the common schools and he remained in his native state until he became of age. He then determined to try his fortune in the far west and, crossing the plains, settled in Yamhill county, Oregon. For a number of years he farmed there and then went into the cattle business, which occupied his attention until 1855, when the Cayuse Indian war broke out. He enlisted for six months' service in the First Oregon Mounted Cavalry Regiment, which did good work in putting down the uprising both in Oregon and Washington. He was later for six months assistant wagon master and one of his duties was the gruesome task of hauling the bodies of the dead back to The Dalles, from which point they were shipped to relatives in the Willamette valley.

Following his marriage in 1859 Mr. Gilbreath drove a herd of cattle to Old Walla Walla county, Washington. At that time the city of Walla Walla comprised but a very few buildings and the settlers in the county were few and far between. He took up a homestead three miles southwest of the present city of Dayton and built a log cabin with puncheon floors, which remained the family home for a number of years. There were many hardships to be endured in those early days but the lot of the pioneer was lightened by the spirit of hospitality and cooperation which prevailed. Travelers were welcomed at every log cabin and the service of each settler was at the disposal of the others. Mr. Gilbreath worked hard and gave careful attention to his business affairs and as time passed his resources increased. The first crude buildings upon his farm were at length replaced by substantial and commodious structures and the place was brought to a high state of development. At the time of his death he owned two hundred acres of fine orchard and alfalfa land, of which his widow has since sold one hundred and twenty acres, still owning eighty acres, which is valued at a high price per acre.

Mr. Gilbreath was married in 1859, in Oregon, to Miss Margaret H. Fanning, of Albany, and they became the parents of thirteen children, ten of whom survive, namely: Nancy E., a teacher; Mary, the wife of J. O. Mattoon; Lee, a resident of Columbia county; Joseph, a resident of Seattle; Susie, the wife of E. E. Martin; Rose, who is teaching in Seattle; Charles, a resident of Walla Walla; Grace, the wife of T. O. Morrison; James, an instructor in the University of Washington; and Fred, a graduate of West Point and a captain in the United States army, now with the American embassy in London.

Mr. Gilbreath was a prominent factor in public affairs in the early days and was chosen the first county commissioner of Old Walla Walla county and the first sheriff of Columbia county. He was a firm believer in the value of higher education and sent several of his children to college. In many ways his influence was felt in the advancement of his community, and personally he was held in the highest esteem because of his unswerving integrity and his great capacity for friendship. His wife had the distinction of being the first white woman to take up her residence in the four counties comprised within Old Walla Walla county, and she, too, proved her courage and perseverance in performing cheerfully and efficiently the many and arduous duties that fell to the lot of the pioneer wife and mother.

*Illustrated History
Of the
State of Washington
Rev. H. K. Green D. D.
1894*



SAMUEL LOVE GILBREATH, a pioneer, prominent citizen, and the first Sheriff of Columbia county, was born near Sinking Creek, Knox county, Tennessee, March 25, 1825, a son of Joseph and Elizabeth (Love) Gilbreath. The father, a native of Augusta county, Virginia, descended from one of the early families of the Old Dominion, and the mother was born in North Carolina. When our subject was an infant the parents removed to McMinn county, Tennessee, where Mr. Gilbreath erected a mill, but died soon afterward. The mother died there about 1850.

Samuel L. Gilbreath, the subject of this sketch, grew to manhood in McMinn county, and while there was engaged in the saw-milling business five years. In 1852 he started with a small party for Oregon, going by railroad and river to St. Joseph, Missouri, and from there, on May 3, followed the main emigrant route, landing in Yam Hill county after a severe trip. Mr. Gilbreath lived near North Yam Hill until 1858, when, while on a trip to California with stock, he learned that the Washington country was open for settlers, and in the following spring he proceeded to the southern part of this State, settling in Columbia county, three miles from Dayton, in August, 1859. He not only has the honor of being the oldest settler in Columbia county, but has resided all that time on one place. He began farming in 1860, and in the following year raised a crop of 600 bushels of white wheat. In order to clean his wheat he erected a scaffold, and "winded" it out. The severe winter of 1861-'62 followed, and he was offered ten cents a pound for his wheat, although he did not accept this profitable offer, but gave it to his neighbors for \$2.50 a bushel, an extremely moderate price for that time. Although Mr. Gilbreath was the first man now residing in Columbia county to raise a crop of wheat within its borders, he does not claim the credit of being the pioneer in that line, giving

it to Mr. Davis, familiarly known as Hog Eye Davis, from the creek near which he lived. The latter crop was harvested in 1860, Mr. Gilbreath assisting in the work, and from Mr. Davis he obtained the seed for his own first planting. He now has 200 acres in his home farm, and also owns 560 acres on Snake river, in Garfield county, personally superintending both farms.

In Linn county, Oregon, March 16, 1859, he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret H. Fanning, who was born near Jacksonville, Morgan county, Illinois. They have ten living children, viz.: Nancy Elizabeth, Mary Emeline, Samuel Lee, Joseph William, Susie, Rose, Charles, Grace, James, and Fred. One child, Annie, is deceased. Mr. Gilbreath was reared in the belief of the Whig party, and was a great admirer of the noble Henry Clay, but after the death of the great Whig chieftain he renounced his allegiance to that party and has since been a staunch Democrat. He was at one time a Commissioner of Walla Walla, and after the division was the first Sheriff of Columbia county. To him is due much credit for the development of Columbia county. Always of a progressive spirit, he undertook more than one measure for the advancement of the community, and it was due to no lack on his part that all he desired was not accomplished. Among other movements of that nature with which he was prominently identified may be mentioned the mill which he built, and which stands but a few rods from his residence. He has always remained one of the prominent citizens of Columbia county, and enjoys the respect and esteem of the entire community.

Samuel Gilbreath was leader in early-day county matters

In 1850 the Congress of the United States passed the "Donation Act" as an encouragement to prospective settlers of the Northwest. This act offered to each man and wife who would "settle thereon" one square mile of land. Immigrants took Congress at its word, as they could not foresee the time which soon came when Congress had to repeal its action for the simple reason that there were not enough square miles of land to go 'round.

All eyes were turned westward, and most of the early settlers found at least enough land for a pre-emption or homestead or both in the new country.

On May 3, 1852, a wagon train left St. Joseph, Missouri for the fabled West. The train's Tennessee delegation included Samuel L. Gilbreath and his young wife, Nancy Cobb Gilbreath, and his brother Joseph. Samuel was 27 years old at the time.

In the Illinois delegation was the family Rev. Levi Fanning, his wife Nancy, eldest son Elias and two daughters Charity and Margaret, the later eight years of age.

The year 1852 would be remembered as the "Great Cholera Year. Hundreds of Indians had fallen victim of the plague from contact with previous trains, and now scrupulously avoided the trains.

On July 24, 1852 while the train was proceeding up the Platte River in western Nebraska Nancy Cobb Gilbreath gave birth to a son, who was named John Cobb Gilbreath. A few days later the mother died and was buried by the side of the trail. When the train reached the Snake River, Margaret Fanning's mother died of cholera. Once again a trail-side grave was filled with stones to prevent wolves from disturbing the remains, but no surface indications of the grave were left, to be identified by friend or foe.

The Gilbreath family located on a farm near Albany, Oregon. Here Samuel farmed, and built a grist mill, powered by water from the Calapooya River, which empties into the Willamette River.

The Fanning family settled near the present town of Lebanon, Oregon. Margaret and Charity attended school in Albany.

Leaving his young son John and his brother on the farm, Samuel enlisted in the Oregon Mounted Volunteers, and took active part in the Indian campaigns of southeastern Washington, against the united tribes who were led by Chief Kahmiakin of the Yakimas.

Early in 1856 Samuel was promoted to wagon master in charge of all wagons, boats and supplies for the expedition. The Oregon Mounted Volunteers were mustered out in the late fall of 1856, and Samuel prepared to move his operation to the Touchet Valley "where hills of bunch grass looked like huge hay-stacks." He purchased cattle from northern California, and sold his Oregon farm, in preparation for the reopening of the territory for settlement, in late 1858.

On March 17, 1859, Samuel married Margaret Fanning in Albany, Oregon. The bride was fifteen years old.

Accompanied by his wife, his son John, three herders, a wagon and team and 300 head of cattle, Samuel started for eastern Washington. At the Cascades, their group was joined by two single men, with team and cattle. Heavy snowdrifts and fallen trees blocked their traverse through the mountains.

From Walla Walla, they followed the regular Indian trail through Coppei to Whiskey Creek, and came down the narrow Sudderth gulch, which had to be leveled with shovels to keep the wagons upright. They came to the old "Booth"

place, just east of the Dumas orchard, then proceeded up the valley until they reached the present site of Dayton, which was then known as "The Crossing." It was August 27, 1859.

The day after their arrival, the men began to build corrals for their cattle, but found so many nests of rattlesnakes that they decided to move back down the river to a spring they had noticed on their way. Here, about three miles below Dayton, the Gilbreaths homesteaded.

On March 18, 1860 the Gilbreath's first child, Sarah Jane, was born. She was the five white child born in Walla Walla County, which at that time included everything south of the Snake River in Washington, northern Idaho and western Montana.

In 1861 the first crop of wheat was raised in Columbia County on the farm of Israel Davis on Whiskey Creek. After planting the grain, Davis departed for the Willamette Valley to buy sheep, arranging for Gilbreath to harvest the grain when it ripened. This he did, by cradling and thrashing it out by horses tramping on it, then winnowing it from a scaffold into a canvas on the ground. He cleaned more than 1000 bushels in this manner.

The winter of 1861-62 was a terrible ordeal in the valley. Snow fell to a depth of four feet on the level, and drifted heavily. Many cattle were frozen standing up. The cold was so intense that faces or hands exposed to frost particles in the air were frozen almost immediately. Veils and scarfs were worn over the face for protection. During the winter, the Gilbreaths lost their entire herd of cattle except two cows and a calf, which they kept housed and fed.

That spring (1862) the county's first school, privately funded as no public funds were available, was established in the Gilbreath cabin with an attendance of six children. An Englishman, Mr. Harlin served as teacher.

On June 5, 1862, Sarah Jane, the first white child born in the county died and was buried in Walla Walla. The remains were later removed to the present Pioneer Cemetery, near Dayton. In 1861 a Mr. Newland bought the claims of the Forrest brothers, single men whose sister was the wife of Jesse N. Day, founder of Dayton. Mr. Newland established the first cemetery in the county on a slight knoll with a sweeping view of the entire valley. It was long known as the Newland Cemetery. By legislative act these seven acres were set aside to be known as the Pioneer Cemetery, and many early settlers and their children are buried here, including Jesse N. Day, Samuel L. and Margaret H. Gilbreath, the John Long, Joe Rose and Dent Hunt families and many others.

On November 11, 1875 the Territorial legislature established Columbia County by division from Walla Walla County. Dayton was made the county seat. In the election of December 21, 1875 S. L. Gilbreath was elected sheriff for the new county. After his term as sheriff, Gilbreath bought 480 acres of school land near Mayview, on

the south side of the Snake river across from Pullman and Colfax, to this he added an 80 acre timber claim.

He died on June 24, 1906 in Dayton. His wife, Margaret (Fanning) Gilbreath died in Walla Walla on September 26, 1922. They had borne 13 children, several who died early in life.

WAIT'S MILL

THE STORY OF THE COMMUNITY
OF WAITSBURG, WASHINGTON

by
Ellis and Elvira Ellen Laidlaw

DAYTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
DAYTON WASHINGTON

ADAMS PRESS
Chicago, Illinois
1970

Samuel Love Gilbreath and Margaret Fanning, after a horseback elopement to the nearest minister, had married at Albany, Oregon, in March, and set out at once for Eastern Washington Territory with a band of cattle, the bride, herself, riding herd all the way--across swollen streams and along mountain trails obstructed with fallen trees and deep snow. Joined by other settlers, the party was able to send men ahead to look for suitable grazing land, and learned that good bunch-grass land could be homesteaded on the Touchet River. With this information and knowing something of the country from Samuel's service with the First Oregon Mounted Cavalry Regiment of 1855, the Gilbreaths pushed on with the Touchet as their destination.

Following the Nez Perce Trail from Fort Walla Walla, they traveled over hills and valleys, strewn with the flowers of early spring, to the Coppei. There the wagons plunged down the steep bank and through the water to the other side. After a brief rest, they drove on, across the flat and up the long pull out of the valley, and continued on to Whiskey Creek which, as yet unnamed but already possessed of a whiskey still, was inhabited by a gang of horse thieves led by the handsome, burly and roistering Bill Bunton. These men continued to trade their spirits to the Indians for cayuses, making the drunk natives a danger in the country, until soldiers, sent out from Fort Walla Walla, destroyed the still, emptying the brew into the creek, thus giving the stream its name.

