

Old California-Oregon Road Has Spectacular, Varied Scenery

By J. O. McKINNEY
Mail Tribune Correspondent

The old California-Oregon road between Yreka, Calif., and Klamath Falls, Ore., has varied and spectacular scenery and a background of a history so lurid the region was known as Corner of Hell.

A journey along this route might not appeal to those whose tastes run to picking daisies. It is a rugged country and specializes in rugged going. It always has. Beginning with a pastoral country, the terrain blends into a lake-shore drive, along a turbulent river, with canyons deep, precipitous, and festooned with mystery.

Twenty years before Captain Jack, the infamous Modoc warrior was ever noticed, there had been a running war with Indians along the road that left more headstones erected to victims of violence than there are milestones in the road's 75-mile length. And most of these unnamed dead lie in unmarked graves.

Location of Fort

One of the pair of road signs on this old stage route points out the location of an old stone fort built in 1850. Later it was used as a stage station and hotel. Today it is still being occupied. It is a part of a farm home. A wall of the old fort may be identified by the picture of a galloping horse being painted on the side next to the road.

The other sign states this is the California-Oregon Stage Road, 1851-1888. Stages quit running about then, but the road has never been abandoned.

Neither has it ever been improved enough to mark attention. A few miles of surfacing run out from each terminal. None is done where most needed. It writes its own speed regulations, and often punishes its offenders.

History To Unfold

Beyond this sign history begins to unfold. A 10-acre tract of gray colored mineral encrusted soil has mounds from the top of which bubbles springs of clear, sparkling water. Its mineral content causes it to have a not unpleasant taste. This mineral content is what has built the mounds that are estimated to be 30 million years old.

Here the region is cow country. Rolling hills covered with rich volcanic soils makes it a grazing range supreme. Houses are scarce due to extensive cattle holdings where many acres are under one owner. This carries on throughout most of the old interstate road.

The scenery changes as the road skirts Copco lake. Beyond this it parallels Klamath river, a wild, turbulent stream bordered by a wild, forested country. Here wild horse herds, not generally seen but to be found by those who search, add zest to a trip. It is from this herd of wild



ROAD TO KLAMATH FALLS—This is part of the Oregon road. The accompanying article describes the route between Yreka, Calif., and Klamath Falls, Ore., over the California-Oregon road.

mustangs that many prize rodeo bucking horses have come. Dick Hemstead, owner of a string of rodeo stock, has recruited mounds here. There have also been men who were forced to climb trees to escape a white stallion that leads a band. He never attacks where guns are in evidence. But he does live up to the old name, Corner of Hell!

Near here may be seen across the river from the road, a gulch cut into the side of a mountain. It is the remains of a chute down which saw timber was once skidded to the river where it was rafted to mills downstream. Blackened sides show where friction has started fires in barks of these logs.

Near is a horizontal gulch in a cliff that is the entrance to a cave that was once an Indian stronghold. They withstood many attacks by U.S. soldiers until the troops were reinforced by a cannon. The crash of ball against cliff was too much for Poor Lo. The erstwhile braves wanted to smoke a peace pipe at once.

Remains of Resort

Not far beyond this cliff is the remains of one of the famed mineral springs resorts of the West, Klamath Hot Springs. Like all mineral springs, its fame dwindled. When a fire destroyed the hotel, there was not sufficient interest in the place to warrant rebuilding.

One of the famous guests who visited there was Amelia Earhart and her mother who registered there June 9, 1924.

Her ill fated effort to fly around the world came not many years later.

It is near this ruins that Shovel creek, a tributary of Klamath river is crossed. It was, and probably is, one of the best fishing streams in the world. But the owner of the premises today takes a dim view of outside fishing. The place is posted against trespass.

Objectionable Feature

There is another objectionable feature to picknicking here. There are probably as many rattlesnakes found along shovel creek as in any other place in the West.

A short distance across Shovel creek is one of the stretches of the river that helped bring the wild man to the region. It is where seven men drowned in the wrecking of a log raft. This is known as Dead Man's Hole.

A cemetery is soon passed that contains but three graves. Two are filled by murdered people. The other occupant committed suicide.

Still another gruesome landmark is an old tree where a sheepherder was hanged, but was cut down before he died. He never let the sun shine on him in that country another day.

A Relay Stable

A log pen now falling in ruins was once a relay stable for stage and freight teams. Bullet holes in the crumbling logs tell stories of wild times during its history. Beyond this a few miles is Topsy Grade. That was once the chief terror

Death for Forest Products Industry Proposal Seen

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune
Washington Correspondent

Washington (Special) — The Kennedy administration's proposed tax increase for much of the forest products industry will be killed by the House Ways and Means Committee, according to a committee member who has been participating in tax bill drafting sessions.

Al Ullman (D-Ore.), who represents the Northwest states on the tax-writing committee, said the Treasury Department's proposal for abolishing virtually all of the capital gains tax treatment on the increasing value of growing timber "will not be adopted."

"There is just not the support in the committee for that proposal," Congressman Ullman said in an interview.

The entire forest products industry has been up in arms over the proposed tax change because it would effectively increase the tax rate on this portion of earnings from 25 to 47 per cent. If this feature is killed and the capital gains rate is dropped, the industry will get a tax reduction instead of an increase.

Testimony Weak

Congressman Ullman, who opposed the elimination of the capital gains feature, said the "testimony of the Treasury Department was real weak, and no committee members defended the Treasury's position in the hearings."

"The justification of capital gains lies in conservation," said Ullman. "The responsibility rests with the industry to show a real gain in this area. If they can't show a gain, there certainly will be a change in the future."

Topsy town was once a village above the grade where those who had safely made the journey celebrated the event. Those who still had to brave the dangers, did penance before tackling it.

