

**A History of the
Ochoco National Forest:
Different Perspectives and Times**

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A HISTORY
of the
OCHOCO NATIONAL FOREST.

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OUTLINE AND INDEX

of

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The purpose of this work is to compile in a concrete and readable form the mass of material now available bearing on the history of the Ochoco National Forest, from the beginning of the original Reserve through the various changes of boundary to the National Forest as it now is. It is hoped that such a compilation will be of value should there be written in the future a history of the United States' National Forests, as well as of general and local interest to Forest officers.

The greater portion of the Blue Mountain Range in North-eastern and Central Oregon, lying partly in Umatilla, Union, Baker, Grant, Malheur, Harney, Wheeler and Crook Counties, comprises the territory first dealt with in this history. The region begins about forty-five miles south of the north boundary of the State and follows the Main range of the Blue Mountains along a southerly course for approximately one hundred miles, at which point the range divides into two principal spurs turning off at right angles to it. The spur leading eastward almost to the Snake River on the Idaho line is known as the Burnt River Mountains, while the spur pointing to the west makes up the Strawberry Mountains. The latter range comprises the divide between the rugged canyons of the middle and south Fork of the John Day River on the north, and the upper watersheds of the Deschutes River on the south. It extends west almost to the Lower Deschutes River.

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After the period of exploration, in which the Lewis and Clark expedition, the Whitman tragedy, and explorations of other men of lesser note were chapters, there followed the period of early settlement in Oregon. The discovery of gold in the west and the glowing accounts of the agricultural possibilities of the land brought many people from the east to this land of promise. Great numbers of these immigrants followed the old routes formerly chosen by the early explorers which lead through the Blue Mountain region. As these people journeyed through the inland territory, the possibility of permanent homes began to make its appeal, and some of them ceased traveling and selected lands to meet their needs as homes. Then in the late fifties gold was discovered at different points in the Blue Mountains which created a rush, not only from the East, but from the Willamette Valley and California as well. Many of these people finally settled and became permanently established.

During the fifties and sixties the uprisings of the Indians made conditions so unsafe for the residents, as well as the immigrants passing through the land, that the Government established forts at intervals along the main routes of immigration, where soldiers were stationed. Under the protection of the troops the people mined, farmed and raised stock. The latter proved to be very profitable, and as the country was so well adapted to the occupation, it quickly became the most important. The flocks and herds were wintered in the lower valleys and plains, and as soon as spring opened, they were driven to the

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ideal summer range of the Blue Mountains.

With the increase of stock the ranges began to be crowded, and in order to control the feed and water the stockmen began to accumulate land under the Government land laws, by purchase, and by other means. This was practiced to such a degree that the Blue Mountain range became virtually controlled by a comparatively few men and companies. For instance,--the Pacific Livestock Company (the Oregon Branch of the Miller and Lux concern of California) acquired title to very large holdings which gave them a great advantage over the smaller local stockmen.

Shortly prior to this period, in 1865, the Willamette Valley and Cascade Mountain Wagon Road Company was organized. This company received from the Government as a grant, every odd section of land for a distance of six miles on each side of a road all the way across the State. The land thus received by this company within the Blue Mountains alone involved approximately 10,800 acres. At about the same time The Dalles Military Wagon Road Company was organized to build a road from The Dalles to Canyon City, which lies in Grant County. This company received as a grant from the United States about 61,160 acres within the Blue Mountain country. In addition to this, every Section 16 and 36 had been given to the State of Oregon and the greater part of this land had passed into private ownership. Many acres of land were also alienated within the Blue Mountain region as State Lieu Selections.

Without doubt a great deal of fraud was practiced in securing title to the land. Final certificates were received for

homesteads on lands situated high up in the mountains where it is impossible to make a home or to comply with the homestead laws. It has been stated that the Pacific Livestock Company secured title to many claims by directing their cowboys and other employees to locate homesteads on tracts of desirable grazing lands or springs, and paying them \$50.00 and their expenses for their trouble and ranch.

Many state school sections were also declared mineral in character and relinquished by the State when the tracts bore no trace of mineral. It is believed that this relinquishment was made as a scheme to secure base for lieu selections.

Timber companies were also busy securing vast holdings in the most valuable timber belts. Small land owners were either bought up or frightened out of the country, and it is whispered that in a few cases small land owners or homesteaders mysteriously disappeared.

In these ways thousands of acres of timber and grazing lands passed from the hands of the Government and the territory became a land of scattered but large holdings with stock raising as the chief industry.

The Blue Mountains were the spring and summer range for the stock of all Northeastern Oregon, and the tall thick bunchgrass and heavy stands of weeds made them one of the best stock regions of the West. In the old days range stock were never wintered on hay but ranged out the year round, finding forage enough to carry them through the entire period. But with the development of the stock business and the great increase of cattle, sheep and

horses, conditions began to change. Thousands of cattle and hundreds of thousands of sheep were rushed to the mountain ranges as early in the spring as the grass began to grow, not only from the counties touched by the Blue Mountains but from counties far to the west as well. It was but a short time until the winter and summer ranges were crowded and the size of a man's herd or band became measured in proportion to the size of his winter haystacks. The mountain ranges were crowded to the limit and the struggle for range began. The cattle men would crowd the sheep men and the sheep men of Wasco, Crook, Sherman, Gilliam, Umatilla and Morrow Counties drove their bands to the mountains early in the season, ranging up to the very doors of the settlers and cattle owners and setting fire to the range in the fall when they left it.

With this struggle trouble began to brew and an organization of cattle men calling themselves "The Crook County Sheep-Shooting Association of Eastern Oregon" was formed. On June 13, 1904 a most desperate engagement began in Crook County. The following letters are apropos to this subject:-

Prineville, Oregon,
June 17, 1904.

The Dalles Times Mountaineer,
The Dalles, Oregon.

"Conflicting range territory in Crook County led to the first open slaughter of sheep last Monday (June 13) where masked men shot and killed sixty-five head belonging to Allie Jones, a sheep owner residing about fifteen miles east of this city. The killing occurred on Mill Creek in the vicinity of the "dead lines", the men threatening a greater slaughter of the herds were not removed instantly from the district. * * * * * The first outbreak in the sheep industry in this country recalls vividly the wanton slaughter which has recently occurred in Lake

County, and marks the first steps in the range difficulties which are likely to be encountered here during the coming season. The scene of the killing is in the territory where an effort was made a short time ago to establish lines for the sheep and cattle. Three weeks ago the district was visited by a party of sheep owners from Antelope and a meeting arranged between them and the cattle men in the southeastern part of the county. The matter of ranging stock in the Blue Mountains was gone over thoroughly, but a decision relative to the establishment of limits failed to be reached. The sheep men went home and the slaughter this week is the result of their futile efforts to come to an understanding.

While it is not believed that open hostilities will break out between the sheep men and cattle owners in this territory during the summer ranging months, it is asserted that an encroachment upon this disputed region by nomadic sheep will be the signal for forcible resistance. The "dead lines" of last year will be strictly enforced which means that stockmen will not be occupying a peaceable neighborhood."

"Sheep-Shooters' Headquarters,
Crook County, Oregon,
December 29, 1904.

Morning Oregonian,
Portland, Oregon.

"Mr. Editor:

Seeing that you are giving quite a bit of publicity to the Sheep Shooters of Crook County, I thought I would lend you some assistance by giving you a short synopsis of the proceedings of the organization during the past year. ***I*** There-fore, if space will permit, please publish the following report:

'Sheep Shooters' Headquarters, Crook County, Oregon,
December 29, 1904 - Editor Oregonian: I am authorized by the association (The Inland Sheep Shooters) to notify the Oregonian to desist from publishing matter derogatory to the reputation of sheep-shooters in Eastern Oregon. We claim to have the banner County of Oregon on the progressive lines of sheep-shooting, and it is my pleasure to inform you that we have a little government of our own in Crook County, and we would thank the Oregonian and the Governor to attend strictly to their business and not meddle with the settlement of the range question in our province.

We are the direct and effective means of controlling the range in our jurisdiction. If we want more range we simply fence it in and live up th the maxim of the golden rule that possession represents nine points of the law. If fencing is too expensive for the protection of the range, dead lines are most effective substitutes and readily manufactured. When sheepmen

fail to observe these peaceable obstructions we delegate a committee to notify offenders, sometimes by putting notices on tent or cabin and sometimes by publication in one of the leading newspapers of the county as follows:

'You are hereby notified to move this camp within twenty-four hours or take the consequences. Signed: Committee.'

These mild and peaceful means are usually effective, but in cases where they are not, our executive committee takes the matter in hand, and being men of high ideals as well as good shots by moonlight, they promptly enforce the edicts of the association. * * * * *. Our annual report shows that we have slaughtered between 8,000 and 10,000 head during the last shooting season and we expect to increase this respectable showing during the next season providing the sheep hold out and the Governor and Oregonian observe the customary laws of neutrality. * * * * *. In some instances the woolgrowers of Eastern Oregon have been so unwise as to offer rewards for the arrest and conviction of sheep-shooters and for assaults of herders. We have heretofore warned them by publication of the danger of such action, as it might have to result in our organization having to proceed on the lines that 'Dead men tell no tales'. This is not to be considered as a threat to commit murder, as we do not justify such a thing except where flockowners resort to unjustifiable means in protecting their property.

(Signed) Corresponding Secretary, Crook County's Sheep-Shooting Association of Eastern Oregon."

After several bands of sheep had been shot into, the range disputes culminated in the summer of 1904 when 1000 head of sheep belonging to Morrow and Keenan were slaughtered. The Oregon Wool Grower's Association at a meeting held in Antelope on June 21, 1904 offered \$500 reward, in addition to the \$1000 reward offered by the state association, "For information leading to the arrest and conviction of any person or persons guilty of shooting, killing or maiming any member of the above association, or any employee of such member while engaged in his duties." On January 1, 1905 500 sheep belonging to Fred Smith of Paulina were slaughtered almost at his door and about 500 more were scattered over the range so that they became the food of coyotes and other wild animals.

As a result of the over-grazing the ranges became poor, and as the mountains produced less feed the competition for range became keener. It was finally conceded by all stockmen that there was more stock than the ranges could support. There was strong feeling among the stockmen of the mountainous counties against those from the western plains since the mountain people considered the range theirs by right, and it was being destroyed by the migratory herds. All indications pointed to a bitter and lasting range war near at hand, which would surpass in bloodshed and loss of property anything of the kind that had ever occurred before.

At this time, (July 28, 1902), public attention was directed toward another question. The greater portion of the Blue Mountains region was withdrawn from all kinds of entry under the Public Land Laws, for Forest Reserve purposes. The area was divided into two divisions. That portion lying in the mountains back of Baker City was withdrawn for the purpose of protecting the water supply of that city, and became known as "the proposed Elk Creek Forest Reserve." The remaining portion was known as "the proposed Blue Mountains Forest Reserve." The total area of both withdrawals was approximately 3,053,178 acres, included within 152 whole or fractional townships.

Regarding the permanent establishment of the Blue Mountains and Maury Mountain* Forest Reserves, the Forester received through the Secretary of the Interior, a petition signed by M. R. Biggs, President and E. T. Slayton, Secretary, for the Crook County

*Maury Mountain Forest Reserves spoken of later.

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Maury Mountain Forest Reserve, Crook County, Oregon.

Cattlemen's Association. In this petition the cattlemen state that they are anxious to see the permanent establishment of the Reserve boundaries perfected, setting forth their reasons, but earnestly request that a strip of land six miles wide along the south and west boundary of the Blue Mountains Reserve in Crook County and all of the Maury Mountain Reserve be held for cattle and horses only. It is apparent that cattle men were endeavoring to protect themselves from the large bands of sheep from other counties and they feared that the Government would consider the rights of these sheepmen at the expense of the local stock owners. After carefully considering the petition the Forester on March 28, 1904 wrote Mr. Biggs saying:

"Mr. Langelie states that in his opinion the only way in which the matter can be satisfactorily settled is for a representative of the Government to make a detailed investigation of the ground itself, taking into consideration the character of the range in each particular locality and hearing at length the claims of both cattle and sheep men. I can assure you, however, that the recommendations of this Bureau will be based upon the following general principles-

1. Local questions will be settled on local grounds.
2. Sudden changes in industrial conditions will be avoided by gradual adjustment, after due notice.
3. Prior users, small users, and actual home makers and home owning residents will have a preference in the allotment of range.
4. Range questions will be decided as far as possible in cooperation with the grazing interests and especially in cooperation with livestock associations.

I shall be exceedingly glad to arrange for a field exami-

nation of the range problem on the proposed Blue Mountains Forest Reserve in the early summer."

The "proposed Elk Creek" and "Blue Mountains Forest Reserves" were examined and reported upon on April 30, 1906 by Forest Inspector H. D. Langille. During Mr. Langille's inspection he found that the proposed Elk Creek Forest Reserve was all within the exterior boundaries of the proposed Blue Mountains Reserve, and formed a part of the latter's eastern boundary. *Continue on 15*

With reference to recommendations concerning the permanent boundary of the reserve, Mr. Langille says:

"In drawing the lines I have recommended for the permanent boundaries of the Reserve, I have endeavored to eliminate as far as possible all lands which might be used as base for lieu selections, and have materially reduced the area of same without impairing the value of the reserve. The lines recommended differ little from those of the withdrawal except in the southern part, where a large area of bunch grass and timberless land undesirable for forest reserve purposes was included within the original lines. It has been my purpose at all times to eliminate timberless, grazing lands, particularly in the vicinity of settlements where there would necessarily be more or less difficulty in handling the neighboring stock at all seasons of the year."

A number of eliminations and additions were recommended by Mr. Langille which brought the total area of the recommended reserve down to 2,813,769 acres, lying in 154 whole or fractional townships. All of the lands originally included within Malheur County were excluded by the recommendations, leaving the reserve

entirely within seven counties.

The stockmen of Crook County petitioned for the inclusion of several townships surrounding the western end of the western extension, which petition was endorsed by Congressman Williamson, with the desire to have the Government protect the local range from the migratory herds of sheep from other counties. Mr. Langille, however, did not approve the recommendation because a large amount of this territory was alienated. Due to the publicity given the matter by the Stockmen's Association many locations were made, presumably for the purpose of creating base for lien selections.

Mr. Langille closes that portion of his report dealing with recommendations as follows:

"Finally, my earnest recommendation is that the permanent boundaries of the reserve be established as I have recommended them. The timber and water supply of the Blue Mountains is invaluable, not only to the industrial interests of the immediate contiguous sections, but to the entire surrounding country.*****
* * * *. The entire Northeastern Oregon region is vitally interested and dependent in a greater or less measure upon the natural resources of the lands in question, and only by the forest reserve system can these resources be conserved.

If there is one section in the State of Oregon where a forest reserve should be established, it is the Blue Mountain region, and my endorsement of the measure is strong and unqualified."

At the time of the first withdrawal there was much public sentiment against the reserve with reference to which Mr. Langille reports:

"Public Sentiment"

"The protests which have been filed against the proposed Blue Mountain Forest Reserve were mostly based upon misunderstandings of the objects and purposes of the Department and misapprehension of the results to follow the establishment of the reserve. When the points in question were explained and

the real objects and purposes of the reserve set forth, there was immediate subsidence of expressed opposition, and marked change was apparent in the sentiment of the local papers.

It is apparent that a few interested persons who have engaged in public land matters such as dealing in lieu scrip, securing fees, etc., have persistently endeavored to arouse sentiment against the reserve by dealing to the less informed ranchers and others, fanciful tales of wrongs to be inflicted upon the people by an unwise and oppressive government. Among the small stock owners there is now but little opposition to the reserve, the concensus of opinion being that 'the range conditions can be made no worse than they are,' and that they have confidence in their government to do what is best for them.

