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WINLOCK, WASHINGTON TERRITORY

History Thesis

by

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## PREFACE

A child's impressions are often lasting; to me, Winlock for some ten years was the star in the blue heaven of my rural life. This impression, recalled during a summer of work in one of Winlock's marginal grocery stores, created in me a desire to analyze the town, the people, the framework into which I had aspired to grow up. First, I was intrigued by the current financial activity as I saw it from the viewpoint of a grocery clerk; second, I was gratified in meeting some of the old timers about whom I had heard much and who told me the old stories sometimes a little differently than I had heard them before; third, I was aware of the difference between Winlock and Napavine, ten miles north, and Vader, six miles south, all railroad settlements and lumber towns of the same epoch.

Contemplating first an economic comparison of these three neighboring towns, discussion and research soon caused me to consider Southwest Washington as a whole. Eventually, I decided that as a railroad settlement, Winlock was typical of one phase of the history of Southwest Washington.

Thus, then, I began my study into the history of Winlock. Why did people choose that spot? What did they do that the dot named Winlock still remains on the map? Who were the settlers that made the choice of a townsite and did the things that established the settlement? Why is the town alive today and growing when some of its sister plats are dead--Eleanor, Newuakum; some stagnant--Vader, Napavine; some larger and prosperous--Chehalis, Centralia? Why is Winlock, Winlock? A town of 1148--a town of four real business blocks--an egg producing center--a berry, filbert growing center, a lumber town still: a place where "some interesting<sup>1</sup> history has taken place . . . ."

Not all of these questions can be answered in this short work. They cover too many years and too many activities. So this paper has, after much revamping of plan, been limited to those very early years--the years of Winlock, Washington Territory.

The work has been interesting; the research technique fascinating. Most of the research has been done in Lewis County; and I am especially indebted to Miss Flavel Pearson and Miss Frances Hamilton of the

<sup>1</sup>  
Letter from Chapin D. Foster, Director, Washington State Historical Society, January 28, 1948.

Chehalis Public Library; to Miss Anna Koontz for advice; to Mrs. Elizabeth Plant and Mr. Ernst Bechley for guiding me through courthouse records and to Mr. Bechley for the use of items in his personal collection; to Dr. Paul J. Orr, Mrs. Fenna Smith Randt, and Miss Sadie Smith for interviews; to Mrs. Floyd Greene for papers of Dr. Pagett; to Mr. Charles Deuber for the use of two of his scrapebooks; and to my family and to my advisor, Dr. J. A. Jonasson for interest and advice.

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## INTRODUCTION

The prairie lands of the Cowlitz Valley were well settled when they became a part of the Oregon Territory. In main the settlers were French Canadians brought in by the Hudson's Bay Company and a few Britishers who had settled there in the belief that Oregon north of the Columbia would become British Territory.<sup>1</sup> When Oregon became a part of the Union many of these men hastened to establish American citizenship<sup>2</sup> and to secure title to the lands they were occupying. Their names remain today on Donation Land Claims which they filed and which later surveys respected.

West of Cowlitz Prairie, the area in which Winlock lies was then wooded with Indian burn on the west. Except where donation land claims were filed the area was not penetrated by many permanent settlers until the

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1. Miles, Charles, and Goffman, N. B., "The French Canadians and Many Britishers Become Loyal American Citizens," CLAUATO LANDMARKS, Scrapebook compiled by Chehalis Public Library, p. 44.

2. On March 23, 1847, the French-Canadians of Lewis County held a public meeting on Cowlitz Prairie where they raised an American flag--the first to be raised in that area--made by Canadian women. Ibid.

days of railroad construction. Then it became practicable to log the hills and to ship out lumber by rail. Later it was discovered that the soil of this wooded region was fertile, and that as the open areas became more heavily settled it would become increasingly practicable to log off the heavy stand of timber and to clear the land for cultivation. This process was greatly stimulated by the Northern Pacific Railroad's colonization activities of the 1880's.

3

Winlock is situated in the Olequa valley on the Olequa creek, a tributary of the Cowlitz which rises in the watershed separating the Chehalis and the Cowlitz River systems. Located just south of the forking of the creek, Winlock today has residential areas on both sides of the creek with the railroad and the business section located on the east bench. East of Winlock lies Grand Prairie; then Cowlitz Prairie with Toledo, successor to Cowlitz Landing, seven miles distant. Toledo, on the Cowlitz River, is served by the Pacific Highway. North from Winlock on the railroad lies Napavine, Newaukum, then Chehalis. South are Vader

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3. Olequa. An Indian name. Corrupt form of Ca-me-tze--Salmon come to spawn. (From "A List of Names, Their Origins and Meanings" compiled by Ernst Bechly, August, 1945.)

Olequa is the name of the sub-tribe of the Cowlitz Indians which made the area their headquarters. (From an interview with John St. Germaine on John's 80th birthday. Daily News clipping in Charles Deuber's scrapbook.)

(formerly Little Falls), Okqua, and Castle Rock. To the west are hills, bounding the Boistfort country where early settlement took place on Boistfort Prairie.



## CHAPTER I

Winlock began as a construction camp on the Northern Pacific Railroad grade about forty miles up from Kalama. The earliest official reference is found in the road records of Lewis County of January 3, 1872. This is a petition to the County Commissioners asking them:

...to grant a county road commencing at the NPRR at Wheeler's Camp in section 28 Township 12N, R 2 W running eastwardly . . . to Cowlitz Prairie...<sup>1</sup>

That this camp later became Winlock is demonstrated by a letter dated May 16, 1884, in an order to re-survey:

...the road from Winlock to Cowlitz Prairie known in the road records of the county as the road from Wheeler's camp on the NPRR in Tp. 12, Sec. 28 N, R 2 W to Cowlitz Prairie...<sup>2</sup>

Another indication of the existence of the settlement is a NPRR guide of 1872 in which an unnamed townsite appears at the appropriate distance above the Lewis County line.  
3

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1. ROAD RECORDS, 1:90.

2. Ibid, #104 & 104A--Winlock and Cowlitz Road.

3. SETTLER'S GUIDE TO OREGON AND WASHINGTON TERRITORY AND TO THE LANDS OF THE NPRR ON THE PACIFIC SLOPE, Land Dept., NPRR, 1872, Map facing p.2.

The section of the railroad upon which Winlock was located was that section of the NPHR built north out of Kalama to Puget Sound terminating at Tacoma. Chinese laborers were used and they lived in construction camps along the way.<sup>4</sup> The name of the first superintendent of this division stands enshrined upon Mt. Sam Henry, the highest of the hills west of town.<sup>5</sup>

By 1872 there were a number of settlers in and around Wheeler's Camp; the road petition of '72 lists some twenty-eight names,<sup>6</sup> some of which were from the prairies--Grand, Drew, and Cowlitz--that would profit by the building of a road, but some of them were certainly settled in the Olequa Valley at the time.

Some interesting stories have been told of the early settlers. Tenna Randt, stating that Jack Nealy, Florida-born, came into the area with the first railroad crew, tells a story about him in court:

...The judge asked him how fast he had been riding. The answer was "a mile a minute." The judge said, "Now, Mr. Nealy, you know you were not going a mile a minute." Nealy quickly continued, "Say, Teddy, old boy, who was riding that horse, you or me?"...<sup>7</sup>

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4. Interview with John St. Germaine, op. cit.  
 5. Randt, Tenna Smith, "Bits of Winlock History," Winlock NEWS, July 8, 1931. She also says "Every fall the Cowlitz Indians from the prairies would go to the Sam Henry Mts. for the hunting season. This custom they followed religiously for six or seven years after we came (1878) but their numbers grew so few they discontinued it."  
 6. ROAD RECORDS, E:90. See Appendix.  
 7. Randt, op. cit.

The fact that Winlock was marked out by the NPRR as a townsite would seem to indicate that the railroad had a definite interest in promoting settlement at that place. If so, most of the stimulation seems to have been effected from the inside, and while many Winlock-ites seems to have been interested in its development, the credit for its establishment goes largely to Dr. (and Judge) C. C. Pagett.<sup>8</sup> It was he who donated and named the plat of the Townsite, and who is commonly considered "the father of Winlock."

