

Octogenarian Recalls Cattle Drives, Chuck Wagon, Lonely Night Watches

By MYRTLE WIMER

FORT KLAMATH—A resident of Oregon for nearly three quarters of a century, Lorin M. Streeter, of Fort Klamath, has spent 52 years of his life at his ranch on Wood River. Born January 12, 1873, at Centerville, California, the



LORIN M. STREETER

86-year-old Streeter is the oldest rancher in the Wood River Valley, both in point of age and years of residence.

He came to Creswell in Lane County at the age of 16, and later went to Silver Lake in Lake County, where he worked with sheep and cattle. For some time, Streeter was employed at Silver Lake by Porter brothers (now deceased), who were uncles of Earl M. and Wilbur Jackson, present day Fort Klamath residents.

Recent visitors at the Streeter ranch were Mr. and Mrs. P. V. Reeder of Klamath Falls. In their youth, the two men worked together shearing sheep at Silver Lake, where Reeder also served as deputy sheriff for Lake County. Octogenarian Streeter remembers well those early days in Lake County, and the long cattle drives in which he took part as a young buckaroo; herds of beef cattle were driven from Silver Lake to Gazelle, California, with their accompanying cowboys, chuckwagon and camp cook. He recalls the lonely night watches maintained over the cattle along the trail by these cowboys, weary after being in the saddle all day.

In 1905, Streeter married Nora Sellers, Creswell, daughter of a pioneer family, at his former home at Creswell, and in 1907 the couple moved to the Streeter ranch here. They specialized for many years in breeding and raising purebred registered Shorthorn cattle, and were the only ranchers in the valley to do so. Whiteface Herefords were the predominant breed.

Streeter was the first local stockman to ship cattle from the Wood River Valley to California for winter pasture on leased land, shipping his Shorthorns south to Red Bluff for the first time in the fall of 1917 during World War I. The cattle were driven to the railroad at Chiloquin, where they were shipped on cars to Red Bluff for winter pasture, brought back by rail in the spring, and driven to the ranch. Since that time, this has been the usual procedure of

ranchers of the valley, although in recent years the majority have transported their stock to market and winter pasture by means of cattle trucks and trailers.

Prior to 1917, valley cattle were kept on the Klamath Marsh during the spring and summer, and were moved back to Fort Klamath for fall and winter feeding. In those early days, grass grew high in meadows and was cut for winter hay to feed the stock. In contrast with later times and the present time, when very little hay is cut here, the 160,000 acres of the Wood River Valley are now far-flung fenced cattle pastures on which 27,000 head of beef stock are fattened annually from early spring to late fall. After the beef cattle are shipped out to market, feeder stock is brought in to finish the grass in the pastures, and kept as long as possible before being sent elsewhere for winter feeding and pasture.

Several ranchers of the valley maintain homes in Fort Klamath for the spring and summer seasons, and also have winter residences on ranches in Northern California and southern Klamath County, moving back and forth with the influx and exodus of the cattle.

Lorin and Nora Streeter were exceptions in this respect. They stayed here the year round, and were working partners in all phases of ranch work. She was noted for being an expert horsewoman and buckaroo, and always rode her bay mare, Tricie, on cattle drives to and from Chiloquin. For several of her later years, however, Mrs. Streeter was forced to give up riding, due to a severe hip injury received in an accident, which left her partially crippled. The couple had no children, and

when his wife died in the summer of 1932 (following a lingering illness, Mr. Streeter gave up the cattle business, selling his purebred Shorthorn stock and retiring in the fall of the same year.

Exceptionally active and alert at the age of 86, Streeter has lived alone at the ranch since that time, leading the life of a bachelor, doing his own cooking, washing, etc. He usually has two or three head of calves on the place, along with innumerable cats which inhabit the barn, and he also keeps a small flock of laying hens. His eyesight is keen, and he is a fine shot with a rifle.

Since 1932, Mr. Streeter has leased out the ranch pasture each season; no doubt the sight of the cattle grazing in the fields prevents a sense of nostalgia which bare meadows would induce after having been associated with the cattle business for so many years.

