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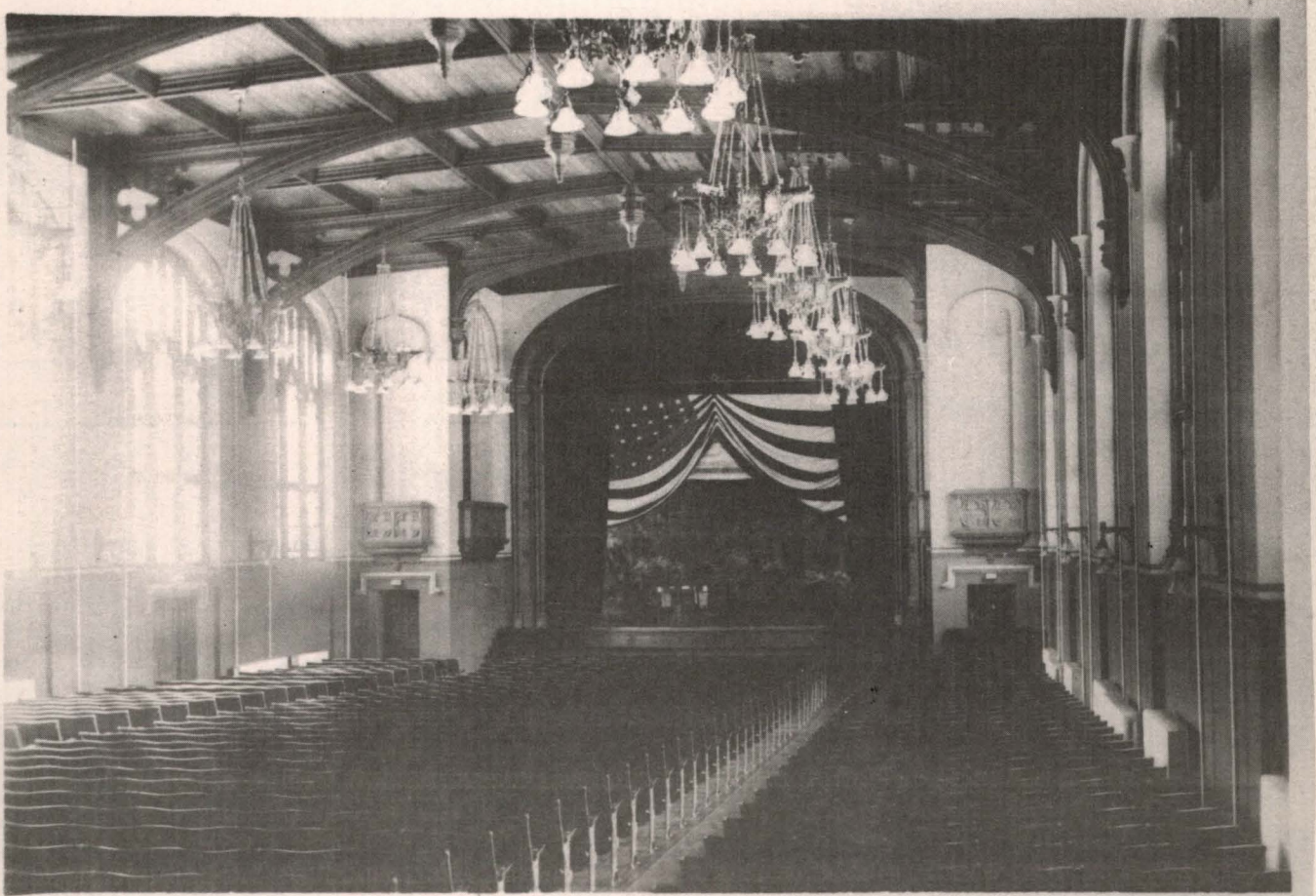
# LATAH LEGACY

THE QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE LATAH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Visit of an Indian



The University of Idaho chapel-auditorium was constructed in 1911-12 and remodeled in 1985-6

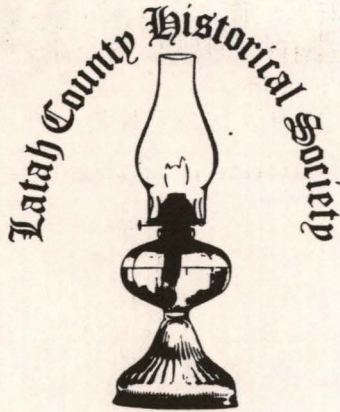
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## IDAHO STATEHOOD DAY ADDRESS

by Keith C. Petersen

(A revised and footnoted version of this talk will appear in the Fall 1987 issue of **Idaho Yesterdays**, the quarterly journal of the Idaho State Historical Society. Statehood Day is sponsored each year by the Idaho State Historical Society and the Idaho Centennial Commission.)

We in Moscow and Latah County are about ready to embark upon a whirlwind of inter-related centennial activities--Moscow's in a few days, Latah County's in 1988, the University of Idaho's in 1989, and the state's in 1990. One reason we are observing all of these anniversaries at this time is because of the ambition of three key residents of Moscow and Latah County in the late 1880s, of their desire to see Moscow become a thriving, prosperous community, and of their impact upon Idaho politics at that time. I would like to tell you a little about the story of William McConnell, Willis Sweet, and John Brigham.

The auditorium we are now in is 75 years old this year. But I would like you to think beyond that, to the Moscow and Latah County of 100 years ago. There was nothing here to compete with the grandeur of this auditorium at that time, unless it was the house William and Louisa McConnell had just built in 1886, considered by some to be the finest house in Idaho. The land we are now sitting on was uncultivated ground owned by James Deakin. There was not a single brick building on Main Street, which, unpaved, was dusty in summer, muddy in winter. Some of you have probably heard the story about Moscow's streets told with such delight by the old timers of a few years ago:

"One rainy day I saw a black hat floating down the middle of the street. I put planks out and went out to get the hat and underneath I saw a man. I said 'Can I help you?' And he said, 'Oh, no thanks, I'm riding a horse.'"

Moscow did have a railroad. It had come in 1885, and almost overnight the town's popula-

tion had doubled--to about 600 people. They did business and lived in a few wooden structures huddled close to Main Street. There was no Deary, Bovill, or Potlatch at the time--those towns would start later. Kendrick, Juliaetta, and Troy were small trading centers. Genesee was the clear local rival to Moscow, even though Moscovans were unashamedly proclaiming their town as "The Queen City of the Palouse."

But the Moscow of 1887, if we are to be truthful, did not really amount to much, even though people had lived in the community for 16 years by then. But, like most Western towns, it had its share of dreamers and schemers and boosters, those who believed that with a little effort their town could become a Chicago or a San Francisco--or at the least, a Walla Walla. These dreamers were fortunate, for they began boosting Moscow at a most opportune time. Had the timing not been so fortunate, Moscow today would not be a county seat, it would not have a major university, and it would probably look much like Genesee and Palouse, the two communities it most closely approximated in the 1880s. Moscow obviously did not become a San Francisco. But, just five years after our story begins in 1887, the town had been transformed into a community of over 2,000 residents shopping in handsome brick buildings located on a profitable Main Street, with students from all over the state attending Idaho's only university. Although it was not San Francisco, Moscow had not fared too badly, thanks to the resourcefulness of some key county residents.

At the instigation of town boosters, Moscow incorporated as a city on July 12, 1887, the anniversary we are celebrating this year. One of the most influential people behind the incorporation movement was William McConnell, he with the handsome new house, one of North Idaho's most prominent merchants. An early history of Moscow referred to McConnell as north Idaho's "merchant prince,"



Drawing of Moscow before 1885. Lieuallen house right rear. This picture recently discovered and copy donated by Ted Van Arsdol. Printed here with permission of the Oregon Historical Society, Portland. Reg. number 59693, File 544.

and noted that "it is no exaggeration to say that to no man living in Moscow is the town more indebted for its present size and flourishing condition than to McConnell and his mammoth store." Because of his active role in urging incorporation, McConnell was appointed to the first city council.

