My Fort Klamath Home

There's a little gray house in the valley
And it stands at the end of a lane,
But it guides me home like a beacon
When the day is beginning to wane.

A brook flows gently beside it
And goes gurgling along in glee
And it wends its way to Wood River,
Then rushes on down to the sea.

The pine-clad hills and forests
Look down on our cottage below,
Beyond are high peaks of the mountains,
All wrapped in their blanket of snow.

There's a broad green valley before them
Where Bossie lies down to rest,
And I hear the song of the meadowlark,
As she hurries home to her nest.

I catch the sweet scent of clover
And hear the soft coo-oo of the dove,
The evening star gleams brightly
Like a lamp in the heavens above.

I breathe the fresh air of the open
And live a life of the free,
Oh Fort Klamath Home, my beautiful
You are all the world to me.

—by Ora Gordon

Submitted by Patricia Hescok.
We respectfully dedicate this, the sixth issue of Klamath Echoes, to Mrs. C. A. Lenz. This charming and gracious lady’s present home occupies the approximate spot where she played as a girl nearly one hundred years ago on the banks of Fort Creek.
Captain Oliver C. Applegate and crew moving a nice big, soft, old Yellow Punkin Pine log to the Agency Sawmill. Notice how plump and shiny the horses are. They are full of that good old tasty Fort Klamath Meadows green stuff.

The Fort Klamath cattle today are just as slick and shiny and full of that fragrant meadow grass and wild flowers. And SWAN LAKE MOULDING CO. is selling that smooth soft old Punkin Pine at the old stand on South Sixth Street. Fort Klamath just might be a wee bit nearer Heaven than most other places.
Quartermaster Store Room Building at old Fort Klamath burning during one of the July Times, possibly the celebration of 1893. —courtesy Mrs. W. B. Hescock

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KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON
SHIVE AND RYAN STORE IN FORT KLAMATH ABOUT 1902
L. to r.: Hamer Yahty, Indian, Geo. Hoyt, W. T. Shive (?), John D. Gray, Bert Gray, Dan Ryan, —courtesy Klamath County Museum

THE PUCK RYAN RESIDENCE, ONE OF THE FIRST HOUSES IN FORT KLAMATH
About the center of town on the west side of the Main Street. According to the sign, the tent house was the photo studio of C. Baechler of Gold Hill, Oregon. Men in front of fence, Puck Ryan, Fred Larson and Sam King.
—courtesy Klamath County Museum
Picture of the Year. Klamath County dogs headed for Alaska about 1898. A large percentage of the dogs were secured on the Klamath Indian Reservation. They traveled overland to Ashland, by train to Seattle, and boat to Alaska, where they were sold for sled dogs. Each dog’s chain was fastened to a long wire, stretched between the buckboard and a man following on horseback, who had the other end fastened to the saddle horn. One bear dog was sold to Chas. Graves, who later homesteaded what is now the town of Crescent.

—courtesy Mrs. W. B. Hescock
During the winter of 1963-64, the Klamath County Historical Society decided to publish an annual historical year book of some sort.

Eventually this writer was given complete charge of publishing the annual. At first it was thought that Issue No. 1 should be a Centennial Issue, commemorating the establishment of the military post of Fort Klamath in 1863. Seemingly no organization in Klamath County had deemed the event as worthy of any official celebration whatever.

Then it was learned that the Chamber of Commerce was sponsoring the publication of an historical book concerning the old military fort, to be written by Buena Cobb Stone. This editor naturally realized that two publications coming out at approximately the same time, about the same subject, would be foolish, so the Historical Society switched and Klamath Echoes No. 1, as eventually printed was conceived.

We feel that time enough has now elapsed, so that Klamath Echoes present Fort Klamath issue will not, in any way, conflict with the other publication. Further "Fort Klamath" by Buena Cobb Stone deals chiefly with the old Fort and the Modoc War. Klamath Echoes version of "Fort Klamath" will deal principally with the community, although a brief history of the military post is given, plus pictures, some heretofore never printed.

Many Fort Klamath old-timers have given much time and information and we sincerely thank them and only wish we had the space to credit each person individually for his assistance.

Recent research in the microfilm files at the University of Oregon turned up the following article in an old Klamath Star Newspaper. It could be entitled "It might have been." Thursday, June 13, 1895:

"Shattucks will probably be the name of a new town close to the Fort. Solon O. Shattuck, a very wealthy citizen of our place, is postmaster, and his office, situated in a place more central and convenient than the Fort, is now a nucleus around which will gather several buildings in the near future. Already a store and blacksmith shop have been erected, and are doing good business, and pretty soon the young gentlemen here will have a fine public hall erected."

Range Rider.

Last November 22, the American Association for State and Local History was notified that they were to receive a grant of $50,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities in support of the work of historical societies and museums.

In early April the Editor of Klamath Echoes received a letter from the American Association for State and Local History, located at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, notifying him that he had been selected as one of thirty-five from the entire United States to attend the Seminar on Historical Museum Publications, to be held June 10-15, 1968 at Nashville.

The thirty-five selected will attend on full scholarship with all expenses paid. This Editor feels deeply honored by his selection to this Seminar, and feels that Klamath Echoes has also been recognized as above average in historical society publications.

Thirty-five Klamath Echoes No. 4, Ferry to Freeway, Part I Centennial Issue, have been sent to the Seminar. In return we are to receive the publications of each of the other thirty-four attending Seminarists.

This, the sixth, issue of Klamath Echoes will be delivered to the printer on May 28, so it is impossible to furnish further information on the Seminar.
Klamath Echoes Staff

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HELEN HELFRICH - - - - - - - - Assistant

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KLAMATH ECHOES is published annually by the Klamath County Historical Society. Price $2.00. Address all communications to: Klamath Echoes, P.O. Box 1552, Klamath Falls, Oregon 97601.

THE COVER. Our cover was drawn by Stephanie Bonotto Hakanson, artist for all preceding issues of Klamath Echoes. Depicted is the deserted old Loosley Creamery and Cheese Factory, some two miles south of Fort Klamath.
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Cavalrymen from Fort Bidwell, bivouacked on the parade grounds of Fort Klamath, sometime during the Modoc War. Infantry barracks at left, and hospital in the background.
Fort Klamath, the military post, was established September 5, 1863 on Linn Creek, now known as Fort Creek, a tributary of Wood River.

Fort Klamath, the town, was platted June 19, 1902 by William T. Shive.

The first part of this history will deal with the military post, the latter part with the Wood River Valley and Fort Klamath, the community.

Fort Klamath the Military Post

Prior to 1863, very little was known of the Klamath country, with the exception of what had been learned by emigrants as they journeyed through the extreme southern portion on their way to the settlements west of the Cascade Mountains, or by fur traders and explorers, who had penetrated the country as early as the winter of 1825-26. We find that a few stockmen had the hardihood to winter stock in this wilderness during the late '50's, none however, in the Wood River vicinity. Further we find that a few military groups had spent short periods of time near the Applegate emigrant trail. None of these groups, however, with the exception of John C. Fremont, in 1846, have left any written record of having visited the Wood River Valley.

According to the History of Central Oregon, 1905, page 933, "...Fort Klamath was established to protect travel through the Klamath Country. Up to this period there was not a settler in the whole of what is now Klamath county, and the only route of travel was via the emigrant road. Why, then, was the fort established at its present location in preference to a point nearer the road where troops would be of some use in protecting emigrant trains? This is explained as follows:

"When the Oregon legislature memorialized congress for the establishment of a military post in the Klamath country, no suggestion was made as to a definite location. It was, of course, understood that it would be located near the road. Pine Grove was a point mentioned by many who had become acquainted with the country and certainly it would have been more desirable than the one selected. Entering into the situation of the fight was jealousy existing between the towns of Ashland and Jacksonville on the west side of the mountains. Ashland favored a location on Lost River, or at some point near the road. Jacksonville, per contra realized the advantage this would give its rival town which, being nearer, would have the advantage in furnishing supplies to the post, etc., and laid its plans to have the post located where the advantage would be with Jacksonville. Colonel Charles Drew, who recommended the site, was favorable to the county seat town...Jacksonville...and his influence prevailed. A road over an impracticable route was built from Jacksonville to the site selected. The post was established where Jacksonville wanted it, but the folly of the choice was apparent ever after. The road, the first to penetrate the county, beside the old Applegate Trail, was built in 1863 by the soldiers under Colonel Drew, when that officer was on his trip to select a site for the post. The road was as bad as could well be imagined and after the other road (via Union and Annie Creeks. Editor) was built in 1865 by Captain Sprague it was not used. (Possibly by the military, but it did see considerable early day settler use, down through the years. It approximated what is now the Winnemucca to the Sea Highway. Editor).

"...The original garrison stationed at the post was Troop C, First Oregon Cavalry, under command of Captain William Kelly. They arrived in the fall of 1863 and during that winter lived in tents. In the spring were begun the fort buildings, all of which were completed in the spring of 1864. A primitive sawmill was installed at the fort, which prepared lumber for the buildings. The structures erected this year, and which served until the regulars garrisoned the post, were nearly all built of box lumber, a few of logs.

by Devere Helfrich
"...In 1865 the second road was built from Fort Klamath across the mountains to Jacksonville. ... This time a more practicable route was selected and a fairly good road was the result. The Drew road was such an impossible one that when Captain Sprague took charge of the post early in 1865, he asked permission of the government to select a route and build a new road. ... the road was built by the members of Company I."

By July 8, 1867 the last of the state troops were mustered out, and Fort Klamath was thereafter garrisoned by regular troops. A Military Reservation was the next step, and is described in the Anonymous Report of July 31, 1889 (National Archives) as follows: A tract of land in Township 33 S. Range 7 1/2 E. Willamete meridian, was declared by the President's order, dated April 6, 1869, as the Military Reservation of Fort Klamath, Oregon, announced in General Orders, No. 30, Headquarters Department of the Columbia, September 23, 1869, with limits as follows:

"Commencing at an initial point, 24 chains, 2 rods east of flagstaff; thence south 40 chains; thence west 120 chains; thence north 87 chains and 50 links; thence east 120 chains; thence south 47 chains. Total 415 chains and 50 links."

Hay Reservation: Adjoining post reservation on the north. "Starting at northwest corner of Post Reserve, thence west 17, north 229 chains and 50 links; thence east 131 chains; thence south to line of Post Reserve, 219 chains. Total 579 chains and 50 links."

The record of the post was uneventful until November 28, 1872, when Troop B, 1st Cavalry, under command of Captain James Jackson, was sent to Lost River to aid in the return of Captain Jack's band of Modocs to the Klamath Reservation. The result of this move, among others, was the commencement of the Modoc War of 1872-3.

The war is generally considered to have ended with the capture of Captain Jack, June 1, 1873 near Willow Creek, at a point
eight to ten miles east of Applegate's ranch on Clear Lake in extreme Northern California. The remainder of the renegade band was captured a few days later in or near Langell Valley in Oregon.

The following letter, in part (National Archives), was written from Tule Lake Peninsula, California, June 11, 1873 to Major John Green, Commanding Fort Klamath, from F. Wheaton, Lieut. Col. 21st Infantry: "The Modoc Prisoners will be tried by a Military Commission and the Department Commander has designated Fort Klamath as the proper point for their trial and detention for the present.

"Captain James Jackson's Squadron Troop "B" and "K" 1st Cavalry has been ordered from this camp to Fort Klamath to make necessary arrangements, build a stockade and erect temporary palisade shelters for the use of Modoc prisoners during their trial until their removal to their ultimate destination.

"This Stockade should be large enough to confine 44 Bucks, 49 Squaws and 62 children, total 155; it must be made by the troops of logs to be cut at the most convenient spot and hauled to the point selected by you for the prisoners' camp. Six teams are sent for the purpose, and if more are required to complete the work with the least delay they will be provided.

"A close log fence stockade nine feet above the ground, ends sunk in a trench 3 feet deep, would, it is believed, answer the purpose, a convenient shape would be a rectangular pen 100 feet long by about 50 feet wide, one third of the interior space divided from the main pen by a partition, in order to separate the Lost River, or Jack's particular portion of the band, from the smaller band of Hot Creek Indians.

"It is not probable that the Modoc Prisoners will move from this Camp until about the 15th inst. they will not reach Fort Klamath before the 18th of June.

"You will please select convenient camps near Klamath for the whole force now in the field which will move to that point at an early day. The foot Artillery and two Companies of the 12th Infantry should be encamped nearest the Prison Stockade as they will probably have charge of the Modoc Prisoners during the trial.

"The Stockade should be located near the Post, not more than three or four hundred yards from the Garrison...."

An excellent description of Fort Klamath at this time, is found in a report (National Archives) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1873. There are several other reports from 1864 to 1889, describing the fort in detail, but the 1873 report will be given here as it describes the post at the height of its usefulness. The report was issued August 26, 1873, between the time of the Modocs surrender and their trial. Addressed to the chief Quartermaster, Department of Columbia, it was signed Rbt. Pollock, Capt. 21st Infantry and follows:
"Report of Inspection of Public Buildings at Fort Klamath, Oregon, by Captain Robert Pollock, 21st Infantry, A.A.Q.M.

Fort Klamath occupies a site on the East margin of a prairie under a bluff-hill of volcanic nature, at the base of which is a winding stream of extremely clear pure water.

The Prairie extends South and East some two miles, broken only by three small streams which empty into Klamath Lake.

Latitude of the Post 42° 41' South, Longitude 44° 40' West, Altitude 4200 feet above the level of the sea. The Post was built in the year 1863, and was designed to be garrisoned by two companies. On the North and East there is a growth of pine timber, in the margin of which the Fort Hospital, and Officers quarters are situated.

The Post consists of the following Buildings.

Class 1. Barracks 120 x 30 ft., 10 feet from floor to ceiling, the building is divided into two equal parts. The style of building is that which is known as the Balloon structure with porch-roof extending 7 ft. front and rear. Twelve windows 5 ft. 8 in., x 3 ft. placed opposite each other. Two doors 4 x 7 ft. placed in a similar manner. Air space per man 500 cubic feet. Condition of building good.

Company Mess Rooms and Kitchen

Class 1. Dimensions 100 x 38 ft. divided into six parts as follows:

- Kitchen 19 ft. square, Stone room 20 x 15 ft. height of ceiling 10 ft. floor of building needs repair throughout.
- Quarters for the Laundries

Class 1. Two buildings dimensions as follows, 13 x 60 ft. each, and roof extending front and rear, back porch boarded in similar to main parts, making a room for each 20 x 13 ft. there is also one set of quarters built of logs 30 x 20 ft. divided into two rooms. Height of ceilings in the above mentioned rooms 10 ft.

Officer's Quarters, four sets

Class 2. Dimensions of buildings 40 x 34 ft. divided into four rooms with hall through center, from front to rear. Dimensions as follows:

- 15 ft. 6 in. x 15 ft 6 in. Hall 7 ft wide.
Height of ceiling 10 ft. 4 in. The entrance is by a 7 x 4 ft. door with side lights. Front windows French, four lights high, and two lights wide. Glass 12 x 18 in. The buildings are completely surrounded by a porch 7 ft. 6 in. in width. The buildings are of the balloon structure, and ceiled inside; 17 ft. of the rear porch is enclosed and used for kitchens.

**Hospital**

* * *

Class 3. The building is of the same dimensions as the quarters occupied by officers, divided into three rooms, one of which is used for an office, and one as a dispensary, with a hall 7 ft. wide extending through the center of the building. One ward 15 x 30 ft. capacity for 6 beds. Air space 750 cubic ft. per man. The rear of the building is enclosed and used for store-room, mess room and kitchen. 10 ft. of East porch is enclosed and used at present for a Bath Room.

Temporary Hospital Ward No. 2

Class 3. Dimensions 36 x 20 ft. capacity 7 beds. 6 patients and one nurse. Air space 1238 cubic ft. per man.

* * *

Quartermaster and Commissary Store House

Class 4. Dimensions 10 (?) x 30 ft. divided into equal parts. The East end of which is used for the Commissary stores. The West end for the Q. M. property. The building has a block room on the North East corner and another on the South West corner originally designed to protect the building against attack of hostile Indians, but at present used for storing paints, oils, etc. The whole structure is built of hewn pine timber 6 x 6 in. Building in good repair.

Cavalry and Quartermasters Stables

Class 4. The North stable now in use by "B" Troop 1st Cavalry. Dimensions 32 x 322 ft. stabling for one hundred and eight horses; with a wagon way 22 ft. wide through center, and 20 ft. high. Four rooms, two on each side of passage way; one of which is occupied by the Non-Com. officer in charge; one is used by the troop saddler, and two in use as saddle rooms. Dimensions of rooms 15 x 19 ft. each.

Stables in use for Public Animals

Class 4. Dimensions of Quartermaster stable 32 x 322 ft. with stalls for seventy four horses, or mules. A wagon way in center of building 22 ft. wide and 20 ft. in height, where the grain is delivered into Bins which are partitioned off on each side of run way,
There are three grain bins of the following dimensions. No. 1, 75 ft. x 9 ft. w. x 9 ft. high. No. 2, 75 ft. x 9 ft. w. x 9 ft. high. No. 3, 60 ft. x 7 ft. w. x 9 ft. high. Total capacity of Bins 437,472 lbs. There are two rooms partitioned off, now used as saddle rooms, (Pack and Riding) and one used for harness-room. Building in good condition. There is also an enclosure 100 x 32 ft. between the stables at present used for a wagon shed. This structure is old and much in need of repair. Hay shed dimensions 31 x 143 ft. used at present for Corral. There is also a log building 14 ft. square (logs 6 x 6 in.) situated opposite, and close to the entrance to the stable, and is occupied by the party in charge of the Q. M. stables.

**Class 4.** Stable No. 1, in rear of Officers Quarters has been placed in good repair, and is now used for storage of Commissary and Q. M. property. Dimensions 18 x 32 ft. Stable No. 2 in rear of Officers Quarters used for stabling horses for Comdg. Officer. Dimensions 18 x 32 ft.

### Adjutant's Office

**Class 5.** On a line with, and of same dimensions as Officers quarters, divided into three equal parts. All of the rooms are used for officers.

### Blacksmith and Wheelwright Shops

**Class 5.** Dimensions 20 x 40 ft. divided into equal parts, the North end used for wheelwright shop. The South end used for Q. M. Blacksmith shop with two forges. Blacksmith shop No. 2, built and used by "B" Troop 1st Cavalry. Dimensions 31 x 22 ft. log walls and shingle roof.

### Charcoal House

**Class 5.** Dimensions 13 x 32 ft. 8 ft. high.

### Post House for use of Companies

**Class 5.** Dimensions (No. 1, in use by "B" Troop 1st Cavalry) 18 x 25 ft. (No. 2, in use by "F"

Co. 21st Infantry) 27 x 24 ft.

### Wash House for use of Companies

**Class 5.** Dimensions (No. 1, in use by "B" Troop 1st Cavalry) 10 x 12 ft. (No. 2, in use by "F"

Co. 21st Infantry) 10 x 13 ft. 6 in.

The latter is well fitted up with sink for washing in, and one portion of it is partitioned off, and fitted up with a good sized bath tub, with all the conveniences for bathing.

### Guard House

**Class 5.** Dimensions 32 x 32 ft. 10 ft. in height. Divided into four parts. Guard Room 18 x 31 ft. Large cell for general prisoners, 12 x 15 ft. Three cells (for prisoners in close confinement) two of which are 5 x 12 ft. in clear, and one 8 x 12 ft. in the clear. Ventilation of the small cells very limited. The porch roof extends over the front 7 ft. 5 in. This building is constructed of logs, hewn 6 in. square, and in good repair.

### Post Bakery

**Class 5.** Built of logs, old and decayed. Should be replaced by a new Bake House.

### Magazine

**Class 5.** The Magazine is 16 ft. 3 in. square, 10 ft. high, built of hewn logs 6 in. square. The space available for storing inside, 12 ft. square.

Buildings constructed during the year ending June 30, 1873. Two (2) Root Houses. Two (2) Wash Houses. One (1) Bath Room at Hospital. One (1) Log house for stable keeper. One (1) Blacksmith shop for Cavalry Company. One (1) Porch in front of Guard House. There was also erected in center of Parade Ground a Flag-staff 125 ft. high.

### Remarks

There are but two wagon roads leading from this Post. One of which runs in a South-westerly direction, crossing the mountains 20 miles from the Post, and leads into and through Rogue River Valley to Jacksonville, Jackson County, Oregon. Distance from Post 95 miles. This road is open only during the months of July, August, September and October, and is completely blocked by snow during the remainder of the year. The other road leads in a South-easterly direction along the banks of Klamath Lake, to Linkville, Oregon, thence across the mountains, and down Bear River Valley in the direction of Jacksonville, Oregon. Distance 120 miles.
This road is open all the year.

The nearest Post Office is Linkville, Jackson County, Oregon, from which the mail for the Post is brought once a week by Military Express.

Next, on September 30, 1873 the following letter in part, (National Archives), was sent from Fort Klamath to Head Qrs. Dept. Col., Portland, Oregon, by F. Wheaton, Lieut. Col. 21st Inf.: 

"...Daily drills have been maintained as usual during the month and an immense amount of Police duty performed by the troops. Twelve hundred and fifty wagon and cart loads of refuse have been removed from the immediate vicinity of the post since the twentieth of June...."

After the Modoc War, long years of uneventful routine duty passed. Then on June 6, 1881 the Secretary of War reduced the military reservations to 640 acres in all.

Next, on May 4, 1886, by Presidential proclamation, the entire reservation was ordered relinquished, and the government was on the point of abandoning the post.

However, on September 28, 1886 the citizens of the Klamath country presented a petition, evidently containing the proper kind and number of Whereases, because the order of abandonment was not issued at that time.

But, the post's days were numbered. On August 9, 1889, Company K, 14th Infantry, then occupying Fort Klamath, abandoned it, leaving a caretaking detachment under Lt. William W. McCammon, which in turn left the post on June 23, 1890. John F. Loosley was then appointed caretaker.

So passed into oblivion the post, described by the History of Central Oregon, page 934, as follows:

"Fort Klamath was the most beautiful frontier post that it was ever permitted a soldier to occupy. Historic interest, exquisite scenery and streams of crystal purity cast a charm over Fort Klamath which haunts a visitor to its solitude for many days after his departure. Though the soldier has left it in solitude, the eye quickens none the less at its charm. Abandoned, the buildings of Fort Klamath soon fell into ruin. Today (1905) a few of the old buildings still remain, uncared for and unoccupied, save by an occasional company of Indians from the reservation. About a mile from the buildings of the old Fort Klamath stands the new Fort Klamath, a little village located in one of the most beautiful spots of Klamath county."
Fort Klamath Cemetery and the Modoc Graves

by Devere Helfrich

Exactly when the cemetery at Fort Klamath was established has not been determined. However, the date of November, 1865 may closely approximate it.

A report to the Post Commander, dated Fort Klamath, October 9, 1872 states as follows: "...as is conclusively shown by the fact, during the nine or ten years this post has been garrisoned, formerly by one, and since May, 1871 by two companies, only one case of death from disease has occurred here, and there is no record to show, whether the disease (enteritis) of which this patient died (in November, 1865) was contracted here or elsewhere, and if contracted here, whether it may not have been due to defective sanitary regulations of the camp, and consequently easily preventable.... Henry McElderry, Asst. Surgeon U.S. Army"

The next bit of information, pertaining to the cemetery, is a letter addressed to "The Department of Columbia", dated Fort Klamath, August 25, 1873 and in part reads:

"...Donald McKay district Scout and Interpreter and Chief Packer at Fort Klamath has been ordered to accompany Capt. Hasbrouck, 4 Aty. to the Lava beds to recover Lieut. Cranston's body and to inter the remains of soldiers left unburied south of Tule Lake. Upon return from this service Donald will be discharged.

F. Wheaton, Lieut. Col. 21 Infantry, Commanding Post." Again, a report to "Head Qrs. Dept. Columbia, dated Fort Klamath, Sept. 30, 1873" states: "...The scaffold erected for the execution of Capt. Jack and the five other condemned Modocs is completed. As I propose to execute them at the same time the structure is necessarily large and very strong, built of dressed pine logs one foot in diameter, scaffold thirty feet long.

"Six graves for the burial of the condemned are dug near and in front of the guard house, just outside the parade ground fence. Although Lieut. Ennis brings me the President's order reprieving Barncho and Sloluck, I am making requisite arrangements for the execution of the six Indians, having been instructed to give no publicity to the reprieving order until the day of the execution, or to the ultimate destination of the band of Modoc prisoners.

8.
"...On the first of Sept. Capt. H. C. Hasbrouck returned from detached service at the Lava Beds, where he had been sent to recover Lieut. Cranston's body and to repair the fence around the Military Cemetery at that point.

"Lieut. Cranston's remains were recovered and are now at this post as directed by the Commanding General. I will see that they are removed to Presidio, San Francisco, Cal. the Head Qrs. of the 4th Artillery, whenever Light Battery B of that regiment, Hasbrouck's, returns to that post, its station.

F. Wheaton, Lieut. Col. 21st Inft., Commanding Post."

We now come to a letter from the Smithsonian Institution, dated Washington, D.C., January 26, 1949 and addressed to Kenneth McLeod, Jr.:

"Your inquiry of January 9 concerning the final resting place of the bodies of four Indian leaders executed at Fort Klamath in 1873 has been referred to Dr. M. T. Newman of our Division of Physical Anthropology. Dr. Newman states that, although there is no mention of the disposition of the bodies in the biographies published in 'Handbook of American Indians' (Bulletin 30, Bureau of American Ethnology, 1907: Captain Jack - vol. 1, p. 696-698; Schonchin Jack - vol. 2, p. 488-489), it is probable that the skulls of these four Indians are now in the National Museum. An old catalog of the specimens in the Army Medical Museum lists seven Modoc cranias; four of these were received from Assistant Surgeon H. McElderry, U. S. A., Fort Klamath, Oregon, in 1873. The names of the Indians are not mentioned in the records, so that the skulls cannot be identified beyond all doubt, but the circumstantial evidence points to their being the skulls of Captain Jack, Schonchin Jack, Black Jim and Boston Charlie.

