

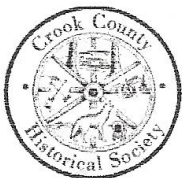
The Journals of Fred T. & Blanche Houston



Maury Ranger Station 1930's



Rager Ranger Station 1933



Co-Produced by the
Ochoco National Forest
&
Crook County Historical Society





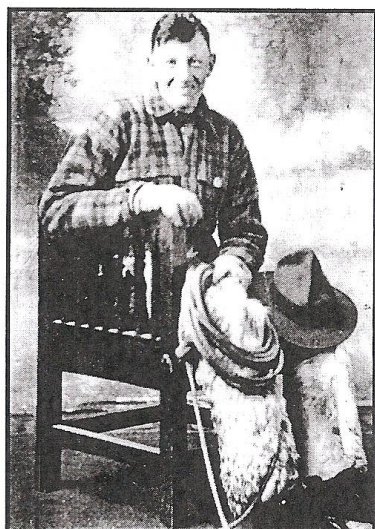
Ochoco National Forest
3160 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754
541-416-6500

Crook County Historical Society
246 N. Main Street
Prineville, OR 97754
541-447-3715





Left: Ranger Fred Houston with Forest Supervisor Harriman, Ca. 1935



Fred Houston Sr.



Blanche (Gibson) Houston



Houston Family at Ochoco Ranger Station 1943

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Introduction

The following 1934 and 1941 Daily Diaries have graciously been shared with the Crook County Historical Society by Fred T. Houston Jr. and the Houston Family. The journal entries give you insight to the work priorities as well as a sense of place during the late 1930s and early 1940s. These journals provide an interesting piece of social history too. Fred T. Houston Sr. began working for the US Forest Service, Ochoco National Forest in 1931 and continued through his retirement in 1965. He married Blanche Gibson on December 31, 1932. In 1934 they were stationed at Rager Ranger Station and were located at the Maury Guard Station in 1941.

Families have been part of the Forest Service organization for a long time. In the early years there were very few women employees, yet most of the wives provided assistance, in other words, they worked too. The most common jobs included handling phone calls, taking messages and preparing meals. Reimbursements were eventually made available by request to the Forest Supervisor for individual meals and meals and coffee provided to fire crews. This collection of Daily Diaries includes Blanche's 1941 Daily Diary entries. On July 16, 1941 she was asked to work as an Emergency Guard. Blanche continues with the journal entries to September 15, assisting her husband during a busy fire year. This truly demonstrates the commitment to the agency and the meaning of a Forest Service Family. I had the fortune of visiting with Fred Sr. and Blanche about their experiences over the years. Very quickly I recognized their pride in working for the agency and it was obvious they were in it together, a forest service family.

Thanks to Nola Kaufman for transcribing the original diaries and to Gordon Gillespie for editing. And a special thanks to Gordon, Steve Lent and the Bowman Museum for preparing the journals for all of us to enjoy.

Terry Holtzapple
Ochoco National Forest Archaeologist

Fred T. Houston Journal - 1934**June 25, 1934**

I worked on O. Fire maps. Poisoned gophers in yard. Collected equipment to send to H Nelson. Gave Fletcher Woods follow up training over the telephone. Answered telephone calls etc. Bob Webb arrived at Rager and broke his truck down before he could get started to Wolf Mtn. H. Nelson came to station after dark and got some of his groceries.

June 26, 1934

Made out fire report no. 402. Made out Cattle counting report. Finished Fire map. Calld L.O. fireman and etc.

June 27, 1934

Mailed cattle counting report and fire map to Supervisor. Went to Paulina Butte and gave Fletcher Woods his follow up training. Outlined work at Station for him. Milage 43 miles.

June 28, 1934

*Put up fire sign at No 9. R-6-74
Changed fire sign board and Grant County "Entering" sign to cattle guard post.
R6-74 No. 10 was posted at the boundary
R6-66 No. 28 was posted
No. 29 I posted R6-6
Numbers 10,28,29 need posting boards.
No. 31 I posted R-6-74
No. 30 I posted R-6-66
No. 33 posted F-24
I gave Kerrins books for Sunflower Allotments Band No. 1 Band No 2.
Posted No. 31 at wagon road Kuhn.
Stayed all night at Telephone Spr. Mileage 26*

June 29, 1934

Counted Sheep for Andrew Bernard. 1424 Ewes at Posted Sign No. 32-34 No. 11. Counted 1 band of W.T. Donaldson's sheep. 829 ewes at Dipping Vat. Returned to Rager 5:00 PM Mileage 21

June 30, 1934

Called Mr. Rector explained Bernards case. Wrote Brief for Mr. Anderson and telephoned Mr. Bernard. 4 hours

July 1, 1934 Sunday

Stayed at Station all day.

July 2, 1934

*Took Humidity 8:00
Mrs. Anderson called me and I found Mr. Anderson sick. I worked with him most of the day and accomplished nothing in regards to Non field work.
Unloaded sign post.*

July 3, 1934 Tuesday

Dug post holes and grubbed sage for Fire danger station. Mr. Thompson worked on basement.

July 4, 1934 Wednesday

Stayed at Station. Wrote camp fire permit. Holiday.

July 6, 1934

*Earl Young reported fire No. 403 at 5:44 AM and I sent Mr. Trosper and his haying crew to it. I called Mr. Obye and then sent Mr. Young to fire after having ascertained the fire was corralled. Mr. Murry called to get someone to meet im at Squaw Meadows to pick salt grounds.
Dug on post holes fire danger station.
Bob Webb finished hauling posts and creosote. Mowed lawns.*

July 7, 1934 Saturday

Called L.O. at the regular hour. Irrigated lawns. Dug post holes fire danger station. Answered false fire calls.

July 8, 1934 Sunday

Mr. Thompson left Rager this morning. I called L.O. etc.

July 9, 1934 Monday

I went to Kerrins Bros Shearing plant and counted a band of sheep, also counted a band of Kerrins sheep at Dipping Vat.

July 9 Cont.

North Sunflower Allotment

Date of entry June 25

Ewes 1179

Lambs 957

South Sunflower Allot.

Date of entry June 18

Ewes 1232

Lambs 960

Fire Danger 4 hrs. PM. False reported by Oliver Powell. Mileage 26

July 10, 1934 Tuesday

Called L.O. and etc. Set up fire danger instrument shelter. Snow Mtn. reported fire on Kerrins ranch sent Kerrins haying crew to it.. Called Mr. Obye and explained action.

July 11, 1934 Wenesday

Called L.O. at 7:30. Had a report that there was a fire near Roba's. Men from Deep Cr. went and found Buck Roba had set fire to burn out rattle snake on his own land. I policed yards.

July 12, 1934

Mr. Rector came and I supplied him with fire signs which he put up. He did not put up sign at Paulina, Roba-Dæp Cr. road or at Spanish Peak. I worked at station on files two hrs. The remainder of the day on raking trash around post piles.

July 13, 1934 Friday

I worked in office and on signs to be put up at Paulina.

July 14, 1934 Saturday

Finished work on fire danger station. Irrigated gardens, lawn and tended phone.

July 15, 1934 Sunday

Called L.O. Stations at regular hr. Watched phone etc.

July 16, 1934 Monday

Connected up a field phone for lines Potters is working on. Potters reported that Donaldson herder lost his band of sheep. Worked on muzzle 1 hr. Non field. Remainder of day on yard. Herb Nelson called and wanted to go to Paulina for groceries. I let him go after dark.

