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The Easter Massacre, 1949

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The Effects of the Easter Massacre on the Pullman Police Department

by Karl Heuterman

The rolling hills of the Palouse country surrounding Pullman, Washington seem to form a perfect barrier around this isolated college town. This "barrier" has apparently been impermeable to the elements common to other areas of a civilized and sophisticated country. Natural disasters happen here just as they do in almost every part of the world. Two great fires in Pullman's early years forced the business district to be rebuilt both times. Floods seem to be the rule rather than the exception, which is only fitting for a town with three forks of the Palouse River running through it.

It is not these natural disasters that are so uncommon in this town. Rather, it is the type of disaster that is common in large population areas where violence is a way of life for many, which rarely finds its way to Pullman. Human-caused catastrophes such as murders or any show of violence with weapons were never anticipated realistically by the residents or the Police Department of Pullman prior to 1949. The purpose of this paper is to discuss what many residents of Pullman now refer to as "The Easter Massacre" of 1949. This is the case in which one man, George McIntyre, killed four men before he was killed himself on Easter Sunday, April 17, 1949. This paper will also examine the changes made within the Pullman Police Department from 1949 to the present as a result of the actions of George McIntyre.

George McIntyre came to Pullman in the fall of 1945 after being discharged from the United States Army. He ran an electric motor repair shop on Grand Avenue across the street from the Cordova Theatre. He is described by the *Pullman Herald* as ". . . a Scout leader, a good workman. He did his part in civic clubs." In the same paragraph the paper described McIntyre this way: "Firearms was his hobby and he was an expert marksman." From his vantage point on the East side of North Grand Avenue, McIntyre shot and killed three men after killing one at a gas station on East Main Street.

No one can know for sure what caused this particular outburst, but it was known by many that McIntyre had a temper and he had shown aggression toward various members of the Pullman Police Department.² This anger, directed almost solely at police officers was the result of an ongoing struggle between the two. McIntyre received numerous citations from the police, ranging from traffic violations to assault charges. Because of this, he felt that the police had something against him and were singling him out when it came to handing out parking tickets.³

McIntyre's business had no parking lot and then, as today there was little parking in that block of Grand. He often parked his truck in front of his shop illegally and was ticketed for it.⁴ McIntyre's defense was that he had no choice but to park this way in order to make deliveries. He also felt that other businessmen in the town were not being treated in the same manner.⁵ From the time of his first traffic citation, McIntyre became hostile toward the Pullman Police Department as a whole. There were some individuals within the police department that McIntyre despised more than others, but his attitude was that of hatred toward all "cops."

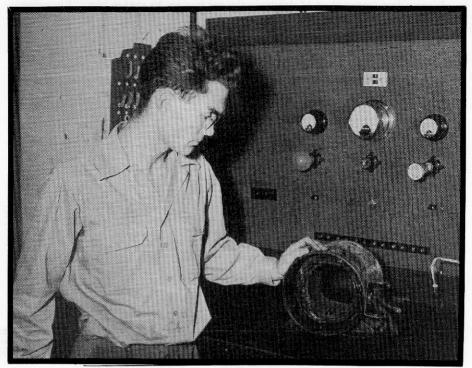
George McIntyre was born September 17, 1923 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. His family moved to Spokane, then to Walla Walla, where he attended high school. He then attended Iowa State College for two years before entering the service. After being discharged he purchased an appliance store on Grand Avenue. His business thrived which led to his involvement in the Junior and Senior Chambers of Commerce, the Moose Lodge, and various rifle associations. Obviously, the only group of people that he did not like to be around was the police.

One individual outside the police department who often aroused anger in McIntyre was Hyrum W. Kershaw. Kershaw was enrolled at Washington State College in the school of veterinary medicine. His residence in the South Fairways complex was the scene of their first confrontation, with their last coming on the fateful Easter morning.

On a delivery to the Fairways on July 8, 1948, McIntyre was speeding much to Kershaw's distaste, and a verbal confrontation ensued. Later that day, Kershaw and some friends encountered McIntyre driving his truck with his wife as a passenger. Because of the earlier confrontation, Kershaw approached the truck with the intent of turning off the ignition. According to Mrs. McIntyre, she was punched three times in the stomach by Kershaw in his attempt to turn off the ignition of McIntyre's truck.8 Both Kershaw and McIntyre filed complaints with the police, but no real action was ever taken against Kershaw, which infuriated McIntyre.

The alleged punches thrown by Kershaw during Amzel McIntyre's pregnancy caused her to prematurely give birth at six and one half months. Officer Ross Claar of the Pullman Police Department served the warrant for the speeding, to McIntyre. Pullman city officials stated that McIntyre often said, "I'll get even with those men," (Clarr and Kershaw). It was obvious that George McIntyre and Hyrum Kershaw shared no common bond of fondness for each other.