Near the juncture of this branch with Hogeys Creek, the Gilbreaths passed the place of Israel "Hogeys" Davis, and crossed the stream. Farther on they reached the long, steep ravine leading down into the Touchet valley, where the hillside trail had to be widened with shovels to keep the wagons from turning over, these the first wagons to be taken into the valley.

Having selected land near The Crossing and close to the cabin of Freelon Schnebley, known as "Stubbs," who sold whiskey to the Indians and kept a squaw wife, they had already started to build a corral when a den of rattlesnakes was discovered. After killing ten of the vicious reptiles and finding their first eager enthusiasm for the place diminishing, they rounded up the herd and moved down the valley to relocate their homestead and build a puncheon-floored cabin where, in time, thirteen children would be born to them.

There was no burying ground near; when the Samuel Gilbreaths lost their first child, two years before, they had taken the body to Wailatpu for burial.

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Israel "Hogeye" Davis, of the Hogeye and Whiskey Creek area, had raised a crop of grain, the first grown in the Touchet valley. While anxious to save it, he also wanted to be away for the summer to buy and bring back sheep from the Willamette. He appealed to his neighbor, Samuel Gilbreath, who agreed to do the harvesting. In due time, Gilbreath cradled the standing grain and threshed it out with horses tramping over it, intending to take advantage of the first windstorm for winnowing out the chaff. When it began to blow one night, he got up and called his men and, laboring in the dark with lanterns, they poured the wheat by pailfuls from a wind-swept scaffold to the ground below until over a thousand bushels was cleaned for seed.

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Nature, too, produced one of her extreme vagaries of weather that would leave its mark on the country for years to come. The winter of 1861 and '62 was the severest one ever known to Indians or whites on the Pacific Coast. Late in December, winter suddenly dropped a white, blinding curtain over the land. For forty days and nights the snow continued to fall, sometimes in a heavy, blowing blizzard, sometimes lightly, but never stopping until the end of January, and with the temperature ranging from freezing to thirty-two degrees below zero until almost the first of April of the following spring. The deepest snows in the history of Washington Territory, at one time ten feet deep over the entire Walla Walla valley and twice that depth where it had drifted, isolated every settlement from the rest of the world. Cattle starved and froze by the

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thousands; men were caught in the drifts, trying to make their way out from the mines; death, loss and disaster stalked the storm.

As the snow settled, the freezing weather formed a heavy crust on its surface and the cattle, struggling to paw through to the bunchgrass beneath for food, cut their legs on the broken, icy edges until they left streaks of red blood wherever they went. When the snow became too deep for them to reach the grass at all and they could no longer hold out against starvation and the awful cold, they died where they stood, alone or falling together in frozen masses. Some uncannily remained on their feet after life was gone, their hoofs so solidly frozen to the hard crust that the carcasses did not fall over. Of ten thousand cattle in the valley in the fall, only one thousand remained in Mav.

In the Touchet valley, only two cows and a calf were left of the Gilbreath's three hundred. Timber wolves killed the cattle even before they died. One wolf, starting to devour a calf, was held at bay for several days by the mother while she simultaneously fought and cried piteously over the carcass. The Gilbreaths, fortunate enough to have plenty of supplies, themselves, including the Davis crop of wheat that had been intended for seed, generously divided with thirteen families around them. Pg 62

Nor were the women of less fortitude than their men. While they did remain at home in their cabins, their work was hard; they carried great responsibilities and suffered many terrifying moments from the Indians who were all about and delighted in frightening them, although some of the women were almost as handy with a gun as the men. Lyman's History says: Pg 63

Margaret Gilbreath was quite frequently called upon to prepare a meal for Timothy or Lawyer or other friendly chiefs who stopped at her cabin after having sent a messenger on ahead to tell her they were coming to dine. At the same time

she, too, was plagued by others of the natives, who had imbibed too much of Mr. "Stubb's" whiskey and were unpredictable. They rode up and down the trail, shouting and firing off their guns. They imitated the howling of wolves from the brush, or slipped up near her cabin to see if the man was away and they could frighten the white woman. On occasion, they would drive a beef into the woods, kill it and carry off the meat and she could only look on helplessly. But when they grew bold enough to come to her door and demand money as well as food, she found the courage to grab a rifle and drive them away. If all else failed, she knew she could count on her neighbor, Mrs. Herren, who had nursed her in childbirth and who would come running with a shotgun and protective indignation whenever summoned.

It was of such women that Lyman's history recorded:

Not one of these noble women but met with experiences that would make the bravest heart quail, yet they never complained, for it seemed a part of life's duties to endure without murmur.

Pg 64-65

COLUMBIA SCHOOL DISTRICT #1

Following the signing of the peace treaty with the Northwest Indian tribes, in the year 1858, eastern Washington territory was thrown open for settlement. When, with the Oregon Mountain volunteers, Samuel L. Gilbreath, had seen the bunch grass covered hills of the Touchet Valley looking as he said, "Like immense hay stacks as far as the eye could see," and had decided then to homestead there when peace was declared.

Samuel L. Gilbreath and Margaret Fanning, who had crossed the plains in the same large wagon train from St. Joseph, Missouri to the Willamette Valley in the year 1852, were married in Albany, Oregon on March 16, 1859. Immediately after the wedding, they left for the Touchet Valley.

Their equipment for the trip included a provision wagon and team, several saddle horses, three herders, and three hundred head of cattle. The previous winter had been a hard one with deep snow drifts and much fallen timber with no cross roads through the Cascade Mountains so they were compelled almost literally to shovel and hew their way through. In the mountains they encountered two single men, John Wills with Tom Davis with their wagons and cattle, who joined them. They were all spring and most of the summer in reaching their first settlement which was Fort Walla Walla. Captain Dent of the fort, a brother-in-law of General U.S. Grant, wanted them to settle near the fort, but the post was a cavalry post and the horses had grazed off the entire surrounding area, so they decided to move on up to the Touchet Valley.

From Fort Walla Walla, they followed the old Lewis and Clark Trail which crosses the Coppei Creek at about present Railway Station. Leaving the trail, they came down the Touchet Valley through a narrow gulch now known as Sudderth Gulch, north inside of the former Dumas Orchard. They then turned up the valley, camped their first night near a fine spring of cold, clear water. These were the first wagons ever to enter the Touchet Valley. That first night in the Touchet Valley, the Gilbreath caravan had a welcoming committee composed of hundreds of indians on horseback yelling and firing their guns. The new arrivals so out-matched in numbers naturally never expected to see the light of another day. But as it turned out, no doubt these Indians had recently come into possession of too much fire water, and were having a bit of fun at the expense of the newcomers. After an hour or two of such fun, they disappeared as noisily as they had appeared.

The next day, the caravan pushed on up the Touchet Valley to the present sight of Dayton which they reached on August 26, 1859. Dayton was then known as The Crossing because it was the central meeting grounds of all the local indian tribes, (Causés, Umatillas, Walla Walla's, Spokane's, and Nez Píercés). This is where they held their councils, wedding celebrations, and sports competitions. Nature had provided The Crossing for them ready made as it were, with plenty of water and bunch grass for their horses, and unlimited wild game for themselves. On their arrival at The Crossing, the Gilbreath's found the soul inhabitants of the place, a white man known as Stubbs, and his squaw wife, who lived in a small hut by the riverside. Stubbs real name was Theodore Snebley.

His business was cattle-rustling and bootlegging firearms and fire water to the Indians.

The day following the arrival at The Crossing, the men of the caravan started to build a corral for their cattle but encountered so many dens of rattlesnakes (it was just rattlesnake time in weather) that the Gilbreath's decided to retrace their steps back down the river to the springs, where they had camped the night before. Here the Gilbreath family settled and homesteaded its 160 acres covering level farm land, a hillside for pasture, a creek for water, and a adjoining timber for fuel. They constituted the first family to settle in the old Walla Walla county, outside the Whitman Mission, Fort Walla Walla and the village of Walla Walla itself.

Three months later, Lambert Hern and family arrived and homesteaded about a mile above them, approximately where the former Columbia School now stands. It should be remembered that the Walla Walla County of that day included Columbia, Garfield and Asotin Counties as well.

Later that fall, Jesse N. Day and his two brothers-in-law, Jack and Newton Forest, arrived from the Willamette Valley, staked plains in and below Dayton, then returned to the Willamette Valley for the winter. Several bachelors staked claims near the present site of Huntsville; Bennett on the Bateman Place, Fudge, Lloyd and the Whitaker brothers. George Pollard was one of those bachelors who built his cabin and stayed through the winter, being married the following year. There were three or four occupied cabins in the Touchet Valley that first winter of 1859 and 1860.

Reverend Berry, a Methodist Circuit Rider, held regular

meetings every other week at the Gilbreath cabin in the winter where the Gilbreath, Hern, and Stubbs family as a congregation. Sometimes including single men who might be in the neighborhood.

On March 18, 1860, a daughter, Sarah Jane, was born to the Gilbreath's. She was the first white child born in the old Walla Walla County outside of the Whitman Mission, and the town of Walla Walla itself. In spring of 1860, Mr. Gilbert was plowing with a yoke of oxen alongside the Lewis and Clark Trail when a traveler to the Orofino Mines in Idaho drew in his horse to watch the operation. Finally he asked Mr. Gilbeath what he expected to grow in this dry country. Mr. Gilbert explained that he expected to grow some vegetables and some small fruits for the family table, and some seed grains to plant more land the next year. But the traveler could stand it no longer, as he moved on he shouted, "I'll tell you what you'll raise here, you'll raise a hell of a dust, and that's all." And he was still laughing at his own joke as he passed out of sight.

Jesse N. Day returned to his claim with his family about May of that year, but the Forest brothers did not return with him. They sold their claims to others. J.H. Newland bought one of the claims they had intended to prove up on. This year homesteaders began to arrive in a steady stream. In the spring of 1861, Israel Davis raised the first commercial crop of wheat in what is now Columbia County. Davis then went to the Willamette Valley to buy sheep, leaving Mr. Gilbreath in charge of the crop, which was cut with old fashion "cradles" and separated from the straw by piling it on the ground and trampled on by horses, then winnowed from a ladder in a

stiff breeze to a canvas on the ground. A thousand bushels of wheat was a net result as proof enough that this was destined to be a great wheat country. It was stored carefully to be kept for neighboring land seeding the next year.

In December of the year 1861, Mr. Gilbert took a string of packhorses to the head of the navigation on the Columbia river known as old Fort Walla Walla, and later Wallula, and packed them with stapled groceries; flour, sugar, bacon, coffee, and so forth. He intended to sell them to the newly opened Oro^fphino mines in Idaho. He had returned as far as his cabin heaven on the Touchet on Christmas Day. It began snowing and did not stop until there were four feet of packed snow on the level. The weather turned bitterly cold. This trip to the mines was abandoned and all efforts were directed to keeping men and animals from freezing or starving to death.

Cattle, trying to find shelter in the lee sides of the hills, became hopelessly lost, stuck in snow drifts, and froze to death standing up. Those who made it to the shelter of the trees on the other side of the hillsides were attacked by roving bands of wolves, and were destroyed by the dozens. As for the men and women in the cabins, they dared not even step out side the door without covering their faces with whatever was available. A butchered beef side hanging outside the cabin was frozen stiff, and an ax was necessary to cut it, which were like oak chips. Mr. Gilbreath's grocery supplies, originally intended for the Idaho miners, were sold to the neighbors at cost, and were means of saving the lives of many of the neighboring families, which were about 15 in the

neighborhood. As soon as the top of the snow developed a crust sufficiently hard to walk on, they could come to these cabins for supplies. No one was prepared for such a calamity. Not even the oldest Indians had a tradition of such a winter.

Even then, before the coming of spring, these supplies were exhausted and the community was forced to resort to grinding the precious seed wheat in old fashion coffee mills, then cooking it into a kind of porridge on which they existed. Through succeeding pioneer days this winter was referred to as a hard winter of 1862. Mr. Gilbreath lost his entire herd of cattle, with the exception of a cow and two calves, which he managed to pull through. Cold was not the only enemy, as the bands of wolves attacked and killed most of the bands that were caught on the lea side of the hills and could not escape because of the deep drifts by which they were surrounded.

With the coming of spring, a Pony Express began operating between Walla Walla and Orofino mines in Idaho, with the Gilbreath cabin as the local stop for meals, rest, and a change of horses. This express was operated by Miller and Mossman. Joaquin Miller later became the poet of the Sierra's. Like other travellers of that day, Joaquin Miller wore buckskin clothing, and slept on the floor of the cabin. On return trips, they often carried pouches of gold dust from the mines, and every station had its gold dust scales, for gold dust was the soul currency of the times. Undaunted in the spring of 1862, Gilbreath built a new cabin nearer the highway. And the old cabin was occupied by a school, which occupied with half a dozen neighboring children as pupils, and a

Englishmen named Hardin as the teacher. Though but a privately supported school, this was doubtless the first attempt at real education in the county. Walla Walla County was reorganized in 1862 with the boundaries set at the Snake river on the north, Columbia river on the west, and the Oregon line as the southern boundary.

