

REDWOOD RANGER STATION AT CAVE JUNCTION



(By Harold Bowerman)

Ranger, Redwood Ranger Station

The Page Creek Ranger District, of the Siskiyou National Forest, originally had its headquarters at the Page Creek Ranger Station. The increase of activities in the Illinois valley necessitated a location nearer the center of activity. The station was moved to the present site of the Redwood Ranger Station in 1932.

The Redwood Ranger Station was originally responsible for the fire protection of the entire Illinois valley. In 1941 the State Fire Patrol took over these duties for the valley floor north of O'Brien on the west side of the highway, and north of the Moore mill on the east. People wishing assistance with fire problems or burning permits should apply to the State Warden. His office is in the building just east of Dick Sowell's residence in Kerby, Oregon.

The activities of the Redwood Ranger Station are many and varied. The most important activity is fire suppression. Without adequate fire prevention and suppression, the valley's timber stands would be lost and payrolls reduced. It is the responsibility of all the people to cooperate in fire prevention and suppression so that the prosperity of the valley may continue. A large source of revenue is the tourist trade. This will fail if we do not keep our hills green with timber. No one wishes to vacation in a snag patch.

The Redwood Ranger Station is selling timber from the Grants Pass working circle which includes this area. Annual cut of timber from Siskiyou National Forest stands in Josephine county is 14 million board feet. Sales are made on a competitive basis so that buyers will have an equal chance. Sales are limited to two years operation for any one mill so that a single buyer cannot block up large volumes at the expense of other operators.

The recreational developments at Grayback, Elk Valley, Store Gulch, Bolan and Sourdough have been made by the Page Creek Ranger District. The maintenance of these improvements is a big job and an expense. The majority of the people using these camps appreciate the service. The ever-present minority, however, causes much work and expense. Garbage is dumped on the ground, tables are destroyed, and rest rooms are left in a deplorable condition.

Recreational roads and trails are built and maintained by the Forest Service. Streams and lakes are stocked in cooperation with the State Game commission.

The grazing resources of the National Forest in this area are

also administered by the Redwood Ranger Station. Over 800 head of cattle graze for over four months on the forest. The operations handling the cattle are mostly small, but the additional income means a margin of profit for many of the owners.

The Redwood Ranger Station is also an American Red Cross Highway Emergency First Aid station. Thirty people have been treated, in the absence of Dr. Collman, during the last 10 months.

Josephine county receives 25 per cent of all gross income from the National Forest resources

within the county. This money is spent on schools and roads. An additional 10 per cent is spent by the Forest Service on roads and trails in the county. This 35 per cent is in addition to the fire protection, roads and trails, telephone lines, and recreational facilities furnished the citizens of Josephine county.

The future success and development of the Illinois valley is based on its natural resources. It is the responsibility of its citizens to safeguard their heritage by cooperating in fire prevention and suppression.

Agricultural Resources Tremendous



WHEAT FIELD LOOKS GOOD

As far as agriculture is concerned in the valley, only a comparatively small area of potential farming ground, is cultivated. The reclamation engineers estimate that 22,000 acres can be cultivated and irrigated.

The great expense in getting this ground ready for cultivation,

late years Ladino clover seed and other seed growing has produced a fine return. The picture here shown is a wheat field. The man standing showing his head was over six feet tall. Considerable wheat and oats are raised for local consumption as feed.

From all sources of agriculture



DAIRY HERD IN ILLINOIS VALLEY

is clearing the trees and brush away. But when cleared, the soil in the valley will produce a large variety of profitable crops.

Dairy farming in the valley is the largest single item. Stock raising is perhaps the next. In

the valley, conservative estimates show nearly two hundred thousand dollars a year is put into the coffers of the farmers. This amount could be trebled if the irrigation project is constructed.

With modern farming practices and the help farmers get from the government and agricultural agents, the valley is in stride for development little dreamed by its present residents.

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BUILDING For the FUTURE

The everlasting determination of the people of the Illinois Valley to build a bigger and better place to live and thrive in your business is the talk of the county.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to you and to the Illinois Valley News on their 10th Anniversary.

May you all live long and prosper.

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Yours and Ours . . .

Congratulations to the people of the Illinois Valley in their great development. And to the Illinois Valley News on your 10th Anniversary.

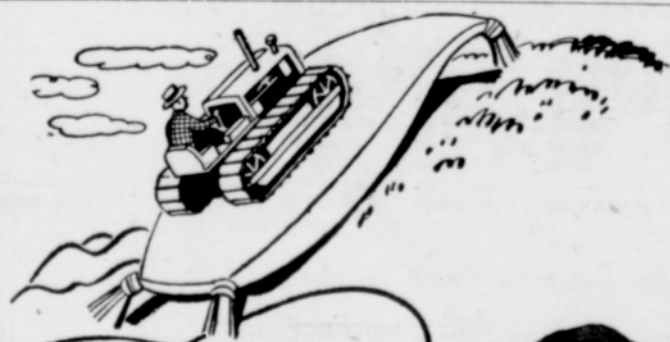
We're celebrating with you. It's our 16th Anniversary, and we are proud of our large patronage from Valley customers.

Like the News, we're entering another year and it will be our constant endeavor to continue to serve you well in the future.

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