July 17, 1934

Called L.O. 7:30 to 7:40. Worked on yards and tool shed. Earl Young reported some sheep man had trespassed on Geo. Trooper range. I called Rector and explained same to him. J.O.F. Anderson called me and I explained same to him.

July 18, 1934

Called L.O. 7:30 to 7:45. Watered lawns and checked office papers. Made report on Tree use and Administrative use. Earl Young reported fire in John Day country.

July 19, 1934

Called L.O. 7:30. Mr. Raymond ask direct. to Mud spr. Side camp. Beaver Cr. line rider stopped and told me he was salting what is known as the Schwartzen salt log. Having his orders from Laughlin.

July 20, 1934 Friday

I worked on the tank to creosote poles. Digging new pit and setting tank.

July 21, 1934 Saturday

Put arm in tree for creosoting and put on rigging.

July 22, 1934 Sunday

*Fire reported by Field Peak.
Fire No 404 Names Cottonwood Cr.*

July 23, 1934 Monday

Called L.O. Stations at Regular time. Humidity reg. time. Worked on creosote tank. Watered lawns, mowed lawns etc. Helped Mrs. Anderson pack up her belongings. Went to Paulina and trial to get buck deer but could not load him in truck.

July 24, 1934 Tuesday

I dug weeds from Ranger Station fence and answered telephone calls. Cut the old line from main line as Potters connected up new line. Reported fire No 404 to Supervisors office. Transferred call to office for Earl Huff.

July 25, 1934 Wednesday

*I prepared back yard for seeding.
Fire Equipment
Sent 1 first aid kit to Mr. Blanchard also 1 gal canteens.
Started work on fire rooms.*

July 26, 1934 Thursday

*Mr. Rector and I creosoted 25 poles. Hauled post to creosote tank. Moved lumber from R.S. yard fence.
2:26 PM Earl Young called and thought there was a fire on Cottonwood Cr. Sent Nelson to E Point and then sent Glen Swift to appoint where he could see. He reported no fire.*

July 27, 1934 Friday

Built drain trough for Creosote tank and put up scaffold to hold post.

July 28, 1934 Saturday

Creosoted poles. 4 hours

July 30, 1934 Monday

Creosoted poles etc. 8 hrs.

July 31, 1934

Creosoted poles

August 1, 1934 Wednesday

Went to Mud Sprs. Brought horses to Rager. Took Poles out of Creosote. Went to Bernards range, found sheep and got them to corral ready to count.

- 1. Management Plan discussed with Mr. Bernard and with the herder*
- 2. Covered area Sunflowers camp has lots of water when developed but to date much tramping has occurred.*
 - a. Herdes bedding out at Cold for camp but not at Sunflower.*
 - b. Watering troughs are under construction Pete Crk, Cold Sprs.*
 - c. Utilization of feed. This land should have covered 2/3 instead of 1/2 allotment.*
 - d. Days feed in each camp? Has not been recorded to date.*

- e. Sanitation?*
- f. Areas closed to grazing 160 acres old Delore ranch.*
- g. Fire place? Fire tools in camp, fire rules discussed.*
- h. No special requirements.*

3. They have been counted. 8/2/34

- 1. Boundary Posted? No*
- 2. No spr available for water development.*
- 3. Loose horses quite a number mostly Bernards.*
- 4. Coyotes & Bear have killed several sheep*
- 5. Deer on range, lots of doe's but few bucks*
- 6. Amount of range not used to date, 4 sections. Trails from Ddore cabin to Kerrins range. Cattle, well scattered and working fine. Cattle Salt grounds, OK Sec 30 as shown is not on Bernards allotment. Boundary on map and blue print do not correspond. Sunflower ranch spr. 8 water troughs located on Pete Crk. 5 logs all most ready to burn. (Six troughs bored ready to burn at Cold Sprs.)*

Report that it is likely there is but sufficient feed to hold to end of season. Sec 30 would help this but then it is doubtful that sufficient feed is there.

Black salt proves fine for sheep as no stiff lambs are or have been in band. 3 tons for sheep

Cold Sprs. Bedded out and here.

August 2, 1934

Counted Bernard's sheep. Covered east sides of allotment. Bernard fired 4 watering troughs. I called Mr. Rector at 10:35 A.M. from main line Finished G. Inspection and returned to Rager.

<i>Mileage</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Less</i>	<i><u>4</u></i>
	<i>38 Miles</i>

August 3, 1934

*I took creosote out of tank and put it in barrd. Soldered my radiator.
Earl Young reported fire No. 405*

August 4, 1934

*Cleaned fire rooms.
Put shingles away.
Put stove pipe away.
Took report on fire from Earl Young.*

August 5, 1934 Sunday

Mrs. Anderson & Mr. Wells came from Prineville and returned.

August 6, 1934 Monday

*Changed location of fire danger station and moved instrument shelter, fence
and instruments.
Removed old mail box. Hauled post for Ranger Station fence gates.*

August 7, 1934

Set up wind vane and wind gage. Worked on fire reports 404 and 405.

August 8, 1934 Wednesday

Started staining Ranger Station house. 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

August 9, 1934 Thursday

Finished staining Ranger Station house 8 hrs.

August 10, 1934 Friday

*Stained one half of Ranger's garage.
Mr. Rector and I repaired telephone line (Donaldson's line).*

August 11, 1934 Saturday

*Finished staining garage, rangers.
Made out report on fire No. 405.
Went to Paulina after the mail. Mileage 30*

August 12, 1934 Sunday

I was at Rager all day.

August 13, 1934 Monday

*Built grain box to store grain. 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Helped Mr. Rector on
some calls: 1 to forest office,
1 to ware house.
1 to Adam Murry
1 to Donaldson R.*

August 14, 1934 Tuesday

*8:25 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. stained guard house and in that time I stained just
half of the roof.
Ralph Elder called about Beaver Cr. Cattle on Deep Crk.
Mr. Blanchard called about sheep corral.
Bob Avebb took 20 signpost to Allison.*

August 15, 1934 Wednesday

*Stained on Guard house from 8:20 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. 1:20 P.M. started to
Spanish Peak. Gave Young follow up training. I talked to Mr. Bisbee at
Tamarack Mts. On the radio-phone. 5:30 P.M. left Spanish and went to Wolf
Mts. Gave Nelson follow up training. Had supper with Nelson's. Returned
to Rager R.S. fixed telephone line in route used head light on car to see how
to fix line. Mileage 43*

August 16, 1934 Thursday

*Called E. Laughlin and report that I had delivered message from Ralph Elder
to Bob Hallett.*

*Shod old Bug for Mr. Rector. Mr. Obye came to Rager and took Glen Crenshaw to Allison.
Policed yards.*

August 17, 1934 Friday

*Stained Guard house east half and stained toilet.
Earl Laughlin's brought Mrs. Anderson to Rager.
Mrs. Laughlin stayed an hour or so and watched me stain.*

August 18, 1934 Saturday

Stained ½ of roof on wood shed. Helped Mrs. Anderson with chickens.

August 19, 1934 Sunday

*Was at Station all day.
Ralph & Glen stopped and took Mrs. Anderson to town.*

August 20, 1934 Monday

Worked on R.S. lawns preparing to seed same. Spaded and raked. Look over routes to place pipe line, with Mr. Rector.