The story of the naming is an interesting one. Dr. Pagett asked General W. W. Miller, who often traveled through that section<sup>9</sup> to suggest a name for the townsite. General Miller complied in a letter which has been lost, but a sworn statement as to his suggestion was made nine years later.

...Whereas, on the 17th day of Nov. 1875, General W. W. Miller of Olympia Washington Territory, having been asked to give a name to the place, Then know as "Grand Prairie" did on the day above, written Submit the following name, "Winlock," in the words following to wit, "If however, you should fancy the name and Adopt it, I will agree to give a nice Bell to the Church, or School-house, that is built in the Town."...<sup>10</sup>

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8. Mrs. Pagett was the former Urania Pinto, daughter of E. H. Pinto, one of the earliest settlers on the Cowlitz River. Ibid.
9. Letter from W. W. Miller to Ernst Beckley in regard to the naming of Winlock. See Appendix.
10. "Ratification in Ref. to Bell for Winlock," RECORDS, G:194-5, County Auditor's Office, Lewis County, Chehalis, Washington, See Appendix.

Dr. Pagett's acknowledgement of General Miller's  
11  
letter exists:

Grand Prairie

Nov. 22/73

Dear General,

I received your letter a few days ago from you in reference to the name of this place, and have to say the name pleased me verry much. There a Strange (Somewhat) coincidence connected with the name which I tell you sometime.

We have a subscription already for the school house Preparatory for the Bell. I think better to use it in that capacity, than for a church; let the churchmen hang their own bells. I have forgotten to say, when I file the plat for record, the name will be Winlock, named by W. W. Miller of Olympia. Thanking you and wishing you many happy days

I am yours--  
(G. C. Pagett)

Winlock was the maiden name of General William Winlock Miller's mother; his eldest son's first name and his own second name. 12 The bell which is mentioned was furnished in 1882. The schoolhouse was completed in 1881, and upon notification of that fact, Mrs. Miller--General Miller had died in 1876--secured a bell from San Francisco to be hung the next year.

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- 11. Original in possession of W. W. Miller, Olympia. This was transcribed from the photostatic copy held by Mr. Ernst Bechly, Chehalis.
  - 12. Letter from W. W. Miller, to Ernst Bechly, op. cit.

General Miller's connection with Winlock is not  
13  
entirely clear. Edmond Meany says

...Winlock . . . was named in honor of  
General Winlock W. Miller, one of the  
first Federal officers in the Territory  
of Washington, an officer in the Indian  
Wars of 1855-56 and a close personal friend  
of Governor Isaac I. Stevens. He was a  
successful business man and owned land where  
the town now stands...<sup>14</sup>

Since Dr. Pagett had also taken part in the Indian  
15  
wars, this may account for their acquaintance and  
friendship. In addition one must consider the sparse  
settlement of the territory during the '50's when  
both arrived.

Dr. Pagett earned his title of Doctor by  
practicing medicine where Shelton now stands following  
the close of the Indian Wars. He also served as President  
of the Territorial Council. His official capacity in  
Winlock was that of postmaster, an office which he held  
16  
until 1837. The post office was ~~tan~~ on the corner of  
First and Shannon.

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13. Contemporary accounts record tales of Winlock  
Miller's being "the son of Bill Miller \*who  
owned nearly all the land around here\*" and also that  
he was a mill owner or operator. See Randt, op. cit.  
Also there is a story as to the naming of Winlock  
which has nothing to do with Miller. When people  
first entered the Olegua region at Winlock, the story  
goes, they found the heavy stand of firs so blown  
down and interlocked as to be almost impassible.  
Hence "Wind Lock" later corrupted to Winlock.  
This tale, reported by Dr. Paul J. Orr, would  
seem to show more imagination than information.
14. Meany, Edmond S., ORIGIN OF WASHINGTON GEOGRAPHICAL  
NAMES, Seattle, University of Washington Press, 1923.
15. WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE BOOKLET,  
1845-1945, p. 10.
16. Randt, op. cit.\*

Javan Hall in a letter to the NUGGET sees him as a land speculator of sorts:

...G. C. Pagett lived in Toledo and did a flourishing business until the partial completion of the W. P. R. R. when he purchased and moved to the present town of Winlock, where he now resides...17

This would have certainly given him incentive to advertise and plat Winlock, and also to interest an important man like Miller in naming the townsite.

Pagett's Winlock was not a very large place. As surveyed and platted December 27, 1873, it comprised an area three blocks long and two and one-half blocks wide, bounded today by Walnut on the south, Third on the east, Fir on the north, and the railroad on the west. No additions were made until after incorporation in 1883, but with the influx of settlers in the latter half of the '80's and the early '90's, came a boom in real estate. Many additions were platted then.

The first buildings in Winlock proper faced west-- towards the railroad. First Street was the business street. Yet the place could not have been exactly inspiring.

Mrs. Randt reports her reaction on arriving:

...We landed in Winlock, W. T., in Sept. 1879 and I remember when we got to the top of the hill east of town and had our first view of Winlock. I tho't it was a heck of a place to have passed up so much nice country like Umatilla county, Oregon, but we got a joyful welcome and soon liked it...18

17. Letter of Javan Hall, NUGGET, 3:32; 1 (Feb. 18, 1886)  
18. Randt, op. cit.

The first mill had been established about 1875-6  
 19  
 by Capt. Finch and Mr. Miller. It was located at the  
 fork of the Clequa where a dam could be built to form  
 a pond. The machinery was hauled in from Tumwater.  
 In 1878 Capt. Finch sold his interest to Dan W. Council  
 20  
 and opened the first general merchandise store.

Of the two partners, Dan Council was characterized  
 21  
 as "the head man of Mill town" while Miller is  
 described at more length.

...a man of strong character, good  
 hearted, but gruff of speech. (In  
 greeting a newcomer) Mr. Miller, with  
 no thought of stealing Gen. Butler's  
 ammunition saluted him with "I'm damned  
 glad to meet you!"...22

In 1880 a Mr. Rhoades assumed a partnership in  
 the mill with Pennington and Stephen under the firm  
 23  
 name of Rhoades, Pennington, and Stephen. Apparently  
 Council and Miller had previously sold out their interests

19. No reliable connection has been established between  
 this Mr. Miller and General William W. Miller who  
 named the town, other than the statement of Mrs.  
 Hilda Hosten Kreugar who said that her father, leaving  
 the train at Winlock to look around, was offered work  
 as a sawyer by Winlock Miller. See Randt, op. cit.  
 Bancroft states that General Miller came  
 "to Washington in 1852, where he resided in Olympia  
 to January 24, 1878, where he died at the age of 54."  
 WORKS, XXXI:118, ftn. Thus, he was already dead in  
 1878 which is the time of which Mrs. Randt is writing.  
 There must have been two separate Millers; certainly,  
 the existence of two Millers would account for the  
 confusion as to the connection of General Miller with  
 the town he named.

20. Randt, op. cit.

21. Ibid.

22. Ibid.

23. Ibid.

to Pennington and Stephen, or to Rhoades. A. J. Rhoades had arrived from Kansas in the fall of 1879, and was thereafter a prominent factor in the business life of Winlock.<sup>24</sup>

Some other inhabitants in Winlock in the winter of 1879-80 were Ole Hosten, stone mason; the Joseph Broshears; Mr. Sibley, the shoemaker; H. E. Call, the section foreman; Dr. Dugas, "a bright man of the town who was a great dresser and wore sideburns";<sup>25</sup> Mr. and Mrs. David Smith, or "Smith's on the Hill," English people who homesteaded east of town; the Rowland Smith's, originally of Pennsylvania, who came to Winlock by wagon by way of Kansas and who went into the mill; and the George Deuber's whose son Charles was the first white child born in Winlock, (September 30, 1878.)<sup>26</sup>

Thus was Winlock established. From construction camp to townsite to established village with its own industry and tradesmen. Winlock had come into the world the conception of the railroad; the child of the lumber industry. During her next period of life she was to grow with all the vigor and rapidity of adolescence.

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24. Ibid.