Any action which will exclude the migratory herds of sheep from the mountain range will be approved by the local cattlemen and miners. I met with the 'Honest Forest Reserve Organization' at a public meeting at Canyon City, called for the purpose of selecting delegates to bear the stockmen's protest to Washington and to raise money to defray the expense of a delegation. I addressed the meeting setting forth the purposes and intentions of the Government, and answered all questions. At the conclusion of my remarks the meeting adjourned without taking any action and many of the strongest opponents of the proposed reserve afterward came to me and said that if the facts were as I had stated them they would welcome the reserve."

"The Miner's Objections."

"The withdrawal of the proposed Blue Mountain Reserve aroused a strong feeling of antagonism among the stockmen of Grant and Harney counties and among the miners of Baker and Grant Counties. Since the withdrawal was made there had been a storm of protest from various sources and one might have believed that the reserve had no friends in or near its limits, but such is not the case.

I called upon the leaders of the opposition at Baker City, and later upon some of the prominent mining men of the district, as well as the mine workers and prospectors. From each of these I requested a plain statement of their objections, but in no case was a logical argument presented. The substance of their objection is summed up in the statements of an attorney who represents different mining concerns: 'We are getting along very well as we are and want to be let alone'. This simple plain statement illustrates the position of the large mine operators. In the past they have helped themselves from the available supply of public timber without objection from any source. Timber land has been secured under the mineral land laws and stripped of its cover. Many claims are held as mineral and possibly some assessment work is done on them--just enough to prevent their location by bona fide prospectors. * * * * *. Many of the

large companies, which operate stamp mills and concentrators and require large quantities of wood acquire title to mineral claims by purchase of the locator's rights, expend some money in performing assessment work and remove the timber to another claim or their mills even though no mineral in place can be shown.

The Blue Mountain mining district is rapidly developing and promises to become a rich and permanent mining section. Development work is being pushed and locations are seen in every part of the mineral belt. These locations extend over a wide range but the mineral zones or districts are, in some instances quite widely separated.

It is desired by the protesting miners that the so-called mineral belts be not included within the reserve, and they contend that under existing regulations these lands cannot properly be included within the reserve. It is held by the miners and their agents that these lands are mineral in character and more valuable for mining purposes than for timber. It is true that at the higher elevations the timber has little commercial value as saw timber, but the tamarack, which is the most valuable component of the forest, is an excellent timber for mining purposes and all will be needed in the development of the present and prospective mines. Under the usual methods of cutting which are practiced by the miners this timber supply will not long continue to supply the demand, but under proper restrictions and protection from fire I believe the supply can be made permanent and therefore out of consideration of what must be for the best interests of the mining industry, I recommend the retention of these lands within the permanent boundaries of the reserve.

In some localities I found the sentiment of the miners to be quite strongly in favor of the reserve when the rules and regulations were explained to them. Several of the prospectors offer the statement that the small miner or prospector who is developing his claim is, at the present time, largely at the mercy of the large operators who have large capital and paying properties. They secure title to different properties which are located ostensibly as mineral claims but are held solely for the timber. If the prospector has no timber on his own claim or has exhausted the supply and is surrounded by "Company" claims, he is unable to procure the timber necessary in the development of his claims and may be seriously inconvenienced or obliged to sell to the timber holders.

The great destruction of timber wrought by these large plants is causing alarm even to the companies who have consumed

the material. As I have said, the timber supply at the higher elevation is not unlimited and the large consumption of wood for fuel and timbers has already made noticeable inroads upon the forests in the vicinity of the mills. With an increased number of mills and proportionate demand for fuel, the forests of the mining sections will soon be a thing of the past unless some action is taken to conserve the supply by regulating cutting and requiring more careful use.

At present there are many properties in the hands of companies which are nothing more than prospects which the owners are struggling to develop, and it is alleged that since the free-use privileges are denied to companies these people would be required to purchase timber for the development of their claims which they could ill afford to do.

And again the argument is advanced that when an application is made to purchase timber from a certain described tract, some person may at once locate the ground as a mineral claim which would prevent the consummation of the sale. This is a logical argument which might be supported by such an occurrence in some instances, but it appears to me to be very far-fetched. While the mineral belt covers a wide territory the amount of land which is actually mineral in character is comparatively small.

The actual conditions do not warrant the elimination of this immense territory from the reserve. This would open it to spoliation by lumbermen and in the end result disasterously to the miners.

The argument of the mining men is simply that they do not wish to be hampered by regulations. There is enough timber on the ground for present purposes and they have no regard for the future for the reason that by the time the available supply is exhausted the present operators will have abandoned the field of speculation and they are willing that their successors should take what they leave. Looking into the future it appears imperative that, for the best interests of the districts, these lands should be reserved."

At the time of Mr. Langille's examination, the most important mining camps or towns in the Blue Mountains mining district included in the withdrawal were Granite, Bourne and Greenhorn City, of which Granite was much the larger.

Of the timber included in the withdrawal, Mr. Langille writes:

"The value and importance of the Blue Mountains timber belt

cannot be overestimated. It is the only timber body between the Cascade and Rocky Mountains and the demand will be heavy and constantly increasing as the mining and other resources are developed. * * * * *. Unfortunately the withdrawal of these lands from entry was too long deferred and the sawmill companies and speculators have located the best and most accessible timber of commercial value wherever extensive bodies exist.

In some of the more remote sections, however, there are extensive tracts of merchantable pine which have been exempt from location, but the withdrawal was made just in time to prevent wholesale locations upon these tracts by parties under the guidance of professional locators who had been at work for weeks and had formulated plans to secure every section of timber in that region. There was a mad rush to file timber entries at the Burns Land Office after it was learned that the withdrawal would be made and before official notice reached the local land office, but fortunately these filings were cancelled.

The demand for timber for local domestic purposes is not large, but the consumption of mining timber and cord-wood at the mills aggregate an immense amount, and with the growth and development of the mining industry the demand will increase proportionately.

During a number of years past the Grande Ronde Lumber Company has been operating along the Grande Ronde River and the destruction of the forests which has followed this cutting is deplorable indeed. A very few years of such work as is being done by this Company would denude the entire watershed of this stream.

The Oregon Lumber Company (which has recently absorbed the Grande Ronde Company) has its headquarters and mills at Baker City, and logs are brought to them over the Sumpter Valley Railway which was first built to Sumpter but has now been extended to Whitney to reach the timber belt of that section. All along the line of this road the destruction of the timber is almost complete.

During the past twenty (20) years this Company has been actively engaged in acquiring title to timber lands, not only in this part of the state, but elsewhere. It is common knowledge that their employees have been supplied with funds with which to purchase lands under the Timber and Stone Act, and it is a matter of record that these claims have been transferred to the Company on the same day of the day following receipt of patent. In this way large areas of timber land which are now included within the temporary withdrawal of the reserve are held by this Company. If these lands are retained in the reserve the timber will be stripped off and the lands relinquished for Scrip.

There are several small sawmills in operation within the proposed reserve and it is apparent that flagrant violations of law are committed at each of them. There are three (3) mills within or adjacent to the reserve in Harney County which supply the local demand, and lumber from these mills is hauled to points 150 miles distant on wagons, there being no other timber supply available. The methods in practice at these mills is very wasteful and it is high time that something be done to conserve the timber supply upon which such an immense undeveloped region is dependant.

The amount of timber and fuel consumed at the stamp mills and mines is considerable. Such mills as those at the North Pole, Bonanza, and other mines consume 5000 to 6000 cords of wood per annum beside from 500,000 to 1,000,000 feet of mining timber. Besides these demands many persons are engaged in cutting timber from Government land for fuel and hauling it to the towns located away from the timber belts."

With reference to placer mining within the proposed reserve Mr. Langille says:

"The Blue Mountains of Eastern Oregon have produced a very large amount of placer gold and the end is not yet. Since the early 50's when the famous Canyon City diggings were opened, more or less placer work has been done in this region each year and pay dirt has been struck in many different sections within the proposed reserve.

The most extensive workings are in old channel diggings along the course of an old 'wash' which, it is said, has been traced from the famous Salmon River mines of Idaho to the Sacramento Valley in California and opened at intervals through the State of Oregon. Beside this old channel there are numerous deposits of local gold which have been worked profitably.

It was learned that there are many channels about the headwaters of the Grande Ronde, John Day and other rivers along which legitimate placer mining operations are in progress. On the head of the Grande Ronde river in the Camp Carson mining district there are properties which have been worked more or less since 1863 during which time a large amount of gold has been washed from the gravel deposits of the old channel. There are about 50 claims owned or held at present in this camp. Active work will be commenced again this season. I also visited placer workings on Bull Run, a tributary of the John Day river, and in the Greenhorn district and others, but found no evidence to show that the claims are held for purposes other than legitimate placer mining.

My investigations among the quartz-mining districts showed inclusively that many tracts of land are located as placer ground for the timber that is upon them or for purposes other than legitimate mining.

Doubtless a close investigation would show many fraudulent entries under the mineral act. These are advantageous to the companies but often work a hardship on the small miner and certainly will result in the destruction of the forests upon these lands."

Mr. Langille's report recommended a Forest Supervisor with headquarters at Sumpter to take charge of the reserve assisted by two Assistant Supervisors, one to take charge of the Western extension where grazing work was of most importance, the other assistant to take charge of the Northern and Eastern extension where there was a combination of timber sale, timber use and grazing work. He recommended a total force of fifteen men to manage the work of the reserve.

Shortly prior to this time, 4/25/03, 62,480 acres of land located on the Maury Mountains were withdrawn from all kinds of entry. These mountains are a small independent spur of the Blue Mountains. The boundary of this area, which was known as "the proposed Maury Mountains Forest Reserve" was 12 miles south of the western extension of the proposed Blue Mountains Forest Reserve. This withdrawal was examined by E. A. Braniff and in his report made in 1904, he recommended, for permanent reservation, 51,360 acres of the area. Regarding the proposed Maury Mountain reserve Mr. Braniff says:

"Aside from one sawmill operating in the withdrawal, grazing is the only industry within the reserve.

The entire area has been over-grazed by sheep, cattle and horses and the springs seriously injured in many places. A bitter conflict exists between the sheepmen and cattlemen.

The sentiment is generally favorable to the creation of the reserve, though the cattlemen, who are now in control of the range, fear that sheep may be permitted to graze on lands which they claim for themselves alone.

It is my recommendation that the Maury Mountain Forest Reserve be created at an early date.

Since the proposed reserve is separated from the Blue Mountains Reserve by a distance of only 12 miles, it is deemed advisable to include it under the same management and regulations."

Upon the recommendations made by the examining officers the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve (including the proposed Elk Creek Forest Reserve) and the Maury Mountains Forest Reserve were withdrawn.

The Blue Mountains Reserve was then divided into two divisions, the Strawberry Mountain and all west of the Blue Mountains becoming "The Western Division of the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve", and that region within the Blue Mountains proper being called "The Eastern Division of the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve." It is with the former that we are directly interested.

On April 1, 1906 the Western Division of the Blue Mountains Reserve and The Maury Mountain Forest Reserve first came under administration when Mr. A. S. Ireland was placed in charge of the two areas as Forest Supervisor, with headquarters at Prineville, Oregon.

With this appointment a vast amount of responsibility was placed upon the shoulders of Mr. Ireland. The settlement of grazing disputes and the allotments of ranges, the appointment of a force of men to take charge of the field work, the examination of many fraudulent claims, the influencing of public sentiment, and the entire organization of both reserves rested in his hands.

On April 11, 1906 the supervisor received from the Forester at Washington the following letter:

"Mr. A. S. Ireland,
Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

Provision has been made for the grazing of all cattle, horses, and sheep which in the past have regularly used, or which last year were grazed on land now included in the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve, provided the owners apply for permits and pay the grazing fee.

This reserve has been divided for administrative purposes into two divisions; that portion south and west of the military road being designated as the western division and that portion north and east of this road as the eastern division.

The western division will be under your jurisdiction. Authority to advertise will be sent you immediately and you will take such steps as are necessary to notify the public.

The summer grazing season for cattle and horses will be from June 1 to October 31, the charge for which will be 20 cents per head. Class "A" stock may be allowed to remain in the reserve during the entire year, and will be charged for at the rate of 35 cents per head. Year-long permits will begin on June 1, 1906 and end May 31, 1907. The half rate limit is 70 head and applies to cattle only, not to horses. This means that on all permits for more than this number half rate will be charged on the first 70 and full rate on the balance.

The grazing season for sheep will be from June 15 to October 15, the charge for which will be 5 cents per head, each two lambs under six months old to be counted and charged for as equal to one grown sheep. Bands of ewes may be allowed to enter the reserve for the purpose of lambing at such time previous to June 15 as you may designate, upon payment of an extra fee of 2 cents per head on the ewes. The percentage basis to be used in the approval of applications in advance of the birth of lambs, as provided for in Forest Reserve Order No. 19, will be 85 per cent.

For the purpose of distributing the stock upon the reserve, you should divide the grazing area into several general districts, giving each a separate number; and in the issuance of permits designate the district to which the stock is assigned.

Very truly yours,

A. F. POTTER,

For the Forester.

By this letter Supervisor Ireland was able to throw the Reserve open to all stock which had previously grazed upon it so long as the owners made application for grazing lands and paid the grazing fees. The letter was of much significance because it assured the stock owners that grazing would be permitted on the Reserve and it gave the Forest officers time to get out into the field where they could study the complicated problems of the range before regular allotments and readjustment of numbers permitted were attempted.

The same provisions as those brought out in the above letter applied to the grazing management of the Maury Mountain Reserve.

On June 21, 1906 Mr. Ireland estimated that 340,000 sheep and 30,000 cattle and horses would graze upon the Blue Mountains (West) Reserve during the grazing season then beginning.

After the limited study of but three months Mr. Ireland recommended that the Blue Mountains (W) Reserve be divided into ten grazing districts, and this recommendation was approved by the Forester. The ten districts were described as follows:

District No. 1. All that part of the Western Division of the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve lying east of Silvies River and Engle Creek, and north of Bear Creek.

District No. 2. All that part of said reserve lying south of Bear Creek and east of the Canyon City, Burns wagon road.

District No. 3. All that part of said reserve lying west of the Canyon City, Burns wagon road, and south of Camp Creek and the headwaters of the South Fork of the John Day River, and east of Sawtooth Creek.

District No. 4. All that part of said reserve lying between the South Fork of the John Day River, and Silvies River, and north of Camp Creek.

District No. 5. All that part of said reserve lying west of

Sawtooth Creek, and the South Fork of the John Day River, and south of the wagon road leading from Izee, to Suplee.

District No. 6. All that part of said reserve in Grant County lying west of the South Fork of the John Day River.

District No. 7. All that part of said reserve lying west of the Grant County line and south of the summit and east of the North Fork of Crooked River.

District No. 8. All that part of said reserve lying west of the Grant County line, north of the summit and east of Badger and Allen Creeks.

District No. 9. All that part of said reserve lying west of Badger and Allen Creeks and south of the summit.

District No. 10. All that part of said reserve lying west of Badger and Allen Creeks and north of the summit.

On May 14, 15 and 16, 1906 the first Ranger examination was given by the U. S. Civil Service Commission at Prineville, and but one applicant took it.

Regarding the early organization of the Reserves, the following letters are of interest. The first signed by Mr. Ireland brings out a few of the problems which confronted the Supervisor, while the second (The first letter of authorization issued to the two Reserves) clearly indicated the limited amount of money with which the Reserves were furnished.

Prineville, Oregon,
June 19, 1906.

The Forester,
Forest Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Forest Service Order No. E dated March 24, 1906, I have the honor to herewith submit my report and estimate of the cost of administration of the Western Division Blue Mountains Forest Reserve, for the Fiscal year 1906 and 1907.

1. Salaries. 1 Forest Ranger to serve the entire year, at \$1200 per annum. 2 Deputy Forest Rangers to serve the entire year, at \$1100 per annum. 4 Assistant Forest Rangers to serve

the entire year, at \$900 per annum. 8 Forest Guards to serve 7 months, May 1 to November 30, at \$720 per annum.

