

Salem Remembers Timeline 1917

1917, February 16 | Salem's Chinese Heritage

The Oregon Daily Journal

Suspected Chinese From San Francisco Arrested at Train

Seven Mongols Left Bay City in Groups and Police Chief Telegraphed Suspicions

Suspects are Queried

Claimed to Have Contract, Which Was Denied

All Save One Carried Government Papers

Seven Chinese from San Francisco were arrested as they stepped from a train at the East Morrison street station of the southern Pacific by detectives and representatives of the district attorney's office at 10 o'clock Thursday night, in connection with the tong war investigation.

The men under arrest are Wong Wen Teung, 23 years old; Lee Kim Nguyen, 21 years old, and Low Loy Chai, all bearing credentials showing membership in the Hop Sing tong, and Gee Ning, 19 years old; Lu Pack Lam, 20 years old, and Lo Ju, 20 years old. Gee Wing Senk, 21 years old, and Low Ju, 20 years old. The last four have nothing to show whether or not they are affiliated with the tongs.

Telegrams Caused Arrest

The arrests were made as the result of a telegram from Chief of Police D. A. White to district attorney Evans Wednesday night. The message stated that the seven suspicious Chinese, in groups of four and three each, had left the ferry building at San Francisco with railroad tickets for Portland.

Deputy district attorney Richard Deich and Thomas G. Ryan met the train at Salem Thursday night. Chief of police Katlin of Albany boarded the train at his station and followed the Chinese to Salem, where he turned them over to the local officers.

The Chinese were questioned until 3 o'clock this morning, when they were locked in the city jail and held without bail.

The Chinese stated that they were cannery laborers, under contract to the On Hing company, 66 Second street, but a representative of this concern saw them Thursday night and said he did not know them and had no contracts with them.

Migration Ahead of Time

The police regard the traveling of these alleged laborers at this time as rather unusual, inasmuch as the annual migration of Chinese coolies to the Alaskan canneries never starts until April. Hundreds go from

Portland and Astoria at that time each year. They say that no contraction companies ever pay the expenses of their laborers for a period of several weeks before sending them on to the north country.

Further proof that the Chinese were not exactly what they represented themselves to be was shown in the fact, police say, that they all but one had their "chock chee," or government credentials, certifying that they have been properly admitted to the United States. These credentials bear the description and photograph of the owner.

"Chock Chee" as Pawn

A Chinese laborer, with playing lottery and with other expenses incidental to several months of idleness, usually has to have an advance of expense money from his contracting company when he is "shipped to the canneries." The wily contractors, to be absolutely sure of their men, take the "chock chee" and make the cash an advance on it, holding the sacred document somewhat as a pawn dealer holds a pledge. In the fall the laborer is paid off what is owing and the "chock chee" is returned so he will have no trouble getting back to the United States.

Got Off at Salem

The deputy district attorneys had little faith that the Chinese would be aboard the train when they went to Salem Thursday afternoon to meet the group. Their hopes were roused somewhat when they met an ancient Celestial in the railroad station who stared at them sourly for several minutes and then went to a telephone. Presently two other Chinese came to the station, stared some more at the Portland officers, engaged in an excited confab with the first one, and then left. In a few minutes, the train rolled in. Chief Catlin left the train, and in a few minutes the Chinese piled off with their suitcases. They were stopped on the platform and interrogated.

Afraid of Tongs Here

They said they had left the train at Salem because they were afraid of the tong war in Portland, and were to come to this city in automobiles today. The Salem police told the Chinese they were not wanted in that city, and they decided to get on the train again and come to Portland.

They showed no surprise when the small army of detectives met the train on the east side and they were escorted to headquarters. All the Chinese were young, their ages running from 19 to 25 years.

Takes Novel Procedure

A unique procedure was resorted to by the district attorney's office this morning to make sure that the defendants would do no damage while in the city. Deputy District Attorney Ryan drew an information and signed it himself, stating that the Chinese were under grave suspicion of being members of a warring tong, that they came here without authority or business, and that he was convinced they were here for no good.

On this showing the state has asked that they be placed under peace bonds. The bond may be as high as \$2000., and fixing the amount is placed at the discretion of the court. The proceeding comes under a statute that is rarely invoked in this state.



Salem's Elk Lodge, c.1950.

1917, March 24 | Salem's Black Heritage

Daily Capital Journal

Delightful Elks Soiree | Marie Maxwell

All important on the social calendar for next week is the delightful soiree to be given by the Elks at their attractive clubhouse Tuesday night.

The affair which has been planned for the ladies, will be informal. Many features of various kinds will make the evening more interesting and gala.