August 21, 1934 Tuesday

*Staked pipes line ditch, 3000 ft. in the A.M. Helped Willard Wright and Lester Williams plow pipe line ditch with Cat & Killifer. To 5:00 P.M. from 1:00 P.M.
Mr. Blanchard took the following to Bill Thompson-1 caulking tool. Finished brick. Sign to be painted. Stain and shingles to be taken later.*

August 22, 1934

*Willard and Lester and I completed work on ditches, Will Killifer at 12:00 noon. In the P.M. I soldered radiator on car for W.S. Gibon, P.M. to be made up this following Saturday.
CCC boy took team to Cold Springs.*

August 23, 1934 Thursday

*Clyde Moore and I spaded yard all day from 9:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
Water development area went to Sunflower.*

August 24, 1934

Seeded lawn at Ranger's house and commenced spading our yard. 8 hrs.

August 25, 1934

*Finished spading yard at G.S. 4 hrs. Then I leveled same.
Three fires were reported.
Back Cr. fire
Bear Mts. Fire
Also a false fire at Sunflower.*

August 26, 1934 Sunday

*Potter Meadows fire reported.
Wolf Spr. Fire reported.
Pine Cr. fire reported.*

August 27, 1934 Monday

I was in office all day, keeping in touch with Lookouts and knowing what was taking place at each fire.

August 28, 1934 Tuesday

Seeded yard back of Guard house. Also leveled and sprinkled same before seeding.

Send Maps

Geo Donaldsons, Logdd, Ore, Bear Valley & C.B Bisbee, Spray, Ore.

August 29, 1934 Wednesday

*Stained shingles on 1/2 of wood shed G.S. 4 hrs.
Stained 1/2 roof on G. garage 4 hrs.*

August 30, 1934

*Stained east side of roof on garage. Ran out of green stain and did not get garage finished.
Policed tool room.*

August 31, 1934

Policed fire room. Put up eaves trough on ranger station house. 8 hrs.

September 1, 1934

Took 592 reports over telephone from Buck Baurers on fires 406,407,408,409,410,411.

September 2, 1934 Sunday

*I was at Rager all day.
Called Guards, Took humidity etc.
Cassidy Creek fire reported and send Geo McArthur to it.*

September 3, 1934

Holiday

September 4, 1934

*I made out fire reports and worked in office tel. etc.
Had false fire reported. Sent Frank Merrit to it.*

30 %

3 1/2 boxes = 175 lbs

35%

7 boxes = 200 lbs

40%

2 1/2 boxes = 125 lbs

Powder at Rager Sept 4

Fred T. Houston Journal - 1941

Entries compiled in "The Forester", U.S. Department of Agriculture Field Book (3.5 x 6.5 yellow pocket tablet) Form 289

April 21, 1941**Monday**

I left Prineville at 6:30am, drove to Maury G.S. arriving at 8:30am. I was delayed by picking up a nail in the tire. I met G.P. McClanahan at Maury and until noon I assembled tools for the fence crew and for Road and Tel [telephone] crew. 1:00P.M. to 1:30P.M. checked tools to Mr. Hart and discussed fence work.

G. P. McClanahan and I left Maury at 1:30 pm. Worked road to E and N.F. bdry [boundary] and returned 5:00pm. Speedometer reading at start of trip 37909 reading on return 37919

April 22, 1941**Tuesday**

I worked on telephone maintenance from 8:00am to 12:00 N. Working line from Maury G.S. to top of Mtn. on the farmer line, then returned to Maury G.S. 1:00pm left in car, worked road and telephone line to 1 mile S. of Wiley Flat. Returned at 5:30pm. Speedometer at start of trip 37919 at return 37927. Ralph Bennett was at station when I arrived, said he arrived at 4:00pm.

April 23, 1941**Wednesday**

Ralph Bennett and I left Maury at 7:45am. Cleaned out all of the drains in camp creek road and painted sign post as we went to where I quit work on the "Farmer Line" yesterday. We maintained road on telephone line to the Tackman ranch. These worked about a mile of the Double Cabin road. Returned to Maury 5:15pm. Speedometer on leaving 37927 reading at end of return trip 37942.

April 24, 1941**Thursday**

8:00am Ralph Bennett began work on road and check on telephone line working north from Maury on main road and line. I worked the line to Jeff Kelly rch., then helped through rocks from road until noon. Returned to Maury for lunch. I then worked line to ¼ mile south of highway. Bennett continued road work. There was a large amount of rocks in road also. 11 open drains to clean out. 5:25pm returned. Speedometer at start 37942 on return 37954.

April 25, 1941**Friday**

7:45am I loaded two telephone stubs and extra tools. 8:00am left for work. Set three telephone stubs, then continued road and telephone maintenance to the south fork of Crooked River by noon. Ralph Bennett working road. During afternoon we finished telephone maintenance to the north fork of Crooked River. Returned to Maury 5:00pm. Speedometer start of trip 37954 return 37976.

April 26, 1941

Saturday

Ralph Bennett and I began work on the telephone line to Drake Butte at 8:00am. We worked the line to the Tower Pt. Junction by 11:45am, then returned to Maury at 12:15pm. Quit.

April 27, 1941

Sunday

I moved Blanche and girls to Maury from Silver Cr. Eudora stayed at Silvies Creek with her Aunt Lillian (?) to finish school.

April 28, 1941

Monday

Ranger G.P. McClanahan came to Maury this morning 7:15am. I gave him the time sheets. We prepared to camp out where worked ends at 5:00pm. 8:40am Leaving Maury. We worked the road until 11:00am then both worked the telephone line until 3:30pm. Then I continued on line. Ralph worked road until 5:15pm. We could not get to any water so had to return to Maury to camp. Speedometer 38166 to 38175. 5:40pm.

April 29, 1941

Tuesday

7:45am Leaving Maury. We began work on road and the telephone line at Tower Point Road junction and worked to Drake Butte. Large snow drifts prevented us from getting to Drake Butte with car so had to return to Maury. Left Drake Butte at 5:10pm. Arrived at Maury 5:55pm. Speedometer 38175 to 38191.

April 30, 1941

Wednesday

7:30am Ralph Bennett and I left Maury G.S. and went to the side of Sec. 10 (southwest of Wiley Flat and began logging out road.) We worked to Double Cabin where we found that a new garbage pit is needed in the campground also appreciations sign and latch and spring for the toilet. We posted fire signs. Then work the Todd Mill road, then the Double Cabin- Drake Butte road. Then the Faught Creek road which needs 8 new open drains. We then returned to Maury at 5:40pm. Speedometer readings 38191 to 38225.

May 1, 1941

Thursday

7:45am I left Maury G.S. for the mail box with accomplishment report for Ranger McClunahan. 8:30 returned. Speedometer readings 38225 to 38235. Ralph Bennett sharpened two axes then began work on Arrowwood Pt. telephone line while I was gone to mail box. I then went for junction of East end and Arrowwood roads where I began work on road. We completed the road and telephone line work to Arrowwood Point by 5:00pm. 5:30pm returned to Maury G.S. Speedometer readings 38235 to 38247.

P.S. We found the road crew had arrived at Maury G.S. Al Mason in charge.