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 2. Expenses- | |
| A. Travel - - - - - | \$450.00 |
| B. Equipment- - - - - | 200.00 |
| C. Communication- - - - | 100.00 |
| D. Shelter- - - - - | 300.00 |
| E. Protection - - - - - | 100.00 |
| F. Emergencies- - - - - | 250.00 |
| Total - - - - - | <u>\$1400.00</u> |

The necessity for the employment of seven men of the three first grades mentioned arises from the fact that this reserve has many settlers residing in and near it, especially along the north and south boundaries, and it is of special importance that the exterior boundaries be surveyed and thoroughly marked, which can best be done during the fall and winter months, as it will require the entire time of these men to discover and prevent trespass by drifting stock during the spring months after the feeding season is over and before the grazing season on the reserve opens.

The services of the additional eight men to serve as Forest Guards from May 1 to November 30 will be necessary in the construction of cabins, trails and fences for pastures as this class of work can, on account of the weather conditions, be done more expeditiously during the spring, summer and fall months than at any other time, and during the grazing season their services will be required in properly distributing the stock upon the range.

Owing to the fact that I am not thoroughly familiar with the territory under my supervision, I am at this time unable to give the exact location of cabins and pastures to be used for headquarters of the Forest Officers as I deem it of special importance that headquarters should be so located that they would be permanent and avoid the waste of both time and money, which is sure to be the case where the locations are hastily chosen and due consideration is not given to the surrounding conditions relative to the present and future work of the reserve, which cannot be done without being thoroughly familiar with all the conditions both in and out of the reserve in the immediate vicinity of each locality.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) A. S. Ireland,
Forest Supervisor.

Washington, D. C.
June 21, 1906.

Mr. A. S. Ireland,
Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

The estimates for the fiscal year 1906-7 have been

approved by the Forester. The total allotment for the Blue Mountains Reserve (West) is \$7,121 and for the Maury Mountains Reserve, \$1,050, the details of which are given in the statement which follows: The Forester desires that this allotment be considered as absolutely final. He will hold you personally responsible for expenditures in excess of it. Should you run over this allotment, it will be treated just as severely as any other kind of carelessness or inefficiency. This in no sense means that the Forest Service is any the less eager for the best interests of your reserve. But it has become absolutely necessary to apply a rigid policy toward excesses over allotments in order to avoid confusion in the money matters of the Service. You understand, of course, that a fixed amount only is available for all the expenses of forest service administration, and only by a fixed allotment to each reserve can the Service insure against an excess of its total appropriation.

| <u>Blue Mountains (West)</u> | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|---------|-----------|---------|
| 1 Supervisor | at | \$1,200 | 11 months | \$1,100 |
| 1 Forest Assistant | at | 1,456 | 12 months | 1,456 |
| 1 Deputy Forest Ranger | at | 1,000 | 12 months | 1,000 |
| 2 Asst. Forest Rangers | at | 900 | 12 months | 1,800 |
| 4 Forest Guards | at | 720 | 6 months | 1,440 |
| | | | | \$6,796 |

| <u>Expenses</u> | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Travel | Equipment | Communication | Shelter | Protection |
| \$150 | \$50 | \$50 | \$75 | -- |

This makes the full summer force 7 men, exclusive of yourself and your Technical Assistant, whose appointment is not yet definite, four of whom will serve only six months during the fiscal year. Your letter of authorization for this reserve will be for \$325 and will not be increased.

| <u>Maury Mountains</u> | | | | |
|------------------------|----|---------|-----------|--------|
| 1 Supervisor | at | \$1,200 | 1 month | \$ 100 |
| 1 Asst. Forest Ranger | at | 900 | 12 months | 900 |
| | | | | \$1000 |

| <u>Expenses</u> | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|---------|------------|
| Travel | Equipment | Communication | Shelter | Protection |
| \$40 | \$10 | -- | -- | -- |

This makes the full summer force 1 man, exclusive of yourself. Your letter of authorization for this reserve will be for \$50 and will not be increased.

The extra emergency expenses for fighting any forest fires that may occur will be charged directly against an emergency fund held in reserve in this office. You will be held directly responsible that the total expenses of the Blue Mountains Reserve (West) do not exceed \$7,121 and of the Maury Mountains Reserve \$1,050, exclusive of any promotions effective on January 1.

Very truly yours, Overton W. Price, A.F.

Another large and important branch of work, namely the Agricultural Settlement of Reserve lands under the Act of June 11, 1906, confronted the Supervisor when he received the following telegram:

"Washington, D. C. 6/11/06.
Ireland - Agricultural Settlement Bill will be signed by the President June 12. Application for classification and listing may be made on Tuesday and afterwards under Forest reserve. Order 47. Copy of bill furnished you correct for your reserve. Gifford Pinchot."

After the experience gained during the grazing season of 1906 Mr. Ireland began to make plans to increase the efficiency of the Reserve and for the betterment of administration for the grazing season of 1907. During the first year the force had been kept busy settling disputes, explaining the regulations, guarding against trespass, as well as with other grazing work, along with the other duties demanded of them such as fire patrol, etc. It was therefore, decided to hold a stockman's meeting in order to fully talk over the grazing business with the stockmen in person as well as to consider with them the necessary reduction in stock. For the purpose of calling this meeting together the following circular letter was sent to every stockman who was interested in the Reserve range:

Prineville, Oregon, Sept. 29, 1906.

Dear Sir:

A stock meeting will be held at Canyon City, Oregon, November 15, 1906, beginning at 10 A. M., for the purpose of making grazing allotments in the Western Division of the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve for 1907.

Being interested, as you no doubt are, it is desired that you attend this meeting as it will be to your benefit to be present when the allotments are made, and if impossible for you to attend

in person, you should under written authority, delegate someone to act for you in the matter as the allotments made at this meeting must be abided by during the season of 1907.

Certain driveways will be established upon which stock must be kept while crossing the reserve.

This notice informs you in time that you may make arrangements relative to breeding, or for forage, for the excess number so reduced.

Owing to the crowded condition of the range a reduction will be made in the number of sheep allowed to graze in the reserve during the season of 1907, viz:

All permits for less than 1000 grown sheep will be allowed to increase 20 percent.

All permits for 1000 to 1200 will be allowed to increase to 1200.

All permits for 1200 to 2000 to be reduced 15 percent provided that none are reduced below 1200.

All permits from 2000 to 4000 to be reduced 20 percent provided none go below 2000.

All permits for 4000 to 10000 grown sheep to be reduced 25 percent as provided above.

All permits for over 10000 to be reduced 30 percent.

The Western Division comprises that part of the reserve lying south and west of The Dalles Military Wagon Road.

Very truly yours,
A. S. Ireland,
Forest Supervisor.

By two grazing letters of authorization dated December 29, 1906 the supervisor was authorized to permit the grazing of 1,800 head of cattle and horses on the Maury Mountain Forest Reserve, and on the Western Division of the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve 28,000 head of cattle and horses and 240,000 head of sheep, during the season of 1907, -to be distributed in the ten grazing districts.

All phases of the work of the Blue Mt. (W) and Maury Mts. Forest Reserves was reported upon by Assistant Forest Inspector H. L. Erickson on December 29, 1906. He recommended particularly the following improvements and expense money with which to work:

1. Trail along main summit from South Fork of John Day River

to western boundary of Blue Mts. (W) Reserve (for powder in trail construction) - - - - - \$50.00
 2. Telephone line from Dayville to Howard,
 (for telephone line materials)- - - - - 275.00
 3. Building cabins (for material for cabins) - - 150.00
 4. Selection of Ranger pastures and headquarters,
 (2000 lbs. of #3 barbed wire to be provided by the Service for pasture fences).

For the sale of timber, stumpage prices were recommended as follows:

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Yellow Pine, Western Larch, and Douglas Fir when used for domestic purposes - - - - - | \$1.75 per MBF. |
| When used for commercial purposes or in large sales a minimum price of \$2.00- - - - - | 2.00 per MBF. |
| Lodgepole Pine for domestic purposes - - - - - | 1.25 " " |
| " " " commercial purposes - - - - - | 1.75 " " |
| Poles 20 to 30 ft. long, 6 inches at top end | 25¢ to 50¢ each. |
| Small poles for fences - - - - - | 5¢ to 10¢ " |
| Posts- - - - - | 2¢ to 5¢ " |
| Green cordwood - - - - - | 1.00 per cord. |
| Dead cordwood- - - - - | .50 " " |
| Stalls, lagging, shakes, etc. to be valued at cordwood prices. | |

During Mr. Erickson's inspection he noticed the work of a beetle in the cones of the Yellow Pine. He states that about 50% of the Yellow Pine seed had been destroyed by this beetle. He also mentioned the work of bark beetles in Lodgepole Pine and recommended a special investigation along this line.

The adoption of Free Use blocks where the people could go and cut the timber they needed without the forest officer going with them, was recommended in the report, but Forest Inspector E. T. Allen did not approve this scheme.

Regarding game, Mr. Erickson states that elk, antelope and deer were found on the Reserve in limited numbers. The Umatilla, Warm Spring, Wlamath and Piute Indians were found to have slaughtered game of all kinds.

Mr. Erickson estimated the timber growing upon the Blue

Mts. (W) Reserve to be 11,850,000 MBF.

As Prineville was not centrally located, Mr. Erickson recommended a change of headquarters to either John Day or Canyon City upon May 1, 1907, -that the administration of the Reserve might be bettered. Otherwise he advocated a division of the Blue Mts. (W) Reserve into two parts whenever there should be good supervisor material available.

Regarding a proposed change in the working policy Mr. Erickson writes:

"Inspector Allen has just informed me that there is a plan on foot to make Prineville the headquarters for administration of a portion of the Blue Mountains West, the Maury Mountains, a portion of the Fremont Reserve, and that part of the Cascades east of the Cascade Mountains. This will be a very suitable arrangement and will solve the problem of an additional supervisor for the Fremont Forest Reserve. In case the office remains at Prineville, the division of the Blue Mountains W. should be the South Fork of John Day River. Perhaps it may be advisable to allow Supervisor A. S. Ireland to remain at Prineville to administer these areas and secure a new man, located at John Day, to take charge of the eastern portion of the Blue Mountains W. This can be determined later when a more particularly definite arrangement is made as to the final disposition of the Blue Mountains E. Should a new man be secured to take charge of the eastern division, Henry Ireland would be well fitted to take charge of that portion of the Blue Mountains W., located at Canyon City or John Day."

During this period the demands upon the Forest Supervisor were very great, especially with relation to the grazing business. With the poor maps available, a limited and inexperienced field force, and unfamiliarity with conditions himself, Mr. Ireland naturally had his hands full and as a result unavoidable mistakes were made. Through the pressing of trespass cases enemies were made who were willing to enlarge upon these errors and complaints and demands began pouring in upon every hand. Such conditions

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brought about the meeting of the Grazing Advisory Board of the Western Division of the Blue Mountains Reserve at The Dalles on November 14, 1907 when resolutions were passed, based on certain complaints, against the administration. This action led further to a meeting of the Users of the Blue Mountains(W) National Forest* at Prineville, Oregon, January 29, 30 and 31, 1907 for the purpose of readjusting and establishing lines of division between the cattle and sheep ranges. At this meeting Mr. L. F. Kneipp, Chief of Office of Control, was present. (*The term "Forest Reserves" has been changed to "National Forests".)

The following quotations which discuss the meeting, are taken from Mr. Kneipp's report which was approved by Inspector E. T. Allen on February 20, 1908:

"The purpose of the above meeting was to establish boundary lines between the different classes of stock on the areas recently added to the Forest, and to change the lines within the original limits of the Forest to suit the local needs. Full publicity had been given to the time, place, and purpose of the meeting, and between fifty and seventy-five stock owners from all parts of the Forest, representing both the sheep and cattle interests, were present. The lines within each district were established by committees of from six to eight of the users of that district, sheep and cattle being equally represented; the members of the committees being suggested for nomination by the Supervisor, and confirmed by the meeting. Mr. Ireland's management of the meeting was excellent. The stock owners were allowed every opportunity to freely express their needs; there was no attempt to coerce or dictate to the committees; the whole proposition was placed fairly before the meeting, and the stock owners were given full opportunity to work out their range problems to their satisfaction, subject of course to any changes required by the general policies, or for the protection of Forest interests.

At the opening of the meeting I explained briefly the policies and purposes of the Forest Service, and continued this work in individual conferences throughout the entire meeting. The general policy of the Forest Service is approved by the majority of the stockmen in this Forest, and the only general objection to its local application comes from a group of sheep owners residing in the vicinity of Antelope, who comprise a part of the Antelope Wool Grower's Association. There were, of course, a number of minor objections to range allotments made last year, but all such cases brought up were singularly free from any charges of unfairness

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Supervisor Ireland was a stranger in the country, his Rangers were not familiar with the work or particularly good men, and the grazing conditions were so complicated and involved that the stockmen despaired of ever getting them straightened out, and in fact refused to attempt to do so at the first meetings held by the Supervisor. Mr. Ireland, inexperienced and a stranger to local conditions, had to undertake the work of sifting out the chaotic mass of claims and counter claims, and something like twenty of the stockmen present at the Prineville meeting stated that he had done better than anybody had expected him or any other man to do. Numerous mistakes were made, but not as many nor as serious ones as were expected.

One of the most fertile sources of troubles was the paper allotment system of the committees, made upon incorrect maps. In going on the range at the beginning of the season it would develop that the range desired was one, two, or three miles from the range allotted and had been assigned to some other party. This, of course, caused considerable confusion and some hard feeling. Mr. Ireland was decidedly lax in not requesting more men for the purpose of tracing out the allotments and readjusting them before the sheep came in. It was perfectly true that with the force he had it would have been impossible to adjust each allotment, but his authorization allowed him several more men which he did not secure because, as he states, he could not get any satisfactory enough for the work. Mr. Ireland has decided to abandon the practice of allotting range by sections, and to assign by topographical divisions hereafter. He also intends to secure his full quota of men and to have a full adjustment of each individual allotment made before the permittee enters the Forest. By doing this, much of the cause for dissatisfaction last year will be removed.

The area under Mr. Ireland's supervision has been reduced to about seven hundred thousand acres, and I believe that with the experience he has acquired since assuming charge of the Forest he can give an entirely satisfactory and efficient administration, provided, that an effort is made during the coming season to adjust the conflicting claims to grazing privileges by having a complete inspection made beginning with the allotment meetings which will be held approximately May 1 to 10th, and following the permittees into the field to determine that the actual assignments of range are satisfactory. In justice to Mr. Ireland, this should be done.

To sum up the general situation, the cattlemen seem satisfied that they are being treated fairly, and the majority of the sheep owners apparently consider that Mr. Ireland is doing the best he can for them. Certainly the sentiment of the meeting at Prineville indicates that the resolutions passed by the Oregon Wool Growers' Association are not representative of the opinion of the large majority of the users of the Blue Mountains (W) National Forest.

It is evidently true that Mr. Ireland is not a man of exceptional ability, but the opposition to him is from an active minority, and the larger number of the users of the Forest are satisfied with his administration. The local newspapers support him, and the local stock associations indorse him. The feeling of the local residents toward the policies of the Forest Service is one of approval and favor, which is increasing. In consideration of these facts it cannot be said that Mr. Ireland is not performing his duties satisfactorily."