"The catalog of the Army Medical Museum does not mention the skeletons of any Indians from this area, so that it is unlikely that they were preserved. In all probability the bodies were buried, possibly at the fort, after the execution, and only the skulls sent to the Army Medical Museum.

F. M. Setzler, Head Curator, Dept. of Anthropology."

A recent book, "Fort Klamath," by Buena Cobb Stone, page 55, states: "In 1875 the bones of those who were killed in the Modoc War were brought to the post cemetery, from their temporary burial at Tule Lake. The cemetery at the post was well fenced and the graves marked." The authority for the above statement is unknown to this Editor.

Next, on July 31, 1899, an anonymous report filed in the National Archives states:

"...The cemetery is located 400 yards west of the post and 35 x 45 yards in extent. It is well fenced and the graves are properly numbered and marked legibly. There are interred therein, the remains of 59 persons in all; of these one officer, fifteen soldiers, and one civil employee were killed by the Modoc Indians in 1873. A record of interments is kept in the prescribed form...."

There is a map in the files of the Klamath County Museum, date and source unknown, which shows a road running north and south, on the east side of the post hospital, designated "To Military Cemetery." Did it lead by some round-about way to the cemetery as we know it, or did it lead to some now unknown location?

Finally, the Klamath Republican of September 14, 1899 printed the following article: "It was only yesterday that I visited the last resting place of Captain Jack, Scocious, Black Jim and Boston Charley, once brave redskins which is marked by the four little mounds of ashen earth covered with a carpet of green sod. The headboards, which once told of the conteste of these once contestants, lay strewn about the place in chaotic disorder. How delapidated old Fort Klamath looks! Where once stood the well kept barracks and quarters of the heroes of '72-3 now lay ruins of these splendid buildings which have been torn down and turned over to the native redskins to plunder and take away at their pleasure, while the stately pines of this sightly place have kept faithful vigil of this sad state of affairs through these long descending years as the solemn winds moan a sad requiem for the repose of the heroes' souls.

Polly."
The oldest resident of the Fort Klamath area, and probably the oldest native born resident of the Klamath country, now lives on land once occupied by a portion of old Fort Klamath. This remarkable lady, who resides near her daughter on Fort Creek, still lives alone at almost 100 years of age.

Mrs. C. A. Lenz (Anna Corbell) was born November 20, 1868, the daughter of John Milton Corbell, and his wife, Mary Sampson. She was born near Linkville, Oregon, at approximately the site once occupied by the Lakeshore Inn, on Lakeshore Drive, which traverses the southern shore line of Upper Klamath Lake. The father was born in 1844, in Iowa, and came west in the early 1860's. The mother was a native of Oregon City, Oregon.

At one time a soldier in the United States Army at Fort Klamath, Corbell was located there until the fort was abandoned. He pursued the occupation of making charcoal for fuel while there. In an article about Mrs. Lenz, published in an August, 1960 issue of the Herald and News, Willeska Loosley writes: "The charcoal was made by piling green pine logs, one on another, and covering them with green boughs, then slowly cooking the wood until it was charred throughout. This produced an excellent fuel, far superior to plain wood." One of his pits was located on top of the hill east of old Fort Klamath, at the top of the old grade built by the soldiers. Later, he also burned charcoal for use in Linkville. After the fort was abandoned, Corbell purchased a ranch at Olene, and later moved to Sprague River where he lived until his death in 1920. The mother died in 1908.

Anna Corbell went to school in Linkville's original one room school house. As a small girl, she played around the old fort.
grounds with Dan Ryan whose mother ran the laundry there. At that time she became quite familiar with the locations of the old fort buildings, businesses, roads, and grounds in general. She tells that the old grade up the hill to the east of the fort was built by the soldiers at a very early date, probably in pre-Modoc War days. This road is older than anything that ever led over Sun Mountain and eliminated the round-about detour via Klamath Agency for anyone traveling to the northward from the Fort.

On September 4, 1886 Anna Corbell was married to Charles August Lenz in Linkville (Klamath Falls). Charles Lenz was born in Hanover, Germany in 1857 and passed away in Portland on December 1, 1939. Lenz migrated to California, where for six years he followed mining and staging before coming to the Klamath country in 1884. Upon arriving at Linkville, he took charge of some race horses, continuing in this position until after his marriage when he undertook the establishment of a stock ranch. After farming a short time near Linkville, the Lenzes moved to Klamath Marsh at the Big Spring in 1888.

Regarding this move, the History of Klamath County states: "Beginning with the 160 acres belonging to Mrs. Lenz, they gradually added land until they acquired the present (1941) ranch of 1,700 acres and fine herds of cattle. They divided their time between the ranch and their home in Klamath Falls. In 1920 they retired from business, renting most of the ranch, but have continued to spend their summers there."

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Lenz, namely: Mrs. Amy Royse, born November 22, 1887, at Klamath Falls, where she now (1968) resides; Charles Lenz, Jr., born on the Lenz Ranch at Klamath Marsh, January 16, 1895 and now deceased; and Mrs. Mildred Garrett also born on the Lenz Ranch, August 5, 1898, and now residing on Fort Creek on land formerly the site of a portion of old Fort Klamath.

Willeska Loosley's article further describes living at the Lenz ranch, last out-post north in Klamath County: "Mrs. Lenz stated that they went to Eugene over the old emigrant road (past Crescent and Summit Lakes and down the Middle Fork of the Willamette River... Editor) for supplies in the early days of their residence in this remote area. It was necessary to repair sections of this road before they could travel it with team and wagon.

"She stated that the winters were awful in those days, with snow to the eaves of their house, and that she was often terribly lonely, coming to dread winter. During the hard winter of 1889-90, they, as well as many others, lost practically all their cattle. However, they were able to recoup their finances and continue in the cattle business, their cattle pasturing as far away as Diamond Lake, where the grass was luxuriant.

"She said that where there is now timber around the lake there were open fields at that time. They put up hundreds of tons of hay to feed their cattle through the long winters. Their beef had to be driven to Gazelle, California for shipment by rail to market in San Francisco. It was not unusual for the Lenz family to drive to Gazelle and take the train for a visit to the outside world.

"Mrs. Lenz mentioned that there were few deer in the Klamath Marsh region near her home, but there were thousands of antelope. In time the antelope disappeared and the mule deer took their place. Countless waterfowl frequented the marshlands. Anytime she felt so inclined she could go out with a shotgun and bring in a mess of geese or ducks.

"When the Southern Pacific decided to build the railroad from Chiloquin to Eugene, Mr. Lenz accompanied the surveyors, showing them the route they eventually followed. This route closely follows the old emigrant road.

"The Lenzes had kept their home in Klamath Falls and when their younger children were old enough to attend school they moved to town. Their older daughter had been boarded in town for some years. Later, Mildred, the younger daughter, was sent to Los Angeles to study music, becoming an accomplished pianist."
Perhaps the reader does not realize what an outpost in Klamath County the Lenz ranch really was. Consider that at the time of settlement on the Big Spring ranch, the Lenz home was the last and only stopping place north of Fort Klamath and Klamath Agency in Klamath County. Far to the north, in what is present day Deschutes County lay three other widely separated places, the Cort Allen and Vandeveer ranches north of Lapine, and the Farewell Bend ranch (part of present day Bend, Oregon). Forty miles more to the northeast must be traveled across dry, desert country, before Prineville, county seat of Crook County and the first settled community, could be reached by the few overland travelers.

It was not until somewhere around the 1900 period that Charles Graves settled on a place on the Little Deschutes River, that later became the site of present day Crescent, Oregon.

Later still, about 1908, John Knott took up a homestead at Beaver Marsh on land previously filed on, first by a man named Emery and later by Winter Knight. Neither of these men complied with government homestead law requirements, thus throwing the tract open to a homestead filing by Knott.

Another place to be settled in the same general area, was the Welch ranch, approximately five miles northwest of present day Diamond Lake Junction, on the old Rogue River Valley-John Day mines road. The actual date for the settlement of the Welch ranch is rather clouded at this time. Mrs. Lenz thinks the date was around 1900 or shortly thereafter, while Chuck Zumbrun says the date was 1911. This place lasted but a few years.

Thus, in an area larger than some eastern states, Mrs. C. A. Lenz and her family, were true pioneers with about three other widely scattered settler families.
A Pioneer Family...

The year was 1871 when John Loosley, his wife Lucy and their eight children found themselves encamped on the west side of Link River, across the stream from the tiny village of Linkville. They had just arrived from the Willamette Valley, coming by covered wagon over the crudest of mountain roads. All were weary from the arduous trip; the older children, Nancy, Mary, Fred and Rosalie had walked much of the way, especially up hill and mountain. Phil and Bird, too small to walk, had ridden in the wagon. Lucy had ridden with her husband, seated on the high wagon seat, and holding her youngest, Marion, in her arms.

They were headed for the Klamath Agency, where John, who had learned the miller’s trade in England, was to operate the grist mill for the United States government. Lucy had arrived in Oregon in 1847, making the long trek from Iowa by covered wagon, and settling with her parents near Independence. John had come several years later, in the early 1850’s, and had operated several grist mills in various parts of the Willamette Valley. Both had been plagued by illness; Lucy by asthma and John by a debilitating illness, probably some sort of rheumatic condition brought on by hard work and exposure. Anyway, both were more than glad to leave the damp climate and seek a higher, dryer one.

John had brought along a quantity of wheat, a commodity of which he had an abundance, having raised a bumper crop, only to find that “the bottom had dropped out of the market” because of a depression at that time. This wheat which he brought along he used to defray his expenses to the Klamath Country, and now he dikercd with the owner of the ferry, using wheat to pay the cost of ferrying across the stream.

In two more days he had reached Klamath Agency, his destination. The site of the agency had been chosen because of the facilities for water power furnished by a fine spring which flowed from the mountainside over a reef which, through the years, had developed a fall twelve feet high. It was said that the Indian name for this spring was “Cola-chuck”, listening to the sounds of the water, gurgling out of the hillside, imagined they heard voices of little people underground.

The waterfall furnished adequate power for running both a grist mill and a sawmill, the product of the latter being used first in building the agency and later for homes of the Indians on the reservation.

John and Lucy were delighted with the beautiful country... green meadows, broad expanses of timber, crystal-clear streams, and to the west, the high Cascades, crowned with snow more than half the year; Mt. Pitt (later McLaughlin), rising high above the surrounding mountains, seldom void of snow.

John Loosley was “taken” with the level grassland in the Wood River Valley, and in 1872 he filed on a homestead along the banks of the crystal-clear stream, across from the fort. The Klamath reservation was on the same side as the fort. John built a large house of boards, the first board house in the valley, excluding those at the fort. It was of box construction: wide rough boards running up and down, with battens over the cracks between. The front part was two storey; a big living room and two bedrooms downstairs and the up-stairs all in one room: the boys’ room. There was a one-storey addition on the back for kitchen and dining room. The whole house was cold and drafty. The only method of heating the big front part was a large fireplace. It was often said, “One side of you roasts while the other side freezes.” On cold winter nights the counterpanes on the beds were covered with a thin sheet of ice from the freezing of the occupants’ breaths. Notwithstanding, the family of Lucy and John was a strong and healthy lot, who seemed to thrive on the rigors of the severe winters and short summers. John’s health was much improved and
THE LOOSLEY FAMILY TAKEN ON THE PORCH OF THE HOSPITAL AT OLD FORT Klamath IN 1893

Back row: Marion and George Loosley, Lou Brannan, Bird and Phil Loosley, John Loosley (father and grandfather), Fred Loosley, John Smart, and George Nutley. Second row: Emma and Ed Loosley, Nancy (Phil's wife), holding Horace (?), Mary (Fred's wife) holding Claude, EdEtt (Marion's wife, Mary Brannan Smart, Grandma (Lucy) Loosley, Stella Brannan, Fanny Loosley (later Bunch), and Rosa Nutley. Front row: Clara and Ray Loosley, Etta Smart, Earl Loosley, Alice Nutley, Forrester Loosley, Ben Nutley (Frank Loosley in front), Kay and Ada Loosley, Ester Nutley and Nutley. —courtesy Willeska Loosley
Lucy never again suffered from asthma.

Soon after the Loosleys were settled in their new home, the Modoc War broke out. As the theater of this conflict was some 75 miles away, across the California line, it should not have had much of an impact on the family, and probably would not have had, if 10-year old John Frederick had not been asked to carry messages from Fort Klamath to the leaders of the attack against the Modocs in the lava beds of Northern California. Fred told in later years of how frightened he became when darkness came on, especially when a herd of cattle, south of the present Klamath Falls, became alarmed and stampeded. He was sure he was being attacked by a band of savages. However, he continued on and completed his mission. It is presumed that he was selected for this dangerous assignment because it was figured that no one would suspect anyone of such tender years of being entrusted with such a dangerous commission.

Always a gregarious youngster, good-natured and large for his age, Fred liked to hang around the fort, watching the soldiers train, and chatting with them whenever opportunity afforded. Naturally he became quite a favorite.

Klamath County, long known as a hunters' paradise, in that early day beggared description. The undrained swamps were used as feeding and nesting grounds for countless thousands of migrating waterfowl. They darkened the sky when in flight. In addition there were the large "honkers" or native geese.

Mule deer were everywhere, and bears were too numerous for comfort. The streams literally teemed with fish. All one had to do was throw in a baited hook and "pull 'em out." Young Fred became an avid hunter and fisherman at a tender age, and was soon helping to stock the larder at the fort. This endeared him to the soldiers even more.

There were times when Lucy awakened in the still moonlight of a winter's night to the shrill, wild, eerie howl of coyotes coming across the snow-covered fields, causing shivers to run up and down her spine and a desire to huddle more closely in her warm bed covers. But if there should come a knocking on the door, and a call for help to aid someone on a sick-bed, she was out and into her clothes in almost less time than it took to tell it, even though her fingers were numb from the cold by the time she was ready to go. She had become a practical nurse before her marriage to John, after the untimely death of her first husband, and her speciality, as in the case of most practical nurses of that day, was that of midwife. And quite often the nightly call for assistance was to act in that capacity. Many young pioneers of that era were delivered by her left hands. By this time there were many settlers in the valley (far more than at the present time) as there was a family on every 160 acres or so, and most families were large, so Lucy's services were in demand.

The years rushed on more rapidly as John and Lucy grew older. Three more children had been born since they moved to the Klamath country, two sons and a daughter. One, Milan, born early in 1873, was possibly the first white child to be born in what later became Klamath County.* This son seemed to have been born with a spark of genius. When quite young he taught himself the Morse code in telegraphy, even stringing up a wire between his parents' home and that of a married brother. For a time he edited a newspaper in Klamath Falls (the Republican, I believe,) then he enlisted in the signal corps of the United States army, in which he served almost continuously in various parts of the world until his retirement. He died at the age of 83, at Berkeley, California, and is buried at the Presidio.

John engaged in the raising of cattle, being the first to keep cattle in the valley the year 'round, by harvesting hay from the wild grasses. As the snows came early and often lay on the ground until late in the spring, it had been considered inadvisable, if not impossible, to feed cattle such a long time.

He did very well and the herd increased until the winter of 1889-90. Snow fell in October, covering all the grass. A Mr. Colohan, whose home ranch was in Yonna Valley, some fifty miles away, had been pasturing cattle in the Wood River Valley,
planning to take them to the home ranch for winter feeding. John Loosley, figuring the snow would soon go off, told Mr. Colohan that he could let him have hay to tide him over, saying, "It never stays on when it comes this early."

But it did stay on, and more continued to pile up. Mr. Colohan was unable to move his cattle out, and long before spring John's hay was gone, and so were the cattle. All starved to death. It is problematical whether John's hay would have sustained his cattle alone through such a prolonged winter. It has been stated that teams could be driven over the tops of the rail fences all over the valley for months that winter. At any rate, his hay was far too little for the added burden of Mr. Colohan's cattle. It was a heart-breaking experience for both cattlemen. Besides losing his cattle, Mr. Colohan had the added burden of feeling that if John had not fed his cattle, out of the goodness of his heart, he just might have been able to get his own cattle through. Neither man was ever able to recoup his fortunes in this business, though John later had a small dairy herd.

By 1890, with so many families in the valley, there came a great need for a cash crop that would come in regularly throughout the year. The Loosley family—John and one or two of his older sons, decided that the time was ripe to start a creamery. If John could run a grist mill he should be able to operate a creamery. It was built on the bank of Wood River, on the north end of his property, and was the first creamery to be built in Klamath County. There wasn't a real milk cow in the valley, by present standards, but there were cows, and a few quarts of milk could be extracted from each one, if a person was persevering enough. The milk was hauled to the creamery in the farm wagon, where it was separated. The cream was bought for butter and the skim milk was taken home and fed to calves and pigs.

The creamery became a gathering place for the community. As there was little social life in the valley, it afforded an excellent opportunity for the men to discuss politics and their "cow troubles." The women swapped recipes and told how they had cured Mary's or Johnny's sore throat with bacon grease and kerosene.

Because of transportation problems the venture was doomed to failure. It was impossible to get butter out in any condition, especially in hot weather, and that was the time the cows produced the most milk. Who wanted to try to milk cows in subzero weather? The milk would have frozen solid long before it reached the creamery. The butter must be shipped on freight wagons, along with a conglomeration of other freight, some of which imparted to the butter a flavor of its own. Then, too, milking cows, at the best, was "slavish" work compared to raising them for beef. Cattle could be driven to market. So this first creamery went the way of many embryonic ventures the world over.

Some years before the creamery venture, John's and Lucy's two oldest sons, George and Fred, had built a flat-bottomed stern-wheel steamboat, which they named "City of Klamath" with which they hoped to navigate Wood River, expecting a congressional appropriation for the improvement of the stream.

"If we can just get congress to appropriate that money we'll be able to come right up to the bridge, and be able to get freight in here cheaper and in much better condition than it can be hauled in wagons over these rough, dusty roads," they affirmed.

But congress did not appropriate the money, so they gave up the navigation of Wood River. The boat was used some through the years for excursions on upper Klamath Lake, while the brothers turned to carpentry work. George built the Linkville Hotel, near Link River, which he operated for a time before returning to the Wood River Valley, where he and Fred both engaged in ranching for many years.

In 1897, John, George and Fred Loosley dug an irrigation ditch from farther up Wood River to irrigate their lands. Once the ditches were dug there was little or no expense to maintaining them. They had one of the cheapest irrigation systems to be found anywhere. Crops increased a hundred-fold.
John's health was now failing rapidly. Hard work had taken its toll of his magnificent physique, and there was little or no surgery in those days. He died in November 1900.

Lucy lived on until 1912, doing what she could for others as long as she was able. When no longer able to work she spent much time sitting in her front door, when the weather permitted, gazing at the western mountains. It was as if she were thinking, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help."

Both Lucy and John lie buried in the old Fort Klamath cemetery, where sleep four generations of their family. The old homestead is still in the family (1965), though the old box house has long since been replaced by a modern log house, built from logs cut off the place. Great, great grandchildren romp over the green fields they loved so dearly.

* Ernest Union Lee, the first white boy, was born, December 25, 1868 at Klamath Agency, (History of Klamath County, page 186.) Vinnie Kafader Shadler, the first white girl, was born March 2, 1872 at Klamath Agency, (Herald & News, 1966 Progress Edition, 3D page 3.) —Editor

Memories of Early Wood River Valley . . .

by Fred G. Brown, As Told to His Wife, Cecil Muriel Brown
November 4, 1959

To The Klamath County Historical Society:

In considering history we might divide the subject into several periods such as ancient, medieval, modern, and current. The question might be asked, "Just who is a pioneer?" I believe the Old-timers' Organization of Fort Klamath requires 25 years' residence for membership.

Mrs. Brown was born in Oregon and has lived in Klamath County since our marriage in 1915, over 44 years ago, while my parents moved to this county in 1892 when I was a young child, and settled at what was later known as Crystal, 14 miles southwest of Fort Klamath. Does this qualify us as pioneers, or rather should we reserve that term for those hardy individuals who preceeded us by 10 to 30 years?
Be that as it may, we have gone back in memory and jotted down some names, incidents, and anecdotes. There has been no time for research, so these notes are largely from our own observations and recollections. As memory is faulty at its best, mistakes may have crept in. There are many names omitted, but to include all in a short paper would be quite impossible. We have not wished to slight anyone.

The village of Fort Klamath was a natural outcome of the establishment of the military fort and many of the early settlers had been in some way connected with the needs of this Governmental agency located near Fort Creek. The Indian Reservation had been established for some years when my father, Daniel Gilbert Brown, came to Crystal in August, 1892. The west boundary of the Reservation was then, as now, Wood River. There was no hard and fast rule that Indians must stay on their side of the dividing line and the whites on theirs. However, neither class could own property outside its own boundary.

During my childhood a further regulation was that Indians must have permission to leave the Reservation when they wished to make their yearly pilgrimages to our blueberry swamps, wocus pads on Crystal Creek, or to hunt for and gather duck eggs which might be in any stage of incubation.

With the Homestead Act of 1862 passed by the Congress, men turned their eyes upon beautiful Wood River Valley with a desire for ownership of land. It was not difficult to secure such under one or more of the Federal rulings. There might be regular Homestead filing, or a timber culture filing. A later ruling granted, under certain conditions, what is known as a desert land claim.

Under a timber culture filing a 10 acre planting of seedling trees, where none then grew, was required before the applicant could qualify for a patent. The trees were mostly, if not all, of the lodge pole pine variety and, planted in straight rows evenly spaced, they presented a pleasing sight on land heretofore treeless. One such grove grew on the William Nicholson farm west of Fort Klamath. Mr. Nicholson who moved to Fort Klamath in 1896 or 1898, did not plant these trees. Perhaps he had received his patent and then sold his property. In any event, William Nicholson bought this tract and his sons, Theodore, Stewart, and Lloyd have added many more acres to the original amount.

Another tree planting was on the Richard Melhase claim south of Fort Klamath, property now owned by Loren Miller. Still another grew on land across the road from the Melhase grove, property now owned by Ira Orem. The latter planting has been gone for some years, but the other two partially remain. The trees never attained good size but have been appreciated as a source of firewood.

Within a period of years after the fort was established in 1863, Wood River valley was dotted by homes in which families of sturdy children grew to maturity. These were able to attend school in any one of three schoolhouses built to accommodate the pupils. Since roads were not improved and transportation was by horseback, horse drawn vehicle, skis or snowshoes, it is apparent that several schools were a necessity. All were filled to capacity. Klamath Agency had its own school as did Crystal, 14 miles to the southwest.

During those early days two types of recreation consisted of (1) the dance (with the music rather often provided by a solitary fiddle), and (2) the shooting match. The object of the latter twofold. The marksmen could benefit by sharp competition and in so doing possibly win an award. When Thanksgiving, Christmas, or some special event drew near, a committee would announce a shooting match. Meats, poultry, or what-have-you would be offered as awards.

One method of scoring was called the chain score and was done by measuring from the center of the bull's eye to the nearest bullet hole, then on to the next bullet hole. The judge of scores continued on with his measurement until he had a total of the contestant's five shots. The "chain" might be, say, 5 inches, 7, 12, or any other length. The item to be sold, perhaps a cow, might be priced at $25.00 by her owner who sold chances at $1.00 each. Twenty-five contestants would then try their skill with the rifle.
The marksman who held the shortest chain score would be declared the winner.

On one occasion my brother Sherman, who dearly loved to shoot, won a cow and calf, then one quarter of a beef. In a spirit of fun he put up his rifle at a value of $15.00. He reserved one chance for himself but pocketed $14.00. When all chances were in he had won back his rifle. There were loud cries of “That’s not fair,” and he was close to being barred from any future match. Excitement always ran high and everyone had fun but the contestants were in there to win.

At Fourth of July time the Indians gathered on the east bank of Wood River for a week’s celebration and the whites would gather on the west bank. A foot bridge spanned the stream at the McCoy farm south of Fort Klamath. The people mingled freely, listened to a short patriotic program, then competed in horse racing and ball games. The Indians had a favorite gambling game in which they thumped sticks together and chanted, to me, unintelligible words. It sounded something like, “Heen ya ay! heen ya ay! heen yaw!” I could never understand what their stakes might be. But they continued their gambling, I have understood, until some persons lost all they owned.

The whole community enjoyed a Christmas program and a spell-down match was sure to be hailed with enthusiasm.

The character of soil in Wood River Valley is of pumice derivation and native grasses were there waiting for the first cattle. The earliest settlers had their herds, usually of the Durham breed, and each animal carried his horns as proper equipment. Grass was thick but low. Even in 1904 when three of us Brown boys, Carleton, Sherman, and I, put up hay for ranchers, Los Gardner and his father, S. B. Gardner, Mr. Kirkpatrick, and Mr. Crance, on an area covering several thousand acres, the yield did not exceed one ton per acre. The pitchfork used was the barley straw fork.

With the growth of community and county population, a market for dairy products developed. Dairy breeds began to predominate on a number of farms. These required the best of hay and, with the development of irrigation systems in Wood River Valley, tame grasses and legumes were planted. All cattle were wintered at home and haying was an accepted summer occupation.

John Loosley was the first man to start a creamery, the first incorporated business in Klamath County. His dream had been to ship butter to San Francisco but with transportation what it was in those days, the plan was doomed to failure. He had engaged a competent butter and cheese maker and with butter-making a loss, the creamery was converted into a cheese factory, and the whole family helped to make the venture a glowing success. Later on, an association was formed and a concrete creamery building was erected in Fort Klamath. At this later date butter was successfully made and shipped. Other dairymen were William Nicholson and Sons, and Henry Gordon.

The planting of timothy and alsike clover for the improvement of forage and, incidentally, soil, had an unexpectedly good result. One season John Cox who farmed in the western part of the valley threshed a heavy yield of timothy seed from 320 acres. This harvest of seed was followed by the threshing of clover seed, a crop which grew luxuriantly. For several years high yields of seed were realized and the future looked bright. Then disaster struck in the form of army worms which covered foliage and stems with a myriad array of shapes and colors.