May 2, 1941

Friday

7:45am Ralph Bennett and I left for stub road E. of Arrowwood Point which we logged out then we logged out the road west of Arrowwood Pt. to the Davis Creek Trail. Total times on roads ½ man day. We then worked the Davis Creek Trail, Parrish Creek Trail, East End Trail, and Salt Log 16 Trail. We returned to Maury G.S. 4:50pm. Speedometer readings 38247 to 38264.

May 3, 1941

Saturday

7:45am Ralph Bennett and I left Maury for the East End trail junction with Camp Creek Road. We worked the East End trail east to junction of trail south to Parrish Cr. Trail, then went to Arrowwood Spring trail and worked it to Aspen Spr. Then returned to the road 12:00 noon. We returned to Maury. Speedometer readings 38264 to 38268 12:15pm. Quit.

May 4, 1941

Sunday

I moved my family from Silver Creek to Maury G.S. (Eudora)

May 5, 1941

Monday

It rained very hard through the morning so Ralph Bennett and I did not work. 12:50pm We left Maury G.S. and began work on road north of the Drake Butte-Camp Creek Road junction. At a tree which I chopped out of my way last night. We then worked road to Reams Mill and returned to Maury G.S. 5:20pm. Speedometer readings 38449 to 38463.

May 6, 1941

Tuesday

7:30am Loaded camp equipment into pickup and left Maury G.S. for Summit Rd west of Drake Butte. Via Double Cabin as other roads were not dry enough to travel. Ralph Bennett and I mired down the pickup at Pine Cr. Admin Site sign post. Stuck in the mud two hours. We worked the road to the Bryson road by 5:00pm. Then drove to Ferguson Spr. to camp, arrived 5:10pm. Speedometer 38463 to 38483.

May 7, 1941**Wednesday**

Ralph Bennett began throwing rocks out of road from Ferguson Spring and continued to the Bryson road. I took the car and worked the Bryson road. Returned to the Summit road and we worked Summit road to the south end of Newsome Cr. road. Then went to Balheim place where I contacted the salter, (Hert and Miller) they were laying off on account of the rains. We continued on road to Sherwood posting signs. We worked the Sherwood road. Then went to the South end of the Hammer Creek trail by 5:00pm, where we camped. Speedometer readings 38483 to 38510.

May 8, 1941**Thursday**

8:00am Ralph Bennett and I began work on the Hammer Creek trail. We worked all of the trail and returned to the camp at 3:00pm. We then repaired the starter on my car, completing at 4:45pm. We camped on the south end of Hammer Creek trail on Summit road.

May 9, 1941**Friday**

8:00am Ralph Bennett and I left South end of Hammer Cr. trail on the Summit road. I change a section line board T17&18S R19E, line marker between Sec 3&34. We then logged out the Deer Cr. road. Then went to Pine Cr. road and worked it to the Forest Boundary at Bailey Ranch. We then worked Drake Butte - Drake Creek road to East Shotgun spring by 5:00pm. Speedometer readings 38510 to 38532.

May 10, 1941**Saturday**

8:00am Ralph Bennett and I began work at East Shotgun Spring and logged out the road to the junction 1/2 mile south of Ream Mill. Then drove to Maury arriving at 11:40am. We then sharpened our axes until 12:00 noon. Quit. Speedometer 38532 to 38541.

May 12, 1941**Monday**

7:45am Ralph Bennett and I began work on the North Side Trail. I left Maury G.S. for Wiley Flat to see Mr. Hurt about riding the north boundary fence. He was not at camp or on the fence line so I could not find him. I then went to the junction of the Northside trail and Ream Mill road. I then followed the trail until I met Bennett. He had snagged his arm with a saw just a few minutes before I met him. It was 10:10am when we met. We then worked the trail to the Drake Butte-Ream Mill road. Bennett continued on the trail, I returned to the car and attempted to go up the Drake Butte-Ream Mill road but mired down. We completed the trail but had to walk back to Maury arriving at 7:30pm. A heavy rain and thunderstorm hit us today. 2:30pm.

May 13, 1941**Tuesday**

7:40am Ralph Bennett and I left Maury G.S. for Wiley Flat in Bennett's car. His speedometer readings were 80104 when we started. We went to Wiley Flat where we found Mr. Hurt and Miller. I discussed the fence work with Mr. Hurt and Miller. I discussed the fence work with Mr. Hurt. We then drove to the Drake Butte-Ream Mill road, where it took us five and one-half hours to get my car out of the mud. We then returned to Camp Creek Road. I then took my car and went to the west end of the Northside trail on the Pine Creek road for the tools left there yesterday. We removed one tree from the Double Cabin road while in route. 5:00pm we returned to Maury G.S. Bennetts mileage reading when we returned was 80118. I am not making any charge for my mileage for today or yesterday.

May 14, 1941

Wednesday

Fence which is in poor repair.

Bailey and Sons - fence in east Pine Creek.

Morris - 2 miles of fence in poor shape some laying on the ground.

Wayne Houstons - fence west of Friday Creek has been cut.

Bert Houston fence - west of Klootchman.

Morris-Oregon Western Co.

Lem Houston East of Parrish Creek.

Thruston D. Hurt \$33.00 Fence + 1.00 Rd Maint. = \$34.00. [*tallied in rows]

Raymond W. Miller \$23.00 Fence + 1.00 Road = 24.00*

T.D. Hurt Mileage

Fence west end	4
Move from Gerow place to Indian Cr	36
Indian Cr to Maury	<u>6</u>
	46 + 5 = \$2.30*

Fred P. Houston

Rd	6 ½ days	29.25
Trail	6 days	27.00
Fence	1 day	4.50
Tel	½ day	<u>2.25</u>
		63.00

Ralph Bennett

Tel	1	4.00
Rd	5	20.00
Trail	4 ¾	19.00
Fence	¾	<u>3.00</u>
		46.00

Mileage Trail . 70

Totals

Rds	61.30
Trail	47.15

Tel 8.80
Fence 66.95

May 14, 1941**Wednesday**

7:40am I took a letter to the mail box, containing a statement of inquiry to Ralph Bennett. Ralph Bennett and Raymond W. Miller began work on trail east of Maury G.S. 9:00am I met them at east end of trail. We went to East end road forest boundary and began work on fence. I soon saw we need a load of post so I returned to Maury G.S. and got 50 fence posts. We continued work on fence until 5:00pm. During that time we dug the holes and set 45 new post. 5:30pm returned to Maury. Mileage on fence with side trip hauling post 38600 to 38623. I am making no charge for mileage to mail box and ret. 6/10/41 F.P.H.

May 15, 1941**Thursday**

7:45am Ralph Bennett, Raymond Miller and I loaded 60 fence post on the pickup and worked on fence. We set 65 new post and reset 20 old post. All on the mile north from East end road to N.E.N.F. [Northeast National Forest] boundary. Making a total of 130 post set. We finished at 4:58 pm. 5:40pm we returned to Maury G.S. Mileage 38623 to 38637. Hurt finished riding north side fence.

May 16, 1941**Friday**

7:45am Ralph Bennett, Raymond Miller and I loaded 30 fence post and left Maury for fence. We began work south from boundary on east end of road. We set 18 post and repaired the fence with figure 4 and braces, stapling wire, etc. to about ¼ mile south of Poison spring. Making 2 miles of fence repaired today. 4:35pm quit work. 5:20pm returned to car. 5:40pm returned to Maury G.S. Mileage 38637 to 38650.