Mr. Kneipp then takes up each charge made against Mr. Ireland, The first mentioned, and regarding which the following quotation is taken from the report, is entitle "Complaints of Members of the Antelope Wool Growers' Association." As this complaint is characteristic of all the others, it will be the only one discussed here:

"Antelope is seventy-five miles from the portion of the Blue Mountains(W) Forest in which the Antelope people have their summer ranges. The business of the parties making the complaints is conducted largely by camp tenders and herders, the owners making only infrequent visits to their flocks, The chief claims to an equity in the range by the Antelope people lie in their prior and continuous use of it, and under ordinary circumstances they would be the last preference class of Class B. users, for while almost all of them own or lease small plants near the Forest, my understanding is that these lands are unimproved grazing lands mainly leased at nominal rates. The balance of the demand for grazing privileges comes from people living much nearer the Forest with holdings of improved land much greater in proportion to the number of stock grazed by them, than are the holdings of the Antelope sheep raisers. The Antelope sheepmen desire equal rights to the range with all other users of it. A thorough investigation of the entire question may prove that they are entitled to such rights, but so far it appears that to concede that such is true, is in opposition to the present policy. It is considered that the range allotments are unfair because they are not laid out upon an acreage basis in the exact proportion of five sheep to one cow, regardless of the fact that the exclusive cattle and horse ranges are actually used by Class A and B owners residing in and adjacent to the Forest. Stockmen entitled to first consideration, with the possible exception of the Prinerville Land and Livestock Company, the Baldwin Stock and Land Company, A. O. Williamson, and Wm. Brown, who are large owners, but whose landed holdings in and adjacent to the Forest, leased and owned, run into the thousands or tens of thousands. The Antelope people are entitled to strong consideration, but not to share equally with the nearby Class A and B owners.

I was informed by several of the prominent sheep and cattle men attending the meeting that at the time the Blue Mountains Forest

was created a sheep and cattle war of more serious character than any ever occurring before was impending, and that the creation of the Forest was all that prevented it. In such a war the Antelope sheep men would have been subjected to the heaviest loss of stock, and eventually would have lost the range. By the creation of the Forest they maintain their ranges, share equally with their neighbors in the division of grazing privileges, and have not sustained any losses. As their operations were at that time semi-nomadic in character they would have lost the most heavily, and the soonest. To favor the Forest Service or some form of control was the most logical thing they could do. It therefore cannot be considered that the Service is guilty of ingratitude in insisting that they shall be classed in accordance with the general policy, and granted only such privileges as their classification entitles them to. An exact determination of their rights may be secured only by a thorough investigation in the field. My personal conclusion after listening to both sides in a joint meeting is that the Antelope sheep raisers have not been treated unfairly, or subjected to any action prejudicial to their interests, further than such instances as may have arisen through the very much mixed up grazing situation, and the lack of familiarity with range on the part of Forest officers, but to which all users of the range were alike subjected, and which would not indicate prejudice or unfairness on the Supervisor's part."

At the conclusion of Mr. Kneipp's report he makes the following recommendations:

"No. 1. That a thorough and complete inspection be made of the grazing business of the Forest beginning with the allotment meetings May 1 to 10, and extending to a field examination of the cattle and horse ranges and the individual allotments of sheep range in order that the somewhat unsettled conditions now existing be changed and the present congested and over-grazed state be remedied.

No. 2. That Supervisor A. S. Ireland be sustained and retained in his present position until a thorough inspection can develop the truth or falsity of the charges made against his administration of the grazing business.

No. 3. That allotments to range shall be described by topographical divisions, and not be legal subdivisions.

No. 4. That Supervisor Ireland be required to complete his quota of men, and during the interval between the approval of the grazing applications trace out and mark the boundary of each individual sheep allotment, so that the sheep owners will not be delayed in going to their respective allotments.

No. 5. That it be considered that the charges preferred by the Antelope Wool Growers' Association against Mr. Ireland are based almost entirely upon the statements of camp tenders and herders; that they are contradicted to a large extent by the re-

cards and by the admissions of the parties making them, and that therefore they shall not be allowed to weigh against Mr. Ireland's record as a Forest officer, unless further corroborated.

No. 6. That the Supervisor be instructed to require the closer herding of stock, cattle and horses, to prevent their intrusion upon ranges allotted to sheep, and further, that he be instructed to require a more thorough compliance with the salting regulation both as regards the amount of salt put out, and its proper distribution."

The next step of importance in the development of the region managed from the Prineville headquarters was taken when the plan for redivision of the Forest Reserves, mentioned above in quotations from Mr. Erickson's report, was furthered. Regarding this step, the two letters which follow are significant:

Washington, D. C.,
January 25, 1907.

Mr. A. S. Ireland,
Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

It is proposed to divide many of the forest reserves into new administrative units. The object is to give each officer in charge the administration of only those lands which from their locality, topography, and business interests can be most effectively and cheaply managed from his headquarters. The following redistribution of forest reserve lands now included within the Blue Mountains, Maury Mountains, Fremont, and Cascade reserves is proposed. I shall be glad to have your views regarding it before February 15. Please send me any suggestions which you may wish to make as to the new lines and the location of headquarters.

From Prineville as Headquarters,--All of the Fremont Reserve north of the township line between townships 30 and 31 southeast of Crater Lake National Park; the Maury Mountains Reserve and that portion of the Blue Mountains Reserve west of the South Fork of John Day River and the main divide of the Cascade Mountains north to Warm Springs Indian Reservation.

The map enclosed under separate cover shows the new divisions. When you reply please suggest names which you think would be appropriate for these reserves.

Very truly yours,
JAMES B. ADAMS,
Acting Forester.

Prineville, Oregon,
March 8, 1907

The Forester,
Forest Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Replying to letter "O" dated January 25, which letter, owing to delayed mails has just been received.

I have the honor to recommend that in case the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve (West) is divided, that the South Fork of the John Day River be the division line so as to include that part of the reserve lying west of said stream, and north of the township line between townships 15 and 16 in that portion with headquarters at Prineville, and would suggest the name of Blue Mountains (West) for this portion. Would further recommend that all that part of the present Blue Mountains Forest Reserve (West) lying east of the South Fork of the John Day River, and that part lying south and west of said stream and situated in Grant and Malheur Counties be included in the new division, with headquarters at either Mohn Day, or Canyon City; preferably John Day.

My reasons for recommending this as a division are as follows:

1. The John Day River where it flows through the reserve is in a deep and rough canyon, and is a natural division of the stock ranges.

2. Practically all the people who reside in the vicinity of that portion of the reserve lying south and west of the John Day River, and in Grant and Malheur Counties, transact nearly all their business either at Canyon City or Burns.

3. It is believed that the business of this part of the reserve can be more effectively, cheaply and satisfactorily administered from John Day than from Prineville. Since the Strawberry Mountains are the most prominent of any mountains in this part of the reserve I would suggest the name of Strawberry Reserve for this portion.

Would recommend that the headquarters for the Maury Mountains Reserve remain as now.

As a name for that portion of the Cascade Range Reserve lying north of the township line between townships 30 and 31 east of the main divide to the Warm Springs Indian Reservation, I would suggest the name MT Washington Reserve.

Since I am entirely unfamiliar with the Fremont Reserve or the surrounding country I am at this time unable to make any recommendations.

Under another cover I am forwarding to you a map outlining the division recommended for the Blue Mountains (West).

Very truly yours,
Forest Supervisor.

At this point another important change took place when the Supervisor received the following letter from the Forester regarding the old Maury Mountain Reserve, which up to this time had been considered and treated as a district unit:

Washington, D. C.
April 13, 1907.

Mr. A. S. Ireland,
Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

On March 2 a new proclamation was issued combining the Maury Mountains with the Blue Mountains National Forest. Therefore please consolidate your records under the name of the Blue Mountains (West) and all cases relating to that region will hereafter be designated as belonging to the Blue Mountains (West) National Forest.

Very truly yours,
JAMES B. ADAMS,
Acting Forester.

During the years 1906 and 1907 the boundary of the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve was being thoroughly examined by Forest Expert, L. Wernstedt, and the results of his findings are written up in his "Report on Additions, Eliminations, and Proposed Withdrawals in the Blue Mountains National Forest, Oregon." In this report the following summary of recommendations regarding additions, eliminations and proposed withdrawals is made:

"Total area permanent and proposed additions,
including alienated land about - - - - - 700,000 acres.
Pending - - - - - 225,000 "
Eliminations- - - - - 148,000 "
All lands now withdrawn, including all alienated lands,
that are not mentioned in this report, should be released."

With reference to the factors controlling the work and recommendations, Mr. Wernstedt says:

"The territory covered by the examination includes all of the Blue Mountains boundary except that part that lies east and north of the eastern division between Township 15 south, Range 27

east, and Township 3 south, Range 33 east, W.M. It also embraces the old Maury Mountains Reserve, Wheeler County, south of the John Day River, and the country between Heppner and the Blue Mountains Forests. In this area there was left out by the original proclamation of the Blue Mountains Forest close to one million acres of strictly timbered country, all of which, with the exception of about 40,000 acres in Wheeler County, is contiguous to the Blue Mountains Forest proper. The effect has been a rapid alienation of a large portion of the vacant lands under the Act of June 3, 1878, largely by people from the outside. Little actual settlement has been made. The Wheeler County timber is nearly all alienated.

The tilled country, excepting scattering ranches, is invariably located at some distance from the body of the Blue Mountains timber, which is all in rough country, and there is no apparent reason why any of the timber to which the Government still holds the title should not now be included, as was partly done by the proclamation of March 2, in the permanent Blue Mountains National Forest.

In regard to the open range the purpose has been not to include any except such portions where the local stockmen evidently suffer from the presence of transient or outside sheep or where a proper regulation of the movements and the disposition of sheep is important, or where the topography of the country makes such a boundary better.

All the open winter range now included has been recommended of elimination, also the rest of the open country where no reasons beyond those existing anywhere else along the boundary call for its retention. These areas are all relatively small. The inclusion of the remaining timber now will eventually make possible further extensions of the National Forest area. Much good timber remains which would shortly pass into private hands if left our. Other portions of this timber contain material that will eventually be termed merchantable and areas that are at any rate more valuable for forestry purposes than for anything else. An examination of this class in those localities where the timber is highly alienated and where the forest might be broken by a number of small open places is not satisfactory in determining the character of the unappropriated lands, and it should not be final. Areas of this kind are therefore recommended for further examination in detail. They should be withdrawn immediately where they are located outside of the present boundary. Those parts that are already within the boundary should remain there until examined. The examination should be limited to a simple description of the vacant lands, and all of them that are found valuable for forestry purposes should be made part of the National Forest.

General Character of Lands along Edge of Blue Mts. National Forest.

Generally speaking, the line between the timbered area and the open country is well defined, and the timber in the lower country, that is, in the region under discussion, is practically all commercial forest except locally on unfavorable sites. There are no timberlands in the region that could, properly speaking, be called noncommercial. Outside the timber, and partly overlapping it, there is generally found a woodland area consisting of juniper and, at the edge of the timber, mountain mahogany.

The heaviest stands in Eastern Oregon are those adjoining the Maury Mountains and south of Prineville. In Wheeler County it becomes very scattering, and in Grant County it is almost entirely lacking. The rough country generally extends for a considerable distance outside the timber, leaving a great amount of early spring summer and late fall range outside. The difference in elevation between the main drainage lines and the timber is sometimes 1,000 feet to 1-500 to 2,000 feet, and the valleys are in most cases merely narrow valleys or canyons. The South Fork of the John Day River, and the country between the western end of the Western Division and Mitchell, are probably rougher than any other open range country in Oregon. The valley of the main John Day River is a narrow strip of land only, opening up into a valley near Prairie City, with foothills rising abruptly from the river bottom. North of T'wp. 11 the country assumes a more level aspect, being a plateau country with the creeks and rivers in narrow and deep canyons. The canyon of the Middle Fork of the John Day River is one of the most remarkable topographical features of Oregon. The open country in which Ukiah is situated is a high, comparatively flat country. Typical of the Blue Mountains country are the open areas within the Forest known as Bear Valley, Fox Valley, Silvies Valley, Logan Prairie, and Summit Prairie, level or slightly rolling areas with considerable amount of hay lands. Of less pronounced relief are areas along the south boundary between Range 22 and Range 26, the Silver Creek region and the addition north of Burns. The open range adjoining the timber is generally a sage and bunchgrass country. In Grant County and northward there is very little sage, mostly bunch grass and various kinds of weeds, on the low foothills sheep grass. The range in Wheeler County and along the northwest boundary of the timbered area is almost exclusively a grass country, covered with a dense carpet of sheep grass. These grass lands, however, have been highly injured by sheep. The Izee country in Grant County is a rough, very fine bunch grass country and is well watered.

Settlements at the present time are confined almost entirely to the river and creek bottoms, and the bulk of the open ranges adjoining the Forest will never be used for anything but grazing, owing to the rocky nature of the soil.

Throughout the lower timbered country there are small patches of land suitable for farming purposes, part of which may eventually be developed as the country settles up and after it has obtained better transportation facilities. Parts of Harney Valley, being assured of a railroad in the near future, are now rapidly settling up and being transformed into an agricultural region for grain and fruit. Harney Valley is the only large

body of level agricultural land in this adjoining country. The main product of the country is winter feed for stock.

Throughout the lower timber region in Grant County and Umatilla County, excellent crops of oats and also wheat will be produced wherever suitable patches of soil are found. These suitable areas form only a very small fraction of the lower timber as a whole, and lack of water for domestic purposes further limits the full development of agricultural lands throughout the Blue Mountain region."

With reference to the receipts and disbursements of the Blue Mountains (W) and the Maury Mountains National Forests the following statements for the Fiscal Year 1907 are given:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Receipts: Timber Sales - - - - - | \$ 214.10 |
| Timber Settlements - - - - - | |
| Timber Trespass- - - - - | 32.00 |
| Grazing- - - - - | 32,804.20 |
| Special Uses - - - - - | 52.00 |
| Total- - - - - | \$33,102.30 |
| Refunds- - - - - | 335.00 |
| Net Total- - - - - | \$32,767.30 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| Disbursements: For Salaries- - - - - | 4,624.83 |
| General Expenses- - - - - | 214.43 |
| Fire- - - - - | 34.00 |
| Total- - - - - | \$ 4,873.26 |

Distribution of disbursements:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| Administration--Sal. 4,624.83 | Drift fences | |
| Administration--Exp. 4.83 | and corrals - - - - - | |
| Travel - - - - - 194.56 | Roads, trails | |
| Rent - - - - - | and bridges - - - - - | 1.04 |
| Forest Planting- - - | FiresLines- - - - - | |
| Headquarters - - - | Equipment - - - - - | 14.00 |
| Telephone Lines- - - | Fire- - - - - | 34.00 |
| | Total - - - - - | \$4,873.26 |

Maury Mountains National Forest.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Receipts: Timber Sales - - - - - | \$ 351.26 |
| Timber Settlements - - - - - | |
| Timber Trespass- - - - - | |
| Grazing- - - - - | 431.68 |
| Special Use- - - - - | 10.00 |
| Total- - - - - | \$ 774.94 |
| Refunds- - - - - | 3.00 |
| Net Total- - - - - | \$ 771.94 |

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| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| Disbursements: For Salaries - - - - - | -\$1,380.00 |
| General Expenses - - - - - | 4.95 |
| Fire - - - - - | - |
| Total - - - - - | -\$1,384.95 |

| Distribution of Disbursements: | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------|---------------------|------------|
| Administration--Sal. | 1,380.00 | Drift fences | |
| Administration--Exp. | | and corrals - - - - | |
| Travel - - - - - | 4.95 | Roads, trails | |
| Rent - - - - - | | and bridges - - - - | |
| Headquarters - - - - | | Fire lines- - - - - | |
| Forest Planting- - - | | Equipment - - - - - | |
| Telephone lines- - - | | Fire- - - - - | |
| | | | \$1,384.95 |

As the organization of the Forest developed and increased in efficiency, public sentiment toward the National Forest plan became more friendly. The causes of hostility among the few not friendly, in order of importance, were given as-

1. Ignorance,
2. Opposition of grazing fees,
3. Newspaper opposition,
4. Friction over administrative methods,
5. Opposition to withdrawal from wholesale entry,
6. Antagonism of big interests,
7. Political opposition.

As the plan for redivisioning the Forest matured, it was necessary to quickly school a man to take charge of the area to be separated from the Blue Mountains (W) Forest Reserve. For this purpose Deputy Forest Supervisor, C. J. Bingham was transferred from Roseburg, the headquarters for the Southern Division of the Cascade National Forest, to Prineville on September 1, 1907, where he familiarized himself with the proposed Central Division of the Forest.