The 220-acre Streeter ranch is one of the most scenic in the Wood River Valley, located about four miles northeast of Fort Klamath. Winding through its meadows and groves of trees is the beautiful Wood River, flowing from its source under nearby Sun Mountain. Here at the foot of the mountain, the head of the river is a large spring, located in the Jackson F. Kimball State Park, a beauty spot of nature and unspoiled which holds memories for pioneers such as Lorin M. Streeter.

Each August, members of the Wood River Pioneers and Old-Timers organization gather on its banks for an annual picnic, the highlight of the year for many local members. Lorin M. Streeter is an honorary pioneer member of the organization, and a typical example of those early day settlers in the Wood River Valley.



FRANCIS E. DUNNING of the US Forest Service, Bly, is shown, left, with Morton A. Wood, center, USFS personnel management training officer, and Homer E. Anderson, director of public service at Montana State University at the university's 14th annual School of Public Administration, which Dunning is now attending. The month-long school is cosponsored by the university's School of Forestry and the USFS.

BASIN BRIEFS

Recent Visitor—in Malin at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lindsay after attending a Potato Marketing Committee meeting at Yakima.

Returned—to Malin is Ed Petrasek after attending a Potato Marketing Committee meeting at Yakima.

Banquet—All Malin scouts and their leaders are making plans for the annual Blue and Gold Banquet to be held Saturday night, February 28, in the Malin Grade School.

Leaving—Malin are Mr. and

Mrs. Bill Cartwright and children to move to Washington. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Hays of Ashland, Oregon have purchased the Cartwright farm northwest of Malin.

Malin—Prosperity Social Club will meet Thursday evening, February 26 at the home of Thelma Stukel in Merrill.

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Atom Missiles Not Expected in Near Future

WASHINGTON (AP)—Nuclear powered engines apparently will not replace chemical thrust for missiles for several years, a space expert says.

Dr. Hugh Dryden, deputy administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, told Congress Friday the Atomic Energy Commission believes it will be 5 to 10 years before nuclear rockets in the first stages are used because of the present dangers of radiation.

Future nuclear thrust, he said, probably will be needed chiefly

for very large payloads and "most distant goals."

His predictions came after some senators questioned the wisdom of spending hundreds of millions of billions of dollars developing and expending chemical fuel space engines if nuclear power may be available within a few years.

D. D. Wyatt, assistant to the director of NASA's Office of Space Flight Development, stressed in his testimony the importance of space guidance.

He said that without perfect guidance, the future spacecraft may get lost in outer space and just float around.

Wyatt said NASA now has plans for a permanent space laboratory and flights to the moon and other planets and back. These will follow the first man in space flight for which definite designs and contracts have been let, he said. His conception of a permanent

space laboratory resembled a huge submarine or sausage-shaped vehicle carrying a crew of several persons and much equipment.

NASA officials concluded two days of public testimony before a Senate Space subcommittee with a secret session. They seek approval for spending an additional \$48,354,000 on civilian space efforts before July 1 and \$485,300,000 in the following 12 months.

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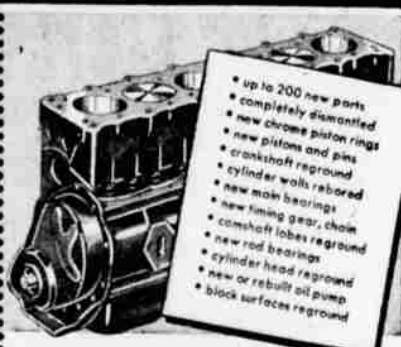
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49^c

49^c

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49^c

On The Record

KLAMATH FALLS BIRTHS

BOYS—Born to Mr. and Mrs. Ronald R. Richardson February 19 in Klamath Valley Hospital a boy, weighing 6 lbs., 4 1/2 ozs.

GIRLS—Born to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Heath February 19 in Klamath Valley Hospital a girl, weighing 7 lbs., 3 ozs. 1959 ROUNDUP

BOYS: 73 **GIRLS**: 47

COP TURNS ROBBER

SOLO, Jaja (UPI)—Ex-village chieftain Darsosuwarno has received a 20-month jail sentence for converting a policeman into a robber.

Authorities said Darsosuwarno, while chief, paid \$33 to a constable to break into his house to steal the village funds and return them to Darsosuwarno secretly to cover up a shortage.

Jericho, 825 feet below sea level in Jordan, was once owned by Cleopatra. She prospered from its rich harvests.



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