McConnell did not become a "Merchant Prince" by thinking small. As more and more people moved to Moscow following the completion of the railroad, he could see that a bigger community obviously meant more business, and more profits. Moscow's other business owners had similar feelings and ambitions. At about the time Moscow was incorporating, Idaho's Territorial Legislature, meeting in Boise, debated a bill to create a university at Idaho Falls. The proposal passed both houses, but Governor Edward Stevenson vetoed it because he believed the act was carelessly written. Only sloppy writing prevented the University of Idaho from going to the southeastern part of the state. McConnell and his Moscow booster colleagues perked up. If the legislature was willing to grant a university, why not locate it in Moscow?

Why not indeed. The answer seemed obvious. Moscow was a small, isolated town in a small isolated part of the territory. If a list of a

dozen towns in which to locate a university had been drawn in 1887, it is doubtful that Moscow would have even made the list. But that hardly discouraged Moscow's boosters, and to understand their enthusiasm you have to know something about Idaho's political situation in the late 19th century.

Early residents of Idaho's panhandle had never been completely satisfied with living in Idaho--at least not since Boise had "stolen" the territorial capital from Lewiston in the 1860s. In 1878 for example, 96 percent of northern Idaho voters ratified a constitution that would have united them with Washington. That sentiment remained strong in 1887, when Idaho came very close to splitting.

In that year both houses of the national Congress meeting in Washington D.C. passed a bill that would have removed the panhandle from Idaho and made it a part of Washington Territory. All that was required for northern Idaho to become eastern Washington in the spring of 1887 was a signature by President Grover Cleveland, and the north would be freed at last, in the words of one northerner, "from the cold-hearted, avaricious, scheming leeches of southern Idaho."

But the bill was firmly opposed by Idaho's Territorial Governor, Edward Stevenson, and its

Territorial Congressional delegate, Fred Dubois. Cleveland refused to sign, and the panhandle remained in Idaho.

I don't know how McConnell felt about annexation to Washington, but if he agreed with the majority of townspeople, he must have been disappointed in Cleveland's action, for Moscow was an annexation hotbed. Surprisingly, though, another of the town's most influential residents wanted the panhandle to remain a part of Idaho.

Willis Sweet founded one of Moscow's first newspapers, but perhaps even more importantly, he organized a political machine capable of delivering votes to office-seekers who proved willing to assist his town.

Fred Dubois, a southeastern Idaho resident, was just such a politician. Dubois curried the favor of Sweet because he needed the support of at least one influential northerner if he was to achieve his political aspirations. Dubois pegged his political future on the belief--unpopular in the north--that Idaho should remain intact, and that the panhandle should not be annexed to Washington. Sweet agreed with Dubois on the annexation issue, and delivered key support to Dubois in the close 1886 election for Territorial Congressional delegate, which Dubois won. In return for delivering support, Sweet extracted a number of political favors. Years later, Sweet would reminisce that "The southeast--Dubois's country--was in favor of anything within reason that north Idaho asked for. North Idaho had come into her own; all we had to do was ask for what we wanted."

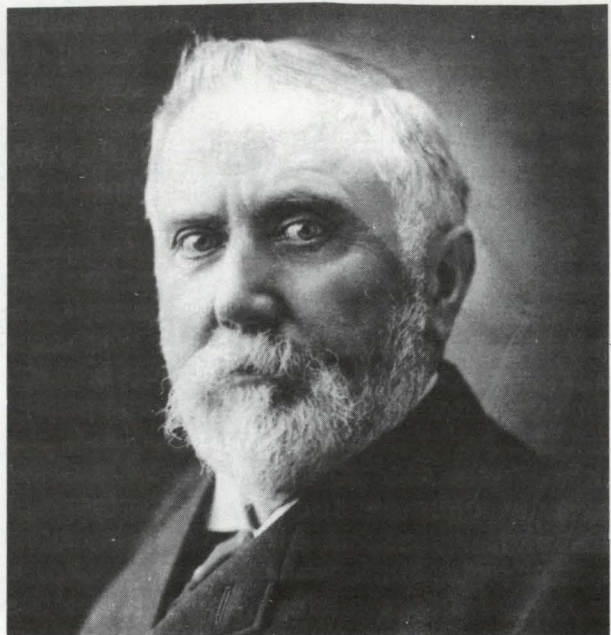
One of the things Sweet wanted was a new county. Moscovans and the other residents of the northern part of what was then Nez Perce County were tired of having to drive their horses off a cliff every time they needed to transact business at the county seat in Lewiston. Some better arrangement must be possible. Naturally, Nez Perce's southern residents did not think so, and fought to keep the county intact. So Sweet had Dubois bring the subject before the national Congress, and in 1888 it created Latah County--the only county in the United States formed by an act of Congress.

It was only natural that, with boosters like McConnell and Sweet actively pushing the place, Moscow became the county seat. First the railroad, then incorporation as a real city, and now a county seat--things were looking up for the boosters of Moscow.

But Sweet was not satisfied. He had yet another favor to ask of southeast Idaho. He wanted a university to be located in Moscow, to assure a steady growth and stable economic base for the small town.

His timing was perfect. Dubois had once again been elected as Territorial delegate in 1888, again with Sweet's help. The south did not want the panhandle's rich mining, forest, and agricultural wealth to go to Washington. When the last Territorial legislature convened in Boise in 1888, it was prepared to once again discuss the issue of a university. It is no exaggeration to say that had the issue been decided just one year earlier or later, Moscow would have never landed the University of Idaho. It was one of those freak occurrences of circumstance that happens only once.

One of the first representatives to arrive in Boise for that last territorial session was Willis Sweet, representing the new Latah County. He was bent on an overriding mission: to



William J. McConnell -- died in 1925.

shepherd through a bill creating a university at Moscow. But Sweet soon became embroiled in the heated discussions to disenfranchise Idaho's Mormons, and his work on the university bill lagged. Back home in Moscow, William McConnell became impatient. He, perhaps even more than Sweet, realized that this was a unique opportunity, and that if the bill was not passed in this session, Moscow might well not get her college. He convinced another of Latah County's representatives, John Brigham of Genesee, to expedite the measure.

Early one morning, while Sweet was still in bed in his Boise hotel room, Brigham strode in and pressed upon him the importance of introducing a university bill before the session adjourned. Sweet agreed to dictate the concluding sections of a bill he had begun some weeks before. Brigham dutifully transcribed. A few days later, Brigham introduced Council Bill 20, creating a university at Moscow.

With the legislature preoccupied in its bitter fight over anti-Mormon legislation, and with southern representatives seeking ways to appease the north and forestall any further attempts at annexation to Washington, the bill

passed easily, receiving only one dissenting vote in both houses. That last territorial legislature is remembered for several things. The Idaho Statesman, for example, reported that when the legislators had packed up and gone home, "68 whiskey flasks and bottles were found in the nooks and corners of the capital building. The number, as well as the size of the bottles, beats the record of two years ago." But perhaps mostly it is remembered for passing the act creating the University of Idaho, an act of political unity in the strongly divided territory. Noted one southern legislator when endorsing the bill: "It would be recognized as an olive branch in the interest of peace and good-will extended by one section of the Territory to another."

Governor Stevenson signed the act into law on January 30, 1889--Founder's Day at the University of Idaho. Brigham was the only legislator present.

During the time that last territorial legislature met in Boise, representatives to the national Congress in Washington also dealt with issues of importance to Idaho. In February, committees in both the House and Senate voted in favor of admitting Idaho to statehood.