May 17, 1941**Saturday**

7:20am Ralph Bennett, Raymond Miller, and I left Maury for Wiley Flat. Where we finished work on partition fence. We cut out four trees and repaired the breaks in fence. We also stapled from north of Camp Creek road to north of Birdsong spring. 10:45am we returned to Maury. Bennett and Miller worked on station fence until 11:30am. I wrote diary, checked expense accounts, and checked tools. Quit. Mileage 38650 to 38657.

May 19, 1941

Monday

7:30am Ralph Bennett, Raymond Miller, and I left for Maury G.S. for the Cottonwood trail at end of road east of Arrowwood Pt. We walked to fence line ½ mile north of Cottonwood spring then worked fence to point about due south of point where we left the car. By 5:00pm the fence was up but most of the staples were out or quite loose, requiring lots of stapling. We reinforced the fence with 4s. [figure 4s]. 5:40pm returned to Maury G.S. Speedometer 38834 to 38845.

1 case, canvas
1 pot, 4qt. w/lid
1 pot, 3qt. w/lid
3 cereal bowls
3 cups, tin
3 plates, tin
3 dishes, serving
2 pans, dishup
1 butcher knife, folding
3 knives, case
4 forks
3 spoons, tea
3 spoons, table
1 opener, can
1 knife, paring
2 pans, fry, w/handles
1 pot, 2 qt. coffee
2 towels, hand
2 towels, dish
1 cloth, dish
2 bails for pot

A.L. Morris, Post Oregon
138 poles 4x20
2 poles 12'x20'

T 17S R21E Sec 28 NW ¼

May 20, 1941

Tuesday

Ralph Bennett and Raymond Miller worked on fence south of Arrowwood.

8:00A.M. I began work at Maury G.S. I cleaned the office, my garage and then removed improvement tools from fire room garage. I then cleaned my camp mess-outfit and begun checking my 1 man cache. 5:00 P.M. quit. I wrote fire use permit for H.F. Severance.

May 21, 1941

Wednesday

Ralph Bennett and Raymond Miller continued on fence work.

8:00 A.M. to 12:00 N. I painted fire tools and reconditioned same.

1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. I recovered my fire cache box and painted it. I also cleaned out pipe line to watering trough. Quit.

May 22, 1941

Thursday

8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Bennett and Miler worked on road. They (took)out cattle guard on Camp Cr. Road. Then Ralph Bennett went to Prineville. Raymond Miller worked on fence from 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

I worked on fire cache from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 N. I also [worked] from 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. I then began work in office, checking time slips.

May 23, 1941

Friday

6:45am Finished breakfast. Ralph Bennett and I settled our camp account. We then checked his mileage and time slip to date. These I prepared for G.P. McClanahan with other papers. Bennett is to take them to Rager. I transferred 2 hammers, claw., 1 fence pliers, 1 pr. Comealong w/1 buffalo grip to Rager. 7:30am Bennett was ready to start but had to wait for Miller. I transferred a Guard hand-book to Miller. 8:00am Bennett and Miller leaving for Rager.

May 23, 1941 cont.

Friday

I cleaned the bunkhouse, from top to bottom. Bennett cleaned it but I swept up 3 dust pans full of dirt after he left. I then took improvement tools to the barn. I discovered a bolt broken in my pickup and replaced it. Then packed my fire cache. Not standard but an electric storm was approaching. I continued work on fire caches until 5:00pm then wrote a burning permit for Audrid Kizer and took it to the mail post. Also received mail sent by G.P. Mc. to mailbox. 5:35pm returned 38845 to 38855 mileage.

May 24, 1941

Saturday

8:00am 12:00 N. I repacked my fire cache in accordance with 1941 list. I also ground two areas. 12:00 N lunch. I measured fence for inclosing my chickens. And will build same. As soon as poultry wire I have bought arrives. I went to

mail post for personal mail. I took Gov. lawn mower apart cleaned, oiled, and sharpened it. I then mowed $\frac{1}{2}$ of the lawn with time out to eat. 7:50pm quit and wrote diary.

May 25, 1941

Sunday

Roy Ritter and I rode Drake Cr, Wildcat Creek, and the head of Pine Cr. for Sherman's bulls. We were unable to find them.

May 26, 1941

Monday

8:00am to 12:00 N I worked on fire caches. I continued work on fire caches from 1:00pm to 5:20pm. During the day I checked and packed three 2-man caches.

May 27, 1941

Tuesday

8:00am to 12:00 N I worked in office checking my accomplishment reports and making sign requisitions. 12:00 N lunch. 1:00pm to 1:30pm I worked on new land status book. 1:30pm Ranger Arvid Nelson arrived. I went with him to the east end of Maury Mts. to show him the proposed reservoir site. 2:30pm to 5:00pm I worked on land status book. Nelson went to Prineville.

May 28, 1941

Wednesday

8:00am to 10:00am I assembled a fire cache. 10:00am Raining hard and quite cold. I quit work on fire cache and went to office to work on land status book. 12:00N Lunch. 1:00pm to 5:00pm worked on land status book.

May 29, 1941

Thursday

8:00am to 12:00N I worked at the barn repairing tire chains and a jack. Also serviced my car, with gas, and put chains on. I then policed garage and premises. 12:00N Lunch. 1:00pm I made up time slip and prepared outgoing mail. Took inventory of gas, oil, and grease. Gas 7gal in barrel, 13 gal in tank, total 20. Oil 28qt. H.P. grease 93# hard oil 13#. 4:30pm I took mail to post. No mileage charge. 8:00pm returned.

May 30, 1941

Friday, Decoration Day

8:00am to 12:00N I mowed the lawn. I had to mow it twice as the grass was so high the mower could not cut it smooth. 12:00N Lunch. 1:00pm I cut the grass around the office yard. 5:00pm quit.

May 31, 1941**Saturday**

8:00am to 11:30am I worked on fire cache #1 assembling and checking. I also stenciled number on Cache box #3 & 4. 11:30am to 12:00N washed paint brushes. 12:00N Lunch. During afternoon I split wood.

June 1, 1941**Sunday**

6:10am Leaving Maury G.S. for Newsome Cr. via Hwy. Speedometer 38911.
7:35am Lillie Knox - 27 total, 21 calves, 1 bull
Ira Knot - 21 total, 1 bull, 17 calves
8:25am I counted E.B. Knox cattle 90 head total including 4 bulls. There were about 50 calves under 6 months. 11:53am I counted Bailey & Sons cattle. 127 head total. There were 6 bulls included. There were 119 head of calves. Po/ Brand
2:00 P.M. I counted D. Cordes cattle. There were 86 cows and 4 bulls, total 90. Under six months calves 60. These cattle were branded HX with the exception of 2 bulls which were branded "4" "[4J]. These two bulls were purchased from R. Booten by Cordes but were not rebranded. 4:00pm I counted Jeff Stewart's cattle, total 92 head of which 3 were bulls, 17 calves.

June 1, 1941**cont.****Sunday**

Thursday at 2:00pm Jeff Stewart wants to put remainder of cattle on forest. We found Sherman's bull and Jeff Stewart put the bull and 2 head of his cows into his pasture. 6:13pm returned to Maury G.S. Speedometer 38991.