On December 13, 1907 the following letter was received by Mr. Ireland and on December 15, Mr. Bingham took charge of the

Malheur National Forest:

Washington, D. C.,
December 6, 1907.

Mr. A. S. Ireland,
Blue Mountains (W) National Forest,
Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the recommendation of Chief Inspector Allen, that part of the Blue Mountains (W) National Forest indicated on the accompanying map will be designated as the Malheur administrative unit with headquarters at John Day. The transfer will be made effective December 15, upon which date Deputy Supervisor Bingham should assume charge as Acting Supervisor. If you can arrange to do so without inconvenience please detail clerk D. F. Johnson to assist Acting Supervisor Bingham for a period of 30 days. His traveling expenses will be paid and should be charged against the letter of authorization for the Malheur Unit.

With the cutting off of the Malheur National Forest, it was necessary to transfer several rangers and guards to Acting Forest Supervisor Bingham's administration. Therefore on December 20, Assistant Forest Rangers J. B. Eandel, Guy W. Hubbard and C. L. Pearson, and Forest Guard J. S. Fraser were changed from the roll of the Blue Mountains (W) Forest to those of the Malheur.

The Forest Supervisor's first annual grazing report was submitted on December 9, 1907, dealing with the year just past. It states that 122 sheep grazing permits and 335 permits for cattle and horses had been issued. The total number of permitted stock grazed upon the Forest during 1907 was 247,004 head of sheep and 32,170 head of cattle and horses. In accordance with the recommendations advanced in this report, the Secretary of Agriculture authorized the grazing of 152,500 head of sheep and 17,900 head of cattle and horses during the year 1908. The

decrease in numbers was due to the taking away of the Malheur unit from the Forest.

Up to this time the Forest Supervisor's office had been located in his residence. The business of the Forest had become so great, however, that more room was needed, so on March 18, 1908, the Supervisor leased rooms in a down-town office building and moved in his office equipment.

The field force employed on May 28, 1908 by the Blue Mountains (W) National Forest were:

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|----------|------------|
| A. S. Ireland | Supervisor | @ \$1800 | per annum, |
| B. F. Johnson | Forest Ranger | @ 1200 | " " |
| C. S. Congleton | Deputy | @ 1100 | " " |
| Walter T. Morris | " " " | @ 1000 | " " |
| Arthur Bennett | " " " | @ 1000 | " " |
| W. A. Donnelly | Asst. | @ 900 | " " |
| C. C. Hon | Forest Guard | @ 900 | " " |
| J. C. Gilchrist | " " | @ 900 | " " |

The next important step with reference to the change of Forest Reserve boundaries, was taken when the Supervisor received the following letter:

Washington, D. C.,
May 15, 1908.

Mr. A. S. Ireland,
Blue Mountains (W) National Forest,
Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Mr. Ireland:

The plan of redistricting the National Forests will be put into effect July 1 next. The object of this plan is to reduce the size of administrative units and to rearrange their boundaries in such a manner as best to promote an efficient administration. A blueprint will be sent you showing the boundaries of the Deschutes National Forest as finally approved. Please assume charge of this area on July 1 with headquarters at Prineville.

The district adjoining the Deschutes on the east will be known as the Malheur, in charge of Supervisor Bingham with headquarters at John Day; on the south as the Fremont, in

charge of Supervisor Ingram with headquarters at Lakeview; on the west as the Cascade, in charge of Supervisor Seitz with headquarters at Eugene, and on the southwest as the Umpqua, in charge of Supervisor Bartrum with headquarters at Roseburg.

Full information concerning your allotment for salaries and general expenses will be sent you before July 1.

Directions are enclosed for making necessary changes in your office records.

Very sincerely yours,
CLYDE LEAVITT,
Chief.

With the new proclamation dated July 1, 1908 all that area lying on and around the Paulina Mountains and within the boundaries of the Fremont National Forest, and all that territory east of the Deschutes River north of the center tier of sections in T. 25 S., R. 9 E., W.M., then included within the boundaries of the Cascade National Forest, was placed under the administration of the Prineville office. These portions of the Forests together with the area known as the Blue Mountains (W) National Forest were then renamed. The new name applied to the entire area was the Deschutes National Forest."

This change in the Forest boundaries greatly enlarged the scope of the administrative work of the Prineville office. With the transferred territory, new rangers and guards as well as a vast amount of business came under the Prineville Supervisor's inspection. Mr. Ireland had less than three months to familiarize himself with his new territory and to perfect the organization when, in accordance with the policy of detailing field men to the Washington office for short periods, he was selected for detail to the Office of Grazing at Washington, D. C. from October 1 to December 31.

As a result of poor organization and lack of roads and good communication, the largest forest fire in the history of the National Forests in this section, occurred on August 2, 1908, when approximately 28,560 acres of timberland in the Paulina Mountain region was burned over.

Since this fire, commonly called "the Paulina Mountains Fire", was the largest fire within this National Forest to that date, and since with the present system of protection it is not expected that such a conflagration will ever occur again, a short account of it may be of interest here.

On August 3, 1908 Ranger Frank Petit, who was stationed in the Paulina Mountains, but as yet was unfamiliar with that territory, wired the Prineville office that a large fire was burning in the Paulina Mountains. The same day Deputy Forest Supervisor B. F. Johnson with four men, started for the scene of the fire. They were met by Ranger Petit who endeavored to conduct them to the burning area, but the heavy smoke and lack of knowledge of the country made him unable to locate the fire for two or three days. When finally the burning region was found, the men were almost out of provisions. A wagon was sent out for a fresh supply and the work of trenching and back firing was begun. According to an eye witness, the fire was burning through the heavy stands of lodgepole and yellow pine timber at a terrific rate, and in many cases the flames reached a solid height of over a hundred feet. Besides this, the wind had scattered burning embers until the fire was burning from several sources with a number of distinct heads. At this point Ranger Petit felt

that the fire was beyond their control and he left for more help. He wired to the Supervisor that 150 men would be needed to control the flames, and as a result of this message, Forest Ranger Bennett of the Deschutes and Forest Supervisor Ingram of the Fremont National Forest started for the scene with between 90 and 100 men with supplies and equipment.

In the meantime, Ranger Congleton with a small force of 6 or 8 men working on one side of the fire and Deputy Supervisor Johnson working with his small force on the other side, began to make their mark on the advancing flames. The region was dry and hot and it was necessary to carry drinking water for a distance of about 15 miles, but, after a soul-torturing battle, these two small crews finally succeeded in corralling the flames to a bed of lava where they burned slowly. When this was accomplished, the men being nearly exhausted and out of provisions, Mr. Johnson instructed them to "go easy" until he could go after and return with fresh supplies. Johnson then started out and after going about 20 miles, met Supervisor Ingram and Ranger Bennett with their outfits. Upon Johnson's report of conditions, Mr. Ingram with his crew of about 20 men turned back, but Mr. Bennett with about 75 men was determined to continue on. Mr. Johnson accompanied them, and as a means of making time by a short cut, a road was swamped out through the lodgepole timber to the scene of the fire, but when they arrived on August 23, they found that Mr. Congleton with his men had the fire entirely under control.

Ranger Petit returning with another crew of men became lost

Slip

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and never appeared at the fire again after he had taken Mr. Johnson's party in.

The damage to the Forest resulting from this fire was estimated as follows:

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| 753,600 B.F. green yellow pine, valued at \$2.00 | |
| per M destroyed - - - - - | \$1,507.20 |
| 1,675,000 B.F. dead yellow pine @ \$1.00 per M | |
| destroyed - - - - - | 1,675.00 |
| 100,500,000 B.F. green yellow pine not killed | |
| but damaged, -loss estimated @ 1.00 per M- - - - - | 100,500.00 |
| Young growth entirely killed- - - - - | 33,500.00 |
| | <u>137,182.20</u> |

The cost figures are given in the Supervisor's report as:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Temporary labor - - - - - | \$ 5,121.50 |
| Supplies, equipment, transportation, etc. - - | 2,564.39 |
| Ranger labor - - - - - | 370.55 |
| | <u>\$ 8,056.44</u> |

(A detailed examination of this burn, made upon instructions from the Washington office, by Forest Assistant T. T. Munger and Assistant Forest Ranger F. P. Pettit in October, 1908, shows the area covered by this fire to be less than 8,000 acres. Upon only about 1,000 acres was the fire an all-consuming crown fire here it killed practically all the trees. On the rest of the burn, it was an ordinary very hot surface fire. Mr. Ireland's figures for the amount of timber "destroyed" and "damaged" are probably ten times too large. T. T. M.)

The probable cause of the fire was lightning.

Because of the poor judgment displayed by Ranger Pettit in connection with this fire, in addition to other charges, he was deprived of his position and the general supervision of the Forest was criticized.

Upon the resignation of Assistant Ranger F. P. Pettit, he made charges against Supervisor Ireland, charging that he was intoxicated a portion of the time while in charge of this fire and that therefore, he made many mistakes and caused considerable unnecessary expense, resulting in a waste of money to the Government. An investigation of Supervisor Ireland's conduct resulted

in a letter to him in which he was charged with being intoxicated in Bend, Oregon, while in charge of this fire at a time when his best powers of judgment should have been at the disposal of the Forest Service. The letter charged that he had issued orders while in an intoxicated condition which resulted in the useless expenditure of several thousand dollars. This charge, together with other charges of misconduct by Supervisor Ireland resulted in a request for his resignation by the above letter. He resigned from the Forest Service, effective April 30, 1911.

On November 12, 1908 a matter, which promised to greatly facilitate the management of the Forest, came to the Supervisor's attention when the following letter relative to the establishment of District headquarters at certain western cities was received:

Washington, D. C.,
November 6, 1908.

Mr. A. S. Ireland,
Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Mr. Ireland:

The Forest will establish on December 1, 1908 District Offices, each in charge of a District Forester, in six western cities as follows:

| <u>District</u> | <u>Headquarters</u> | <u>District Forester in Charge</u> |
|-----------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Missoula, Mont. | W. B. Greeley |
| 2 | Denver, Colo. | Smith Riley |
| 3 | Albuquerque, N. M. | A. C. Ringland |
| 4 | Ogden, Utah | Clyde Leavitt |
| 5 | San Francisco, Cal. | F. E. Olmstead |
| 6 | Portland, Oregon | E. T. Allen |

The boundaries of the districts will coincide with the present Inspection Districts.

Under the District organization, all business now transacted with the Washington office will be transacted with the District Office. All correspondence, reports, and papers which the Use Book or subsequent instructions now provide that you should send to the Forester, will hereafter be sent to the District Office, from whose officers you will receive your instructions. * * * * *

As you are probably aware, the organization of District Offices is the culmination of a plan toward which the Service has been working steadily. It will increase the usefulness of your Forest and of all others by reducing delay, and by bringing you and your immediate superior officers into closer touch. It will also relieve the Washington Office of the heavy burden of routine which it now carries, and enable each one of us here to spend more time in field work on the Forests. This creation of the District Offices means that the administrative officers from Washington will see more of the field men than they have, and not less, and it will unquestionably increase the spirit and efficiency of the whole Service.

In establishing the District Offices, to whose officers you will hereafter be directly responsible, I count for them upon the loyalty and efficiency which have been characteristic of National Forest officers under the present organization.

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) GIFFORD PINCHOT,
Forester.

With the establishment of District Headquarters in Portland, conditions on the Forest began to rapidly improve because of better supervision and quicker communication. The work, however, became more intensive and it was necessary to go into important matters with greater detail than had been the case during the earlier days of the organization.

Following along this plan, a new examination of all the Forest boundaries was called for by the District Forester, Quoting from the letter of instructions it is said:

"It will be necessary to follow through all boundaries and map, or verify existing maps, so as to show accurately the conditions for several miles on either side. The point is not only to prove where and why any changes are desirable, but also that the present boundary is justified where no change is recommended. In short the existing information must be checked and verified.

This careful work must also be done for all interior areas where the question of elimination has been raised, or may be with any color of reason. * * * *. We must be in a position to discuss these lands with accurate information, no matter what we recommend."

Ranger W. J. Nichol of the Cascade Forest was placed in charge of this examination and an extensive report was submitted by him in November 1909 in which numerous changes in the boundary were recommended. Based on Mr. Nichol's report, the boundaries of the Deschutes Forest were changed in several places by the Proclamation of May 20, 1910.

With the intensification of work, it was found that the administrative units were too large for deriving the best results. For this reason it was decided to rearrange the boundaries of many of the Forests in the District. Accordingly the Paulina Mountains and that region formerly included in the old Cascade Forest were cut off from the Deschutes. The former was called the "Paulina National Forest" while the latter territory, including another area on the East slope of the Cascades, was named the "Deschutes National Forest" and the main division of the old Deschutes, including the Maury Mountains and the Snow Mountain region, was renamed the "Ochoco National Forest" under a proclamation dated June 30, 1911. Under this same proclamation an area of about 54 sections west of Look-out Mountain was eliminated because of the heavy alienations, and a change in the boundary between the Malheur and the new Ochoco National Forest, of which I will next speak, was made.

Previous to this date there had been considerable discussion relative to the boundary between the two Forests. The existing boundary followed the divide between Silver and Emigrant Creeks. The area east of this divide, then in the Malheur, was a dangerous region for fires and was difficult for the Supervisor at John Day to administer. Supervisor Bingham of the Malheur wanted to have the

O
Ochoco, Boundaries

May 29, 1911

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Sir:

I have the honor to recommend that the Ochoco National Forest, Oregon, be established as indicated on the attached diagram effective July 1. This new unit is being made up of approximately 812,407 acres from the Deschutes and approximately 120,320 acres from the Malheur National Forest. In connection with the transfer from the Deschutes National Forest, an elimination is being made in connection with which the E $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 34, T. 14 S., R. 19 E. W.M., is being retained for administrative purposes. The appropriation for the fiscal year 1912 provides for the administration of the new Ochoco National Forest under that name.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Willis L. Moore,

Secretary

dividing line located along the divide of the ridge located east of Emigrant Creek, while Mr. Ireland was satisfied with the line as it then existed. Neither of the Supervisors wanted the territory included in their Forests. A compromise was finally decided upon, and Emigrant Creek was chosen as a temporary boundary line. An agreement was drawn up under which Mr. Ireland was to handle all other branches of the work. Under this arrangement everything went well until two large fires broke out. Each of the Supervisors expected the other to fight the fires and pay the expenses. As a result there ensued considerable confusion which did not bring about the best results. This fact quickly brought action and the temporary boundary was made permanent by the proclamation of June 30, 1911.

The boundaries of the new Ochoco National Forest then enclosed, as they do now, an area of 819,030 acres.

The Forest being divided into seven Ranger Districts, represented a good administrative unit. During the interval that had past since the original withdrawal was made many improvements, such as trails, telephone lines, Ranger station houses, barns and pasture fences had been constructed and the business of grazing, as well as that of all other lines, had settled down to a permanent basis.

Since the date of the proclamation mentioned above, no other changes in the boundary of the Ochoco have been made.

On April 30, 1911, Forest Supervisor A. S. Ireland resigned and the vacancy was filled by Mr. Homer Ross, the present Supervisor of the Forest.

Supervisor Ross took charge of a well organized Forest with a fairly smoothly running business. Still there were many tangles to straighten out and it was necessary to go into all features of the business in detail, making changes and perfecting it. The work of early organization was at an end and the next step was toward development. Plans for a system of permanent improvements, range development, and fire protection were carefully made and the work of materializing the plans was begun. A new examination was made of all of the Forest boundary and the boundary was marked and blazed out. Careful estimates of the grazing capacity of all stock ranges were made, new drift fences were constructed for the purpose of controlling cattle and horses, and a collection of all forage plants was begun. A campaign against the bark beetles doing so much damage to the Forest was begun, an extensive reconnaissance was made of the entire Forest, and an intensive reconnaissance was started. The proposed exchange of lands with the Rogers Lumber Company came up for attention and the new wagon road connecting Prineville with Mitchell was constructed under the 10% Item of the Agricultural Appropriation Bill which was passed during the winter of 1911-1912.