*The entertainment committee of the club is a particularly alert, fun loving one, and weeks of strenuous efforts have been made to have the entertainment one of the most delightful and successful affairs for which the club has been sponsor for this season. Fancy and ballroom dancing by the Harold Gradys of Portland will be one of the features of the evening. Other numbers included in the program are vocal solos, Mrs. R. M. Hofer, accompanied by Mrs. William H. Burghardt, Jr.; selections, Indian string quartet of Chemawa; monologue, Miss Margaret Edbert of Portland, and vocal solo, **Mrs. Charles Maxwell**.*

1917, February 5 | Immigration Act of 1917

This Act taxed immigrants who entered the U.S. and excluded for a time anyone who may not be able to provide for themselves due to a disability. The Act, which built upon the Chinese Exclusion Act, also impacted entry into the state of Oregon. KL

1917, March 26 | Salem's Black Heritage

Spring's Awakening

Ladies Day at Elks Event of the Week

Ladies Will Have Possession While the Herd Just Browses Around

Preparations are now complete for the observance of ladies night at the Elks Lodge Tuesday evening of this week. This is something in the way of an annual event, but this year, the entertainment committee with E. Cooke Patton as chairman promise a more elaborate program than that of any former year.

The hall will be decorated under the direction of a committee composed of F.H. Devore and Paul Stege. The stage has been enlarged and arrangements have been made whereby the ladies will be given the entire auditorium and the Elks will be given permission to look on from the ante rooms.

Everything is to be informal and it is the hope of Mr. Patton to have the program begin at 8 o'clock. Refreshments will be served at the close of the entertainment. The committee has been fortunate in securing the popular dancers, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Grady who will appear in several of the latest creations. It was for them that the stage was enlarged.

On the reception committee are Mayor Walter E. Keyes, the next exulted ruler; August Huckestein, Sr., Charles R. Archerd, C.B. O'Neill and S.M. Endicott. The ushers are Chester G. Cox, Robin Day, August Huckestein, Jr. and Robert Duncan. The waiters are Harry Wenderoth, Roy Burton, N.W. Harroun, George H. Riches, E. F. Smith, Pearl Hibbler and L.S. Geer. The cloak room will be in care of Arthur H. Moord and George Patterson.

The program is as follows:

- 1. Indian String quartet of Chemawa appearing in Indian costume.*
- 2. Solo by Mrs. R. M. Hofer, accompanied by Mrs. William Burghardt, Jr.*
- 3. Monologist, Miss Marguerite Egbert of Portland.*
- 4. Solo by Mrs. Charles Maxwell.*
- 5. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Grady of Portland in their latest dances.*

The entertainment is given exclusively for members of the Elk Lodge, their mothers, sisters, wives and invited ladies.

1917, March 28 | Salem's Black Heritage

Daily Capital Journal

Elk's Ladies Night Will be Remembered

Mrs. R. M. Hofer's Singing a Feature — Whole Program "Just Splendid"

The Ladies Night at the Elks club last evening proved to be one of the best entertainments put out by the Elk Lodge during the present administration. The large room was filled to its utmost by the mothers, wives and sisters of Salem Elks who were well repaid by the high class entertainment put on by the committee with E. Cooke Patton, chairman.

Following an address by exalted ruler Louis Lachmund, in which he welcomed the ladies, assuring them of the pleasure it gave the Elks to have so many appreciate the Elks' invitation, the Indian String quartet of Chemawa gave several numbers, responding to an encore.

The singing by Mrs. R. M. Hofer is always more than acceptable to a Salem audience and last evening she was enthusiastically encored, responding with the ever popular encore song "Will-o'-the-Wisp".

As an accompanist, Mrs. W. H. Burghardt, Jr., is unexcelled and her work last night with the soloists added greatly to their effective singing.

Miss Marguerite Egbert of Portland caught the fancy of the audience in her recitations, especially her reference to well-known Elks.

Mrs. Charles Maxwell sang "Springs Awakening." She has a pleasing voice and for an encore gave "Swanee River."

The dancing by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Grady is more than pleasing, it is grace itself and the enthusiastic applause given them was evidence that their work met with the approval not only of the Elks but the ladies as well.

The lodge room was patriotically and artistically decorated and the credit is due to F. H. Devore and Paul Stege.

1917, April 4 | U.S. Enters World War I

A joint session of Congress approves President Woodrow Wilson's declaration of war against Germany. Wilson was responding to Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare in the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean Oceans. Germany was also trying to form an alliance with Mexico against the United States.

1917, May 18 | Salem's Black Heritage

The Oregon Daily Journal

Negro Porter Dies

Charles Fralix, a negro Porter on Southern Pacific train No. 13, southbound, died last night shortly before the train reached Salem. He was suddenly taken ill before the train reached Woodburn. Coroner Clough expressed the belief that the cause of death was a hemorrhage of the lungs. Mr. Clough is trying to locate the man's relatives.

