

LATAH COUNTY MUSEUM SOCIETY

McConnell Mansion

110 South Adams

Moscow, Idaho

Quarterly Bulletin

Kenneth B. Platt, Editor

Volume 6, No. 3

July, 1977

A Message from the Society President

As we pass the midpoint of the year, I would like to express admiration and gratitude to the Board of Trustees and to many other members of the Museum Society for their continuing concern with Society affairs, and especially for the careful deliberation they have given to the important matter of our development plans for the future. As a relative newcomer to the Society, I have relied on the long experience and good judgment of these people to determine what actions should be taken and to decide on the best ways to undertake them. The Board's recent involvement in the question of the future of the old Carnegie Library building is an example of the spirit of cooperation and the sense of mission that guide the work of the Latah County Museum Society. It has made me even more aware of the important role that the Society can play in the cultural life of our area.

As most of you know, the Board has long been concerned about the Museum's need for permanent storage facilities, exhibit rooms, and work space. The gradual expansion of the Museum program, which is reflected in the creation of a full-time curator-director position and in special projects such as oral history and publications, has made the acquisition of adequate space an urgent priority. This would make it possible to preserve many artifacts which may otherwise be lost, to enrich our educational offerings, and to complete restoration of the McConnell Mansion. In recent months the Board studied two possibilities for physical expansion--excavation of the Mansion basement and construction of a new building on a nearby site--and concluded that either alternative would be too

costly for the benefits either would provide.

The decision of the Moscow-Latah County Library Board to seek funding for a larger library facility could not have come at a more opportune time for the Museum Society, for the old Carnegie Library building seems to suit our needs almost perfectly. It is in excellent structural condition, is fire resistant, and has 4,500 square feet of usable space. The cost of taking the building over appears to be minimal, and the ongoing maintenance and operations expenses can be met without hardship. The building has major historical and social significance for the city and county, and is located close to both the city center and the McConnell Mansion.

Despite all these advantages, the Carnegie Library building was in real danger of being torn down—that is, until many local citizens began to express strong sentiments on its behalf, and the Museum Society came forward with a concrete plan to use it. Quite apart from our own interest in having the building, many members of the Society were also concerned about the prospect of its becoming a parking lot. They saw the demands of growth threatening part of our inheritance from the past and agreed that the future would be poorer if we permitted such an important landmark to be destroyed.

It is this point which I would like to raise for further consideration by the membership and others interested in our work. In supporting the Carnegie Library building we can see the Society moving toward an active role in public deliberations about historic preservation. In doing so we fulfill our public responsibilities as a historical society to help preserve the significant aspects of Latah County's heritage. This has of course been the Society's purpose from the beginning, but the accelerating pace of growth and change is bringing unprecedented pressures on historical resources which need to be protected. It is part of the Society's trust to insure that the historical value of a local building is taken into consideration when that is a factor in making a good decision for the future.

I feel that the Society will find it increasingly desirable to assist in specific instances of historic preservation. Since many local people have an interest in these matters, this involvement can offer an opportunity for expanding both the Society's membership base and the impact of our programs. The Society can help to save historic buildings by providing information about their preservation to interested property owners, by sponsoring their nomination to the national historic register, and by attempting to persuade people of their value if they become endangered. One example of such a situation in the future may be in Moscow's central business district. With the development of the new mall and growing concern about maintaining a viable downtown, local merchants can be encouraged to utilize the natural heritage of the area to create a more enjoyable shopping environment. Old-style signs, sandblasted brick frontages, and the use of historical motifs could recapture the historic identity of downtown Moscow and attract business at the same time.

It will require dedicated effort and widespread understanding if we are to retain what is worth keeping. We need to encourage the recognition that old buildings, like traditional values, are often more solid and lasting than what might replace them. We are fortunate that our connection with the past is still intact. Let us now each take leadership roles to preserve for our young a part of their pioneer past.

--Donna Bray

Magnuson Leaving; New Curator Sought

An opportunity to serve in the office of Senator Frank Church, for much better pay, is taking Curator Lee Magnuson from the Museum on September 1. His going will be our loss, regardless of who follows, for Lee has brought many valuable new ideas and activities to the job, and has attracted a large following among high school and college groups which we particularly need and appreciate.