25. Ibid.

26. Ibid.



## CHAPTER II

There were several routes by which people could approach Winlock. They could come by wagon on the Oregon Trail; they could come by rail--to San Francisco in the early days--to Portland, later. From San Francisco, they could take the boat to Kalama, loading there for the rail trip to Winlock, or they could dock at Portland or Monticello and transfer to the Cowlitz River steam boats<sup>1</sup> running up to Toledo. From there they could go by wagon on 'over the hill' into Winlock. Due to the high rates of railroad transportation on this last jump, as compared

1. The Cowlitz River steam boats were quite essential to the development of that valley. For years they made the Cowlitz the highway upon which much of the produce of the Cowlitz and nearby prairies was taken to market. In 1916-18 they helped to write their own doom by hauling in the materials used in building the Pacific Highway--the first modern highway built north out of Portland along the rough Columbia and Cowlitz rivers. The greatly encouraged motor transport then offered considerable competition to the boats, which had been largely unaffected by railroad competition, due to the difference in rates. The story of the rise, fall, and effect of these especially tailored boats is told in detail by Albert Kletsch in an unpublished thesis at WSC entitled COWLITZ RIVER NAVIGATION WITH RESPECT TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE TOWN OF TOLEDO, WASHINGTON, 1943, and in brief by Randall Vause Mills in STEWEN WHEELERS UP COLUMBIA, Palo Alto, Calif., Pacific Books, 1947.

to that of water during most of this period, the latter was a popular route.

At first the railroad was serviced between Portland and Kalama by the ships of the Oregon Navigation Company, but by 1883 a railroad was built from Portland to Goble, Oregon, across the Columbia from Kalama whence the big railroad ferry could transfer a train at a time to the Kalama end of the line.<sup>2</sup>

With the completion of a transcontinental route into Portland, trains began to go direct to that terminus. It was subsequent to this development that the train immigrations of the '80's from which Winlock was to profit, began.

One of the most interesting illustrations of the boom in immigration of the '80's is the arrival of the 'Colony' in 1884. This was a group of forty-three people from Newport, Tennessee, who chartered a car to Kalama.

...Arriving there they found that the only hotel had burned to the ground. Mr. Bryson Wall, manager and leader of this group called 'the colony,' sought the advice of a conductor whose train waited for the River steamer. This conductor knew Mr. and Mrs. Deuber . . . so a wire was sent to find out if they could accommodate . . . 43 people...

3

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2. Clipping in Charles Deuber's scrapbook; shows picture of railroad ferry.
  3. Brosey, Mrs. Albert, "Winlock, Famed as an Egg, Poultry Center, Traces History back 70 years," clipping in Deuber's scrapbook.

The reply was in the affirmative so the train, which had been waiting all this time, loaded their goods and took them to Winlock. Upon arriving they rented the hotel for a month and as one big family cooked and slept under the same roof. Since they had come in the spring, they were present for--and contributors to--the Fourth of July celebration which was a gala affair, with a picnic in the grove, swings in the trees, and a dance later in the Colony's quarters with Colony-<sup>4</sup> provided music.

In '85 and '86 occasional settlers and groups of settlers landed in Winlock; some to stay and some to re-locate. By '87 Winlock had a population of about <sup>5</sup> 250 and in the spring of that year a period of great expansion began. The settlers who came into the town at this time came mostly from Tennessee and North Carolina, and in the fall of '87 it was possible for the NUGGET to report of Winlock:

...During the last year not only the population has doubled but also the number of residences, places of business, and values of property...<sup>6</sup>

The town which had been incorporated February 1883 as a town of some 10 or 12 homes; a post office,

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4. Deuber, Charles, "The Immigration," probably written in the '30's for the Winlock NEWS. His scrapbook.  
 5. NUGGET, 4:36; 1:6 (March 11, 1887)  
 6. Ibid, 5:10; 3:3 (Sept. 9, 1887)

a general store, a saloon, and a hotel and eating  
<sup>7</sup>house, had begun to grow rapidly. In 1885 it had  
<sup>8</sup>a population of 'about 100 people' with a business  
 section comprised of

...one general merchandise store kept  
 by J. A. Cresswell; one stove and tin  
 store; one blacksmith shop (Mr. Nealy);  
 one large saw mill (Rhoades), one saloon  
 (Bernstein's), two hotels (Deuber's Rail-  
 road House, and Harrington's Winlock  
 Hotel), one physician, one shoemaker, and  
 several mechanics of different classes...

9

In July of '85 a cornet brass band--sixteen  
<sup>10</sup>pieces all told--was added to Winlock's assets.

Many of the merchandisers had sidelines; J. A.  
 Cresswell had the Wells Fargo and Co. agency; W. T.  
<sup>11</sup>Byham sold Singer sewing machines.

In 1887 it was estimated that Winlock had re-  
 ceived more immigrants than any other town in Lewis  
 County. Twenty new building had been built--nine of  
 them tenent houses; to the school had been added a  
 ten-foot addition on the east end and a second story, so  
 that 160 pupils could be accomodated; a joint stock  
 company was building a 24x110x14 ft. warehouse north

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7. Brosey, op. cit.

8. BEE, 2:5; 3 (June 26, 1885)

9. BEE, 2:10; 2 (July 31, 1885) 1:4; 1 (June 27, 1884)

2:5; 3 (June 26, 1885)

10. Bee, 2:7; 2 (July 10, 1885)

11. BEE, 2:10; 2 (July 31, 1885)

of the railroad depot; Adams and Chrisenberry had established a feed and livery stable as well as operating the Toledo stage line and securing a farm machinery agency; Leonard Bros. had established a general merchandising store, and Dr. Whiteside had sold twenty-  
 12  
 four lots in one week.

Winlock seems to have taken active part in the affairs of the county from its first days. Politically, it seems at this time, to have been predominantly Democratic; at least in the elections of '84, '86, and '89, Winlock was better represented on the Democratic ticket than on the Republican, although the town was usually represented on both, and during a Democratic county administration the Winlock paper received the county contract.

In 1884 the Republican territorial convention, the county convention and the local selection of delegates all occurred about a month earlier than the equivalent Democratic gatherings. No one from Winlock was nominated on the Republican county ticket, but on the Democratic ticket Winlock resident Dr. Whiteside was nominated for representative; E. C. Griffith for Sheriff, and C. C. Pagett for Governor.  
 13

12. NUGGET, 4:40; 3:4(April 8, 1887) 5:10; 2:2(Sept. 9, 1887)  
 13. BEE. 1:20; 8(Oct. 10, 1884)

About this time there appeared in the BEE, the Republican paper, a series of letters written by a Peter Splunk from "Yazu which iz Klose to Winlock." <sup>14</sup> Many of the comments are obscure but the letters seem to deal in first, dirt, and second, possible Democratic support of a Republican party split.

Apparently such a split did not come about for a later BEE, issued after the election, comments

...the excursion up salt river started last Wednesday morning. The steamer was officered as follows: . . . Captain; H. C. Griffith . . . 2nd Ass't Eng.; H. P. Whiteside . . . Surgeon; Dr. C. C. Pagett...

15

It would seem that the Democrats from Winlock were among the defeated.

In '86, a territorial representative was to

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be elected. The Winlock and Cowlitz precincts held their conventions early in August and instructed their representatives to vote for Charles S. Voorhees. Voorhees later spoke in Winlock on October 7, keeping the appointment by covering the eighteen miles from Chehalis in two and one-half hours by team. Winlock also sched-

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uled a "joint discussion between J. G. McFadden and J. W. Robenson, candidates for prosecuting attn'y."

"18

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14. See BEE's for Oct.

15. BEE, 1:24; 4(Nov. 7, 1884)

16. No BEE's exist covering this period, the account of this campaign comes from the NUGGET, at that time Democratically allied. Republican activity is probably not sufficiently covered.

17. NUGGET, 4:15; 7:1(Oct. 15, 1886)

18. NUGGET, 4:15; 5:1(Oct. 15, 1886)

Winlock delegates to the Democratic county convention were H. C. Griffith, W. C. Nevill, R. Smith, T. S. Harrington, Dr. Whiteside, and E. A. Smith.

W. R. Carr, Harry Berryhill, and F. M. Lewis were delegates to the Republican county convention.

In the election Republicans took most of the offices. David Motter, Democrat of Winlock, was defeated for Representative to the Territorial Legislature, but Berry and Vanice, Democrats of Winlock, were elected as County Auditor, and County School Superintendent, Mattie E. Vanice to the latter office by a vote of 843 to 841.