Easter Sunday of 1949 was a clear, warm day in Pullman. George McIntyre was on probation for approaching Hyrum Kershaw with a rifle in August of 1948. McIntyre was arrested on August 27 of the same year for first degree assault. This assault charge was later dropped in lieu of other charges against McIntyre stemming from incidents with Kershaw.¹⁰ Had McIntyre not been on probation, the events of April 17, 1949 seem unlikely to have happened.



George McIntyre, central figure in the events of Easter, 1949.

On this morning, George McIntyre had intended to take his family to Spokane to visit his brother. On the way out of town the McIntyre family stopped at the Milky Way Dairy on Grand Avenue next to Rima-Hughes lumber yard. Hyrum Kershaw, an employee of the dairy, was there working on his car. Words were exchanged between the two and a fight ensued. The extent of the damage caused by the altercation was a severe "bite" on the back of Kershaw's neck. McIntyre returned with his family to their house behind the Klemgard Tractor Plant on Grand.¹¹

Between the hours of 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., George McIntyre "... gradually began to calm down although he knew the police would be after him because of the fight." At 1 p.m. McIntyre took his family to the Moscow Mountains for a picnic lunch. They returned to Pullman at approximately 3:30 p.m. and because of the nice weather started for a drive to Colfax. The McIntyre family returned to town about 25 minutes later to get some gas at the Union gas station on East Main Street. It was here that Officer Ross Claar spotted McIntyre and approached him with the intent to arrest him.

Although Clarr was going to arrest McIntyre, the matter was in the jurisdiction of the Whitman County Sheriff's Department. Two men from that department, Clarence Davis and Gilbert Gallagher, were in Pullman looking for McIntyre. They had responded to a call from the Pullman Police Department concerning the fight that morning with Kershaw. Having not found McIntyre, Davis and Gallagher returned to Colfax. They arrived there at about the time that Claar approached McIntyre (3:55 p.m.).

When Claar approached McIntyre at the gas station, he said to him, "I'm going to arrest you for the Sheriff, Mac," to which McIntyre replied, "Like hell you are. You'll never take me." ¹⁴ Claar then turned toward the police car to get his night stick. When he approached McIntyre again he was riddled with five bullets from a .22 caliber pistol. Claar then took his own revolver and fired several shots while on his knees, none of which hit McIntyre as he was hiding behind the patrol car. The distraught killer then ordered his wife and children into the pickup. When she refused, he drove to his house to get more guns and ammunition. From there, he crossed Grand Avenue to the College Hill side and lay in wait on the brushy hillside. With him he had a Mauser rifle with a telescopic lense, plenty of ammunition, and a pair of binoculars. ¹⁵

The first law enforcement officials on the scene were Deputies Davis and Gallagher, who were again radioed by the desk clerk at the Pullman Police station. Davis parked behind the Klemgard Tractor Plant, just below McIntyre's house, to block an escape route. Gallagher drove up a narrow road at the base of the hill that McIntyre was hiding in. As Gallagher approached McIntyre, the gunman scurried up the hill, yet unnoticed. Gallagher stepped out of his car facing McIntyre's house across Grand Avenue where he believed him to be. From short range, McIntyre killed Gallagher with one shot.¹⁶

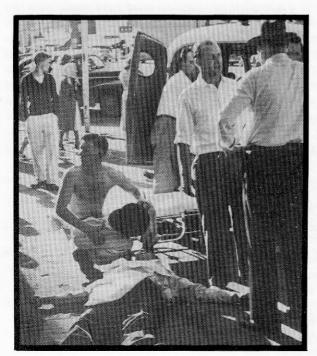
McIntyre then began shooting at Davis across Grand. A surprised Davis, with an arm wound from the bullet, radioed Colfax for backup men. McIntyre then headed toward Maple and Colorado Streets at the top of the hill from which he had been shooting. At this time, two cars drove up the Maple Street extension. The drivers of the cars were Ernest Buck, taxi line operator, and James T. Roberts, a dairy house manager. The two men were standing in front of McIntyre, who was in the yard of the Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity. According to Roberts, the two men were standing approximately 100 feet in front of McIntyre. 17 As the two men were discussing the possible whereabout of McIntyre, Buck was shot in the back. McIntyre then ordered him to roll down the hill in front of him, at which time he shot him again, this time killing him. 18 Just prior to Buck being shot, the two men decided that since no one knew exactly where McIntyre was, it was in their best interest to "get the hell out of there."19 After the second shot was fired at Buck, Roberts hid behind his car, but the expert marksman hit him in the leg twice. Soon after this, McIntyre approached Roberts and his wife. Roberts assumed that McIntyre would come after him, and since he was paralyzed from fear and pain, his only thought was how to reason with a "crazy man." With a rifle staring him in the face, Roberts said, "No use shooting me again, you've already shot me twice," to which McIntyre replied, "Well, then get the hell out of here."20 Roberts and his wife, with the aid of a college student who lived nearby, left the scene for the hospital. Fave Raspone, a resident of Pullman at the time, believes that Buck was killed because McIntyre mistook his taxi driver's hat for a police hat, thus thinking Buck was a police officer.21