University of Idaho Administration Building built in 1892 and burned to the ground in 1906

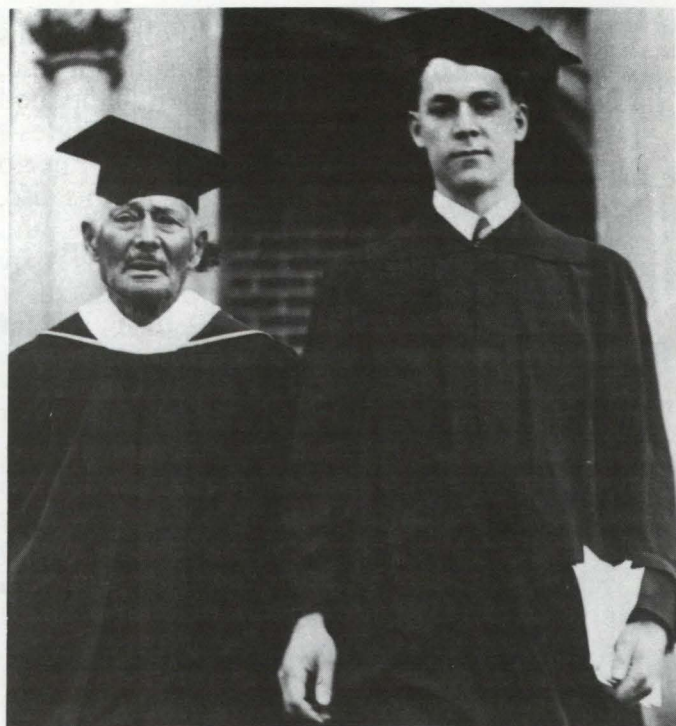
Back in Boise, Governor Stevenson, having appeased the north with his signing of the University bill, felt comfortable in calling a state constitutional convention to adopt the document required for statehood. At no other time had the territory been so united. Delegates were to meet in Boise on July 4, 1889.

Latah County sent the third largest delegation to that constitutional convention with six representatives, including Sweet, Brigham, and McConnell, who played pivotal roles. By the way, they, along with the other delegates, were paid \$6 per day for expenses, and 20 cents per mile for travel--figures that many state employees of a hundred years later, on limited or non-existent travel budgets, well might yearn for.

One of the unusual provisions of the constitution drawn up that summer, adopted at the insistence of McConnell, who served on the influential Education Committee, provided for the constitutional protection of the state university at Moscow. Idaho is thus one of the few states in the union with constitutional protection of its state university. This provision would prove invaluable to University of Idaho administrators time and again in the coming years, as it prohibited the legislature from removing any part of the university--such as the School of Mines or the College of Agriculture--to another part of the state without first holding a constitutional convention. Legislative whim would not suffice, and there were many legislative whims over the years to dismantle all or part of the university.

On November 5, 1889, male residents of Idaho voted on the constitution proposed by the convention. It was a most unusual election. There was no formal registration of voters. Any male of age who happened to be within the boundaries of Idaho on that day could vote. The ballot contained only the words "Constitution Yes," and "Constitution No." The voter was to leave his choice unmarked, and cross out the other two words.

Despite the irregularities, the voters' preference was clear. Seven out of every eight



John Brigham (left) and Morton Brigham, Commencement 1939. Courtesy of the University of Idaho Library, File Nr. 12-106-9.

approved the constitution and the idea of statehood.

The scene now shifted once again to Washington D.C., where Democrats opposed the admission of yet another Republican state from the West, and Republicans just as diligently favored it. Fred Dubois worked himself so hard trying to gain passage of Idaho statehood legislation in the winter and spring of 1890 that he became ill. He wired for some influential Idaho politicians to join him in his struggle. One of those who made the long journey was William McConnell. Through the hard work of Dubois, McConnell, and others, the Idaho admission bill passed both houses of Congress in June 1890. President Benjamin Harrison signed the bill into law on July 3--Statehood Day in Idaho.

The hard work of Latah County's boosters had indeed paid off, not only in terms of what they were able to accomplish for their community and state, but also for them personally.

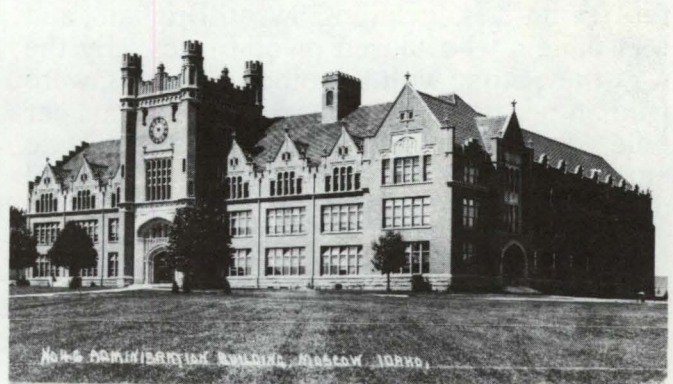
Willis Sweet became the new state's first

United States Congressman. Following his service in Congress, a close personal friend, Theodore Roosevelt--who by then happened to be President of the United States--appointed him Attorney General of Puerto Rico. Sweet lived there the rest of his life, eventually entering private law practice and editing a major newspaper. The University would one day name one of its buildings after him in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the school in the 1880s.

William McConnell was elected as the first of two United States Senators from Idaho, but, having drawn the short straw to determine who would serve a very brief term, actually represented Idaho in Washington for only three months, when he was replaced by Fred Dubois. But do not despair for Bill McConnell. He went on to serve two terms as Idaho's Governor, and was a long-time United States Immigration Commissioner and Inspecting Officer for Indian Affairs. He never did really stop campaigning, and was a popular stump speaker for many years for his son-in-law, a man some of you might have heard of--William E. Borah. McConnell's grand Moscow house is now a public museum, and the university has also recognized his efforts in those exciting years of the late 1880s by naming a building for him.

For some reason, University administrators have not dedicated a building to the other key player in this story--John Brigham of Genesee. But Brigham also gained from his work during that period. He ended up serving three terms in the state legislature, and sent six children to the University of Idaho to receive their degrees. When the school celebrated its 50th anniversary in 1939, Brigham was the only key founder still alive, and the school made him its guest of honor. It presented him with an honorary degree, and Life Magazine took his picture receiving it. He tape recorded some of his reminiscences about those heady days in the 1880s, and the school placed them in a time capsule. We will be able to listen to them on Founder's Day, 1989.

As we in Moscow and Latah County prepare to celebrate the many significant anniversaries coming our way, it is important that we remember the influential roles placed by this handful of early residents--men with perhaps more political clout than has ever been assembled in the county since. In many ways they were responsible for giving us an incorporated town, a county, a university, and even a state.



The Second University of Idaho Administration Building was finished in 1909. The North Wing (right) containing the Auditorium was added in 1911.

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If that "young lady's spring hat" that adorns the frontispiece of the last Harper's Bazaar is really and truly to be the style the coming season there will be no choice for us men folks either in church, in a theater, or anywhere else where people want to see as well as to hear. This "young lady's spring hat" is a startling affair--something like a two story corrugated coal scuttal turned downside up and surmounted with a whole lilac bush, leaves, stem and all.

Moscow Mirror  
30 April 1886, p. 2

## THROUGH THE YEARS WITH CAMP FIRE

Source: "History Highlights, 1910-1986, a compilation of some Camp Fire records and recollections of the times by Velma Stephens, Jeanette Talbott, and Elsie Mann, a Camp Fire History committee to research the beginnings of Camp Fire in Moscow and in the area.

### INTRODUCTION

The following pages of Camp Fire history are but a part of all the Camp Fire notebooks, clippings, and memories that are still held in the area. As we pasted up the clippings we realized it also represented a lot of Latah County history and genealogy.

Our intention when we began the project was to find Camp Fire's "roots" in the Moscow area. We have only been partially successful. After establishing as much as we could about the early years we followed the Camp Fire trail through the decades to the present.

We hope you will have joy in remembering the Camp Fire adventures of the past--and success in correcting and supplementing what is presented here. There is much for future historians to do. This has been over ten years in the making and we hope will serve as a window to the past for future generations in regard to one of the finest youth organizations of the times. May it ever be thus.

