

# Winnemucca Route Traverses Old West; Variety of Activities for Travelers

By GENEVIEVE BRIGGS  
Mail Tribune Correspondent

There is fun to be had on the new Winnemucca-to-the-Sea highway, scheduled to open this September. There is something for everyone.

For the archaeologist there is much to be seen and studied. In the chalk rock of eastern Oregon can be found remnants of fish that lived ages ago when this part of the earth apparently was under water.

Lake Abert, 18 miles from Lakeview, is rich in relics of ancient times. Remnants of the ice age can be found close beside more recent lava flows. An outstanding feature of the area is Abert's Rim along the east side of Lake Abert. This contains the largest exposed geological fault in North America. The rim rises 2,500 feet above the lake shore with a vertical cliff 640 feet high composed of layer upon layer of lava.

**Unknown People**

There is evidence that this area was inhabited ages ago by an unknown people. While Indian arrow heads, knives, bows and tools are discovered more readily along the ancient lake shore, relics of an earlier age are also found. It is believed by some archaeologists that these unknown people were among the earliest on the American continent.

It gives one a weird feeling to be looking at objects 9,000 years old and then see a modern jet fly over head, a reminder that time and space are very close.

For the fisherman the Lakeview area is a dream of a spot where lakes exist by the hundreds. Water skiing and riding over the many trails are among the area's other attractions. Within the city limits and two blocks off Highway 395 is a geyser shooting water 60 feet into the air every 20 seconds.

Along the new highway the Old West remains the same.

**Branding Viewed**

Some people say the Old West is gone. Well it isn't so, at least not entirely. In southeastern Oregon one can come around a bend in the road and see a corral full of cattle during branding time with riders busily roping calves and bringing them over to the branding fire.

The roping is done by two riders. One throws a lasso around the calf's hind legs and at the same time the other rider lassoes the calf by the neck. The calf is then dragged near the branding area by his hind legs with the other end of the rope attached to the saddle horn of the first rider.

Here is where split second team work between horse and rider counts. Once a horse is shown the calf to be branded, it is his job to cut the calf far enough from the rest of the herd so it can be lassued. With a wild calf a horse must know his job and be quick on his feet. Then when the calf is in branding position both horses used must know how much tension to put on the ropes to hold the calf down and still not hurt him.

A good cutting and roping horse is a cow hand's most prized possession.



ALONG THE WAY - East of Lakeview along the Winnemucca-to-the-Sea, one may see branding scenes such as the above.



LINING—The Randolph Collier tunnel, which goes through Oregon mountain on Highway 199, is now being lined with concrete. The tunnel will eliminate a major bottleneck in the route to the coast. With the completion of the tunnel, the route to Crescent City, Calif., will provide the shortest and most direct route to the coast from Winnemucca, Nev. (Knackstedt photo)

About 30 miles east of Lakeview lies Adel, Ore. The only excuse for the name is one lone building which houses a general store, with a gas pump out front instead of a hitching rack. But this is "town" to ranchers and cow hands for miles around, the next town to the east is Denio, more than 80 miles away.

**Country Store**

Here is an old fashioned country store. You can buy a cold soft drink and probably a loaf of bread or a pack of cigarettes, but behind the counter next to the canned goods are piled leather gloves, blue levis and straw and Stetson hats. Out in the store on racks are saddles, bridles, boots and spurs.

Stacked in the corner are pitchforks, shovels, crowbars and picks. There is an aroma of vinegar and pickles, candy and raisins in the air.

Between Adel and Denio, a trip to the Virgin Valley Opal mines is a must for rock hounds. Fire opals comparable to those found in the Virgin

valley are found only in two other areas of the world, Australia and South America.

**Opal Mine**

When going to the mines, it should be remembered that one is entering fairly wild country. There are no service stations along the road after one leaves Adel, 53 miles to the west. To the east the nearest source of gasoline is Denio, 30 miles away. There are no motels in the area either.

The opal mines are seven miles off the highway on a fairly good road. Signs direct the way to the mines. G. Keith Hodson is host. The mines are open from May through September.

There are two places in the mines where the public may dig for opals. A charge is made for the privilege. Persons interested in rocks appear to come to the mines year after year, some of them from great distances.

## End of Highway Raises Question Along New Route

Where is the "Sea" end of the "Winnemucca-to-the-Sea" highway?

Well - that depends. It depends on whether you live in Crescent City, or in the Coos Bay-Coquille area, or even inland north of Grants Pass.

People in Douglas county, anxious for increased commerce and the improvement of Highway 42 between Roseburg and the coast, have tried to "steal" the Winnemucca project.