By this time there was a fair amount of confusion on both sides of Grand Avenue. Along with the police officers from Pullman and Moscow, Sheriff's deputies from Colfax, and State Highway Patrolmen, many civilians had taken arms to aid in the struggle. Whitman County Sheriff Pete Parnell arrived at approximately 4:30 p.m. and proceeded from the Milky Way Dairy to McIntyre's house. As Parnell stepped from his car across Grand from McIntyre, the marksman put one pullet through his heart and killed him instantly. Within minutes of Parnell's death, McIntyre was killed by three bullets from the gun of an unknown assailant.²²

After 40 minutes and 100 shots fired, Pullman's worst nightmare was over. In all, five men were killed, with about as many injuries reported. Of all the agony that George McIntyre caused for many families, perhaps none agonized more than his own. From their house, Amzel McIntyre watched her husband kill three men, then die at the hands of an unknown gunman. Worse yet, she and her children were alone at their house until midnight when her father arrived from Walla Walla. No police officer, city official, or newspaper reporter contacted her before her departure for Walla Walla at noon on Monday, April 18.²³

George McIntyre was obviously not emotionally stable at the time of his death. What is not so obvious is what caused this instability. He was a World War II veteran stationed in Europe as a sniper on a special tactics team. Archie Campbell, a Pullman Police Officer at the time of McIntyre's death, feels that McIntyre's experiences during the war were a main contributing factor to his apparent emotional problems.²⁴ Although the war seems to be partly responsible for McIntyre's emotional problems, his childhood can be viewed as a beginning for these problems.

At the age of 13, George McIntyre's father died, leaving the lad very upset. The nature of the illness caused much suffering to the man and his son alike. The elder Mrs. McIntyre after her husband's death was described by Mrs. W.L. Kincheloe in a letter to her sister, "His (George McIntyre's) mother was very nervous and high strung, and couldn't manage him." Soon after the death of his father, George McIntyre was sent to the state boy's reformatory in Chehalis, for what many considered to be a minor offense. Understandably the young McIntyre was confused and emotionally upset. His stay in Chehalis was a quiet one and after the completion of his sentence he returned to Walla Walla. Although there were some who said that George McIntyre was a troublesome teenager, there were more who would say that he was an upstanding citizen and a fine young man.



Downtown Pullman, in initial stages of the events on Easter Sunday In his days in Pullman, McIntyre drew nothing but praise from his businessmen colleagues in the town. James Roberts, whom McIntyre shot in the leg twice, managed the Milk House Dairy half a block from McIntyre's shop. According to Roberts, McIntyre was a friendly man with no visible signs of emotional unbalance. It is ironic that in the only meeting between the two men outside of business circles, (a chamber of commerce meeting), McIntyre told Roberts of his fondness for guns and that he was a very good marksman.²⁶ The rest of the Pullman business community was fond of McIntyre for his energetic work with the chamber of commerce and his involvement in various other organizations. Rarely was McIntyre described as being "nervous," but this term was most commonly used in referring to his apparent emotional problem. To those who came in contact with him, George McIntyre seemed to be the perfect family man. The McIntyre household consisted of his wife Amzel, their daughter Carol and son George Jr., who were five years and six and one half months old respectively at the time of their father's death.

The "Easter Massacre" of 1949 is one incident that many people would just as soon forget. Looking back 35 years, one has to wonder if all necessary and prudent steps were taken by those men trying to apprehend the killer. Very little could have been done by Officer Ross Claar to prevent his own death due to his failure to recognize McIntyre's true intent. McIntyre himself was probably not sure of what his own intentions were. The fact remains that Claar had very little formal training as a police officer. Certainly no one in the Pullman Police Department was prepared to handle a man who was armed and dangerous. An examination of the structure of the police department in the late 1940's as compared to today will answer many questions related to the "Easter Massacre."

The Pullman Police Department of 1949 was quite basic as compared to the same department of today. The police officers of 35 years ago were occupied mainly with parking and speeding enforcement, although an occasional burglary warranted an investigation. The force in 1949 was small as compared to today's standards, with two men working the day shift of 12 hours, while two men worked the night shift of the same length of time. These four men often worked seven days a week, with little chance for vacation.²⁷ Once Archie Campbell became police chief in the spring of 1949, the practice of hiring part-time officers became routine. These part-time helpers were students in criminal justice at Washington State College. Their training consisted of nothing more than what was learned in the classroom at the college. This does not sound alarming when one considers that the only prerequisite to being hired as a fultime officer was whether or not the chief thought you to be a decent and honorable man.²⁸ Formal training once on the force consisted of an occasional weapons test, if that.