Velma Patton Stephens (LaRele)  
(Early committee member--  
since moved to Spokane)

Jeanette Fleener Talbott (John)

Elsie Millay Mann (Paul)

February 15, 1987

In order to better understand the Camp Fire Program of this area it may be helpful to start with the beginnings of Camp Fire Girls, Incorporated.

### TAH OL - LA KAH DISTRICT CAMP FIRE HISTORY

(Bovill, Dear, Genesee,  
Moscow, Potlatch, Troy)

The national organization of Camp Fire began in the state of Maine at one of the first camps for girls in this country. There, at Lake Sebago in 1910, Dr. and Mrs. Luther Halsey Gulick, educators, owners, and directors of this pioneer summer camp, as well as founders of what is now The National Recreation Association, laid the foundation of Camp Fire. It was incorporated two years later on March 15, 1912, when Mr. Gulick took out incorporation papers while in Washington, D.C.

Dan Beard, editor and author; Ernest Thompson Seton, naturalist; William Chauncy Langford, poet; Jane Addams of Hull House, Chicago; Mary Schenck Woolman, Professor of Household Arts at Columbia University; and others were early supporters and contributors to the program. Some of these had worked to start the Boy Scout organization and wanted to help form an organization uniquely for girls. A note of interest is that Mrs. Janet Greever (Wm.) of Moscow attended Camp Sebago as a Camp Fire Girl.

Why did this early committee decide on the name of Camp Fire Girls? Because they believed the girls would like the name--and it seemed appropriate. Fire symbolized the home, the place of comfort and cheer, and its activities. Friends and family gather around it. The word camp symbolizes the out of doors spirit of the organization.

Establishing a definite date for the beginning of Camp Fire in this District is an elusive thing. Some early traces are:

The Ladies Historical Club of Moscow, Idaho, program calendar lists Mrs. S. Coleman's topic for Nov. 3, 1916, as "Camp Fire Girls." The

obituary notice from the Daily Idahonian for Mrs. Edna (Seigle) Coleman, February 22, 1940, states "She was organizer and the first Camp Fire Girls' leader here." Newspaper clippings from 1948 and word of mouth say that Camp Fire Girls was introduced into Moscow about a year after it was started as a national institution; and that Mrs. Sig Coleman started the first group (1912), sponsored by the Historical Club. However, we have not been able to verify this date by documentation. We have heard also that at one time a tree was planted in the Moscow City Park in honor of Mrs. Coleman.

Another source for early contact with the Gulick's new Camp Fire program came through the Lewiston area. Miss Mamie Pollard (later Mrs. Charles Boren) came to teach at the Lewiston Normal School. She had personally known the Gulicks and their inspiring program. Another teacher at the Normal about 1913, Miss Dorothy Bocker in physical education, had also known the Gulicks and organized a group from her classes into a Camp Fire Group. She felt that if the teachers went out to teach P.E. or supervise play grounds, the Camp Fire training would be helpful. Young women thus went out into the area knowing about the Camp Fire program. One of these was Clarice Moody (Mrs. Harry Sampson). Soon after her marriage she taught Indian dances to teenagers in her neighborhood in Moscow. Later she and her husband occasionally helped at camp-outs in the Kenjockey area. During the early 20's at least five groups were organized. Guardians' names recorded at that time were Mrs. J.S. Heckathorn, Mrs. C.C. Vincent, Mrs. Elsie Perkins, Miss Harriet Swart, Mrs. F.D. Hawley, Mrs. Fred Veatch. Membership in 1925 was around 60. These groups affiliated with the Spokane Council Fires of which Miss Annette Francisco was the Executive Director. Sometime later a Hill Town (Moscow-Pullman area) Council and a Lewiston-Clarkston Valley Council were formed. Later the two councils joined as Sacajawea Council and this remains essentially the same today. From the 20's Camp Fire appears to be continuous in Moscow with some fluctuation in membership--growing to around 500+ in Latah County during the late 60's and early 70's. In the very early days

groups were usually sponsored by churches. Later, service groups, individuals, and other organizations also joined in sponsorship.

Day Camp and summer resident camp have always been an attractive part of the program. Most of these experiences have been open to other girls as well as the Camp Fire membership. Swayolakan (sign of the trees) was opened July 1922 on Coeur d'Alene Lake and served this area until 1949 when the camp became so crowded that Sacajawea Council rented Camp Heyburn on Lake Chatcolet for part time use. (Lillian Woodworth Otness from Moscow attended Swayolakan as a Camp Fire Girl and later as a Counselor.) In 1955 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Day offered a camp site on Lake Coeur d'Alene to Sacajawea Council, Lewiston, Clarkston, Moscow, Pullman, and Colfax area; White Pine Council, the Coeur d'Alene area; and Shoshone Council, the Wallace-Kellogg area. This camp was named Neewahlu, meaning "Sharing a beautiful place by the lake." Much of the funding for this camp came from regional Rotary Clubs and the Moscow Lions Club. The first camp directors at Camp were Margaret Coffey, and Pat Rowe of Moscow. Both were with the University of Idaho P.E. Department at the time. An excellent "Counselor in Training" program was instituted at this time. In the early 40's Mrs. Carrie Schnell and Mrs. Evah Sumpson helped to start the first day camp in Moscow--which was held at city parks. For many years day camp was held at Kenjockey (away from the crowd), Idler's Rest near Moscow Mountain. This camp centered at the Glover Eldridge property; later Grace Eldridge Berrigan and her husband Bill were most generous in allowing Camp Fire to hold Day Camp there as long as they lived. In recent years, day camp was held at Robinson Lake Park and various other places in the area.

At various times Troy, Potlatch, and Palouse were active in supporting the Camp Fire Program. Later Genesee, Deary, and Bovill joined the Moscow Tah-ol La-kah District. Palouse is no longer a part of the Moscow district.

Social changes have now and again influenced the presentation of values but the Gulick



SWEYOLAKAN, CAMP FIRE GIRLS  
CAMP, LAKE COEUR D'ALENE, IDAHO

Girls and 10-place canoes at Camp Sweyolakan

founders' early law of the Camp Fire is as fitting today as it was in 1910:

Seek beauty  
Give service  
Pursue knowledge  
Be trustworthy  
Hold on to health  
Glorify work  
Be happy

Worship God was added at the beginning of 1942.

Guardian names and groups recorded in newspaper clippings at that time were (camp name, guardian, date organized):

Gennetaha (at the foot of the mountain), Mrs. F.D. Hawley, Asst. Mrs. Robt. Whittier and Mrs. J.E. Nordby, Nov. 1922

Wah-Wah-Tay-See (to show the way), Mrs. Elsie Perkins, Asst. Miss Harriet Swart and Mrs. A.M. Larson, 1922

Sacajawea (Bird Woman), Mrs. J.S. Heckathorn, Asst. Mrs. C.C. Vincent and Mrs. E.T. Baker, 1923

The following summary of Camp Fire, its early history and program, was written in 1948--another clue as to Moscow's early beginnings.

## CAMP FIRE GIRLS

Camp Fire Girls, a major character-building organization for girls, was introduced into Moscow in 1912, the year Camp Fire Girls was incorporated as a national organization. Since the start of the first group begun by Mrs. Sid Coleman, in 1912, Camp Fire Girls has grown in program and number to serve 171 registered girls. These memberships range from 7-17 in the three age divisions: Blue Birds, the Junior Organization, for seven to ten year olds, with a fun approach to the program; Camp Fire Girls ten to fourteen with its crafts and ranks; and Horizon Club as a service group for high school girls. Including the adult membership the total number served would easily reach 200.

The Moscow Camp Fire Organization is proud to be now serving the daughters of some of the first Moscow Camp Fire girls. Many of the outstanding leaders in high school, university, and civic activities have been outstanding girls in the Moscow Camp Fire Program. A splendid example is Dr. Rosemary Lippitt, leading psychologist and member of Columbia University faculty.