No one knew from whence the worms came. No one had observed any marked flight of butterflies. Dusting from the air and poisoned bait did not save the plants and thereby the seed. The following year there was a less number of worms but the dusting had poisoned an untold number of bees and pollination suffered. Troubles were not over. An infestation of field mice the third year cut off stems and roots. Frost had always been a menace, at blossom time. Farmers gave up the clover seed business as a poor risk.

In addition to irrigation rights having been established on Wood River, Annie Creek, and Seven Mile, which assured an
abundance of water for farmers in the Valley, the deep artesian well became a boon to every man who had the money to hire a well drilled. This water was used for domestic purposes, of course, and not for irrigation.

Brucellosis, commonly called Bang's Disease, the scourge of Dairy cows, wrought havoc among the herds of the valley and the popular beef breed, the Hereford, brought a change in farm economics. But wherever cattle have grazed there has lurked the menace of thievery. Thus this evil harassed the cattlemen of Wood River Valley. Ranchers were too busy to provide and maintain constant patrol so charged the loss of a few head off to the hazards of the industry. Prices were low and a few animals did not total a great deal even though, in those days a dollar was a Dollar!

During the summer of 1904 when my brothers and I were haying for valley ranchers we had the usual number of transient help around camp. One whom we hired was named Walter Lerwell. He had been accompanied by a man named Stevens but brother Carleton did not like the attitude of this man and would not hire him. We then were working for Los Gardner over near Seven Mile and often saw his young brother-in-law, Walter Simpson, who named Sam's Valley as his real home but who spent a lot of time around Fort Klamath. Simpson was of an easy-going disposition, never adverse to "chumming around with the boys," especially if drinks were in evidence. He and the strangers from over the mountain became "buddies."

(We will here interrupt Mr. Brown's "Memories," to insert newspaper reports of the cattle rustling in Wood River Valley. . . . Editor.)

"Klamath Republican. September 1, 1904:

"Cattle Thieves. Wood River valley stockmen have been missing cattle for several years but all efforts have been unavailable to locate the marauders until last week. The stockmen decided to place a strict watch upon the cattle so as to be ready if any attempt was made to drive them off. Last Monday they became suspicious of a party of men from the Umpqua, who had been working in the hay fields and were leaving on the pretext of going home. They at once telephoned Sheriff Obenchain, who went to the Fort during the night in company with Sam Walker. The cattle were started the following night and a posse of 18 men was organized and divided into two groups. The Sheriff's party contained six men and Deputy Geo. Denton, Jim Wheeler and Jack Pelton were with the second party. They started in pursuit and overtook the rustlers before they had gone over 15 miles. Evidently thinking they were safe they had stopped for a rest in a secluded place in Cherry Creek canyon, but were surprised by the sheriff and handcuffed and brought back to the Fort. All were armed. They had started with 75 head of cattle, but owing to their haste and the roughness of the country only had 25 head left when caught. 18 of these belonged to Melhase Bros. and 7 to George Loosley.

"They waived examination before Justice of the Peace James Emery of Fort Klamath and were placed under $5,000 bonds. The men gave their names as J. O. Stevens, Walter Lerwell and Walter Simpson. The latter furnished bail and the other two were brought to Klamath Falls and placed in the county jail to await trial at the November term of court."

(The Klamath Republican of November 17, 1904, reported the trial, which in part follows . . . Editor.)

"State of Oregon vs. Stevens and Lerwell.

"All of Tuesday and part of Wednesday were consumed in selecting a jury in the above case, a special venire being necessary. The following well known men, who were selected, will try the case: R. E. Cantrall, C. T. Oliver, Chas. Low, C. T. Wilson, W. L. Welch, John Dixon, L. F. Willits, W. H. Casebeer, M. F. Orr, P. Collahan, W. F. Elliott, and H. Fred Schallock. District Attorney Moore is assisted by Judge Thos. Drake for the State and the defendants are represented by Mills & Leavitt.

"Opening statements of the attorneys. District Attorney Moore in behalf of the State said: Gentlemen of the jury. As has been stated by counsel for the defendants,
this is an information charging the defendants with the crime of larceny by stealing or carrying away 18 head of steers, the personal property of Fred Melhase and Richard Melhase. 6 of these cattle are alleged to be the property of Fred Melhase and 12 the property of Richard Melhase. Our contention will be to prove that on the night of August 24, 1904, in the county of Klamath, State of Oregon these 18 head of cattle were taken out of a field of Richard Melhase by the defendants, Walter Lerwell and J. S. Stevens. Those cattle were driven out of the field, the fence was laid down, the cattle driven out and the fence laid up again, and on through the third field, they then drove those cattle out on the public road and from there they drove them to the mouth of what is known as Cherry Creek Canyon, and from which point they were arrested by the sheriff. ...

(Many different versions of the affair have been told, but from the evidence brought out at the trial, where Simpson was the first and chief prosecution witness, it appears, that he told George Loosley of the rustling plans soon after being approached in late June, by Stevens; that he also talked with George Denton and Billie Morgan; that he had told Ed Loosley when the rustlers would start with the cattle, and the route they would take. It further appears that after leaving the main valley, they went south along the West Side road about seven miles to Cherry Creek, then up it some eight miles, to a point where they stopped to rest. A short distance above camp, where Simpson had been ordered to go to look after the cattle, he ran into a "bunch of men," among whom he recognized George Denton, Jack Pelton, Jim Wheeler, Ed Loosley, Sam Walker, and Lindsey Sisemore, who had circled around by way of Three Mile Creek and come in ahead of the rustlers. Returning to camp, Simpson played possum of going to sleep. Later he awakened when a group of men came into camp, among whom he recognized Gus Melhase, Jim Wheeler, Sheriff Obenchain, Sam Walker and Jack Pelton. All three rustlers were then arrested and hand-cuffed. ... Editor.)

"Stevens and Lerwell Found Guilty. J. S. Stevens was sentenced to ten years and Walter Lerwell for eight years in the state penitentiary by Judge Benson Saturday, for cattle rustling. After three ballots the jury brought in a verdict of guilty, Thursday evening. The prisoners left Monday morning for Salem in charge of Sheriff Obenchain and Herb Baldwin. Walter Simpson was the principal witness for the prosecution. He turned state's evidence after accompanying the 'rustlers' and assisting in stealing the cattle."

(We will now resume Mr. Brown's "Memories"... Editor.)

Haying, dairying, and seed harvest had been disappointing. The most lucrative proposition appeared to be the grazing of beef cattle. To graze them during the summer months, then move to winter pastures in California or onto feed lots, presented less work and worry. Gradually the 160 acre man sold to his more adventurous neighbor and today Wood River Valley is owned by a few big operators. There are a relatively few small holdings.

Many of the early pioneers have departed, to leave no ties or trace. The only farmstead, I believe, still owned and operated by descendants of the original settler is that of John Loosley, father of a noteworthy family of children. One son was George whom I have mentioned. Another was Fred who became owner of the farmstead. Fred's son, Raymond, lived there at the time of his death and a daughter and son-in-law continue the family ownership.

It is fitting and proper to name other early pioneers of the valley. Some of those I remember are: the Melhase family with sons, Fred, Dick, Al, and Gus; Mr. Kirkpatrick and his sons: Jeff, Elgin, Jim, and Willis. Descendants of Elgin still own their father's property but do not live here. The land is leased to Lloyd Nicholson. Continuing the list we have: Daniel Cronemiller and son Fred, with Fred's sons: Guy, Lynn, and Fred. Mr. Cronemiller was a U. S. Commissioner receiving filings and proofs of homestead applicants. The Cunningsheds had sons: Howard and Burton;
L. A. Crance family with three daughters: Della, Bessie, and Grace; Puck Ryan whose son Dan became one of the vigorous business men of Fort Klamath; Amos Hoyt whose sons were George and Ed; Mr. Vaughn who lived in the north end of the valley.

Louis Hessig had a cattle ranch near the Vaughn place. He also operated a general store in Fort Klamath and with the aid of his sons, John and Joe, installed the first telephone service in Wood River Valley. Mr. Hessig, Senior, had married a Mrs. Butler, mother of Annie (Mrs. Ben Loosley) and Elizabeth (Mrs. Ed Loosley.) There were many other girls in the valley but I cannot mention both sons and daughters.

A Mr. Shives owned a general store in Fort Klamath for some years. He later became a banker in Klamath Falls. One of his sons, Oscar, was also in the banking business.

A frontier town was not complete without a blacksmith shop. Fort Klamath had two early-time shops. One was the Harry and Jim Worlow shop and the other, the Dave Noah shop. Charles Noah drove big horses in a successful freight business. Another freighter was John Gray who hauled for the Government. His son, John Albert (Bert) and daughter Alice live in Fort Klamath. John Gray had a brother Dan. His sons were Harrison and Collister, Ed Leever and Tom Culbertson were two more pioneer farmers.

Another important occupation was that of livery stable keeping. Jim Gordon operated one for many years. J. C. Mitchell, Horace, and Seeb Mitchell were early commercial cattle buyers Arthur Hunt was another early-time buyer. Cattle were driven on foot over the mountain to shipping points in Ashland or south to Gazzelle, California. Scales were not installed in Wood River Valley until ranchers, Jim and Jack Pelton, saw the advantage of weighing their cattle before driving. Prices had risen and money thus saved could soon pay for scales.

I trust these reminiscences will be of interest. Fred G. Brown.

**Old Fort Klamath Creamery . . .**

by Elizabeth Loosley

A new industry was claiming attention: a creamery at Fort Klamath, Oregon! This enterprise was incorporated in 1894. It was a departure from the usual method of the times.

Fred, Bird, George and John Loosely; Fred, Dick, and Gus Melhase; Jim Gardner, George Shephard, Joe McCoy, all of Fort Klamath; Charles Wilson, John Houston, Charles Marple, Fred Goeller and George Baldwin of Klamath Falls, organized the company.

Charles Wilson operated a wagon train and he hauled the bunglesome machinery from Ager, California. San Francisco had been the purchasing point. Lumber was bought at the Klamath Agency mill and by June, 1895 an up-to-date creamery with a capacity of 500 pounds per day was sending butter to San Francisco, via freight teams to the rail shipping point.

The opening of the creamery was a dance, to be sure, even if there were only a dozen women in the valley. H. B. Loosley even then was strumming a wicked banjo, Jap Taylor played a fiddle and Louie Smart could call, "Do-see-do, right hand to your partner's and a grand right and left," with gusto.

Hauling butter 150 miles over rough roads on hot days, along with pelts and sacks of wool, to be unloaded on an open platform in the blazing sun at Ager didn't make for good butter by the time it reached San Francisco. Soon Klamath Falls and Medford were using the output.

Free Trade was in and butter prices dropped to 12½ cents per pound; so the venture was not a success, but the stock owners had labored to get their herds to-
gether and were determined to make a go of it. Hadn't they broke range cows...why in those days if a milker came into the corral with a new pair of boots a cow objected, yes, objected. She put the boots up a pole or anything handy.

It has been told that most corrals had a ducking-board, that is a crude but stout roof made of saplings supported by four posts, under which a milker could duck. (I've seen range milk cows put a man under a hayrack because his clothes were different than usual; contented cows came later.)

Every day found the farmer hitching up his spring wagon and taking his whole milk to the creamery. It became not a matter of routine but an occasion, and the women folks often accompanied the men. They would truck home the skim milk to feed the hogs and jug-bellies (weaned calves fed on skim milk.) Of course the trip went through the town of Fort Klamath where Ryan and Butler, Shives and Son, and Louis Hessig had general merchandising stores where everything from coffins to silks and nails were sold and charged, bills being paid once a year when the carriers were in the town. You town fellows who had trusted the creamery, as we are informed by Editor,) July 27, 1899: Fred Loosley, proprietor of the Fort Klamath creamery, arrived in the Falls yesterday noon, with 3,000 pounds of creamery cheese which he is taking to Ashland.

August 10, 1899: Fred Loosley, the good natured hustling creamery man of Fort Klamath, was in Medford the fore part of this week upon business. Mr. Loosley is using milk from 350 cows at his creamery this season. This is fifty more than he had previously had and for the product from all this milk he finds ready sale. He brought over a wagon-load of cheese and had no trouble in disposing of it to our merchants. Pretty nearly everybody calls for Klamath county cheese when buying at the stores.

September 7, 1899: The creamery at Fort Klamath is doing a rushing business this summer. Every day from one hundred to five hundred pounds of butter and cheese comes down on the mail boat and is shipped from here to different points in Oregon and California. The creamery business in the Wood River valley is doing more to build up a flourishing town at Fort Klamath than anything else.

January 11, 1900: The Fort Klamath creamery, as we are informed by its proprietor, J. F. Loosley, will next May open on a much larger scale than heretofore.

October 16, 1902: (Reprint from Medford Mail.) W. O. Hill of Fort Klamath was here this week upon business. Mr. Hill conducts a dairy at his place and does all the work himself. Since the seventh of last July, and up to the first of October, he has milked sixty cows twice a day. His work in the morning would commence at one o'clock, and in three and a half hours it would be completed. You town fellows who figure
that the milking of one cow is a task difficult to get over, just think of milking sixty and then go and commit suicide before you tackle the job.

July 23, 1903: Is the butter you are using satisfactory? If not, try the Oval Brand, made by F. P. Cronemiller, at Fort Klamath and sold by the Duffy Co. Shipments are received every Tuesday and Friday.

(The following newspaper articles are reprinted from the Evening Herald and all refer to the new creamery built in the town of Fort Klamath—Editor.)

April 22, 1912: Articles of incorporation were filed with County Clerk De Lap Saturday by M. F. Loosley of Fort Klamath for the Wood River Valley Cream and Butter Association. The capital stock of the new association will be $5,000, divided into 100 shares of $50 per share. The organization will start a new creamery about the 15th of May.

The officers are: President, James Pelton; secretary, M. F. Loosley; board of directors, John Ellis, E. M. Leever, Asa Fordyce, M. F. Loosley and James Pelton. The price of cows has advanced about 50 per cent since the organization of the new enterprise. The directors have been guaranteed the cream from 200 cows to start with, and will have that of many more later on.

Mr. Loosley has just been tendered the agency for an improved milking machine. It is claimed the machine will take the milk from forty to fifty cows per hour by the operation of one man. One machine has already been installed at the Ellis ranch.

July 17, 1912: The new creamery building is now ready and the machinery is all on hand awaiting the arrival of an expert butter maker, who will have charge of installing the machinery and begin operating. The plant is one of the most up to date creameries in the state. Such was the statement of Messrs. Stratton and Page, who are very enthusiastic over the new enterprise.

September 30, 1913: The output of the creamery also indicates prosperity in the dairy business. The only thing now needed along that line is more cows.

Coley Ball . . .

Most of us "Old Timers" remember the home of Coley Ball, a Klamath, once known as Tecumseh. It was located at the Crooked Creek Turn-off to the Oregon State Fish Hatchery some two miles north of Klamath Agency on highway 62. A short distance to the south another stream breaks out in a crystal clear spring at the eastern edge of the highway, called Tecumseh Creek and Spring.

Asking a friend who knows the countryside well, she refreshed my memory in an apt way by writing, "Coley lived on a lush little spot which looked like a 'hanky-size' island." This no doubt even then joined the larger meadow which now ties in with land across the present highway.

It was in this setting I first saw Coley. He had grass in his hat, willow boughs in his pants belt. I supposed it was to keep mosquitoes away, but someone opined he used it as camouflage, for even the willow pole with a spear with which to impale fish was disguised. Then I did not realize he was in disguise, and I thought he was queer.

His main food was venison, fish, epaws, lambs quarters, ducks, geese and duck eggs. These were easily obtained, but trapping a deer in a pit or killing one with a bow and arrow took not only skill but quick action. Coley being such a deliberate moving person I often wondered at his prowess considering his size. He robbed the wild duck nests. Coley did not care what age or state of hatching the eggs were in. When someone remonstrated with him he said, "What's the difference, they are still eggs and nothing can get in and nothing can get out."

No doubt Coley's home site looked small compared to the man who occupied it. He
was to Wood River Valley what the giant is to the circus. He had a modulated voice—like the sound of smooth running water or a gentle breeze in the trees. It had the ring of nature that gave it a lilt.

Coley used to travel on horse-back and even on an ordinary size pony his feet almost touched the ground. This pony was used for the regular trips Coley made to the creamery at Fort Klamath.

At that date the creamery was on a bend in Wood River, on what was the original John Loosley homestead.

John Loosley built the creamery with the idea of shipping butter to Ager in Siskiyou County for the California market. But he found by the time it reached Ager over Topsy Grade and down the Klamath River to be picked up by the Southern Pacific for consumption in San Francisco, it was oil. Really, the only jubilant person was Coley, for he had been given all the buttermilk he could drink.

The failure of the creamery was a great disappointment to the people of Wood River Valley as they had all invested heavily in milk cows.

Not daunted, John Loosley converted the creamery into a cheese factory. This proved a great success.

Coley was always on hand and where he used to drink buttermilk he now consumed cheese curds. Amazed at the amount Coley devoured, the creamery crew weighed him before and after his gorging to learn his weight had increased 15 pounds. Sounds fantastic but so was his appetite.

Coley was used to moccasins which he made himself. He later became modern and decided to wear shoes. Mr. Momyer, the sutler at the Agency, had to have his shoes made to order so huge were his feet.

When at a ripe old age Coley died, his size still presented a problem. Mr. Momyer said, "We really had to build the coffin around Coley he was so large. Take a person 6 feet 10 inches tall and weighing 310 pounds, it took a lot of coffin."

Coley had many friends. He was so congenial one could not help but like the man. His size gave him dignity and he was always neat, as was his cabin.

He seldom rode in a canoe as there was too much of Coley...his weight was equal to that of three small men.

Today in the Hill Cemetery it is an easy matter to locate Coley's last resting place as it is so wide and long.
An early day doctor remembered by old timers of Fort Klamath was Dr. Stacy Hemenway. His name first appears in army records as being at the Fort in 1876.

He was born January 13, 1836 in Pleasants, La Porte Co., Indiana and came to Eugene, Oregon with his parents in 1853. Here his father Dr. A. A. Hemenway secured a homestead.

In 1859 Stacy Hemenway went to Chicago by way of Panama to attend lectures on medicine at Lind University. He graduated from the Chicago Medical College with the class of 1862.

In June of 1863, at the age of 27, in German Town, Tennessee, he entered the Ninth Cavalry, Illinois Volunteers with the rank of 2nd Assistant Surgeon. He was promoted to 1st Assistant Surgeon and later to Full Surgeon of the 41st U. S. C. T., a Federal unit of colored troops.

After leaving the east he lived at Fort Stielacooon, Wash., and Eugene prior to coming to the Klamath country. (Most of
the above information was furnished by a
great-grandson, Marvin Lander of Red
Bluff, California.)

After resigning as army surgeon at Fort
Klamath he practiced his profession at
Bonanza and Klamath Falls. In 1889 he
entered the Indian Service under Captain
O. C. Applegate and was the Physician at
Yainax.

Mrs. Estella Hemenway, his third wife
died at Klamath Agency, November 11,
1899. He married two more times before
his death in 1914.

June 20, 1903 Irene Chitwood and Dr.
Hemenway were united in marriage. Miss
Chitwood was the daughter of Dr. and Mrs.
J. H. Chitwood of Ashland, and the sister
of C. C. Chitwood of Klamath Falls, H. T.
Chitwood, Ashland, Mrs. S. K. Ogle of
Klamath Agency and Mrs. C. B. Watson.
(Republican July 7 1904): "Word was
received by telephone this morning from
Klamath Agency, for Dr. Hargus stated
that Mrs. Dr. Hemenway had been stricken
with apoplexy. C. C. Chitwood, brother of
Mrs. Hemenway and Dr. Hargus left imme-
diately."

On July 14, the Republican stated that
"Mrs. Irene Hemenway died last Monday
morning."

The Republican of July 21, 1904 says
that "Dr. O. O. Benson, wife and two child-
ren arrived in the city Tuesday from Dakota.
They have gone to Klamath Agency where
the doctor will take the position of Agency
physician formerly held by Dr Hemenway
who has located at Fort Klamath."

By September 1, 1904 Dr. Hemenway
had been offered the position of government
physician on the Blackfoot Indian Reserva-
tion in Montana and reported to the Repub-
lican that he had accepted the offer. On
September 8, the Republican stated that
"Frank Silves passed through this city with
Dr. Hemenway of Fort Klamath, whom he
is taking to Ashland. The doctor is going
to Montana to assume his position with the
Blackfoot Indians."

Five months later he returned from
Montana as reported by the Republican,
March 9, 1905. "Dr. Hemenway arrived
Sunday evening from the Blackfoot reserva-
tion at Browning, Montana, where he has
been stationed the past winter. He has been
transferred to the Klamath reservation and
left for the Agency Monday morning. The
Doctor says he is glad to return to Klamath
County."

Mrs. Leonora Gunston Erickson of
Eugene remembers that in the 1906 period,
Dr. Hemenway was the Government doctor
at Yainax and her mother Eleanor E.
Gunston was Field Matron in charge of all
the old Indians on that part of the reserva-
tion. Mr. H. G. Wilson was the superin-
tendent at Klamath Agency and a Mr. Evans
was Assistant Superintendent at Yainax.
She recalls that "my brother and I lived a
year at Yainax, when my mother was first
transferred there from the Indian school at
Riverside, California and because there was
no school for my brother and I, mother took
us east but she went back for another year
there.

"Dr. Hemenway's home was close to ours
and he stopped in many times a day. He
taught my brother and I how to play chess.
We all liked him, for he was such a gentle-
man and interesting to talk to.

"I'm sure you know a lot about 'Old
Toby' as she was called then. She loved my
mother and us two, and we loved her. I
have a little arrow basket she made for me.

"...The only time I was at the Falls was
when we went from Riverside and got to
the Falls via a Wells Fargo stage coach. The
Falls had one street with a wooden board
walk is what I remember. Our mail was
brought from Bonanza about every two
weeks by any one that would go for it.
Several times my brother went although he
was only 14 or 15 years old."

From the Republican of October 24,
1907 we learn that "Dr. S. Hemenway of
Yainax and Mrs. A. O. Friester of Denver
were united in marriage in Lakeview this
week. The news came as a surprise to the
many friends of the doctor in this city and
county, where he is well known and popular,
and they extend to him warmest congratu-
lations and good wishes for many years of
happy married life."

In a letter to Mrs. Ray (Willeska)
Loosley from Forester Loosley, he says:
In the past, writers have always stated that the Chinamen's store, located at the site of the present day Rainbow or Page's Garage was the first building in the town of Fort Klamath.

Research seems to indicate there were two other buildings in existence before the Chinamen store was constructed, the Shat-tuck residence, used as the first post office and the old log school house.

At an earlier date, some sort of building or business seems to have been planned by parties now unknown. We have a letter (National Archives) dated, Headquarters, Fort Klamath, Oregon. April 26, 1871 to the Department of Columbia, Portland, travelling by horse and buggy. I took care of his team for a long time. He would let me use them some times. He was a nice individual. The only doctor for the Indians and also the people in the Wood River Valley."

The Evening Herald of February 19, 1914 carried a seven column head line noting Dr. Hemenway's death at the age of 78. He is still remembered for his skill and kindness, both by the Indians and white settlers of the Klamath country.
Oregon, from G. A. Goodale, 1st Lieut. 23rd Infantry, Commanding: "I respectfully request the decision of the Department Commander, or other competent authority as to the intent or meaning of 'Indian Country' as mentioned in the act of Congress approved June 30, 1834 (Sec 20) and March 3rd, 1847 (Sec. 2) prohibiting the introduction of spirituous liquors or wine into 'Indian Country.'

"Parties interested in the proposed establishment of a grocery just outside the limits of the Military Reservation, within a mile and a half of the fort, and within two miles of the Indian Reservation, and upon land where the Klamath Indians have always procured their yearly supply of Camas root. The men argue that all lands not included in reservations are open to settlement and therefore not so called 'Indian Country.'

"It would seem that the spirit, if not letter of the law, would be equally violated, whether the men took their liquor upon the reservation or to a spot two minutes walk from its limit; and also that if our law makers in the act of Congress referred to, had meant simply 'Indian Reservation' it could have been just as easy to so worded them. But I submit the question to the Commanding General, and shall not take action, as provided for in the first of the afore mentioned act, until I can be assured that my view of the meaning of 'Indian Country' therein mentioned (viz: all wild lands entirely unsettled and contiguous to reservations) is correct."

This letter establishes the fact that by April 26, 1871 at least, there was no habitation along Wood River just outside the military boundaries, nor could there have been for several years, since the site of present day Fort Klamath lays inside the military and hay reserves. It was not until June 6, 1881 that these boundaries were reduced and the future site of the town of Fort Klamath turned back to the State.

It now becomes the purpose of this article to try and establish an approximate date at least when the first three buildings were actually built.

1. The oldest of the three seems to be the Shatruck residence.

29.
Solon Obil Shattuck, then in Company B, 1st U. S. Cavalry, arrived at old Fort Klamath some time after August 27, 1873. He was mustered out of the army August 27, 1878.

On January 12, 1882, he and Theodocia E. Culbertson were married. Their first child, Clara May (Collman) was born May 1, 1883 at old Fort Klamath near Fort Creek. Their second child, Obil Solon, was born April 3, 1885 at their old homestead in the north end of the valley. They would therefore have settled on this property and built their home there, sometime after Obil’s birth.

On October 6, 1885 the State of Oregon deeded (Deed Book No. 10, p. 508, County Records) this property, 51 acres, to Solon Shattuck when the purchase price of $102.00 was paid in full.

Next, on December 10, 1892 Theodocia Shattuck became the post master of Fort Klamath with the office in a front room of this home. (Ernest Collman, a grandson of Solon and Theodocia, born July 23, 1904) states that Shattuck also ran a slaughter house while living here, from which he furnished meat to the old Fort and Klamath Agency.