In the first election held in this reorganized Walla Walla County, held on July 14, 1862, James Van Dyke, John Sheets, and Samuel L. Gilbreath were elected to the first board of County Commissioners. In this election, Walla Walla county pulled four times as many votes as did King county on the Sound.

The first crop of wheat grown on the Israel Davis homestead together with a few grown near Fort Walla Walla proved at this early date that this Northwest Territory was destined to become the great grain growing area to be followed in due time by great industry areas as well. The first industrial step to be appear logically in this pioneer land was the building of flouring mills to grind wheat into flour for the families themselves, and other grains to be grown following wheat to feed the stock of the pioneer families. The first flouring mill on the Touchet River was built by Wait in the year 1865 near the town which now bears his name Waitsburg.

The following year of 1866, a second mill on the Touchet River was built on the Newt-^{Curl}~~Herl~~ homestead about three miles down river by Gilbreath, Lock, and Long. The timbers for this mill were hewn from tamarack Logs in the Blue Mountains, and then hauled across the foothills and down the steep sides of the valley, then to the

chosen site by ox teams. The burrs and machinery for the mill were shipped around the Horn from Boston, then shipped up the Columbia river to Wallula, then to the site by oxen.

It soon became evident that the local population could not consume the output of these mills and the only outside outlet for their products was distant, and the only mode of transportation was horse-drawn wagon. Flour and feed were thus transported by wagon-drawn trains as far east as the mining districts of Colorado. Drivers returned with payment for their loads in gold dust. The Gilbreath's Locke and Long mills became known as Milton mills and a small settlement began to develop around it consisting of a post office, a store, a blacksmith shop, and the inevitable saloon.

With the normal expansion of the settlement at Milton mills the need for a school became apparent. Mr. Gilbreath donated a acre from his homestead for school purposes. The saloon not proving the success it's owner had anticipated the building it had occupied was sold to the school authorities and moved on to the acre Mr. Gilbreath had provided. The mill had been built in the year 1866. It was probably a year or two later before the school was ready for occupancy. At any rate, the children of Milton mills, including two of the Gilbreath's oldest, began attending the first public school in what is now Columbia county, with the word "SALOON" still above the door. The seats in this first school were logs hewn on one side with pegs driven in the bottom. The desks were planks laid on top of pegs driven into the wall. Unfortunately, to the best of our knowledge, no photograph exists of this school. There having been another school started near

Walla Walla, called Walla Walla County District #1, the school at Milton mills was called Walla Walla County District #2. Mark Witt was the first teacher at this school, and Cushing Eels was Walla Walla's county superintendent in school followed later by Reverend A. W. Sweeney in 1872.

On November 11, 1875 the Washington Territorial legislature established that county Columbia by division by Walla Walla county. Columbia as organized then, comprised not only the present area of Columbia county, but also are now Garfield and Asotin counties. On separation of Columbia from Walla Walla the school district at Milton mills was changed to Columbia School District #1. And its name was changed to Columbia School, and a new site selected near the crossroads as a more suitable and convenient situation for the school. The first school superintendent of Columbia county was T. S. Leonard, and W. F. McLaren was the first teacher in the new building at the crossroads. Other teachers about that time were W. T. Stott, who children named Washington Territory Stott. A. J. Strum was the most musical of all the early teachers. J. H. Windell, and J. H. Wilt were other teachers.

The new school building was simply constructed in rectangular shape, a one room classroom with a stove in the floor center, three windows in each side, and two doors: one in front for boys, and one for girls, and beware of making a mistake. There were also two small outhouses in their respective corners of the lot, and quite a good sized playfield. H. B. Richery had been a professional baseball player, turned teacher. He introduced the boys into the intricacies of the curving ball, base running, a steady mind, and

being inside of any public building except their own little schoolhouse, had never had the pleasure of spending a dime. These hardy pioneers always shared their best with the superintendent. We recall one of the young women superintendents having gone out for a survey of the rural schools being entertained in a home over night where the only bed in the home was a bunk nailed up to the side of the wall and filled with straw. This the hostess and her three months' old baby shared with the visitor, while the husband went to the barn loft to sleep. This young woman so hospitably entertained was made to feel in this humble home that those people struggling against poverty knew she was interested in the development of the various districts and always had the loyal support of every one in those communities. All worked for the common aim—the betterment of local conditions.

In early days it was not out of the ordinary for Indians to appear at the farm houses demanding a meal. One incident has been brought to our knowledge where two blanket Indians went into a house asking for a meal in almost unintelligible English, but during the progress of the meal one of the girls of the family was murmuring a few German phrases which she had learned from a neighbor, whereupon the younger of the two Indians asked in splendid English why she had not learned the languages when young. It developed that he was able to converse in five languages, being a college graduate, while at this time Asotin County's children had no advantages above the grammar grades. But let it be said to the credit of these pioneer children who are the fathers and mothers of the present younger generation that they made good and are seeing that their children are getting the best the great state offers educationally.

Thirty years have brought vast changes educationally—classical, industrial and literary courses having been added to our systems, the schools having been inspected and placed upon the accredited lists of the state. Children are provided free transportation to and from schools; hot lunches are provided; buildings equipped with splendid heating systems and sanitary conditions are generally observed. Teachers are paid excellent wages and are well prepared for their work. The county superintendent is provided with an automobile for visitation of schools which are practically all reached by an excellent system of highways.

As an outcome of this superior development many of our young men are holding positions of trust in the present crisis, in the service of Uncle Sam both at home and abroad.

Would we return to the old conditions and times were we given our choice? We love to dwell upon the early times, the struggles, the happy hours, to think of those who were friends during those trying years, but we wish our county to keep pace with the progress of the whole Northwest. So we, in the future, as we have done in the past, as loyal united citizens, will boost for the educational, spiritual and civic growth of Asotin County.

We have given the personal reminiscences of pioneers of Walla Walla and Asotin counties. We are now giving something of the recollections of the first woman in what is now Columbia County, one of the pioneers of 1859, Mrs. Margaret Gilbreath:

S. L. Gilbreath and I were married at Albany, Ore., in March, 1859, and started at once for Washington Territory with a band of cattle, one wagon and team, and three herders.

At the Cascade Mountains two other men, John Wells and Tom Davis, with a wagon and cattle, joined us. We soon found it impossible to hurry on with the wagons, so they were left behind until the road was opened, the rest coming on with the stock. Pack horses carried the camp equipment. It was hard work opening up the trail on account of fallen trees and deep snow. We camped on Butter Creek and sent two men on to find suitable grazing land for our cattle. They returned in a few days reporting that good land with plenty of bunch grass could be homesteaded on the Touchet River. Having succeeded in bringing up our wagons under much difficulty, we continued on our way to Walla Walla.

Captain Dent, commander of Fort Walla Walla, stopped us and insisted that we settle near Walla Walla. We could not do this as the horses of thearrison had eaten all the grass from the range and we were looking for good pasture.

We inquired of the captain if we would be safe from the Indians. We went to the Touchet Valley. He assured us that the Indians were peaceable, which Mr. Gilbreath believed as he had served as volunteer through the Indian wars of 1855 and 1856, and knew of the Nez Percés fighting and scouting for the whites through the war. We found them always friendly, unless they had been drinking.

Leaving Walla Walla we proceeded on our way to The Crossing, which is now Dayton, reaching there August 27, 1859.

Mr. Stubbs, whose real name was Theodore Schnebley, lived here in a log house with his squaw wife. He sold whiskey to the Indians, thereby causing the whites much trouble. In coming into the Valley of the Touchet we left the Indian trail and came down a ravine, in some places having to shovel out places in the ravine to keep the wagons from turning over. These wagons were the first brought into the Touchet Valley.

The next day, after our arrival at The Crossing, we started to build a corral for the cattle, but discovered a den of rattlesnakes. After killing ten we decided to move down the valley to a fine location near a big spring of pure water. This land we homesteaded.

The Indian chiefs were frequent visitors at our cabin, calling soon after we came. Timothy and Lawyer and their friends sometimes sent messengers on ahead to tell us they were coming to dine with us. We would hasten to get ready a good meal for we thought it best to keep them friendly.

Many times we expected trouble from them. Once they rode up the trail shouting and firing off their guns. That night they burned the house of Mr. Stubbs. Sometimes they would imitate wolves howling and slip up near the house to see if there was a man there to know whether to scare the white woman or not.

Once they came and demanded food and money and continued to frighten me until I grabbed a rifle and started toward them. Then they threw up their hands and laughed and said I was afraid.

Several times they would run a beef into the woods and kill it, carrying home the meat. One night when the Indians had been drinking and were giving us a great scare, two men hunting cattle and Reverend Berry, who preached at our

came once a month, happened to be there. We were certainly glad to have company.

One day Mr. Gilbreath was plowing rye grass with oxen when Reverend Berry came riding up. He stopped his work and waited for Mr. Berry to come up to him, then said, looking at his clothes and general appearance, "A Methodist preacher, I suppose." "Yes, I am," was the reply. "Well, go on to the house. My wife is a Methodist and will be glad to see you." Reverend Berry preached in our cabin all that fall and winter of 1859 and 1860. His congregation consisted of Mr. and Mrs. Herren, Mr. Stubbs and his dusky wife, Mr. Gilbreath and I, and men who happened to be in the neighborhood. Mr. Berry afterward made his home in Walla Walla for some years.

Whiskey Creek was so named because a band of outlaws made this region their rendezvous, selling whiskey and stealing cattle. Their names were Bill Bunting, John Cooper, Bill Skinner, George Ives and several others who were later hanged in Montana for crimes. The authorities there evidently knew their business, for these were the men who caused the Vigilantes to organize against them. Many prominent men took part in ridding the new country of these undesirables, among them Anderson Cox and J. W. McGhee. It was said that in dealing with the thieves Mr. McGhee said to George Ives who was up for trial: "George, we want you to leave, and we want it to be a long time before you come back." Mr. McGhee's deliberate way of speaking evidently carried weight, for George left.

The first crop of wheat in the Touchet Valley was raised on the land of Israel Davis on Whiskey Creek. He was leaving for the Willamette to buy sheep and Mr. Gilbreath harvested the wheat by cradling, and threshed it out by horses tramping on it. One night a wind came up and Mr. Gilbreath and hired man got up out of bed and began the work of cleaning the wheat by pouring pails full of it from a scaffold to the ground. In this manner over a thousand bushels were cleaned. This was intended for seed for the coming year, but the hard winter of 1861 and 1862 followed when food for man and beast became so scarce that most of it was sold to the needy for food, and to keep the teams from starving. Some of the settlers ground the wheat in coffee mills and used it as porridge. We sold our wheat for \$2 a bushel. We could have sold at any price but Mr. Gilbreath would not take advantage of their great need.

This was the most terrible winter ever experienced in the valley. The snow drifted so deep that many of the cattle were frozen standing up. Out of 300 of ours two cows and a calf, which we fed, were left. The timber wolves killed a good many cattle that winter. One day a wolf attacked a calf and the mother heard the cry of distress coming from some distance. When she reached it, the wolf was starting to devour the body. The cow fought it from the calf for a day or two, making the most piteous cries. Other cattle smelled the blood and came bawling for miles around. The sound of hundreds of frenzied cattle bawling will not soon be forgotten.

We were fortunate in having plenty of supplies that winter, as we had prepared to send a small pack train to the mines at Elk City. The deep snow made it impossible to get supplies, so the neighbors called on us, and our stores were opened to feed them. Our stock of food was divided among thirteen families. The snow was so deep that only a narrow trail could be kept open to Walla Walla

by miners coming to and from the Idaho mines. The snow lay on the ground until March, and in shady places until June. We had to go to Walla Walla in the spring and buy barley for seed.

Miller and Mossman who ran a pony express to the mines, stopped at our cabin for meals, and for exchange of horses. Their saddle-bags were often loaded with gold dust. Joaquin Miller, who is now known as one of our best western poets, was then a rough frontiersman, dressed in buckskin.

Having moved to a new log house, school was held in our cabin in the spring of 1862. Five or six children attended. Mr. Harlin, an Englishman, was the teacher, and he stayed with us.

Another school was taught in 1863 in the Forrest brothers' cabin. These men were brothers-in-law of Jesse N. Day, who later founded Dayton. Frank Harmon was the teacher and A. W. Sweeney of Walla Walla was the first county superintendent.

Reverend Sweeney organized a Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Waitsburg. Among others, Mr. and Mrs. Long and daughter and Mr. Gilbreath and I were charter members.