The new job was offered while Mr. Magnuson was on a vacation trip to Washington, D.C., in June. Upon return to Moscow he announced his resignation at the June meeting of the Board of Trustees, asking to be released at the end of August. Search for a new curator has been going on ever since, under chairmanship of Ray Berry. Members knowing of possible candidates are urged to pass their information on to Mr. Berry. Continuation of CETA funding for the position has been approved at state level.

Elsewhere in the Bulletin Mr. Magnuson reviews his work while at the Mansion and his ideas for possible additional projects to promote public interest.

Museum Hours

The hours when the McConnell Mansion is regularly open to the public are:

Wednesday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Closed Monday and Tuesday

Change of Address

If you are moving, please notify the Society of your new address. Mail sent under our bulk permit is not forwarded nor returned to us, so we have no way of knowing that you are not receiving your copies of the Bulletin. Help us to keep our mailing list up to date.

Museum Society May Get Old Library

The Museum Society's interest in preserving the present city library building as a historic structure and for use to house museum displays and programs was strongly presented to the Moscow City Council on June 6. This show of interest now seems to be promising rich dividends.

Strong public sentiment for preservation of the building already had been shown at a meeting of the Library Board. Still unsolved at the time of the council meeting was the problem of acquiring library parking space to meet city off-street requirements for the proposed new library. Since then a state grant toward costs of the new library has covered that need. Following this development, members of the administrative committee of the city council indicated informal approval of the idea of transferring the old library to the county, or to the Museum Society in trust for the county, for museum uses, when a new library is built. Such a transfer could be made either by title or under a 99-year lease at token cost.

These prospects have set aside for the present the Society's earlier plans for a building fund drive. Should the above transfer become assured, board members feel the money accumulated in the Building Fund might well be used to buy a residential property adjoining the library, to provide for future space needs. Rental income from the house would be used to pay off the balance owed. In due time the space would make an important addition to the potential for a future city-county community cultural facility centered around the library and the museum.

Although many details remain, none appears difficult, and the overall outlook is very encouraging. Satisfactory working out of this package of arrangements would provide a greatly improved promotional base for the library bond drive. In effect, the drive would be for both the library and the museum. Immediately important for Moscow support would be the assured preservation of the historic library building. The county at large would be receiving, gratis, a much-needed museum building worth one hundred fifty thousand dollars or more at today's new con-

struction costs. Both city and county would make significant progress toward a community cultural cluster that eventually should include activity and interest outlets for all ages and all parts of the county.

The Moscow central business district is especially in need of some broad-interest attraction other than shopping opportunities. Indeed, prospective mall shopping competition seems sure to win unless the downtown area offers offsetting inducements in addition to free parking, and of a non-commercial nature. Cultural facilities, displays, and programs good enough to make Moscow worth visiting even on non-shopping trips could be such an inducement. If we have no public art gallery, it is not for lack of local talent worthy to fill it. If we have no civic auditorium, it is not for lack of local musicians, speakers, and other performers to people one. If we cannot have such facilities and programs full-blown, we can at least make a start. Expanded library and museum facilities are a step in the right direction.

The same facilities that serve Moscow will also serve the county as a whole. The library at Moscow already functions as a city-county service, with branches at Genesee, Troy, Kendrick, and Potlatch and with others planned for other towns. The books in this system are owned 50-50 by city and county, and substantial inventories of them are shelved in the outlying branch libraries. A bookmobile serves all communities of the county. The expanded facilities of the new library will enable it to both enlarge its own stocks and speed the services for getting these out to county patrons on request. There will also be traveling art displays. The added space which the old library will provide for the Museum will enable it to prepare traveling exhibits to be circulated to the schools via bookmobile.

In short, there is so much potential benefit for both library and museum patrons in the partnership arrangements here foreseen that all Society members should give the library bond drive their enthusiastic support.

Latah County Drouth Prolonged

Drouth conditions noted in the April Bulletin have continued unabated in Latah County, setting new records of moisture deficiency. As a result, all crop yields are drastically below normal. Though few fields have been plowed under, many are returning yields far under 50% for average years. Pea yields are reported as low as 180 lb. per acre, with a high of 700 lbs., compared with usual yields of a ton or more. Yields of fall wheat as low as 20-30 bushels per acre are foreseen, compared with usual expectations of 70 to 100 bushels. Both spring barley and spring wheat are marginal for harvest, with some fields being pastured off instead. Grain quality also will be poor, with much unfit for milling. Though much of this will go into feed, a sell-down of livestock because of scarce and high-priced (\$65/T.) hay is expected.