2. The old log school house seems to have been the next constructed.

The first school in the valley was known as Wood River or District No. 7. Established September 7, 1880, it was undoubtedly located at the old Fort, as the Anonymous Report of June 30, 1899 (National Archives) states that a school averaging 6 to 8 pupils was held there.

Next, it is reported ("Ninety Years of Klamath Schools" by Buena Cobb Stone) that John Loosley and Robert Paul asked permission from the Commanding officer at old Fort Klamath to establish a school in Section 16 (site of the log school and others), and received said permission.

Then on March 8, 1888 both Solon Shattuck (Deed Book No. 3, p. 495) and Dan Cronemiller (Deed Book No. 3, p. 497) deeded two acres each to District No. 7 for school purposes.

3. Lastly, it was not until October 30, 1894 (Deed Book No. 10, p. 600) that Shattuck deeded one acre to George Pan, a Chinaman, for $30.00. Names of the other Chinamen were, Jim Yet or possibly Little Jim, the oldest, and Sam, last name unknown.

It is now up to the reader to decide for himself, which was the founding building of Fort Klamath?

Do not be misled by the fact that Wm. T. Shive platted Fort Klamath June 19, 1902. This portion of town lay on the east side of the present day State Highway No. 62, or Main Street, and extended south from approximately the present post office to the corner where the highway turns east to cross Wood River. There are only three blocks in this sub-division.

By 1907 several additions had been added: First Addition, between the Fort Klamath addition and Wood River; Butler's Addition, to the northeast; Hoyt's Addition to the north; and Vose's Addition, between the school grounds and Page's Garage.

In the beginning, the strip of land lying west of Main Street and south of the Page Garage, or Seven Mile Lane, had belonged to Dan Cronemiller. It was sold to individuals by meets and bounds descriptions, beginning in 1895 with the first transfer to Wm. T. Shive of the later Fort Klamath Hotel property. Most of the businesses of Fort Klamath have been situated thereon.

TOLD TO ME . . .

by Elizabeth "Lizzy" Vaughn Culy

I was born just out of Fort Klamath, about a mile north of town on the Denton place.

I went to school in the old log building. There was no school in the winter, just fall and spring.

Dad had cattle. He worked for his brothers-in-law, the Gordons.

I rode horseback to school, by sled sometimes, and by wagon sometimes, as long as we could go. I went to all the entertainments, school doings, picnics, etc. Mrs. Ben Loosley (Anna Butler) put on plays. The Fourth of July was the big thing though.
The Saw Mills of Wood River Valley

by Devere Helfrich

Early lumbering in the Wood River Valley is best described by W. E. Lamb in "Lumbering in Klamath" as follows:

"The United States Army brought the first sawmill into the county from Jacksonville in 1863, that being the year "Old Fort Klamath" was established. It was a steam driven circular mill erected on the east side of Fort Creek opposite the site of the fort and probably had a capacity of two or three thousand feet per day. It is reported that the machinery was privately owned and that it was operated, either under lease or contract, until 1870. The mill was built to furnish lumber to the Indians and for various buildings in connection with the fort, which itself was constructed of logs. (This machinery would have been hauled in over the old Mr. Pitt (McLaughlin) or Fish Lake road, sometimes known as the Rancheree Trail...Editor.)

"In 1870 the army brought in from Vancouver a firebox boiler and upright engine which had been taken out of one of their boats on the Columbia River and, with this equipment for power, built a new circular mill on the west side of Fort Creek at a point approximately east of the present Fort Klamath Junction. (Jay Beach was the millwright for these early mills, at least part of the time...Editor.) The mill did not operate very much at that location, probably because the one built at Klamath Agency the same year was more efficient and supplied the requirements of the Indians. (On July 31, 1889 an anonymous report was filed with some Governmental agency and is now in the National Archives. It, in part, states: 'Sawmill, 30 by 60 feet, frame, could be put in shape for sawing lumber by a good sawyer.'...Editor) The mill was moved to Yainax in 1893, where it operated until 1899; when it burned.

"The treaty establishing the Klamath Indian Reservation was concluded October 14, 1864. One of the considerations of the treaty was that the Government would provide a sawmill for use of the Indians and for a period of twenty years would keep it in repair and furnish all tools and supplies as
well as a sawyer. The Reservation being under the supervision of the army in those early years and the fort area being included within the Reservation, it seems certain that the first mill at the fort was used to comply with the treaty terms, especially since records at Klamath Agency show that Peter W. Caris of Applegate, Oregon, (born in France) was hired as a sawyer by the Indian Service on October 1st, 1868. An official at the Agency has stated that other sawyers may have been hired before that time.

In 1870 the Government built a circular mill powered with a water turbine at Klamath Agency about a quarter of a mile down stream from the big spring adjacent to the present Highway. (About 1868, William S. Moore moved to Klamath Agency from the Williamette Valley, and in 1870 built the sawmill for the Government there.... Editor.) The capacity was probably three thousand feet per day. In October of that year Captain O. C. Knapp, Sub-Agent, reported the completion of this sawmill, stating, "...to-day cut from a log 18 feet long and ten inches in diameter, 10 planks in four minutes."

"The mill burned late in 1912 and was replaced with a steam driven circular mill located on Crooked Creek near the Agency in 1914. This second Agency mill burned in 1918. ..."

In 1877, William S. Moore constructed a sawmill on the west side of Link River just below the falls. George Nurse, former post-trader at Fort Klamath appears to have been a partner. This mill operated until 1906 or 1907. (An article in the Ashland Tidings, March 4, 1880 states that Moore Nurse mill will furnish lumber for the new buildings at Fort Klamath, and that Thatcher and Worden will transport it by their new boat...Editor.)

The next sawmill to be constructed, that concerns the Wood River Valley history, seems to have been the one at the head of Wood River, located exactly where the picnic grounds for Kimball Park are now situated.

According to Harry Engle: "In 1895, Jack Cottle built a small mill 2 to 3,000 feet capacity, on his land at the head of Wood River, about 200 yards from the head and on the south side. Possibly this mill was on Cottle's land. They quarreled over the amount of money, $.50 per thousand, for stumpage, and about 1903 or thereabouts, the Barkers moved the mill to the Kingdon ranch, on the east side of Wood River and a quarter or half mile below the bridge. They later sold to Kingdon Bros." (Klamath Republican. March 3, 1902: The Wood River sawmill has changed hands, Howard Cunningham and Mr. Kingdon are the buyers...Editor.)

Republican. June 25, 1903: Warren D. Kingdon left the Fort Sunday morning for Ashland. Men with trucks will leave later to haul in the boiler, engine and machinery for the sawmill which will be located about two miles from the Fort.

"The mill employed three men, but when it was moved, another was added to wheel off the sawdust, a horse later being added for this duty. The mill was hauled in from the Medford country. The original Barker mill was run by an old steam engine on wheels."

Fred Brown related the following in connection with the old mill: "A Mr. Barker operated one of the first sawmills, located in the area where Kimball Park now is. Mr. Barker bought his timber of homesteader Sam Kingdon, for $.50 per M. No sawmill was cut above the first limb."

Republican. January 14, 1904: The Kingdon Bros. of this place have quite a crew of men cutting, sawing and hauling logs for their new thirty thousand capacity sawmill. They are not sawing much this winter, but are preparing for a big run next spring and summer.

Told to Me, by Marion Loosley, August 17, 1952 at the Old Timers picnic: "About 1907 the Kingdons sold the sawmill to Johnnie Utter and Burns. The mill was then moved to Annie Creek. I set up the mill. Before that I had been in charge of the Government mill at Yainax at $1,100.00 per year. Now I received $1,000.00 and expenses for my family who had been living at the Fort. This mill burned in 1908. It cut about 25,000 feet per day. It was re-
LOGGING CREW AT UTTER AND BURNS SAWMILL, DATE UNKNOWN


--courtesy Chuck Zumbrun

built and ran until about 1920 when it burned again. The last mill could cut about 35,000 feet per day, depending on the water supply."

Republican. January 9, 1908: S. R. and W. D. Kingdon were in the city this week on business. These gentlemen have disposed of all of their timber holdings in this country with the exception of 25 acres and their sawmill.

Republican. December 10, 1908: Burns and Utter, the new sawmill firm, who have located on Annie Creek, expect to have their mill ready for operation in about ten days. They have a fine belt of timber to draw from in the Forest Reserve, and will turn out some first class lumber.

Republican. December 9, 1909: W. T. Burns and M. F. Loosley arrived Friday evening from Fort Klamath on their way to San Francisco, where they go to purchase the machinery for doubling the capacity of the Utter & Burns sawmill, located on Annie Creek. Mr. Loosley is superintendent of the mill and has had active charge of it since commencement of operations last July. During this time it has turned out nearly one million feet of merchantable lumber.

The timber for the mill is purchased from the government and is the highest grade yellow pine, and Mr. Loosley states that he finds this source of supply quite satisfactory. The stumpage price is $3.25. Contracts have been made for 1,500,000 feet, for delivery next year, and it is for the purpose of increasing the capacity of the mill to such a point as to enable them to fill these orders that the machinery is being purchased. Nearly 400,000 feet of this amount is to go East and will be brought down the Upper Lake and loaded on the railroad at the point nearest the lake if the road is completed there in time to admit of doing so. If not it will be brought to Klamath Falls for shipment.

Republican. December 16, 1909: John F. Loosley, Sawyer at Utter & Burns sawmill, has returned home, having been away to purchase an engine, boiler, etc., preparatory to increasing the plant to 100 H. P. But five more men will be required to operate the mill which will be of a capacity between 30 and 35,000 feet per day.

Republican. December 23, 1909: M. F. Loosley and Chas. Brophy are in town today from the sawmill. They have closed for the winter, and will start up in the spring with
Back in 1915, before we got into World War I, and before the Model T had invaded the hinterlands, the population of the Wood River Valley was much larger than it is today. At that time there were a number of so-called family farms. The exodus began soon after our entry into the war in 1917 when more money could be made from the high wages paid by industry than from the relatively small farms. The purchasers of these farms were men who evidently had the farsightedness to realize the potential value of the land for cattle.

Before the railroad was completed to Chiloquin, and of course before the coming of the huge cattle trucks, which made it feasible to ship cattle out of the valley for winter feeding, much hay was "put up." The writer can recall seeing around a dozen hay-stacks from her home. The making of so much hay necessitated hiring "hands" from outside the valley. Many came from localities west of the mountains and were referred to as "prune pickers."

All this help added to the economy of the town, since most necessities were purchased in Fort Klamath. At that time a blacksmith shop and livery stable did a healthy business. Those who migrated to the valley to work in the hay fields usually came with their teams and wagons and often found work for their teams as well as for themselves.

After it became practicable to ship out cattle for winter feeding, the rich grass was used for summer feeding only, as it was considered cheaper to feed cattle where the winters were shorter and less severe. Cattle made an almost phenomenal gain, and at one time it was said to be the only place in the country where prime beef could be taken directly from the fields to market. As the price of good beef increased, so did the price of the land. Some sold their
holdings for what seemed exorbitant prices, only to realize too late that the price had doubled or trebled.

In the pre-World War I days the social life of the community was mostly self-contained; that is, people furnished their own entertainment. During the busy season there was little time for "such foolishness," since the work day was from sun-up 'til sun-down, but during the long winters it was different, though the feeding of the stock and other chores did necessitate considerable labor.

Groups of young people often gathered at a home for an evening of fun and hilarity, which on at least on occasion, extended through the night and well into the next day, brought about by a howling blizzard, which blew in while the merrymakers were "whooping it up." It was then no small task to get home behind old Dobbin, in the family cutter. The winds were often so cold that a nipped cheek or finger was not unusual.

The New Year's dance which ushered in 1916 was perhaps the most memorable, and the last of its kind, ever held in Fort Klamath. Inasmuch as this was the beginning of a leap year it was decided among the young ladies of the community that they would give a leap year ball, and they went "all out" to make it an event to long remember. The large Melhase hall, long ago converted to other uses, and more recently burned to the ground, was beautifully decorated, and nothing was omitted, from hand-painted programs to delicious refreshments, to please the most discriminating male.

Of course the "gals" did the inviting, and when one recalls the dozens of young
women who were in the valley at that time, and the dearth of such at this time, one can only wonder!

Even when the first automobiles found their way into the valley they could be used only during the months when the roads were passable, if wallowing through dust and chuck holes could be called passable. When winter came the battery was removed and taken into the house to prevent it from freezing. A horse-drawn vehicle was used for stage purposes from Chiloquin where freight, passengers and mail were picked up. It is a well known fact that those who had to resort to this mode of travel in very cold weather were so cold they often must be almost lifted from the high seat of the "hack," the vehicle used, they were that stiff.

For some years...as late as 1915 and perhaps somewhat later...a boat came up the river as far as the bridge which crosses Wood River at the Fort Klamath Meadows Company holdings (formerly Weed Ranch, once owned by the late Senator Weed of California), bringing grain and other freight from Klamath Falls, but again it was subject to the vicissitudes of the weather and could not run in winter.

In a much earlier day, when all mail and freight must be brought in from Klamath Falls, it has been told that during a particularly cold winter the horse drawn stage had been driven over the ice-covered lake (my father-in-law, Fred Loosley claimed he performed this feat). It should be stated that in the early days the road to Fort Klamath ran over the hills back of the old OTI buildings and came out just north of Algoma. This almost impassable road was used for a time during the reconstruction of the present road around Algoma Point.

During the time the fort was located in the valley much of the freight was hauled over the mountains from Jacksonville, then the county seat of what now is Klamath and Lake Counties, as well as Jackson. The whole area was known as Jackson County.

In 1917 I met a John Nichols, then an old man, who had hauled freight from Jacksonville to the fort in the early days. Sufficient stocks must be laid in during the summer months to last throughout the remainder of the year. In those days it was

FORT KLAMATH RELAY TEAM, WINNERS OF LOVING CUP
—courtesy Fort Klamath Pioneer Assoc.
an arduous task to get the needed supplies into Linkville.

But in time roads were improved and every family had at least one automobile. However, it wasn't until fairly recent years that any real effort was made to keep the outlying roads open during the winter. During some of the very hard winters families on these roads were sometimes snowed in for several weeks at a time, and had to resort to the more primitive means of travel, even to the use of skis in dire circumstances.

In the early 20's several rodeos were held in the Wood River Valley and some

what later the ski tournaments, but both were discontinued for various reasons. At one time Fort Klamath even had a men's basketball team which played other town teams about the county, and did very well.

In 1924 the Civic Improvement Club, a women's group, was organized and has continued active through the years in spite of dire predictions of its early demise. This organization owns its own building which has been used as a meeting place by different organizations through the years, and is now the only such meeting place in the community.

THE OLD FORT KLAMATH JAIL, AS IT LOOKS TODAY —Helen Helfrich photo

The Old Jail Building . . .

by Myrtle Wimer (Herald & News, February 24, 1963)

Once this small town had a justice of the peace, a justice court, a constable and a jail, but all that remains of the early day law is the old jailhouse It stands beside Crater Lake Highway 62 near the south entrance to Fort Klamath, a route traveled each summer by thousands of people enroute to and from Crater Lake and other scenic or recreational spots in the area.

Built in the center of town in the early 1900's by carpenters whose identity has been lost with the passage of time, the three-room jailhouse was strongly constructed of two by fours laid flat, layers of two being nailed together with large spikes.

The windows were made escape proof
by sturdy iron bars, made and installed by the late Dolphin Wimer and son Harold. The family moved here from Selma, Ore., in 1909, and Wimer and son had a blacksmith shop here for several years.

The jail building was moved in later years to its present location, and now attracts no more than a casual passing glance from travelers along the highway.

One of the first justices of the peace was the late C. C. Jackson, father of Earl M. Jackson, who died here two years ago, and a man named Lambert acted as constable. The latter met a violent end when he was shot and killed in a saloon here by one of two outlaws who had drifted into town. They were wanted men, and after they refused to throw down their guns when ordered to do so by Lambert, the officer fired, shooting one of the two men in both his legs, whereupon the second outlaw shot and killed Lambert. Taken to Klamath Falls for trial, the "bad men," pleading self defense, were subsequently found not guilty of this charge against them.

Dolphin Wimer succeeded Jackson as justice of the peace, with Joe Voss appointed to serve as constable during his tenure of office. Voss was a victim of the flu epidemic in 1918 and Wimer died New Year's, 1925.

In those early times, the present city of Chiloquin was practically non-existent; however, with the building of the railroad there, the area developed rapidly, and the city was eventually incorporated in 1926. Then came progress in law enforcement, and the Wood River precinct was formed, consolidating Chiloquin, Klamath Agency and Fort Klamath under one jurisdiction, with the more recent addition of Bly. In 1926, locale of the office of justice of the peace, and the justice court, was moved to Chiloquin, which also maintains a city police force and a jail.

As in former days in Fort Klamath, law violators are now tried there for misdemeanors, while those committing felonies are taken to the county jail in Klamath Falls to await trial in circuit court. The justice of the peace is also empowered to bind over to the grand jury of Klamath County in Klamath Falls law-breakers found guilty in his court.

On the present day Joe McAuliffe ranch here were a race track, ball park and rodeo grounds, and nearly every Sunday horse races, a ball game or a rodeo were staged there. Large crowds came to these affairs, with many Klamath and Warm Springs Indians included, especially during the Fourth of July week.

Fights galore kept the constable busy as the three saloons here did a thriving business, and celebrants who had imbibed too much "redeye" were lodged in the local bastille to sober up. Special officers were sworn in at times, also.

In 1915, Harold Wimer recalls, the town was visited by a carnival, complete with the usual attractions and games of chance in addition to a special feature, a balloon ascension with a parachute jumper.

A dance pavilion was built by Tom Jackson and Frank Burns, both now deceased, and during the week-long celebration, one outstanding event is remembered: A man identified only as an Irishman named Mike, partook of too much liquor, and limbered up his six-shooter by firing at the feet of a luckless individual standing in front of a saloon, making him dance "or else." Tiring of this pastime, he walked backward down the street, reloading his weapon and firing wildly in all directions, causing bystanders to flee for cover, and emitting whoops and yells as he walked shades of the old West.

Luckily his aim was erratic and no one was hit. In his drunken progress down the street he came near the Rube White home where White's daughter and son-in-law, the John Copelands, also lived. Mrs. Cope lands opened the door to see what the rukus was all about, and the wild Irishman fired in her direction, the bullet striking the frame of the door a short distance above Mrs. Copeland's head.

Frank Cour, a friend of the White family, seized Copeland's 30-30 carbine and let fly a shot at the Irishman, missing him. In the meantime, a group of men had circled through the roadside willows, coming up behind the celebrant, pinioning...
his arms behind him and disarming him.

He was a patron of the local jail that night, and was taken to Klamath Falls the next day, tried and sentenced to 30 days for disturbing the peace. A guard was stationed over prisoners in the jail, and meals were brought in from outside.

Another instance of those days was that of a mentally ill character who went berserk, was lodged in jail overnight and taken the next day by Wimer and Voss to Klamath Falls to undergo an examination. On the way to Klamath Falls, the prisoner complained of a pain in his chest. Upon examination, it was found by Wimer and Voss that a large finishing nail was imbedded in his torso just below the heart. The nail was removed—the patient said that he was tired of living and tried to end it all by driving the nail into his chest...another inch higher and he would have pierced his heart and succeeded in his try. However, he recovered after a doctor had removed the nail and treated the wound.

The abandoned jailhouse became the property of two brothers, the late John and Joe Hessig, who moved it to its present site.

No longer a prison, the old jailhouse is still useful, its thick, weathertight walls make the building cool in summer and warm in winter, and two of the smaller rooms, formerly cells, serve for storage purposes, while the larger room is convenient to use as a spare bedroom in an emergency.

Since 1926, it has been occupied as satisfactory and comfortable living quarters at various times, and in all probability will endure for many years to come as a reminder of the early days when Fort Klamath had law enforcement officials and a jailhouse.

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Fort Klamath Community Methodist Church is located on a county road some 200 feet east of the main street of Fort Klamath...Crater Lake Highway 62.
plane and has never been replaced. It has Gothic type windows, and is a typical rural community church, the only one in the 160,000 acre Wood River Valley, and serves the entire area.

The church was built in 1912. (This event was recorded in some detail in Klamath Republican of May 23, 1912 as follows: Rev. W. J. Warren of the Bonanza Methodist Church, arrived in the city Friday evening from Fort Klamath, where he has been assisting Rev. J. Worrell of the Klamath Indian Mission in the work of erecting a church building at Fort Klamath. This will be the first church building in Fort Klamath.

Two large lots 60 x 120 feet, in the center of the town, were donated by W. T. Shive for the church building and parsonage, and lumber and contributions of money and labor have been made by a number of the residents of Wood River Valley, and assistance has also been received from the church organization. The building being erected is 28 x 40 feet, and has a vestry 12 x 14 in the rear.

Mr. Warren went to the Agency last Friday, a week, and on Saturday he and Rev. Worrell went to Fort Klamath and started the work on the building. Rock was hauled for the foundation Saturday, and this week the carpenter work was done. Mr. Warren stated that when he left yesterday the floor had been laid, the walls were up, windows and shashes framed and the building nearly ready for the roof. It is expected to have the church ready for services by the beginning of July. The building will be plastered throughout.

Rev. Warren is very much interested in the success of the new church, as he started the movement of the church building during his charge of the Agency Mission last year. At that time he secured the lots and part of the lumber and promises of assistance. Several years ago plans were laid for a church building at Fort Klamath, but for some reason it fell through, and Mr. Warren is determined that this effort shall meet with better success.... Editor)

(One more early article has been found, that in the Evening Herald of August 5, 1920: First Sunday Mass in Fort Klamath. Mass will be celebrated at Fort Klamath next Sunday [August 8th], Father H. J. Marshall officiating. This is the first time mass has been celebrated on Sunday in Fort Klamath and it is expected that there will be a large attendance at the services, which will be held in the town hall at 11 o'clock. Special singing has been prepared for the occasion.... Editor)

(We will now continue with the original article.... Editor)

The large church bell was given by Senator Weed for whom the town of Weed, Calif., is named, who formerly owned the 27,000 acre Weed ranch. Located in the south end of the valley, it now belongs to the Hawkins Carle Co. of Hollister, Calif.

In the still calm of a Sabbath morning, the tolling bell is audible for a mile or more, and was given so that it might call those in the entire district to worship in a church that serves all people, regardless of denomination.

The Rev. J. Worrell, originally from Ireland, was the first pastor here. First trustees named on the deed were C. E. (Ed) Hoyt, still a Fort Klamath resident; Edson Watson, of whom little seems to be remembered except that he was a retired minister living here at the time the church was built; Mrs. W. E. Nicholson, now Mrs. Arthur Short of Medford, who is a frequent visitor here at the home of relatives and is still keenly interested in both church and Civic Improvement Club activities here, and is an honorary member of the latter organization.

Evening church services were conducted by the light of gas lanterns until 1927, when the California Oregon Power Co. put its first power line through Fort Klamath.

Included among pastors who have served the local church since its foundation in 1912 are the following: the Rev. Cotton, the Rev. Bradshaw, the Rev. Mooney, the Rev. Elliott, the Rev. Buck, the Rev. Neufelt, the Rev. Poindexter, the Rev. James Zeller, the Rev. C. Ellery Eehlin, and the present Rev. Edmund Stanton, who took his first pastorate when assuming the combined charges of Fort Klamath and Chiloquin Methodist churches this summer.
Although recorded as the "Fort Klamath Community Methodist Church. It does not limit its service to the immediate town of Fort Klamath; during tourist season, various pastors of the church have conducted Sunday vespers services at Crater Lake National Park, and for a time the church school here sponsored a Sunday School at the park also. Funeral and wedding services are held in the church for residents of the entire district. Protestant baptism is given and communion is extended to all. Ministerial care is not limited to church membership, visitations are made by the pastor and his wife to all who are ill or in sorrow.

A year ago (1952) the Rev. C. Ellery Echlin organized a church youth group and met with it weekly for an evening of worship and recreation. He also instigated monthly family night gatherings which were much enjoyed by the community.

A Woman's Society of Christian Service was organized in the spring of 1951, holding monthly meetings and sponsoring dinners, silver teas, etc., to raise funds to help finance various church projects. The current aim of the group is to install new pews in the local church, and a substantial sum has been raised to this end.

The annual Christmas community program is held in the church, and is a combined community school, Sunday School and Civic Improvement Club undertaking.

Originally called the Church Improvement Club when organized in 1924, the group later changed the name to the present one, Civic Improvement Club. The club has always cooperated with the church, and both work hand in hand for community betterment. Electricity cost is borne by the club, which also pays premium on one fire insurance policy on the church building.

A typical helping-hand incident happened during tenure of the Rev. Bradshaw some 22 years ago. The church interior was in a bad state of disrepair, especially the ceiling, and while pulling on the bell rope one Sunday to call worshippers to church, large pieces of plaster fell down on the pastor's unprotected head. It momentarily staggered the Rev. Bradshaw, but luckily there were no ill effects.

Quick action was taken to remedy the situation, and a substantial plywood ceiling was put overhead, financed by the Civic Improvement Club. The carpenter was the late Henry Gordon.

More recently, the church was repainted by the Rev. Buck and the Rev. Gene Elliott refinished the interior some time later. New gates were furnished last year by the C. I. Club. Many improvements were made both to the church interior and yard, for which the award of $75.00 was made by the Sears, Roebuck Foundation in the Church Improvement contest this year.

Fort Klamath Hotel

by Devere Helfrich

The William T. Shive family moved to Fort Klamath, the town, in September of 1895. (This and following statements made by Oscar Shive.) There were only three buildings there at that time, the Shattuck home, containing the Post Office, the log school, and the Chinaman store.