The program for Camp Fire girls is based upon seven crafts and four main ranks as an integral part of a group experience. Camp Fire girls have the opportunity of the give and take in

sharing and doing things together, and the forming of new habits and skills. These seven crafts are (1) Home Craft, in which the girls learn how to be homemakers of tomorrow and to put into practice the theme of the organization: to "perpetuate the spiritual ideals of the home," (2) Outdoor Craft, (3) Sports and Games, (4) Business Craft, (5) Frontiers Craft, (6) Creative Arts, and (7) Citizenship. The four ranks are Trail Seeker, Wood Gatherer, Fire Maker, and Torch Bearer. In these ranks and crafts a girl will have a completely varied experience, and still be allowed to emphasize those skills in which she finds the greatest interest and satisfaction.

### THE 1930'S

Camp Fire in the 1930's left fewer records than the previous decade. At least two groups were chartered, the Aweont group in November 1932 and the Latcha group in December 1935. Two other groups performed at the Silver Jubilee in Moscow, January 29, 1937. This was a mother-daughter banquet at which a skit was performed by the Oteyoka group and the Edaho group had a "Speaking Choir." It is likely that other groups existed as the number of leaders and assistant below would indicate.

Known guardians (group leaders) and assistants of the 1930's decade are: Mrs. Call, Mrs. Howard, Mrs. Hickman (Marian Matthews was a leader in the 1930's with Tess Hickman, later had a group with Mrs. Lampman), Mrs. Lampman (Phyllis Lyon, daughter of Marjorie Adair--daughter of Dr. Adair, early pioneer--an early C.F.G., was in Mrs. Lampman's group), Mrs. Mathews, Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Klaaren, Mrs. Schull, Assnt. Sue Spiker, Mrs. Smith, Mrs. S.V. Long, Mrs. Veatch, Mrs. Jenks, and Mrs. Sodorff.

A Birthday Council Fire held March 24, 1934, at Russell School in Moscow lists the following girls receiving rank awards:

Woodgatherer: June Olson, Lois Stone, Mariana Bechtol (Bechtel?).

Firemaker: Annette Hamar, Barbara Simpson, Jean Sweeney, Betty Armstrong, Janet Hull, Joyce Kenworthy, Eleanor Axtell, Shirley Mathews, Geraldine Scott, Jean

Cummings, Mary Katherine Hickman, Marjorie Moon, Mary Gauss, Mary Retherford, Mary Frances Carter, Jessie Mae Powell.

Torchbearer: Virginia Ziegler.

1939: The Moscow Camp Fire local committee submitted to National Camp Fire headquarters in New York a report for 1939 but submitted in 1941 listing nine Camp Fire groups with 99 girls participating and 13 leaders enrolled. There were two Blue Bird groups with 25 girls participating under two leaders.

Eleven men and fourteen women were serving on the council.

There was no regularly organized Camp for Camp Fire Girls and no Day Camp was conducted.

No itemized accounts or records of ranks were kept before September 1, 1940, this report states.

Community activity by individual groups included preparing Christmas baskets, sewing for the Red Cross, and dressing dolls for Kiwanis.

1940: In 1940 the Moscow Camp Fire program was reorganized and an application made to the National Camp Fire headquarters for a charter. Dues to National were \$25. At the time of application, January 1940, there were six Camp Fire groups and one Blue Bird group.

Mrs. Coleman, organizer and first leader of Moscow Camp Fire, died February 21, 1940.

1941: In 1941 there were ten groups enrolling 107 Camp Fire girls with twelve guardians and assistants, five Blue Bird groups with eight guardians and assistants.

Moscow had a visiting Camp Fire executive, Mrs. J.W. Maxwell, who came once a week during a ten-month period. Her yearly salary was \$300 with a \$30 allowance for her car.

The Community Chest allotment to Camp Fire

was \$490 as it had been the year before.

A newspaper clipping relates that Camp Fire leader, Mrs. Stough, announced that 50 Camp Fire and Blue Bird girls would lend a hand in a city wide drive to collect aluminum ware that had "outlived its usefulness." This was a needed defense material during World War II.

1942: In 1942 there were eight CampFire groups with 88 girls enrolled in the care of 11 guardians and assistants. There were 54 Blue Birds in four groups with four leaders.

One reason for the drop in membership was gas rationing, a war time necessity. This made it difficult for girls to attend from rural areas. It was also noted that many people had moved.

A program from the First Christian Church for March 22, 1942, reminds us of the annual Go-To-Church Sunday that Camp Fire encouraged.

1948: A summary states that 171 girls were registered in the three divisions: Blue Birds and Junior Organization covering the 7 to 10 year olds and Camp Fire for those 10 to 17 years.

The report continues "The Moscow Camp Fire organization is proud to be serving daughters of some of the first Moscow Camp Fire Girls." In keeping with "Give Service," a part of the Camp Fire creed, the following accomplishments for 1948 are listed:

--Distributing of advance publicity for the United Church Overseas Relief Drive.

--Filling of "Mercy Bags" for the above drive.

--Packed boxes of candy for the Elks Christmas party for children.

--Delivered "World Day of Prayer" pamphlets for Council of Churches.

--The 1948 Birthday Theme "Hello World - Let's Get Together" gave girls a broader scope, with pen pals and the sending of needed items across the seas.

--Distributed pamphlets for Cancer Drive.

--Sold poppies for American Legion and V.F.W. Auxiliaries, and sold carnations for the War Mothers.



Stuffing envelopes to aid a United Fund Campaign in 1969



Tending a Fair booth at the Latah County Fair

--Had a booth in the Latah County Fair.

--With regard to recreation, approximately a third of the girls in the program had a camping experience this year.

--Camp Fire Girls and Blue Birds sang carols at the Christmas Tree.

1949: According to a newspaper clipping, 22 girls were to receive their torch bearer rank March 22, 1949, at the Grand Council Fire held at the Grange Hall. Twenty-one of the girls were from the Chi-ki-ya group. Other highlights were: "Over 100 local girls will be passing rank out of the 135 total membership in Moscow. This year for the first time in 17 years the award of torch bearer in social leadership will be given. The award is given for two torch bearer ranks and will go to Erlene Clyde."

Later that spring Camp Fire Girls assisted the American Legion Auxiliary and the V.F.W. in selling memorial poppies. (This practice was discontinued in later years by National as it soon became apparent that groups were taking advantage of the appeal of children to sell and make money for the various organizations even though for worthy causes.)

Summer found many Moscow girls attending camp at Chatcolet in Heyburn Park. A chartered bus provided transportation. A special session was arranged for Blue Birds and a Gypsy Day's session for girls 10 to 12. Girls came from Orofino, Grangeville, Asotin, Lewiston, Clarkston, Pomeroy, Troy, Moscow, Pullman, Colfax, Potlatch, and Palouse. Sweyolakan had become too crowded for other than Spokane area girls.

### THE 1950'S

In September 1950 Camp Fire and Blue Bird girls gathered at the Russell School gym for the annual Blue Bird fly-up where 5th grade Camp Fire girls tied Camp Fire Scarves on the Blue Bird girls to symbolize the advancement to Camp Fire.

Over 200 attended the November tea sponsored by the Ches-Cha-May and Lo-Cho-Co Camp Fire groups for all Camp Fire and Blue Birds and their mothers. The above named group members made the cookies that were served as part of their Firemaker's rank.

A "Triple Youth Fund" drive to benefit Camp Fire, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts was undertaken by community leaders in

November after the annual community chest campaign was eliminated.

Both Grangeville and Moscow Camp Fire girls were featured in daily 4 p.m. pre-Christmas programs presented as part of the Moscow Community Center activities.

Two hundred and fifty Dads with their Camp Fire and Blue Bird daughters enjoyed the February 1950 annual banquet at the Presbyterian Church. The girls entertained their fathers with songs and skits.

Go-to-Church Sunday was held in March with girls attending the March 19th service at the Methodist Church.

A money-raising doughnut sale had been held in the fall and announcement of the campship fee awards was made for those who sold the most. Awards given in march were \$8, 4, and 2. A \$1 Blue Bird award went to Mrs. C.J. Klaaren's group. (This appears to be the last year of the doughnut sale.) Honoring the 40th anniversary of Camp Fire the Woodgatherers arranged a display at the Washington Water Power office in March.

