

Journal of the Old South Road

(Continued from Yesterday)

NOTES AND REMINISCENCES OF LAYING OUT AND ESTABLISHING THE OLD EMIGRANT ROAD INTO SOUTHERN OREGON IN THE YEAR 1846.

By Lindsay Applegate

After crossing we turned up the river, and the Indians in large numbers came out of the thickets on the opposite side and tried in every way to provoke us. Our course was for some distance southeast along the bank of the river, and the Indians, some mounted and some on foot, passed on rapidly on the other side. There appeared to be a great commotion among them. A party had left the French settlement in the Willamette some three or four weeks before us, consisting of French, half breeds, Columbia Indians and a few Americans; probably about eighty in all. Passing one of their encampments we could see by the signs that they were only a short distance ahead of us. We afterwards learned that the Rogue River had stolen some of their horses, and that an effort to recover them had caused the delay. At about 3 o'clock we left the river and bore southward up a little stream for four or five miles and encamped. From our camp we could see numerous signal fires on the mountains to the eastward. We saw no Indians in the vicinity of our camp, and no evidence of their having been there lately. They had evidently given us up, and followed the other company which the same night encamped in the main valley above. Under the circumstances, we enjoyed a good night's rest, keeping only two guards at a time.

Reach Rogue River Valley

On the morning of June 29th, we passed over a low range of hills from the summit of which he had a splendid view of the Rogue River valley. It seemed like a great meadow, interspersed with groves of oaks which appeared like vast orchards. All day long we traveled over rich black soil covered with rank grass, clover and pea vines, and at night encamped near the other party on the stream now known as Emigrant creek, near the foot of the Siskiyou mountains. This night, the Indians having gone to the mountains to ambush the French company as we afterwards learned, we were not disturbed. Here our course diverged from that of the other company, they following the old California trail across the Siskiyou, while our route was eastward through an unexplored region several hundred miles in extent.

On the morning of June 20th, we moved along the north bank of the creek, and soon began the ascent of the mountains to the eastward, which we found gradual. Spending most of the day in examining the hills about the stream now called Rogue creek, near the summit of the Siskiyou ridge, we moved on down through the heavy forests of pine, fir and cedar, and encamped early in the evening in a little valley, now known as Round prairie, about ten or twelve miles, as nearly as we could judge, from the camp of the previous night. We found no evidence of Indians being about, but we did not relax our vigilance on that account. We encamped in a clump of pines in the valley and kept our own guard.

Pass Through Hills Discovered

On the morning of July 1st, being anxious to know what we were to find ahead, we made an early start. This morning we observed the track of a lone horse leading eastward. Thinking it had been made by some Indian horseman on his way from Rogue river to the Klamath country, we undertook to follow it. This we had no trouble in doing, as it had been made in the spring while the ground was damp and was very distinct, until we came to a very rough rocky ridge where we lost it. This ridge was directly in our way. Exploring northward along the divide for considerable distance without finding a practicable route across it we encamped for the night among the pines. The next morning, July 2, we explored the ridge southward as far as the great chanyon of the Klamath but, having no better success than the day before, we encamped at a little spring on the mountain side. The next day, July 3rd, we again traveled northward farther than before, making a more complete examination of the country than we had previously done, and at last found what seemed to be a practicable pass. Near this was a rich grassy valley through which ran a little stream, and here we encamped for the night. This valley is now known as Long Prairie.