Just prior to the campaign of 1888, the question of women's suffrage gained considerable attention. Apparently always of a somewhat controversial nature, the law had been declared unconstitutional in '87, perhaps because of the activity of the W. C. T. U.--"they tried to pull out the whiskey" from political caucuses.

The issue was hotly discussed during the fall; in October the NUGGET flatly opposed votes for women, with Frank Owen of Winlock's newly acquired PILOT appealing for them. When the legislature met in January a new

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19. NUGGET, 4:7; 3:1 (Aug. 20, 1886). 45 in all were present.
20. NUGGET, 4:9; 3:1 (Sept. 3, 1886).
21. NUGGET, 4:19; (Nov. 12, 1886)
22. Ross, WESTWARD THE WOMEN, pp. 151-153.
23. See October 1887, NUGGETS.

24

women's suffrage law was passed by the legislature  
 to be later declared beyond the power of the territorial  
 legislature to enact.

25

None of the Winlock Democratic candidates carried  
 the election of '89. S. H. Berry ran for senator, and  
 W. V. Bennett and Y. L. Hale for representative--the  
 latter against his across-the-creek neighbor S. C.  
 Herren.

26

S. C. Herren, a practicing lawyer who had come to  
 Winlock from North Carolina, later introduced a bill  
 calling for an appropriation of \$75,000 for the establish-  
 ment of a state reform school in Lewis County at some  
 point contiguous to the NPRR. While not passed in its  
 entirety, a sum of money was appropriated from which  
 the boys' reform school located at Chehalis was established.  
 The idea met some opposition from Chehalis which wanted  
 "the agricultural college or a normal school."

27

Probably Winlock's influence in the county was not  
 great, but especially in the years of her greatest growth,  
 she did play her part. The presence of a nucleus of  
 southern Democrats, of an (apparently) active newspaper,

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- 24. NUGGET, 5:31; 2:1(Feb. 3, 1888)
  - 25. NUGGET, 5:48; 1:5-6 & 2:1(June 1, 1888)
  - 26. Election for State officials held October 1.
  - 27. NUGGET, 7:14; 2(October 4, 1889)
  - 28. NUGGET, 7: 23; 3:2(Nov. 29, 1889)
  - 29. NUGGET, 7:29; 2:1(Jan. 17, 1890)



and her rapid growth stimulated the town to political activity. In 1890 Winlock succeeded in having the location of the county seat placed on the ballot by virtue, apparently, of her size. In 1890 Winlock had a population of 877 while Chehalis had not quite 300 more--1157. However, the election did not change the county seat, perhaps because the South Bend Railroad was scheduled to enter Chehalis.

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30. Column "50 Years Ago," (Oct. 1, 1940). Charles Dueber's scrapbook. This census report was questioned by some who felt that Chehalis should have about 200 more.

31. Ibid.

## CHAPTER III

Winlock participated enthusiastically in the traditional Fourth of July celebrations of the area, taking her turn as host and often contributing to neighboring celebrations. Dr. Pagett and others from Winlock were in demand as orators<sup>1</sup> and the Winlock Cornet Band often added to the festivity of the occasions.

The first Fourth to be reported in the newly founded Chehalis papers is the celebration of 1884. Since this was shortly after the arrival of 'the Colony' which added forty-three people to Winlock's less-than-100, the town really played host in a big way. The following account from the NUGGET<sup>2</sup> gives one an idea of the importance of the celebration which attracted possible<sup>3</sup> 500 people.

- 
1. A copy of an oration of Dr. Pagett's delivered in 1876 at Napsvine's Fourth of July celebration is in the hands of Mrs. Floyd Greene, Chehalis. It is an interesting speech containing an account of the Wolf Assn., the Champeog meeting, and other information regarding the morale and tenor of settlement days.
  2. NUGGET, 2:1; 3: 3 (July 12, 1884)
  3. BEE, 1:6; 1 (July 11, 1884) Estimates of the crowds at gatherings must be considered sceptically.

Winlock, Washington, July 7th, 1884--The Glorious Fourth has passed, and we celebrated by meeting at the school-house according to previous notice, and there forming a procession marched under the guidance of our very efficient Marshal, F. Gunder, to the Picnic Grounds, distant about 300 yards, in a cool and shady grove, where a stand and seats had been arranged. The Glee Club rendered the "Patriotic Glee" in a manner that interested as well as pleased all present; after which prayer by the Rev. Patterson, then song "America," then reading of Declaration after which "Hark The Song of Jubilee" was sung. The Oration followed, which seemed to amuse, if not to edify the company. After the oration, was a song, "The Picnic," which put all in a humor to open their baskets, and without boasting, the writer will say for one that there may have been at other places, costlier dinners, but none more enjoyed. And in this respect I think the ladies of Winlock know exactly how to please. After dinner there was a song, "Pass Along the Watchword," by Mrs. Metz's class of 12 young ladies, which was well rendered, then a song by Mrs. Gunder's class of 15 little girls which was a credit to the teacher. W. T. Byham, the Sunday School supt., made an address to the young folks of his school and neighborhood. Then we were treated to a jig performed by Mr. Gunder's baby, which was very gracefully, as well as creditably performed, which reminded all present of the poetry "You'd scarce expect one of my age to dance a jig upon a public stage," and indeed it is doubtful if there was another in the whole assembly, of her age, that would have performed at all. There were races, but I did not learn who where the victors or who won the prizes. Then came the crowning exercise of the day, "A Grand Ball." There were 32 couples. Miss Florence Wall presided at the organ, and W. B. Estes played the violin. Those who "paid the fiddler" say that the music and the ball would be hard to beat. The dancing was kept up till the small hours of the next day.

A singular incident occurred which came near causing us the loss of a good citizen. A gentleman and his wife from Oregon, who had, by the way, been recently married, had hired a room over the Hall, and the manager of the party had hired an adjoining room for the use of those who had small children, and the ladies made a slight mistake and put their babies into the wrong room. Imagine the surprise of the newly married couple at finding five babies in their bed. The man rushed to the landlord, cash in hand, to pay his bill, for he had only been in the place two days, and his family had increased from two to seven. He would have to go to Coeur D'Alen, Garribo, or California to support them. But soon all was explained satisfactorily and everybody went home happy to await the coming of the next Fourth.

#### Occasional<sub>4</sub>

In 1885, one hundred Winlock-ites, including the sixteen-piece cornet brass band attended the celebration at Centralia. Drawing a crowd of 2000 people, the all-day celebration, complete with parade, pageant, speaking and picnic, featured an address by Territorial Governor Shields. Dr. Pagett, with "Lewis County" was one of the four toasters.

In 1887, Winlock again played host to an estimated 1000 people. They marched to the grove SE of town to hold the celebration, where the principal orator was Harry Herren, twenty-year old Winlock-ite. The Declaration of Independence was read; the choir sang; a ball game, contests, and a balloon ascension were scheduled for afternoon and the day was topped off with fireworks and a dance in the evening.

4. NUGGET, *Op. cit.*

5. BEE, 2:7; 2 & 3 (July 10, 1885)

6. NUGGET, 5:50; 3:3 (June 17, 1887) 5:1; 3:3 (July 8, 1887)

In 1888 Winlock joined a crowd of 4000 at Chehalis. One of the local youngsters, air-named Rhoades, climbed his way to fame up the greased pole to obtain a ham.<sup>7</sup>

In 1889, Winlock was one of five towns in the county that staged a celebration.<sup>8</sup> S. C. Herren was the orator of the day, and at 2:30 a football game was played between the Winlock and Chehalis teams; Chehalis won. Another event of the afternoon was a horse race.

But the Fourth of July was not the only occasion celebrated or long-remembered. Weddings, chivaries, dances were often community affairs. Occasionally, there were other events of public interest, as at the time of the presentation of the school bell in 1882, the completion of the churches and the I. O. G. T. temple, and the presentation in 1884 of a flag by the Ladies of Lewis County to the members of the Phil Kearny Post #7.<sup>9</sup>

Early Winlock was very proud of its school. Stimulated by the promise of a bell when a building should be constructed for that purpose, the community completed "a suitable, commodious and substantial schoolhouse"<sup>10</sup> on Oct. 1, 1881, with the bell being presented in January of the following year.

