

161 Residents of Happy Camp Sign Petition for Incorporation

Community Lists 5,500 People in Logging Season

By ROSIE BOLEY
Mail Tribune Staff Writer
One of northern California's most colorful and isolated communities may soon become a city.

A total of 161 residents of Happy Camp, located about 75 miles west of Yreka, have signed a petition requesting incorporation. The petition was approved Tuesday by the Siskiyou county board of supervisors, an administrative body corresponding with Oregon's county courts. The Siskiyou county assessor is now checking the signatures with property ownership records. Only property owners may have a voice in the incorporation issue.

In the 1920's, Happy Camp was a relatively quiet community with about 350 residents. Mining was the economic backbone of the area. But in 1950, several sawmills moved to Happy Camp, and the community began to boom. In the winter, the population is about 2,000. In the summer, when logging and sawmill operations are in full swing, the population swells to about 5,500.

Temporary Residents
"Old timers," or people who have lived at Happy Camp for many years, comprise about half the population. The remainder consists of temporary residents, who come and go, depending on availability of employment.

At the present time, there are about eight major mills in the Happy Camp area, including the Happy Camp Lumber company, Yellow Fir company, the Willamette company, Yreka Veneer and three Siskiyou mill plants. Considered the most important mines in the area are the Gray Eagle chrome mine and the Siskon gold mine.

Faced With Problems
As population statistics continue to increase, residents of Happy Camp are finding themselves faced with many serious needs. Among them are improved sanitation and water facilities, paved roads, local police and fire protection and hospital facilities.

The Siskiyou county board of supervisors has long been aware of these problems. Since Happy Camp is not eligible for state funds, and county funds are not sufficient to provide the needed improvements, the board came up with an alternative plan. About four weeks ago, two members of the board petitioned the state to create a service area at Happy Camp.

Under the state's provisions for service areas, it would be possible for the county to install improvements in water sewage and similar facilities. The board of supervisors would administer the program and would be authorized to levy a tax in the area to finance it.

Against Service Area
However, many residents of Happy Camp do not favor this plan. In fact, Don Avery, a member of the board of supervisors, says the incorporation move gained impetus from strong opposition to the proposed service area. A hearing on the service area is scheduled to be held next Tuesday night. If 50 per cent of the property owners sign a petition against its creation, the program can be blocked.

Meanwhile, several residents got the ball rolling for incorporation. Dr. R. E. Graun, Happy Camp's only physician and surgeon (and the only one within a radius of 150 miles), has been a leader in the movement.

Mrs. Gladys Cook, Charles Card and Judge Phil Tolman began circulating petitions for incorporation. In less than a week, they obtained 161 signatures. If all signatures are found to be valid, they will represent more than 25 per cent of the property owners, the number required before incorporation proceedings can begin.