Probably the only worse year in the county's history would be that of 1893, when continuous rain throughout the harvest season destroyed a bountiful standing grain crop. We make note of this year's conditions for possible future historical interest.

Publications Report

Museum Society publications have sold well at three events outside the Museum in recent months, namely, Moscow's annual Renaissance Fair, May 21-22; Kendrick's Locust Blossom Festival, May 28; and Boise's Idaho Authors' Book Fair, June 12. At each of these events, Publications Committee members manned display tables offering all books published by or being sold through the Society. A total of 68 books were sold, netting \$88.90 for the Publications Fund. Biggest sellers were the oral history booklets at \$1.00 each, making 49 of the total count. Pioneer Glimpses of Latah County sold 12 copies.

A systematic list of all publications of the Society, both those issued and those in prospect, was distributed at the Book Fair, where a representative of the State Library bought copies of all on hand and requested to be kept up to date on future issues. It is the policy of the library to buy copies of all original Idaho history publications, we were told.

The list used at Boise has been set up in brochure form for distribution to libraries and book dealers across the country in announcing the release of Opal Lambert Ross's Fields and Pine Trees, released in June, and Carol Ryrle Brink's Four Girls on a Homestead, due out this fall. We now have a roster of local history publications which we feel should command wide interest. For the information of the membership, the listing is given below essentially as it will appear in the brochure for libraries and dealers.

A copy of the manuscript for Westward to Paradise, by Charles J. Munson, is being reviewed by Caxton Printers, of Caldwell, Idaho. Should this prestigious publishing company undertake the book, it will bear all publication costs, issue a minimum of 5,000 copies, advertise the book in its nationwide listings, and pay royalties to the Society. At the same time, the book will be designated as a number in the Society's Local History Paper series, thus giving us the benefit of widespread knowledge that we are in this field. Needless to say, such an outcome would greatly benefit our publications program. Your Publications Committee also hopes for a strong boost for its efforts from the name of Carol Ryrle Brink when Four Girls on a Homestead is released, though in this case we will be on our own in advertising it. In due time this book is sure to sell widely and well. For the present we can only thank Mrs. Brink for her generosity in both donating the story to the Society and donating \$600.00 to help pay for its publication.

Newest development on the publications front is approval from Anna Smith (Mrs. Ellison) Mitchell of Polson, Mon-

tana, to publish her story of the Cedar Ridge homesteaders. For a refresher, members may turn to the review of her manuscript given in the July 1973 Quarterly Bulletin. Her latest letter states Mrs. Smith is adding new information and otherwise updating the manuscript, which will be forwarded as soon as completed. Mrs. Mitchell also has generously given the Society copyright to her book, with all profits to go to the Publications Fund to help other authors.

The full list of our publications follows, with brief notes on the contents of each. We daresay that even many of our members will be surprised at the length of the list.

ANNOUNCING:

Four Girls on a Homestead by Carol Ryrie Brink

Latest product of this nationally known author, this story recounts a summer of high adventure by the writer and three chums deep in primitive Idaho forests of 1911. From the tiny outpost of Clarkia they rode horseback 28 miles with Carol's aunt and a packer, over crusted mountain snows still piled high in June, across streams swimming-deep for the horses, to her remote homestead. There the self-reliant group competed with bears for wild huckleberries, fished for wary trout, fed one known outlaw and one suspected one, and entertained themselves in total absence of usual social distractions.

"We were always looking for the kind of romantic adventure we met in books but never in real life. . ."

When a mysterious Paul Buryan came seeking shelter, they knew his name must be assumed, while his closely tended rifle and furtive eyes left no doubt he was a fugitive outlaw. Days of suspense passed before the girls realized they were "had" by the obliging aunt and a passing timber cruiser. Back in sedate Moscow at summer's end, they met their erstwhile "outlaw" in his true self as a botany teacher. But, as this story shows, the glamor of that chapter of their lives is still bright in memory.