Ches-Cha-May gave a combined tea and ceremonial to which their mothers and sponsors were invited. The March event had an Easter motif with the tables decorated with daffodils, pussy willows, and little bunnies. The 40th anniversary of the founding of Camp Fire was paid tribute at the May 26, 1950, Sacajawea Area Grand Council Fire at which many girls received awards. Blue Birds in pastel dresses wound the May Pole. Berneda Hatley and Lois Jean Rogers were awarded the highest rank in Camp Fire, Social Leadership.

Summer camping was held at Lake Chatcolet, Heyburn Park, for a two week session. An "Alice in Natureland" unit was planned for younger Blue Birds while older Blue Birds formed a "Robin Hood" unit. A total of 40 Moscow girls attended.

1951: There is less documentation for 1951, but one major change was the fund raising project. The former doughnut sale became a mint sale. Part of the money raised (10

percent this year) went to individual groups. This was based on the number of boxes of mints sold by each group. (Mr. Ed Burke and Mrs. Carrie Schnell were in charge of the first mint sale.)

The Colfax District of the Sacajawea Area Council sponsored an overnight camp-out staged in the Colfax City Park. Girls from Lewiston, Clarkston, Orofino, Grangeville, Moscow, Pullman, and Palouse joined those of Colfax for the overnight event. Television staff of KHQ-TV assisted in the evening entertainment, and each council of the Camp Fire Girls contributed to the program.

In 1953 the annual Moscow Grand Council Fire was held at the Grange Hall. The theme and decorations followed the National Birthday Project "Down to Earth" which was conservation of natural resources.

The 1955 Grand Council Fire was held at the Moscow High School gymnasium. The theme was "Let Freedom Ring." Approximately 250 Blue Birds and Camp Fire girls took part.

Governor Robert E. Smylie spoke at the official opening and dedication ceremonies of Camp Neewahlu (sharing a beautiful place by the lake) on Lake Coeur d'Alene July 10, 1955. Ninety-six Northern Idaho and Eastern Washington Camp Fire girls attended the first week-long camping session.

The Dad-Daughter Banquet continued to be well attended in 1958 with 500 girls and fathers meeting at the Elk's Temple for a box lunch prepared by the daughters.

In 1959 Moscow Grand Council Fire was held at the Moscow High School gymnasium with over 250 Camp Fire and Blue Bird girls in attendance. The theme was "Around the World." Fourteen members received Torchbearer rank.

## THE 1960'S

The decade of the 60's was a very active time for the Camp Fire organization in Latah County. 1960 was the Golden Jubilee Year.

Over 500 Dads and Daughters attended the



Makuala Torchbearers in Ceremonial Dress

box dinner at the Elk's Temple in March 1960 when Camp Fire's 50th anniversary was celebrated. The organization had become so large that two dinners were held--Blue Birds and fathers on one night, the next night Camp Fire girls and their fathers.

In 1961 Moscow and Genesee held a joint Grand Council Fire in the University arboretum. This was the first outdoor council fire. It was held at dusk, with a camp fire burning in the center of the council ring and Indian tepees in the background. In 1963 the grand council fire held at the Elk's Temple was reported to be the largest ever: Main feature of the program was a pageant given by the girls showing progressive steps in the growth of Camp Fire using Ceremonial and Service Costumes from 1910 to the present. This pageant was under the direction of Velma Stephens, program chair for the District. This year also a group of Junior High Camp Fire girls under the leadership of Venice Parker left on a 115 mile cycling trip in Banff National Park and stayed in youth hostels along the way.

The Sacajawea Grand Council Fire in 1964 at Adams Field in Clarkston, Washington, and attended by 1,500 area Camp Fire Girls

became known as "The Big Blow." High winds and blowing dirt and sand coming just at the start of the proceedings nearly ruined the impressive ceremonies. More than 50 cars took Moscow girls to the ceremony.

The Moscow District Committee hosted an appreciation luncheon for Camp Fire leaders and guardians in 1964. Mrs. James Parker (Venice), Day Camp Leader who was moving to Montana, was presented a silver watch charm.

Grand council fire 1965, with Moscow, Genesee, Potlatch, and Troy girls participating, was attended by a capacity crowd of over 500 people.

In 1965 Day Camp at Kenjockey served 123 area girls. Mrs. Edwin Tisdale was Camp Director with Mrs. Albert Stage as assistant. Mrs. Stage took over as director the following year.

Horizon Club members in 1966 participated in a Latin America Summer Cruise, called Horizon Club Conference A-Float. Ten Moscow girls had this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Camp Fire Girls took part in the May Day Loyalty Day parade May 2, 1966. Later in the day ABC News Commentator Frank Hemingway spoke before an audience of 1,500 in the Arboretum at the University of Idaho.

The theme "Keep America Beautiful" was emphasized at the 1967 Grand Council Fire in which Camp Fire and Horizon Club members from Moscow, Deary, Potlatch, Troy, and Genesee took part.

Girls from Potlatch, Troy, Genesee, and Moscow participated in Moscow Day Camp. Most campers are affiliated with Camp Fire, Girl Scouts, and 4-H groups and developed credits toward various emblems and requirements of their particular organizations.

The Annual Blue Bird and Camp Fire fly-up was held in September 1967 with 76 Blue Birds and new Camp Fire girls being honored. Over 300 mothers and girls were in attendance.

Camp Fire continued to be very active in 1968 --Camping at Neewahlu and Day Camp being held. In 1969, 126 girls from the Moscow area attended Camp Neewahlu. The mint sale continued to be an annual event and fundraiser to help with expenses.

Several exciting and "one time only" opportunities were part of the 60's for Moscow Camp Fire Horizon Club members.

--In 1965, Mary Liz Hann was awarded Moscow's first WOHELO Medallion.

--In 1966, 10 Horizon Club Members participated in the Horizon Club Conference Afloat, a Latin American Summer Cruise. Those attending were: Nanci Lynd, Candee Carey, Sue Anderson, Mary Margaret Alsager, Linda Snider, Corrinne Nygaard, Pat Murphy, Karen Tate, Kathy Stephens, and Theresa Wernecke.

--In 1966-67, Mary Ruth Mann was selected as one of two from Idaho to attend the National Youth Conference on Natural Beauty and Conservation held in Washington, D.C. She was also selected for a smaller return conference for evaluation of the main

conference (one of 3 C.F.G. on the evaluation team).

--In 1968, Mary Ruth Mann was awarded the WOHELO Medallion.

--In 1969, Shirley Lou Cowin was awarded the WOHELO Medallion.

The WOHELO award represents the highest level of achievement in the Camp Fire. It is comparable to the Eagle Badge of the Boy Scouts.

### THE 1970'S

Excellent publicity during the 1970's left fine newspaper documentation of the many activities carried out by Camp Fire Girls and leaders.

As the decade of the 70's began the Camp Fire groups were stuffing envelopes for the United Way Campaign and beautifying Moscow by planting flowers in Main Street's planters. Camp Neewahlu had an attendance of 446 girls and 11 counselors-in-training and finished on the black side of the ledger.

A Palouse group, while not a part of Sacajawea Council, deserves recognition for realizing a several years' dream--a trip to Washington, D.C. All money for the trip was earned by the girls themselves.

The annual mint sale continued with some new products being offered: Heath Toffee Miniatures and Miss Saylor's Chocolate Mints and Pastel Wafers.

In 1971 several Moscow members of the Sacajawea Council received awards for their work. That year approximately 250 Camp Fire Girls coming from Moscow, Deary, Genesee, and Potlatch met in Moscow for the Grand Council Fire. Margaret Sue Mann was one of two Horizon Club members in the Nation chosen to represent Horizon Clubs on the National Board of Directors. She and June Carlson from Albany, Oregon, held this position for two years and attended regional conferences and National Board of Directors meetings.

