

PIONEERS CONQUER INDIANS

(Continued from Page 1)

hardest of lava, so hard that two pieces could be made jingle, for otherwise it could not have so resisted the tread of time. Other geological proofs and writers substantiate the Condon discoveries, and theories which appear geologically true.

The Indian Days.

Of the days of the Indians, we know very little. The Umatilla, Cayuses, Walla Walla and the Columbia tribes roamed the entire Blue Mountain region and were invaded by the Yakimas or Warm Spring tribes at times.

Tradition has it that a terrific battle was fought around Hermiston Butte, early known as Rattlesnake Butte, and that the tribes often wintered along the Umatilla and Columbia where deer and antelope were plentiful and their ponies could graze on the plentiful grasses, seldom covered by snow. The Umatilla Meadows, known as the Meadows, was a great winter rendezvous.

The records of the Lewis and Clark expedition in 1805 and the Hudson Bay fur company described the Indians, and we have some knowledge from the records of the first wagon train under Captain Applegate in 1843. This was over the Old Oregon trail, the last survivor of which, Mrs. Susan B. White, passed most of her later life in Umatilla county, and died in Hermiston a few years ago.

The first attempt at settlement in Umatilla county was made at the Catholic Mission near Pendleton in

1847, just before the Whitman massacre, but this was abandoned, and the buildings were destroyed by the Indians. The second attempt at settlement was made by the building of an agency at Umatilla, just across the river from where Echo now stands, in 1851, and a post office was opened on the postal route then being established between The Dalles and Salt Lake. Soon after Fort Henrietta was built at Umatilla, and a few French settlers attempted to farm.

During the Indian war of 1855 the settlement perished and the Umatilla agency and fort stockades were destroyed. In 1857, quiet was restored and Green Arnold, agent at Umatilla, returned and located a farm at the mouth of Birch creek and John R. and William Courtney located farms on the Meadows near the site of Umatilla. They engaged in the sheep and cattle business and the Courtney ditch on the Meadows was named for them. Government forces had gained control of the Indians and the discovery of gold in Boise Basin in 1861 and other places like John Day, Auburn and Powder river brought in a flood of gold hunters and settlers and the territory was wrested from savagery with exception of the Chief Joseph campaign of 1878 which caused very little disturbance near here.

The Old Oregon Trail.

Because of the discovery of gold in 1860 and the rush of people into the mining camps Umatilla became at once a populous city. Supplies were needed in the vast interior and these were brought to Umatilla by boat, the cargoes being transferred by wagon around Cascade and Celilo rapids, where later narrow gauge portage railroads were built, and later the canal and locks.

At Umatilla the merchandise was

transferred to great wagon trains, and taken over the Blue Mountains to Boise, or delivered along the way. The Old Oregon Trail became a great highway and stations were opened at many points to accommodate the freight movers.

These wagons were drawn by horses and mules and sometimes as many as 20 mules and four wagons were conducted by one driver who rode one of the wheel horses and guided his team with a jerk line on the leader. These teamsters usually had powerful lungs and vocal organs and swore vociferously at the mules which seemed to understand the shades of vehemence. Whispering Thomson was one of the best drivers and it is said that along toward evening as his outfit approached a station he could be heard for miles.

Four Mile station was four miles out of Umatilla, two miles west of Hermiston, where usually the teamsters made their first camp after loading from the boats at Four Mile house. The next camp was Twelve Mile house, at the present site of Stanfield. With a good start in the morning the trains usually made Swift's Station or Marshall's Station below Pendleton which became the main station.

Grasses grew everywhere and grain for the wagon stock was shipped in by boat to Umatilla and fed along the long trail to Boise Basin. R. N. Stanfield and O. F. Thomson, fathers of the well known Butter Creek families then owned and operated a large feed and livery stable business at Umatilla, now 75 years ago.

New Regime After 1860.

After 1860 a flood of new life

overwhelmed the Inland Empire. Like the discovery of gold in California in 1849, the gold fields of the northwest brought thousands of people into its borders seeking, not only gold but lands, and homes. Great live stock industries and farms and wheat fields, cities, counties and statehood, lumbering and manufacturing were developed. This was all done in the spirit and frontier life of what we now call the Old West.

Vast cattle ranches grew up on the ranges and horses swarmed the plains. The cowboy life of this region was the same in romance and story for 40 succeeding years as we read about in novels and witness on the screen these days. The home on the range where the deer and the antelope played, was here just the same as in Texas and Montana. Vigilantes controlled the cattle and horse thieves and were the law for a time. Hangings on tripods of poles or from tree tops were frequent penalties of frontier law here and desperadoes were brought under control. Men like Hank Vaughn and others, heroic in some elements of character, but desperate when painting the town red, were of the type we now see screened as dashing heroes and rode these hills and plains in real life.

It was this epic of the west that has filled our libraries, and is still entertaining us on screen and in song now. This region played its part the same as the rest of the west, in furnishing the new basis of Round-ups, drama, song and romance, so realistic and thrilling through the modern ways of giving it expression.

This epic period lasted from 1860 to late in 1900. It was interrupted by the coming of the railroads in

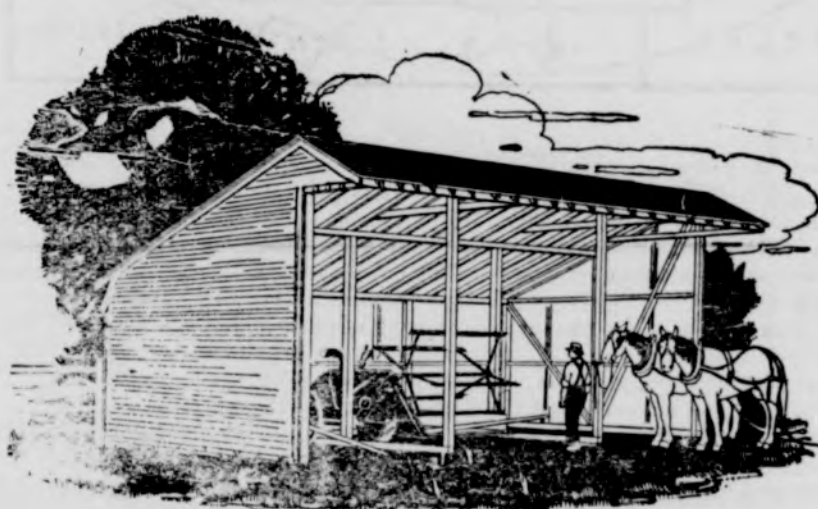
1884 and gradually died out with the growth of cities and a more greater development on land and stable or prosaic life.

DESCENDENT OF THE EARLY TRIBE



Indian tribes roamed the entire Blue Mountain region in the early '60s. There is now an Indian Mission near Pendleton and the Indians take an active part in the Westward Ho epic each year at the Round-Up.

"WE LIKE TO HELP FOLKS BUILD" In Washington and Oregon



OPEN FRONT IMPLEMENT SHED



DAYLIGHT HOG SHED



CIRCLE ROOF BARN



SUNLIGHT CHICKEN SHED



WHEAT RANCH MACHINE AND COMBINE SHED



GAMBREL ROOF BARN AND "TUM-A-LUM SILO"



TWO-CAR GARAGE

"PLANS AND MATERIALS FOR HOME AND FARM BUILDINGS"
MATERIALLY YOURS

TUM=A=LUM LUMBER CO.

Over Twenty-Five Years in Umatilla and Morrow Counties.

Echo • Stanfield • Hermiston • Umatilla • Irrigon • Heppner • Ione