Four Girls on a Homestead brims with the elusive charm of the un-reliable experience for us all. Homey pen sketches by the author further enhance the story.

In publication as Local History Paper No. 3 of the Latah County Museum Society. About 50 pp. 25 sketch and 8 photo illustrations. Paperback, \$2.50; hardcover, \$4.00 (?). 1977 late summer release.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

A. Local History Paper series:

Some Pioneer Glimpses of Latah County by Kenneth B. Platt

Local History Paper No. 1, LCMS, 1974.
32 pp., 8 photos. Paperback, \$1.00

Fields and Pine Trees by Opal Lambert Ross
Land settlement history of the NW corner of Latah County.
Local History Paper No. 2, LCMS, 1976. 71 pp.,
11 photos, 7 maps.
Paperback \$5.95; hardback \$7.95

B. Oral History Booklet series:

Drawn from sound-taped interviews with pioneers of Latah County, and written for use as curriculum supplements in teaching Idaho history, with photos of authors and glossaries of unfamiliar terms. Popular in classroom use and with adult readers. Paperback, \$1.00 each. Accompanying sound tapes available on request.

1. Arthur Bjerke: "Frontier Days in the White Pine Country" Homesteading, cattle ranching and logging in the Deary area. 20 pp., 11 sketches.
2. Lola Gamble Clyde: "Pioneer Days and Ways in North Idaho" Nez Perce Indian lore, religious, home, and social life, early schools. 32 pp., 19 sketches.

3. Carl Olson's Story: Homesteading in timber, Swedish heritage, pioneer entertainment, grain harvesting; Troy area. 36 pp., 18 sketches.
4. Edward Swenson: "Homesteading in the Valley of Park" How log cabins were built, pioneer-style Christmas, friendly Indians, spearing salmon, forest animals; Deary-bovill area. 28 pp., 13 sketches.
5. Emmett Utt: "Adventures of an Idaho Boy" Indian scares and hardships, pony racing, tragic injustice; Harvard area. 28 pp., 15 sketches.

C. Sponsored Publications:

Whispers from Old Genesee and Echoes of the Salmon River, by John A. Platt

Pioneer lore and anecdote at their best, by a man who grew up with them in this once-bustling railhead town where everything happened and none of it escaped him. Five editions, 1959-63; unavailable since 1965. Reissued by popular demand 1975 in Pioneer Memorial Edition by Ye Galleon Press, Fairfield, Wash. 184 pp., locality maps, index, introduction and 24 photos added. Hard cover only, \$7.95 plus handling.

D. Publications in Preparation:

1. Westward to Paradise, by Charles J. Munson
Frontier experiences of a prominent north Idaho pioneer while working his way from Indiana to Latah County in 1879-84. Dodge City trail days, Colorado's mining boom, railroad construction through the "impassable" Rockies, Butte mining before smelter fume control, hair-breadth escape from warpath Indians, wintering in a Coeur d'Alene gold rush camp, and finally Palouse Country homesteading in the pre-railroad days when wagon freighting 150 miles to Walla Walla was the only market outlet and supply point.

Though replete with local interest, this is truly a national frontier saga that will captivate adventure readers wherever found.

1977 or 1978 publication target.

2. Some Recollections of Homer David, 1890-1910
These recollections cover the period of Latah County's most vigorous business development, as well as her most devastating financial setback. David's mercantile store was a dominant commercial establishment during much of that period, and for long afterward, drawing trade from all parts of the county. Growing up in the business, Homer David learned the merchandising skills of his father, while also taking lessons from the many other enterprises that succeeded or failed around him. Merchandising of almost any kind was a high-risk undertaking that gambled on continuing development and prosperity in the new country.

In this pioneer brand of brinksmanship the merchant bet his fortune on the coming harvest with each new crop year. Not all the hardships were borne by the laboring homesteader, and the hours of daily toil were little different between town and country. The David recollections do much to balance the too often unsympathetic record of pioneer business bankruptcies that went along with crop failures and other causes of hard times for settlers.

3. The Forney Letters
Nineteenth-century flavor in a collection of personal letters from an observant and cultured woman to her fiance, who later, as her husband, became a prominent Moscow jurist. 1978 publication target.