Some groups contributed their time to preparing boxes for Trick-or-Treat for the UNICEF drive. At the 1972 Grand Council Fire the Moscow Camp Fire Girls took up a special collection to provide funds for campships for daughters of miners who had recently lost their lives in the Wallace-Kellogg mining accident.

Potlatch had a very active Horizon Club group with four girls receiving WOHELO Medallions.

Moscow District Camp Fire chose the Indian name Tah-Ol La-Kah (Place of Pestle and Pine--origin of name for Latah County) to represent their District of Latah County and a banner was designed and constructed for the Sacajawea Council Annual Meeting, April 22, 1975. The banner was designed by a committee including Irene Thol, Alene Orvik, Anita Thomas, and Elsie Mann, with Elsie Mann doing the construction.

Troy Camp Fire girls worked on a community project in 1975, cleaning up litter on the shore line of Spring Valley Reservoir.

Mother's teas, Dad-Daughter Banquets, Blue Bird Fly-ups, Appreciation luncheon for Leaders, Mint Sales, Day Camping, and Camping at Neewahlu were all a part of the program in the 1970's.

Note: Information is included for the very early history (1910 through the 20's), each decade following, and into the 80's. For more

detailed information check each decade file and other materials stored at the Latah County Historical Society, including yearbooks from 1950 to 1980. There was no record found for the missing years in the 50's. Much embellishment of times and activities is possible by contacting group leaders, board members, district committee members, girls, parents, etc. We have only brushed the surface, but this has been many years in the making and it is time that we bring it to some conclusion. We would hope that someone else would delve more deeply into specific areas and tell the story for all. Our mission was to research the early years which we tried to do by spending time in the University of Idaho Library's Special Collections. We searched old newspapers, interviewed people still living the 20's, and went through boxes of papers, books, and materials collected during the years here and in the Lewiston office. We also looked over early history of the Spokane Council and copied much of what we felt was pertinent to our background. It is our hope that this might be useful as a reference in preparing future anniversary programs or ceremonies.

We would be happy to have any specific historical information anyone might have. Many, many people have dedicated many years to serving Camp Fire. They are too numerous to name but are remembered. Please contact Erma Boyd (882-7084), Jeanette Talbott (882-5259), or Elsie Mann (882-2286) if you have material of interest to the Moscow District, including early beginnings in Potlatch, Deary, Bovill, Troy, and Genesee.



## AN OLD TIMER LOOKS BACK

by George Fallquist

Satchel Paige, of baseball fame, once said: "Never look back--you may see someone catching up." But I think looking back is fun and since there is no catch-up involved, and I quote from no authority and simply from what I heard and saw with my own ears and eyes--what can I lose? From early days in elementary school till now I have always loved sports both by watching and part-taking. As a lad of seven or eight years, I was joined by a dozen or more good kids who lived adjacent to the University campus. Most of the campus at that time was lawn which soon became turf.

Moscow then had no facilities for swimming, no gymnasium, no shower baths except a couple in a small building back of where the Administration Building is now located. This building was used as a dressing and locker room for the Varsity. Before long (1903-04) came the gymnasium on the northwest end of the campus. It contained adequate showers, a running track, what was then considered a good basketball court, dressing rooms, offices, and was quite the pride and joy of the Varsity and town.

The fire fighting equipment consisted of a hose cart and 150 feet of hose housed on the north edge of the campus. The crew were volunteers. Moscow had a down-town Volunteer Fire Department. No paid help. The University had police as guards. One night watchman who made nightly checks of the buildings. A key inserted in a lock switch would register the time of check in the Bursar's Office. That was all. No wonder the old Administration Building burned in 1906. Because the University was in the North, it was very difficult to budget adequate funds by the Legislature at Boise. The rumor was that when the matters of a Penitentiary and of a University building program arose at about the same time, the Southern biased Legislature decided that a Penitentiary would be better business for Boise than a school--so Moscow got the school. I doubt that the exact truth will ever be known.

At this point I wish to say the period I am talking about covers approximately from 1902 to 1920. And the "look back" I wish to make concerns the question "How do the skills and abilities of the athletes of that era compare with those of today?" With the Olympic torch burning brightly in Los Angeles and Olympic Village flooded with some of the finest athletes of the ages, this became an interesting topic for conversation.

But to go back to Moscow in 1902. Football, baseball, and track games were held at the old Fair Grounds on north Main. The field was dirt with no grass or turf. There were no bleachers or stands for seating. When it rained (as it usually did for the November games) the field was very muddy and when it didn't rain it became very hard (as rock) and very bruising to land on. It was also very uneven and had lots of chuck holes. The yard markers were of lime and sometimes it was not completely slaked. This was bad. Between halves of a football game the teams simply sat or lay down in a bunch at one end of the field. Practice was held on the campus but most of it was uneven and it sloped too much to play games on.

I recall the great curiosity we (the gang of kids) displayed when Dr. McLean (President of U of I) came out one Sunday afternoon with a bag of golf clubs and hit some practice drives across the campus. There were no cups to putt in but he did get some good drives. We were told he had played in Scotland. Many years passed before the University had a golf course.

When the athletic muscle at Idaho became more prominent, it was time to improve further the athletic facilities. So acreage on Sixth Street just west of the Northern Pacific right of way was acquired. This was level ground and yielded to easier leveling and grading for the playing field and a quarter mile track and a 220 yard straight away. The University heating plant which burned coal became the source of ample cinders to cover

the running tracks. This took a lot of crushing and levelling and rolling but made a pretty fair track--nothing to compare with present day running tracks both indoor and outdoor. An eight floor high solid board fence was built around the park and bleachers were built to seat a thousand spectators. This was less than half as far from the University as the old Fair Grounds had been but still required the teams to jog eight blocks from dressing room to field.

Before long the move was on for a field closer to the campus. This led to the building of McLean Field directly back of the Administration Building. Poe Bros. from down in the Walla Walla country had the contract for this job. They had 100 head of mules and Fresno scrapers. At that time this was the best equipment available for such work. The bulldozers and earthmovers of today were undreamed of. They did the job as directed but found an impediment they had not counted on. That was the hard pan clay which they struck after grading off the top layers of beautiful black loam soil. This clay is very tough to move or dig and when exposed to rain it becomes almost glue-like in consistency. Again there was no seating except a very small bleacher that could seat about 200.

It is easy to understand why financial support was so difficult. The next move for the Athletic field was across the road west to McLean Field with adequate seating and a turf gridiron. Stepped up admission prices and really a stadium. The final chapter of course is our magnificent Kibbie Dome which is the envy of the other Big Sky schools.

Looking back again. During those years there was only one man coaching a team. Usually he had to be also a faculty member teaching a few subjects but mostly the sport assigned. At Idaho for a number of years the job of football, baseball, and basketball rested on the shoulders of J. G. "Pink" Griffith. A former star back at Iowa, he built some good teams but the equipment, playing fields, and time to really teach the techniques of the game were not available. Sometimes star players of earlier years landed on the faculty and would make themselves available as assistants. There were no trainers to condition players or tape and bandage them when they were injured.

There were no scholarships and the University did not provide medical care for injured athletes.

When I sit warm and snug in Kibbie Dome, I think of the snow storms, chilling rain storms, the ice and mud of other games against Pullman (WAC), Oregon, Whitman, Montana, and Washington (at Seattle). How could they achieve what they did? They were clean living, hard working young men, quick, strong, and fast on their feet. It is my belief that given the benefits of present day coaching, training, and scientific techniques now taught, those boys of long ago would have been World Class Athletes.

I shall name only a few of those we idolized as boys of that long ago. There was Johnnie Middleton, quarterback of the 1905 Champions. Today we would say he had a computer brain. He was quick, real strong, and very innovative. The plays he called were always right and they were not called from a huddle. His fertile brain figured out the Idaho Spread play that played havoc with the Agricultural College at Pullman as well as the rest. After finishing college, he was hired as Coach.