Public opinion of the way the police force handled the McIntyre incident was very critical. Many residents felt that McIntyre should have been apprehended before he killed another man besides Officer Claar. In a letter to the *Pullman Herald* on May 13, 1949, Pullman Police Chief Art Ricketts defended the department against this criticism:

... The prosecution of George McIntyre was taken completely out of our hands by the county authorities. If anything was to be done by the police department, it was done at the request of either the Sheriff or the prosecuting attorney . . . If the City wants college graduates, men trained in expensive schools, modern weapons and a department on par with the FBI, then let them be prepared to pay for it in the form of higher salaries and costs, which means more taxes.²⁹

Ricketts identified and defended the main factors hampering police in their attempt to subdue McIntyre. First, as previously mentioned, was the lack of training on the part of the police officers. Second, the Whitman County Sheriff's Department had jurisdiction, even within the city limits of Pullman. The sheriff's department was the law enforcement agency in Whitman County, which included every street of any incorporated town within the confines of the county. The relationship between the city and county agencies was understood by both, but neither was prepared to deal with a George McIntyre. Besides department inadequacies, the distance between Pullman and Colfax severely hindered the effectiveness of this type of policy. Had Deputies Davis and Gallagher been stationed in Pullman, McIntyre would most likely been arrested without much of a scene. As it was, the two men made two trips to Pullman. One to arrest McIntyre for violating probation, the other to apprehend him before any other lives were lost.

The confusion at the scene of the shootings typifies the unorganized attempt by the police to apprehend George McIntyre. As Sheriff Parnell stepped from his car 30 minutes after the first shot was fired, he was killed instantly. He believed McIntyre to be in his house, when in reality, the gunman was across Grand Avenue from him. It is astounding to believe that no other deputy, highway patrolman, or police officer alerted Parnell as to McIntyre's exact whereabouts. The mere fact that civilians were allowed, if not encouraged to get their rifles and join in the battle, leads one to believe that no one really knew what to do. For the most part, it is safe to say that no police officer knew what to do because of a lack of training and a lack of experience with this type of incident.

It would have been preposterous to expect the Pullman Police to anticipate and prepare for a George McIntyre. It is true that in 1931, Pullman Police Officer William Maguire was killed by gunshot on State Street on the bridge between the Grange Supply and Palouse Producers. He apparently surprised a burglar who then shot him and fled. No one has ever been prosecuted for that murder. But even with an incident like this in the back of people's minds, it was an isolated occurrence. One, most were sure, would never be repeated. Even after the "Easter Massacre," little was done to prepare the police department to adequately deal with the type of situation that George McIntyre had presented them.

One change that was made soon after the shooting incident was the replacement of Police Chief Art Ricketts. His replacement, Archie Campbell (a Pullman Police Officer at the time) obtained his job because of the furor raised by the public over Ricketts' handling of McIntyre. The Pullman City Council replaced Art Ricketts in the Spring of 1949.

Even with a new police chief, the department was similar to that of the pre-1949 days. The resources simply were not there to form a top-notch police department equipped to deal with people who pose a threat to society. During Campbell's tenure as police chief (1949-1962), there were no major disturbances in Pullman. Aside from increased police force size and weapons arsenal size, there were few policy changes during this era.

It was the advent of the Viet Nam era that the fact that Pullman was a college town that led to steps improving the quality of the police department. This coupled with state legislation calling for better officer training paved the way for an improved and more efficient police department. Faye Raspone, who has worked for the department since 1963, feels that the late 1960's and early 1970's was the turning point for improv-



An armed civilian stands on the hill overlooking the gun battle.

ing public safety. Raspone feels that such a large transient population in a small town causes problems that only a well-trained police force could handle.³¹ Although there is a campus police force, the city police department obviously has to maintain high standards to ensure safety for the residents of the town.

If a situation like that of George McIntyre arose today in Pullman, the outcome would most certainly be different. Pullman Police Officers are highly trained individuals equipped to handle any dangerous situation. After completing 13 weeks of basic training in Seattle, these policemen have just embarked on a career of instruction and evaluation. Periodically, policemen will be sent to seminars and roving bands of experts will come to Pullman to instruct the officers in various aspects of law enforcement. Unlike their counterparts of yesteryear, today's Pullman policemen expect the worst and are prepared for it. There are special teams within the force designed to handle just about any situation, even if it is unlikely that any of these will ever happen in Pullman. The strides taken within the Pullman Police Department in the last 35 years are truly incredible, something that surely would have made Art Ricketts happy.