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7. NUGGET, 6:2; 3:6 (July 13, 1888)  
8. BEE, 6:6; 1:3 (July 12, 1889) The other towns were Toledo, Salkum, Boistfort, and Centralia.  
9. BEE, 1:24 (Nov. 7, 1884)  
10. "Ratification in Ref. to Bell for Winlock," loc. cit.

However, this was not the first one. Mrs. Randt refers to "the first schoolhouse in the vicinity of the Jennie Blum home" as being abandoned prior to the building of the new school in 1881.<sup>11</sup>

The new school building was located on the lot between the Railroad and First Street south of Walnut. Until the construction of the Good Templar Hall in 1885, it doubled as a social hall with dances, Sunday School and theatricals scheduled there. In 1885 it was "the best school house in the county seated with the latest improved seats..."<sup>12</sup>

In 1887 the building was enlarged by adding a second story and ten feet to the east end so that it could accomodate 160 pupils.<sup>13</sup> It would seem that this seating capacity was indeed needed, for in July 1889,<sup>14</sup> 143 students were reported in attendance. This building served the town until it was destroyed by fire, a new building then being built across the creek on the hill west of town.

The record of the teachers at Winlock is incomplete. Miss Maggie Crawford taught school in 1884.<sup>E</sup> It was a

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11. Randt, op. cit.  
 12. BEE, 2:5; 3(June 26, 1885)  
 13. See p. 15.  
 14. NUGGET, 7:3; 4:4(July 14, 1889)  
 15. BEE, 1:5; 8(July 4, 1884)

It was a summer school and some 40 pupils attended. 16

In 1885 Miss Mattie Vanice taught the school. 17

Miss Vanice taught several years, running for the office of County Superintendent of Schools in 1886.

She was elected to become one of the fifteen women county superintendants in the Territory of Washington at that time. 18

While in office she maintained her headquarters at Winlock. She took an active part in expanding education, organizing institutes and using the newspapers to report her policies to the public. One device which seemed effective was that of publishing the names of the teachers who attended the institutes.

Winlock did not establish a high school during Territorial days, but at least one student was appointed to the Territorial University. Miss Sadie Smith, daughter of R. Smith, was "appointed" to the University by the Hon. W. T. Forrest in 1887. 19

Fraternal organizations were well established by 1884 with the Lodge of Good Templars having a membership drive that year. In July the membership was reported at sixty; 20 in September as seventy plus; and by 21

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16. Possibly also M. M. Lewis. See p. 29. He is not mentioned in the papers of this year as a teacher, but rather as a pastor.

17. Miss Vanice later married Charley Snodgrass.

18. NUGGET, 5:16; 4:1 (Oct. 21, 1887)

19. NUGGET, 5:2; 3:2&3 (July 15, 1887) The significance of the term appointed is not clear; however, Miss Smith did attend the school for she was later reported being home on vacation.

20. BEE, 1:6; 8 (July 4, 1884)

21. BEE, 1:18, 5 (Sept. 8, 1884)

December they were building a 26x50 foot hall<sup>22</sup> which<sup>23</sup>  
 was scheduled for occupancy by the 20th of January.

In April a district Lodge comprising Lewis and Cowlitz<sup>24</sup>  
 counties convened at Winlock.

The Phil Kearny Post, G. A. R., was holding regular<sup>25</sup>  
 meetings in Winlock in 1884.

22. BEE, 1:43; 3(March 20, 1885) published the following  
 list of donations to the I. O. G. T. Hall at  
 Winlock.

E. P. McClure	\$42.00	B. F. Laughlin	\$ 5.00
J. A. Cresswell	30.00	J. E. Willis	2.50
John McFotkill	28.00	Geo. McEnry	.50
J. O. Patterson	40.00	E. E. McFadden	16.00
H. Metz	15.00	T. F. McFadden	13.00
Chas. Knowls	10.00	W. T. Byham	13.00
W. R. Gunder	5.00	H. P. Whitside	12.50
W. C. Nevil	8.00	W. A. Reynolds	2.00
F. M. Lewis	10.00	H. A. Smith	10.00
W. B. Gossell	5.00	John Smith	10.00
F. M. Rhodes	8.00	Chas. Snodgrass	10.00
A. P. Ball	10.00	John Christain	10.00
J. L. Champ	12.00	Walter Seman	5.00
H. C. Griffith	10.00	Wm. Snodgrass	5.00
Ole Rosten	10.00	Wm. Holms	5.00
P. Bernstin	5.00	J. M. Champ	3.50
W. Brockway	3.00	G. C. Pagett	10.00
John T. Newland	5.00	Joseph Manning	2.50
		S. H. Berry	2.50
		Wm. Champ	14.00
		Willis Champ	14.00
		Robert A. Champ	14.00
		J. C. Cantwell	2.50
		S. H. Claughton	2.50

23. BEE, 1:28; 5(December 5, 1884)

24. BEE, 1:45; 5(April 3, 1885)

25. BEE, 1:16; 1(September 12, 1884) 1:22; 3(Oct. 24, 1884)



In June two more lodges were organized--winlock  
 26  
 Lodge #36, I. O. O. F., and winlock Lodge A. D. F. and  
 27  
 A. M. These two groups shared, in 1885, the upper  
 28  
 floor of the Good Templar Hall.

There were some other organizations--the debating  
 29  
 society, and perhaps Granges in some of the outlying  
 communities. Some organization sponsored at least one  
 speaker for in November 1884, Mr. Champ gave a  
 lecture on "law and good behavior" at the school  
 30  
 house".

A Methodist Society existed in Winlock in 1885, and  
 from comments in regard to Sunday School it is possible  
 to suppose that some type of community religious group  
 existed prior to the establishment of separate churches.

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26. BEE, 2:5; 3(June 26, 1885) Officers--W. G., P. Gunder; W. G., W. T. Byham; Rec. Sec., H. C. Griffith; Treas., J. A. Creswell; W., David Smith; Con., W. Brockway; I. S., E. L. Finch; R. S. N. G., B. F. Laughlin; R. S. V. G., R. D. Etherage.
27. BEE, 2:3(June 12, 1885) Officers--Wm. Champ, W. M.; R. G. Sands, I. W.; Clinton A. Burchard, J. W.; Henry Metz, Chap.; Wm. D. Boone, Treas.; Sam'l L. Ferrier, Sec.; E. P. McClure, S. D.; James C. Cantwell, J. D.; John Lamb, S. S.; R. Smith, J. S.; and F. M. Frost Tyler.
28. BEE, 2:5; 3(June 26, 1885)
29. NUGGET, 3:33; 3(February 19, 1886)
30. BEE, 1:28; 5(Dec. 5, 1884)

In 1885 the Methodists were reported to have bought a lot; in February 1887 it was mentioned as having been purchased from Dr. Pagett and lying in the north end of town. By this latter date a Baptist Church had been organized largely due to the efforts of Marion M. Lewis, a school teacher at Winlock,<sup>31</sup> who carried a phenomenal load of preaching and organizational work. Adjourning school on Friday, it was his practice to strike out on foot to keep some five to six preaching appointments in and around Winlock, serving a section of the country sixty miles long by from seven to ten miles wide. Wherever interest was great enough, he would organize a church. Besides the Winlock Church which is still active he organized the Baptist Church at Toledo which was active until about 1895.

The Winlock Baptist Church was organized early in February 1886 with eight members. At this time, M. M. Lewis was ordained a minister of the gospel. After he left, Rev. Pulliam of Western North Carolina took the pastorate. A church was raised, to be dedicated in January of 1889 when Rev. J. M. Haskell was pastor.

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31. Baker, J. C., BAPTIST HISTORY OF THE NORTH PACIFIC COAST, 1912, p. 200-201, gives an account of his work in Winlock. Leaving there in 1887, he continued his studies at Morgan Park (Ill.) Seminary. In 1889, he took a pastorate at Nebraska City; in 1891, in Utah; in November 1892 he returned to the northwest to work in the 2nd Baptist church in Portland. He died January 7, 1897 from the effects of typhoid fever at the age of 37. Editorial, Sunday OREGONIAN, January 1897, C. Deuber's scrapbooks.

Services of other faiths were held frequently, sometimes regularly as: "Episcopal services for Nov.: 1 and 5th Sundays, Winlock, 11 A. M. . . .  
 32  
 A. L. Parker, M. A., Rector." Evangelists came through occasionally to hold revival meetings for the various groups and the community at large.

