

New Highway Opens Up Scenic Oregon Area

Winnemucca-to-the-Sea Road Dedication Planned

(Editor's Note - The following was written by the Mail Tribune's Willamette-Wonder area correspondent following a recent trip over most of the roads that comprise the soon-to-open Winnemucca-to-the-Sea highway.)

By GENEVIEVE BRIGGS

The completion of the scenic Winnemucca-to-the-Sea highway Sept. 21-22 will open up the last frontier. The route crosses both high mesas and lush green valleys.

Not since the days of Fremont's Journal, published in 1840 describing this area, and the wagon trains has this country been seen except by cattlemen, sheepmen and Indians.

On this highway you can see the past, present and future. For the businessman, it is the opening of a vast new frontier, a transcontinental highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific Northwest, and a faster truck service from Salt Lake City, Utah to the sea.

The town of Winnemucca, Nev., is in an uproar, with trucking firms vying for terminals and getting ready for the opening day of the highway.

Relaxed Atmosphere
As Richard Robinson of the Portland Oregonian said, it, you are halfway to everywhere in Winnemucca. Here one finds a relaxed attitude towards life. The people are mindful to allow others to go on their way unmolested, getting through life with a minimum of irritation and a maximum of enjoyment.

This is the code of the Old West and it produces people like Winnemucca Jim, a retired U.S. marshal from the Teton of Wyoming, a master of tooled leather, drawing pictures freehand and tooling them in leather. He is also a collector of guns and has on exhibit a 1612 Blunderbuss or Pilgrim's gun as it is often called, and an 1833 cap and ball six-gun from Deadwood, S. D.

In Winnemucca, there are casinos and churches and fat sleek cattle, golf links, mo-

tels and trailer courts.

Heads to Denio

Leaving Winnemucca, to the east is Treaty hill. Here the Indians settled their dispute - Shoshone lands to the east and Plute to the west. Turning north, Highway 95 stretches ahead like a ribbon of grey. Snow-capped mountains look down upon man as he once again travels the road.

Climbing out of Humboldt river canyon and over Denio mountain's 4,845 foot summit, the road heads west to Denio. The scent of sage brush, crisp and clean and the wide valley ahead tells that this is cattle and sheep country.

IO is a little hotel. Host and hostess are Maurice and Barbara Bidart. Also, here is the last chance to get gasoline for 98 miles and it would be wise to have a thermos jug of water as there are no sources of water.

At Denio one finds old-fashioned courtesy and the true frontiersman. Mustang Smith, foreman for the Miller and Lux cattle and horse company, is a man who has



"MAN OF VISION"-The Winnemucca-to-the-Sea highway will be dedicated to Judge Chris Langset of Lakeview, who was the principal moving force behind construction of the route. (Jones photo)

lived all his years in a saddle, roping, branding, and herding 15,000 head of horses. Hugh W. Gould, who as a young man rode for Miller and Lux roping and branding 20,000 head of cattle and was known as "Pinto" Gould, now is a businessman.

The grandson of the founder of Denio now lives in Grants Pass.

It is from these men one learns of the struggles for power between the cattle baron and the small rancher struggling for a foothold. The last great herd of 400 horses passed over this road Dec. 4, 1948.

Christmas Valley

Traveling north into famed Christmas valley one finds ranch homes are being promoted for retired people.

From here the traveler may turn northwest into the historic Paradise valley, and to Boise over the Pony express route.

Turning west at Denio up Alkali creek canyon, skirting Alkali lake, the traveler enters the Charles Sheldon Antelope refuge, second largest in the United States. Soon you arrive at the rim of Warner valley and can view the panorama.

It is a short distance from here to Virgin valley, home of the precious fire opals, only known commercial opal fields in the United States. These fields have been mined for 40 years. The famous Robeling opal, weighing 17 ounces and now in the Smithsonian Institute, was found here. In 1918 the largest fire opal in the world - six pounds - was found at Rainbow ridge mine.

Crossing the valley one sees Hart mountain, a massive ridge rising from the surrounding mesa to an altitude of 8,020 feet. Ascending abruptly from the floor of Warner valley, the face of the mountain is cut by deep gorges, Hart canyon, DeGarmo canyon, Potter canyon. Through the gap can be seen Guano valley.

Antelope Refuge

The west side is not as steep as the east, but rises gently from one level mesa to the other. Running beside the highway is Camas creek and its falls. Here the highway skirts Hart Mountain Antelope refuge - 240,000 acres. Some of the older Indians re-

call that in the days of their fathers buffalo ranged eastern Oregon.

In Lake county at Adel is the first place to get gasoline. Lake county is well named. It's the land of a thousand lakes. Crump lake, Albert lake, Goose lake, and even a Dog lake to name a few.

Lake county has many attractions, but a check with the Chamber of Commerce on road conditions is advised.

