

CFR 0462

Mrs. Jessie B. Sewell

CENTURY FARM REGISTRATION

OREGON STATE FAIR -- SEPTEMBER 8, 1959

-----**-----

- 1. Name: Mrs. Jessie B. Sewell
- 2. Postoffice Address: 1st & Lincoln Hillsboro
- 3. County in which your farm is located: Washington
- 4. How old is your farm? 105. How old are you? 71.
- 5. Who founded your Century Farm? Richard Williams
- 6. How many miles did you travel to come today? 52
- 7. Did you receive a Century Farm award at last year's State Fair? no
- 8. Do you have Century Farm land on both husband and wife sides of the family? no
- 9. How many generations of your family live on the farm today? me
- 10. How many exhibits do you have at the 1959 Oregon State Fair? none
 What are they? _____

- 11. How many years have you belonged to the Oregon Historical Society or your county Historical Society? 10 years

AUG 3 - 1959

Linn Tops Century Farm List for '59

SALEM—Linn county, runner up among Oregon counties last year, now tops the field in 1959 Century Farm competition.

Linn county has ten of the 44 additional Century farms reported this year; Yamhill is a close second with nine. According to Thomas Vaughan, representing the Oregon Historical society, and Frank McKinnon, state director of agriculture, these farms reported in 1959 will be added to the 354 discovered in connection with this unique program last year.

Two of Linn county's 1959 Century farms are owned jointly by sisters. Benton county has added one such farm, that owned by Mrs. D. Ross Barclay, Rt. 3, Corvallis.

The new group of Century Farm owners — descendants who have stayed continuously with the agricultural pursuits of the farm founder — will be honored in a grand finale at the Oregon State Fair on Tuesday, September 8. At that time Governor Mark O. Hatfield will present the handsome parchment enrolling the farms in the archives of the Oregon Historical Society.

Eleven counties, four less than year, are included in the current list. All are from western Oregon, which leaves to date the three from Wasco county on last year's honor roll as the sole representative of that vast farming area which was settled later than the western side.

Besides Linn, Benton, Yamhill and Marion, the 1959 Centennial Farms are in: Clackamas, one; Douglas, 4; Jackson, 2; Lane, 2; Polk, 3; Washington, 5; and Tillamook, 1.

All continuous ownership verifications were made by the respective county judges, whose name along with the governor's, the sponsors and the state fair commission chairman will appear on the Century Farm parchment to be awarded at the fair.

The oldest farm this year (Lewis R. Alderman's at Dayton) is 113 years; 12 were founded in 1852, five in 1850 and one or more of the others each year between 1846 and 1859.

Nine of the 43 farms still have some of the original buildings. In Douglas county, Century Farmer Raymond J. Nichols of Winston lives in the original house built in 1853 by his great grandfather.

Strangely enough, the women today outnumber men owners of these historic farm lands. Twenty women, most of them granddaughters but including one great grand niece, are on the list. Eight of the honors go to husband-wife teams.

Most intricate of all claims to trace relationship is that of the Charles S. Mullen farm near Newberg, whose Century Farm was founded in 1852 by the half-brother of his great grandfather. At the other extreme is the Alderman farm on which the son of the founder lives today.

Not all the farms come down straight from original donation land claims. Even a hundred years ago farmers were buying and selling their lands—but not at today's prices. Mrs. Jessie B. Sewell at Hillsboro has the original deed in which farmers, by their marks, in 1857 transferred 318.95 acres or half of their donation land claim for \$1600 or about \$5 an acre. A year earlier in Marion county the present Arthur McKay Century Farm was started when James McKay paid \$1000, or \$6.25 per acre, for 160 acres of a donation land claim.

A few farms are intact, acreage-wise.