4. Homesteaders of Cedar Ridge, by Anna Smith Mitchell With more than a touch of the storytelling skill of her famous namesake, Mrs. Mitchell makes gripping narrative from everyday life, incidentally introducing U.S. Congressman-to-be Burton L. French.

From the Desk of the Curator

The Board of Trustees has appointed Tom Berg treasurer of the organization, after former treasurer Steve Neilson resigned because of a business location transfer. Mr. Berg is a partner in Moscow's Architectural Workshops and is very interested in the Museum and its projects.

The Museum Society has been actively pursuing the possibility of acquiring the historic Carnegie Library building for use as an exhibit gallery, meeting hall, storage and administrative building (for more on this see page 5). The Moscow-Latah County Library Board has been very cooperative and has agreed to recommend that the building be used by the Museum upon completion of the proposed new library. The city of Moscow owns the building; its final disposition rests with the city council.

The advantages of the Museum's occupancy of the Carnegie building are numerous. Increased area for exhibits and storage would allow expansion of the collections and their increased utilization. The McConnell Mansion could then be more fully restored to illustrate the lifestyle of early-day Moscow. Greater seating capacity for programs would also be available in the new location.

The Carnegie Library is an important Moscow structure. A rare example of California Mission architecture in this area, it is also the oldest non-university public building in Moscow. The destruction of this building would mean an irretrievable loss to the city. The city council must be convinced that it should be preserved. Utilizing the structure as a museum would be a shining example of preservation and progress going hand in hand instead of standing in each other's way.

Upcoming events: The Museum Society will hold an old-fashioned ice cream social on Sunday, July 31, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. (for more details see page 20). Homemade ice cream and cake will be served, and musical entertainment provided in the garden of the McConnell Mansion. Members who would be willing to provide a freezer of ice cream are asked to call Lee Magnuson or Ken Platt.

Tuesday, August 2, the Fort Russell Neighborhood Organization will hold an 1890s ballad night. Anyone wishing to present any type of musical number from the turn of the century is encouraged to do so. Others are invited to listen and enjoy. McConnell Mansion, 7:30, August 2.

Spring events: More than 100 attended the Pioneer Folk Art Exhibit opening and ragtime piano program at the McConnell Mansion on Sunday, April 17. Dawn Olson, a U. of I. student, performed a varied selection of ragtime pieces in the Mansion's parlor. The folk art exhibit included paintings, carvings, furniture, and other hand-crafts brought to the area or produced here by pioneer settlers. Refreshments were served in the dining room following the piano program.

The Fort Russell Neighborhood Organization and Latah County Museum Society jointly sponsored an Easter egg hunt on the Museum grounds Saturday, April 9. About 20 youngsters from the neighborhood thoroughly enjoyed finding the elusive colored prizes.

In addition to the Pioneer Folk Art Exhibit, a display featuring Moscow's first monument dealer, George Moody, was completed in April. Mr. Moody's desk, tools, and examples of his fine marble work convey the story of this pioneer and his craft. Large photographs of Moody's work in the Moscow cemetery complete the display. Meg Burns of Moscow donated her time to provide these excellent photographic examples of Mr. Moody's work. Harry and Clarice Sampson donated and loaned the artifacts used in the exhibit.

It is not without some sadness that I announce my departure from the curator's position in September. In the 20 months of residence here in the McConnell Mansion, I have indeed been constantly challenged and rewarded. It has been my foremost objective to increase the public visibility of the Museum, while maintaining good, educational exhibits from our collections.

I have tried to do this by organizing events which will

attract crowds and stimulate and educate those who attend. The Idahonian has been extremely helpful in publicizing events, and community response has been outstanding. None of this would have been possible without the support and constant help of the Museum Board and membership. I thank all of you who made living and working here so enjoyable.