33  
 While the first paper to appear in Winlock was entitled the SCREW DRIVER, and edited by H. C. Griffith,  
 34  
 it did not long remain a community fixture.

35  
 However, in 1888 Frank Owen moved his COWLITZ RIVER PILOT to Winlock, changing the mast head to the PILOT. This name was maintained to 1908 when it was  
 36  
 change to the NEWS. Ownership changed several times, C. E. Cassel taking over in 1889, and E. J. Burton  
 37  
 in 1890.

It is difficult to estimate the importance of the PILOT at this stage of Winlock's growth; it came late in the '80's--partly a natural result of the population boom, for the town could now support a paper. However,

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32. NUGGET, 3:27; 4:5 (January 5, 1886)

33. I say this advisedly. Miss Herndon Smith suggests that the Daily News moved from Winlock to Centralia in 1883. Correspondence.

34. BEE, 2:10; 3 (July 31, 1885) 2:15; 3 (Sept. 4, 1885)

35. Kletsch, op. cit., p. 78.

36. Meany, Edmond. S., "Newspapers of Washington Territory," WASHINGTON HISTORICAL QUARTERLY, XIV, p. 289.

37. McMurtie, Douglas C., "Supplemental, Washington Newspapers, 1852-1890, Inc.," WASHINGTON HISTORICAL QUARTERLY, XXVI, p. 145.

the PILOT and its editor must have been of some effect, judging by the quantity of remarks directed their way by the NUGGET editors in the latter part of '87 and '88. It is difficult to decide the point of the comments which seem to deal primarily with two issues; one, women's suffrage; and two, "Jo-Jo" Owen's personality and financial record. After considerable expose of the latter it is interesting to note that in December 1889, Frank Owen purchased the NUGGET, to be published as an independant paper.

Such were the trends of civic development in Winlock. The town had, during the 80's, celebrated the Fourth in a public and big way playing host to the county at least twice; it had a fine school building and outstanding teachers; it had acquired several fraternal organizations, several church groups, and a newspaper. Civically, the town of almost 900 was doing well.

## CHAPTER IV

The Winlock of the '80's expanded its lumber economy, and to some extent its agriculture and commerce. Logging, milling and use of lumber were all important to Winlock. Logging during these days was done by ox-team:

...the animals were stabled in the old barn across the road from the mill house. These animals, like the men, had Sunday off, and were often turned loose to browse at will on the Commons...<sup>1</sup>

Some of the drivers--bull-punchers--were picturesque.

"Happy Jack" Brewer was one of these.<sup>2</sup>

...He was an old stage driver, gambler, and miner from California. His day's work done, brushed up for the evening meal and with each particular hair exuding hair oil, he would treat us to a clog dance or regale us with wild tales of Fresno, Tulare, and his stage driving, telling us how he could turn on half a dollar...<sup>2</sup>

During the '80's Winlock had only one mill. In 1882, R. Smith assumed a partnership in the mill with Rhoades, presumably buying out Pennington and Stephen,<sup>3</sup> but in 1884 he disposed of his share to Rhoades. From then until July, 1888, when A. J. Rhoades sold to Mr.

A. Prescott of Salem, Oregon, the mill was known as

1. Randt, op. cit.
2. Randt, op. cit.
3. Ibid.

4

A. J. Rhoades and Co.

In 1885 the capacity of the mill was about 12,000 feet per day. Twenty-two men were employed in July of that year cutting lumber principally destined for the railroad. The saws were on the first floor, and planing and matching machines were on the lower one. <sup>5</sup>

In addition to the mill, A. J. Rhoades was one of several engaged in tie cutting. This was the age of the hand-hewn tie. In 1885, the NPRR placed an order for 30,000 ties--15,000 to Rhoades and Co., 10,000 to Geo. Deuber, and 5,000 to unnamed parties. <sup>6</sup> Later in the month 34 men were reported working on the Rhoades tie order. <sup>7</sup>

The year before, the mill had been busy sawing and shipping timber for the Olegua trestle. <sup>8</sup> Rhoades was a consistent advertiser, usually using about the same ad. This is the one current in the summer of '84: <sup>9</sup>

---

A. J. Rhoades & Co.,

Dealers in

All kinds of rough and dressed lumber  
Winlock Wash. Ter.  
Lumber furnished as cheaply as the  
cheapest, and orders solicited from  
abroad.

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4. NUGGET, 6;2; 3:1 (July 13, 1888)
  5. BEE, 2:10; 2 (July 30, 1885)
  6. BEE, 2:12; 3 (Aug. 14, 1885)
  7. BEE, 2:14; 3 (Aug. 28, 1885)
  8. BEE, 1:18; 5 (Sept. 26, 1884)
  9. NUGGET, issue of June 14.

In 1886 Rhoades shipped orders to Frank Everett,  
Chehalis, to Wood and Co., Alkali, Oregon, and to others.  
10  
The planer was running day and night.

In the winter of '87 the dam washed out twice; the  
11  
townspeople turning out to repair it.

In 1886 Ball and Sands constructed a shingle mill  
12  
with an estimated capacity of 25,000 per day. A  
whimsical little item in the NUGGET tells of a ducking  
they took:

...the captain and mate of the shingle  
schooner, W. E. Ball, were swept from the  
deck yesterday into the angry water of  
Olequa Creek. They were rescued...13

Other types of woods activities included the  
14  
cutting of shipknees by H. C. Cattle; telegraph  
poles--4500 were shipped in 1886, supplied by H. C.  
15  
Griffith and others; in 1885 E. L. Finch started  
16  
a sash and door factory; in July 1889, Colbath  
and Son from Salem, established a sash, door and  
17  
blind factory.

Some of the lumber was used in the construction  
of the Olequa tressel; in the building of bridges across  
the Olequa (one was completed in June of 1885 at Winlock

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- 10. Nugget, 3:33; 3(Feb. 19, 1886) 3:34; 3(Feb. 26, 1886)
  - 11. NUGGET, 5:25; 3:1(Dec. 23, 1887) 5:26; 3:1(Dec. 30, 1887)
  - 12. NUGGET, 3:33; 3(Feb. 19, 1886)
  - 13. NUGGET, 3:34; 3(Feb. 26, 1886)
  - 14. BEE, 1:12; 4(Aug. 15, 1884)
  - 15. NUGGET, 4:18; 3:3(Nov. 5, 1886)
  - 16. BEE, 2:9; 3(July 24, 1885)
  - 17. SOUTHWESTERN WASHINGTON, PRINCIPAL CITIES AND TOWNS,  
Pacific Publishing Co., 1890, p. 40

18

by J. O. Patterson, cont'd); during the '80's much residential and business building was done, generally by the owners, as the Wm. Champ, Wm. Byham, C. E. Gasher, and S. C. Herren residences. Often the work of building was pooled, as in the case of the Tennessee colony of '84.

There were contractors; Patterson; Sterns and Gunder, who built Cresswell and Co's new warehouse in 1884;<sup>19</sup> and W. H. Ball who worked at various jobs in the county. His ad was:<sup>20</sup>

---

W. H. Ball  
Carpenter and Contractor  
Winlock . . . . W. T.  
Estimates furnished, and contracts  
taken. First class work  
guaranteed.  
To those wishing building  
done, I offer my services.

---

Later he worked on the Episcopal Church at Chehalis, on contracts on the railroad, and on his own claim.

Road building occupied considerable attention of the early residents; of particular interest to Winlockites was the Toledo-Winlock road. This seems to have been primarily a summer road; in July, 1884, it was pronounced in good condition; in the winter, it was virtually impassible, and there was much agitation for its improvement.

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18. BEE, 2:4; 3(June 19, 1885)

19. BEE, 1:18; 5(Sept. 26, 1884)

20. NUGGET, 1:49; 2:6(June 14, 1884)



Graveled streets were the exception rather than the rule; the promise of the WPRR Co. in 1886 to supply the town with three carloads of gravel for the surfacing of the streets leading to the depot seems to have been unusual.

21

Winlock-Toledo had the first phone line in the county, the credit going to Dr. J. H. Hepburn, a new-comer to Winlock in May, 1887. A graduate of Yale Scientific School and of Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia, he was apparently best know for his phone line and for his hunting. The line between Winlock and Toledo was completed in December. The next year he proposed to connect Centralia and Chehalis and add them to the earlier circuit. The outcome of this project is not clear.