We Sight The Klamath Country

On the morning of July 4th, our route bore along a ridge trending considerably towards the north. The route was good, not rocky, and the ascent very gradual. After crossing

the summit of the Cascade ridge, the descent was, in places, very rapid. At noon we came out into a glade where there was water and grass and from which we could see the Klamath river. After noon we moved down through an immense forest, principally of yellow pine, to the river, and then traveled up the north bank, still through yellow pine forests, for about six miles, when all at once we came out in full view of the Klamath country, extending outward as far as the eye could reach. It was an exciting moment, after the many days spent in the dense forests and among the mountains, and the whole party broke forth in cheer after cheer. An Indian who had not observed us until the shouting began broke away from the river bank near us and ran to the hills a quarter of a mile distant. An antelope could scarcely have made better time, for we continued shouting as he ran and his speed seemed to increase until he was lost from our view among the pines. We were now entering a country where the natives had seen but few white people. Following the river up to where it leaves the Lower Klamath lake, we came to a rifle where it seemed possible to cross. William Parker waded in and explored the ford. It was deep, rocky and rapid, but we all passed over safely, and then proceeded along the river and lake shore for a mile or so when we came into the main valley of the Lower Klamath lake. We could see columns of smoke rising in every direction, for our presence was already known to the Modocs and the signal fire telegraph was in active operation. Moving southward along the shore we came to a little stream, empty in from the southward, and there found pieces of newspapers and other unmistakable evidences of civilized people having camped there a short time before. We found a place where the turf had been cut away, also the willows, near the bank of the creek and horses had been repeatedly driven over the place. As there were many places where animals could get water without this trouble, some of the party were of the opinion that some persons had been buried there and that horses had been driven over the place to obliterate all marks and thus prevent the Indians from disturbing the dead. The immense excitement among the Indians on our arrival there strengthened this opinion.

Freight Turned Back

Cad. Fremont, only a few days before, had reached this point on his way northward when he was overtaken by Lieut. Gillispie of the U. S. army with important dispatches and returned to Lower California. The Mexican war had just begun and the "path-finder" was needed elsewhere. On the very night he was overtaken by Lt. Gillispie, the Modocs surprised his camp, killed three of his Delaware Indians and it is said that had it not been for the vigilance and presence of mind of Kit Carson, he would probably have suffered a complete rout. At this place we arranged our camp on an open ground so that the Indians could not possibly approach us without discovery. It is likely that the excitement among the Modocs was caused, more than anything else, by the apprehension that ours was a party sent to chastise them for their attack on Fremont. We were but a handful of men surrounded by hundreds of Indians armed with their poisoned arrows, but by dint of great care and vigilance we were able to pass through their country safely. On every line of travel from the Atlantic to the Pacific there has been great loss of life from a failure to exercise a proper degree of caution, and too often have reckless and foolhardy men who have through the want of proper care, become embroiled in difficulties with the Indians, gained the reputation of being Indian fighters and heroes, while the men who were able to conduct parties in safety through the country of warlike savages, escaped the world's notice.

(To be Continued)

A Little Riddle

What is it? If you have saved all you earn, you're a miser. If you spend all you earn, you're a fool. If you lose it, you're out. If you owe it, they're always after you. If you lend it, you're always after them. It's the cause of evil. It's the cause of good. It's the cause of sorrow. It's the cause of happiness. If the government makes it, it's all right. If you make it, it's all wrong. As a rule, it's hard to get. But it's pretty soft when you get it. It talks! To some it says, "I've come to stay." To others it whispers, "Goodbye."

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OC SHNER AT FORUM

Speaker Tells of Vast Oil Shale Supply in U. S.

Prospective purchasers of motor cars need not give up the idea of owning a "bug" because of any fear of immediate cessation of gasoline production, said Dr. W. H. Oshner, San Francisco geologist, discussing petroleum production and possibilities at the chamber of commerce forum today. While the estimated supply in the United States will last only 25 years, under present rates and methods of production, science is seeking to master the extraction of oil from immense shale beds underlying various parts of the country, and it is estimated that the shale supply is five times as great as the oil body that is in sight in the sand.

Illustrates Talk

The geologist's address was academic but interesting, and accompanied by a freehand illustration of oil structures and their formation on a blackboard.

Dr. Oshner was asked a few questions relative to the possibility of petroleum in Klamath county. He was rather non-committal, but stated that there was no diatomaceous shale in this country. The chalky deposits resembling shale were volcanic ash, he said. As a rule, he declared, oil was not found in volcanic areas.