In the spring of 1896 (May 22, 1896....Deed Book No. 16, p. 108, County Records) Dan Cronemiller gave Mr. Shive a tract of land 200 feet square, if he would put up a general merchandise store. John M. Fountain had had a store at the Old Fort. Mr. Shive bought it and used the lumber to build his store. This structure was built during 1896, as soon as the weather would permit. In addition to the store and their private living quarters, the Shives also kept occasional overnighters, furnishing them with board and room. This was the beginning of the Fort Klamath Hotel.

It is also quite possible, that the post office was kept in this building at one time, since Mr. Shive became the postmaster on July 21, 1896 some time before the old
store building, in which the post office was definitely located, was built.

About 1897 or 98 Mr. Shive built a large store building, just mentioned, immediately to the south, that later became the Ryan and Butler store.

On September 3, 1906 (Deed No. 24, p. 166) Wm. T. Shive sold the hotel to C. E. Hoyt and J. B. C. Taylor for $700.00. With this purchase the name was changed to Hoyt Hotel. In the ensuing years, the well known old hotel's name reverted back to its original title.

Hoyt and Taylor, we find, according to the Republican of March 14, 1907 were "remodeling the Fort Klamath Hotel and are to be the proprietors." However, it was later reported that C. E. "Ed" and Millie Hoyt managed the establishment.

Numerous changes in ownership took place in the next dozen or so years as disclosed by county records. First, Taylor sold his interest in the building to Ora W. Engle (Deed Book No. 41, p. 395, and Deed Book No. 43, p. 409) but evidently got it back, as he later sold (Deed Book No. 57, p. 137) to Mina Edmonds.

In the meantime, Hoyt sold his interest to Walter Dixon (Deed Book No. 40, p. 86) who in turn sold to L. F. Kirkpatrick (Deed Book No. 44, p. 559). Kirkpatrick sold to J. H. Wise (Deed Book No. 57, p. 181), and Wise sold to Mina Edmonds (Deed Book No. 57, p. 196) who then became the sole owner of the property.

Next, according to the Herald and News of December 24, 1961, Ray and Jeanne Taylor acquired the hotel from Mina Edmonds (Deed Book No. 57, p. 326) in 1921. After Mr. Taylor's death in 1938, Mrs. Taylor continued the business until 1949, when she sold to Mr. and Mrs. J. Quince Buell. Mrs. Taylor then "devoted her time to the management of her new Jo's Motel, which she had built across the street from the hotel. Due to physical disability, Mrs. Taylor sold the motel in November, 1960 to Mr. and Mrs. Jack Simington of Los Angeles."

Announcement in the same article states that Mr. and Mrs. Buell "have sold" the
CAPTION ON THE BACK OF THIS PICTURE READ, "HOYT HOTEL, 1908"
—courtesy Fort Klamath Pioneer Assoc.

THE FORT KLAMATH HOTEL AS IT LOOKS TODAY
—Helen Helfrich photo
hotel to William Coleman and Robert Merrill.

Next it was announced that Mr. and Mrs. Buell ("Landmark Fort Klamath Hotel" by Myrtle Wimer, Herald and News, April 16, 1965) had sold the property to Mr. and Mrs. Walter W. Richards of Portland, in November, 1964. Apparently the hotel had been returned to the Buells by Coleman and Merrill. After taking possession, the Richards became involved in an extensive remodeling and redecorating project.

"...the 17 sleeping rooms, baths and plumbing located on the upper floor have been thoroughly renovated. Downstairs, major remodeling was done in the room adjoining the lobby, which was formerly a bar-room; it has been entirely redecorated and converted into a modern soda fountain and lunch counter. In the large dining room, walls have been refinished, a new lunch counter and stools were installed, with a salad bar and large steam table added. With an eye to greater efficiency, of operation and equipment, the hotel kitchen has also been overhauled and improved."

The Richards in turn, about October or November, 1966 sold to Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Rosauer, who are no longer connected with the hotel, the property reverting back to the Richards and Buells.

As Told To Me . . .

by J. A. "Bert" Gray

I came from Medford in August, 1902, when I was fourteen years old. We came in a covered wagon by way of Crater Lake and settled here in town to live.

There was a little town here then; a hotel that had five or six beds, a livery stable, two general stores and a few shacks.

Ed Hoyt had the same location then as now. The rodeo grounds were out north from where Hescoes live now. You didn’t dare get on the reservation. That is, you couldn’t put on a celebration. The Indians camped across the creek and would celebrate a week or more. McCoy owned the land on the Fort Klamath side.

I once had a homestead on Seven Mile. I think I’m the oldest homesteader left alive around here. I had grass hay and some oats, a little bit. I ran my stock on forest lands.

We used to go to Rogue River Valley every fall for supplies. We went by the Lake of the Woods road. Would bring back a load of fruit, flour and all other staple goods. We sometimes drove cattle to the railroad at Ashland. We used all the roads over the mountains at different times. Used to hold the cattle overnight near the Pelican Bay Guard station site. I never saw it in the daylight. We sometimes drove cattle to
Gazelle and Montague, California by the Prather ranch and the old Ball Mountain road. I was just a kid when I freighted from Montague in 1903.

I worked for Eugene Hopkins at Spring Lake for two summers, breaking horses. Freighted to Klamath Falls, sometimes to Port Klamath. Usually drove four horses, all broncs. I also freighted a little over Topsy grade. From Montague, we made Little Shasta the first night. Two of us always travelled together in case of trouble. Usually drove broncs. The second night we would reach Deters, although it depended how well we got along, sometimes made the Prather ranch for night. We then crossed straight across the valley to Mount Hebron, then north around the valley and stayed all night at the Hole-in-the-Ground. I always liked it there.

The longest drive I was ever on, was a cattle drive from Silver Lake to Gazelle. It lasted six weeks, we had six hundred head. We came around north of the Marsh, over Sun Mountain and followed the base of the hills to the Old Ball Mountain road.

As Written for Klamath Echoes

"In Those Good Old Days" . . .

by Mrs. Grace A. (Martin) Gorton, October 21, 1967

It was likely about the year 1887, that my parents, Charles and Christie Martin came west from Trufonts, Michigan.

It was shortly after they were married, and they came on one of the first thru' trains, which came clear to the West Coast. As I recall, they came to San Francisco, and then traveled by stage coach to Oregon City, Oregon.

My mother had a sister, Mattie Bliss, who was postmistress at Oregon City, and lived in Oregon City with her husband Fred.

My father wanted to get acquainted with this new Oregon Country. So he purchased a team of horses and a covered wagon, in order to travel over the state and learn as much as possible. He first went to Harney County, where he got a job working for the Miller and Lux cattle company. They had many head of cattle, and he spent much time riding over that level country, caring for the herd and all the various activities that go with raising cattle.

In Sept., 1889 a little daughter "Bertha" was born, under the care of a housewife, as nurse and doctor.

Everything went alright for about 1½ years, and then Bertha contracted a very severe cold. They were very far from a doctor or any skilled care. Mother used all the "Home remedies" that she had available, but the little one grew constantly worse and then she passed away, and was buried in a cemetery at Burns, in a home made casket, with parents and neighbors attending the ceremony.

Soon afterward my parents decided they wanted to learn something about Oregon on the western coast. So they put everything they owned into the wagon and journeyed to Tillamook, and lived there for the winter in a log cabin on Beaver Creek, 10 miles out of Tillamook—where my father worked for a company cutting timber and hauling out logs.

And on Sept. 29, 1891, Grace Martin was born.

After about one year in Tillamook County, my parents decided it was too wet a place for them. Father said he often drove his team on these country roads in mud up to their knees, and thought he preferred conditions east of the Cascade Mts., so he packed up, and with his wife and child headed for Harney County again.

On Jan. 4, 1893, a baby girl, Ella, was born at Drewsey, Harney County. Father again worked for Miller and Lux cattle company.

In the spring of 1894, they decided to learn something about the area near Grants Pass, Josephine County. So again they loaded their belongings and traveled to Grants Pass. Here he got a job working on
the railroad between Grants Pass and Merlin.

In 1895 they heard of land being opened up for homesteading in Wood River valley near Fort Klamath, and that fall they crossed over the mountains again. By the time they arrived my father had his team and wagon, a wife and two daughters and fifty cents in his pocket. He got acquainted with "Old Man" Vaughn, who provided him a cabin to live in, and gave him work helping in milking his dairy cows, and mother helped in making butter.

Snow fell heavily in the winter of 1895 and soon covered all the line fences completely out of sight. Then froze a hard crust on top, making it easy to drive any place with horses and sleigh on top of the snow. And I and Ella played long hours with our home made hand sleigh with kitty "Tony" as a passenger. We had no rubbers, instead we wore heavy cow hide shoes, well greased and wrapped in pieces of gunny sack.

At Christmas time we went to bed in our little bed on the floor at the foot of mother's and father's bed, after we had hung up our stockings on the top post of the home made rawhide rocking chair. When we opened our eyes in the morning there was a little china doll head looking at us from the top of our stockings. So lovely for Santa to do that.

The Chinamen had a store at Ft. Klamath and the dolls were purchased from them. Mother had wrapped a pretty piece of red cloth around them from which later she made cute little dresses. All sewing and mending was done by hand. For many years we never had more than two dresses apiece. And our stockings were sewed from mother's cast offs, with a seam up the back of the leg and across the sole.

My father was one of fifteen children. Two were killed by accident when infants, but thirteen grew to mature men and women. My father had no schooling at all and his knowledge was gained in the school of "hard knocks." He was a diligent worker, very thrifty. One of his great desires was that his children have a chance to go to school.

During this winter of 1895, while we lived on the "old man" Vaughn's place, an accident happened to me, which could have been quite serious. It was a windy day. My father had a load of hay on the wagon, which he was going to haul into the barn for feeding the dairy cows.

He got down from the load and opened the doors which closed together in the center. The section on the windy side kept blowing shut, so I said, "Papa, let me hold it open." He consented, so I placed my big four year old form against the door. It seemed as if that was going to be alright, so father got up onto the load and started to pull ahead, when a sudden hard gust of wind swung the door and toppled it completely off its hinges, the whole door came down over me. I was completely pinned under.

Father jumped down from the load in a hurry and raised up the edge of the door, so he could pull me from under it. I was crying to the top of my voice, and could not move my left arm. It is hard to know just what was in my father's mind, but he folded me up in his arms and walked back and forth in the barn, saying "My God, O, my God." Then he carried me to the house to mother.

To get a doctor in those days, was very difficult indeed. The only doctor at all was on the Indian Reservation at the Klamath Indian Agency. So mother did the best she knew how with home remedies, linaments and hot applications.

Finally the pain eased, and I quit crying and went off to sleep. When I awoke, it did not hurt so bad, but I could not use my arm. This continued for about four days, and mother urged me to be quiet and not to run. About the fourth day toward evening my sister was running across the room from wall to wall, and seemed to be having lots of fun, so when mother turned to the cupboard and stove to prepare something for supper, I decided to join my sister in her frolic.

There was a small box sitting against the wall on the other side of the room. I thought I would jump on this box, and as I put my foot on the side it tipped up and threw my head against the wall face forward.
It happened there was a nail driven into the wall just the height of my face as I jumped onto the box; and as I bumped into it, it caught into my upper lip, and as I fell to the floor it tore a gash in my lip about \( \frac{3}{4} \) inches long, and the blood gushed out. Poor mother, so much trouble with one girl, she rushed over to pick me up, and she reprimanded me for running when I had a hurt shoulder.

Again she used home remedies, but this time cold packs instead of hot packs, and managed to stop the bleeding. And in a short time the pain in the shoulder was going away, and I could use my arm and could raise it up, whereas before it had hung limp and was useless, so mother decided that it had been dislocated with the barn door falling on me, and now this incident where I threw out my arm to try and catch myself, the shoulder had slipped back into place. I do have the scar on my lip on the inside, to this day.

In the spring of 1897, my folks moved into the log cabin on the Ostler place on the westerly side of the valley, and they cooked over a fireplace. In this cabin is where my brother Grant was born, June 26th, with a neighbor woman acting as midwife.

My father had by now filed on his homestead just one and one half miles north of Fort Klamath. And he planned to build a log house. He cut and peeled nice logs and got it under construction, when he learned that the Kingdon boys were putting up a sawmill over on Wood River, and so he would be able to get lumber to build with, so he turned his building to a horse stable, and began to plan a board house. He finished up the log building and covered it with hand rived shakes in which he put the team of horses, "Johnny" and "Dock."

In order to be close to the construction of the homestead house, the folks moved from the Ostler cabin to the Woodruff place about a mile south of the homestead, where we shared a log cabin, and also used a tent. While here they helped in the milking and dairy work for the Woodruff girls. These girls could play the violin and it was lovely to fall asleep listening to their music.

And it was during our stay here that we had the experience of the skunk coming into our tent each night for his supply of butter. Mother had used the "old Grub-Box" to store some surplus butter. And it happened there was a knot hole in one corner, where he could reach his claw in about 1\( \frac{1}{2} \) inches, and bring out as much butter as possible.

We all slept in the tent and we also had a kitty "Tony," and he was not in favor of the skunk as a visitor. So mother would get hold of Tony and keep him from pouncing upon the skunk. My parents waited for some time for an opportunity to do away with the skunk, and still not cause a big skunk odor situation. So father waited till a bright moon light night, and as the skunk left the tent, father followed him, carrying a pole over his shoulder. The skunk followed along the path on the irrigating ditch bank, and father stayed at a safe distance till the skunk had reached a safe distance from the tent, then he brought the pole down very accurately and knocked the skunk completely into the irrigating ditch and held him down till dead and there was no odor. Skunk skins were used in a number of ways in those days, as well as skunk oil.

Finally some time in October the house was completed enough that we could move in. It was made of foot wide boards and battened on the south and west sides, because the storms mostly came from that direction. And the floor was six inch boards, not tongue and grooved. As the lumber was quite green, it did a tremendous lot of shrinking, and in time huge cracks were between each board, so if any article disappeared, we naturally knew it was under the floor, but there were plenty of ways to go under the house and retrieve anything of importance. The floor was about 3 feet from the ground. What a joy it was the first day of our moving into our house and being able to walk on a floor. And to sit in a real rocking chair with my baby brother tied in the chair beside me. My brother Grant was four months old by this time, and many a time did I rock him in beside myself.

In April after I was six years old the September before, I and Ella went to school in the little log school house.
My father took us the first day, and then he went back home. We were so bashful at first we were almost afraid to breathe. We had had very little association with other children, so we were almost petrified. Mother had taught me my A, B, C's and I could read quite well in a little first reader which she had secured from a neighbor. The other children realized that we were extra timid and they seemed to take advantage of the situation, but instead of showing us any affection, they used the timidity to tease us.

One girl said, "Oh! Their name is Martin."
"Why a Martin is an animal."
A boy quickly said, "What kind of an animal?"
"Oh, it is something like a skunk."
"O, a skunk, a skunk."

So for some time were were nicknamed "Skunks." And many times we were teased and tormented. But as time went on we overcame our timidity and joined in the games and activities of the other children, and had our very close friends and chums.

The Jim Emery family settled in south of our place about a mile from our house. They had two boys and three girls. Their oldest girl, Hazel, and I became very close friends, and I loved her very dearly. I know her name is something like a skunk."
"O, a skunk, a skunk."

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"O, a skunk, a skunk."

After I had finished the eighth grade at Fort Klamath I wanted to go on to high school, and the only high school in the area was in Klamath Falls. My teacher at this time was Annie Applegate, the daughter of Captain Applegate, and she was a very lovely person. She wanted me to go on to high school, and she made arrangements for me to stay at the John Swan place where I could work in the home to pay for my board. Mr. Swan was the County School Superintendent.

I didn't feel completely content in this family, so Annie Applegate got in touch with the W. A. Delzell family, so toward the spring of 1909, she told me the Delzell family would be glad to have me come into their home, share the duties of the household and go to high school. This was a wonderful experience, and I learned many things that have remained with me down through the years.

There were four children in the family at this time, and they had a lot of company. Mr. Delzell's cousin, a woman, and Arthur Mattucks, a friend from Oklahoma, stayed the river and watch the Indians as they put on their tribal Indian dance.

At Christmas time we had a school program and Christmas tree in the little log school house. We had no Christmas tree decorations as we know them today, but father would make a huge dish pan full of popcorn and we would string a lot and make long chains. And sometimes we made paper chains, but for years paper was a scarce article. At these occasions the whole neighborhood turned out, and it was a jolly time associating with all the friends and sharing experiences.

In those days people were very friendly, and were most willing to lend a hand to help a neighbor in any need which he might have, and were most hospitable, and families visited families, and the housewives worked together to prepare a nice feed for an entire family that may have come over with no previous announcement.

One favorite amusement was the public dance on Saturday nights, and it was held in some public business place, as up over a store or a hotel or similar business.

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There were four children in the family at this time, and they had a lot of company. Mr. Delzell's cousin, a woman, and Arthur Mattucks, a friend from Oklahoma, stayed...
During 1881 and 1882, a United States Government telegraph line was built from Ashland to Fort Klamath. It was finished late in 1882. Outside of stage lines and individuals carrying messages, this was the only means of communication with the outside world until the turn of the century.

During the summer and fall of 1902, John H. Hessig installed the first telephone with them and paid board. Edith Delzell was expecting her fifth child, and needed someone to continue helping her with the house-hold tasks, so they persuaded my parents to let me continue on with them after school was out. So I remained with them during the summer, and their daughter, Jenny, was born in June. And I stayed with them again the next school term, and many lovely memories still remain with me of experiences while living with the Delzell family.

in the county, near Topsy in the extreme southwestern corner of Klamath County. This line was built up the Klamath River canyon and led to Picard, the once flourishing town of Butte Valley, later replaced by Dorris.

Also during 1902, there was activity of another sort on the old government telegraph line according to the Ashland Record, whose article was reprinted in the Republican of September 11th: "C. B. Watson, Jr., James Lyons and Joe Huffman came in from Klamath Falls and are reeling up the old telegraph line and gathering the fixtures together for storing away at Klamath Falls. The Midway Telephone and Telegraph Co. purchased the plant before beginning their operations."

The Midway Telephone and Telegraph Company line from Ashland to Klamath Falls, actually reached the latter place August 2, 1902 according to the Republi-
can of August 7th, of that year.
During 1903 John H. Hessig seems to have extended his line from California to Klamath Falls and on toward Fort Klamath where his father Louis Hessig had opened a mercantile store in 1898.
In 1904 Mr. Hessig and H. F. Murdoch incorporated the Klamath Telephone and Telegraph Company, probably with the former as manager. In places at least, the new firm probably utilized parts of the old government line to Fort Klamath. Also it is reported that the line when completed in 1904, was at first used as a telegraph line. (Statement of Richard Louis Hessig.)
The Republican of March 3, 1904 reports: "Capt. O. C. Applegate informs us that he was officially notified yesterday that the government had approved the right of way for the proposed Telephone and Telegraph line of L. Hessig through the reservation from Fort Klamath to Klamath Falls. Mr. Hessig has the poles all ready and the work will be rushed. Mr. Applegate has also submitted a proposition to the Indian Department to build a connecting line between the Agency and Yainax."

One year later, on March 16, 1905 the Republican again reports: "O. B. Gates, manager of the Midway Telephone and Telegraph Company, stated to the Republi-

can yesterday that his company had made arrangements with Mr. Hessig for the operation of his line in connection with the Midway system. Wires were strung and connection made yesterday with the Central office and now the patrons of the office can talk with Fort Klamath, Klamath Agency, Picard, Topsy, Hot Springs and Ager.

"This now gives the people of Klamath County telephone connection with every important section of the county and adjoining points in California."
The History of Klamath County, page 212, tells that one of the first resident phones in Wood River Valley was placed in the home of Linsey Sisemore in 1905.

It is also interesting to note in passing, that Mr. Hessig had the third automobile in Klamath County, a two cylinder, 1908 Buick.
The original Fort Klamath telephone office stood some 50 feet west of the second office, still standing on the south side of the highway leading east to the bridge across Wood River. This second telephone office building sits facing the highway just north of the old jail, and east of the old barn at the turn of the paved highway.

Mr. Hessig sold to West Coast Telephone Company in July 1928.

The Big July Time . . .

A Fourth of July celebration of some sort seems to have been held every year, in or very near the site of present day Fort Klamath, since the establishment of the original fort in the fall of 1863.
Many tales have been told and many stories written, but the following three newspaper articles seem to cover the situation to the best advantage of anything yet discovered by the editor of this annual:

Klamath Republican, July 9, 1903: At Fort Klamath crowds gathered from all parts of the county. The whites had prepared grounds for a celebration on one side of Wood River and the Indians had pitched
tents and erected a grand stand on the other side. The parade was the opening public feature and was very attractive, reflecting credit on all who participated. The usual liberty wagon was followed by a band of warriors, all arrayed in feathers and paint, and trying to show how the ancient tribes acted when they were out for a fight.

The formal program, commemorative of the day, was introduced by music from the Agency school band. Capt. O. C. Applegate gave the oration, expressing the spirit of the occasion in well chosen words. Rev. Jesse Kirk followed with an appropriate address. The Declaration of Independence was read

by Devere Helfrich
by Mr. LaPoint. The program which was interspersed by both instrumental and vocal music, proved highly pleasing to the big audience.

After sumptuous picnic dinners, the horse races and ball game were called and held the attention of a large share of the crowd. The races were interesting and showed plenty of rivals for the purses. Chief interest, however, centered in the ball game between the Klamath Falls and Fort Klamath clubs. The result was 32 to 27 in favor of the Falls boys. Thus, considering the score, neither side showed much skill, a fact attributed to the strong wind that was blowing and the rough ground on which they played. Here is the line-up and score:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Falls</th>
<th>Fort</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Withrow.........</td>
<td>RF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roberts.........</td>
<td>CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benson.........</td>
<td>LF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Umpire, Allen Sloan.</td>
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</tbody>
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| Falls          | 13 2 0 5 1 1 0 9 | 32 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Fort          | 0 5 0 11 1 3 3 1 3 1 | 27 |

Evening Herald, June 26, 1914: Things are going to just tear loose in the Wood River Valley Monday, and for four days there will be joy unconfined. The “Big July Time” starts then, and already the town is being put in shape for the reception of the many guests expected.

From all accounts, it will be some time. At the end of it the Wood River Valley people, with their best riders and worst horses will flock to Klamath Falls, to try to take all the prizes at the Elks Rodeo.

Miss Ida Brewer has been elected as queen of the carnival, and for the four days of her reign there will be a gala time. A merry-go-round has been put up, and there
FORT Klamath Baseball Team, Klamath County Champions for 1911

Front row: Brownie Willes, Ralph Ballard, Obil Shattuck, and Frank Higginbothum.
—courtesy Chuck Zumbrun

ED Purcell Taking a Bad Spill at the Fort Klamath Roundup in 1912
—courtesy Fort Klamath Pioneer Assoc.
will be many amusement features of this character.

A few of the prizes to be awarded follow:
Bucking contest, $100; wild horse race, $10 each day; best bucking horse, $25; fancy roping, $5 each day; bulldogging, $10 each day; bull riding, $40; horse races, $200; automobile barrel race, $15 each day; automobile egg race, $5 each day; three-mile automobile race, $50; motorcycle race $10; Indian war dance, $25; foot races, 8 to 20 years, $40; greased pole, $5 each day; greased pig, $2.50 each day.

There will be pony, saddle horse and running races. For the horses entered two or more times and not getting in on the money, there will be consolation purses awarded Thursday.

The Klamath Indians, several hundred strong, are already going into camp here. They will give war dances during the show, and will also compete in all of the events. There will be a rug of war between mounted teams of Indians and whites.

Every night, there will be a big dance. Every day there will be a balloon ascension and parachute drop. Fast baseball is assured by the fact that Prineville, Sican, Fort Klamath, Klamath Agency and perhaps Klamath Falls will all try for the $200 purse.

A big new dance platform has been built at the grounds where the carnival will hold sway.

In addition to the other events, there will be a program of boxing and wrestling bouts Wednesday afternoon. Johnnie Cope, land of the Fort and Kid Jesse of Butte will be the main event, and there will be several other fast ones on the card. (As this writer understands it, there have been two different locations at which games, races, etc. have been held. One of these was north of the highway in the bend of Wood River, east of town. The other was south of town, between Wood River and the county road, a continuation of Main Street, leading south.)

*Evening Herald*, July 10, 1916: The celebration of Indians of Klamath and other reservations closed today, after a week's festivities in honor of Independence day. It is a fact obvious to any observer that the Klamaths are earnest in their patriotism, as demonstrated by their decorations, by their public speeches, and by the desire on the part of the younger members of the tribe for citizenship. Sheldon Kirk, in his closing statement of his speech said: "I stand before you an aborigine of this country, a ward of a nation, but not a free man."

The Klamaths have an ideal camping ground of 160 acres set aside for them by the government. It is on the shore of Wood River, a mile below Fort Klamath, being a green carpeted meadow surrounded by evergreens. In the center is a large flagpole bearing Old Glory. Around the border of the trees the tents of the red men. Along the river bank is their merry-go-round, ball, grand stand and fruit stands. In one corner a large hall was built for the Shakers, a medico-religious order who held some enthusiastic meetings.

About 800 Indians were in attendance. Many visiting Indians were present, as Warm Springs, the Pitt Rivers from California, and others from Puget Sound, Wash.

Besides parades, war dances in costumes, ball games and the like, there were horse racing, wrestling matches and various sports.

The Shakers with their bells attracted much attention. They have certain rituals to go through, finally working up a religious fervor. On the whole they may do some good.

(Editor's Note: Richard L. "Dick" Hessig recalls that during one of these early day celebration parades, two clowns came cart-wheeling down the street. A horse was tied to a fence at one side of the road or street, and when he heard the commotion, turned his head and looked out from behind the blinders on his bridle. Spotting the two clowns in their bright outfits and having never before seen gyrations, wild eyed and startled, he snorted, pulled back and dropped dead in his tracks.)
Back in the teens several towns in Klamath County held district fairs, among them were Bonanza and Fort Klamath, who held their fairs only a few times, Merrill alone surviving.

