

THESE 1920 CAMPERS WERE MEMBERS OF THE BULLARD AND DAIL FAMILIES WITH THE mothers and small children on the horses.

The Family Camping Trip

By Neil Bowers

The facts of this camping trip, a 1920 version, were told to Neil Bowers by Mrs. Otis Bullard.

First time we went to the mountains camping was in 1920. My folks wanted to go and Otis' folks wanted to go but there was the problem of having enough room for all of us to ride. There were six of the Bullards and nine of us besides all the camping stuff we would need. Mr. Bullard had a car and Papa had a car. So Clyde Long had an old Model T. He told Otis if he would fix it up and get it running, Otis could take that. So they really worked on that. We got ready and took off the 31st of July. We went up through Brogan, and up Brogan hill. We had so much trouble but it was all with Mr. Bullard's car and Papa's car. They boiled and we had to keep getting water from the creek to fill the radiators. They would get stuck and we would all have to push. We didn't have a bit of trouble with the Model T or the "tin lizzie" as everyone called the Ford then. We went through Ironside and turned left, there and followed Rose Creek up to where there was a little old shack. The sheepherder was there with his pack string to pack us in to the North Fork of the Malheur where it connects with Bear Creek. He had told us he would do this long before, if we would just come up there. So the next morning we packed up and left. Our mothers rode horses and some of the smaller children also rode. The rest of us walked. It was seven miles back to where we set up camp.

We stayed ten days. We caught 240 trout and killed about 40 grouse. You know with all that gang to feed, we had to have meat. That was in the days before coolers or any way to keep our game or fish. We ate everything as fast as we got it. And as soon as we got up there and the sheepherders found out about us, they all came to meals. And besides that, there was a survey crew came in there and stayed three days and boarded with us. We cooked on a little camp stove and Grandma Bullard baked biscuits for all that gang. She could bake eight biscuits at a time. She would put the biscuits in a can, about a two gallon can it was, and she would fill the can before each meal. It had a tight lid but Lillian, Ted (one of the Bullard girls) Mary and Florence would snitch those hot biscuits and eat them. I don't know how they kept her from catching them. She had had a lot of experience camping. She came all the way from Nebraska in a covered wagon, with a wagon train. The party they came with went on to Rogue River but the Bullards were expecting their first baby, so they stopped at Vale. They lived in their wagon a long time.

Anyway, we ran out of food. The sheepherder said he would go to Buelah and get some at a store, there. It was about fifteen miles. Otis started out with him on a pack saddle on a mule. He went about ten miles and walked back. The herder came back in a few days with 4 cans of food for that whole crew. So we just packed up and came home. We had a big time. One day, while we were up there, we were all up the creek fishing, that is all the young people. Ethel Bullard, who had stayed in camp decided to join us. So she got on a little buckskin horse and rode up. She came a ways and saw a bear. That little horse turned in her tracks and went back to camp as hard as she could run. Ethel's mother, finally, got an explanation out of her about the bear. She said they

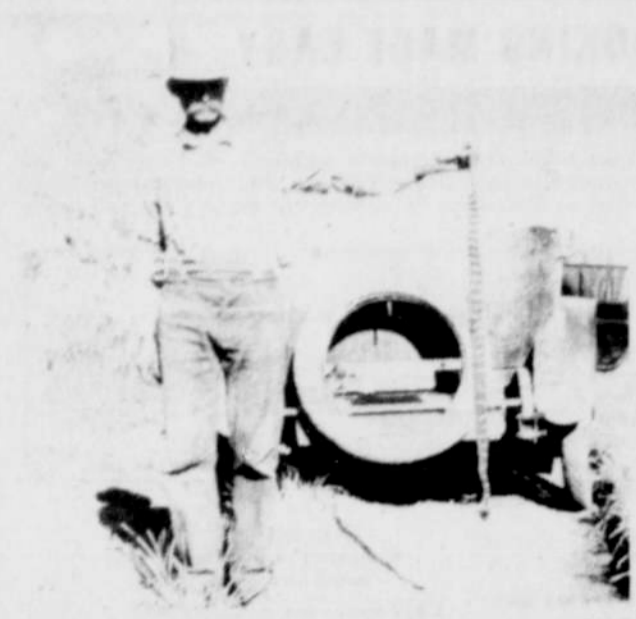
would have to go back up and warn the kids, who were fishing because Otis had a .22 and if he saw the bear, he would shoot it and they would all be in trouble. It took a lot of talking to get the little girl to go back but they did and never did see anything of the bear.

Another thing, we killed 14 rattlesnakes in camp. It seemed that when the herder brought the sheep to drink at the creek where we were camped, it stirred up the snakes and next thing we knew, there would be one. If the sheep ran over one they would cut it all to pieces with their hoofs.

We ran out of butter in camp, so we stopped at the Holdout and all they had was margarine. That was in the days before they colored it.

We got some of that. It was just like lard. We came on down and found some people going on a picnic. They gave us some bread. We put that stuff on it—we'd better have eaten the bread without it.

We were gone ten days. We let the grain go without water and Clyde Long irrigated the hay for us. I guess the cows were all dry then. The old Model T came home without any trouble, even a flat tire. We had extra tires hung all over it, for then you had no place to get one fixed and those tires usually, went flat on the way to town. You had to stop right there in the middle of the road and take it off the rim, patch the tube and lots of times the tire before you could go on. So we did pretty well. That must have been some kind of record.



CHARLES BULLARD holding one of the many rattlesnakes that were driven out of hiding by the merry bunch of campers in 1920.

BIRTHS

Holy Rosary Hospital

February 25 - Mr. and Mrs. Loren Whitney, Payette a boy

February 26 - Mr. and Mrs. Buckley Plummer, Ontario, boy.

February 28 - Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sanner, Ontario, a boy.

February 29 - Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Hawk, Ontario, a boy.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fulk, Vale, a girl

March 1 - Mr. and Mrs. Elgie Hadley, Payette, a boy

Mr. and Mrs. David Landers, Ontario, a girl

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Gutierrez, Ontario, a girl

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Millhollin, Vale, a girl.

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<p>• SHRIMP STICKS BOOTH 14oz... \$1.69 PKG.</p>	<p>• FISH FILLETS VAN-DE-KAMP 12oz. PKG... \$1.29 EA.</p>	<p>• BOOTH QUARTER POUNDER CUTS "NEW"... \$1.59 PKG.</p>	<p>• FISH & CHIPS VAN-DE-KAMP 16oz. PKG... \$1.15 EA.</p>

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