The actions of George McIntyre still affect Pullman today. No one could have predicted that this nice, but nervous young man would take four lives before he was finally killed. It was easy for the public to point the finger and place the blame, but if there was fault, it surely rested not in one department, but within the boundaries of the whole town. After four men were killed, the townspeople wanted a high technology police force, not before. True, the police force was basic, but it fulfilled the town's needs, and not until April 17, 1949, were there many complaints. It is sad to say that Pullman will no doubt have its share of social deviants in the future. What is reassuring is that although these people can pose a threat to society, the Pullman Police Department is well prepared to protect the public, and will be for years to come.

Footnotes

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<sup>1</sup>Pullman Herald, April 22, 1949, p. 1
<sup>3</sup>Verles Mealhouse, personal interview in Pullman, November 1984
4Ibid
5Ibid
6Pullman Herald, April 22, 1949, p. 5
7Ibid, p. 6
8Ibid, p. 7
Spokane Daily Chronicle, April 18, 1949, p. 1
<sup>10</sup>Pullman Police Department Log Book, entry dated August 27, 1948
<sup>11</sup>Pullman Herald, April 22, 1949, p. 7
<sup>13</sup>Pullman Police Department Log Book, entry dated April 17, 1949
14Pullman Herald, April 22, 1949, p. 6
15Ibid
16Ibid
<sup>17</sup>James T. Roberts, personal interview by phone to Spokane, November, 1984
18 Pullman Herald, April 22, 1949, p. 6
<sup>19</sup>James T. Roberts, personal interview by phone to Spokane, November, 1984
<sup>21</sup>Faye Raspone, personal interview in Pullman, November, 1984
<sup>22</sup>Pullman Herald, April 22, 1949, p. 6
23Ibid
<sup>24</sup>Archie Campbell, personal interview in Pullman, November, 1984
<sup>25</sup>Pullman Herald, April 29, 1949, p. 4
<sup>26</sup>James T. Roberts, personal interview by phone to Spokane, November, 1984
<sup>27</sup>Archie Campbell, personal interview in Pullman, November, 1984
<sup>28</sup>Faye Raspone, personal interview in Pullman, November, 1984
<sup>29</sup>Pullman Herald, May 13, 1949, p. 4
30 Kay Turner, personal interview in Colfax, September, 1984
<sup>31</sup>Faye Raspone, personal interview in Pullman, November, 1984
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The Prosecutor's View

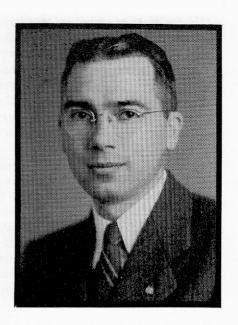
An interview with Lawrence Hickman

One person who dealt with the Easter Massacre in all its aspects was the Whitman County Prosecuting Attorney, Lawrence Hickman. Mr. Hickman, a founder and past-President of the Whitman County Historical Society, discussed this matter at some length in an oral history interview in March 1985. Extracts of that interview are printed here. The interviewer was Noreen Hall.

Mr. Hickman: Well, I have been a practicing lawyer in Colfax, Washington since the fall of 1936. I took my law work at the University of Washington graduating in June of 1936 and took the bar examination in July and was fortunate enough to pass the bar examination and be admitted. I opened an office with S.R. Clegg, an old attorney here in Colfax in the Grady Building in October, actually it was the 19th of October, 1936. At that time, S.R. was Assistant U.S. District Attorney in Spokane and he was absent from his office, obviously, and so I took over there and did work on my own and did work in connection with Mr. Clegg. In 1942, I enlisted in the Air Corps at Fort Wright in Spokane and I spent some, about 31/4 years in the service, all in the States, at various Air Force bases working in various courts and boards—offices as they called them, where we handled court martials and provided legal assistance for various men in the service—officers and people connected with the military. We drew quite a few wills. For example, I remeber at Boise, Idaho, setting up an assembly line down there. I supervised the drafting and execution in one day, I think we must have handled about 50 or 60 wills, which is quite an accomplishment when it comes right down to it, but then most of the fellows didn't need any great detail as far as a will was concerned. When I got out of the service in January of 1946, I came back to Colfax, again went in with Mr. Clegg. That fall I ran for prosecuting attorney and was elected by a small margin. The thing that turned the tables was the vote in Pullman on that particular occasion. That was tied up with the sheriff's race there. Anyway, that was politics but I was elected.

Hall: Were you running against an incumbent?

Hickman: Yes, and I served from January of 1947 to early January of 1955 and during the course of that time, why there were quite a few interesting things that happened. One of course, was the tradegy in Pullman on Easter Sunday, April the 17th,



Lawrence Hickman, Whitman County Prosecuting Attorney in 1949.