June 2, 1941**Monday**

6:30am Leaving Maury G.S. for Bear Cr. to count cattle. Speedometer 38991. 7:25am Ben Burchtorf 8 cows. There were 7 small calves. Chas T. Brown 48 total. There were 2 bulls. Also 44 small calves. 8:15am I put up sec. Line marker 594 ft. east of sec. Corner common to sec 13-24-14 and 23 on line between sec 13 and 24. T18 R19E. 9:20am I counted Rickman's cattle. Total 112 head 2 head were left up the S.U. the rest put on forest. There were 4 bulls included and about 70 calves under six months. Branded 37. 10:20am I counted 101 head of Settlemyer cattle. There were 4 bulls included. Also each cow had a calf. Branded 83 and JS. 11:00am returned to Maury G.S. speedometer 39012 - Had Lunch. 12:00 noon Leaving Maury G.S. for Davis Cr. trail speedometer 39012. Larry Houston 24 cows 34 calves. Tackman 35 head total 10 steers, 7 heifers. D. Vergus and Abe Hackleman did not show up to put cattle on the forest. 5:15 P.M. I returned to Maury G.S. Speedometer 39024.

June 3, 1941**Tuesday**

5:45am Leaving Maury for Bryson rch. near forest boundary, speedometer 39024 via Double Cabin, then the summit road. 8:00am I counted Percy Blackstone cattle. Total 76 head. There were 3 bulls included. Also 71 calves under 6 months. Percy Blackstone wants a permit for \$1.00 worth of Douglas fir poles. To be cut out on head of Deer Creek. 1:30pm Joe Bryson cattle 86 head total. Including 5 bulls. About 60 calves. Bert Houston 17 head total. Also 17 calves. Friday Joe Bryson wants to count the remainder. I counted O. Rambo cattle. Total of 32 head. There were 3 bulls included. Also 27 calves under 6 months. 4:40pm I counted Manford Nye cattle. Total 85. There were 4 bulls included. Also 70 calves under 6 months. Salt log #62 1/2 hasn't any salt. Observed by Percy Blackstone today. 7:45pm I counted Percy Blackstone cattle. Total 52 head including 2 bulls. Also 43 calves. (:15 P.M. I returned to Maury G.S. Speedometer 39091.

June 4, 1941**Wednesday**

7:05am Leaving Maury G.S. for Davis Creek trail, then for Severance cow camp. Speedometer 39091. Returned to Maury G.S. 5:30pm speedometer 39113. 7:00pm Leaving for Rambo ranch 39113. 8:00pm I counted 69 head of cattle on to the forest for Rambo. There were 69 calves under six months. I then returned to the Parrish place where I stayed all night. 9:45pm speedometer 39162.

shortage

June 1	Ina Knox	21	9
	Lillie Knox	27	3
	E.B. Knox	90	0
	Bailey and Son	127	23
	D. Cordes	90	0
	J. Stewart	90	10
June 2	B. Burchtorf	8	2
	Chas. T Brown	48	2
	T.N. Rickman	120	
	J. Settlemyer	101	0
	L. Houston	24	1
	Geo. Tackman	35	25
June 3	Percy Blackstone	128	0
	Joe Bryson	86	34
	B. Houston	17	8
	O. Rambo	32	68
	M.D. Nye	85	48
June 4	Geo. Tackman	21	4
	Lem. Houston	1	0
	H. Severance	2	243
	H. Severance	162	81
	O. Rambo	69	0
June 5	J. Stewart	9	1

June 6	J. Bryson	34	0
	B. Houston	5	3

Pete Street

*1 3 year old cow dry. Branded " j " on both hips
under half crop in the right, crop on left.*

June 5, 1941

Thursday

8:00am I got a horse from Roy Ritter to ride today. I shod the horse then rode to Maury. Then to Tom Vawn creek where I counted 9 head of Jeff Stewart's cattle on to the forest. I then drove a bull which belonged to Calvin Sherman to Maury G.S. I helped Sherman load the bull into a stock trailer. I then took the saddle horse back to the Parrish place and returned to Maury with my car. Speedometer at Parrish place 39162 time 7:00 P.M. Speedometer 7:30 P.M. return to Maury 39172.

June 6, 1941

Friday

8:00am to 8:30am I worked at Maury G.S. in the office making telephone calls and checking counting report. 9:30am Leaving Maury G.S. for Bryson ranch. Speedometer 39172. 12:00N I counted 5 head of Bert Houston cattle on to the forest. 1 bull was included. There was also 4 small calves. I counted 34 head of Joe Bryson cattle on to the forest. Also 20 small calves under six months of age. 2:15pm I returned to Maury G.S. Speedometer 39216. 2:25pm to 5:00pm I wrote up a counting report.

June 7, 1941

Saturday

8:00am to 12:00N I worked in office on mileage accounts and cleaned office of old papers. 12:00N Lunch. 1:00pm I went to the mail box for my mail. 2:30pm I started work on chicken yard. 5:00pm quit. 7:00pm to 8:45pm I worked on chicken yard.

June 8, 1941

Sunday

Visitors today were Walter Colpitts and family, Mrs. Clark, Jess Gibson and family. I completed work on chicken yard. Joe Thalhofer called about no. of typewriter here at Maury.

June 9, 1941

Monday

8:00am to 12:00N I worked in office on mileage voucher and completed work copying status book. 12:00N Lunch. 1:00pm wrote timber sale for Percy Blackstone. Today I requisitioned: 4 paint brushes, 2 B.P. value from Rager. I typed mileage. 4:00pm to 5:00pm Policing station grounds. 5:00pm quit. 6:30 to 8:15 spaded a garden.

June 10, 1941**Tuesday**

8:00am to 12:00N I worked in the office on expense account and studying range map and relative distribution of stock on range. 12:00N Lunch. 1:00pm to 5:00pm I made work plans for myself and checked status book with District Ranger then brought two months copy up to date. 7:00pm Roy Ritter told me that D. Verges put his cattle onto the forest last Friday. He went to Parrish Cr. with them via Tackman's and the Camp creek road.

June 11, 1941**Wednesday**

8:00 A.M. Began work in office. 8:10 A.M. Called Rager and told Ranger McClanahan about Verges putting cattle on Faught. Ranger McClanahan said for me to go to Parrish Cr. And count all I could find of the Vergus cattle. I immediately prepared to go. 8:30 A.M. Leaving Maury G.S. for Parrish Place. Speedometer 39227. I borrowed a saddle from Roy Ritter and found 19 cows and 19 calves and 1 bull belonging to D.Verges. Branded "76..." 2:45 P.M. I returned to Maury G.S. speedometer 39246. [Notes with numbers and brands]
2:45 to 3:30 P.M. I had lunch
3:30pm Wayne Berry called for requisition of forms. I reported cattle which I counted on Parrish Cr. 3:45pm to 5:30pm I adjusted brakes on my car. 5:30 to 6:30pm Dinner.
7:00pm to 8:00pm I continued work on my car. Quit. [Notes on brands and cattle counted on 6/11/41].

June 12, 1941**Thursday**

8:00am to 12:00N I repaired B.P. can jump for Maury G.S. house, made new washers. I then painted fire tools in unassembled cache. 12:00 N Lunch. 1:00pm to 5:00pm Listing unassembled tools and cleaning fire cache room. Sealed two man caches. 5:30pm I went to mail post for my mail. 9:00pm A lightning storm of moderate intensity is overhead.
Fire cache shortages
C3 2-man
1 kortick tool
1 water-bag w/pump

June 13, 1941**Friday**

8:00am Leaving for Drake Butte speedometer 39257. 8:30am Arrived at Drake Butte. Called Maury G.S. to try out telephone line. Set up fire finder and searched for smoke. Visibility very poor to the east. 10:00am Leaving Drake Butte. 11:20am returned to Maury G.S. Speedometer 39275. 11:20am to 12:00 I sharpened tools. 12:00N Lunch. 1:00 P.M. Leaving for Davis Cr. Trail speedometer 39275. 5:00 P.M. Returned to Maury speedometer 39287. Abe Hackleman Cattle counted on forest. 2:20 pm 2 bulls, 21 cows. 3:00pm 27 cows. There were about 46 calves under six months.