Our first child who died in infancy was the first white child born in the territory now included in Columbia, Garfield and Asotin counties. The oldest living person born in this territory is Mrs. John Steen, daughter of George Miller.

I was the only white woman in this territory for two months, until Lambert Herren and family came and settled near. Mrs. Robt. Rowley, who was two months old at that time, is the only living one of the Herren family of eight children.

Mrs. Herren was a typical pioneer woman, fearless and kindhearted, nursing me and others in times of sickness, in the absence of a physician. When the Indians threatened me, I sent for her and she came with shotgun and indignation, and rescued me.

Great changes have taken place since those early days, and many incidents of vital interest to us then have been forgotten, but the kindness and simple living of the early settlers are not easily forgotten.

~~W~~ We have had occasion in this volume to make frequent reference to Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Pomeroy, founders of the town named from them.

One of their daughters, now Mrs. Peter McClung, living still in her home town, was the "first child" in Pomeroy now living there. She has kindly given us a short sketch of what might well be called the atmosphere and the feeling of her childhood home.

We are pleased to include it here as the closing contribution of this chapter of memories.

RECOLLECTIONS OF POMEROY

By Mrs. Peter McClung

To write a story of my experience as a child on the land now occupied by the town of Pomeroy will not require extended space. Days were much the same with the three children of the Pomeroy family isolated from neighbors by distance measured in many miles. Being the youngest of the three children my

In a recent number of the Chronicle sent to me in the east, I note that an effort is to be made to organize a Pioneer Society of Dayton and Columbia County, of the Old Timers, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of birth of our dear old Dayton; and thinking perhaps that a few of the many incidents which occurred since the commencement might prove of interest, not only to the old timers but to the present generation as well. But few of the old settlers of Dayton and Columbia County remain and, as I write, realize that I am one of the few.

The plat of Dayton was filed by Jesse N. Day, November 4, 1871, the town being surveyed and platted by a Walla Walla County surveyor, one Knowlton. On the morning of November 19, 1871, on the top of a load of merchandise, team belonging to Wesley Allen, we started overland from Walla Walla to Dayton, taking the upper road to what is now known as Dixie on Dry Creek. Along in the afternoon it commenced raining and coming over the divide on the Coppel our team stalled about half way up the hill, which forced us to unload a part and go back for the balance, and just sundown reloaded, and started down the hill into the Coppel Valley, getting to the foot of the hill just dark and arriving at the crossing of the Coppel at the Bill Fudge place which had recently been purchased by a man by the name of Patterson. The house had burned a short time previously and the Patterson family were living in the barn. We asked for permission to spread our blankets on the hay at the end of the barn, which was granted. The next morning, a bright, sunshiny day, Mr. Patterson attached his team to ours and helped to pull us to the top of the Winnett Hill, from which point I obtained my first view of of the Touchet River. From there we moved on, arriving at Dayton on Sunday, November 20, 1871. This load of merchandise was consigned from the Red Store of Walla Walla (Kimball and Day) to the Red Store of Dayton. The engineer of this outfit was Wesley Allen, son of Muck A. Muck Allen who lived on the Eckler Mountain up past the cemetery. I well remember his Cayuse team, their names being Mufro, Joe and Pete. The names were impressed upon my mind from the fact that he was calling them by name about every rod from Walla Walla to Dayton. As we drove up to the Red Store situated back from Main Street, about where the Weinhard Malt house now stands, there appeared upon the platform of the store Ralph Kimball and D. L. Payne (Boge.) This was my first introduction to Dayton, which consisted of

"BY ONE WHO WAS THAR"

To the Pioneers of Columbia County, Greeting

10 June 1922

the Old Red Store, residence of J. N. Day, close to the spring and about where the present Catholic Church is situated; and a small unfinished building belonging to Ralph Kimball, occupied later by Jack Fall as a paint shop; and Stubb's Cabin situated squarely across Main Street at the end of the present bridge. Main Street was a County road with rail fences on either side, from Stubb's Cabin to the foot of the hill at Henry Pringle's shop.

Ralph Kimball tarried with me from the 20th day of November to December 1, 1871 to initiate me in the duties of running the Red Store and the Postoffice which had been moved from the residence of George W. Miller on his ranch up the Patit just outside the town limits, to the Red Store. Thus you see, on December 1, 1871, I took full charge.

The weather continued fine until the 20th day of December when a cold snap struck our vicinity and from December 20th to January 1, 1872, we had about two feet of snow and the thermometer ranged from fifteen to twenty-five degrees below zero.

Cyrus Davis (Yankee Davis) and Dan Kimball and one Kemp had become citizens of our burg. Yankee lived in a log house just beyond the Planing Mill across the Touchet and entertained travelers and took charge of the Stage stock for the Feltis Stage line from Walla Walla to Lewiston, of which I was appointed agent at Dayton.

Thanksgiving, Yankee invited Dan Kimball and I to partake of an old Wisconsin Thanksgiving dinner, having sent to Walla Walla for the turkey, cranberries, etc., and believe me the memory of that dinner lingers with me now, fifty years ago.

On Christmas Eve, Bill Newland, who lived up the Touchet at the Star school house, induced the wife to bake up a stack of pies and gave out the

word that there was to be a grand Christmas Eve dance at his place. Yankee Davis, Dan Kimball and I attended, thermometer at twenty-five degrees below zero and cold enough. It seemed that every other man in the audience was a fiddler, as one would play a change, step down from the platform to dance and another would take his place. In the long room there was but one stove in the corner of the room and consequently the other end of the room was so cold that we danced with our coats buttoned up. Some of the young bleeds delighted in spitting tobacco juice out on the floor which would freeze as it struck the floor. I well remember as we danced

that we would slide to our Alamand left and watch our steps on the Do se Do. There were present at that memorable dance, several young bucks, now (if alive) grandfathers, among which were Bob Ping, Boge Payne, Bill, Tom and Lane Payne, Cal Montgomery, Anderson and John Messinger, to all Old Timers familiar names, and others.

During the month of February, 1872, Mr. Day caused the Old Red Store to be moved from the site of the Malt house to the corner of Main and Front Street opposite the Dayton Mills. I moved the stock of merchandise to the small unfinished building across the street while the store was being moved, and an additional thirty feet added to it making a store of twenty-five by sixty feet. My duties at that time consisted of attending to the store and postoffice and the balance of the time helping to line and paper the store. Later the Old Red Store was moved up the street about sixty feet to the site of the Old Dick Learn Livery stable.

During the latter part of the winter Frank Dozier and Harison Martin (Mulligan) his brother-in-law built and operated a blacksmith shop on the spot of the present blacksmith shop at the end of the present bridge, the Old Stubb's Cabin having been removed. The temporary bridge being about one hundred yards below this present bridge.

The Spring of 1872 activities commenced in the building of Dayton. To induce S. M. Wait to leave Waitsburg, twelve miles down the Touchet, founded and named by him in 1864, Mr. Day gave Wait and Matzger the present site of the Portland Flour Mills property together with a water right. Also a site corner of Clay and First Street for a Planing Mill and to Wait and Matzger ninety feet from the corner of Frst and Main Street on the south side of the street, which today consists of the Broughton office, the Tammany Hall, Godard's place of business, Geo. Carpenter's place of business and John Samuel's place of business. In addition Mr. Day donated for residences to Mr. Wait one-half block, the north half of the block between Second Street and Clay, Mr. Wait's residence being the one built by him, now occupied by Mrs. Moody as a boarding house. To Mr. Matzger he donated one-half block between First and Second Streets on Washington Avenue, now the Brining Hospital.

J. N. Day was quite liberal to all new comers, giving ground to those who would build and improve the same. He gave me thirty by one hun-

dred and twenty feet about the site of Kit Robinson's harness shop. I immediately contracted with Kimball and Kemp, carpenters, to erect a one story twenty by eighty foot building to be completed by April 1, 1872 and leased the same to Wait and Matzger for eight months. The building was completed on time and on April 1, 1872 Wait and Matzger opened the second general merchandise store in Dayton. In the Spring and Summer of 1872 Wait and Matzger commenced operations building the Planing Mill, Flour Mill, and the Brick Store now Tammany headquarters, as well as their separate dwellings during that year. Mr. Day having given the ninety feet of Main Street to Wait and Matzger they commenced and completed by November 1, 1872, the first and only brick building in Dayton. Mr. Matzger in building the building set the same ten feet off the true line. His reason was that they would set out a row of trees so that during the hot weather they would be protected from the hot sun which accounts for the narrow Broughton office. Among other buildings erected was the Old Columbia Hotel, built and run by J. M. Hunt who sold his Waitsburg Hotel and moved to Dayton; Mr. Day having donated

(Continued on page four)

"BY ONE WHO WAS THERE."

(Continued from first page.)

his sixty foot lot on corner of Main and First Streets, now the site of the Prater-Rinehart Hardware Store.

Next to the Hardware Store, on the site of the Dusenberry Brick, William Matzger erected a two story frame with stairs on the outside, store on the first floor, and Dayton's only public hall for church sociables, barn storming theatre troops, and all meetings of public nature. In this hall was organized the Red Cross as well as the Independent order of Red Cross. This building was subsequently moved to the site of the Engel Brick next to the Commercial Club's quarters, and later was occupied as Postoffice, William Matzger, postmaster. About this time J. L. Smith built a frame building for a butcher shop on the present site of the Chandler meat market and Yankee Davis commenced the erection of the Fettis Stage Barn, Mr. Day having donated the sixty feet on the corner of Main and Second Streets, now occupied by the three-story Odd Fellows Hall and Bakery adjoining.

Cook and Quinn of Walla Walla, built a small frame on the site of Holmes' Barber Shop, as a harness shop with Billy Henderchott in charge of the same. Micajah Cross built a frame just east of this which was occupied by D. R. Lock, being the third general merchandise store in Dayton,

with Alex O'Dell as manager. During the Winter of 1872 and 1873 Ned Harris came down from Lewiston and rented my building, vacated by Wait and Matzger, about where Kit Robinson's Harness Show now is, and opened a saloon with John Story as Bar creature. Later Ned Harris erected a brick building toward the bridge near where George McCauley's dental office now is, and occupied as a Laundry at present. Wait and Matzger had moved into the only brick store in Dayton, "Tammany Hall" and put in a fine stock of \$25,000 of general merchandise with Marvin Wait, nephew of S. M. Wait and Warren Belcher, who had moved from Waitsburg, and believe me it kept the undersigned busy with Loren Day as assistant, in the "Little Old Red Store," to keep up with Wait and Matzger, (Loren was then about sixteen years old.)

I don't think I worked more than sixteen or seventeen hours out of the twenty-four. There were sure few idle hours. Now about this time the question was agitated about starting a Woolen Mill with J. N. Day and the Winnett Brothers, and others with Frank G. Frary a nephew of A. H. Reynolds, a practical woolen mill man, was imported from Warsaw, Indiana as Superintendent, and the mill was soon put into successful operation, the first Woolen Mill east of the Cascade Mountains. J. N. Day being treasurer, it fell to my lot to attend to his duties as treasurer. Owing to the lack of transportation the Woolen Mill did not prove a "howling success" as home demand was not sufficient. Later the factory team, under the efficient guidance of Hon. John Brining, hauled the factory goods to Walla Walla, Pendleton, La Grande, Baker City and as far as Boise, Idaho.

About this time Bill Burge established a Photo Gallery with a ladder to climb to the second floor, and dwelling on the first floor where the Burge family lived. This was next east of Andy White's Hotel, situated between First and Second Streets on the north side of Commercial Street and we really began to think that we were the chosen people.

Kindly remember that we were at this time and until 1876 a part and parcel of Walla Walla County, which county included the Territory south of the Snake and Columbia Rivers and from the Oregon line at Wallula to the mouth of the Grand Ronde River, where it enters into the Snake, some miles above Asotin City. We being the tail end of the Kite (the City of Walla Walla of course being the Kite) and being American citizens were imbued with the spirit of our Revolutionary forefathers, that taxation without representation was not as it should be."

In as much as our share of the spoils was meager we began to agitate the matter of a County of our own, much to the disgust and horror of Walla Walla County. At all events this matter culminated in 1876 in the formation of Columbia County reaching from the point between Waitsburg and Huntsville to the mouth of the Grand Ronde River.

In the Spring of 1872, Dr. W. W. Day with his son C. H. Day, Charles Day, a sprightly lad of seventeen, moved up from Waitsburg where they had wintered, and built a large barn on the corner of First and Tremont Streets, which was fitted up as a dwelling for the doctor's family, then in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and who subsequently arrived in Dayton in October 1872, with Grandpa Pringle, father-in-law of W. W. Day and grandfather of Henry Pringle.

Dayton from the first, has always fostered, and supported her public schools, commencing with O. C. White (Oliver Cromwell) who taught the "Deestrick School" then situated on the Lane running diagonally from

Main Street to the mouth of "Hungry Gulch" to the log house occupied by the Hon. Elisha Ping. In the summer of 1872 an addition was built to the old school house making it a two-department school. In the Fall and Winter of 1872 and 1873 the school was presided over by Miss Anna Alley and Miss Hattie Day.