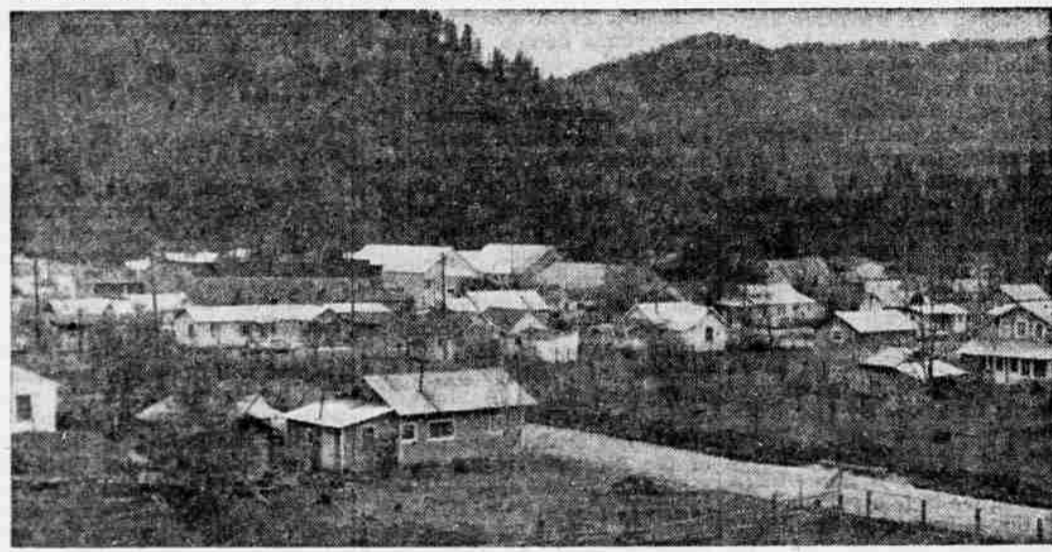
Sanitation Most Serious
Of all problems facing the area, sanitation is probably the most serious. Sewage is now being disposed of by septic tanks. Dr. S. E. Lamb, Siskiyou county health officer who has been studying Happy Camp health problems for about five years, says soil in the area is not well adapted to this type of sewage disposal. Dr. Graun, agreeing with the health officer, added that sewage frequently backs up. "When that happens you walk around with a clothes pin on your nose," he commented.

Dr. Lamb says setting up a central disposal unit is the only answer to the problem. He estimated cost of such a unit would be about half-million dollars. Happy Camp's water system was seriously undermined about four weeks ago, when the water ditch was washed out during a storm. The area was without pure water for several days.

Get Pipe Line
The county negotiated with the Federal Civil Defense agency to obtain about 8000 feet of aluminum pipe line with which to



LUMBER INDUSTRY STRONG—An estimated 90 per cent of the population at Happy Camp are employed in the lumber industry. There are about eight major mills, including Yreka Veneer (shown above) which is located at the east approach to Happy Camp. Mining is next in line as a source of employment. Mining once was the backbone of the area's economy.



HAPPY CAMP—Already like a lively town is the community of Happy Camp, Calif., located 75 miles west of Yreka. A total of 161 residents have signed a petition for incorporation. Population of the community varies from about 2,000 in the winter to about 5,500 in the summer when logging operations are in full operation.

restore the system. But the pipe line was given on a loan basis and must be returned soon. Right now it seems unlikely enough funds could be raised in Happy Camp to replace the line.

The community's water supply is brought from Elk Creek, south of Happy Camp, by ditch and pipe line. An increase in diarrhea type diseases during summers and in periods of heavy rainfall is directly attributed by both doctors to inadequacy of the present water system. Dr. Lamb also pointed out there is a high potential for typhoid epidemic if a carrier were to come into the area and germs get into the watershed.

Estimates Differ
Dr. Lamb estimates enlargement of pipes and completion of a water system would cost about \$133,000. However, Dr. Graun estimates the cost about \$40,000. The present water system is owned by property owners and called the Happy Camp Improvement Association, Inc. It is administered by a volunteer board consisting of Charles Card, chairman, and Merle Reed.

Sociologists Say anyone who looks for trouble can find it in any community. Happy Camp is no exception. Siskiyou County Sheriff Al Cottar describes Happy Camp as one of the county's heaviest areas for complaints and calls for assistance.

Most of the calls, the sheriff says, are for assistance in dealing with offenses involving liquor. This includes drunk driving, drunk in public and disorderly conduct. Happy Camp also has its share of major offenses. Two years ago, according to the sheriff, a California highway patrolman was fatally shot there. Other shootings have occurred since then. Burglaries are among other common offenses.

Stationed in Community
There are two resident sheriff's deputies, a highway patrolman and a constable regularly stationed in the community. Still many residents say there is need for more police protection on a local level and incorporation would make this possible. Sheriff Cottar, however, says he doubts that incorporation would make any difference in the Happy Camp law enforcement problem.