Newspaper accounts give one of the best descriptions of the little known or mentioned Fort Klamath district fair and follow:

*Evening Herald*, September 26, 1914: At a meeting of the boosters of the Wood River Valley, called by Jas. C. Pelton of the county fair board, plans were outlined for the district fair to be held here next Saturday, and the reports of the committees show that it will be a hummer. The fair will be held only one day.

The premium list for the exhibitors will be the same as used at Bonanza. Although it will be a little late for the best selection of our agricultural products, this part of the fair will be a surprise, for the Wood River Valley claims to be able to show the best forage crops of any part of the county.

A purse is being raised for foot racing and a bucking contest. The Fort people gave away $500 in prizes at the "July Time," when they also brought sixty Warm Springs Indians here, and there is no doubt but what we will spend a little money in this way at the fair.

The heads of committees are as follows: Farm exhibits, Ray Loosley; livestock, L. C. Sisemore; domestic art, Mr. Gordon and Mrs. Turner; field day sports, John Utter.

*Evening Herald*, September 29, 1914: The Klamath Falls Military band will furnish music at the Fort Klamath district fair Saturday, the same as at Merrill and Bonanza. Arrangements to this effect have just been completed.

Nor is the band all that will represent the county seat at the big doings in the Wood River Valley metropolis. At least twenty automobile loads of people will also make the trip, and take in the sights.

Livestock and forage crops are to be the strong features at the Fort's fair. Those in charge say it is a little late in the year for vegetables, but that when it comes to perfection in grains and grasses, the Fort beats the whole county.

One of the features of the program will be a ball game between the Fort Klamath Red Sox and the Utter & Burns Giants. Both teams have been practicing hard, and a hot game is expected. Besides this, there will be races, a bucking contest and a big dance in Melhase hall.

by Devere Helfrich
Evening Herald, October 5, 1914: The people of the Wood River Valley were greatly disappointed at the failure of the Klamath Falls people to furnish a band for the district fair here, as they promised to, and as they did for Merrill and Bonanza fairs, despite this they held a display here that was easily the peer of this year’s Klamath county district fairs.

In some respects the fair here was superior to the average county fair. This is especially true from the standpoint of livestock, school exhibits and needlecraft.

In addition to the exhibits from the Wood River Valley ranches, there were displays from Crystal and from as far north as Beaver Marsh. Another attractive feature was a display of China pheasants and Belgian hares from the Copeland ranch.

The livestock exhibit, housed in Ryan’s barn, was unexcelled this fall. This took in many exhibits, and the judges, C. T. Oliver of Klamath Falls and Doc Caldwell and Bob Dalton of Merrill, had hard work in deciding some of the awards. Some of their awards follow:

- Best stallion...Sisemore & Pelton
- Best beef cow...L. C. Sisemore
- Best beef steer...Dan Ryan, first and second prizes
- Best ram...James Pelton, first and second
- Best ewe...Johnnie Moon
- Best mule team...Will Nickerson, first and second
- Best draft team...Mr. Pyland

In the agricultural department there was a creditable display of hardy vegetables, grains, grasses and forage crops. Excellent honey in the comb and strained, attested to the fact that the Wood River Valley is adapted to bees. The schools also had splendid exhibits.

The fancywork department was one of the most attractive at the fair. There was all manner of women’s needle work art displayed, including some almost priceless pieces from seventy-five to one hundred and fifty years old.

LINED UP FOR THE START OF THE 1929 CRAZER LAKE SKI RACE

—courtesy Emil Nordeen

Crater Lake Ski Race

by Devere Helfrich

Back in the late “Roaring Twenties,” an enterprising group of Fort Klamath citizens, instigated principally by Linsey Sisemore and Alfred B. “Tony” Castel, promoted a marathon ski race commencing in 1927 and held annually thereafter for a number of years.
of years. The first race was held on February 22 (Washington's Birthday), 1927 for a purse of $400.00 which was put up by the Fort Klamath Community. Tony Castel was the secretary of the Crater Lake Ski Club, the sponsors, and stated that the event was held to publicize Fort Klamath as the community was "desirous of obtaining more settlers." There were then but 35 families consisting of some 225 people in the district.

Credit for the idea of the Crater Lake Ski race belongs to John Mahen, caretaker at the Crater Lake Lodge during the winter. It was thought he had plenty of time during his lonely vigil to think up the idea.

The race course itself, led from Fort Klamath to the Crater Lake rim at the Lodge, following the then existing highway, and returned by the same route to Fort Klamath, a total distance of 42.6 miles. The total climb in the course was approximately 2,200 feet.

Thirty-four entrants signed up for the 1927 race but only twenty-three started. There was no entrance fee charged. Manfred Jacobson of McCloud, California won the event in 7 hours and 34 minutes, eighteen minutes ahead of W. Nordquist of Klamath Falls, who finished second. Nels Skjersaa of Bend was third, Everett Puckett of Klamath Falls fourth, Harry G. Francis of Fort Klamath fifth and Otto Hagen of Brightwood, and Andy Verso of Fort Klamath finished in a tie for sixth.

Jacobson led for most of the way up, but tiring of breaking trail, pretended to have ski trouble, letting Nordquist take the lead which conserved Jacobson's energy for later. Both men reached the lodge at the same time, with Vern Puckett arriving two minutes later. Everyone had to sign in at the Lodge before starting on the return. This information was phoned to Fort Klamath and relayed to the spectators. Snow conditions were poor. A recent new heavy snow fall was very soft and had no crust. In addition, in the Fort Klamath area there was a terrific wind from the south.

The race started at 8:00 o'clock in the morning and the winner finished at 3:34 in the afternoon. During the elapsed time, spectators entertained themselves skiing, tobogganing and dancing at the Community Club hall. A cheering crowd of 1,000 persons were at the finish line one mile west of town.

For this one day at least, Fort Klamath was the center attraction of the Pacific Coast. The Evening Herald wrote: "The tremendous interest of the outside world as evidenced by nearly every newspaper on the Pacific Coast calling for bulletins on the race, insures the winter carnival as an annual event in the Klamath country."

On February 22, 1928 sixteen entrants started the race but only four finished. Again Manfred Jacobson won, setting a new record of 6 hours and 13½ minutes. Emil Nordeen of Bend finished second some eight minutes back. Nels Skjersaa also of Bend was third and E. Nordquist of Lakeview was fourth.

Jacobson took the lead at the start and maintained it to Annie Springs camp where Nordeen took over and still held a short lead when the rim was reached at 12:38. On the return Jacobson passed Nordeen when nearing Wild Cat, and gradually increased his lead to the 8 minutes at the finish.

The weather was perfect for the race, cloudy but not stormy, and there were no accidents. Seven of the starters dropped out of the race at Annie Springs on the way up to Crater Lake lodge, tired and discouraged.

As a result of the 1927 trail breaking experiences, a new Trail Breakers race was added in 1928. It was a special 21.3 mile downhill race starting from the Crater Lake lodge and finishing at Fort Klamath. The contestants traveled to Crater Lake the day preceding the race, stayed overnight at the lodge and started their down hill run at 8:00 A.M.

Lester Hellens, dark horse from Seattle, won the event by 39 seconds over Ray Ferguson, pride of Fort Klamath. A crowd estimated at 5,000 witnessed the two races.

February 22, 1929 saw a new time record set for the Crater Lake ski run, 5 hours and 57 minutes, made by Emil Nordeen the "43 year old warhorse" from Bend. Nels Skjersaa, also of Bend was second, some 28 minutes behind Nordeen.
Andy Myra, Finnish entrant from the Olympic Club in San Francisco, was third; John Peterson, 1925 Swedish champion, and favorite before the race, was fourth; E. Nordquist and Alex Pearson finished in that order. O. K. Puckett and J. P. Linman dropped out early.

The weather was clear at Fort Klamath, but snowing at the lodge. There was 39 inches of snow at Fort Klamath, and 9 feet at Crater Lake. As an innovation this year, all the contestants left at one time, whereas last year they left at two minute intervals.

This year's winner was presented with a large silver trophy cup for the first time, of which he could gain permanent possession by winning twice.

Millard Briscoe, crack skier of Wood River Valley won the "down hill" race in 2 hours even. Chuck Zumbrum, Fort Klamath, was second, Lee Ferguson third and Dick Barnum fourth.

Ida Briscoe won the five-mile women's race with Doris Noah second and Elva Barnum third.

The February 22, 1930 Crater Lake Ski race was held under the worst snow conditions in the history of the event. Two feet of new, soft snow covered the course near Crater Lake with a sharp wind whipping more snow over the mountains during most of the day. The snow was wet and heavy and was falling so fast during part of the race that the trail broken by the "trail breaker" racers was obscured within a few minutes and the ski tracks made by the contestants in the race on the long pull up to Crater Lake rim were little help on the return trip.

Manfred Jacobson won the race in 7 hours, 42 minutes and 18 seconds with Emil Nordeen but 34 seconds behind. Nels Skjersaa finished third and the other two starters, O. K. Puckett and Valdemar Nordquist dropped out with 15 miles to go.

There was not enough snow to start at Fort Klamath this year so the start was made from Annie Creek Mill camp. To secure the 42.6 mile course the contestants on reaching the starting point on their return from Crater Lake, retraced their course.
back toward Crater Lake five miles and again returned to the original starting point to finish the course.

In the "Trail Breaker" race, Millard Briscoe won first in 3 hours and 58 minutes and 22 seconds, much slower than his 2 hours even, the previous year. Glen Ferguson was second, Vernon Puckett third and Frank Briscoe fourth. The distance is unknown but presumed to be but 16 miles, the distance from the rim to Annie Creek Mill camp.

The February 22, 1931 race was again run from the old Annie Creek Mill camp, to the rim and back, then return up the trail 5 miles and back to finish at the starting point. Four men started and but two finished.

Emil Nordeen won in 5 hours and 35 minutes, a record time, with Manfred Jacobson finishing far behind. Ivor Amoth of Bend broke a ski on the return from Crater Lake lodge and was forced to with-
draw. O. K. Puckett dropped out at the end of 34 miles.

In reporting the race, the Evening Herald of February 23rd, wrote the following: "His skis gliding noiselessly over the sunglistered course at the finish, his togs as much in order as though he had just emerged from the dressing room, his Nordic-blue eyes riveted on the tape ahead, a blush of health glowing in his cheeks, with sufficient strength remaining to have covered many additional miles, Nordeen finished the race amidst the cheering of 3,500 spectators, the largest in the history of the carnival."

The win for Nordeen this year won him permanent possession of the huge silver trophy cup.

The down hill race from the rim to Annie Creek Mill was won by Ole Amoth of Bend, Alex Pearson finishing second, A. Berglund, third, and Vernon Puckett, fourth.

This was the last year that the race was held for the full 42.6 miles.

In 1932, the Crater Lake Ski race was cut to 32 miles overall, starting and finishing at Annie Creek Camp but eliminating the 10 mile circle back up the trail.

The race was won by O. K. Puckett in 4 hours, 26 minutes. P. O. Herburg of Modoc Point was second and Rudy Lueck of Crater Lake third.

The Trail Breaker race of 16 miles was won by Arvid Iverson, Bert Sunquist finishing second and Al Ostmo third.

An estimated 4,000 people attended the carnival.

The 1933 race was held on Sunday, February 26th, according to the Evening Herald and was again for 32 miles. Peter O. Hedburg won in 4 hours, 30 minutes. O. K. Puckett finished second, 4 minutes behind, with Rudy Lueck third.

The Trail Breaker race was won by Delbert Denton, with Millard Briscoe second and Glen Ferguson third.

In 1934 the winter games were moved to the government camp on the road to Crater Lake due to a lack of snow. The event was held March 18th, and was billed as "the only ski tournament held on the coast this year in enough snow to keep the spectators feet cool."

The Class A race this year was cut to 6 miles and was won by Nels Skjersaa of Bend in 40 minutes and 59 seconds. Arvid Iverson was second, 44 seconds behind. John Ring of Spokane was third, Pete Hedburg fourth, Arnt Ofstad of Spokane fifth and O. K. Puckett, sixth.

This year ski jumping was added. Hjalmer Hvan of Portland, won the event with Arnt Ofstad second.

By placing fifth in the race and second in the jump, Arnt Ofstad won the All-around championship. 3,000 people attended the carnival.

These winter games continued until at least 1938 but the great 42.6 mile cross country race was held only the 5 years, 1927-1931.

On November 18, 1967 Emil Nordeen then 81 years young, told this writer that if he could train a month he could beat any of the present day skiers in a cross country race. Further, he stated, that the great Crater Lake Ski race triggered skiing events of the Pacific Northwest, if not the entire West Coast.

In 1964, at the Squaw Valley, California, Olympic games, Emil Nordeen presented the silver trophy cup he had won at Fort Klamath, to his native Sweden, to be put up as a perpetual trophy each year to the winner of an international cross country ski race.

In return, Sweden has presented Emil with a beautiful inscription acknowledging the gift. Thus Fort Klamath's cup is now an International Ski Championship Trophy.
Many, many years ago, how long, it now seems impossible to establish, a huckleberry patch came into existence just outside the southwest corner of present day Crater Lake National Park, and but a few miles south of the headwaters of Union Creek.

Growing in what had probably been an old forest fire burn, the patch was for many years reached by an old Indian Trail leading to the north slopes of what is now known as Huckleberry Mountain.

One lady, Mrs. Alice Hamilton, still living in Klamath Falls, traveled this trail in 1890 at the age of seven. Later a crude road was built in from Union Creek by a man named Woodruff (a Woodruff once owned a ranch north of Fort Klamath on the old Military Hay Reserve). Mrs. Hamilton has never missed making the trek to the "Huckleberry Patch" in the past seventy-seven years. However, the menace of forest fires in 1967, forced the closing of the area before she was able to secure any berries.

Our local newspaper files extend back to July 1, 1899 and each year in season, mention has been found, especially in the earlier years of an almost en mass emigration of our county citizens to the "Huckleberry Patch."

The Republican of August 15, 1901 states that "Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Van Venkenburg and Miss Minnie Taylor started Monday morning on a trip to Crater Lake and the celebrated 'Huckleberry Patch' and will be absent about three weeks. The 'Huckleberry Patch' so called, covers at least two townships (46,080 acres) and annually produces berries enough to supply the whole state of Oregon. Every year thousands of people go there from southern Oregon and northern California to pick berries and enjoy camping life, and a great many have gone this year, and many more will soon follow."

On October 22, 1908 the Republican tells of the wonders of the "Huckleberry patch": "It is estimated that there were 40,000 gallons of huckleberries picked this season at Huckleberry Mountain, according to W. F. Arant, who is in the city. This
IN CAMP AT HUCKLEBERRY MOUNTAIN
Note the buckets full of huckleberries in the foreground; also the deer in the center. All persons unidentified. About 1900.

—courtesy Mrs. W. B. Hescock

does not represent over half the berries gathered in Klamath County this year as fully that amount was secured from the Lake of the Woods country.

"Huckleberry Mountain is located on the Cascade Forest Reserve just west of the Crater Lake Park line. It is one of the ideal camping spots of this section. There are myriads of springs and streams gushing from the mountain sides and there has been plenty of grass a foot and a half high for feeding the horses. The wide spreading trees afford shade by day and protection by night. It is estimated that fully 500 families camped at Huckleberry Mountain this fall.

"After the first frost a person riding through the berry bushes would leave a trail of berries which were brushed off by the stirrups, they were so plentiful. This has been the banner year for huckleberries in Klamath County. Not half the berries were gathered. There were fully a thousand acres, literally black with the luscious berry, but even the army of people who visited that section could not more than half cover the ground.

"It is probable that by the next year at least a trail will be built up the mountain. The ground is well timbered but is open as there is very little underbrush except the berry bushes. The Forest Service have been pursuing a policy of road building through the reserves and an effort will be made to have them open up a trail, which can be improved and broadened by parties interested in visiting this section."

By August 5, 1916, the Evening Herald reported: "To guide and take care of campers seeking huckleberries, William Sims has established a camp on the top of Huckleberry Mountain. Sims says the huckleberries are plentiful on the mountain, but that they are very scarce in the Lake of the Woods country. Huckleberry Mountain is thirty miles north of Fort Klamath.

"William has about thirty saddle horses and pack mules at his camp, and will meet all parties at the foot of the mountain, which is about four miles from the berries, and which is the farthest point to which automobiles can go. A man has been em-
ployed by Sims to stay at the foot of the mountain to repair and guard automobiles of all parties picking huckleberries.

By 1938, the United States Forest Service recognized the importance of the "Huckleberry patch" as a tourist attraction and printed the following in their brochures and on their maps: "Huckleberry Mountain is famous for the large amount of huckleberries gathered there each year. The main camp-grounds, known as Huckleberry City, have a population of several hundred people during the huckleberry season. Some years as many as 3,000 pickers have visited the area, taking out from 12,000 to 15,000 gallons of berries. The city proper is 11 miles by auto from Union Creek. A forest guard, located at Huckleberry City, can direct the traveler to berry patches and points of interest and otherwise assist him during his stay."

—Helen Helfrich photo

Fort Klamath Postal History . . .

by Bernard Griffin

The Fort Klamath post office was first established, with Jay Beach postmaster, on January 6, 1879. Although the exact location is not known, it must have been within the confines of the Fort itself. Less than five months later, on May 26, 1879 this office was closed and the post office discontinued for no apparent reason.

For approximately seven months there was no post office until November 27, 1879 when John Gotbrod became the postmaster, this time for certain at the site of the Fort. As he writes in his own words, "the office is located ¾ of a mile from Wood River on the east side of it and right on the west bank of Fort Creek."
John Gorbrod served for almost six months, when he was succeeded by Joseph S. Beach on May 18, 1880. The post office apparently not being moved at this time, nor during the terms of the next four known postmasters, who were as follows: George Nutley on January 3, 1882, William G. Knighter on November 18, 1884, Phillip Cann on January 9, 1885 and Felix Kahn on February 6, 1885.

However, since the Fort was being abandoned in 1893, we find the next postmaster, Theodocia E. Shattuck (Note: It has always been written and told that Solon O. Shattuck was the first postmaster of the new settlement of Fort Klamath. This is now disproved by Government postal records. It was Theodocia, his wife, who was the postmaster. According to Obil Shattuck, a son, his father carried the mail from the old Fort to the new location,—Editor), appointed December 10, 1892, reporting the first change of location of the Fort Klamath post office. She describes her new site as being 1/8 mile west of Wood River and one mile east of Anna Creek. The post office had been moved about a mile northwest from its former location. Although the town of Fort Klamath was not platted until June 19, 1902, the post office had apparently moved to the beginnings of the city when the Fort was closed.

The location of her office was west of the present Rainbow or Page Garage, just beyond the small north-south irrigation ditch that lies back of it. The post office was in the spare bedroom at the front of the house.

John M. Fountain was appointed next, on June 10, 1896 but was not confirmed. Instead, William T. Shive became the next postmaster, being appointed on the following July 21st. Mr. Shive came to the Wood River country in 1895. He purchased John M. Fountain’s store at old Fort Klamath, and was tearing it down for the lumber, when Dan Cronemiller offered him an acre of land, at the site of the new town, if Shive would build a general mercantile store on it. This area was south of the present Page Garage. In the spring of 1896, Mr. Shive built a small store with living quarters for his family. It was on the corner now occupied by the Fort Klamath Hotel, which is in part the same building, but greatly remodeled. Later, in 1898, Mr. Shive erected a store building twenty feet south of the first building. The post office was moved into the store behind the counter, on the left as you entered the store. There were a few boxes back of the counter for the mail. Shive and Ryan were partners in the store for several years, with Shive as postmaster.

On March 4, 1901, Frank G. Butler bought out Mr. Shive’s share of the store and it became the Ryan and Butler store. Then on March 11, Mr. Butler became the postmaster. Mr. Shive moved away in 1902.

When Henry B. Loosley became postmaster on July 20, 1907, he installed the office in his store which L. Hessig had built just east of the old telephone building, which is still standing. In his report to the Post Office Department about the new site, he stated that it was 105 rods southeast of the previous location and 57 rods west of Wood River.

In the spring of 1914, the building which housed the post office was moved. First they moved it north across the road directly north of the previous location, with the building still facing north. Then they turned it so it faced the east and backed it up some distance, until it reached its new location west of the north-south road through town. It took several days to make the move and the store and post office were never out of service during the time. Every evening when the movers were finished for the day, Mrs. Loosley would come out and carefully measure exactly where the building was sitting so she could put it down in her records for the Post Office Department, because they wanted to know where the office was located every day. This move put the post office back on Main Street again, but south of the previous locations.

Came the fall of 1914, and Nettie Vose became the postmistress, with an appointment dated October 3rd. Since she did not have a store or other commercial establishment she moved the post office to her home which was just north of the Page Garage. Although there is a house in that location
now, it is not the same one. This put the post office within a few yards of the original site where Mrs. Shattuck once had it in 1892.

Miss Bertha A. Pittman became postmistress on June 7, 1918, and again moved the office to a site across the street from the building which was the location of the Wimer Garage at one time. She held the office for only a year before turning it over to Harold G. Bunch, who came in October 28, 1919. Mr. Bunch moved the office to the Rexall Drug store, located in the twenty foot space between the Fort Klamath Hotel and the Ryan and Butler Grocery store. There was a drug and variety store in the same building. Mr. Bunch says the post office had a separate room.

When Mrs. Viola Page came into office six years later, on June 1st, 1926, she kept the office in the same building, which later was known as the Quality Shop.

Mrs. Geneva Brattain, who came into office October 1, 1927, first had her office in a building across the street, east of the Page Garage. On July 30, 1928 she moved it to an old store between the C. I. Club house and the Varnum residence. This old building was condemned so she was forced to move the post office in September, 1928 to a lean-to attached to the north side of the old Crater Lake Cafe (Roder building), now vacant. During the interlude while Mrs. Harriet A. Zumbrun held the office, from July 1, 1942 to July 31, 1950, the office stayed in the same spot. But when Mrs. Brattain returned to office, she moved to the other side of this building. The post office remained here for over nine years until the present new post office was built and ready for occupancy.

Mrs. Brattain moved into the brand new post office building on December 8, 1962. Since Patricia M. Hescock became postmistress, on December 30, 1965, the post office has been in the same location, adjoining the Cattle Crossing Cafe.

Wood River Valley Schools

by Devere Helfrich

School District No. 7, originally known as Wood River, was established September 27, 1880. This means the district was established while still under the jurisdiction of Lake County. This first location was not mentioned, nor has the time been determined when the name was changed from Wood River to Fort Klamath.

In 1883 the officers of District No. 7 were: W. H. Menkimut, clerk; John Loosley, J. Baughman and George Swartz Swasey. (All of the above information from notes made several years ago, of the Original Record Book of the Klamath County School Superintendents...Editor.) C. H. Dyer was the first Superintendent.

Early information on nearby related school districts from the same source related that District No. 18, Crystal, was established November 28, 1888 by P. L. Fountain, Superintendent; and District No. 27, Klamath Agency, February 25, 1893, by C. R. DeLap, Superintendent.

_Ninety Years of Klamath Schools_ states that "In the post returns of old Fort Klamath, January 25, 1887, we find that John Loosley and Robert Paul, citizens, asked permission of the War Department to locate a school on a site in the Military Reserve, near the upper crossing of the Wood River, near the corner of Section 16, T. 33 S., R. 7½ E., and near the west line running north and south on a public road. The commanding officer of the post, Captain Carpenter granted permission."

On March 8, 1888, both Solin O. Shattuck (Deed Book No. 3, p. 495) and Dan Cronemiller (Deed Book No. 3, p. 497), each donated two acres to District No. 7 for school purposes. These four acres were on the Seven Mile Creek road a short distance west of what became the town of Fort Klamath. All Fort Klamath schools have been located on this tract of land near the
THE FIRST, OR ORIGINAL LOG SCHOOL AT FORT KLAMATH ABOUT 1895

—courtesy Elizabeth Loosley

southeast corner of Section 16, and near the west line of the old military hay reserve. It must therefore be assumed that the old log school house was not built until the summer of 1888 or even later.

The west line of the military hay reserve varies according to the different surveys made down through the years. A General Land Office survey made by Jason Owens in the summer of 1872, places the boundary at approximately the site of present State Highway No. 62, leading north of the town of Fort Klamath. Other surveys were made at various times, then Eugene B. Henry, in a November, 1897 survey, shows the west boundary line as lying nearly an eighth of a mile west of the present road, or nearly bisecting the later school grounds. This variation in the surveys of the military hay reserve are probably the reason permission was needed from the Military, in 1887, to establish a school in the neighborhood.

All these early day surveys had as their common starting point, the flag pole near the center of the parade grounds of the old Fort. Mistakes were made, however, thus accounting for the discrepancy of these early day surveys.

Next school mentioned, datewise, is that made in the Anonymous Report of July 31, 1899 which states: "There has been no garrison school started as yet, under Article 3, Army Regulations of 1889. There is a competent teacher at the post, and a good school room with necessary appliances. A school for children has been maintained, with an average attendance of 6 to 8."

During the early 1900's, the log school house was replaced by a frame structure known as the Grade School. By about 1915, another frame school building was erected to house a high school. This ran until about 1935, when the few pupils were bussed to Chiloquin. Sometime during this same
FORT KLAMATH GRADE SCHOOL AT LEFT, AND HIGH SCHOOL AT RIGHT, ABOUT 1915
—courtesy Klamath County Museum

SCHOOL CHILDREN AND TEACHER AT THE WILLOW BROOK SCHOOL
This building is still standing.
—courtesy Mrs. Harry Engle
THE MELHASE SCHOOL ABOUT 1902 OR 03
L. to r.: Belia Melhase, Emma Melhase, Bessie Loosley, Vera Crisler, Claude Loosley, Bill Melhase, Perozzi and Maude Nail (?), teacher.
—courtesy Willeska Loosley

School District No. 27 (Melhase) held their school during the winter of 1910-11 in the home of Fred Loosley, since all concerned lived there. L. to r.: Florence Benson, teacher, Claude Loosley and Merle Loosley.
—courtesy Merle J. Loosley
period a gymnasium was constructed between the two buildings and served for many years.

