

## GOLDEN WEDDING

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARRIAGE OF REVEREND AND MRS. J. S. BOYD CELEBRATED ON MONDAY EVENING.

Last Monday, January 25, was the fiftieth anniversary of the marriage of Reverend and Mrs. J. S. Boyd now residing in Courtenay. According to the custom quite common in late years, the occasion was celebrated, but in a way somewhat different from the ordinary.

Residing so far away from most of their relatives and well wishers that these could not assemble at the home of the half-century married pair to extend their congratulations in person, these distant friends, by common consent, arranged to send a letter shower. Therefore, as the day drew near, the mails began to bring an increasing number of these heartily well-wishing missives, nearly all of which were directed to the care of their daughter, Mrs. Otterburn, who, without letting her parents know she had received them, kept them as a surprise until the evening meal on the anniversary day.

Having prepared a special supper for that hour, she, at its close, brought in a goodly covered dish and, placing it before her mother, asked her if she wouldn't "cut the wedding cake." On removing the lid, lo and behold! there appeared a great tureen full of letters, which, on a little examination, were soon found to unite in conveying sincere well-wishes and congratulations from friends in every direction, and from points as far remote from each other as Boise, Idaho, and New York City, N. Y.,—as Duluth, Minn., and Hannibal, Mo.

Some of the letters were couched in well chosen poetic phrase that did real credit to their writers. Some of them, too, contained something more substantial than even the much prized heart expressions of love and good will with which they were packed. And the entire collection will be held as a cherished heir-loom in future years, if these shall be providentially granted to the recipients.

But this did not end the sum of the good things of that long to be remembered anniversary evening. Before the eager readers had quite finished perusing the glad letters received, a whole host of Courtenay well-wishing friends came, unannounced, in a body, as a complete surprise, crowding the rooms, and conveying their heartily spoken congratulations. After a time spent in pleasant, happy sociability, Mr. Lovelace, calling attention, introduced Mr. J. A. Coffey, Esq., who, in a few appropriate words, directed to the "Bride and Groom," presented to each, on behalf of the company, a glittering gold piece. The "Groom" of so long standing thanked all for coming, for their good will and their substantial gifts, and warmly wished them all the divine favor and blessing continually.

Then after the refreshments, which the invading company had thoughtfully and bountifully brought with them, were generously served, all departed, showing evident gladness for having come, and leaving enduring gladness behind them—even seeds that will ripen into growing gladness for many years to come.

One worthily to be noted coincidence of the whole occasion

was that the number of congratulatory letters received was FIFTY—just matching the number of years of the married union they celebrated.

It may be added, too, that the kindly helpful financial gifts made, mostly in gold, came very nearly equally one dollar for each one of the fifty years that has elapsed since the wedding day, January 25, 1859.

The Courtenay Presbyterian church being now without a pastor, Mr. Boyd is at present supplying its pulpit, while he and Mrs. Boyd reside with their son-in-law and wife—Prof. and W. H. and Edith H. B. Otterburn.

## MORE LAND

TO BE PLACED UNDER IRRIGATION IN NORTH DAKOTA. NEW PROJECTS.

Bismarck, Jan. 15.—The report of State Engineer Atkinson concerning irrigation and drainage in North Dakota has been received.

In addition to the Williston, Buford-Trenton and Lower Yellowstone projects, a total of 40,000 acres, the larger of which has been completed and will be irrigated this season, the state engineer has made preliminary surveys and plans of 92,000 acres of irrigable land along the Missouri river bottoms and has made a special report to the United States reclamation service on each of these. These projects are as follows:

Shell Creek project, on Fort Berthold Indian reservation	20,000
Independance project	5,000
Elbowoods project	13,000
Fort Berthold project	10,000
Fort Stevenson project	20,000
Hancock project	7,000
Oliver project	7,000
Washburn project	10,000

Two of the above projects, the Washburn and the Oliver, have already been undertaken by the reclamation service, careful detailed surveys having been made during the past six months and plans and estimates for the construction of the work are now being made and it is expected that construction work will commence in the early spring.

The state engineer's office has also succeeded in interesting the reclamation service in the Bowman project on the Grand river in Bowman county. This is a gravity project and contemplates the storage of sufficient water to irrigate 10,000 acres along the river valley. Detail surveys were made by the reclamation service in the fall of 1908 and the plans and specifications are now being made.

Drainage surveys have been made and contracts let for the construction of ditches in Steele and Cavalier counties. Surveys, plans and specifications for the improvement of the Mouse river in McHenry and Bottineau counties have been made and the contract for constructions will be let this winter.

The construction of the irrigation and drainage projects now under way will add at least \$1,500,000 to the material wealth of the state.

## Came Near Choking To Death

A little boy, the son of Chris. D. Peterson, a well known resident of the village of Jacksonville, Iowa, had a sudden and violent attack of croup. Much thick stringy phlegm came up after giving Chamberlin's Cough Remedy. Mr. Peterson says: "I think he would have choked to death had we not given him this remedy." For sale by Stoddard Drug Company.