Explains Federal Reserve

The first of a series of educational four-minute talks, planned by the forum committee for the winter, was given by A. M. Collier, of the First National bank, who explained the workings of the federal reserve bank system. He credited the federal reserve for saving the country from a panic, during the after-war depression. The same conditions in general that precipitated former panics were present, but the reserve cash and credit placed at the disposal of the country's banks through the federal system prevented a general breakdown.

Mrs. A. J. Voge sang two songs that won much applause. She was accompanied by Mrs. Charles Wood Eberlein.

SLAYS WIFE, SELF

TACOMA, Nov. 22.—William Pennant, 55, killed his wife with an ax, then shot himself to death at Quilcene, a town on Hood's canal, early today, following a quarrel.

When the small boy voluntarily studies his lessons it is a sure sign Christmas is coming.

All the men sitting in box seats at burlesque shows are not bachelors.

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FINAL SHOWING TONIGHT. TOMORROW—A United Artists picture GEORGE ARLISS IN "DISRAELI"



THE STRAND

Recently Klamath Falls has been favored with the picture versions of several stories taken from The Saturday Evening Post and the latest, and perhaps the best, of these is "Loy's and the Law," which shows at The Strand tonight. This picture comes from the famous Post story, "The Troop Train," by William Hamilton Osborne and is one of thrills which you will enjoy.

As usual at The Strand there will be a good comedy tonight which gives the evening's program just the right balance to make it a pleasure to all who attend.

Friday evening the popular Neal Hart will be at The Strand in "The Heart of a Texas." Sunday the well known Mabel Ballin will be the star in "Married People."

THE LIBERTY

What do you look for in a moving picture? Is it romance, is it exceptional strength of character, or of story; is it the star, the supporting cast, or the action? No matter which one, or combination, you enjoy most, your wish will be gratified in "Human Hearts," the universally acclaimed masterpiece which comes to the Liberty theatre tonight.

Announcement of the booking of this Universal-Jewel masterpiece by Manager Poole has aroused the greatest interest among local moving picture fans, showing that residents of this city are fully conversant with the great success it has been achieving in the largest cities of the country. From all indications the Liberty Theatre will set new attendance records with this intensely human story of everyday folks.

PINE TREE

Proving itself to be one of the most vigorous photoplays seen here in many months, "The Valley of Silent Men," a Cosmopolitan creation for Paramount, featuring Alma Rubens, was greeted with marked demonstrations of approval by a large assemblage of picture fans at the



Alma Rubens in "The Valley of Silent Men" Courtesy: Cosmopolitan Productions

Pine Tree theatre last night! It was filmed in the Rocky Mountains of Canada, in the precise spot described by James Oliver Curwood in his celebrated novel upon which the picture is based.

Frank Borzage, the creator of "Humoresque" and other notable picture productions, has displayed no inconsiderable skill in his latest effort. Miss Rubens, appearing as a young Canadian girl who loves a valiant corporal of the Canadian mounted police when he, believing himself to be dying, confesses to murder of which he is innocent, in order to shield her brother, has a role of signal dramatic force in the rendition of which her talents are admirably displayed. Her support generally is excellent, the characterizations of Lew Cody, Joe King, Geo. Nash and others, being all that could be asked for.

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FAMOUS PLAYERS-LASKY CORP. PRESENTS

"THE VALLEY OF SILENT MEN"

WITH Alma Rubens



CREATED BY Cosmopolitan Productions

The hunter becomes the hunted, an officer of the Royal Mounted, fleeing, fighting for his life—

Guided to a secret valley in the frozen North by a hot-blooded French-Canadian beauty, with a secret of her own—

That's the start of this greatest of all Curwood dramas. Portrayed by a cast of stars. Directed by the man who made "Humoresque."

From the smashing popular story by James Oliver Curwood Directed by Frank Borzage Scenario by John Lynch

Ben Turpin in His Latest Comedy

THURSDAY THE CARTER DE HAVENS

—in—

"MY LADY FRIENDS"