Lastly, about 1929, the Grade School was replaced by a brick structure, still standing, which saw its last use during the school term of 1966-67.

There was another school, Willowbrook, some two miles due west of Fort Klamath that had but one name and one location. The building is still in existence. It was a subsidiary of the main District No. 7, Fort Klamath school, and had but one teacher at a time. It ran but a few years, during the 1912-1916 period, and was for the accommodation of the children living in the western part of the valley. It must be noted that due to the severe winters and snow conditions, schools were not held during the winter, but during the spring and fall months.

There was yet another school in the valley, known as the Melhase school. It seems also to have been called the Short school at one time, and also with a reference made to it in 1913, as the "Seven Mile" school.

In the beginning Districts No. 18, Crystal, and No. 27, Klamath Agency, were united under the name of No. 18 on December 26, 1896, but evidently divided again within two years, for on July 17, 1898, the line between the two was changed.

The Melhase school became a subsidiary of the Klamath Agency school, District No. 27. This school was situated about four miles southwest of the town of Fort Klamath.

The first school house, an old log cabin, used in this neighborhood was located on the Fred Melhase ranch about three miles east of Seven Mile Creek. It had probably been an old homestead cabin, as it was well stocked with bed-bugs between the logs, which the school children would pick out at various times. This school was established about 1898. Later during the early 1900's, a new school was built about a half mile north. All that remains is an artesian well which flows steadily, year in and year out.

At times the school children of this section attended No. 27, Klamath Agency, or the more closely located Melhase school, depending on the number of pupils, their location and the weather.

One year, 1910-1911, there were but two pupils, Claude and Merle Loosley, who with their teacher, Florence Benson, all lived at the Fred Loosley homestead. During the severe winter weather, the teacher was persuaded to hold school in the Loosley home—moving back to the school house, some two miles away, when the weather conditions permitted.

Today, there is not one school in operation in the entire Wood River Valley, the children all being transported to the schools of Chiloquin.
Civic Improvement Club . . .

The Civic Improvement Club was first organized as a Church Improvement Club in Fort Klamath during the year 1924. There are three of the original members living at this time—Mrs. J. A. (May) Gray of Fort Klamath; Mrs. Willeska Loosley of Klamath Falls; and Mrs. Merle (Helen) Loosley of Malin, Oregon.

Sometime in late 1924 or early 1925 they decided to change the name to Civic Improvement Club so that the members who were of different religions would not feel that they were obligated to support one church, although they still helped in all community affairs and with the various churches in the neighborhood.

It is not remembered who all of the Charter members were, but some of the early and possibly Charter members were Mrs. B. T. Youell, Mrs. M. L. Ferguson, Mrs. Ed Hoyt, Mrs. W. E. Nicholson, Mrs. Charles Noah, Mrs. H. G. Bunch, Mrs. Edith Moon, Mrs. Dan Ryan, Mrs. Nettie Miller and a Mrs. Carter. No doubt there were several others but the first records are not available.

It is still an active organization and has seen many changes come to Fort Klamath. It is the only thing that is incorporated about Fort Klamath and as such tries to maintain a center of amusement and recreation for all who live here.

Card parties are held in the Club House in the winter and cooked food sales, teen-age dances, an annual Bazaar in the late summer and meetings for other groups. The building is also used as the voting place for this precinct.

The first record that I have is August, 1925. On that date Mrs. Joanna Taylor was Vice President, Mrs. Ed Hoyt, Secretary and Mrs. May Gray was Treasurer. They were meeting in the various homes and in the church, alternating the meetings, when they started out as a group.

Copied from the minutes of August 3, 1928—"Amy Ryan reported on the Ball property. The contract is made, and two
hundred dollars paid down. The incorporation papers filed and the seal ordered, and the building is insured for three years.” This is the present building. It has been remodeled and fixed up over the years but the basic design is still the same. Then on June 21, 1929 the members met for the first time in their own building. The officers at this time were Millie Hoyt, President, Nola McFarland, Secretary and the others were not named in the minutes of that meeting, however a vote of thanks was given Emma Gordon for her “untiring Efforts on behalf of the Club to fix the building.”

Prior to the occupancy of the building as a Club Room, the building was rented as a two home apartment to at least two families, Parkers and Martins.

Since that time there has probably been enough food cooked and served by the Club members there to feed the community of Fort Klamath for some time, and at least a quilt made for each bed in Fort Klamath, possibly all of Wood River Valley.

Many plays have been produced and directed by the women of the Club, put on not only in Fort Klamath but in the surrounding communities as well. This was one of the major sources of income for the Club in its early days.

During W. W. II the Club members were very active in sewing for the Red Cross. All types of garments were made and letters to the Fort Klamath boys in the Services were sent regularly as another link with home. I know that I, personally, made over two thousand buttonholes for the finished garments on my own sewing machine.

The C. I. Club has sponsored Boy Scout groups, Campfire Girls, Horizon Club Girls, and 4H Club groups, and served as a place for them to hold their meetings and parties during the past years.

For some years dances were held there as a means of raising money for operation of their activities. Some of these dances were in the real old style Western way, and possibly the less said of some of them the better. I’m sure they will be remembered with a little nostalgia by the participants.

The only dances held there now are usually for the entertainment of the teen-age children of the community, and these very infrequently. One of the main dances each year for several years was the Street dance. We would close the street with the permission of the Highway department, and hold the dance and carnival type affair in the street in front of the building. These became a little heated at times, but not like some I remember that were held in the building until they erupted outside.

The annual Bazaar is still held, usually in July of each year. The women of the Club, helped by others make fancy work of all kinds all winter and the games are held outdoors for the younger and not so much younger children. The homemade goodies are reminiscent of a much older time.

Among the other organizations that have met in the Club House are the Yoemans, the Ski Club, the Lady Elks of Fort Klamath, Men’s Community Club, and the local Grange. These have all gone with the passage of time but the C. I. Club remains.

Many of its present members are second generation members and it is also interesting to note that most of the present officers are members either by blood or marriage of the early families of the Valley. These include President, Mrs. Pat (Brandenburg) Hescock, Vice President, Mrs. Dorothy (Dixon) Popson, Mrs. Edna Hunsaker, Mrs. Chris Butler, Secretary, Mrs. Maxine (Loosley) Kizer, and Treasurer, Mrs. Georgia Page.

The “Good Old Days” are gone, but as long as the C. I. Club is here, there will always be a link with the past that cannot be erased. The efforts of those hardy pioneers and long gone women of the past will not be forgotten. The spirit that held them together still can be found among the residents of the Valley and the feeling of coming home kind of gets in your blood if you live here for any length of time.

I’m not sure but I believe the C. I. Club is one of the oldest, continuously operated Organizations in Klamath County. I know it has been one of the liveliest.
Wood River Pioneers...
And Fort Klamath Old Timers

The Wood River Pioneers and Old Timers organized about 1948 for the purpose of keeping alive the traditions and remembrances of the ones that settled the Wood River Valley. Also to act as a monument to their memories.

The ones eligible for membership were the original settlers of the Valley and their descendants and the Old Timers were the ones who lived here prior to 1918.

They are a non-profit group and meet every third Sunday in August, at the head of Wood River (now Jackson Kimball State Park) for their picnic. A Get-together is held the Saturday night before the picnic at the C.I. Club House in Fort Klamath. There are always refreshments at this meeting and at the early meetings the members danced to the music of some of their members.

Each year reminders are sent out by Mrs. W. B. "Pat" Hescock to those eligible to attend, by the secretary of the group. The picnic is a family pot-luck affair with the Club itself furnishing the coffee, ice cream, some table services and the meat so that those coming from a long ways—California, Arizona, Washington, Nevada and all parts of Oregon—are assured of a good old fashioned picnic.

The finances for it are all from the dues paid by the members. One of the biggest treats of a person's life is to sit and listen to the Old-timers tell of the funny, and sometimes not so funny stories of the Old Times in the Valley.

Each year our number of original members dwindle a little more, but their memory lingers on in the hearts and minds of those present, and in the grandchildren and great-grandchildren who can remember listening to the oldsters talk of their "remember whens."

As Told to Me by Obil Shattuck

August 20, 1967 — Recorded by Devere Helfrich

I was born on our old homestead in the north end of the valley on April 3, 1885. It was about 5½ miles from what is now the town of Fort Klamath. My father was one of the first homesteaders here, about 1883. It is the Seth Dixon place now, although Dad sold to Lisk.

My folks lived at the old Fort in one of the buildings there, for about a year after they were married (January 12, 1882). My sister Clara Collman was born there, May 1st, 1883. Dad was the butcher at the Fort.

I don't know when Dad built our house where Fort Klamath now is, but this was the place where he operated his slaughter house. I think my mother taught school in the old log school shortly after she was first married. She was paid $20.00 per month.

My folks had the first post office in their living room and Dad carried the mail by horseback from the old Fort to their Fort Klamath home. Their only pay was the stamp cancellation.

Dad had a beef contract at the Klamath Agency. Mother furnished sweet cream butter there for twenty-one years. Major Worden was in charge then. I used to deliver butter there. Drove a buckskin team hitched to a "buck-board". The Indians called me "Butter."

Dad gave three Chinamen an acre of land on which to build a store. It was the first building in Fort Klamath. The Page Garage is located there now. W. T. Shive built the first hotel across the street. Dad also
The exact center of this picture is the site of the Solon O. Shattuck residence, first house in Fort Klamath.
—Helen Helfrich photo

gave two acres for a school, and Cronemiller gave two acres.

Jim Gordon built the old barn that is still standing, years ago, about 1900. Jackson later had it.

It used to take a week to ten days to go to Linkville for supplies at times when the roads were bad. As a kid, I made my first big purchase there once, a Sharples Cream Separator. Dad used to furnish 150 head of livestock for the white employees at the Agency.

I was a disgrace to the community. I was twenty-one before I graduated from the 8th grade. Then I lost two of my papers and had to go six weeks more to graduate. I wore a groove in the floor, I traveled over it so much. I left here in 1906, to go to Oregon Agricultural College. (Obil graduated with a Master degree, and in 1941, was superintendent of the Burns, Oregon branch of the State Experimental Station...Editor).

When I was about twenty-one years old I worked at the old Kingdom sawmill for $.15 an hour, $1.50 for ten hours. My first job was handling green lumber. I also worked for Utter and Burns in the upper end of the valley.

I remember once, the teacher was going to whip my girl. Another guy and I prevented it.

I used to ride fifteen miles, horseback, to a dance. I might dance twice, and thought I was doing well. I was real bashful. I remember I wore chaps and a mackinaw.

The only thing I can remember about the old celebration was the sham battle.

As Written to Me by Mrs. Paul Robertson...

May 4, 1968 — Recorded by Devere Helfrich

My Dad, Alfred Melhase, was born in Potsdam, Germany, June 7th, 1858, one of a family of seven, four boys and three girls. As a small boy he and his brother Richard acted as music racks for the Kaiser’s band. An older brother, Fred was a drummer boy. Dad’s father, after serving his time in the German army, was a gardener in the Palace gardens. After his health began to fail, and the doctor advised a change of climate, the family decided to come to America. Here, Grandad thought, his sons would have a better chance, and he didn’t want them to serve in the army as he had had to do. When Dad was ten years old the family sailed from Hamburg, Germany, in a small steamship. The weather was very stormy and the ocean so rough everyone had to stay below decks. They landed in New York harbor in the summer of 1868. After a short stay there, they moved to Hannibal, Missouri where they lived until 1875, when they moved to Ferndale, Humboldt County, California. They stayed there for three
years, then moved back to Hannibal. The place Grandfather had homesteaded is now a part of the City Park in Hannibal.

In 1881, Dad married Dora Brummer in Hannibal and lived there until 1889, when he and mother with my oldest brother John and sister Nellie came to Klamath Falls. Dad bought 160 acres in the Spring Lake district, and after farming there for two years, they moved to Fort Klamath. This was in 1891. His brothers, Fred, Richard, and Gus moved there some time before. The first few years the going was quite rough. He raised a few cattle and horses. In 1896, he bought 720 acres of land and added to it until he had a good sized ranch of about 1500 acres. This he stocked with sheep and was one of the most substantial sheep raisers in the valley. He was also President of the Fort Klamath Irrigation District.

One year we had a very hard winter, I believe it was 1903 or 1904. The snow was deep and frozen but in February a Chinook wind started blowing and the sheep bogged down in the soft snow, became water logged and wouldn't budge under their own power. Before they could all be rescued, 2700 of them developed pneumonia and either died in the snow, or after they were under shelter. I think Dad sold the rest of them the next summer to a man in Jacksonville, along with our three legged sheep dog, Ring. That same year Dad bought cattle in Summer Lake Valley and brought them to the Fort.

Mom raised some wonderful vegetables in the old sheep corrals. One year, she raised one cabbage that weighed 50 lbs. and two that weighed 25 lbs each. She sent them to the County Fair and the Judges cut them to pieces to make sure they were not weighted with something to make them weigh heavier.

As a whole, our life at Fort Klamath was a happy one, for we kids at least. There were six of us, John, Delia, Emma, Bill, Dan and myself (Edna). My youngest brother Fred, was born just two weeks before we came to Klamath Falls.
We kids were never really sick, just slight colds in the winter and a dose of quinine and a hot toddy soon fixed that. One day when I was four years old, I followed Emma and Bill into the hay-loft, hunting eggs. The hay was thin over the cow shed, and I fell through to the frozen ground and broke my arm. The nearest doctor was at the Klamath Agency. The snow was deep and frozen hard enough to hold up the sleigh and horses, so we cut across the fields to the Agency. If Dad drove fast I cried and said it hurt my arm. If he drove slow, it was the same thing. Believe me that broken arm furnished me with a lot of good excuses for the things I didn't want to do, or have done for me, such as having my hair combed. Mom soon fixed that, she cut my hair so short it didn't need combing.

We had an old sheep-herder we called Gus, and each year when he brought the sheep in off the range he usually came through Fort Klamath and brought us kids a sack of hard candy. This one time he didn't give us any candy and we thought he had just forgotten to give it to us, so Bill and I went on a candy hunt, going through all of Gus' pack boxes. All we could find was a jar full of what we thought was cocoanut, so we both took a big bite. It was so bitter, we spit and spit until we ran out of spit, then we went to the well, and washed our mouths. The bitterness was worse than quinine, and it took a lot of
showed us how they coasted in and hunting bird nests, but we didn't for about three miles east of Seven Mountain and Chrisanas. In the timber, picking wild strawberries, apaws, this made a wonderful lot enough skunks to pay for

Dad made most of our sleds, the

Fred was two weeks old, Dad sold the ranch where it did the race was on. We chased him to the edge of the timber, where he went under an old log cabin. We caught a skunk and that wasn't all we got. When we got home, Mom stripped us in the back yard, put our clothes into the big iron pot she used to make soap in, and boiled them. Then she applied her hand where it did the best good.

The most memorable events of the year were the Fourth of July Celebration and picnic, our annual trip to Huckleberry Mountain and Christmas. In the winter we had to shovel snow off the sheep shed and this made a wonderful coasting place. Sometimes Mom and Dad would join us. Dad showed us how they coasted in Germany, in a dish pan. The outcome left a lot to be desired. Dad made most of our sleds, the only store one we had, was the one Uncle Fred gave to my little brother Dan. It had a picture of a large bird on the seat and Dan called it his Swamp Angel.

In the summer we spent a lot of time in the timber, picking wild strawberries, apaws, and hunting bird nests, but we didn't destroy them. We did a lot of fishing in Seven Mile Creek with a twine string and a hook fastened to a willow pole. We caught a lot of fish too, using a piece of red flannel for bait.

Our schools in those days were a far cry from the elaborate schools of today, but I think we learned our Three R's just as well as the kids do to-day. My oldest brother, John, had to go to school in Fort Klamath. The first school in our part of the valley was located in a corner of Uncle Fred's place about three miles east of Seven Mile Creek, on a north-south lane, in an old log cabin. A lady by the name of Mrs. McDonow, I think, was the first teacher there. That was about 1898. Soon after a new school house was built about one-half mile north of the old log cabin. Other teachers I remember teaching there were Restora French, Tella Dixon, Ada Disworth and Thora Smith, who rode a white horse she called Nipper. Each noon she would let one of the pupils ride him down to the slough for water, just for fun.

Before my youngest brother Fred was born, my Mother was quite ill, and when Fred was two weeks old, Dad sold the ranch and moved to Klamath Falls, where he bought ten acres on Sixth Street between what is now Arthur and Avalon Streets. Our home was the only building at that time, between the railroad track and the old Altamont House. In 1923, Dad sold this place and bought two acres of the old George Nurse place on Conger Avenue from Gus Krause. He and Mom lived there until his death in November 1933. After Mom's death in 1934, the place was sold to W. D. Miller.

MOVIES...


A moving picture machine on wheels for the accommodation of rural districts without electric service has been purchased by J. V. Houston, pioneer showman. Last week Mr. Houston showed to a full house in Fort Klamath, and the pictures showed up plainly.

The machine is small, and can be carried easily in an automobile. A show can be put on any place where it is dark enough. The electric power for the machine comes from the automobile engine, a wire being strung from the automobile to the interior of the building where the show is being given.

Mr. Houston plans to give motion picture shows in many districts of Klamath county that do not enjoy electric lights and other comforts from electricity.
IN 1913 HARRY ENGLE CUT THE TIMBER ON HIS HOMESTEAD
He drove the logs down Wood River to the lake. L. to r.: Archie Tindall, Andy Massey, Harry Engle, Bill Sargent.

Harry Engle -- A Biography . . .

Written About 1954 by Alice B. Engle, His Wife

These events are from his life, as he remembers them, at the age of 78 years. Therefore, there may be some discrepancies as to dates and spelling of the names of towns, etc., but is as near exact as we have been able to make it.

Harry Wilmer Engle was born in the Centennial year, February 2, 1876 at Waterstreet, Hunding County, Pennsylvania, at the home of William Gussman, his maternal Uncle, with his maternal Grandmother in attendance at his birth.

He was the first child of Adolphus Hickernil and Mary Ann Gussman Engle.

The new baby and his mother remained at the Gussman home during the time it took his father to build a house at Tulic, Pennsylvania, a sawmill town where the father worked and where the family lived for the next several years.

During this time three little girls were born, Alfa, Addie and Mabel, the latter lived only about a year.

When the family left Tulic they bought a farm at Pine Flat in Indiana County, Pennsylvania, where they remained for several years, during which time three more children were born, Stella, Bertha and Ora.

The farm was located in a hilly country and every hill was a coal formation. They had only to dig a few feet into the hillsides to get all the coal they needed for fuel.

The family attended a little country church of the Lutheran faith.

Much of the time they lived here, the children’s Grandmother Engle lived with them, when she wasn’t out on “jobs.” She was a Pennsylvania Dutch woman who had married an English schoolmaster and after their family of seven sons and two daughters were grown and settled in homes of their own, the old couple separated and each went his own way.

Grandfather went to Johnstown, where he practised law, and escaped the Johnstown flood only by being out of town at the
time. His house and all his belongings were lost in the flood.

Grandmother Engle was the settlement's mid-wife and Harry's earliest memories are of her being called out at all times of the night to mount her horse and go to deliver new babies for the neighbors. At each such event she stayed four or five days, to be sure the mother and babe were progressing satisfactorily.

If the family were in need, her services were free. Others who could afford it paid her whatever they felt was right.

When Ora was four days old, Dad Engle started west. His brother Jim had gone to California several months earlier and had found jobs for Dad and brother Ira at Beckwith, California in a sawmill.

After working in California a year and a half, Dad Engle took up a preemption claim and a timber culture claim in the Swan Lake Valley. He was, at this time, working in a sawmill at Sisson, California.

He now sent for his family. They came by train to Sisson, where they stayed a couple of weeks. They then came on, by train, to Ager, California, then by stage to Linkville and thence on to Swan Lake in October, 1888 and spent much of the next year alone while Dad held down his job at the sawmill at Sisson, California.

One year later, in August, 1889, another baby girl, Maud, arrived at the Engle home. The children attended school for short terms, during the summer only. Harry attended school one term only after coming west.

Harry was in Linkville the night of September 6, 1889 when the town was destroyed by fire. His father had sent him to town with a team and wagon, to stay over night and return the next day with a load of lumber.

When the hotel caught fire, some time after midnight, Harry was dragged from his bed and hurried, half awake, to the street, by Bill Smith, son of the hotel owner. He got his team out of the stable, but the harness burned with the stable, so his return home the next day was made on horseback and without his wagon or lumber.

It was that same fall of 1889 that Harry first saw the Wood River Valley. It was a very dry summer and feed was scarce in Swan Lake Valley, so the ranchers went together and drove their cattle, around 1500 head, up on the Sprague River and turned them out to graze. By fall they were widely scattered. Harry, with Gilbert Anderson and other ranchers, rode this territory, and found some of their cattle had wandered into the Wood River Valley. This was Harry's first view of the valley and he liked what he saw.

At that time the military hay reserve took in the territory where the town of Fort Klamath is now located.

The Engle family and their neighbors experienced much hardship during the winter of 1889-90, when the snows were so deep that no one could get in or out of the valley except on skis, and no mail came into Linkville for thirty days. Hay for the cattle was hauled on a sled made of skis and pulled by Dad Engle and Harry, Alfa and Addie, in this way their few head of stock were pulled through, while many of the neighbors suffered heavy losses of their cattle by starvation.

Some of the settlers lost members of their families from illness when there was no way to get a doctor or medical supplies.

The dead had to be buried in the door yards until spring. Some were never moved and still rest where they were buried that dreadful winter.

It was the next summer that Harry worked for Lucian Applegate six months for $50.00, and took most of it out in things his family could use, a fat beef to be butchered for winter meat, hay for the stock, etc.

The first sawmill was built in Linkville by Wm. S. Moore. Dad Engle went to work there in 1890 as sawyer and stayed on that job for several years. Harry also worked there for some time and he and his father batched in a little shack on the river. He liked to fish and most evenings found him fishing in Link River, and he says they ate fried fish three times a day. He was paid $1.50 per day and board himself. He worked for a while on the printing press of the Klamath County Star, the first news-
paper published in Klamath Falls, owned and operated by Pete Conley.

During the next two, or three years he, several times, helped to drive bands of cattle from Linkville to Montague, to the railroad. The cowboys camped wherever night overtook them and ate their meals from a chuck wagon.

It was about this time that Harry spent one summer on the west side of the Klamath Lake, at Ball Bay, near what is now known as the Rock Creek Ranch. Ira Engle, Harry's uncle had a logging camp there, with a crew of five or six men and Harry was the cook. Most of his spare time was spent hunting and fishing, and ducks and fish with an occasional deer provided a substantial part of the food supply.

In 1893 the name of Linkville was changed to Klamath Falls and it was the following year that Harry again visited the Wood River Valley. A friend of his, Luke Williams, was the driver of the mail stage, and Harry made a trip with him. They left Klamath Falls early in the morning and arrived at the new Fort Klamath post office late in the evening. The postmaster was Solin (Theodocia...Editor) Shattuck and the post office was in his home, located a little north of where the Wm. Page residence now stands.

The stage driver had living quarters in a shed like building near where Jack McAuliffe's barn now stands. Harry spent the night there with him. The team was stabled in one end of the same building. Early the next morning they started on the return trip to Klamath Falls.

In 1895 Dad Engle took a job as millwright in the Government sawmill at Klamath Agency, and moved his family there. Mother Engle also worked, she had charge of the laundry at the Klamath Tribal school where the Indian girls were taught the laundry work.

While living here Harry grew acquainted with most of the Indians and learned to speak the Klamath language. With other boys he played on the scaffold where Captain Jack of the Modocs was hung and to this day can lead the way to his grave.

During this time he also grew better acquainted with the Wood River Valley and the people who lived here and went to dances in the old log school house located on the same property where the school now stands.

In the fall of 1896 he decided to try his wings, so left home and went to Grants Pass where he worked at the Hampton and Lewis mine on Grave Creek. While on this job he went to dances in the famous old Wolf Creek Tavern, located between Grants Pass and Roseburg.

On March 4, 1897 his mother passed away, suddenly, from a heart attack and Harry returned home, by railroad to Agate, then by stage to Klamath Falls, arriving too late for the funeral.

After visiting a short time with his family, he left for Quincy, California where he worked in a sawmill on the Feather River, all summer, then went to Keswick, California and worked in the Iron Mountain mine.

While on this job he became ill and went in to Redding, a distance of some twenty miles. He got a room at the Empirical Hotel and went to bed, where the manager found him the next day, delirious, and notified his Uncle Ira at the mine. Ira arranged with a widow woman to care for Harry in her home. Dad Engle was sent for and came down and stayed two weeks. When Harry regained consciousness after thirty days of delirium, he did not know his father had been there. His was the first case of Mountain Fever, which swept the camp, causing several deaths and closing the mine down for two months.

As soon as he was able to travel he started home. Arriving in Klamath Falls, he stopped to visit his married sister, Alfa, and her family and while there he came down with mumps which put him to bed for another two weeks before he could continue on his way home to Klamath Agency.

Harry served in the Spanish American War in the Quartermaster Department and sailed from San Francisco on the 17th of March, 1898 on the “Siam” an Austrian vessel chartered by the United States, and at that time was the largest transport afloat. It carried 300 head of horses, large quanti-
ties of hay and supplies for the army in the Philippines.

When far out to sea, a fire broke out in the hay and since the ship's officers were Austrians and the crew Filipinos and the other forty, Americans, they could not talk to each other and bedlam prevailed. In order to save the ship the Americans took charge, sending the crew below and after several hours of hard work managed to control the fire. On the return trip, while on a ten day leave of absence from the ship, at Hilo, in the Hawaiian Islands, the town was quarantined for Bubonic Plague and the boys were held for a period of four months, and while none of them contracted the disease, they saw the dead removed from all around them, and one from the building where they lived.