--Lee Magnuson

Visitors to the Mansion

Visitations April through June 1977:

April	163
May	75
June	141

Total for the quarter 279

Special groups touring and using the Mansion:

Moscow High School 2 classes
Moscow Blue Birds 17
St. Maries Bluebirds 10
St. Maries 4th grades 75
Cub Scouts (2 groups) 16
Washington-Idaho Symphony League 25
Troy Senior Citizens 15
Lena Whitmore 3rd grades (4 classes) 115

Fort Russell Neighborhood Easter egg hunt

Fort Russell Neighborhood Organization--Baroque musical program plus Clifford Ott showing historical pictures in May

Classical music and current problems meeting in July

"Old Blue" Song Recalls Early Oregon Outlaw

In the years shortly before and after World War I, three brothers named Stubblefield homesteaded some of the steepest canyon lands along the Salmon River canyon just above its junction with Snake River's Hells Canyon. Two of these men, Fancho and Newell, came to Latah County in the mid-1920s. The third, Blaine, lived in Weiser and took boat excursions down Hells Canyon for many years. So far as I know, all three are now dead.

Both Newell and Fancho worked briefly on my father's ranches at Genesee. Both told fascinating tales of their pioneer boyhood on the Oregon side of the Snake River, where their father had homesteaded a generation earlier. Both were enthusiastic singers of folk songs, nearly all of which, unfortunately, I never learned or have since forgotten. The only one I remember in full is "In the Vales of Walla Walla," a dirge for a beloved daughter, whose words and music are not lusty enough for today's tastes in folk songs. A merrier tune was "There Once Was a Farmer," whose words described the defeat of the Devil by the farmer's wife after he sold her to the Devil for money to carry on his farming.

The Stubblefields were brought again to mind some months ago by a call from Tom Wahl, formerly a Genesee neighbor, now living in Pullman, asking for information to pass on to a great-grandson of Fancho who had come to him. All of which is by way of introduction to a letter written long ago by Newell Stubblefield to the editor of the old Idaho Farmer magazine, giving information about a notorious Oregon outlaw known for a folk song called "Old Blue," which was composed by one of his contemporaries. I don't know this song at all, but Tom Wahl has recalled it as remembered from Fancho's singing. It is recorded here for the interest of any who may like this kind of local history. As will be seen from the substance of Newell Stubblefield's accompanying letter, the composer, though himself a hard-bitten frontiersman, sentimentalized his subject well beyond his just deserts.

The Idaho Farmer editor's note states the song had not

been published up to that time. So far as we know this will be its first publication.

To the Editor:

I saw a request in the Old Songs column for the song entitled "Old Blue." I am rather curious just who should have made this request and would like for the party to write to me as there would scarcely be anyone living now who would know the song except myself and John Bare, a son of the man who composed it.

Old Blue's real name was Bruce Evans, and he was a real gangster and outlaw who operated in Wallowa County, Oregon, from about 1884 until probably '89 or '90. He and his gang, aside from stealing horses and cattle by wholesale, murdered a man on Snake River only 16 miles from where we lived for some gold bricks the man had. This man's name was Douglas. They also killed 27 Chinamen on Deep Creek, only two miles from where they killed Douglas, for the gold they had placered from Snake River. This place is near the mouth of Imnaha River and is 60 miles above Lewiston. When Evans and his gang were ready to kill the Chinamen they sent a 16-year-old boy to Enterprise to buy ammunition and the boy stayed at our place, both going and coming. This boy told my father that they were going out on a big hunt. This job cost the United States one thousand dollars per Chinaman, \$27,000 in all. I remember almost every man who was with Evans and also the sheriff, whose name was Tom Umphery.

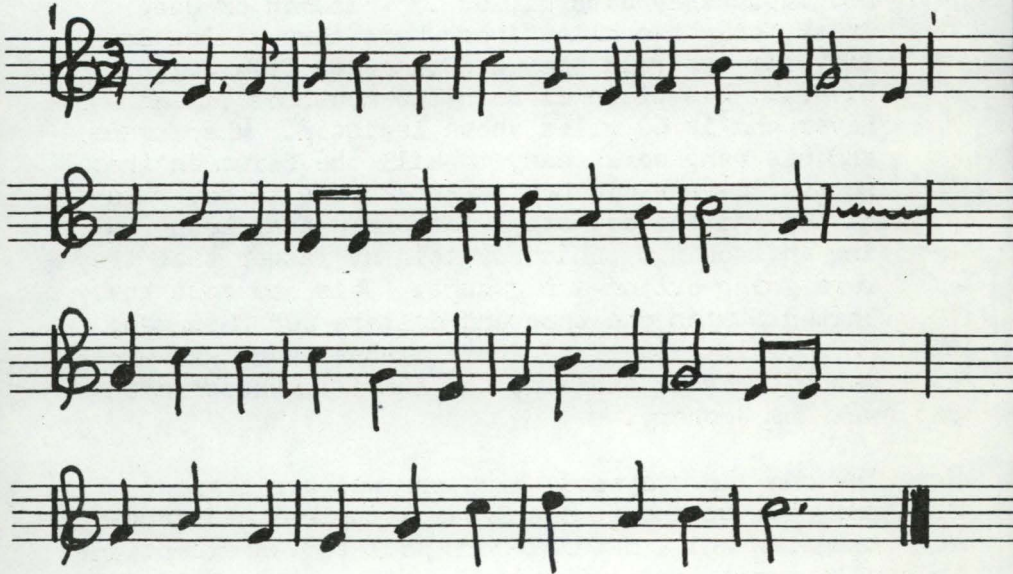
The man who composed this song was our nearest neighbor at the time and was a typical old frontiersman and a natural-born poet and an exceptionally smart man, but entirely without education. I doubt if he could write his own name.