This year, 1872, Dayton received quite an accession to its population among whom were George Eckler who came up from "Willamette" bringing with him a small saw-mill which he installed on the Blue Mountains on the Whetsone Mountain Road, said road crossing the Patit just above the Dittmore school house. This Eckler mill succeeded the old Baker and Baily Mill and was not far from the Bailey Mill. During the years 1872 and after, the Eckler Mill supplied the principal lumber for the building of our town.

Let me digress and list the old settlers and new ones coming about this time, taking Dayton as the initial point, up the Touchet, John Mustard, John Rainwater, Uncle Zeke Hobbs, William (Bill) Newland, George Kirk, E. B. Brown on south fork, then up the Spangler fork on Main Touchet, Ed Wineland, John (Buckskin) Winnett, Hank Stanfield, Joe Ables, William (Bill) Ables and James Stearns.

Down the Touchet, Lambert Hearn, James Davis, James Danskin, the Hon. R. G. Newland, Philander Giberson, Widow Payne at the mouth of Payne Hollow, John Long of "Milton Mills," S. L. Gilbreath, Dave and Milt Clawson, James (Jim) Atchison, Harvey Bateman, David Fudge, George Pollard, B. J. Hunt, John Fudge, W. Whit-

aker, Ben Camp, Philip George, which carries us to the outskirts of Waitsburg. Returning to Dayton we find up the Patit Elisha Ping on the Patit at the mouth of Johnson Hollow (sometimes called Hungry Gulch,) above Ping's on the Patit, George W. Miller, father of our long time Judge of the Superior Court, Simeon D. Earl, William Graham, Alex Montgomery, (Young Alex) W. C. Woodward, Cyrus Armstrong, Waire Long and Sam Miller.

Back to Dayton and up "Hungry Gulch", Micajah Cross, John Ables, John (Pap) Messinger, Robert Elwell (Bob), Ambrose (Amp) Johnson, John Blessinger, John Byrd, Benton (Shorty, six foot four), Williams, A. J. Titus, Matthias Hunter (called Matt) whose vivid imagination was second to none, his lurid tales of his experience yet linger with not only myself but all to whom he came in contact. I well remember one story, during the Rogue River Indian War at "Jump off Joe Creek." Matt was in that vicinity and pursued by the Indians. Coming to "Jump off Joe," he jumped, and half way over, found he could not make it so he turned about half way and landed on the bank that he started from. Now this would seem some large at this present day but in the good old days of fifty years ago we were inclined to believe almost anything. Now back to Dayton and traveling down the Whetstone the Whetstone Hollow with T. W. Whetstone, one of the "Democratic War Horses" of our community, whose house and ranch was at the forks of the Whetstone Hollow and about the head of navigation, there being but few above him. Thence down, Charles Phar, Amasa West, William W. Sherry, Marion Sherry, James H. Savage, Conrad (Coon) Knobloch, Old Man Benton, William Benton, Augustus (Gus) Benton, Charles (Charley) Abraham, Mark Baker, A. J. James (Jackey), and Newton Curl.

As I look over the list of these Old Timers I find all have passed on "to that bourne from which no traveler returns," and I am constrained to feel that I am about the last of the "Mohicans." "Alki" I too, shall hit the well worn trail, who shall mourn for "Logan?"

Now let us Clatawa back to Dayton, Webfoot Flat and Willow Creek country: Lute Vannice, Bob Vannic, E. Manford King, Charley King, Capt. Anderson, Lon Sanford, Philetus Moore, Moses Moore, J. J. Galiloway, Largent, Wm. and Jasper Matheny, Mr. Hopkins, father of Ernest, A. Thronson, Frank Gordon, Old Man Taylor, Alex. Taylor, Anthony Rockhill, A. W. Hukill, Ed Hukill, Wm. and Thomas King on the Tucanon, and others.

I find that I have omitted quite a few of the Old Timers. Over on Bundy Hollow and Hog Eye and Dayton. Matt Riggs came to Dayton in the spring of 1872. Joseph Price, Sr., Joseph Price, Jr., John Turner, Ben Turner, Robert Laughery, Alex. Price, Peter Price, Ben Holderman, Alex. Bundy, Sanford Bramlett, Alex Baldwin, Willis Baldwin, John Redford, Major Evans, Nate Evans, John R. and David Evans, James Skelton, Pap Winnett, William, John, Robert, Clark (Doc) and Louis Winnett of the early sixties, now all gone but Louis; Hon. R. F. Sturdevant, J. N. Thompson, T. S. Leonard of the Vintage of 1872, Thomas Pettijohn, Harmon Davis, who operated the upright saw-mill on the Touchet at the mouth of Jim Creek; Dick Walsh, who was employed by J. N. Day on the ranch in the fall of 1871 with Jesse Cadwallader (Old Cad) and at the opening of the Woolen Mills were em-

ployed in the Woolen Mill; J. H. Gough, Levi and Reuben Watrous, A. L. and Matthew McCauley. Let us not forget J. S. Starner (Judge) our first Probate Judge of Columbia County, Old Man Funk, George and Jim King, Sevier McClain, Jap Falkner, George May, D. W. Hensley, Addison Jacobs (Old Jake the Thresher), John Jenkins, I. N. E. Rayburne, Gabe Paul, W. E. Ayrs, Sam Shaw, Bill Shaw, D. M. Kerby, Goldsmith and Elonzo Hammer, and so on.

During the year 1872 the families of S. M. Wait and Wm. Matzger arrived in Dayton; also Reuben and Levi Watrous and Silas Kenoyer, whose families came later and were employed by Wait and Matzger; Also J. H. Gough and family came up from Waitsburg and was employed by Wait and Matzger; Dick Walsh and Jesse Kadwalader worked in the factory.

Dick had drifted in from Montana on his way to Oregon and camped with us, and in the early summer started for Oregon to find work in the woolen mills, he being a practical woolen man. At The Dalles he met the machinery of the Dayton woolen mills, coming up the river, and decided to return to Dayton. Also during this year the families of Frank Frary, the Supt. of the Mills, as well as Justus Frary and wife, father and mother of Frank arrived in Dayton.

Frank Dozier built a small house during the spring of 1872 on the corner of Conimercial and Front streets, later occupied by Mrs. S. A. George, mother of "Bogue" Payne. Andy White built a hotel on the north side of Commercial street between First and Second, making the second hotel in Dayton, in fact Dayton boomed in all directions.

Socially we were all one large family. It made no difference whether our forefathers came over on the Mayflower or from Missouri—all were welcome. In October, 1872 Dr. W. W. Day's wife (Aunt Lucy) and daughter Harriet with Grandpa Pringle arrived and located in the barn on the corner of First and Tremont, where Andy Johnson now lives. This barn became quite noted from the fact that Henry Day (brother of Jess Day) and Anna Alley, Dennis C. Guernsey and Hattie Day (daughter of W. W. Day) F. C. Miller and Anna Brown, daughter of Mort-Brown, C. J. Broughton and Ina McCleary, Dr. Chas. H. Day and Lora Amanda Rees, all started life's journey from this historic old barn.

These are not all of the residents at that time. The youngsters of that time will be treated later, said youngsters now being grandfathers and grandmothers.

These few remarks treat of Dayton in the Fall of 1871 and the year of 1872 and as memory carries me back I call to mind many incidents which occurred from 1872. Perhaps later on I may jot same down. I claim residence in Old Columbia County and Dayton from 1871 to and including 1921 to date as I have never lost my residence in the county. Perhaps more anon.

Respectfully Submitted,
DENNIS COOLEY GUERNSEY.

42 years with ASCS:

A lot of memories

By NADINE MUNNS GERKEY
Of the Union-Bulletin

DAYTON — World War II:
Food at any cost!

That was the cry on the farm front during the war. And farmers borrowed money from the government and raised pigs and chickens and grew potatoes.

Some "flew the coop" before a crop was harvested or animals were ready to butcher. In these cases the government stepped in and sold out the programs.

"Cost was of no concern," recalled Gilbert Gilbreath, who retired Friday as executive director of the Columbia County office of Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS). "The government was after food to feed the war effort and was ready to pay the price.

"People applied for money for a food project through our office, and we'd send their applications on to the state," Gilbreath said. "It was an experiment, an exciting one, but it lasted only a few months. I can't remember that anyone ever sold any of the potatoes. I think the government overestimated the need.

"I didn't know much about potatoes," Gilbreath added, but I'd go out and grade them according to government standards. A bunch were stored in a local warehouse, and I recall they were finally dumped out.

"But even through the war years, when business was booming, the price of wheat was still not all that good."

Gilbreath, 711 E. Spring St.,



GILBERT GILBREATH

has seen a string of ups and downs in the wheat market and changes in crop programs during a long parade of years. He worked with these programs for 42 years.

The only son of the late Lee and Iona White Gilbreath, he is a grandson of Samuel Love and Margaret Fanning Gilbreath, who came here from Oregon's Willamette Valley in 1859.

Gilbreath graduated from Washington State University in 1931 with a degree in chemical engineering. He went out to seek his fortune, but the Great Depression had hit the country, and Gilbreath found jobs as scarce as money.

He worked as an engineer part-time for the state Department of Highways and for a private laboratory, checking the amount of spray residue on apples.

"We did this for local orchardists under the supervision of the federal Food and Drug Administration," Gilbreath said. "Lead and arsenic were used in the spray, and we ran tests to see that the apples, after they were washed, were safe to eat."

In 1934 Gilbreath spent several months at Ephrata with the Agriculture Adjustment Administration, (AAA), a forerunner of later federal farm programs.

"We attempted to lease or buy all the land within that irrigation area," he said, "but some people weren't willing to sell, so the program was discontinued. We intended to buy up the large

acres and partition them out in 160-acre units.

"That was in the old sand-blowing days," he added. "We were trying to open up the land to irrigation and to small crops, like potatoes and corn. That's what happened, eventually."

In 1936 Gilbreath began his long association with local government farm programs. He worked at first as a land surveyor for the Columbia County AAA office, then located in the county courthouse.

"I began working under the supervision of the county extension agent," Gilbreath said. "There were two or three of us who'd go out with our transit, compasses and chains and levels to check the slope of the land and the acres in crop."

"At one time or another through the years I guess I've had my foot on every fence line in the county, at least on farm land," he added.

"We've always had some kind of allotment program. Right from the beginning the government required that farmers plant only a certain percentage of their total acres to crop. And we make sure they did. Of course, these programs have always been entered into on a volunteer basis. Our job is to explain them to the farmer and help him if he decides to go ahead."

Before World War II, and again in the early 1950s, farmers in the allotment program received marketing cards. They presented their cards before they sold their wheat to prove they were complying with the program. Otherwise, they were subject to a severe penalty.

Those not in the program, Gilbreath said, were not eligible for loans or direct federal payments.

During the war and for a short time afterward production was unrestricted.

"We didn't have unmanageable supplies of wheat in the country during those years," Gilbreath explained. "We were settling back to a peacetime economy after the war, but we were still

furnishing wheat to some outside countries."

In the late 1940s Gilbreath's office handled about 1,200 farm loans. At the time farmers were eligible to apply for direct subsidies and for the loan program. And wheat could be used instead of cash to pay off a loan.

"It was an unusual period," he said. "Production was high and the market price of wheat was low. A lot of farmers took the loan, which offered a considerably higher price per bushel than the market, hoping the price of wheat would go up."

Before World War II the government offered an all-risk crop insurance program, according to Gilbreath. Under the program the county was divided into four areas, based on production. An average bushel yield was set for each area, based on previous production figures.

In a poor crop year, farmers in the program were paid according to the total bushel difference between the average and the actual year's yield.

A government erosion control program began in the early 1930s when the Civilian Conservation Corps installed structures in streams and fields to check erosion, Gilbreath says.

AAA, and later PCA and ASCS, continued the effort by encouraging and paying farmers to develop conservation practices, Gilbreath added. Crop stripping, grass diversion, recropping and other practices visible in fields today are products of some of the

early-day efforts.

One of Gilbreath's busiest years was 1977, when crops suffered from a severe drought.

"There were many 12-hour days and long weekends," he recalled. "Everyone in the program received deficiency payments because of the low wheat price. Some suffered a total crop loss and got disaster payments. We appraised fields where there'd be rows of wheat with maybe only one or two heads eight inches high."

Farmers in the program received payments reflecting the difference between the government target price of \$3.40 a bushel and the market price, averaged over a five-month period.

"I can look back over the years, and I find that things really haven't changed much," Gilbreath mused.

"We had the same problem in the 1930s that we have now: Overproduction. I've heard year after year that we were going to have a 'shortage' of wheat. But our productivity has consistently increased, faster than our capacity to purchase and distribute our crops."