1917, June 13 | Salem's Mexican Heritage

Daily Capital Journal

Captain White, Adjutant General

Captain White, adjutant general of the Oregon National Guard, who was in command of Troop A on the Mexican border, is in Salem this afternoon to confer with the citizens relating to methods to be pursued in securing enough recruits out of the 800 to 1,000 eligible young men of military age in Salem to fill up the ranks of company M and so save that organization for the Capital City. Plans were discussed at the meeting held this afternoon with representative citizens present. Among those who were present at the meeting were Major Abrams, C. L. Dick, Reverend James Elvin, Sergeant Paul Wallace, State Treasurer Kay, Captain James Roy Neer, Lieutenant Allen, Theodore Roth, W. I. Staley and Manager McDaniels of the Commercial Club.



Stock Parade at the Oregon State Fairgrounds, 1911.

1917, July 3 | Salem's Tribal and Black Heritage

Daily Capital Journal

Salem to Celebrate Fourth of July at State Fairgrounds

The following is the program for the Fourth of July celebration that will be held at the state fairgrounds next Wednesday. Events for morning, afternoon and evening have been scheduled and promise interesting things:

Opening at - 0 am (sic)

Selection, "America I love You," Cherrian band.

Reading of the Declaration of Independence. – Mayor Keyes.

Vocal selection to be announced later.

Oration of the day, Walter L. Tooze.

Selection, Cherrian Band.

Song, "My Own United States, "Dan F. Langenberg. . . .

*The band will furnish music in the grandstand during the races, and **Mrs. Charles Maxwell** will render some Southern melodies with band accompaniment.*

Hansen Will Fly

An added and assured attraction of tomorrow's celebration is the aviation exhibition by R. P. Hansen, arrangements having been completed yesterday for his appearance.

Admission Free

Admission to the grounds will be free. A small admissions fee will be charged at the grand stand only for the afternoon racing program.

Ten per cent of the gross receipts go to the Red Cross. The expenses will be paid from the balance, and what is left will be divided to form prize purses for the racing events.

It is announced that in addition to the Cherrian band and vocal music, the Chemawa Indian school band will be in attendance.

1917, July 5 | Salem's Black Heritage

Daily Capital Journal

Many Compliments Were Paid | Marie Maxwell

Many compliments were paid to Mrs. Charles Maxwell for her fine rendition of the ballad, "Somewhere a Voice is Calling," which she sang at the fairgrounds yesterday afternoon. She has appeared in public several times before, and is well liked by music-lovers.



Composer Lena J. Douglas (1884-1974),
later known as Nora Douglas Holt.

1917, July 24 | Salem's Black Heritage

Daily Capital Journal

Lena J. Douglas, E. M. | Marie Maxwell

Lena J. Douglas, E. M., perhaps one of the foremost negro composers of the United States, will give a piano recital at the First Methodist Church tonight. She has been most favorably criticized in the east, and it is believed by those who have heard her that there is no one like her. Mrs. Charles Maxwell, soprano, of this city, will be on the program with a vocal solo.

1917, July 26 | Salem's Black Heritage

Daily Capital Journal

Tuesday Evening | Marie Maxwell

Tuesday evening at the First Methodist Church Salem music lovers enjoyed an attractive program by Lena James Douglas, a well-known negro composer.

Mrs. Charles Maxwell, vocalist, assisted with the program which included:

Sonata Appassionata
Intermezzo op. 119, No. 3
Rhapsody op. 79, No. 2
Berceuse
Polonaise Américaine
Vocal Solos The Kiss Waltz
The Owl

Beethoven, First Movement
Brahms
Brahms
Chopin
Carpenter

Mrs. Charles Maxwell

Brief sketches on "Negro Music"

Deep River
I'm Troubled in Mind
Lil Gal
Who Knows
Florida Night Song
Southern Suite, Dance Negro; Cabin Song; In the Swamps
Hungarian Rhapsody No. 12

Coleridge Taylor
Coleridge Taylor
Johnson
Lena J. Douglas
Lena J. Douglas
Lena J. Douglas
Liszt



An Oregon flax field

1917, December 5 | Salem's Irish Heritage
The Maupin Times

Irish Flax Bid Canceled

Cabled arguments which have been going back and forth between Salem, Oregon, and Belfast, Ireland, for the past several days relative to the purchase of 2500 bushels of flax by the Agnew Hamilton Company, of Belfast, came to an abrupt close Monday, when Secretary R. B. Goodin, of the State Board of Control, received a terse telegram: "Cancel offer; shipment too late." What disposition will be made of the seed is not known, but it is likely the board will sell much of it now to Oregon buyers. The board instructed Superintendent Crawford to start threshing immediately to be ready for shipment on the Belfast order.