

THE CENTENNIAL HISTORY OF OREGON

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LYNN B. FERGUSON, a well known druggist of Newberg, who for some years has been successfully identified with the commercial interests of the town, was born in Yamhill county, on August 24, 1877. His father was the late J. L. Ferguson, a native of Kentucky where he resided until 1852, when he came to Yamhill county. He located in La Fayette and there engaged in business in which he met with excellent success, becoming one of the largest property owners of the county. A capable business man, he became a prominent factor in the development of this section of the state, both commercially and industrially. He was one of the promoters of the first woolen mills established at Oregon City, thus furnishing an excellent local market for one of the state's lending products, and he also assisted in developing various other public utilities. He possessed the faculty of recognizing opportunities that were not noticeable to the average business man, utilizing them to forward his personal interests. His methods, however, were always above reproach, and although the less sagacious might sometimes envy his success, his gain was never accomplished by deliberately sacrificing another. Much of his prosperity was due to his intelligent and judicious investments in real estate, as he at one time held the titles to nearly two thousand acres of land in Yamhill county, that was later sold at a good advance over the first cost. Mr. Ferguson always took much interest in all educational matters and was one of those who founded the agricultural college at Corvallis, at that time a Methodist Episcopal (South) school. He took an active and helpful interest in political affairs, giving his support to the democratic party, and for two years was a member of the state legislature. His high standard of citizenship, integrity and trustworthiness won him the respect of all with whom he had transactions, and his death was occasion for widespread regret in the community where he had lived for the greater part of his life.

He Passed away in August 1903, at the age of seventy-two years. For his wife and helpmate Mr. Ferguson chose Miss Parmelia Jane Bird, a daughter of John Bird, one of Yamhill county's honored pioneers, whose death occurred at the age of forty-six years. Of their marriage there were born seven children: Ella, the deceased wife of Clarence Baker, who has a son and a daughter living in this county; C. C., a real estate and insurance agent of Newberg; Nettie, who is also deceased; Ray, who is residing in La Fayette; James L., of Newberg; Maggie Jane, the wife of ex-Senator Caldwell, of Ontario, this state; and Lynn B., our subject.

Reared at La Fayette, Lynn B. Ferguson is indebted to the common schools of that town for his early education. He was graduated from the high school with the class of 1895, following which he studied for a year in the Evangelical seminary of La Fayette. Having decided that he would adopt the drug business for his life vocation, after leaving the seminary he entered a drug store in North Yamhill, where he remained for three years. During that period he

not only became thoroughly familiar with the business and the various lines of goods handled in an establishment of this kind, but he also qualified for his examination in pharmacy, and is now registered in both Oregon and Idaho. After resigning his position in North Yamhill he went to Albany, where he followed the same occupation for over a year. At the end of that time he felt he was fully qualified to engage in business for himself and coming to Newberg he purchased the store of T. H. Whitten, that he has ever since conducted. He has a very attractive place of business and carries a full line of drugs, proprietary and patent medicines, as well as toilet articles and such sundries as are usually kept in a store of this kind. A gracious manner, thorough knowledge of the business, and strict attention to the needs of his patrons, particularly in his prescription department, have enabled Mr. Ferguson to build up an excellent trade among a desirable class of people.

On November 26, 1907, was celebrated the marriage of Mr. Ferguson to Mrs. Lura Bogart, who was born in Sheridan, this county, and is a daughter of Daniel R. Ralston. The father was one of the well known stockmen and agriculturists of this section for many years, but he and the mother are now deceased.

Mr. Ferguson is a Mason, being affiliated with the blue lodge and chapter and the Order of the Eastern Star. He also belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Woodmen of the World, Circle and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics he is a democrat and has served on the local school board. He is one of the enterprising business men of the town, who takes an active interest in all public affairs and champions every progressive movement, which he recognizes as one of the first duties of citizenship.