Two miles from Lakeview is Old Perpetual Geyser, the largest continuous flow of hot

water in the world. There is also Hole in the Ground, nearly a mile in diameter and 190 feet deep. Fort Rock, a natural rock formation where cavemen lived more than 9,000 years ago, and Lost Forest, a stand of Ponderosa pine surrounded by nothing but sagebrush.

Then there is Paisley, a western town that has remained unchanged for nearly a century.

The cedar soon give way to the pine, fir, and quaken aspen and green valleys, and

the traveler arrives in Lakeview. Here is the home of Judge Chris Langset, to whom this highway will be dedicated Sept. 21 and 22. The dedication plaque will read: "Thus Does the Man of Vision Make A Dream Come True."

Judge Langset has labored long for this highway and foresaw the commercial value to the inland empire of the Rogue and a direct route to the sea.

Mount Shasta Visible
Leaving Lakeview the high-

way goes through the tall timber and the high peaks are capped with snow. Mount Shasta is visible from here. Through green valleys of green alfalfa and grain of all sorts, fat sleek cattle and lovely ranches, the highway continues through Bly, Beaty, and arrives at Klamath Falls. Near Klamath Falls is the Klamath Indian reservation. Here too, is the Klamath Wild Life refuge, a stop-over on the Pacific flyway for thousands of migratory birds which may be seen ev-

ery year, such as the Sandhill crane and the Klamath White pelican.

Klamath lake, largest of area lakes, covers 90,000 acres. Hudson Bay trappers were its first known white visitors. Trailer parks, as well as motels and hotels are to be found here.

Campgrounds are maintained by the state and by the U.S. Forest service. This is true of all the highway after leaving Adel.

Skirting Klamath lake the traveler next sees Lake of

the Woods shining like a jewel in the sun. It is a water skier's paradise and abounds with fish.

Closer to home, the highway continues on into the Rogue valley, across to Grants Pass, down the Redwood highway into California and on to the sea at Crescent City.

All along the Winnemucca-to-the-Sea route there is the romance of olden times and the adventure of the new. I'll wager that you will remember this trip.

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Russia Forced To Welsh on Promise Of Help for India

New Delhi-(UPI)-Russian officials have quietly informed the Indian government they will have to waltz on a promise of electrical equipment. Diplomats said the reasons are economic, not political.

The Russian rowback probably means India will not be able to reach its target of 12.7 million kilowatts by 1966. Installed capacity at the beginning of India's three five year development plan (April 1, 1961) was 5.70 million kilowatts.

Indian planners were counting on the Russians to supply generators during the third plan for roughly an additional one million kilowatts. Current indications are the Soviets will be able to provide less than half the amount.

Overextension Suggested

One senior diplomat suggested the Soviets had overextended their aid commitments and were feeling the pinch for three reasons.

-Pressure from the people for more consumer goods.

-Continued agricultural difficulties.

-The high cost of staying in the space race.

Russian aid for thermal power development was first announced on Sept. 12, 1959,

as part of a \$375 million credit. Additional power aid was announced Feb. 21, 1961, including a promise of four complete units of hydrogenators (each with a capacity of 120,000 kilowatts) for the right bank power house of massive Bhakra dam.

The upshot is another delay in the Neyveli power station in power-hungry Madras state and probable cancellation of any Russian participation in a larger thermal power station programmed for Singrauli in Central India. At least one other thermal power project is likely to be delayed.

The Russian commitment for the Bhakra dam extends past 1965, but the Indians were planning on being able to use some right bank power by then. Indian power experts are frankly worried because the Soviets can't be pinned down on this project.

Delivery Dates Delayed

First tipoff that the Russians might not keep their promise came when the chairman of the Indian Central Water and Power Commission, S. S. Kumar, went to Russia earlier this year. Kumar found delivery dates on a number of electrical units

County To Receive Refund From State

Jackson county will receive a refund of \$2,396.93 from the state highway department, according to a letter sent to the county court this week.

The refund totals the amount the county paid in excess of its share of construction costs for the Ruch-Little Applegate section of the highway. The county had submitted a deposit of \$14,100 according to an agreement of May 26, 1961. The county's share of the costs for the roadway was \$11,703.07.

Total cost of the project was \$64,319.14. Federal funds totaled \$40,913. Half of the remainder was what the county was required to pay.

The letter said a check would be sent in the next few days.

Salem-(UPI)-Alex Parks has been named as executive secretary of the Oregon state board of dental examiners. Parks is a Portland attorney.

had been delayed. He returned to India unable to get any firm information on nine to 10 other units of 80,000 kilowatts each.

Officially, the Indian government is non-committal. A spokesman for the irrigation and power ministry told United Press International, "If this were any country but India, I might have something to say."



CAMAS FALLS-Running beside the Winnemucca-to-the-Sea highway as it progresses down the west side of Hart mountain towards Lakeview is Camas creek and its falls, as shown here.