

## Old Covered Wagon Trail Retraced By Brookings Man He Journeyed As a Youth

(Concluded from Last Week)

"Our relatives in San Antonio took us through the missions and old forts there. On our trip we visited the town of Marfa, Texas, one of the districts that hardly ever sees rain.

"We found El Paso a fast growing city with many oil wells in or near the town. It is a great cotton belt with quite a large acreage of sugar cane.

"The bullfights in old Mexico are very exciting for one who has never seen them. They fight and kill five bulls each day they have their fights.

"From there we visited the Carlsbad Caverns, which are 700 feet underground. They are the most beautiful of all underground caves.

"Crossing old Mexico, we found a lot of desert and many types of cactus, from bushes to 14-in trees, including fields of blooming sage, which are a beautiful sight.

"Our next stop was the Salt River Canyon. It has a winding highway down in and out of the canyon. This is one of the most scenic highways that one could travel. The highway was lined with lovely blooming cactus and sage the full length of Mexico. We found large herds of cattle in scattered spots throughout New Mexico.

"Phoenix, Arizona, was one of the outstanding cities we passed through on our way to Los Angeles. Los Angeles and San Francisco needs no explanation, as we consider them our neighboring cities.

"We made the 12,000-mile trip in our 1952 Buick, which only used one pint of oil the first 3,200 miles. We averaged 14½ miles on the gallon of gas. We had no repairs on the entire trip.

"On the night of November 6 we arrived home and left again the morning of November 8 on a two weeks elk hunting trip. This

trip took us into eastern Oregon near the Washington and Idaho border. We spent an enjoyable two weeks hunting and taking pictures, even though we did get skunked. It takes a jeep to make an enjoyable hunting trip, as it does not stop for snow or mud.

"Everything went fine until we got to Roseburg and found the roads were closed to Coos Bay. At Grants Pass we found the road closed to Crescent City, but after a few hours delay we got through.

"Margie is now settled at college, where she has been the past few weeks. She likes it fine.

"We enjoyed every minute of our trip, and hope it won't be 42 years until we can make it again."

## Wind Damages Coast Timber

The elements have taken a costly toll of timber on West Coast tree farms already this winter and the end may not be in sight.

High winds along coastal Oregon and Washington have done incalculable damage, according to W. D. Hagenstein, managing director of Industrial Forestry association.

He listed four natural scourges of the tree farmer as: fire, wind, disease and insects.

"Timber blown down this winter," Hagenstein stated, "will create ideal breeding and feeding conditions for the Douglas fir beetle which reached epidemic state after the big blowdown in the winter of 1951-52."

The forest leader said tree farmers and timber-owning agencies would be hard pressed this coming year to extend logging road networks rapidly enough to catch up with salvage operations necessary to save timber blown down this winter and certain to be beetle infested this coming summer.

Hagenstein said these are calculated risks of tree farming where private landowners are raising timber crops which have a growing cycle of from 60 to 100 years. Timber for pulp take from 70 to 100 years to grow.

Tree farmers fared well fire-wise this year, Hagenstein reported, with one of the smallest fire losses in history. This was due, he said, to the wonderful cooperation of loggers, hunters, and the general public in being more careful with fire, along with favorable weather.

For fires only—Dial 2181.

## Campaign Against Insects Planned

Salem—Study of offensive and defensive measures to be taken against forest insects which have

"Timber blown down this winter stands of Oregon and Washington during recent years, has been scheduled March 2 to 5 at the Peavy Arboretum near Corvallis, the state board of forestry has announced in Salem.

The four-day school is part of the program of the Northwest Forest Pest Action committee to work out a counter-offensive against fir and pine beetles and other insects and learn something of the conditions which bring about epidemics of the three-killing insects.

The school is open to representatives of private industry, state and federal forest agencies, and other conservation groups. The number of individuals attending the school has been held to 30 because of limited facilities at the arboretum.

Instruction will be provided by Oregon State college, the state forestry department, U. S. Forest Service, and the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment station. Private industry representatives will participate in the panel discussions.

Insect and Disease Director Miles Compton, of the state forester's office, has been placed in charge of arrangements.


Compton stated the fields of study will include insect identification, control, management and surveys. Identification will not be from the standpoint of insect classification but from the nature of the attack the insect makes on the tree. Additional topics include the current insect surveys and controls. Applications to attend the school may be obtained from Miles Compton at Salem.

IN EUGENE

Mrs. Myrtle Hibbard left Tuesday for a short visit in Eugene.

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