22

Commerce in Winlock continued apace with the increase in population and general building boom. The prosperity of the hotels was aided by scheduling Winlock as a dinner stop. The first hotel, which was operated by the George Deubers, was known as Railroad House, and Mrs. Deuber is reported to have had an excellent reputation up and down the line for her cooking.

23

Railroad House was located where Stewart's

- 21. "55 Years Ago," Tuesday, April 8, 1941, Deuber's scrapebooks.
- 22. NUGGET, 4:45; 3:2(May 13, 1887) 5:23; 3:1(Dec. 9, 1887) 5:29; 3:3(Jan. 20, 1888) 5:36; 3:1(March 9, 1888)
- 23. Randt, op. bit.

Grocery is now; just north of Walnut Street. Later another hotel, the Winlock Hotel, was located at the site of the present Millman Motors, just north of Pine. This hotel was operated by T. S. Harrington.

A stage line between Toledo and Winlock was operated during many of these years. In 1884, N. Nallett had the stage line; in 1885 Peter Koontz had taken over; It was quite important to many that the stage operate for it gave Winlock-ites access to Portland via the Cowlitz River steamboats if they had time for the longer trip. During most of the '80's

...a round trip fare from Toledo to Portland sold for two and a half dollars. Freight for Portland was carried at the rate of \$50 a ton...

Some merchants had freight come to Toledo by boat and then hauled into Winlock and to other communities.

But the trains were a factor too. In 1885 there was one train each way daily.

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28

N. P. R. R. Time Table (Chehalis)

North		
#1	Express	3:17 P.m.
#16	Freight	2:51 P.m.
South		
#2	Express	10:25 a.m.
#16	Freight	11:44 a.m.

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- 24. Brosey, op. cit.
- 25. NUGGET, 2:1; 2:4 (July 12, 1884)
- 26. BEE, 2:10; 3 (July 31, 1885)
- 27. Kletsch, op. cit., pp. 113, 120-121.
- 28. BEE, 1:40; 3 (March 6, 1885)

In 1884, E. L. Pearson who had been railroad agent  
for the past year, relocated. <sup>29</sup> Mr. Brockway took his  
place.

Some Winlock-ites found employment elsewhere  
in the county. Miss Katie Smith worked for the Chehalis  
newspapers for some time; there was activity on road  
surveys and construction crews.

Some new establishments can be noted. Early in  
'86 George Deuber established a butcher shop; later in  
the year he opened a drug store. <sup>30</sup> In Sept. of '86  
the Siler Bros. erected a new general store building buy-  
ing the stock of John Everett of Napavine. <sup>31</sup>

Business in February 1886 was described as "quite  
brisk, taking the dullness of the times into consideration." <sup>32</sup>

In 1887, F. M. Hall opened the first hardware store  
in Winlock on the corner where Davie's Drug now stands; <sup>33</sup>  
at this time the "fine stock of general merchandise" on  
hand at Leonard Bros. was mentioned in the NUGGET. <sup>34</sup>

In February 1889, The Winlock Loan and Building Association  
was incorporated with a capital stock of \$100,000. <sup>35</sup>

Familiar today, but of interest then, was the washing  
machine. Like Singer sewing machines, they were sold by

- 
29. BEE, 1:8; 5 (July 25, 1884)
  30. NUGGET, 3:33; 3 (Feb. 19, 1886) 4:18; 3:3 (Nov. 5, 1886)
  31. NUGGET, 4:9; 3:2 (Sept. 3, 1886) 4:11; 3:3 (Sept. 17, 1886)
  32. NUGGET, 3:33; 3 (Feb. 19, 1886)
  33. Randt, op. cit., also NUGGET, 4:46; 3:4 (May 20, 1887)
  34. NUGGET, 4:27; 3:2 (Jan. 7, 1887)
  35. General Index, Courthouse, Chehalis, Washington.

special agents. On January 1887, Dr. R. S. Richards delivered five of his patent washing machines in Winlock. "These machines are meeting with universal favor among the citizens of this and surrounding counties." 36

Not to go unmentioned is the matter of advertising. Many of the Winlock merchants and professionals utilized the county papers; the ads often remained the same for months. But they were ads. One humorous bit of merchandising is accredited to Dr. Pagett. His connection with the shoe business at this time is not clear; perhaps he was suggesting this for a friend.

...We see our shoes go round  
the bend,  
Good-bye, our shoes, good-bye.  
They're all of 'em filled with  
satisfied men, 37  
Good-bye, our shoes, good-bye...

On the agricultural front, the main interest was in the discovery that the up-lands were usable for farming.

...the experiments of the last three or four years prove that the upland is the very best land for nearly all kinds of grains and is unexcelled for orchard and fruit raising... 38

Occasionally products raised on uphill lands are mentioned for their unusual quality or size:

...two turnips, one weighing 12# and the other 17#; 25 potatoes weighing in all 47#... 39  
...rutabeggas weighing 22#...

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- 36. NUGGET, 4:27; 3:3 (Jan. 7, 1887)
  - 37. NUGGET, 4:36; 3:3 (March 11, 1887)
  - 38. BEE, 2:10; 2 (July 31, 1885)
  - 39. Raised on the farm of David Smith, BEE, 1:20; 5 (Oct. 10, '84)  
BEE, 1:6; 1 (July 11, 1884)

The Winlock area frequently had difficulties with the weather man. In his memorandum of 1879, Dr. Pagett reports that March, April and May were so wet that spring crops could not be seeded; half of June was wet and cold and July, up to the 11th, had been also. For August 5, 1884, he reports "the heaviest thunder storm ever seen in this country." No damage was done. April 30, 1882, there was a fifteen minute earthquake which rocked houses but no damage resulted.<sup>40</sup>

Agriculture around Winlock has generally been of the stump ranch variety because of the broken nature of the country. This later proved very adaptable for the berry and egg<sup>41</sup> industries which were introduced later leaving large acreage type farming for the prairies.

There were many products raised in the '80's. Even then eggs were being shipped by the Henriot's. J. T. Nealey, and W. T. Byham had apiaries, Mr. Nealey shipping "extensively."<sup>42</sup> Much hay and grain was raised on the prairies, that above local needs being shipped to Portland via the river boats. In August 1884 the crop on Cowlitz Prairie was estimated as 50,000 bushels.<sup>43</sup>

40. Dr. Pagett's Journal.

41. The scientific method of poultry raising was brought to Winlock in 1914 by Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Ewing. Torkko, Matt, "Poultry Takes Place of Timber in Local Progress," Charles Peuber's scrapbook.

42. BEE, 2:9; 3(July 24, 1885)

43. BEE, 2:8; 3(July 17, 1885)

44. BEE, 1:11; 4(Aug. 15, 1884) This had been estimated in July as 75,000 bushels.

in 1885 the yield was reported at 125,000 bushels.<sup>45</sup>

One other item of interest--in 1887, the U. S. Fish Commissioners, traveling with a car-load of German carp, furnished some to S. C. Herren for distribution.<sup>46</sup>

Lacking local newspapers, and having to discount for the enthusiasm of the local correspondents to the county papers, it is impossible to say more than that this was a period of expansion; lands were sold and developed; buildings were built--the beginnings of a typical lumber town had been layed out. But at the same time, the roots of agriculture and commerce which would later become of greater relative importance were being established also.

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45. NUGGET, 4:11; 3:2(Sept. 17, 1886)

46. NUGGET, 5:6; 3:2(Oct. 21, 1887)

## CONCLUSION

Thus have the strings been traced--the strings of establishment, expansion, civic and economic development; strings which come to a knot on the day of November 11, 1889, for that is the day on which Washington attained to statehood, and where the tale of Winlock, Washington Territory becomes the tale of Winlock, Washington State.

But there are a few threads yet to follow. The development of city government has not been traced; the records, such as they may have been, seem to have been lost in the various fires. Only a date in the office of the county engineers gives us any clue as to the date of incorporation, and since several other dates can be found, it is by no means definite.

The county map gives the date of incorporation as February 28, 1883; who the people were who pushed this proceeding through, who the first officials were, I cannot say. It is interesting to note that this date is less than ten years after the naming of the town and about five and a half years after the filing of the plat in August, 1877.