This is true, he added, even though yields have jumped from about 28 bushels per acre in the 1930s to about 65 today.

"I don't know whether or not we have helped," he said, "but we're still here."

Silbreath

"Historic Sketches Of

Walla Walla, Whitman, Columbia,

& Garfield Cos " 1882

F. T. Gilbert

Pg 51 - S. S. Silbreath: lives 3 and one half miles south west of Dayton; is a farmer; owns 200 acres of land; address Dayton. He was born in McMinn Co., Tennessee, March 25, 1825; came to Oregon in 1852, & to this County in 1859.

1883 Census

Pg 129. S. S. Silbreath	57M	Tex. Married
M. H. "	40F	See "
Nancy "	17F	W. T.
Mary "	15F	"
Lee "	13M	"
Joe "	11M	"
Susie "	9F	"
Rose "	7F	"
Charlie "	5F	"
Grace "	2F	"

1885 Census

Pg 26 - Samuel Gibeath	60M	Farmer	Tennessee Married
M. H. "	44 F		Illinois "
Anna "	21 F		W. V.
Nancy "	19 F		"
Mary "	17 F		"
Lee "	15 M		"
Joseph "	13 M		"
Susan "	11 F		"
Rose "	8 F		"
Charlie "	6 M		"
Grace "	4 F		"
Young "	1 M		"

1887 Census

Pg 54 - S. G. Gibeath	62 m	Farmer	Tenn Married
M. H. "	45 F		Ill "
Nancy "	20 F		W. V.
Mary "	18 F		"
Lee "	16 M		"
Joe "	14 M		"
Susan "	12 F		"
Rose "	10 F		"
Chas "	8 M		"
Grace "	6 F		"
Joe "	4 M		"

1889 Census

Pg 85-	S. S. Seebach	64M	Farmer	Ten Married
	M. H. "	44F		Ill "
	N. E. "	23F		W.D.
	M. E. "	21F		"
	Lee "	19M		"
	Joseph "	17M		"
	Lue "	15F		"
	Rose "	13F		"
	Charles "	11M		"
	Grace "	9F		"
	Joe "	5M		"
	Fred "	1M		"

1892 Census

Det. Pg 8-	S. S. Seebach	67M	Farmer	Ten. Married
	M. H. "	50F	L. K.	Ill "
	Joe "	20M	Farmer	Wash
	Susie "	18F	L. K.	"
	Rose "	16F		"
	Chas. "	14M		"
	Grace "	11F		"
	James "	7M		"
	Fred "	4M		"

1900 Census

Pg 17 - (Railroad Precinct)

Samuel G. Gilbreath	Lead	Mar 1825	Tenn Va N.C. m 424
Margaret H. " (13/10)	wife	June 1844	Ill Tenn Ky
Nancy E. "	daur	Mar 1866	Wa Tenn Ill
Susan E. "	daur	Apr 1874	" " "
Ada Rose "	daur	Sept 1876	" " "
Charles W. "	son	Jan 1879	" " "
Edna I. "	daur	May 1881	" " "
James "	son	Apr 1885	" " "
Fred Y. "	son	Feb 1888	" " "
E. Blanche "	grdaur	Mar 1894	Wa Wa Wa

Pg 90 - (Dayton Precinct)

(under household of John Yerxey - J. F. Yerxey &

Miss Annie E. Gilbreath received to wed Dec 1886.

Miss Annie Yerxey died 17 Jan 1888, aged about 24 years)

Columbia Co., Washington Territory Marriages 1876-1889

Witnesses

Mary E. Gilbreath

Annie E. - Married - J. F. Yerxey - 19 Dec 1886 - W. L. Scott

Witnessed Columbia Co Marriages 1876-1889

Mary E. - witnessed m/o - 19 Dec 1886 - J. F. Yerxey & Annie E. Gilbreath

Marriages Of Walla Walla Co., Wash. Territory 1862-1899

J. O. Mattoon & Mary E. Gilbreath - 25 July 1890 (both of Col. Co., WA.)

M. G.; H. W. Eagan - Witness: ~~Stella~~ Stella Butler

Bessie Skelton

Gilbeath

Burials

Age	Name	Plot	Cemetery	Dates	Ownership
	Charles W		Pioneer	1915-1967	
	Ida Copeland		"	1884-1977	
	Jena E		"	1881-1972	
	John Cobb		"	24 July 1852 - 17 July 1873	
75	Gilbert	D.	Dayton	Buried 5 Dec 1984	G.P. Gilbeath
	Lee Samuel		Pioneer	15 Mar 1870 - 25 Nov 1950	
	Margaret L		"	24 June 1847 - 26 Sept 1922	
	Samuel Lane		"	25 March 1825 - 24 June 1906	
	Sarah J		"	18 March 1860 - 6 June 1862	
	Thomas Beaugard		"	17 May 1862 - 30 Jan 1860	
51	Hazel M	D	Dayton	1915 - Buried 18 July 1967	S. G. 1967 Judley
	Annie Eliza (Gilbeath) Jersey		Pioneer	12 May 1864 - 17 Jan 1888	
	Ella N. (Pollard) (daughter of G.P. & Harriet Pollard)		Watsburg	1873 -	1894

Columbia Co. Newspaper Abstracts

1884-1886

Pg 40- Born in this County, 12 April 1885, to wife of Saml G. Gebreath, a son

1886-1887

Pg 24- License to wed issued to J. F. Yennep and Miss Annie E. Gebreath. (Dec. 1886)

Pg 28- Married at the residence of the bride's parents at Long's station, 19 Dec. 1886, J. F. Yennep and Miss Annie E. Gebreath. (Jan 1887)

1887-1890

Pg 10- Died in this County, 17 Jan 1888, Mrs. Annie Yennep, aged about 24 years.

Pg 13- Born in this County, 21 Feb 1888, to wife of S. L. Gebreath, a son.

1890-1892

Pg 53- Mr. Lee Gebreath and Miss Ella Pollard were married. (Nov 1891)

Pg 58- Lee, son of S. L. Gebreath, of Dayton, has rented his father's place here for three years. Lee was recently married to Miss Mary Pollard of Huntsville (Dec. 1891)

1892-1894

Pg 22- Born in this County, 22 Dec. 1892, to wife of Lee Gebreath, a daughter.

Gilbreath

1892 - 1894 (cont)

Pg 68 - Died at Long's Station on 29 March 1894, of typhoid fever, Mrs. Ellen, wife of Lee Gilbreath, aged 20 y, 5 m, 16 d.

1896 - 1898

Pg 68 - Members of the graduating Class:
Charles W. Gilbreath (May 1898)

1898 - 1901

Pg 14 - Married in this City, Thursday at the residence of the bride's parents, J. W. Gilbreath & Miss Jane Alessio. (Nov 1898)

Pg 32 - Mr. & Mrs. J. O. Mattoon of Garfield are visiting Mrs. Mattoon's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Gilbreath at Long's Station. (July 1899)

1905 - 1908

Pg 1 - The 21st Annual Commencement exercised - 18 May 1905 at Weinkard Theatre; Students
Fred Gilbreath

Pg 8 - Fred Gilbreath and sisters Rose and Susie came up from Walla Walla to spend vacation with home folks. (June 1905)

Pg 46 - Samuel Love Gilbreath died at his home west of the City 24 June 1906, aged 81 y, 3 m, 20 d. The deceased is survived by his wife, 5 sons & 5 daughters. In August 1859, S. L. Gilbreath & his wife came to what is now Columbia County from the Willamette Valley. He located on the land which has been his home since August 1859. Mrs. Gilbreath was the first woman to locate in the County, being at that time only 16 years of

age. Missionary Spalding & wife & Andrew Warren, his son-in-law, came in 1859. (June 1906)

1908-1909

- Pg 10 - S. L. Glibreath, agent for the Kerr - Siffard Co., was in the city visiting friends. He has been transferred to Pomeroy. Mr. Glibreath is a Columbia County native & we are pleased to see him advanced. (June 1908)
- Pg 16 - Rev. Harry Cross, a comparative stranger in this country died at the residence of Mrs. M. L. Glibreath Thursday. About a week or 10 days ago Mr. Cross went to the Wackettland Country & in some way sustained a scratch on one of his cheeks, resulting in blood poisoning. He has no relatives in this country. His mother lived in England, who has been notified of his death. (July 1908)
- Pg 61 - Mrs. V. M. Glibreath has returned from Colfax where she has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. J. O. Mattoon. (March 1909)
- Pg 89 - Miss Grace Glibreath & Mr. E. O. Morrison, both of Pullman, Wash., were married Thursday morning at the home of the bride's mother, Mrs. Margaret Glibreath who resided near the Longs station. The bride was attended by Miss Jessie Morrison of Pullman & the groom by Mr. Fred Glibreath of West Point, W. Va. The couple will make their home in North Yacima. (June 1909)

30 June 1906

Samuel Love Gilbreath.

Samuel L. Gilbreath died at his home west of the city, Sunday, June 24, at six o'clock. He was aged eighty-one years, three months and twenty days. The funeral was held Tuesday morning from the residence at 11 o'clock, Rev. Van Patten, officiating. The deceased is survived by his wife, five sons and five daughters.

In August, 1859, S. L. Gilbreath and his wife, in company with John C. Wells and Thomas Davis, both bachelors, came to what is now Columbia county, from the Willamette Valley. Wells and Gilbreath had wagons and brought the first wagons over the Nez Perce trails, unless possibly the soldiers had a wagon in 1856. Mr. Gilbreath located on the land which has been his home since August, 1859. Mrs. Gilbreath was the first white woman to locate in the county, being at that time only sixteen years of age. In 1859 there were no cabins below Gilbreath's on the Touchet.

Missionary Spalding and wife and Andrew Warren, his son-in-law, came in 1859 and built a cabin on the Touchet at Mullan bridge, near Prescott. Mr. Gilbreath and wife heard Rev. Spalding preach in the fall of that year.

Mr. Gilbreath was prominent in the early history of Walla Walla and Columbia counties, being one of the first commissioners of Walla Walla county, and the first sheriff of Columbia county. He built the fanning mill at Long's station and the second brick building in Dayton.

30 Sept 1922

DEATH OF MRS. GILBREATH

One of the Earliest Pioneers of this Section

Mrs. Margaret H. Gilbreath passed away at her home, 208 East Birch St., Walla Walla at 6:30 Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Gilbreath, widow of Samuel Love Gilbreath was one of the oldest pioneers of the Walla Walla valley. She was born at Jacksonville, Illinois, June 24th, 1844. At the age of eight years her father, Rev. Levi Fanning and family began the long journey across the plains to the Willamette valley.

That year (1852) is still called the "great cholera year" and more than half the immigrants in that particular party died from the malady, including Mrs. Gilbreath's mother. After their marriage in 1859 Mr. and Mrs. Gilbreath at once started for Washington Territory, where they took up a homestead near the present site of Dayton, which has been the family home ever since.

Mrs. Gilbreath was the first white woman to settle in that part of the state which has since developed into the counties of Columbia, Garfield and Asotin and her oldest child was the first white child born in southeastern Washington outside of Walla Walla county as it now stands.

Their frontier home was known far and wide as a place of refuge for many weary travelers. Among noted pioneers who made the Gilbreath home a stopping place were Rev. H. H. Spalding and Joaquin Miller.

The hardships of those days revealed the endurance, bravery and staunchness of character of this pioneer woman. There was scarcely a birth or death occurring for miles around but that Mrs. Gilbreath was there with willing assistance.

She is survived by a sister, Mrs. John Luper Tangent, Oregon, and nine children, Mrs. E. E. Martin, 128 East Birch St., Walla Walla; Lee S. Gilbreath, Dayton, Wash.; Mrs. J. O. Mattoon, Colfax, Wash.; Mrs. J. M. Charters, Seattle, Wash.; J. W. Gilbreath, Seattle, Wash.; C. W. Gilbreath, Seattle Wn.; Miss N. E. Gilbreath, Plains, Mont.; Mrs. T. O. Morrison, Madona, Cal.; and Major Fred Gilbreath of Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Another son, James A. Gilbreath, who died in 1919, was well known in educational work in Walla Walla and Seattle.

There are also living eleven grand children one of whom, Mrs. E. A. Archer of Pullman, Wash., she raised from infancy.

At the time of her death Mrs. Gilbreath was honorary president of the Columbia County Pioneer Association.

The death of Mrs. Gilbreath leaves Judge Miller the oldest pioneer in the county.

The funeral of Mrs. Gilbreath was held from the Cookerly chapel of Walla Walla Thursday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock with Dr. S. B. L. Penrose of Whitman college in charge. The remains were brought to Dayton for interment in the pioneer cemetery west of town and at 4:30 a service was held at the grave so that the Dayton friends of this pioneer woman, who were unable to be in Walla Walla, might pay their last tributes. This service in the open was very beautiful with impressive rites, a brief talk by Dr. Penrose, and music by a quartet. The pall-bearers were Charles Rice, Louis Yenny, Dave Cox, Chester Miller, J. L. Dumas and William Woodward.