June 14, 1941**Saturday**

8:00 A.M. to 12 N. I took inventory of paint. Then I cleaned the bunk house. Scrubbed every room in that building and washed most of the woodwork. 12:00N Lunch. 3:00pm Leaving Maury for Severance Cow Camp. Speedometer 39331. 3:30pm I arrived at Severance Cow Camp. The cattle had torn down the corral fence so Geo Tackman and Harry Severance count the cattle and put them on the forest before I arrived. They said there were 54 head total, 2 were bulls. 4:25 I returned to Maury G.S. Speedometer 39346.

Blanche Houston Journal (for Fred Houston) 1941**June 18, 1941**

9:00 AM Ed Hyde got 5 gallons of government gas for the Forest Service "Paint Wagon" truck, before he started back to town because of so much rain he couldn't paint.

9:15 PM Manfred Nye called about his cattle counting and Fred had me tell him to count his cattle on tomorrow himself. Mr. Nye had 48 head to go and get. He said he would.

June 20, 1941

7:43 AM Lon Bright wants 60 to 100 fire poles, six to be 6 inch in Diameter for buck beams, the rest small for buck teeth, will come here Monday with money order to get his permit. He wants to get them where he did last year. Fred will call at noon to let me know cost of permit so I can tell Mr. Bright.

8:05 AM Mr. Bright wants to know who to make out money order to.

12:10 PM Fred called and said tell Lon Bright to have his money order made out to "Treasurer of the United States". The permit will cost him just \$1.00 for 100-buck teeth, 4"x20' and 6-buck beams, 6"x20'. When he brings the money order Fred will give him his permit so he can start right in cutting. He must make money order payable to Treasurer of U.S., but mailed to Regional Fiscal Agent, Portland, Ore. Bring the order up to the station to Fred.

6:30 PM I called Mrs. Tachman and gave her the message about the pole permit for Lon Bright.

June 23, 1941

2:30 PM Mr. Hyde came to start painting.

July 2, 1941 Weather Telegram

12:09 PM Scattered to broken cloudiness increasing to overcast in local mtns, today and Thursday with thunderstorms accompanied by light to moderate showers. Light to gentle changeable winds but gusty and increasing in velocity in PM.

July 15, 1941

2:25 PM Fred left for fire. I took charge of office; was plotting fires, dispatching men et.

8:30 PM Went to bed. 5 hours work.

July 16, 1941

6:45 AM Began office work as Emergency Guard.

6:30 PM Mrs. Knox called Fred to report John Knox had not returned from fire on Florida Cr. Fred asked her to have someone drive up close as they could and try to locate him.

7:10 PM Mrs. Knox say they can't find him. 7:12 PM Fred called Rager to tell Ranger McClanahan he and Arch Ream are going to hunt John Knox

7:56 PM I asked Mrs. Knox to let us know if John Knox returns.

10:10 PM Mrs. Knox says John Knox called in from Gregson Ranch and is O.K.

July 17, 1941

7:10 AM Began work in office.

1:00 PM to 2:00 PM noon.

2:00 PM to 6:30 PM Office work.

July 19, 1941

4:52 PM Mrs. Stover called for John Knox to say the W. Hammer Cr. Fire No. 445 is under control and 4 men left on it. Mr. Knox wishes to know if he should go back to the fire tonight or wait till about noon tomorrow. I told him to wait till tomorrow as he had fought fire since yesterday afternoon.

7:08 PM Arch Ream reports Drake Cr. Fire, Newsom Cr. Fire and Parrish Cr fire all dead out and do not need further checking. I checked same as dead out on chart in office.

8:49 PM Fred returned to Maury G.S.

July 20, 1941

If Fred should be needed he'll check in at Drake Butte Lookout on road to W. Florida Cr. fire. He will then follow Summitt Road to Ferguson Springs. He will leave car at Ferguson Sprs. And walk in to the fire. Can send messenger to leave note in car or else wait at car for his return; Or if there before Fred is they can wait for him there.

Closest Cooks:

S. Houston; P. Blackstone; J. Bryson; P. Rambow. Fred will leave note tacked right under sign at Ferguson Sprs. telling where he'll go from there. Note will be dated, so there'll be no mistakes.

July 21, 1941

If Fred is needed, he'll go in following order:

Maury Cr. Fire	Gregson Ranch
Art Morris Ranch	Drake Butte L.O.
D. Cordes Ranch	Maury G.S.
Stover Store	
Bake Knox Ranch	

July 21, 1941 Cont.

11:25 PM Fred returned to Maury G.S.
Tell Florence to bring more 929's and if possible a new ribbon for this typewriter.
Underwood Standard No. 3

July 22, 1941

1:03 PM Arch Reams called in to report he found the West Hammer Cr. fire dead out and doesn't need further checking
1:10 PM I told Fred what Ream said.

July 25, 1941

8:52 AM Roy Ritter called to say he would get the Lem Houston Poles today, so Fred could count them.
9:24 AM Mr. Hutchinson, of the Cold Sprs. Ranch, called from George Tackman Ranch to say he was coming to the Station after Pole Permit.
10:53 AM Fred left for Wiley Flats and Double Cabin to mark poles for Mr. Hutchinson. He said he would be gone about 45 minutes.
11:33 AM Arch Reams is leaving Tower Pt. to return to Drake Bu.

July 26, 1941

Weather Wire 12:05 PM
Scattered thunder storms today & Sunday with scattered cloudyness AM's increasing to broken or overcast PM's not much change in temperature or humidity except as effected by thunder storms gentle NW to NE wind except SW to SE in higher mtns.

July 30, 1941

9:40 AM Wayne Berry called for my actual hours spent as Emergency Guard during fires. Gave them to him. He also asked for Fred's actual hrs. during July. Told him I would figure them out from Fred's diary and give them to him.
9:45 AM Began figuring Fred's actual hrs.
11:10 AM called for Berry. He was out so left work for him to call me.
11:15 AM Mrs. Ream on Drake Butte reports lightning storm on South side.
11:20 AM Mrs. Ream reports 2 storms, one near Blackstone Ranch, one near Lem Houston Ranch.
11:23 AM Told Fred. He says send Ream back to Drake Bu. Also tell Berry at Rager.
11:30 AM Mrs. Berry told me Mr. McClanahan says have Mrs. Ream act as L.O. & Arch as Smoke Chaser and have T.D. Hart stay at Maury and join Knox at his Ranch also anyone else I think necessary.

11:35 AM Called for J. Knox. He wasn't there. Also called for Mrs. Dan Ream to try to get T.D.Hart to come to Maury as standby.

11:45 AM Mrs. Dan Ream says she can not reach T.D. Hart at Hammer Cr. Ranch but will keep calling to see if she can locate him.

July 30, 1941 Cont.