The community's fire protection is now supplied by a volunteer crew. Two county-owned fire trucks are kept in a centrally located fire hall, where someone is on duty most of the time. Much of the land in and around Happy Camp is federal forest land and fire protection for those areas is provided by the forest service. Many residents would like to strengthen their local fire protection facilities and this is another reason they are advocating incorporation.

Dr. Graun, who has been practicing medicine in Happy Camp since 1952, says a hospital district is vitally needed in the community. Residents needing hospital care now must travel 75 miles east to Yreka, or 75 miles west to the Hoopa Indian reservation. Most of them go to Yreka because hospital facilities at Hoopa are limited.

Distance Could Be Fatal
This distance could well be fatal in a case of emergency.

Word Easter Derived From Teutonic Goodness Eostre

By FAY BENTLEY
Life, slowly bursting forth anew
In fields, in woods, in gardens, too;
With overhead the birds on wing
Produce a symphony of spring.

Ancient people in joy over the season's rebirth held a festival each year in honor of Eostre or Ostara, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of light or spring, to whom a month corresponding to our April was dedicated. The word Easter is derived from the name of this goddess, famed in old Teutonic mythology.

Christian observance of the Easter festival is an outgrowth of the Jewish Passover, concerning which Bede says, "The old festival was observed with the gladness of a new solemnity." Although the Christian churches have observed Easter from a very early period, serious disagreements over the actual dates of this festival have arisen.

Council of Nicaea
In the year 325 the Council of Nicaea decreed that Easter should be held on Sunday and on the same Sunday throughout the entire world. As Alexandria, Egypt, was the home of astronomical science at that time, the correct date for this festival was to be calculated in this city and announced to the other churches.

Easter was to fall on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal or spring equinox. This results in a movable festival and Easter may be on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25, a span of 35 days.

It is said that the early Christians worked out this method of fixing the date so pilgrims traveling to various religious shrines would be aided by the moonlight.

Early Easter
Last year Easter was early, falling on April 1. This year it is late, occurring on April 21. Five years from now, it will be

one day later, April 22. In the year 2000 Easter Sunday will be April 23.
In 1818 Easter fell on its earliest possible date, March 22. This will not happen again till the year 2285.
In 1943, Easter Sunday was April 25, the latest date possible. Not till the year 2038 will this again take place.

The earliest Easter since 1900 fell on March 23, 1923. In the year 2008, Easter Sunday will again be March 23.
After Full Moon
A full moon on the 15th of March this year made an early Easter impossible, as the vernal equinox did not take place till March 20. In April, the moon became full on the 14th, which happened to be Sunday. There-

fore, Easter falls on April 21 which is the first Sunday after the full moon after the vernal equinox.
The inconvenience caused in the commercial world by the movability of Easter was discussed at the International Congress of Chambers of Commerce in Rome in 1923. In an effort to stabilize the date or at least reduce the 35-day span, the matter was presented to the League of Nations, but little progress was made.

An early Easter means grief for certain merchants as the weather is usually unsuited to Easter apparel, and if Easter is late the spring stock is on hand when dealers have to move in their summer goods.
As most people are more interested in the religious significance of Easter than in the commercial aspects, there seems little chance of changing this custom which as prevailed for the

last 1,632 years and Easter will still occur on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the vernal equinox.

Umatilla Tribe Offers Scholarships
Bendleton—(U.P.)—The Umatilla Indian board of trustees Friday announced that 16 scholarships of \$500 each are being offered to students from the Umatilla tribe.

The offer is the highest amount made available by the tribe since the scholarship plan began three years ago on the reservation. The scholarships come from the interest accrued from \$50,000 held in trust by the tribe for educational purposes.

Missouri Man Jailed On Weapon Charge
Elbert Dean Kelly, 24, Neosho, Mo., was lodged in the county jail Friday on a charge of carrying a concealed weapon. He was arrested by state police on Highway 99 north of Medford.

Police said a hitchhiker notified them shortly before noon that a man he had been riding with was carrying some rifles in the back of his car and had a revolver concealed in the front of the car. Police found the revolver hidden in the front seat.

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