1949. And I might tell the story of what happened there as I remember. There were various press accounts of their affair and one person whom I personally know that I know wrote a very good article in connection with that, as I remember, his name was Maynard Hicks. He had some things in there that when I read them in a reprint here not too many years ago, he apparently had some information that I don't recollect I ever had. On the other hand, I have a good deal of information here that was not mentioned in his article. 1949 was a bad year in Whitman County from a crime standpoint. There were . . . was Claar, Buck, Pete, Gallagher. There were four people murdered in Pullman on that occasion and we had three more murdered at the end of the year, so in the year of 1949 there were seven murders in Whitman County. No trial was necessary as far as the Easter tragedy was concerned because the party responsible for the shootings was himself killed and the two murders that took, well there were three people murdered. On one occasion there was one murdered and in the last one there were two people murdered. In both of those, they were tried, convicted and by the juries, and sentenced to be hanged and they were executed. As to the Easter Sunday tragedy, a common conclusion that seemed to be going around as a result of that was that the main culprit whose name was George McIntyre actually mentally went berserk and did all this shooting and so forth. That sometimes happens but my personal opinion is that the man was not berserk. He was an individual in my opinion from what I observed of him, that he simply has a terrible temper that he never made much effort to control. As a result of that, he got himself into difficulty and this tragedy resulted. But there's quite a story behind this that led up to this whole thing that as far as I know has not gotten into the press. George McIntyre was a young man in Pullman, an up-andcoming man there in Pullman. As I recollect, he belonged to the Junior Chamber of Commerce, he was a Boy Scout leader, he'd been working with the Scouts, he was an electrician.

Hall: OK, so an estimate of the population of Pullman at the time was about 10,000. Hickman: That's right. That's just an opinion on my part. It was somewhere around there. As I mentioned, Mr. McIntyre was an electrician.

Hall: He was self-employed?

Hickman: Yes, he had his own electrical business. Now I first met Mr. McIntyre, I'm just guessing, perhaps about a year before the events that I'll be talking about. He came to me as prosecutor and was complaining about the way some people were mistreating his dog or something, I don't remember the particulars.

Here Mr. Hickman explains at length a series of arguments, assaults and events that had resulted in a minor criminal conviction and probation for George McIntyre in 1948. Mr. Hickman also notes the McIntyre's recurring dislike of the Pullman police force.

The interviews resumes as the events of Easter Sunday, 1949, unfold.

Hickman: So, there the matter stood for the time being. McIntyre was free. He was back in Pullman, going about his job, he was continuing to act as Scout leader for a Scout pack there.

Hall: How often was he required to meet with his probation officer?

Hickman: That is a matter that I don't know, but usually they required reports at least once a month. Now he might have been required to report oftener than that. His probation officer in that particular case was based in Spokane and of course he had to meet with the probation officer and the probation officer laid down certain rules for him and had him make reports. Well, everything seemed to be going reasonably good except that rumors came back and I heard this before this happened. McIntyre was making his brags in Pullman that Ross Claar had better never try and arrest him, that he'd never take him alive. That, as far as I know, I'm sure was known by Ross Claar before April the 17th and you know that's just one of those things that kind of travels through the grapevine.

Hall: What was the size of the Pullman police force at that time?

Hickman: Well, again I would have to make a guess but the Pullman police force then isn't what it is now by any means. Probably maybe about four officers, maybe five at the most. Of course, they had campus police at the time too, but they had nothing to do with this except that I'm sure that there were some campus police there on the day this happened on that occasion. So, that's the background. That's the way the thing was when Easter Sunday, the 17th of April came around, and it was a beautiful day—nice, sunny. Everybody was enjoying a good spring day, we had company. I was living here in Colfax at the time, of course. We lived up on West Street at that time which is right across the river from the post office, up on the west hill and you could look down and see the traffic on Main Street. Well, sometime between 12 o'clock and 1 o'clock, possibly nearer 1 o'clock than 12, I got a call from the sheriff and he reported to me that McIntyre had again assaulted Kershaw up in Pullman. It seems that Kershaw went to the Milky Way Dairy, which was out on the Palouse Road, I believe, at the time. Doesn't make any difference where it was, he went to the Milky Way Dairy.

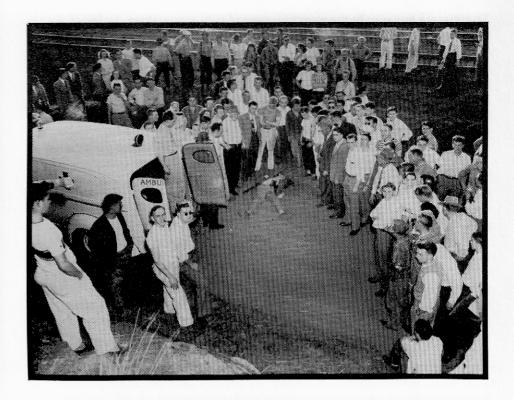
That was run by a man by the name of James and as he arrived there, McIntyre and his wife were just getting in their vehicle and McIntyre saw Kershaw and recognized him and he pulled a knife on him and was going to cut him up a bit but I don't remember how Kershaw avoided it but at any rate, Kershaw managed to get out of there and nothing happened. But it was reported to the police. The police advised the sheriff's office and the sheriff called me, told me what happened. I said, "Well, call his probation officer in Spokane. Ask him what he wants to do." So, the sheriff called the probation officer in Spokane and he called me back a little bit later and told me that the probation office says to arrest him. Pick him up for violation of his probation order.