Following are the owners of 1959 Century Farms in Linn county:

Yates Sherer, Tangent; Mrs. Elsie Davis Bond, 1834 Fairmount Blvd., Eugene; Mrs. S. V. Barr, Rt. 1, Box 2862, Sweet Home; Mrs. Mabel J. Reagan, 417 13th Street East, Eugene, and Mrs. Vivian M. Forster, 1555 Laurel Heights, Albany; Loren J. Bond, Rt. 2, Box 362, Albany; Bertha Lena Watson, Rt. 1, Shedd; John Lester McFarland, Rt. 1, Tangent; Mr. and Mrs. John W. Alvin, 2560 S. Santiam Highway, Lebanon; Mrs. Florence N. Harrison, Rural Route, Brownsville; Mrs. Stacy L. Neeley, Rt. 2, Albany.

Washington

Northwest
PRESS CLIPPING SERVICE

619 Henry Bldg. Portland 4, Oregon

OREGON JOURNAL
Portland, Oregon
Circulation (D - 181,264) (S - 200,346)

AUG 26 1958

Farmer Named

County 'Century' Title Bestowed

HILLSBORO, Aug. 26.—James Sewell of Hillsboro received a plaque honoring him as Washington county's "century farmer" at the Washington County Historical society's annual picnic Sunday.

Presentation was to have been made at the county fair, which ended Saturday night, but was postponed. The Sewell family has farmed the same land 115 years.

THE TROPHY for biggest turnout on the three special days of the fair went to the Beaverton Chamber of Commerce, which beat Hillsboro and Forest Grove.

In late judging the grand championship in livestock showmanship went to Fred Evers of route 2, Forest Grove, with a Holstein.

Winners of \$150 and \$50 in the talent show senior division were Ken Holland and Ron Archer of Beaverton, harmonica duo, and Swingmasters of Beaverton high school, Dixieland band, second. Virginia Haase of Hillsboro won first prize in the junior division and Allen Penson of Beaverton took second place.

Century Farmer 90 Plaques Given



TWO SPECIAL AWARDS of seven given at the state fair Tuesday went to Mrs. Juanita Wainscott (top photo) who tied for title of Century farmer having most generations living on the farm today. Other prize went to Mrs. Jessie Sewell (bottom photo) for being the Century farmer with membership for the longest time in the Oregon Historical society or one of its county affiliates. Presentation was made by Gov. Mark Hatfield. Pair also received parchment awards.—(Argus)

Members of 44 pioneer Oregon families were honored Tuesday during Century day at the state fair for having lived on a farm that was founded at least a century ago. Mrs. Juanita Wainscott and Mrs. Jessie Sewell, both of Hillsboro, received two of

seven special awards made by the state fair commission.

In addition they were given parchments from the state department of agriculture and the Oregon Historical society, which combined to arrange the annual program. Also receiving certificates were B. L. Raffety of Hillsboro, S. H. Bowlby Sr. of Cornelius and Sanford Roy Matteson of Gaston.

Presentation was made by Gov. Mark Hatfield, who told the group "you have contributed far more than heritage. You are contributing leadership and a future for agriculture."

Four Generations

Mrs. Wainscott tied with Mrs. S. V. Barr of Sweet Home as the Century farmer having the most generations living on the farm today. Each claimed four.

In 1846 Mrs. Wainscott's great-grandparents, Eli and Mary Ann Davis, took up donation land claim of 640 acres on McKay creek, three miles north of North Plains. Mrs. Wainscott now owns 30 acres of the original land claim.

This also may qualify her for the Hillsboro Argus engraved plaque which is presented to the Washington county farmer whose land has been in the same family for the longest period of time.

Longest Membership

Mrs. Sewell was awarded the prize for being the Century farmer with membership for the longest time in the Oregon Historical society or one of its county affiliates.

Mrs. Sewell now owns 54 acres of donation land claim of 637.9 acres first farmed in 1850 by Richard Williams, great-grandfather of her husband, the late Fred Sewell.

Also making brief talks at the program held outside the administration building were Frank McKennon, state director of agriculture; Rex Harley, Marion county judge; George Dewey, Oregon Farm Bureau; Elmer McClure, State Grange, and Judge Joe Jaross, who represented Herb Rolph, State Farmers Union.