Beyond the ruins of the old town of Topsy the road soon reaches Keno. From there to Klamath Falls was not always civilized, but did enjoy a better reputation than down river points.

Ullman was referring to private tree farming, which the industry claimed has been stimulated by the capital gains allowance since its adoption in 1944. Some industry witnesses said frankly that if the tax advantage was eliminated, their companies would be forced to abandon good conservation practices.

"The committee feels the lumber industry is passing through a difficult change," Ullman said. "Nobody knows what would be the consequence on the industry or on conservation of this proposal."

Some Gross Violations

The congressman said that while there had been an increase in sound forest conservation practices in the past two decades, "there have been some gross violations of the sustained-yield principle — and it's up to the industry to make sure this doesn't happen."

Ullman said he thought that if violations continue, despite the capital gains incentive, Congress may consider changing the tax law to stipulate that the capital gains allowance could be used only if sustained-yield and other sound conservation practices are followed by the timber owner.

Congress must recognize, he said, that private timber owners need an incentive to embark upon 50 to 100 year programs of growing mature trees. But the timber owners, he added, must recognize a responsibility to treat the forests as "a public benefit, not just a private asset."

STAR GAZER
By CLAY R. POLLAN
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars.

To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES MAR. 21-20	1. Romance 2. Entro 3. New 4. Letter 5. Change 6. Dr 7. Act	8. And 9. Inspiring 10. Your 11. Try 12. New 13. Seeing 14. Guard 15. Your 16. Exciting 17. Thought 18. Of 19. New 20. Help	21. In 22. Popularity 23. Mind 24. If 25. New 26. Your 27. Love 28. Marriage 29. Times 30. Your	31. Church 32. East 33. And 34. You 35. Eat 36. Firm 37. Piece 38. Peace 39. Big 40. Friend 41. Creative 42. Artistic 43. Crises 44. And 45. Hearty 46. Meeting 47. Nor 48. Distance 49. Against 50. Think 51. Dr 52. Personal 53. Friends 54. Appear 55. Or 56. Year 57. You're 58. New 59. Navy 60. Unwelcome	61. Charitable 62. Dry 63. Meditation 64. Appearance 65. Is 66. Scene 67. Heart 68. Wings 69. Fates 70. Intruder 71. And 72. You 73. Changes 74. Literary 75. Gets 76. Crazy 77. Abilities 78. Lost 79. Domestic 80. Its 81. Remedy 82. Embrace 83. Air 84. Affairs 85. Or 86. Now 87. You 88. Boost 89. "Top" 90. Way
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Couple Fined for Disorderly Conduct

Ronald Edward Sequin, 31, and his wife, Ellen Zonne Sequin, 916 West 10th st., were fined \$40 and \$30 respectively in Medford municipal court Friday after they pleaded guilty to a disorderly conduct charge.

The charge was an outgrowth of a two-car collision about 1:31 p.m. Thursday at

Eight st. and Riverside ave. Officers investigating the accident said the couple became abusive and used profane language to them.

Driver of the other vehicle involved, Walter Dick Woodcock, 44, of 2557 Sandy terrace, was cited for disobeying a traffic signal. Police said damage to both vehicles was extensive.

Sightseeing in London Starts For Student From Grants Pass

Editor's note: This is another in a series of dispatches from Charles (Chuck) A. Moore, former Medford resident now living in Grants Pass. Moore is in London under the Experiment in International Living and Lewis and Clark college program.)

By CHARLES A. MOORE

Feb. 20: We had more snow on and today.

Doug called for me this evening to attend a folksinging club. The 18-year-old son of a doctor, Doug is working in the advertising field buying time on TV, independent TV. He did not, as his older sister chose to do, go on to the university. Advertising is his chosen field.

So tonight I became a member of the Jug of Punch folksong club. It meets in the side-room of the new Cross Corner pub. There is no connection between the pub and the club. The room is just the best meeting place they could find. It is very large with two small coal fireplaces at opposite ends of the room. The rest of the room is cold.

From 8 until 11, closing time of all pubs, we had continuous entertainment. In all, at least six persons sang for us with the audience joining in whenever they knew the strains and were invited. The main point of the folk singing seems to be the absence of need for the ability to sing. Some of these people are really proficient in their guitar work though.

Mixture of People

What type of a curious mix we find? There is a couple of young university art students, young working people, and a few that defy description.

Folk song clubs enjoy wide popularity throughout England. They speak of it as the folk song revival, but it is by no means a fad. Both younger and older artists and audience are present at these sessions.

At 18, Doug seemed to be the youngest present. The principal singers appeared to be in the late 20s to early 30s.

Feb. 21: Today began my sightseeing career. Norm rang up early to see if I would like to go to the Greenwich Park. After 10 minutes ride in one of those red, top-heavy, double-decker busses for which London is so famous, I arrived at the main gate where Norm was waiting.

Pictureque Scene

The park with its undisturbed snow made a beautiful and pictureque scene. In one end of the park, 10 youngsters were fearlessly sliding down a steep slope on their homemade "sledges," pronounced with a soft "g."

Our tourism included looking through the inexhaustible National Maritime Museum and the Queen's House. This little gem of Palladian architecture was built in 1635.

At 1 o'clock Norm and I directed our eyes up the hill to the Flamstead House, old Royal observatory. Precisely

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SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY SALE!

Sportsmen's Club To Meet in CP

The Central Point Sportsmen's Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 22, at the club house, 4 West Pine st., Central Point.

John Belknap, president of the Jackson County Horsemen's association, and Ted Christensen, chairman of the membership and activities committee of the same association, will speak.

Motion pictures of recent fishing and hunting events will be shown by Don Milligan, president of the Sportsmen's club.

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