Hall: He wasn't supposed to have a weapon while he was on probation?

Hickman: Well, he wasn't supposed to threaten anybody with a knife, for certain, I secutor, at the time I was in office, also acted as coroner, so when there was anything damage with that. So, the Pullman police were advised and as best I recollect, apparently Gilbert Gallagher must have been dispatched to go up to Pullman. Now in the exact order of the way this happened, I find that my memory leaves considerable to be desired but I'll give that what I know definitely and the other I'll indicate where my recollection might be off. But Gallagher went to Pullman but before he got there, and the Pullman police knowing of the order to pick McIntyre up, Ross Claar is driving down Main Street and lo, and behold, he spots McIntyre in his panel delivery truck at the 76 Union service station which, as I recollect was right adjacent to the Standard service station. Instead of driving right on and getting some help and there would have been no reason for McIntyre to have known that there was any order to pick him up, Ross Claar, and I'm sure fully knowing that McIntyre had made his brags that Ross Claar would never arrest him, drove into the service station, parked his prowl car, got up, walked over to where McIntyre was getting gas and he says, "Mac," he says, "you're under arrest. Come with me." McIntyre says, "I'm not going." At that point, I don't know what Ross Claar was thinking. He was an experienced officer, and yet what he did is nothing short of amazing. He turned his back on McIntyre, he walked back to the police prowl car to get a sap. He comes back with a sap. In the meantime, McIntyre opened up the glove compartment in his panel truck, pulled out a revolver, and when Ross Claar came back, he shot him five times.

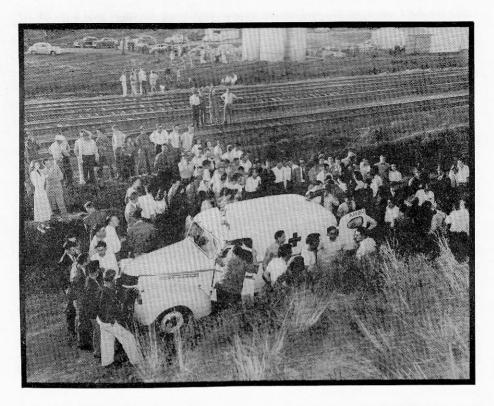
Hall: What is a sap?

Hickman: It's somewhat like a billy club except a billy club is a piece of wood. A sap is usually made of leather and in the end, there's a leather pouch there that's filled with lead shot or something and it makes a very effective weapon. Many officers, particularly in tough neighborhoods will carry a sap with them all the time. But to me, I cannot understand the actions of Ross Claar at the time. Just thinking what I would have done. In the first place, I think I would have hesitated to have attempted to arrest him alone. My inclination would have been to have driven on past the 76 Union station, gone and reported where he was and come back with someone else to assist me or if I'd gone in alone, when he said he wasn't coming, right then is when he'd have got my revolver in his ribs and he would have come. I'd have never turned my back on him to go back and get a sap. Not when I knew his brags were that I'd never arrest him. Well, of course from there, everything had broke loose. He tore out of there, and the next thing was I hear the siren of the sheriff's car below us going up Main Street, headed toward Pullman just as hard as they could tear and real shortly after that, I got a call from the sheriff's office reporting that Ross Claar had been shot and killed. Now a prosecutor, at the time I was in office, also acted as coroner, so when there was anything like that happening, usually they notified the prosecutor because he was coroner. Well,



After the gun battle. An ambulance is positioned to remove the body of George McIntyre from Railroad Road.