8 Feb 1919

J. GILBREATH DIES IN SEATTLE

Whitman College Graduate Was Favorite With All Acquaintances

Word was received at Whitman college yesterday morning announcing the death in Seattle of James Gilbreath, '06. "The news came as a great shock and brought much grief to those who knew the sterling qualities of character and the genuine ability of the man," said one of the family yesterday.

"He was a Columbia county boy, graduating at the Dayton High school and coming to Whitman in the fall of 1902. The keynote of his college life was faithfulness. He was a steady, faithful student, a steady faithful football player, and the deep impression which he made upon college students and faculty alike was the result of this steady pressure of an unremitting faithfulness. In college also he was known for his unusual fair-mindedness, never identifying himself with any particular faction of college politics and never trying to win applause for himself by any "grandstand" play. He threw himself heartily into whatever he undertook, making a fine reputation on the football team center, and high authorities say that he was probably the best center that Whitman ever had. In scholarship likewise he showed an unrelenting devotion to his work and graduated with honors in 1906, receiving the degree of B. S. in mathematics and physics. His Alma Mater showed her appreciation of his ability and character by employing him of the college faculty as instructor of mathematics while he worked for his master's degree."

His ambition was to become a lawyer and to this end he studied in the Law School of the University of Washington. He took the state bar examination in 1910 and was admitted to law practice but the call of teaching was too strong for him and he never abandoned it.

He taught mathematics in the Roslyn High school and then in the Franklin and Broadway High schools of Seattle until he was appointed instructor in physics at the University of Washington. He took his degree of M. S. at the University in 1916, majoring in physics, and winning the distinction of being elected a member of the Honor Fraternity Sigma Nu.

Last fall when the war crippled the University he returned to the Broadway High school where he was engaged in teaching mathematics at the time of his death.

He was married in 1911 to Miss Matilda Karrer, a graduate of the University of Washington, by whom he had two children, a daughter seven years old and a son two years old.

When President Penrose was asked to briefly summarize his impression of Gilbreath, he said: "I think of the verse in Revelations, 'Him that overcometh will I make to be a pillar in the temple.' Gilbreath was like a pillar, solid, substantial, indispensable, an all-round man with no rough spots on the polished surface of his character and pure granite to the center. He was genuinely good to the very heart."

His mother and a large family of brothers and sisters survive him. One of his brothers, a former student of Whitman college and a graduate of West Point, is Lieutenant Colonel, Fred Gilbreath now in the Quartermaster's department in service at Tours, France.—W.W. Union, Feb. 6

10 Apr 1969

C. W. Gilbreath Dies in Seattle

Charles W. Gilbreath, 90, native son of Dayton, passed away March 31 at his family home in Seattle.

Born in Dayton, he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. Gilbreath, pioneers of Columbia county. Mr. Gilbreath was a member of the National Association of Retired Civil Employees and was president of the Pioneer Cemetery of Dayton, located two miles west of Dayton.

At his request there will be no funeral service. Ashes will be taken to the Pioneer Cemetery here at a later date. Remembrances to a favorite charity were suggested.

Members of the family include his wife, the former Ida Copeland of Walla Walla, and a son, Paul, at the home, 3730 S. W. Donovan Street; a daughter, Mrs. Marjorie H. Patterson of New York; a sister, Mrs. Rose G. Charters of Seattle; two nieces, Mrs. Harold (Ethel) Denney of Huntville and Blanche Archer of Dayton, and a nephew, Gilbert Gilbreath of Dayton.

Nov. 30 - 1950

Pioneer Resident Passes Sunday

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning in the Rogg-Watson chapel for Lee Samuel Gilbreath, pioneer resident of this county, who died November 25. Graveside arrangements were handled by the Masonic lodge of which the deceased was a member.

Mr. Gilbreath, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Gilbreath, was born March 15, 1870, in what is now known as Columbia county, and has lived here all his life, with the exception of short periods which he spent in Idaho and Oregon.

He got his formal schooling at Columbia school, the first district organized in Columbia county, and was married to Iona White, member of another pioneer family, at Heppner, Oregon, on September 1, 1906.

Most of his life was spent in various phases of the warehouse business, and for years and years he was a familiar figure in the grain offices on Dayton's Main street. Although he was a quiet man, he was still quite a conversationalist with a keen sense of humor and had many friends who enjoyed visiting with him.

Death occurred after a long period of failing health at the family home at Longs Station, a few miles west of Dayton, and a stone's throw from the pioneer home in which he was born.

Survivors include his widow, Iona A. Gilbreath at the family home; two daughters, Mrs. Harold Denny, Huntville, and Mrs. E. A. Archer of Pullman; a son, Gilbert Gilbreath of Dayton; three sisters, Mrs. E. E. Martin of Monterey, California; Mrs. J. M. Charters, of Seattle, and Mrs. Grace Morrison of Berkeley, California; two brothers, Charles W. of Seattle, and Maj. Gen. Frederick Gilbreath (USA retired) of Austin, Texas; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

Blanche Archer

Blanche Archer, 94, of Dayton died July 5, 1988 at the Booker Annex Nursing Home. In compliance with her wishes, there will be no funeral service.

Cremation was held at Colonial-DeWitt Crematorium.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Dayton General Hospital Auxiliary or a charity of the donor's choice through Colonial DeWitt, 19 E. Birch, Walla Walla.

Mrs. Archer was born March 10, 1894 in Huntsville to Samuel Lee and Ella Pollard Gilbreath. She attended schools in Columbia County, took nurses training at Seattle General Hospital, and graduated from St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing in 1915.

In 1918, she married Dr. E. A. Archer. She worked at St. Mary's Hospital for two years and was administrator at the Pullman Hospital for one year.

She went through the chairs of the Golden Rod Rebekah Lodge at Pullman.

After her husband's death in 1951, she moved to Dayton. In 1972, she moved to the Trees Apartments and later lived in Camlu Apartments in Walla Walla. She had been residing at Booker Annex for the past two years.

She was a member of the Congregational Church.

Mrs. Archer is survived by four nieces, Dorothy Dennis of Walla Walla, Lois Canright and Carolyn Burdine, both of Dayton, and Margaret Mee of Trego, Montana; and a nephew, Lyle Gilbreath of Carson, Washington. She was preceded in death by two stepsons, Clifford Archer in 1921 and Dayton Archer in 1988.

She was preceded in death by a sister, Ethel Denny, and half brother, Gilbert Gilbreath.

18 May 1972

Iona Gilbreath Funeral Service At 2 p.m. Today

Funeral service for Mrs. Lee (Iona) Gilbreath, 90, long-time resident of the community, has been set for 2 p.m. today, May 18, at the Hubbard-Rogg Chapel.

The Rev. Gordon Tritchler of the First Congregational Church will officiate. Interment will follow at the Pioneer Cemetery west of Dayton.

Mrs. Gilbreath passed away Tuesday, May 16, at a nursing home in Walla Walla where she had been residing just recently. She was born September 5, 1881, in Gasville, Arkansas, daughter of John and Caroline White.

As a small child she moved with her parents to Lexington, Oregon, and later attended Oregon Normal School at Monmouth, Oregon. She taught school for a year in Oregon and on September 1, 1906, was married to Lee S. Gilbreath in Heppner, Oregon.

After their marriage, the couple lived in Pomeroy for three years and then moved to the Dayton area and established their family home at Longs Station. They lived there until Mr. Gilbreath's death in 1950 when she moved to Dayton and made her home at 315 E. Park.

Mrs. Gilbreath was a member of the First Congregational Church.

Members of the family include a son, Gilbert L. Gilbreath of Dayton; a brother, Gerald A. White of Reytown, Missouri; two step-daughters, Mrs. E. A. Archer of Walla Walla and Mrs. E. H. Denney of Dayton; three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

4 Oct 1973

ETHEL DENNEY

Ethel Denney, 80, formerly of Huntsville, Wash., passed away in the Dayton General Hospital Friday, September 21.

She was born December 22, 1892 in Huntsville and was a lifelong resident of that area. She belonged to the Columbia County Farm Bureau and was the widow of the late Ernest H. Denney.

She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. George (Lois) Canright of Dayton and Mrs. Dorothy Goodhew of Walla Walla; one sister, Mrs. E. A. Archer of Walla Walla and a half brother, Gilbert Gilbreath of Dayton and seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held at 11 a.m. Monday, September 24 at the DeWitt Waitsburg Chapel, with the Rev. Kenneth Peterson of Walla Walla conducting. Interment followed at the Waitsburg City Cemetery.

17 Dec 1959

1923 after the death of her husband, E. E. Martin, Walla Walla businessman. She had lived with her daughter, Elizabeth Martin, since 1940. They had lived in Los Altos, Calif., since 1958.

In addition to her daughters, survivors include a sister, Mrs. J. M. Charters of Seattle and two brothers, C. W. Gilbreath, also of Seattle, and Maj. Gen. Frederick Gilbreath, U. S. Army (Ret) of Austin, Texas.

Native Daughter Dies in Calif.

Mrs. Susie E. Martin, 85, native of Dayton and one-time resident of Walla Walla, died December 4, in Mountain View, California, according to information received here this week.

Funeral services and interment were held in Seattle.

Mrs. Martin, whose parents were pioneers of the Dayton area, went to San Francisco in

Services Held For Pioneer Daytonite

Funeral services were held Monday, July 17, for Mrs. Gilbert (Hazel Margaret) Gilbreath, 51, 711 E. Spring, who died Thursday, July 13, in a Portland hospital.

Services for Mrs. Gilbreath, a third-generation pioneer daughter, and life-long Dayton resident were held in the Hubbard-Rogg Chapel, with the Rev. Earle Miller officiating.

Burial was in the family plot in Dayton City Cemetery.

Casket bearers were: Donald Lyman, Ed Simerman, Dean Morris, Edward Nichols, Hesper Archer and Francis Wood.

Flower bearer was Frank Krause.

Soloist Mrs. Don Hatfield sang "In the Garden" and "End of a Perfect Day." Mrs. Howard Whipple was accompanist.

Mrs. Gilbreath was born July 31, 1915, in Dayton. She was the second daughter of the late E. L. and Anna Lindley and was a third-generation member of that family, Mrs. Lindley having been born in Columbia County in 1876.

Mrs. Gilbreath had been in failing health for several months and had been hospitalized for two weeks in Walla Walla General Hospital and another two weeks in Portland's Good Samaritan Hospital, where she's been under the care of a specialist in diagnostic medicine prior to her passing.

Mrs. Gilbreath graduated from Dayton High School with honors in the class of 1934. She completed a course at Kinman Business University in Spokane.

20 July 1967

Prior to her marriage in Dayton, on October 18, 1939, Mrs. Gilbreath did office work and was active in the Junior Farm Bureau youth program.

She had been a member of the First Christian Church of Dayton since childhood.

Besides her husband, Mrs. Gilbreath is survived by three children: Carolyn and Lyle, at the home, and Mrs. Leroy (Margaret) Mee, Trego, Mont.; a sister, Mrs. Denver (Helen) Henry, Dayton; two living brothers, Leo B. Lindley, Dayton and Emile S. Lindley, Portland, and the late Troy Lindley.

Also surviving are a number of nieces and nephews.

Attending Monday's services from out of town were: Mr. and Mrs. Harold Denney, Huntsville; Dr. and Mrs. Roy Peterson, Tillamook, Oreg.; Mrs. Gilbert Baldwin, Ephrata; E. S. Lindley, Portland; Mrs. Don Goodhew, Walla Walla; Miss Margaret Rose, Walla Walla; Hesper Archer, Walla Walla; Dean Morris, Colfax, and Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Mee, Trego, Montana.

History
Of
Central Oregon
1905
Western Historical
Pub. Co.

COLONEL GILLIAM.

"No doubt the name of Colonel Gilliam is a household word with many in this county," says the *Fossil Journal* of February 22, 1889. "If it isn't it ought to be. Aside from the fact that this county is named after him, the late Colonel Gilliam's services in behalf of his fellow men entitle him to an important place in the history of this coast. A few facts regarding his career may be interesting to our readers. He was born while Washington was yet president, in 1798, in the state of North Carolina. His father's family moved westward and settled in Missouri, where during the year 1820, in Ray county, the colonel married Miss Mary Crawford. Ten years later we find him elected sheriff of Clay county. Those days were full of stir and eventful happenings throughout the land. In 1832 the last signer of the Declaration of Independence died. The same year the Indians of the northwest began hostilities. In 1835 trouble began with the Indians in Florida. In 1836 and 1837 were the financial panic and Texan war for independence. It seems that Mr. Gilliam determined to have a share in some of those things and, when during the early part of Van Buren's administration, it was decided to push the Seminole war to a speedy end, he went from Missouri in 1837 as a captain. He served during the winter of 1837-38 in that vigorous campaign which Zachariah Taylor carried on in the everglades of Florida. During the summer of 1838 Captain Gilliam returned to Missouri, having won honest distinction during this brief but arduous service.