With the resignation of Mr. Ireland closed the first era of the Forest lands administered from the Prineville office. It was the period of organization, rapid changes and construction, when hurried judgment and quick action were necessary. With the administration of Mr. Ross has begun the second era in the history of the Forest, a period of development, intensified work, application of forestry and scientific grazing principles, sound business policy, and slow but carefully measured progress.

--ooo00ooo--

Approved,

September 27, 1913.

(Signed) Homer Ross

Forest Supervisor.

Respectfully submitted,

September 27, 1913.

(Signed) Allen H. Hodgson

Deputy Forest Supervisor.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

PRINEVILLE, OREGON, September 29, 1906.

DEAR SIR:—

A stock meeting will be held at Canyon City, Oregon, November 15, 1906, beginning at 10 a. m., for the purpose of making grazing allotments in the Western Division of the Blue Mountains Forest Reserve for 1907.

Being interested, as you no doubt are, it is desired that you attend this meeting as it will be to your benefit to be present when the allotments are made, and if impossible for you to attend in person, you should, under written authority, delegate some one to act for you in the matter as the allotments made at this meeting must be abided by during the season of 1907.

Certain driveways will be established upon which stock must be kept while crossing the reserve.

This notice informs you in time that you may make arrangements relative to breeding, or for forage, for the excess number so reduced.

Owing to the crowded condition of the range a reduction will be made in the number of sheep allowed to graze in the reserve during the season of 1907, viz:

All permits for less than 1000 grown sheep will be allowed to increase 20 per cent.

All permits for 1000 to 1200 will be allowed to increase to 1200.

All permits for 1200 to 2000 to be reduced 15 per cent provided that none are reduced below 1200.

All permits from 2000 to 4000 to be reduced 20 per cent provided none go below 2000.

All permits for 4000 to 10000 grown sheep to be reduced 25 per cent as provided above.

All permits for over 10000 to be reduced 30 per cent.

The Western Division comprises that part of the reserve lying south and west of The Dalles Military Wagon Road.

Very truly yours,

A. S. IRELAND,
FOREST SUPERVISOR.

An "Old Timer" Passes

William Alexander Donnelly was born at Corvallis, Oregon on September 13, 1882 and moved to the vicinity of what was then known as Waldron in Grant County (now Richmond, Wheeler County) Oregon, with his parents when only a few weeks old. He attended the local public schools in that vicinity and later at Salem, Oregon, completing his eighth grade work in North Salem. He then took two years of preparatory and two years of college work at Willamette University. Later he entered the Capitol Business College at Salem, Oregon, graduating from that institution in 1905.

On returning home he remained on the ranch for a time but was later employed in the Oaks and Hollingshead store (later the Wheeler Co. Trading Co.) for approximately one and a half years. In 1906 he married Ora Payne of Mitchell, Oregon. They had two children, a son Wilford, and a daughter Lucille. For two or three months during the spring of 1907 he was employed by the State Bureau of Animal Industry. On May 25 of this same year he received an appointment as Forest Guard on the "Blue Mts. West" National Forest, taking the ranger examination on July 23. December 6, 1907 he received his appointment as Assistant Forest Ranger and on December 31, 1908 as Deputy Forest Ranger. During this period he was in charge of what was then known as the Mitchell District. On November 1, 1911 he was transferred to Ochoco Ranger Station where he remained until he moved to Prineville to take up his duties as a member of the Supervisor's staff September 1, 1919. On July 24, 1924 he received his appointment as Assistant Forest Supervisor, which position he held until his death November 7, 1930.

Alex, as he was familiarly known, pioneered it in the days when it was necessary for the Ranger to undertake all projects single handed. At the opening of the season of 1907 he received instructions to run out and post all sheep allotment lines from Big Summit Prairie, east. Since no posting had been done up to that date, this was a prodigious project. However, undaunted he counted the sheep and in company with the permittees established the boundaries of the allotments as best he could.

In 1908 he attended an "old time" ranger meeting at Blue Mt. Springs (Mt. Vernon, Oregon) when these occasions were interesting.

Mr. Donnelly located the Summit Trail from the head of McKay Creek to the South Fork of the John Day River. This was the first project of the kind on the Forest. One night, while engaged on this project and camped at Moccasin Prairie, some animal walked across his bed. Thinking it to be a porcupine, he covered up his head to avoid the quills and waited until the animal left the tent. Next morning to his surprise he found the tracks of a cougar which had followed him in from work and later prowled about his camp after he had gone to bed. Later, when asked by the boys as to what he did in this emergency, he replied with characteristic humor, "I couldn't do anything, I was paralyzed."

In 1912 he received instructions to build a lookout cabin on Lookout Mountain. There were no plans or other detailed instructions so he was obliged to just go ahead and build it. (This is the "old cabin" which still stands.)

Mr. Donnelly was a man who literally gave his life to his work, allowing it to monopolize his whole time and attention. He was exceedingly loyal to the "Service", often sacrificing his own personal interests to the good of the cause. He was cheerful and optimistic and possessed a keen wit and never failing sense of humor. Moreover he was a good citizen and a good friend. It is with an overwhelming regret that we find it necessary to say "goodby"!

The Oohoco Force



THE BED OF FORESTRY

Mr. J. P.

MILL CREEK DISTRICT - - J.O.F. Anderson, Ranger.

Ranger Jim made a trip to Albany during the period of June 19 - 22. The family accompanied him and will remain in the valley during a portion of the summer.

Wade Huston has been employed as lookout-fireman to occupy Stephenson Mt. as a result of the resignation of F. S. (Bob) McClellan. Mr. McClellan has decided to stay on his homestead and do some farming for at least a portion of the summer.

Sam Warg, who has been a forestry student at O.A.C. during the past winter, has arrived from Corvallis and is assisting in repairing telephone lines, cleaning trails, and incidentally doing occasional lookout duty at Tamarack point and Hash Rock. With this preliminary work, coupled with the Deep Creek training course which Mr. Warg will take, he should be well equipped to handle the lookout job at Divide during the present season.

Tom Miller, also a forestry student at O.A.C., has joined the McNely road crew on Mill Creek and will remain with this crew during the summer months.

Mr. McNely and crew of five men have been doing road maintenance on Mill Creek since starting work about May 20. They are about ready to move to Trout Creek R. S., from which point the remaining road maintenance work for the Mill Creek district will be done and from where they will also construct a motor way to Stephenson Mt. in order that Mr. Wade Huston may make camp at or very near the lookout, instead of at Trout Creek R. S. as has been the case for the past couple of years.

A few bands of sheep have already passed through the district enroute to private lands in Summit Prairie. These sheep belong to the Baldwin Sheep Co. and the Prineville Land and Livestock Co.

Cattle entered the Mill Creek range on June 1 and a strenuous effort is being made to hold them in the lower country by proper salt distribution and riding, until the feed in the higher elevations is ready for use.

Ranger Jim, with the help of some of his summer force, has been constructing an addition to the Divide R. S. pasture. This addition is badly needed since the fireman for the Mill Creek district is also located at Divide.

Mr. Ellis McKinnon has been employed as fireman for Divide Ranger Station. He took up his duties on June 22.

LOOKOUT-PISGAH DISTRICT - - Lee Blevins, Ranger.

Supervisor V. V. Harpham, Asst. Supervisor W. A. Donnelly, Ben Fox, Ernest Edwards and I worked one day the last part of April, leveling, blowing stumps, burning brush, sowing rye, etc. at Ochoco Forest Camp. I was just a little skeptical about the "rye" part of it; but guess I will now have to admit that the "chief" knows his "onions". Anyway the said rye is all up, about six inches high, and growing an inch or less per day. The present indications are that it will grow many gallons per acre. Incidentally, it might be well to mention that even though you think the "chief" is wrong, it is well to follow his suggestions, as he might be right--sometimes.

The fore part of May was spent doing irrigation work at Beaver, burning brush in different parts of the district and inspecting and supervising brush burning on outside lands. This appeared to be a very painful operation to most of the farmers and sawmill men this year, but after stepping on a few of them a little heavily, am happy to report that all brush areas are burned, but unfortunately various saw logs, wood material and many acres of Y.P. reproduction.

While over at Beaver R. S. May 7, Ranger Elder and several members of the Wheeler County Wool Growers Association came up to look out a suitable location for a stock driveway across patented land adjacent to the Forest boundary. A suitable location for the driveway was found on the Steve Connolly lands between the old Grisham place and the Ludwick gate.

At the Wool Growers meeting in Mitchell, May 14, this driveway situation was discussed and a committee was appointed to secure a driveway across these patented lands. To date, nothing has been done--at any rate the sheep are still being trailed over the highway route by Beaver.

Oscar Prose, road foreman, and his crew of five men have been doing maintenance work on the Canyon and Marks Creek roads the past two weeks. A part of this time has been spent in decking logs between Ochoco R. S. and Ochoco Forest Camp. After we get the trash and bark cleaned up and burned, this part of the highway should look like a million dollars.

Several days have been spent this month in placing road and trail fire signs. Another day or two's work will finish the job. We then ought to be able to find our way around over the district in pretty good shape.

An electrical storm hit us right in the middle of the evening of June 5th. Glen Swift and Bert Tolladay, who are doing telephone maintenance work were immediately dispatched to Lookout Mt. on lookout duty. About 11:10 a.m. the morning of June 6, Mrs. Woodward, of West Branch, phoned in that there was a fire burning near Beaver Station. I picked up Herman Dill, a road employee, and started for the fire. We traveled 14½ miles by auto and ¼ mile afoot and arrived at the fire 55 minutes after it was reported in. This, of course, is not much of a record, but with a little practice, we hope to get better.

Last but not least, we had a little man-caused fire yesterday (June 9). Oscar Prose and crew went to work on the Canyon Creek road yesterday morning and found a broken down Ford car by the side of the road with two fires burning nearby. One was in an old dead tree and the other was a camp fire built on rotten wood and deep duff near by. Mr. Prose and a member of his crew immediately set to work extinguishing it. They extinguished it with about two hours work, and Mr. Prose then reported all the facts of the case to me. A little Hawk-shawing by Asst. Supervisor W.A. Donnelly in looking over the auto license register, disclosed the fact that the car by the fire was owned by Floyd Grant. I interviewed Mr. Grant later in the evening and found out that he and Kenneth Simpson, employees of the Quicksilver Mining Co., and a party of ladies broke down about 3 a.m. and had built the fire in the old tree, and also on the ground nearby, and had left it without entirely extinguishing it. Mr. Simpson took the responsibility and signed an affidavit to that effect. Mr. Simpson later deposited \$10 with Judge Hyde at Prineville.

- L.B. -

ANTONE DISTRICT - - Ralph Elder, Ranger.

Ranger Elder, with the assistance of George McArthur and Floyd Jones, has been engaged since June 1 in cutting logs out of the roads in the Antone district, also repairing the telephone system and pasture fences at Badger, Cold Spring and Derr R. S. The pasture fence at Derr was in extremely bad shape--due to the heavy snow in that region--for a considerable distance in some places. The wires had all been pulled from the posts, this it just about meant rebuilding a good portion of this pasture fence.

Elbert McCarty has been employed as fireman for Derr R.S. and will take up his duties with the Forest Service on June 27, at the guard training camp on Deep Creek.

George McArthur will occupy Cold Spring R. S. as fireman during the summer and will incidentally construct a new house in this point. Mrs. McArthur will also operate the Telephone switchboard here.

Floyd Jones will again assume his duties as lookout on Spanish Peak.

Examination discloses that there are nine, good husky logs across the Rock Creek road between Brown's saw mill and Cottonwood Spring. The banks along this road are quite badly caved off as a result of the rather abnormal amount of snow and moisture. We have been expecting this each winter since the road was built but on account of the light precipitation little trouble has been experienced heretofore.

BEAVER CREEK DISTRICT - - R. R. Butler, Ranger.

Ranger C. S. Congleton, who has been a familiar figure in the Beaver Creek district for the past seventeen years, has resigned, effective June 15. Fortunately for the Forest Service Mr. Congleton will devote his whole time to his ranch interests a couple of miles from Paulina, so in case of fire it will be hard for him to hide out in such a way that he can not be found! It will undoubtedly take the new ranger some time to become as familiar with the Beaver Creek district as was Mr. Congleton, but it is hoped that with the aid which Mr. Congleton can give, the task of executing the District Ranger job in this district will not be so burdensome as it might be.

A new telephone line of D-6 standard construction has been built between Rager R. S. and Wolf Mountain. This is of No. 9 wire and completes the last link of No. 9 Forest Service line between Prineville and the southern portion of the Snow Mt. district.

Jack Keeton will be the new fireman at Rager R.S. Mr. Keeton has been shearing sheep in the Paulina section and will take up his duties in the Forest Service at the Deep Creek camp, June 27.

W. E. (Ed) Bennett, assisted by Archie Elmer of Prineville, and Buford Rollins of Bend, are to be engaged the whole season as road maintenance men for the Beaver Creek district. They will cover a number of the old abandoned roads and convert them into motor ways. This work should enable Forest officers to cut down travel time very materially in going to fires. At the present time work is being done on the old road from Dry Paulina to Beg Spring where intersection will be made with the Deep Creek-Rock Creek road.

MAURY DISTRICT - - C. C. Kimmoll, Ranger

The ranger assumed his duties on June 1, after taking a vacation (?) a few weeks with a missing finger. We believe that the vacation hardly compensates for the loss of the finger and if we have the job to do over again and have any discrimination, some changes will be made.

James Gould, of Roberts, assumed his duties on Maury Mt. as a road maintenance man in early June. Mr. Gould will operate a "batch" camp and will open and build up a number of old wood roads on Maury Mt. as well as repair some of the travelled roads. When possible he will be connected by telephone and will be a distinct addition to the protection force.

Dan Gilson is at present working with Mr. Gould at road, trail and telephone maintenance. He will again occupy Pine Creek R. S. as lookout-fireman during the fire season.

SNOW MOUNTAIN DISTRICT - - E.W. Donnelly, Ranger.

During the first week of May I made a trip from Prineville to Silver Creek valley and Burns and made S-22 sales for 200 cords of pine wood. On that trip I made one attempt to get into the Forest but did not have much success as I mired down all four wheels under the first pine tree that I came to.

On May 11 I made a trip from Prineville to "Shady Rest" (Allison R.S.) and got a load of road camp equipment that had been stored there for the winter and hauled it over to Silver Creek valley on the Reo speed wagon. To do this it was necessary to come back by the Grindstone ranch and Long Hollow, a distance of 83 miles; while via the forest road it is only 36 miles, but there was nothing doing by way of the Forest road on account of 2 ft. of snow between Allison R. S. and Black Butte.

On May 15 the Silver Creek C&H Association put on two range riders to keep stock off the National Forest until the opening of the grazing season. These men make their headquarters camp at Morris meadow. Each of them has a string of three saddle horses and they are busy men, too, believe me, trying to keep the old cows from getting the best of it.

The Oregon & Western Colonization Co. are fencing a large pasture in the vicinity of Morris Meadow. This pasture will be used by the company for their own sheep after August 1. 640 acres of National Forest land are included in this pasture and will be under special use in exchange for a similar acreage of land owned by the company outside of the Pasture.

Dick Helms went to work on May 25 as protective assistant in the Snow Mt. district. He is now superintendent at Shady Rest and right now he and guard W.D. Officer are working on telephone maintenance. This job will be completed by June 5, then Dick will spend the rest of the month on grazing allotment boundaries.

The road maintenance crew with Buck Baur in charge went to work on June 1, and are working north from Dick Miller canyon. Buck came over to Prineville with the Reo and got a load of "cats" for his camp in late May.

* E.W.D. -

SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE.