11:51 AM A. Reams left here

1:05 PM Wayne Berry called

1:14 PM Arch reams called in to report Pine Cr. fire.

1:15 PM Put in call for C. Bailey ranch for men for fire.

1:23 PM Gerow Butte turned in report on same fire

1:29 PM Charles Bailey called and Fred asked him to go to fire

1:35 PM Reported fire to Rager and requested letter of Authorization for travel for Chas. S. Bailey

8:40 PM Finally reached T.D. Hurt on telephone and he is coming to Maury in the morning.

July 31, 1941

8:33 AM Arch Reams called to say T.D. Hurt has reached Drake Butte. Asked him to send Hurt on down here to pick up field phone and go out to Arrowwood Point.

10:40 am Arch Ream says Paulina Butte sees something but don't know if it's a fire 2210. Arch went right to Tower Point to take a look and Mr. Hurt is going to Arrowwood Pt. to take a look

11:21 AM T.D. Hurt called in to say he can't see anything that might be fire on Tom Vawn View..

11:27 AM Arch Ream called in from Tower Pt. to say he can't see any fire on Tom Vawn View.

11:30 AM Paulina Bu. Says he is sure now it wasn't a fire but will keep an eye on it for if it should be a fire.

2:30 PM to 3:00 PM Worked on 929 for Pine Cr. Fire.

4:40 PM I called Joe Thalhofer to tell him the car Chas. Bailey used on the Pine Cr. fire was registered in the name of Clara C. Bailey, Chas. Bailey's wife. Mr. Thalhofer said have Mr. Bailey sign the usual place on the mileage statements and then again off to the right and above that signature leaving plenty of room for Mr. Thalhofer to type a statement above that signature.

August 1, 1941

7:40 AM Checked time with Drake Butte. Also asked about visibility. He says he has good visibility but Lookout Mtn. and Pisgah L.O. are almost hidden by smoke which is rolling in from the Northwest. This smoke is fairly high as it rolls in but is settling in the draw.

August 4, 1941

5:27 AM Wayne Berry called to say he has received a letter of Authorization for Travel for Charles S. Bailey dated July 28, 1941.

August 6, 1941 1:30 PM*Weather Telegram*

Clear to scattered cloudiness Thurs. & Fri., Slightly warmer considerably lower humidity today & Thurs. and slightly lower Fri.
Light to gentle variable wind becoming gentle to moderate NW in PM in more exposed places and gentle to moderate S to SW in higher mtns.

August 9, 1941

4:10 PM Arch Ream reports an electric storm on desert near Millican. He reports this storm to be cracking right down, but moving pretty slow until he isn't sure yet if it will hit this unit or not but looks like it might hit across the west end.

4:12 PM I called Fred, who is in Prineville on annual leave and having some work done on his car. I told him what Reams had said about the storm. Fred said he would start home in about thirty minutes or a little less and if the storm struck us and we got any fires leave word at Post Store for him and if we had any fires on the west end he would pick up a fire cache and me at Post and go to it.

4:15 PM I told Ream what Fred said and he said he would watch the storm and let me know what it is going to do

4:18 PM I reported to Ranger McClanahan what Arch Ream had said about the storm also of my talk with Fred. He asked me to let him know if Arch said the storm was going to hit us.

5:00 PM Checked with Arch Ream and he says we are sure going to get an electric storm. There is one on the south of us and they may hit any minute.

5:45 PM Told Mr. McClanahan that we could hear the thunder here at Maury and the storm was on Camp Cr. now. Also that it has just started to rain here at Maury G.S. He asked me to act as platting agent and dispatcher in case of any fires before Fred's return/ He says in case of a fire better send Arch to fire and Mrs. Ream into Tower.

August 14, 1941

8:43 AM Fred & Mr. McClanahan left horseback on grazing inspection of East End.

10:30 AM U.S.F.S. Pickup and truck left here enroute to Ream Mill to get F.S. lumber that is there. I called Drake Butte and Arch Ream said he would leave immediately to go down and show them the lumber they are to get.

12:30 PM Nellie Ream called to say they were beck on Drake Butte.

August 17, 1941

9:55 AM Hurt left.

10:30 AM Fred & Hurt have gone to three fires reported to be in Sec's 23 & 24, T 17, R 20. All three right together.

10:47 AM Gerow Butte called to sy he can't see any fire on Tower Pt. and doesn't believe there is any fire in there. He said there were some fog pockets that looked very much like smoke for a little while but they have all raised until it is plain to see they are fog and not smoke.

11:42 AM I told Drake Butte what Gerow L.O. said.

August 17, 1941 Cont.

11:30 AM Paulina Bu. Called and had me get Arch Ream, who is at Tower Pt., on the phone.

12:25 PM Fred got back to Maury G.S.

August 19, 1941

12:44 PM Arch Ream called to report an electric storm coming.

August 22, 1941

9:06 AM Fred called from Drake Butte to say everything looked O.K. with no sign of any smoke.

September 15, 1941

7 Eudora	- 55 lbs
6 Leora	- 42 lbs
4 Leonore	- 39 lbs
2 Sallie Beth	- 28 ½ lbs
30 Myself	- 128 lbs
41 Fred	- 133 lbs
90	425 ½ lbs

On hand
Rice
Bag of Beans

Salt Prunes
Pepper

Black Canyon
By
Blanche Gibson Houston

*'Twas a balmy July afternoon,
not a cloud shown in the sky
Everyone was relaxed and restful
as the close of day drew nigh.*

*Then suddenly clouds rolled in,
and everyone grew still,
as thunder began to peal
across the distant hills.*

*We knew we could be in trouble
as the sky grew darker still.
The wind grew strong and rain came down
and the July afternoon grew chill.*

*We could only watch and wait,
and hope no strikes went down
Of course, we weren't that lucky.
The Ranger ran for the ringing phone.*

'Twas Wayne Berry on Wolf Mountain
saying, "A bad one is what we've got."
It's down in old Black Canyon
and looks likes its burning hot.

Ranger McClanahan and his fireman
left at once for the fire.

Fred began to call the ranchers
to ask how many men he could hire.

Several haying crews were sent.
They were all the firefighters we had.
They were rushed into Black Canyon
hoping the fire wasn't too bad.

A fire down in Black Canyon
was never any fun
no roads were there, only trails,
so their troubles had just begun.

The phone kept constantly ringing
telling of more down strikes seen.
The lookouts and Fred were kept busy
and no relief for them could be seen.

The Ranger's wife came over
and said she would watch my girls.
I went to the office and got busy
as the storm, before us, unfurled.

I could help with the platting
and also the dispatching, but she
had never been trained to do either
so she watched my girls for me.

Before that night was over,
there were seventeen fires to fight
and every rancher's haying crews
had been called to duty that night.

Fred called in to town, next morning
asking for help from in town.
A fire camp was set up at Mud Springs
before that days sun went down.

Most of the fires were small ones,
and soon controlled or put out.
But the big one, down in Black Canyon
was the one we were worried about.

The fire began on Sunday,
all week it had been going strong.
But on Friday they said it was corralled
and could be controlled before too long.

By Monday it was being mopped up,
and half of the crew went home.
We all hoped for no more storms
in the days and weeks to come.

After the fire was all out,
and the last trace of smoke was gone
and all hired hands gone home,
The regulars at Rager were now alone.

One big fire in Black Canyon
and we were all ready to rest.
At least we had the feeling
We all had done our best.