When they were finally released, they returned to the States on a luxury liner, the "Australia" and enjoyed the best of food and service, nevertheless, they were glad to be home again, with the war over.

Late in the fall, Harry returned to Fort Klamath and bought a squatter's right to the acreage which is now the Loren Street ranch. The land was on the military hay reserve and was being opened to settlement. The price paid for it to Dan Wright was a $35.00 saddle, no cash involved.

Harry lived there for more than a year and built the barn which still stands. He sold his hay crop for $4.00 a ton. One winter day his house burned down and soon after he received an offer of $310.00 for the place, so he sold it to Mark Burns.

He then went to Warder, Idaho to work in the mines. On his arrival there with a friend, he found that Montana Union miners had come to Wardner and dynamited the Sullivan mine, where the boys had planned to work. A train load of colored soldiers had been sent there to keep order, and all who had no visible means of support were being picked up for questioning, so Harry and his pardner left hastily, on foot into the hills and hiked over the hills to Dayton, Washington.

They stopped wherever night overtook them, cutting wood and doing chores for the settlers for food and on a few occasions even survived on handouts. At one place, after cutting the night's wood for a man who lived alone, they had set out for them a large pan of thickly clabbered milk and a pan of eggs. They boiled the eggs and ate them from the shells for sanitary reasons, since the bachelor's kitchen left much to be desired from the standpoint of cleanliness.

When the boys reached Dayton, Washington they parted company. Harry worked there a week or so, then bought a bicycle which he rode home over wagon roads and cow trails, a total distance of five hundred and thirty miles. At one point on the trip he reached the John Day River in the evening. He could see a settlers cabin on the opposite side, and being tired and hungry and no crossing to be found, he removed his clothes and swam the river with his bicycle and his bundle of clothes on his back.

Another time he crossed the Deschutes River to Tygh Valley on a toll bridge which bore a sign "25 cents for bicycles and Chinamen."

Where the city of Bend is now, he again crossed the Deschutes River, this time on an old pole bridge, and went to the nearest cabin and was surprised to find Mr. Sisemore there. This was Lindsay Sisemore's father and he invited Harry to spend the night with him. From there he rode to the Charlie Graves homestead, where Crescent is now. His next stop was the Lenz Ranch on the Klamath Marsh and from there on home to Klamath Agency.

It was about this time that he went to work as chainman for the surveying crew, under Clarence Miller, that surveyed the irrigation canal from Sprague River, south of the present site of Chiloquin to Modoc Point, which took most of the summer of 1900 to complete.

One day officers of the law came to the camp and placed one of the workers under arrest and they learned that the man was in reality a woman wanted in Kansas City on a charge of killing her husband. She had worked with the surveying crew for some time, had gone with them on their trips to town and even shared their bunk tent, with-
out anyone ever suspecting her true identity.

In 1901 Harry went to Alaska, as far north as Juneau and went to work in the Alaska Treadwell mine on Douglas Island and remained for two years. His work was in the stamp mill where he handled quantities of quick silver, which he thinks might have caused indirectly, a later illness.

While here he joined the I.O.O.F. Lodge and remained a member for twenty-seven years.

After leaving the mine he worked for a while at a sawmill and on the log pond and it was here that he managed to save a companion's life, when the man fell into the icy water and soon became too chilled to swim.

He left the mill job to do some prospecting but did not have much luck so decided to return home.

Once more at home at Klamath Agency he invested his savings with his father in the cattle business. The Ball ranch and Jim Jackson ranch on the Klamath Marsh was leased for the project. That winter Harry stayed alone on the Jackson place and fed four hundred head of cattle. His father came in every two weeks on skis to bring supplies and to see that everything was OK.

The second winter Harry became ill and Jim Kirkpatrick took over the feeding job until Dad Engle could move his family to the ranch. By now he had married again.

Harry went to the German hospital in San Francisco, where his ailment was diagnosed as Diabetes Insipidus and Mercury Rheumatism. After six months treatment he was sent home, after being told that the cause and the cure was unknown to the medical profession, and a message to his father advised that nothing could be done. He suffered excruciating pain in the nerve center in the back of his head, and walked many miles over the country side at night, being unable to sleep. This went on for two years without any doctors being able to give him relief. Being unwilling to accept the doctors verdict he contacted his Lodge in Alaska for financial aid, which they very generously gave him and he left for Chicago. This was in 1906.

He found no help in Chicago but he was advised to go to Hot Springs, Arkansas, which he did, and remained there for six months and was happy beyond words to find relief from Nature's own mineral water here. At the end of the six months he had almost entirely regained his health and returned home, once more able to go to work.

It was about this time that he went to work for John Hessig and the two of them built the first telephone lines on the west side of Klamath Lake, as far south as Harri man Lodge. Equipment and supplies were hauled by team and buckboard and they camped wherever night overtook them.

They also built the first telephone line from Klamath Agency to Spring Creek and from Fort Klamath to Arants Camp in Crater Lake National Park.

The following year he again went to work with a surveying crew and worked with them for about 18 months, surveying town lots in Klamath Falls. They surveyed the Shippington district as far out as the old Hanks Ranch.

They surveyed from Main Street out Altamont way as far as and including the Summers Ranch.

They also surveyed from the town site of Dorris over the hills to the Fairchild Ranch and thence to the Lake.

Harry also worked on the surveying crew that surveyed the boundary line of the Klamath Indian Reservation, a distance of some 240 miles.

In the fall of 1907 Harry and his brother Ira went into the saloon business at Fort Klamath in the old China building, built in early days by three Chinese, George, Jim and Fan, to house a store, hotel, restaurant and bar on the corner where the Rainbow Garage now stands.

After about two years in the business Harry and Ira dissolved partnership and closed up the saloon.

Harry then went to work in Klamath Falls for the McIntyre Transportation Company, whose business was the transporting of freight and passengers from the railroad at Pokeygama to Klamath Falls. They used both horses and mules and the teams were made up of 6 and 8 horses or mules and
heavy wagons. In some teams as many as 12 head of mules were used to pull 2 or even 3 wagons fastened together.

Harry's job was to check the freight in and out and to take care of the stables.

When he left this job in 1910, he returned to Fort Klamath and took up a homestead, joining the southeast corner of the Yawkey tract, consisting of 49 acres.

Harry lived here for the next several years. Much of the time Bill Norton lived, and fished, with him. During these years Harry worked part of the time for Tom Jackson in his shingle mill, located not far from the homestead, on Wood River.

In 1913 he cut the timber from the place and drove the logs down the river to the Lake. His crew in these operations consisted of seven or eight local men. The place was then sold to Capt. Siemens and was later acquired by the Yawkey Co.

Harry now being foot loose again, made his second trip to Hot Springs, Arkansas, via the northern route, through Canada, thus he saw much new country.

In Hot Springs he set up a bachelor camp in company with a preacher who was also there for treatment.

During his stay of several months, he took many long hikes into the Ozark Mountains and became acquainted with many of the mountaineers, all of whom were very standoffish with strangers until they learned whether a person's political leanings were toward the north or the south. Harry soon learned that it paid to be neutral, also that the quickest way to break the ice was to produce a plug of store tobacco, which was a treat to men and women alike.

When he had made friends with these people he was often invited to stay a day or two at this home or that. He enjoyed their music, their good times, and their good food, for he said the women were wonderful cooks. He always went back to town loaded down with fresh meat, fresh eggs, milk, a chicken to fry, home made wine, etc.

Upon leaving Hot Springs, he went to Pennsylvania to visit his childhood home and the many relatives who still lived there. He had a wonderful time there and on one occasion went with his five girl cousins to a church social, and after buying something

POOL ROOM IN THE REAR OF SALOON BUILDING, WHERE THE CHUCK ZUMBRUM HOUSE NOW SITS
Sixth man from left in straw hat, Ora Engle; next man to right in white trousers, Wade Crawford; sixth man from right, in shirt sleeves, Bill Norton.
—courtesy Mrs. Harry Engle
from a booth tendered a gold piece in payment, and after consulting several other people, the girl refused to accept it. Harry was to learn that there were few if any gold pieces in use that far east and few people had ever seen them.

After spending four or five months in Pennsylvania, he returned home to Fort Klamath and opened up a pool room in the Tom Jackson store building. He also bought a house and lot where he and Bill Norton once more turned to La Honda where he ran on to his ex-brother-in-law Tony Castel who had disappeared from Klamath Falls several years before.

In 1915 he went to the World’s Fair in San Francisco and while there made a trip out to La Honda where he ran on to his ex-brother-in-law Tony Castel who had disappeared from Klamath Falls several years before.

In 1916 Harry was married to Mrs. Nellie McKinney at Yreka, California and after a short vacation the newly weds returned to Fort Klamath.

In 1917 when all eligible men left for military service in the first world war, the pool room business became so slow that Harry sold the stock and closed the business down.

In the spring of 1918 he planted about three acres of garden on the old Melhase Ranch, which is now the property of Loren Miller. The vegetables found a ready market at Crater Lake and Chiloquin and nearby logging camps. That fall he made twelve 50 gallon barrels of sour Kraut, which he sold for $25.00 a barrel.

This same fall his marriage was ended by mutual agreement and a divorce followed.

In March of 1919 he sold his home and leased some acreage on the Williamson River, one mile south of Chiloquin, from Willie Kirk. That first summer he lived in a tent and planted about five acres to garden. A heavy frost on June 15 destroyed everything and he had to replant the entire garden. The produce was sold to mills and logging camps. He made his deliveries three times a week with a team and wagon. By starting around 4:00 A.M. he could manage to get the load delivered and make it home by night fall. He often enjoyed the noon-day meal at some cook house on the route. Such food! Anything and everything a man could want to eat.

In the fall he obtained rough lumber from the Blocklinger mill at Chiloquin and built a small four room house, and for warmth, papered it with newspapers. It was to this house that he brought a new bride.

The wedding took place on November 12, 1919 at the old Western Hotel in Redding. The bride Alice Birdie Copeland was a native of Fort Klamath, whose parents Louis and Elizabeth Copeland were married at the old Fort by the resident minister there. The couple later homesteaded the ranch just north of what is now known as the Old Swimming hole. Harry’s bride was also a great grand-daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Vaughn who came to the Wood River Valley in 1882 and homesteaded what is now the Darling and Breuer Ranch. At the time of their arrival there were only six other families living in Wood River Valley.

Harry and wife lived on the Williamson River and raised a market garden for six years.

The couple’s first child, a son, Weston, was born October 2, 1923. Incidentally, that same week Harry acquired his first car, a 1921 Chevrolet Touring Car. The car was delivered to his place while he was in Klamath Falls welcoming his son.

Never having driven a car and having no one to teach him, he jacked up the hind wheels, so he wouldn’t go anywhere, and proceeded to learn to start and stop, and when he felt he knew what all the gadgets were for, he lowered the hind wheels from the jacks and took off for Klamath Falls to visit his family. The trip was made without incident or accident.

The next year he cut the car top off and put a bed on in and used it to deliver produce and turned the team out to pasture. The car was temperamental and developed a bad habit of shearing off the keys in the drive shaft, on steep hills. After being stalled on lonely mountain roads a couple of times, Harry made it a point to carry
with him materials and tools for making new keys.

In the fall of 1925 Nora, a small sister-in-law whose mother had died, came to live with the family so Harry moved back to Fort Klamath to be near a school, returning to the ranch in the spring in time to plant the garden. After the crops were harvested in the fall, he again moved to Fort Klamath. This plan did not work out too well so Harry did not renew the lease on the ranch.

He bought a house in Fort Klamath and the following spring planted a large garden on the Sisemore Ranch. This was the spring of 1927 and on May 31 a second son, Clifford, was born.

In October Harry bought the stock of the G. S. Hoyt grocery store and leased the building. He operated this store for a year and a half.

In the spring of 1929 he took in a partner, Oscar Bunch and they built a new store building. The partnership was not a success and the following spring Oscar sold his equity to Harry. He operated his business until the summer of 1932, when the depression hit in all its severity. No one was able to pay their bills and it became necessary to close the store. Part of the building was leased to the Forest Service for an office and later to a road construction crew for an office. The opposite side of the building had housed the post office and apartment for the postmaster since the completion of the building and was now vacated. In 1935 a part of the building was leased to Charlie Bricco for a restaurant and three years later the property was sold to him.

Harry now moved his family to the Horton Ranch on Wood River in the spring of 1936. This is the ranch now owned by Wm. Lambert. While living here Harry worked part time on the highway and also did ranch work at home. His wife worked for the telephone company.

In the summer of 1938 he built his present home and moved in on October 3.

For the next three summers he worked on the highway.

In June of 1941 his 17 year old son, Weston joined the U. S. Marine Corps, and with the outbreak of the second World War, the boy went over seas with the first bunch of Marines, and Harry was to spend many anxious hours at his radio, for the next four years, listening for news as the war advanced from island to island in the Pacific.

It was about this time that Harry went to work for Bill Dyche, as night watchman on the woods operation of the Algoma Lumber Company. He continued on this job until the company moved away from this location. From this time on his work was confined to his home place. Each year raising a fine garden, a few chickens and a pig for winter meat.

In the spring of 1945 his younger son, Clifford entered military service in the U. S. Air Corps and the following spring was sent to the Philippines.

In November 1945, Weston was discharged, at the close of the war, and returned home, after 4 years and five months in the service, most of the time on Pacific Islands where he took part in five invasions.

August 1946 was an eventful month for Harry and his family. Clifford home from the Philippines, was given a 30 day furlough and came home.

On August 7, Weston married Mary McDaniel and was home a few days before moving to Sand Creek to live.

On August 31, Clifford married Myrtle Brown and brought her home. This marriage brought us a grandchild, a 13 months old baby girl named Erma Jean. Myrtle and Erma Jean lived with us for short periods off and on until Clifford was discharged from the service one and a half years later.

Weston's marriage did not work out and they separated on October 31, 1948 and a divorce followed.

On December 27, 1949, Weston again brought home a wife, Juanita Metcalf. This marriage brought us another grandchild a five year old boy named Loren Russel, but called Rusty.

The following year on August 19, 1950 Weston and Juanita gave us our first blood
ELK FOR FORT KLAMATH

by Devere Helfrich

On February 3, 1917 the Evening Herald announced: According to a wire received from State Game Warden Shoemaker by Commissioner Stone this morning, the car of elk calves, which have been secured for Klamath county from the state fish and game commission, will arrive in Klamath Falls at 5:50 Sunday evening.

The Elk are being shipped by express, and the car, which probably contains twenty animals, is attached to the regular passenger train. Monday morning the car will be taken to Chiloquin and from there the animals are to be hauled in sleds to the Sisemore ranch and kept in coral until spring.

Mr. Mitchell accompanied the car from Wallowa county, the place of shipment, and the Wells Fargo Express company also has a man along to assist in looking after the animals. Game Warden Stout and other local sportsmen here and at Fort Klamath will assist in transporting the animals to the Sisemore ranch. It is expected that local people will have an opportunity to see the young elk at the depot after the arrival of the train tomorrow evening.

Two days later, February 5, 1917 the paper reported: Fifteen head of fine looking elk arrived in the city last night in charge of G. W. Mitchell of Enterprise, Oregon, who runs a four section "fenced-in" range to breed elk for the state.

The animals are of large size, and are fine looking specimens. They have been the center of attraction wherever the car stopped for any length of time, and especially in Portland, where a continual string of persons visited the car.

They go to Chiloquin this week, and will be kept on the Sisemore ranch for a time before being turned loose. The elk have been brought here through the Klamath Sportsmen's association and the state fish and game commission.
Mares' Egg Spring

by Devere Helfrich

Located approximately seven miles south-west of Fort Klamath, on the West Side Highway, Mares' Egg Spring lies to the east of the road, about one-half mile after entering the timber.

The springs themselves are similar to many others in the Fort Klamath vicinity. However, located therein, several feet beneath the surface of the water, lies an algae growth that is extremely rare but very interesting. It has been reported to have been found locally in Harriman Springs, Malone Springs, Head of Wood River, Head of Spring Creek and near Wizard Island in Crater Lake. Other known localities reported are near Pasadena, California, and near the volcanic formations of Japan.

Numerous articles have been written locally and state wide concerning Mares' Egg Spring and its algae growth. Perhaps the first article ever written concerning Mares' Egg Spring itself, is that discovered by the writer in The Evening Herald of July 10, 1910:

"Solve mystery of Mares' eggs. The curiosity of a man is responsible for the discovery of the real nature of "mares' eggs", formations in the springs of the Klamath lake region, says the Portland Oregonian. J. E. Gribble, manager of the Crater Lake National forest, had noticed in the springs globular greenish-brown substances, shaped like eggs, varying from two to four or five inches in diameter. He found that they were locally called 'Mares' Eggs," but he wished to know more, so he packed some in moss and sent them to Portland, but when the package was opened in the United States forestry service there was absolutely nothing in the moss. The mystery grew and Ranger Gribble became more interested.

"The eggs were then sent in a glass jar to the Puget Sound biological station at Friday Harbor, where the mystery was solved. The eggs were identified as nostoc jelly, a gelatinous substance, a low form of vegetable life. The formation is 99 1/2 per cent water, which accounts for the disappearance of the eggs in the moss. The eggs are considered a delicacy by the Japanese."

It is told (Nature Magazine, Nov., 1938 by Ann Corbett Harrison,) that "One
student at Oregon State College, who had spent summer vacations in Klamath County, is said to have put what she had learned about "mares' eggs," and the spring into a theme. It was rejected on the ground that the girl had confused the English-schoolboy hoax, mares' nest, with Mares' eggs, and that some one had played upon her credulity. She sped in a car to the spring, secured several specimens of the eggs, and, in their native water, brought them back to the college."

Perhaps the best short article on "Mares' Eggs" is that written by Kenneth McLeod, Jr., and published by the Herald & News, December 4, 1954: Amongst the rarest of our algae, of course, is the so-called "Mares' Eggs," the algae colonies which have attracted so much attention because of their old appearance and rarity. Mares' Egg Spring on the west side of Upper Klamath Lake, not far from Fort Klamath, has had the greatest amount of publicity, yet, this algae is to be found at several other locations in the Klamath Basin, particularly the springs at the head of Wood River and Spring Creek.

Our relationship with algae is a curious one for while we fume and threaten eternal destruction to Aphanizomenen it is beginning to appear that we may eventually be forced to take measures to protect the "Mares' Eggs" from destruction; for curiosity of human beings towards these rare growths of plant life leads to their destruction. When the average human learns that the green boulders covering the bottom of the spring are not rocks but plants it is only natural to want to fish one out and see what it is composed of and so an egg is fished out of the pond to be cut open to reveal its jelly like consistency.

The satisfaction of human knowledge is a commendable trait, however, the unfortunate part of the Mares' Egg problem is that people seeking to satisfy their inborn curiosity usually attempt to take the largest specimen, rather than one of the more numerous smaller ones. We know practically nothing about the growth of these colonies of algae but from general observation the conclusion is that their growth is very slow and large specimens may be many years old. No one has ever made a study of this algae species to determine its factors of growth. This gradual extraction of the larger specimens gradually leads to the eventual destruction of the bed and already beds of Mares' Eggs at the head of Wood River have been destroyed. We suspect that propogation of the species occurs chiefly from the large, old colonies and this is one reason for the disappearance of the more accessible groups.

Mares' Eggs are known by the technical name of Nostoc amplissium, the species being described by Dr. W. A. Setchell in 1899 from specimens discovered near Pasadena, California, which indicates its wide distribution on the Pacific Coast. Setchell's colonies, however, did not reach the gigantic size of the groups living in our Klamath Basin springs. In writing about the eggs you have noted that I have used the word "colonies" rather than plants because each one of the "Mares' Eggs" is composed of thousands of individual Nostoc plants growing together in a gelatinous media, like a ball of gelatin, enclosed in a thin transparent, greenish-black membrane, or sac. The individual cells are so small that to be seen they must be observed under a microscope, which reveals the algae cells arranged in long filaments within the mass of jelly.

TOLD TO ME . . .

by Dena Loosley Shinar

I was born at the Klamath Agency. My father, Marion Loosley, was a carpenter there for years.

I went to my first school in Fort Klamath. Mrs. Blanche Brannon was the teacher. The next fall I went to the new school. I rode to school with my brother, on the back of a horse. We sometimes went by sled, and I remember walking some. We lived a mile and a half above Fort Klamath.
Irrigation in the Wood River Valley . . .

by Devere Helfrich

Early in the history of Wood River Valley, the need for irrigation of the lush pasture lands was realized. On November 13, 1883 L. A. Crance filed on 200 miner's inches of water out of Annie Creek. At the same time Solon O. Shattuck filed on a like amount.

Evidently the need for irrigation, and the results accomplished by those first fillers brought about the incorporation of a group of settlers whose minutes for their first meeting read in part: "At a meeting of the incorporators of the Anna Creek Ditch Company a corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Oregon, held at the residence of C. Cunningham in Wood River precinct Oregon by agreement on Wednesday, May 6, 1891 when were present the original incorporators Absalom Crance, John Kirkpatrick, C. Cunningham, A. A. Cunningham and James R. Johnson, when the following business was transacted.

"It is now and hereby ordered that the stock book of the Anna Creek Ditch Company be this day opened and subscriptions received and taken for the capital stock of said corporation."

President A. Crance
Secretary A. A. Cunningham
Treasurer John Kirkpatrick"

The Anna Creek Ditch Company filed on 1,000 miner's inches of water and laid plans for their ditch to head in Section 31, T. 32 S., R. 7 1/2 E. It took time to finance, with farms to operate. Consequently plans for commencement of construction called for a date of not later than June 7, 1892.

Haying operations interrupted, the season was short, and winter set in, halting all operations. Work did not again commence on the dam and ditches until after the Fourth of July, 1893. Of course the celebration over the Fourth, including the famous Sham Battle of that year, had nothing to do with the late start of construction.

Records (The minute book of the Anna Creek Ditch Company is in possession of the Klamath County Museum) do not show exactly when the various ditches were completed.

By May 11, 1908 M. F. Parker and Linsey C. Sisemore filed on an additional 40,000 inches of water. One cannot help but wonder how much the actual stream flow of all the Wood River Valley streams totaled.

By 1899, Al Melhase, Chas. Westtoron, James Pelton, The Sisemore Company and John Osler were members of the Anna Creek Ditch Company.

Evening Herald, Aug. 25, 1913

A mammoth traction engine pulling three big trucks on which were piled twenty-two tons of baled timothy hay, was the sight that greeted the people of Fort Klamath this forenoon. And this money-producing hay came from the settlement above the Fort where a few years ago, when a few daring pioneers started to farm, the predictions were freely made that provisions would have to be carried into them, else they would starve.

William Baldwin, who returned from there today, saw, not only the twenty-two tons on the trucks, but hundreds of tons in the fields and barns.

"Nor is the hay the only crops up there," said Mr. Baldwin, "I went up to the J. W. Cox ranch to set up a twelve-foot header binder, and I saw some of the prettiest grain fields around the Fort that I've ever seen in any country. The twenty-two tons of hay that passed through the Fort while I was there was hauled by the Duffy Brothers, and was for the Pelican Bay Lumber company, to be fed to their teams. So you see it was home-grown hay going to a home market."
A BUCKOFF AT JOHN LAMBERT'S BUCKING CONTEST IN FORT KLAMATH
—courtesy Fort Klamath Pioneer Tsoc.

Old log school during the late 1890's. Only one identified are the boys standing in the second row: Nolan Deadman, Earl Emery, Ernest Shattuck, Aleck Shives, Guy Cronemiller, and Obil Shattuck.
—courtesy Fort Klamath Pioneer Tsoc.

THE LEWIS COPELAND FAMILY AND PARTY ENJOYING A SLEIGH RIDE
88.
—courtesy Mrs. Harry Engle
FORT KLAMATH BASEBALL TEAM FOR 1914
—courtesy Fort Klamath Pioneer Tsoc.

LIVERY BARNs IN FORT KLAMATH AT THE CORNER OF 4TH AND MAIN STREETS
Barn with square jog on roof may have been built by Jim Gordon about 1900. Jackson later owned it. Building among the trees, the old Jackson Hotel.
—Helfrich collection.

MOUNTED CAVALRY FROM FORT BIDWELL AT FORT KLAMATH, SOMETIME DURING MODOC WAR
89.
—courtesy Klamath County Museum
LOADING LOGS FOR THE STEIGER SAWMILL NEAR KLAMATH AGENCY
All hand loading, using horses for the cross haul.
—courtesy J. Quince Buell

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In front of the Ice Cream and Confectionery Store on the east side of Fort Klamath’s Main St. L. to r.: Charley Brophy, Adrian Page, Fred Gordon, Collie Gray, , Walter Dixon and Sandy Jackson.

—courtesy Chuck Zumbrun

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Klamath Falls, Oregon
Snow tractor used to patrol the trail between Fort Klamath and Crater Lake while the famous ski races were being held. Picture taken sometime around the 1930 period. L. to r.: ________, Wilson Wiley at the wheel, ________, Jim Dixon, standing, Bert Hall, Rollo Grossbeck.
—courtesy Klamath County Museum

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Cattle drive of 1000 head, by the Hawkins Cattle Company in the spring of 1957, from Chiloquin to their ranch in Wood River Valley. —courtesy Fort Klamath Pioneer Assoc.

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KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON
Main Street of Fort Klamath around the 1910 period. L. to r.: L. C. Sisemore General Merchandise Store, Meat Market and Star Drug Co., Hoyt Hotel and Rainbow Garage. At extreme right, a building once occupied by the Post Office for a short time. —Bert C. Thomas collection

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Camp at the end of the road near Union Creek, en route to Huckleberry Mountain. Here, in the early days, everything was stored while the pickers walked or rode horseback several miles to the patch.
—courtesy Ramona Hanks

En route by trail to the Huckleberry Patch, from the end of the wagon road. Note the sunbonnets and side saddles.
—courtesy Ramona Hanks