The other possible dates are 1889<sup>1</sup> and May 7, 1890, which is the first date on file in Olympia. Since the dates of the incorporation of the towns of Chehalis and Centralia are also difficult to discover, it would seem that incorporation was a casual process in those days.

Another thread that needs to be wound up a bit is that of county seat election. Although this did not take place until the fall of 1890, considerable agitation had been felt throughout the latter half of the decade. Winlock based its claim to the county seat on seven reasons--all hotly disputed by the opposition. These reasons included; more central location; service to outlying post offices; willingness to subscribe to the building of a courthouse; the monopolization of road monies by Chehalis; and the existence of an organized 'ring' in the Chehalis-Centralia area.

As the election drew near, the PILOT distributed extras in outlying districts playing up the advantages of a change. The NUGGET replied with an extra exposing the "Winlock Fraud"--for it was the decision of some attorney's, at least, that the money promised for the courthouse could never be legally collected, and that Winlock's promises were just a lot of hot air.<sup>2</sup>

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1. S. W. Washington, op. cit.
  2. See the papers for the fall of 1890



At any rate, the election was decided in favor of the status quo by an overwhelming majority; later the South Bend Railroad did come into Chehalis as it had been hoped, and Winlock ne'er more brought up the subject.

Thus end's this story of Winlock, Washington Territory. But much has not been said. A whole chapter could have been written on the schemes so typical of the time of speculation--Eleanor, five miles north, the town proposed for the crossing of the Northern Pacific by the Union Pacific; the woolen mill; the coal and gold mine dreams. And certainly all has not been written of those subjects which are treated. Especially is this true of the material on Winlock's mills, for the ninties were the hey-day of the railroad lumber towns.

But that is another story. The story I have related here is the story of a railroad settlement of almost eighty years ago--and how it grew. It is not a story that can be ended; it can only be left--left on the doorstep of Washington State.

## CHRONOLOGY

- 1870 . . . . . Work is begun on NPRR from  
Kalama to Puget Sound
- 1872, Jan. 3, . . . . . Date of road petition from  
Wheeler's Camp.
- 1873, Dec. 27 . . . . . Platting of town of Winlock
- 1877, Aug. 9, . . . . . Filing of plat of town of Winlock
- 1878, Sept. 30, . . . . . Birth of Charles Deuber, first  
white child born in Winlock
- 1881, Oct. 1, . . . . . Completion of school house
- 1882, Jan. 18, . . . . . Presentation of the Bell
- 1883 . . . . . Completion of NPRR via  
Columbia River.
- 1883, Feb. 28 . . . . . First record of date of in-  
corporation of Winlock. On  
Engineers map of the town.
- 1884 . . . . . "the colony" arrives
- 1889, Nov. 11, . . . . . Statehood for Washington

APPENDIX I

Lewis Co., W. T.  
Jan. 3, 1872

To the Honorable Board of County Commissioners:

We the undersigned petitioners pray your honorable Body to grant a County road commencing at the NPREK at Wheeler's Camp in section 28, to township 12N, Range 2 west running eastwardly to the NW corner of W. Champ land thence East on said line to stage road thence eastwardly on the nearest and best route to Cowlitz Prairie and we your humble petitioners will ever pray.

John S. Neely	E. L. Gwym
B. Simmons	C. G. Pagett
J. H. Herehen	Daniel W. McDonald
A. L. Allison	M. M. Cahoon
Gilbert Richards	Geo. M. Daniield
H. Howe	Father Richards
M. Cahoon	Joseph Broshears
M. J. Cahoon	John N. Coontz
H. G. Morrow	H. E. Pinto
A. Vallard	Chas. Pinto
Chas. Knowles	L. L. Dubeau
McDonate Simmons	J. P. Mannen
L. A. Davis	Drewney Mathers
Joseph St. Germain	Wm. Champ

Feb. 8, 1872

Wm. West, Recorder

Road Records, I:90; Office of Lewis County Engineers,  
Chehalis, Washington. (Transcribed from long-hand;  
accuracy not claimed.)

APPENDIX II

Ratification in Ref. to Bell for Winlock

To all whom it may concern:

Whereas, On the 17th day of November 1873, General W. W. Miller of Olympia Washington Territory, having been asked to give a name to this place, Then known as Grand Prairie" did on the day above, written Submit the following name, "Winlock" in the words following to wit, "If however, you should fancy the name and Adopt it, I will agree to give ~~you~~ a nice Bell to the Church, or Schoolhouse, that is built in the Town," And whereas, Said Town was duly Surveyed and entered in the records of Lewis County and Tery. of Washington. and whereas, On the 1st of October 1881, a suitable, commodious and substancial, schoolhouse was completed. and Whereas, the legal representative of General W. W. Miller--deceased, did on the 18 of Jan, 1882 Place a Bell at our disposal according to the above promise.

Now therefore, be it known, that we the undersigned, Citizens of Said Town of Winlock do in greatful remembrance, of the Generous donor, accept Said Bell, and will endeavor to preserve the same in connection with the name and further, If said name, "Winlock" should be changed, lost, or become extinct, then, in that case Said Bell, to belong to, and become the property of, the School District, in which, said Town of Winlock, is or was Located.

Witness our hands, this 20th day of Feb. 1882.

C. C. Pagett  
H. C. Griffith  
E. P. McClure  
Whiteside

Geo. F. Duber  
J. S. Nealy  
J. L. Pennington  
F. M. Frost

L. M. Hughs  
E. L. Finch

I hereby certify that the fore-going is a true record duly made of the certain ratification in Reference to Bell, for Winlock, which was filled for record in the auditor's office of Lewis County, W. T. by C. C. Pagett on the 23rd day of February, 1882.

H. J. Brooks

Auditor of Lewis County

W. T.

Records G:194-5, County Auditor's Office, Lewis County, Washington. Transcribed from long-hand records.

Winlock W. Miller  
Dexter Horton Building  
Seattle  
August 9, 1945

APPENDIX III

Mr. Ernest C. Bechly  
County Engineers Office  
Chehalis, Washington

Dear Mr. Bechly:

I have your letter of the 7th inst. stating that you are making a historical map for the Lewis County Fair and Centennial Exposition and inquiring about the naming of the town of Winlock. The history of it, which I got from Judge C. C. Pagett, an old-time resident of Lewis County, and, I believe, the founder of the town of Winlock, is as follows:

He told me that many years ago when the Northern Pacific Railway was being built, it was proposed to place a town at the present site of the City of Winlock; that he told my father, William Winlock Miller, of this and asked him to suggest a name. My father, who often passed through that section, said that he would think it over and would make a suggestion, which he evidently did, although I do not have the letter containing it. I have, however, a letter from Judge Pagett in which he acknowledges the receipt of the suggestion and said that when the plat is filed the town will be named Winlock. Judge Pagett told me that my father said that the name Winlock was his mother's name, his own middle given name and that of his eldest son, and, in the event that they should adopt it, that he would give them a bell for their church when they built it. If you note from the letter of Judge Pagett, copy of which I enclose, you will see that he preferred to have it hung in the schoolhouse rather than the church. After my father's death, which occurred in 1876, Judge Pagett called the matter to my mother's attention and she sent and secured a bell which hung for many years in the schoolhouse at Winlock and was, I understand, destroyed at the time the schoolhouse burned.

If there is any further information I can give you in regard to this matter, I will be glad to do so.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(Winlock Miller)

Copied from Mr. Bechly's copy.

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These papers comprise the largest single reference used in this paper. Although there are gaps of years in the files at the Chehalis library, one can piece a rather consecutive story together by reading both papers. A more serious problem is the fact that as Winlock secured a paper of its own, and as the Chehalis papers became more pre-occupied with local (Chehalis) affairs, fewer Winlock items were published in them.

A word about the newspaper footnotes: usually four numbers are given as well as the date; volume, number, page, and column. Thus.

NUGGET, 4:27; 3:2 (Jan. 7, 1887)

is the NUGGET, volume 4, number 27, page 3, column 2, dated January 7, 1887. Where numbers are omitted, it is first the column, then the page. Since the BEE appeared for some time as a five column quarto, it was not felt necessary to give column numbers in these references.

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