"In the fall of this same year, when it had been decided by the state authorities to remove the Mormons, or rather to expel them from their homes in Jackson county, and the militia had been summoned to the field, Captain Gilliam raised a company and was chosen its captain. He was soon promoted and made colonel on account of meritorious conduct. When the Mormons had been helped to emigrate, and his services were no longer needed, he returned to his family and devoted his energies to helping on their interests. Previous to his going to the Mormon war he had removed to Andrew county,

Missouri, where he lived until his emigration to Oregon. Somewhere about 1840 he was sent to represent his county in the legislature. While attending upon this session of the legislature he seems to have become an ardent admirer of Thomas H. Benton. It is probable that his notion of going to Oregon came from Mr. Benton's well known enthusiasm about the west, and his plan for settling the Oregon boundary seems to have found a responsive chord in Colonel Gilliam's breast, and it was not long until he was one of that company which looked toward those 'continuous woods where rolls the Oregon, and hears no sound save its own dashings.'

"The year 1844 saw the difficulties, the trials and finally the successful ending of Colonel Gilliam's journey across the plains. He first settled in Dallas, in Polk county, but soon sold out and moved a little farther south, settling on Pee Dee creek, somewhat north of King's Valley in Benton county. Not many are aware that Mr. Gilliam was a life long member of the Masonic fraternity, but such is the fact. * * * *

"Following the Whitman massacre Colonel Gilliam led a company up the Columbia to The Dalles, and in the spring and summer of 1848 led a vigorous campaign against the hostiles. His death, as related by William A. Jack, an eye witness, occurred at Wells Springs, north of Heppner. His command was marching from Walla Walla to The Dalles. Colonel Gilliam had put his lariat in a wagon driven by a man named Evans. In the evening the colonel asked for the rope, and while pulling it out, Evans in some manner discharged the rifle of a half-breed, which had the ramrod down upon the bullet. The bullet missed the colonel, but the ramrod struck him in the middle of the forehead, killing him instantly.

"Colonel Gilliam was a religious man in the truest sense of the word. In this connection it may be said that soon after his settlement in what is now Polk county, he organized a Free Will Baptist church in what was known as the Gage neighborhood on the North Luckiamute. The church held its meetings in the house of Joseph (?) Gage, and Colonel Gilliam was their preacher. Some of the members of that old organization yet live, though the organization itself has long been a thing of the past. To those who knew him intimately, it is a great pleasure to cherish their knowledge of his quiet, unobtrusive piety. In the words of a writer who has prepared an interesting biography of the late Colonel Gilliam, 'he was indeed, a good man, whose wise and kind words furnished guidance to some who still live to cherish his memory.'"

Gillian

Columbia Co. Newspaper Abstracts

1884-1886

Pg 3 - Easter Bar: Garfield Co., Itani: Born 3 Jan 1884, to wife of J. M. Gilliam, a son. Mrs. J. M. Gilliam is very ill with (cribled) fever & several times no hopes of recovery were entertained but at this writing she rests better.

Pg 22 - Died at Easter Bar, 25 July 1884, Gavin E., infant son of John M. & Epps V. Gilliam, aged 6 mo, 22 d.

1887-1890

Pg 61 - Married at North Yakima, 11 May 1889, Mitchell Gilliam & Miss Vera Wiswell.

1890-1892

Pg 17 - Mrs. Jesse W. Day gave a very elegant reception to a large number of her lady friends. The affair was in honor of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Mitchell Gilliam. (Oct 1890)

Pg 59 - Ben Gilliam was in the city Wednesday the guest of his sister, Mrs. J. W. Day. (Jan 1892)

1892-1894

Pg 37 - Obit of Jesse W. Day - states he was married twice. His second wife, Miss Ellen Gilliam, of Walla Walla County, this state, survived him. (April 1893)

Pg 60 - Child in this city of diphtheria, 17 Dec 1893, Edwin Gilliam,
aged 10 y, 2 m.

1894-1896

Pg 30 - Note: Mrs. J. H. Gilliam & Baby Glenn have gone to Walla
Walla, en route for Genes in the Coeur d'Alene mines,
where the summer will be spent with Mrs. Gilliam's
parents, Mr. & Mrs. E. S. Brophy. (May 1895)

Pg 34 - Note: Miss Carrie Bowman, of Tampa has been visiting
her cousins, Mr. & Mrs. W. S. Gilliam. (July 1895)

2 June 1892

USED HIS KNIFE.

Ben Gilliam the Victim of a Cowardly Assault.

On Sunday, Ben Gilliam, the embodiment of peacefulness and good temper, had to fight for his life in dead earnest, and fortunately escaped serious injury, though his assailant succeeded in inflicting five knife wounds on his person.

A farm laborer in the Dixie neighborhood, named Blize, has become smitten with a young lady of that neighborhood, and being of excitable temperament, was made the victim of cruel practical jokes. On Christmas day he received a letter signed with the surname of the feminine object of his devotion, with another christian name attached. The letter was of a character to cause him great anger. Then his tormenters quickly induced him to believe that Ben Gilliam was the writer of the letter, and on Sunday in company with two supporters he called at the Gilliam house for satisfaction. It is almost needless to remark that he got it.

He charged Mr. Gilliam with having written the letter and this being denied, gave him the lie and applied a number of opprobrious names to him.

Mr. Gilliam invited Blize to get down from his wagon and settle the dispute by "force of arms," an invitation which he accepted, first pulling off his over and under coats, and opening a pocket knife. He then jumped to the ground, and was sent to grass by a right-hander from Mr. Gilliam, who knocked him over a bank and down a thirty foot slope, blacking his eyes and bruising his face badly. When he jumped from the wagon he had made for Gilliam with the drawn knife and succeeded in striking him in the forehead, just at the hair line. While the men were struggling on the slope Blize had struck at Gilliam a number of times with the knife, and seven slashes were cut in his coat, five knife wounds being inflicted in his back, two of them being of considerable magnitude.

Once Blize was released from Gilliam's clutches, he ran like a tow head, knife and all, and has not been seen since.—
Union-Journal.

W. S. GILLIAM DIES.

24 Feb 1909
One of the Best Known Pioneers of the Walla Walla Valley.

Walla Walla, Feb. 22.—W. S. Gilliam, prominently identified with the early history of the Northwest and a pioneer of this section, died at his home, 315 Newell street, at 2:10 this morning, from a complication of diseases, after an illness extending over a period of several weeks. For some time Mr. Gilliam's health has been failing and the end was expected.

Mrs. Gilliam, who is very frail, is standing the shock very well. She has been very ill for months.

A sad feature in connection with the death is that tomorrow would have been the fifty-fifth anniversary

of their wedding, their golden wedding having been celebrated in Walla Walla five years ago.

Mr. Gilliam was probably the best known pioneer in Walla Walla. He was a member of the territorial legislature of Washington in 1861-1862, was the first law and order sheriff elected in Walla Walla, in 1863, the foreman of the first grand jury in Walla Walla county, in 1860, and was one of a committee to secure the publication of the first republican newspaper here.

Mr. Gilliam would have been 80 years of age Wednesday, having been born in Clay county, near St. Joseph, Missouri, February 24, 1829. His parents were General Cornelius and Mary Gilliam, his father having attained distinction in connection with the militia and through effective service in the Indian wars.

Mr. Gilliam with his parents crossed the plains in 1844, settling in the autumn of that year near what is now The Dalles, Oregon.

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gilliam—Lane C. Gilliam, now a mining engineer of Mexico; Marcus H. Gilliam, a mining engineer of Alaska and Nevada; Mitchell Gilliam, judge of the superior court of King county; J. B. Gilliam, assassinated in Cobre, Nevada, two years ago; Mrs. Nellie G. Day, society editor of the Evening Bulletin, and Mary Gilliam of Walla Walla. Marcus Gilliam, Mitchell Gilliam, Mrs. Nellie G. Day and Mary Gilliam were present at the bedside when death came.

MRS. GILLIAM IS DEAD.

2 Oct 1909
One of the Oldest Residents of Walla Walla Valley Passes Away.

Mrs. W. S. Gilliam, aged 78, died at her home, 315 Newell street, at 10 o'clock this morning from complications resulting from old age. Two of the members of her family were present at the time. When it was seen that death was not far off telegrams were sent to her three sons and they took the first trains, but none of them reached here in time.

Mrs. Gilliam was one of the oldest pioneers here, having moved to Walla Walla with her husband in 1859. They settled on a farm near Dixie, taking up one of the first farms in the county, and lived there for 40 years, finally moving to Walla Walla. She and her husband lived to celebrate their golden wedding, her husband dying February 22 of this year.

Blind for Seven Years.

Mrs. Gilliam has been an invalid and confined to her bed for three years, and during all this time was never heard to utter one word of complaint about her affliction. She became blind about seven years ago and the double

affliction did not affect her sunny disposition.

Mrs. Gilliam, Esther Aldrich Taylor before her marriage, was born in Fredonia, Erie County, New York, February 12, 1813. She came west with her parents, who were early pioneers of Oregon in 1852, settling at Dallas, Oregon, an old and historic settlement. She taught school for two years in the Willamette Valley, being one of the pioneer teachers there, and February 23, 1854, was married to W. S. Gilliam. They moved to Walla Walla County in 1859 and made their home on a farm near Dixie.

About ten years ago they moved to Walla Walla and made their home here.

Seven Children Were Born.

Seven children were born to them, five of whom survive. They are Lane C., a mining engineer of Los Angeles; Mitchell, superior court judge of Seattle; Marcus H., superintendent of the rock quarry at Deception Pass; Mrs. Nellie G. Day, society editor of the Evening Bulletin, and Mary Gilliam of this city. Ben Gilliam, a son, was killed in Nevada by hold-ups, while defending his employer's money, and another child died in infancy.

Mrs. Day and Miss Gilliam were here at the time of death and the sons were immediately notified when it was seen that Mrs. Gilliam would not survive.

Three years ago on Thanksgiving Day Mrs. Gilliam fell and injured her hip, and this injury kept her abed till the time of her death, but she never made complaint.

She suffered from iritis last week and had to undergo an operation.

Mr. Gilliam, who died last winter, occupied a prominent place in the affairs of Walla Walla County. He was the first law and order sheriff in this county and was well known to all the pioneers.

Funeral arrangements have not been made yet and will not until the remainder of the family arrives. — Walla Walla Bulletin Sep. 29.

Obituaries

MRS. NELLIE G. DAY

Mrs. Nellie G. Day of Walla Walla, resident of Dayton for many years, died in Seattle Saturday, August 17. Born at Dallas, Oregon, November 23, 1854, she moved to the Walla Walla valley in 1859, and with the exception of a few years, she spent the remainder of her life there.

Mrs. Day was graduated from a normal school in Massachusetts in 1882, and taught for a number of years. She was married to Jesse N. Day, founder of Dayton, in 1891, and after his death she returned to Walla Walla. Some years ago she was employed in the office of the Walla Walla Union, but had been living a life of retirement for some time.

Surviving are a sister, Miss Mary Gilliam, Walla Walla, a brother, Marcus H. Gilliam, Los Angeles, and three nephews, Glenn C., Edwin E. and Gardner Gilliam, all of Los Angeles. The late Mrs. Bess Singleton of Fort Benning, Ga., and Washington, D. C., was a step-daughter.

Former Deputy Sheriff Dies

2 Oct 1909
Richard L. Gilliam, 41, Sheriff at Pomeroy

Richard L. Gilliam, 48, deputy sheriff of Columbia county from 1927 to 1930, died Sunday at Pomeroy of a heart attack. He had been sheriff of Garfield county for nearly three years and deputy sheriff there for the previous eight years.

Mr. Gilliam was a member of a pioneer family which came west in a covered wagon and settled in Oregon, where Gilliam county was named for his grandparents. He became sheriff here under Ed Moody and became strongly interested in identification work. Mr. Moody later went to Olympia for full time identification work and Mr. Gilliam, upon his arrival at Pomeroy, started a bureau there which came to be rated as one of the best in the state.

Surviving are his widow; four children, Mabel, Stanley, Geraldine and Larry, all of Pomeroy; his mother, Mrs. Nancy Gilliam, of Spokane; two sisters, Mrs. Frank Morgan, of Spokane and Mrs. Jim Simmons, of Milton, Oregon, and four brothers, Nelson, Otis and Roland of Walla Walla, and the Rev Arthur Gilliam of Moscow, Idaho.