There were such giant tackles as "Hercules" Smith, Gus Larson, Teddy Roosevelt, big, strong, quick, and fast. Today they would have been all pro rated. Backs like "Cap" Horton, Elmer Armstrong, Rodney Small, Chuck Johnson, Monty Montgomery, Jim Lockhart, Stanley Brown, Jim Thornton, Albert Knutson, "Nuck" Perkins, and many more. Drugs, liquor, polluted air, gambling, TV violence, and sex had small place in their lives which led to the coordination, speed, and strength they possessed. Men like Montgomery who ran the 100, 220, and 220 hurdles and relay in record times--held the Idaho records in all four years. Sam Morrison with the speed of Mercury who equalled the world's record in the 100 yard and came close in the 220. Also usually won the broad jump and ran a fine lap in the relay. Buck Phillips, who held the American College record in the javelin. Also won most shot puts, discus, hammer, and even scored in the high jump. "Hec" Edmundson, one of the premier 800 meter men for U.S. in Stockholm Olympics, holder of Idaho records

in 440, 880, and mile. There were times when he won the 220, 440, 880, mile, and ran winning lap in the relay. After college he coached Idaho to their first track win over WSC. Later he moved to Washington and coached the best basketball and track teams in Husky history. His successes made possible the building of Edmundson Pavillion which houses their basketball and other activities. Yet how many students at Idaho today would know that he came from Idaho?

In Old Time basketball, I recall Rex Curtis, Monty Montgomery, Ern Loux, Jim Keane,

Charles Grey, Squinty Hunter, Les Moe, Drom Campbell, Oz Thompson, Al Fox who all gave us many exciting moments. Indeed it could be easy to write a book about these great men of the past. I regret that the old cliché "Out of sight out of mind" is too often true.

Certainly I have no desire to take anything away from the stars of today but I honestly believe there were those who were their equal if not superior in a bygone day. Many will scoff at such an idea, but they cannot prove me wrong--neither can I prove that I am right. So let it end right there.

## CIRCLE OF FRIENDSHIP

by Mary Whetstone

"Maw, Maw," ten-year-old Eddy was fairly jumping with bug-eyed excitement. "We seen an injun out in the back where the trees are. He's got feathers - a whole lot of 'em on his big headdress and they drop down his back. Gee, look Maw--."

"Yeah, Mom, he's coming towards the house--right now," young tow-headed Sam interrupted, stomping his feet impatiently.

"It's alright, boys," their patient mother assured them. Young Louise Barton deliberately kept her voice and manners far more normal than she really felt, although she new by now how unpredictable these Indian friends were. Like small untrained children in many ways.

She came away from the kitchen window pushing the two children towards the stairway, "It's only Chief Ho-Jo who's a friend of ours. Now you two go on upstairs and stay out of sight while he is here. Go up to your room right now."

"Aw Maw, why do we have to go to our room if he is a friend?" Eddy asked, following her as she hurriedly began to put out of sight a few valuable colorful dishes. She remembered

Chief Ho-Jo seemed to have a passion for colorful china. If he indicated he wanted them, it would be impolite to refuse him, and downright dangerous to do anything to incur his anger. She also remembered he didn't like small white children staring at him, and he seemed to smell their fear.

"Do as I say, Eddy." Something in his mother's voice told her son he had better obey. He grabbed his little brother's hand and they ran up to their rooms.

The children had barely left the room when Chief Ho-Jo's big frame filled the doorway. he was a large man and good-looking in a regal savage way. Today he was dressed in buckskin tan trousers and beaded moccasins with full headdress.

Louise nervously brushed back her brunette curls, and outwardly greeted her visitor as an equal in her usual quiet manner. "Ah," she thought, "I do hope Hop Sing stays in the laundry house." She still remembered the last visit her unwelcome guest had here when Hop Sing, her faithful cook and houseboy, mistakenly thought Chief Ho-Jo was going to scalp her and took after him with a huge

butcher knife. She had had to risk her lifetrying to make Hop Sing understand that the Indian was her friend.

She offered her guest a chair at the big round kitchen table, pulling a big bowl of fruit over to the Chief. He selected a red juicy apple, proceeded to take out his hunting knife, and started to peel the apple so as not to break the peelings. For if the peeling couldn't be laid carefully on the floor around his chair without breaking, then this pretty white lady sitting across the table was no friend of his, but an enemy to be dealt with. Such was the custom of his people and the law of the Great Spirit above.

With her heart in her mouth, her fingers crossed, Louise Barton sat perfectly still opposite the old Chief in fearful fascination. She too knew the custom of paring an apple and what it meant. She knew also that the chief was testing her because of the Chinaman's attack on him during the last visit in this house.

In her mind's eye she was mentally measuring the distance to the big rifle hanging on the gun rack behind. Could she reach for it in time if that apple peel broke? Or would this unpredictable guest just leave in a huff? Surely he didn't want to start trouble with her

husband and the other white settlers in this community. They had always treated him with respect and even helped to feed his people in the winter. Maybe if she reminded him of this kindness it would help. Louise felt it was worth a try anyway.

"The winter will be long and cold, and there will be need of much food," she intoned in a sing-song voice. "Like a bloomin' white witch," she thought ruefully.

"White woman speaks with truth. How you know such thing?" The Chief never looked up from his task.

"Our great White God tells me so," she firmly replied. One must never show fear. She glanced up to note that the apple was now pared without a break. But could the Chief lay it around his chair on the floor without breaking it?

She held her breath as the Indian carefully arranged the unbroken peel on the floor around the chair in a complete circle. The chief slowly straightened up and smiled. They were friends, and Louise could breathe again.

[This was an actual happening, told to Mary by her mother.]

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Mr. Editor: How long will those cruel and unfeeling men persist in tying their honest and faithful horses to a hitching post in the street and leave them there through all the storms of the night without food or shelter while they remain in the saloon carousing and playing cards? If these unhuman men were as good as the horses they abuse how much better the world would be. I have seen these unfeeling men come out of the saloon in the early morning liquored and enraged at the ill luck of the past night and with whip

or spur lacerate these poor animals, who by that time are stiffened with the cold and weak with hunger, and abuse them homeward bound. Oh, how my heart aches for these misused horses. A number of the girls intend to watch and give you the names of these horrible men who thus abuse their good horses.

SUSIE

Moscow Mirror  
1 January 1886, p. 3



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**NOTE: Due to the high cost of returned issues, we appreciate  
being advised of changes of address**

In 1968 interested individuals organized the Latah County Historical Society to collect and preserve materials connected with the history of Latah County and to provide further knowledge of the history and tradition of the area. Every person, young or old, who is interested in the history of Latah County and who would like to assist in its preservation and interpretation is cordially invited to become a member. Subscription to this journal and a discount on books published by the Society are included in membership dues. Dues for the various classes of membership are as follows:

|                   | Member     | Friend  | Contributor | Sustainer | Sponsor   | Patron   |
|-------------------|------------|---------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| <b>Individual</b> | \$ 7.50-15 | \$16-30 | \$ 31-75    | \$ 76-150 | \$151-499 | \$500 up |
| <b>Family</b>     | 12.50-25   | 26-50   | 51-100      | 101-250   | 251-499   | 500 up   |
| <b>Business</b>   | 25-50      | 51-100  | 101-250     | 251-350   | 351-499   | 500 up   |

Note: For **Canada and Mexico**, add \$4; for **Europe**, add \$8.

Privileges are identical for all classes; the higher dues represent a much needed donation to help the Society's work. Dues are tax deductible.

The Society's services include conducting oral histories, publishing local history monographs, maintaining local history/genealogy research archives and the county museum, as well as educational outreach. The Society wishes to acquire objects, documents, books, photographs, diaries, and other materials relating to the history of Latah County. These are added to the collections and made available to researchers while they are preserved for future generations.

The Society is housed in the William J. McConnell Mansion, 110 South Adams, Moscow. The museum is open from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Visits to the museum or research archives are welcomed at other times and can be arranged by calling (208) 882-1004.