But increasingly it is becoming apparent that Crescent City will become the natural sea-outlet for the highway from the interior, no matter what it may be called. For Highway 199 from Grants Pass to Crescent City is rapidly being improved, and it provides the shortest and most direct route.

**Unofficial Title**

The title, "Winnemucca-to-the-Sea," is entirely unofficial. It appears on no established maps, nor in the records of any highway department. But, once coined, it stuck, and eventually may become an official designation for the route.

One major gap in the route will remain after its dedication next month - the new Lake of the Woods highway between Medford and Klamath Falls, which should be finished within another two years. Meanwhile, cross-Cascade traffic can take either the Green Springs highway, route 66, or the recently paved Dead Indian road from Ashland to Lake of the Woods.

When the new Randolph Collier tunnel under Oregon mountain on Highway 199 just south of the Oregon-California border is completed next year, the last major bottleneck in the route will be gone.



THE ROUTE—This map, compiled by the San Francisco Chronicle, outlines the Winnemucca-to-the-Sea route. From Winnemucca, the route goes northwest to Denio, Nev., thence westerly to Adel, Ore. and Lakeview, and on to Klamath Falls. From Klamath Falls westward one of the routes is Highway 66 to Ashland. A new road is being constructed (dotted line) via Lake-of-the-Woods and Eagle Point to Medford but it will not be completed for a while. From Medford, the route follows Interstate 5 to Grants Pass and Highway 199 to Crescent City.

## Chapter Schedules First Aid Classes

The Jackson county chapter of the American Red Cross will launch the first standard First Aid class of the fall, beginning Tuesday, Aug. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Red Cross building, 60 Hawthorne ave.

Volunteer Instructor-Trainee LeRoy Williams, advises that the purpose of Red Cross First Aid training is threefold: prevention of accidents, minimizing of injuries and alleviation of suffering of accident victims by prompt and skilled first aid care, and protection of the sufferer until medical care can be given.

"At least one member of every family should take this valuable training," he said.

Classes will be held for six consecutive Tuesday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. There is no charge for the course. Persons may call the Red Cross office for further information and to register for the course, 772-4405.

## Domiciliary Men Finish Training

White City - Domiciliary officials and personnel are completing their 1962 tour of military duty this month in various branches of the Army, Navy, Air Force and National Guard reserve.

Dr. E. G. Everett, chief medical officer, returns this week from Camp Rilea, where he served as Major in the 249th artillery battalion, Oregon National Guard.

R. C. Tugman, assistant to the domiciliary officer, has just returned from Camp Roberts, Calif., where he was in the 104th infantry division, as sergeant major.

Others who have completed their training for this year are R. E. Kelley, chief, social work service, at Ft. Lewis in June as captain in the 382nd QM unit and L. L. Dover, assistant domiciliary officer, with the Air Force Reserve in March. Another Air Force trainee was Michael Clark, dietetics, who went to Portland in April to report for squadron duty.

Wallace Bowen, a fire guard in engineering, was at Long Beach with the Navy Reserve in April.

Those subject to call for reserve duty are J. G. Sedlak, domiciliary officer, and A. F. Rosknecht, domiciliary assistant.

## Miss Slessler To Be Washington Student

Miss Linda Slessler, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Slessler, 846 West Thirteenth st., will enroll as a student at Washington State university in Pullman fall term.

Miss Slessler was a student at the University of Oregon, and will be a junior.

### STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN

Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars

To develop messages for Friday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
1-15-26-37 31-60-81-94	1-11-22-33 37-48-59-70	1-11-22-33 37-48-59-70	1-11-22-33 37-48-59-70	1-11-22-33 37-48-59-70	1-11-22-33 37-48-59-70	1-11-22-33 37-48-59-70	1-11-22-33 37-48-59-70	1-11-22-33 37-48-59-70

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### Industrial Group Hears Governor

Portland - (UP) - Gov. Mark Hatfield said Wednesday "if we are going to have a growing economy, we must have the confidence of the business community."

Hatfield said "you don't have that when you hold out one hand to business and clobber it with the other hand."

He spoke at a meeting of the National Industrial Council's State Associations group. He said that too many public officials "have tried to hobble industry in needless ways or used it as a political football to achieve their own selfish ends."

Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr. also spoke at the meeting. The group meets through Friday.

**Portlander Drowns During Fishing Trip**

Sisters - (UP) - Daniel Bjornvik, 74, Portland, drowned in Suttle lake 15 miles west of here late Tuesday.

He was fishing from a small boat. His body was recovered.

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