

Early Days

Dean said to these men. "Sure

you will kill Indians, but in the meantime, Indians will kill white folks. I will go to Chief Joseph

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and have him turn over to white man's justice, the Indians committing the crimes."

This he did and the three Indians were found guilty of the crime at Jacksonville and were hanged on what was afterwards known as the Hangman's Oak. This tree was blown down some few years ago.

At the time of the battle between the Rogue and the Applegate Indians on the old Bell place between Central Point and Jacksonville, Chief Joseph of the Rogue River Indians was mortally wounded.

His boy and girl were about 12 years old and were sent after N. C. Dean to go for a white doctor.

This was in the evening of the

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battle and it was very dangerous to travel to Jacksonville and the going was put off until the next morning. This was because of Applegate warriors in that area. The next morning, Dr. Robinson, Dean and others went to the scene of battle. Little could be done for Chief Joseph and he died about 10 a.m.

Shortly afterwards, General Lane and troops were sent to round up both tribes, Rogue and Applegate. This he did and these Indians were sent to New Mexico, part of the Indian territory. Thus was the end of Indian troubles in this part of the state of Oregon.

Some later history was the building of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

The land where the city of Central Point stands belonged at that time to two men, Amy and Magruder. The railroad wanted a right of way and every other lot, facing the right of way. They would make the city of Central Point.

The railroad people were told that this is Central Point—the center of the valley—and if they wanted a right of way they would pay.

The railroad company approached the officials of Jacksonville with the offer that for \$50,000 they would build the railroad through or near Jacksonville. The answer was no. It was the county seat and would come that way and around the hills to Ashland.

After they were turned down, the railroad company built the railroad the hard way—up the Rogue River through the valley.

forcing a right of way through Central Point and laid out the city of Medford in what was then chaparral brush.

Today Medford is the county seat of Jackson County, because of the hard-headed attitudes of Central Point and Jacksonville.

It is true that the mills of the gods grind slow but exceedingly fine.

This history and narratives have been written from memory with no notes or printed data. There may be minor discrepancies, but in the whole they are correct. Much of the information came from kin and oldtimers of my youth.

It may be my pleasure to add to the history of Southern Oregon if able to find hidden away in the archives of relatives' printed data any information of interest to readers of these jottings.

Arlin A. Rodenberger
Grandson of Nathaniel Cobb
and Anna Dean

P.S. Levi C. Rodenberger was the first town marshal of Roseburg. At that time he was 27 years old. It was he that discovered the richest placer mines in Oregon. Crawling in on his hands and knees he located these fields south of Roseburg. He sold his claim for \$6,000 to go to a warmer climate as his wife was suffering from tuberculosis. He settled in the Sacramento Valley some 100 miles from San Francisco where she died some year and a half later.

The star and badge of his office was made out of a silver half dollar. The star cut out of a circle within. The clasp that held it to the clothing was a safety pin soldered to the back.

At this time a character by the name of Sam Jones would at every opportunity, get drunk and stagger up the streets and about this time the marshal would throw him in the clink. He had been thrown in so many times that he would stagger up the street yelling, "Who built the sidewalks of Roseburg, Sam Jones, by God—"

THE COVER

This shot by Otto Ellis, Herald and News photographer, was taken between Bray Mill and Chiloquin and shows the Spriague River at one of its lovelier spots.

NOISY NEIGHBOR

HOLLYWOOD (UPI)—Residents living near the Warner Bros. studio were kept awake recently by a coyote that howled long and loud. The critter had been imported from Oklahoma by Mervyn Leroy for a scene in "The FBI Story."

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