At the time of Evans' arrest, the jail was at Joseph, which was then the county seat of Wallowa

County, and the jail was a little wood construction, so Evans talked through the jail at night to his friends on the outside and told them to leave a brace of pistols under the table in the spring house, where he was permitted to go for water each day by the sheriff, while the sheriff waited at said door for Evans' return. Of course, Umphrey let him do this once too often, and Evans walked away. Evans was never apprehended after the murdering scrapes.

(Signed) Newell Stubblefield
Stites, Idaho

OLD BLUE



'Tis not long since I've learned, by the laws of our land,
Our law-abiding citizens have taken in hand,
By a well-known desperado and a horse trader, too.
He is known on the trails as our Captain, Old Blue.

They took him to justice, bold action to try,
And he thought for a moment his time had come to die.
But the Vit was plain and the OK, too,
So they tried and bound over our Captain, Old Blue.

Now Blue, he is an outlaw, the sheriff he stands
With a pair of cocked pistols gripped tight in each hand.
Go take a walk, Tommy, I'm telling you true,
Take a walk for your health and don't bother Old Blue.

Stay home, don't go, don't go if you can,
Stay close to the ranch with your sweet Mary Ann,
For there is Tity so tricky and Homer Larve
Will take off your scalp if you bother Old Blue.

There is Homer, the ranger, he sails on the trails,
Equipments are graceful, he uses horsehide for sails,
He is fond of wild life and a bold buckaroo,
By life or by death, he will stay with Old Blue.

He went down on Snake River, no horse could he find,
And he thought of his dear friends he had left far behind.
His limbs they got weary, he was darned hungry, too,
A-prowling around on the trails for Old Blue.

But now he is with them and comfort he finds,
And he cares not for the dear friends he left far behind.
He is a night eagle and a bold buckaroo,
And he works to perfection on the line with Old Blue.

The roundhouse at Mackie's is filled every night
With horse thieves and bummers of all description in sight;
No rags on their backs, in their pockets no bills,
And yet they are rambling around in the hills.

There is Tommy, the orphan, who has passed in his checks
By smearing fat cattle too much round his lips;
He gave him a chase and he gave it in true,
But he failed to connect on the line with Old Blue.

LATAH COUNTY
MUSEUM SOCIETY
110 South Adams St.
Moscow, Idaho 83843

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Ice Cream Social July 31

To help cope with summer heat, an old-fashioned ice cream social open to the public is planned to be held on the Mansion grounds on July 31, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Society members and other supporters who have home ice cream freezers, please call the Museum office (882-1004) to let them know how much and what kind of ice cream you can bring. Cakes are being brought by members of the Historical Club. Proceeds will go to the general fund of the Museum Society.

The Mansion will be open for touring, but the refreshments will be served on the lawn, weather permitting. Lawn chairs are invited, to supplement the folding chairs from the Mansion. Card tables and tray tables also will be welcome (let the Museum office know by July 29). An atmosphere of the Gay '90s is sought, with dress of that period where available.

Live music is being arranged for by Museum staff, hopefully the Sweet Adelines women's group from Kendrick. No other program is planned, apart from suitable remarks from Museum Society officers. However, anyone else wishing to make a speech will be given the privilege of the floor.