George L. Drake and O. L. Ericson, lumbermen from the District Office, have been engaged at an examination of the McKay watershed, securing timber appraisal data. Mr. Drake has also been making examination of some of the areas recently acquired through land exchange.

Wilfred Donnelly (whose pet name is "Red") has been busily (ask him) engaged in an effort to keep the road camps' personnel, particularly the cooks, in good humor, hauling supplies to Deep Creek for the guard training course, receiving freight at the local depot, with various and sundry duties sandwiched in between. "Red" has asked for a few minutes lay-off on July 4, so that he might take a bath and shave!

The whole Prineville force has been giving considerable time in preparation for the Deep Creek training camp. It is no boy's task to get lined up in the new camp with supplies and equipment to handle 30 to 40 men. We sincerely trust the time and effort expended will be fully justified by the increased efficiency of our whole force. This meeting, coming as it does just on the eve of the fire danger period, should stimulate all of us to such an extent that we shall be on our toes, so to speak, for the remainder of the summer. Meetings of the sort planned at Deep Creek offer an opportunity for an exchange of ideas by experienced men, and an opportunity to demonstrate to all, experienced and inexperienced, the best methods yet devised for suppression of fires. It also allows the personnel to get acquainted with each other.

The Supervisor returned from the Bates meeting on the Whitman Forest, June 1, after a very pleasant 10-day session with other supervisors of eastern Oregon and Washington, and a number of District Office men. Colonel Greeley was also in attendance at this meeting for two or three days. Many phases of Forest Service work were discussed and dealt with in a practical way. On the whole the meeting was seemingly a very great success.

The cover page of this issue is the handiwork of Mrs. Leo Blevins. We wonder how she found time to construct a cartoon after marvelously operating the Ochoco switchboard in a way so pleasing to the official family of the Ochoco. Anyway, we wish to acknowledge the authorship of this cartoon and we trust that when opportunity offers Mrs. Blevins will send us another offering.

Miss Iva Smith, of Eugene, assumed her duties as stenographer and second clerk June 1. She admits that Prineville is a pretty fine town and that the Forest Service employees of this territory are the best ever (?).

- V.V.H. -

P

Paulina, Oregon.

Information
History of the Ochoee

February 8, 1927.

REPORT

Forest Supervisor,
Prineville, Oregon.

Dear Mr. Harpham:

Reference is made to your letter dated January 13.

While out on my rounds of the district this winter I have made it a point to get what information I could from the oldtimers relative to the range wars in the early days between cattlemen and sheepmen, and of fights with Indians, etc. I am writing up what I now have, but may be able to add to it later on as I find out more detail of the doings in these early days of things that happened on and within the vicinity of our Ochoee Forest.

Isee Sheep Shooters:

On February 5, 1927 I had a long interview with Mr. W. D. Officer, an oldtimer of the Isee country. Mr. Officer stated that the Isee sheep shooters were organized in the Isee country in 1896. The cattlemen formed this organization for their protection from sheepmen encroaching on their cattle range. The cattlemen state that the sheepmen from far distant winter and spring ranges would bring their sheep during the summer to the Snow Mountain and Isee country, and would herd their sheep right down to the cattlemen's pasture fences, "eat out their door yards", as they put it. The cattlemen felt that the only thing to do was to form this organization and when the sheep came too near their ranches a bunch of

sheep-shooters would get together and go out and hold up the herder and camp tender and then would kill a good portion of the band of sheep, inflicting unbearable losses on the sheepmen. Naturally the sheepmen moved out and had more respect for the cattlemen after that. This sheep-shooters organization of the Isee cattlemen was in excellent working order, and killed thousands of sheep in the Snow Mountain, Isee and Bear Valley country from 1896 till 1906, the latter date being the year the National Forests were put under administration and the Forest Service made lines between sheep and cattle ranges for administrative purposes and incidentally put a stop to the range wars.

Mr. Officer stated that the sheep-shooters also sometimes killed Indians as well as sheep, then he told me the following story:

"In October, 1898 a band of Columbia Indians under Chief Albert were passing through the Isee country on their return to the Columbia River after spending the summer in the Bear Valley country. The Indians camped for the night on Deer Creek. They had lost some of their ponies, were in a bad humor, and were about half-way on the warpath anyway.

While these Indians were camped on Deer Creek, John Hyde, from Isee, happened to ride past their camp, and the Indians immediately accused Mr. Hyde of molesting their horses, etc., and during the discussion, in true Indian style the Indians formed a circle around Hyde and tried to get hold of him, but Hyde got an opening and ran his horse through the circle and made his get-away, but was shot at several times as he was leaving. Mr. Hyde went on to Isee and before daylight next morning the sheep-shooters were gathered together, well armed, and at daylight were as far as the edge of the timber on their way to pay the Indians on Deer Creek a visit.

The Indians had packed up and were traveling down Deer Creek when they were overtaken by the Isee men. The first Indians to be met with were old Chief Albert and another Indian. Chief Albert immediately made fight and fired at a white man but missed, then it seems all the white men fired at Albert about the same time. Albert fell with 14 bullets through his body. But while the white men were shooting Chief Albert this other Indian from a vantage point, had shot and killed George Cutting, a white man from Isee. The white

men then followed and caught up with the Indian that had killed Cutting, and immediately dispatched him to the Happy Hunting Ground. The white men also killed several of the Indians' horses and called it a day and went home.

The fork of Deer Creek, now known as Dead Indian Creek, takes its name from the killing of these Indians there. Mr. Officer said that he was "not very far away" when this happened, so I am sure this story is authentic. (Officer worked on Ochoce as fire guard in 1926.)"

Paulina Sheep Shooters:

The Paulina cattlemen were being crowded by sheep from Shaniko, Antelope and the lower John Day River ranches. The sheepmen would bring their sheep down on Paulina Creek near the Hoba ranch, and crowd down near the cattlemen's fences all along the south side of the present Beaver Creek Cow Range. The cattlemen had heard, of course, of the Isee organization and the wonderful success that they had had, so the Paulina men asked the Isee men to send over a representative from their organization and outline their methods and assist the Paulina men to organize. The result was that in the latter part of July 1898, a representative from the Isee organization met with the Paulina men and organized the Paulina sheep-shooters.

The place where these Paulina men met to organize is described as follows:

There is one lone Yellow Pine tree about 24 inches in diameter and quite short and scrubby, standing in the narrow creek bottom of Wolf Creek near the center of Section 18 Township 16 south, Range 24 east of the Willamette Meridian. It was under this pine tree that they met one night in the latter part of July, 1898.

Anyone who wishes to visit this famous tree can quite easily locate it by following these directions:

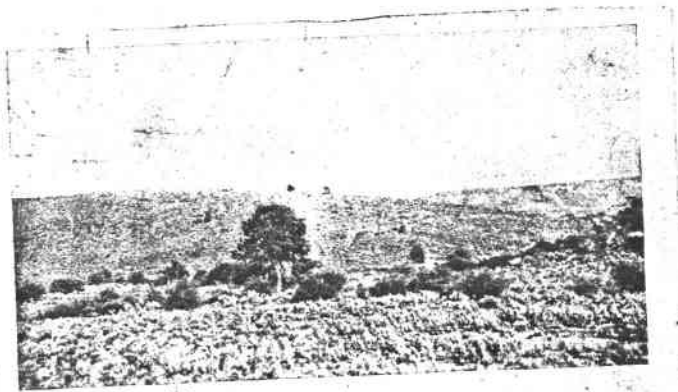
Go to the Ike Mills ranch on Beaver Creek which is about 5 miles northeast of the town of Paulina, and from the stone res-

idence of Mr. Mills go west about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to Wolf Creek, then go up Wolf Creek about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the only pine tree there is in the vicinity and you are there. On February 4, 1927 I took six pictures of this tree and sent the film in to Supervisor Harpham to be developed; the pictures are attached to this report and made a part hereof.

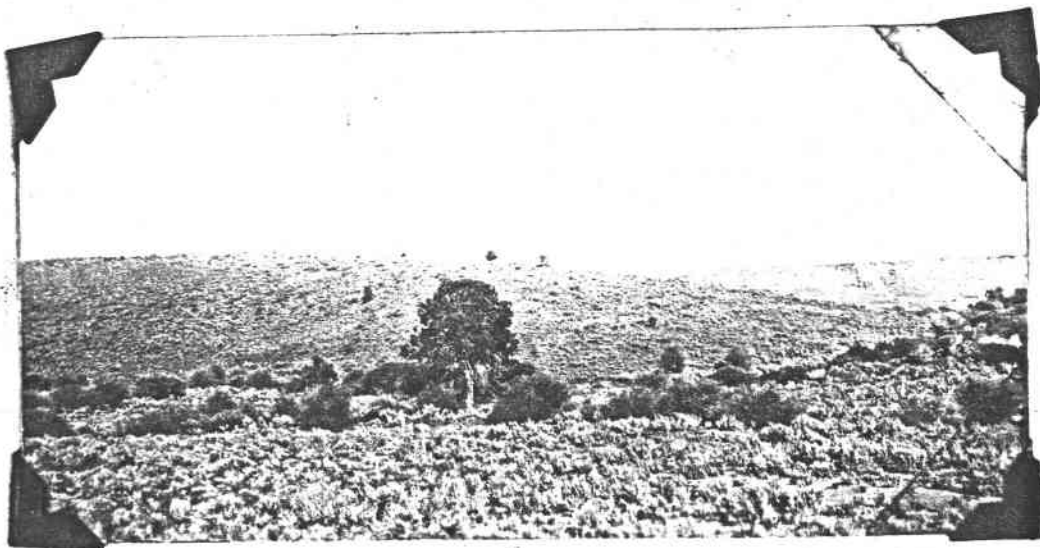
On February 4, 1927 I interviewed a man to whom I will refer as Mr. A. ^{Fred Powell} (I do not care to mention names even at this late date) and he told me that during the latter part of July 1898 he was informed that there was to be a meeting of the Paulina County men that night under the above described pine tree and for him to be sure and come, but warned him to not come until after dark.

Mr. A. went, arrived at the designated place about 11 P.M. and found a big bon fire burning and some twenty-five to forty men sitting in a circle around the fire. Mr. Henry Snodgrass, Isee cattelman, was speaker of the night. After Mr. Snodgrass had outlined the purpose of the meeting and the methods used in sheep killing in the Isee country, he stated that if there was anyone present who did not want to join the Paulina sheep-shooters it was time for them to get up and leave the meeting, go home and go to bed. Then Snodgrass called each man by name in rotation around the circle and asked them if they agreed to join.

Mr. Snodgrass had called the names almost around the circle and each man in turn had agreed to join, until he called Billie Congleton's name, then Billie asked Snodgrass, "Now, Mr. Snodgrass, I understand you to say that it is the agreement that if we go out to kill sheep and it becomes necessary for us to kill a herder or camp tender we are to bury them there and say nothing, and if one of our gang is killed we are to bring them home for burial and say



By Jno. D. Guthrie
The famous " Sheep Shooters Tree " under which the cattlemen met



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nothing about how it happened; and furthermore you state that if any of our crowd is ever arrested or brought to trial for any sheep killing we agree to go on the witness stand and swear to lies in order to obtain an acquittal of the accused in Court." Mr. Snodgrass said "Yes, that must be the agreement"; then Billie said, "Well, that lets me out, I can never agree to that kind of a compact, so I will go home and go to bed"; then Sam Courtney said, "That also lets me out", and Mr. A. said, "That lets me out also", and the three of them, Congleton, Courtney and Mr. A. got up and left the meeting and went home.

This story was told me by Billie Congleton, now deceased, about 1907 or 1908, and was told me again by Mr. A. on February 4, 1927. The two stories hold together absolutely; both men were present, so there is no room to question their stories in any particular.

The deadline that was established by the Paulina cattlemen over which no sheep were allowed to cross ran about as follows:

Beginning on the summit of Wolf Mountain following the main dividing ridge between the waters of Beaver Creek on the south and Hook Creek and Little Summit Creek on the north to the top of Boba Butte (Paulina Butte), thence in a northerly direction to Lead Dog Spring (Big Spring), thence down Big Spring Creek to Deep Creek, thence down Deep Creek to Crooked River, and down Crooked River to the ranches. (With one minor exception this is the present division line between sheep and cattle.)

You can find today big saddle blanket blases on trees along the ridge south of Little Summit prairie and all along out to Wolf Mountain, which were put there by the Paulina sheep-shooters.

One of the biggest sheep killings these Paulina men pulled off was the time they killed part of a band owned by W. R. Maccall

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of Dayville. These sheep were killed on Battle Ridge (the ridge between Beaver dam and Eager Creeks) about the northeast quarter of Section 3 Township 15 south Range 25 east. Battle Ridge takes it's name from that sheep bombardment. The number of sheep killed and the date could be had by writing to Mr. W. E. Masoull, Dayville. No doubt Mr. Masoull could tell you the names of the men who did it if you wish to go into it that deeply; but I think perhaps we should not go into it so deeply as that as some of these oldtimers might think we are figuring on getting the dope on them for the purpose of prosecution, and cause them to close up like a clam if we should want further historical data.

This Paulina sheep-shooters organization was one of the strongest, if not the strongest, organization of its kind in Central Oregon, and continued to do considerable sheep killing up to the time the Ochoco Forest was put under administration in 1906 which stopped the range war.

The spring we now call Big Spring was known and is still called Dead Dog Spring by these oldtimers around Paulina. It took its name from the fact that when the sheep-shooters went there and killed Ed Brown's sheep they also killed one of the borders' dogs.

On February 1, 1927 I interviewed a man to whom I will refer as Mr. B. Mr. B. was in the ranching game and cattle business in the Camp Creek country for a good many years in the early days and during the range wars in the Camp Creek, Bear Creek and desert countries.

Mr. B. tells me that the cattlemen in that part of the country picked up the methods of sheep-shooting from the Paulina

men. He says there was never any meeting or formal organization of the sheep-shooters in that part of the country, a bunch of them just got together and went out and "touched up" Bill Brown's sheep for a few hundred head in the early spring of 1903.

The greatest slaughter of sheep that was ever pulled off in Central Oregon was at Benjamin Lake on April 28, 1903. Benjamin Lake is on the desert somewhere between Silver Lake and the Camp Creek ranches. Mr. B., ^(March 1903) who, I am sure, knows thereof he speaks, tells it about as follows:

In the early days the sheepmen kept their wethers until they were four or five years old before selling them, and in the spring of 1903 some three different sheepmen from Silver Lake pulled out the wethers from their bands and made up a band of 2700 head of straight wethers and put a herder and camp tender with them and instructed them to go up in the Benjamin Lake country and keep them there. The throwing of these wethers into one band was for a double purpose, first to get the wethers out of the way during lambing and also to get them fat for the mutton market.

This camp tender and herder had sent word to the Camp Creekers that they were well armed, not much afraid, and if they wanted trouble to come out and pay them a visit. Since Benjamin Lake country happened to be claimed by the cattlemen as their range a bunch of eleven men accepted the invitation and, with blood in their eye, went over to pay the sheepmen a visit on April 28, 1903. After the smoke of battle had cleared away it was found that out of the 2700 head in the band there had been 2400 killed.

When the sheep-shooters arrived at the sheep they found the herder first and held him up and put a sack over his head, left a man to watch him while they found the camp tender. When the camp tender was located a mile or so away, they tied a sack over his head also and loaded him on a horse and started off. The camp tender asked them where they were taking him, they informed him that they were taking him over where the herder was so one man could watch them both. The camp tender asked them not to take him to the herder saying the herder would laugh to see him with a sack over his head, but the sheep-shooters told him not to worry, the herder had had a sack over his head for an hour, then he felt better and made no further objections.

Mr. B. goes into so much detail about this slaughter that naturally one would think that he was there himself, and I really think he was, and I do not doubt a single statement he made.

Silver Lake Sheep-shooters:

Mr. B. stated that he went from the Camp Creek country to Silver Lake in the late fall of 1902, and spent the winter of 1902-1903 there. He says that while he was there in Silver Lake that winter some of the cattlemen inquired of him as to the sheep shooting methods used up in his part of the country. Mr. B. said he told them what "little" he knew about it, and the next spring, 1903, the Silver Lakers were organized and doing business.

So that is the way the range war spread through Central Oregon. It came to Bear Valley and Isee in 1896, spread to Paulina in 1898, expanded to Camp Creek in 1902, and showed up in Silver Lake in 1903; I don't know where it went from there.

Indian Chief Paulina:

Old Indian Chief Paulina really had no tribe of his own. He was simply an outlaw Indian, a renegade. He headed a small band of outlaw Indians and robbed and plundered wherever he went. He stole from other Indians and was hated as much by them as he was by the whites.

Old Paulina Chief roamed over a good portion of Central Oregon but it seems his main headquarters were in the vicinity of the present town of Paulina, Paulina Valley and upper Beaver Creek Valley in the vicinity of the present Treichel and Powell ranches. Not far from the north quarter corner of Section 14 Township 16 south Range 25 east there is a rimrock facing to the south; on the smooth surface of this rimrock can be seen pictures of a man an axe and various things done in war paint by Indians. Also about the

northeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 20 Township 16 south Range 25 east there is a rimrock just south of North Beaver Creek which faces the east and on the smooth surface of this rimrock can be seen various characters done in Indian war paint. Some of them look as though they might still be a record of some of Old Chief Paulina's games of Pinoschle. These things simply show that these places were used to a considerable extent in the early days by some tribe of Indians.

In the early sixties Paulina made a practice of robbing the pack trains packing from The Dalles to Canyon City during the gold rush to Canyon City.

It is needless to say that Paulina Creek, Paulina Valley and Paulina town take their names from Chief Paulina.

There are different stories as to where Paulina was killed, but it is well agreed on by the oldtimers that Howard Haupin was the man who killed him. As straight a story as I have heard as to the location of the point from which Paulina hopped off for the Happy Hunting Ground was told me on February 5, 1927 by Tom Puett.

Mr. Puett said that he lived near Howard Haupin years ago and knew him well, and that Haupin told him that Paulina was killed in Little Paulina Valley, not far from the Howard Haupin ranch and about two miles south of where Little Trout Creek empties into Big Trout Creek, which would be somewhere near the halfway place between Prineville and Shaniko.

Mr. Puett states that Paulina had stolen Haupin's horses, and Haupin and another man followed him and killed him, but as to the date I can't get that. Mr. Puett says that he has a good many

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times talked with Mrs. Maupin about the killing of Paulina and she always gave the above location as correct. Puett said that neither Mr. or Mrs. Maupin ever did say outright that Mr. Maupin killed Paulina, but said that part of it was always understood. Mr. Puett says he went into the vicinity of where Paulina was killed in 1884 and it had been only a few years before that Paulina was killed, so, he says, it must have been about 1880 when Paulina was killed by Maupin and buried in the above described Little Paulina Valley.

Respectfully yours

C. S. Conington
Forest Ranger

THE LAST RAID OF CHIEF PAULINA

As related to Thomas L. Childers by his grandfather,
Howard Maupin, Antelope pioneer.

Here in this frontier town of central Oregon, busy mining camp of more than a quarter of a century ago, lives a man who has heard from the lips of his grandfather, Howard Maupin, pioneer of Antelope valley, the story of the last raid of Paulina, Piute renegade and terrorizer of early-day stockmen, miners and stage drivers. This man is Thomas L. Childers, 62, himself a central Oregon pioneer.

And only a few miles below this town, where Trout creek plunges into a high-walled basalt gorge as it flows toward the Deschutes, is the grave of Maupin. His white tombstone dominates the little lot, which also holds the graves of his wife, faithful helpmate of pioneer days, and his two sons, Perry and Garrett; but the inscription on the marble contains no reference to the bravery of the frontiersman or to his single-handed victory over Paulina and his warriors.

Across the deep gorge of Trout creek, looking down on the grave of the pioneer on a knoll above the old Maupin homestead, is Paulina basin, where Maupin in 1867 attacked Paulina and his Indians of several tribes, killing the outlaw chief. No memorial tablet marks the place where Paulina fell. The spring around which Paulina and his warriors were gathered, feasting on a steer stolen from Andrew Clarno of the John Day river country, is now dried up. A network of barbed-wire fence, built by

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homesteaders, marks the encroachment of civilization on the old domain of Paulina.

Paulina's last raid and his death could be prefaced by much of the early-day history of central Oregon. There could be told the story of night raids, of stage robberies, of Indian battles, of burning of ranch homes, of torturous death, of punitive expeditions and of thievery. In these stories Paulina, mongrel chief, would be the principal figure, leading his warriors against the whites, impressing his name so vividly on the minds of the pioneers that a town, a mountain, a lake, a prairie, a basin, a peak and an isolated mountain range, all in Oregon, have been named after him.

From facts mentioned by Childers in telling how his grandfather followed and killed Paulina, it is obvious the raiding chief, once a prisoner at Fort Klamath, came to his death indirectly as the result of the burning of the James N. Clark ranch home at the place in the John Day country now known as Burnt Ranch; for it was Clark, driver of a stage on The Dalles-Canyon City route who carried the word to Maupin that the Indian raiders were passing through the Carrant creek district, heading southwest toward the Deschutes river.

Clark, whose ranch home was destroyed by the Piute chief in September, 1866, had left the Antelope valley stage station kept by Maupin on a morning in late April, 1867. Going over a divide from Antelope valley, now near the Wasco-Jefferson county line, Clark saw in the distance a group of Indians driving 25

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cattle and several horses stolen from the John Day country.

Clark continued on his way with the stage, giving no sign to the Indians that they had been seen.

When the Indians had passed over a ridge Clark, memories of the destruction of his home and the narrow escape of members of his family still in mind, turned his team back toward Antelope stage station, a place several miles northeast of the present town of Antelope, and whipped his animals over the Carrant creek divide. He told Maupin that the raiders had been sighted, and the two frontiersmen, accompanied by a Californian, probably William Ragun, started in pursuit on horseback.

There were two trails Paulina and his band could have taken--one across country to the present site of Ashwood and one down Little Trout creek, to a crossing just above the basalt gorge. Maupin, well acquainted with the isolated country to the south of the Antelope valley stage station, led the way in the upper crossing. Arriving here, the pursuers found that the cattle had not been driven over this trail. It was now certain that Paulina would be found on the lower trail.

That the raiders were headed by the renegade chief was made virtually certain when Maupin found on the trail of the Indians a knife which had been stolen from a John Day ranch by Paulina on a previous raid. Maupin picked up this knife and used it later in scalping Paulina. The knife, Maupin's rifle and a portion of Paulina's scalp remained in the Maupin home at the junction of Trout and Little Trout creeks until the home was destroyed by fire in the early years of the present century.

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From the upper trail, Maupin and his companions swung down the slope of Trout Creek, toward the lower crossing, used by Indians in their migrations north and south through central Oregon. Before reaching the lower crossing, Maupin and Clark sighted an Indian sentinel, high on a hill overlooking the valley. He was watching the lower trail, evidently thinking that pursuers, tracking the cattle, would follow this path. Carefully hiding behind a covering of hills, Maupin led the way, below the sentinel, toward the lower crossing.

Gaining an elevation, Maupin and Clark--for Ragan's horse was unable to keep up--saw in the distance, against a background of rimrock basalt, a column of smoke. They had arrived at the camp of the Indians. Maupin now took the lead it is recalled by his grandson, cautiously crawling toward the Indians. From a hill looking into the rock-walled cove, now known as Paulina basin, Maupin saw the Indians. They were feasting on a steer, one of the herd stolen from Clarno. Not waiting for Clark to come up, Maupin opened fire with his Henry rifle. The Indians broke and ran, heading across the nearly level floor of the basin toward a trail leading out of the cove, over the rim.

Shortly after Maupin fired at the Indians, Clark, delayed by his horse, came up. He saw the Indians in retreat and expressed his regret that Maupin had been unable to get any of them. "There is one that didn't get away," Maupin nonchalantly mentioned as he pointed into the cove where an Indian, wounded in the leg, was on the ground. Neither Clark nor Maupin knew

at the time, or for a considerable time after, that this Indian was the dreaded Paulina.

"Well, you've downed him--let me finish the job, old man," Clark is said to have requested of Maupin. Maupin readily granted the request, and Clark started firing with his rifle. Several times Clark fired, and after every shot, dust was seen beyond the wounded Indian. Clark thought he was over-shooting, but later it was learned that the bullets had passed through the raider without touching a vital spot. Paulina had a rifle, but he was not firing back--instead, he was calling to his retreating Indians, pulling grass from the earth and placing it on his head and chest.

Seeing that the Indians were not going to fight, Maupin and Clark went into the cove, where Paulina was still alive. His eye on the approaching white men, Paulina plunged his scalping knife deep into the earth, to the hilt, breaking off the blade. This to keep his captors from scalping him with his own knife. Maupin regardless of his many years of hardship on the Oregon frontier, was deeply touched when he saw the plight of the Indian, and is said to have expressed regret that he had shot him. Maupin ended Paulina's suffering by shooting him with a pistol, saving his rifle ammunition for a possible attack from the other Indians after they had organized on the rim of the basin. But there was no further fighting. Weeks later, the body of a second Indian, wounded when Paulina fell, was found in a cave not far from the cove.

Maupin and Clark did not know on that April day in 1867 that Paulina had been killed. They thought that the Indian who had been killed was one of Paulina's followers. But nevertheless, as was the custom, they took the Indian's scalp, his rifle, broken scalping knife and headpiece. It was this headpiece which was later identified by a federal officer, probably W. F. Rinehart, Indian agent of Malheur. Rinehart knew Paulina, having been in touch with him after the renegade surrendered at Fort Klamath in 1862. Nothing further was heard of Paulina or his raiders after the attack by Maupin and Clark on the Indians who had stolen the Clarno cattle.

That Maupin was a cold-blooded Indian fighter is denied by the old-timers of the Ashwood country who knew the frontiersman. But the pioneer was the sworn enemy of Paulina. Had he known that the Indian groveling in the dirt of Paulina basin was the outlaw chief, he probably never would have given Clark the opportunity to shoot. Neither would he have expressed regret in having to put the Indian out of misery, for Paulina, in July, 1866, as near as can be learned, raided the Maupin ranch in Antelope valley, stealing all of the fine horses Maupin had brought from the Willamette valley.

When Paulina in 1862 surrendered at Fort Klamath, after his squaw had been taken captive by soldiers at the headwaters of Deschutes river, it was for the express purpose of getting his squaw, held as a hostage, and escaping, old-timers believe.

After being in the reservation for over a year, Paulina and his squaw left. It was then that he became the terrorizer of central Oregon, with Pintes, Snakes and Modocs in his band of raiders. Some of Paulina's most notable raids were on miners, or on stages carrying gold between Canyon City and The Dalles.

Warmspring Indians, hereditary enemies of Paulina, who frequently raided their reservation, often visited the Maupin homestead in the Ashwood country, where Maupin had moved from Antelope Valley when peace finally came to the mid-state country. On one of these visits the Warmspring Indians asked for a piece of Paulina's scalp. Permission was granted. Instead of taking a piece from the edge of the scalp, the Indians carefully removed the scalp lock.

Paulina, mortally wounded, was not calling his warriors to come back and help him, it is believed by Warmspring Indians. Instead, Childers has been told by Indians from the Warmspring reservation, Paulina was making his will--he was telling his warriors what to do with his property and probably making known where some of the treasure of his many raids was buried.

Paulina's raid on the Maupin stage station in Antelope Valley in 1866 nearly resulted in the death of the pioneer's son Garrett by Maupin's own hand. After the raiding Indians let down bars at the rear of the horse corral and drove the valuable animals away, Maupin followed them in the dark. Before leaving his ranch home he warned his wife not to permit Garrett to follow.

Near the present site of the old Glisan ranch, not far from Antelope, Maupin "skylined" an Indian, shooting at the form outlined against the stars. Late in the night he heard a horse approach and the jangle of metal. Against the sky Maupin could see on this horse the form of a man--supposedly another Indian. Maupin carefully took aim and was just pressing the trigger when he recalled that only a few days before he had given to Garrett a knife, on a chain, which made a jangling noise. "Is that you, Garrett?" Maupin called from the darkness. And the answer was "Yes".

Maupin, according to the information on the tombstone in the little graveyard below Ashwood, died January 14, 1887, at the age of 71 years and 20 days. He was born in Kentucky, going to Missouri when 15. From Missouri, Maupin and members of his family came across the plains to the Willamette valley. In 1863, still pressing on to new frontiers, Maupin moved into the uninhabited central Oregon country, to Antelope valley.

The frontiersman who broke up Paulina's band, killing their leader, was a veteran of the Mexican war, enlisting in 1846.

- Phil F. Brogan -
Sunday Oregonian, June 13, 1926.

SKELTONS OF SIX HORSES LEFT TO STARVE EVIDENCE OF

CRIME IN GOLD RUSH DAYS

Animals tied to log in isolated part of Ochoco Forest by men fleeing after robbing sluices and Dayville Bank, story of pioneers relates.

In a little glade, high up near the summit of the Blue Mountains above Prineville, lie the skeletons of six horses, which many years ago starved to death while tied to a log, where their riders had left them.

Oregon has some fascinating history, which has been given to the world, but there are narratives which hitherto never have been published, and which are equally as interesting as the journeys of Lewis and Clark, Whitman and the pioneers who braved the dangers of the hitherto unknown west. The tragedy of the horses, left to struggle against hunger and thirst until death ended their sufferings is an incident which is closely allied to the discovery of the rich placer ground in the Canyon City vicinity in 1862.

According to some of the old timers of central Oregon, the gold camp at Canyon City attracted many of the class of men who sought to prey upon those who had been fortunate in their search for gold. In 1863, so goes the story, a group of men staged a robbery of a number of sluice boxes, obtaining a large amount of gold, which they loaded on their horses and made their escape.

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Going down the John Day river the gang stopped long enough to rob the bank of Dayville, and took to the mountains to elude pursuit. They traveled over through the Antone and Mitchell country and up into what is now the Ochoco National Forest, stopping at a spot which now is known as "Burglars flat", about ten miles north of the present Divide Ranger Station.

No one knows what caused the robbers to become frightened to such an extent that they took out on foot hastily, leaving their string of horses tied to trees, but the fact remains that they did not return, neither were the animals discovered by the men who undoubtedly were following the criminals.

Years passed, until one day a prospector entered the glade and discovered the mute evidence of the tragedy which had befallen the helpless animals. The skeletons of the horses lay just as they had fallen when, owing to hunger and thirst, they had become too weak to stand. In front of the skeletons was a small log, which the famishing animals had scalloped out in their efforts to allay their hunger.

Before their hasty departure the robbers are supposed to have buried the gold, and in the vicinity of the place where the skeletons were found may be seen scores of excavations made by men who have vainly sought for the cache.

Forest Rangers and visitors, on their way to View Point and other parts of the north section of the Ochoco Forest, have not disturbed the skeletons or the log, which still may be seen by anyone who cares to make the trip.

The journey may be made by auto from Prineville to within a few feet of where the skeletons lie. Directions may be received from any Forest Ranger, or many persons in Prineville.

Leaving Prineville, one travels east on the Ochoco highway ten miles to Mill Creek, up which a good graveled forest road will be found. About ten miles up Mill Creek Stein's Pillar, a stone column which rises a sheer 200 feet, and which never has been scaled, will be passed, in plain sight from the road. Arriving at Wildcat forest camp the road forks. Take the left-hand road and proceed over the divide, where the road forks again. The right-hand turn will bring the traveler to the place he is seeking.

Much beautiful scenery will greet the eye as the car winds through the forest, and clear, cold springs are on every hand.

- Tom B. Lindsay -
Sunday Oregonian, August 10, 1930