I got my car and I went to Pullman. Of course, I was considerably behind the sheriff but not an awful lot. He probably got there 15 minutes ahead of me. But I left without giving it very much thought, and as I drove to Pullman, why it occured to me, I was a kind of a dumb bunny. I was going up there, I didn't have a gun or anything and for sure this fellow McIntyre, he knew me. If he got a chance to plug me, he'd do it. So when I got to Pullman, I went to the police station to find out what was going on. At that stage, I found out that the sheriff had been killed, that Gallagher had been killed, that Jim Hickman, a deputy, was in the hospital with a wound. Well, that just about wiped the sheriff's office out. At that time in the sheriff's office, contrary to the way it is now, there was the sheriff, that was one; there was Gilbert Gallagher, that was two; there was Jim Hickman, that was three; there was Clarence Davis, that was four; and then they had a half-time man who worked half time for the juvenile department and half time for the sheriff. So here we were with five men at the most, two killed, one in the hospital, Clarence Davis had received some glass cuts from a bullet that went through the windshield. His cuts were minor, and he was out in the field there. Well, you know what that did to me. When that happens, the coroner is sheriff. I inquired there at the station if they had a gun available that I could borrow. They didn't have any. All the guns were out. I called a friend that I knew in Pullman whom I knew had a rifle, and it so happened that he didn't have one available. Well, I decided that this was not the time for me to go out there without any gun, with a man who knew me, who was shooting fellows right and left, so I went to the hospital to see the deputy that was up there, to see in what kind of shape he was in. I went there, he was sitting in a



A crowd forms around the ambulance. Pullman's "North Grand" area in the background,

waiting room when I got there. He was more under shock than actually wounded, but if I'd been in his position, I'd probably been under shock too. He'd had a bullet wound that came through the windshield and it parted his hair just as straight as you could part it with a comb. It had split the skin and just marked the full length of his scalp. Any lower and he wouldn't have been there. In an adjoining room, I went in, there was another man who was a victim of McIntyre's display down there. That was Mr. James from the Milky Way Dairy. Mr. James' story was, and it was quite an attraction, the shooting going on and there was a large crowd gathered around there, even while some of the shooting was on. People were just that curious. Up on top of College Hill, McIntyre was found to have been back under some trees. Ernest Buck came up there. He was a taxi driver. He came up there at the top, curiosity seeker, got out to look around, and he was right behind where McIntyre was. McIntyre saw him, and apparently was squeamish about anybody behind him or anybody like that to give his position away. He ordered him to lay down and roll over, and when he did he shot him twice in the back and killed him. James came along to about the same spot, got out of his car and peeked over the hill, and of course, McIntyre saw him. He was going to kill James. McIntyre knew James and James knew McIntyre. And James, this is according to what James told me, James managed to beg off and McIntyre finally said, "Well, get out of here." He went back to get in his car. Now at that point, a friend of mine tells me that he understood from James that James' wife was driving and he was riding as a passenger. I understood from James that he was driving the car and his wife was the passenger. It doesn't make much difference, but at any rate James gets in the car and while the door was open yet, and his leg was out and before he could pull it in, McIntyre shot and shot him right through the fleshy part of his leg. And James was in the hospital when I went there and it was, tragic as it was, it was rather amusing really. He had a nasty wound in that leg and he couldn't help but hurt like everything and yet he had about as big a grin on his face as you could imagine. He was just happy to be alive. That was the size of it.

Hall: Where exactly on College Hill was McIntyre?

Hickman: Well, I have a picture here that I will mark, I guess it's 6 now. Another picture taken by the Hutchisons. Now, I say by the Hutchisons, there was Jack Hutchison and his dad, I forget what his name was now, but I believe these pictures were taken by Jack. This is a picture, and by the way, it's one that was used at the coronor's inquest. It's got "exhibit R" on it. That's up on College Hill and you'll notice brush here in the foreground. It's my understanding that he was down under this brush or some brush right near there where he was concealed from above. Consequently, he was very squeamish about anybody coming up behind him, and that's the same place that Buck went in there. Now as far as Buck is concerned, I have a picture of Buck here, I'll mark that 7.

Hall: Were these photographers hired by the police or did they just take these pictures on their own?

Hickman: I think that they took these pictures on their own because there was so much confusion and everything, I don't know who would have ever had the opportunity and ordered the pictures. I got them because they were taken. This is a picture of Buck. I want you to note the similarity of the ground he's lying on with the ground in the fore going here and I know that it was in this same general area that I strongly suspect, that seems to be level here, that it was just out of sight of this picture probably in that direction there.

Hall: In the foreground?

Hickman: Yes, or right near the edge of the hill because he was obviously looking over the hill.

Hall: Now, this is the taxi driver?

Hickman: That's the taxi driver. He was shot twice in the back. All right, now back to what I've been told by the others. That that I've talked about of going to the hospital, that was what I saw and did and heard myself that day. Jim Hickman of course, I later got a statement from him. Now this is where I'm a little confused. My recollection is that the sheriff with Jim driving arrived in Pullman and rendezvoused with Gilbert Gallagher and that the two of them drove out the Palouse Highway. McIntyre lived to the west of the Palouse Highway up on the hill. They knew that he was dangerous and as a matter of fact, when Pete had called me saying that he'd been ordered to pick McIntyre up, I said, "You want to remember he's dangerous." and Pete says, "yes, I know." So they had taken precaution and did not drive up to his house but they drove up the Palouse Highway. Now where I'm not certain is whether it was Gallagher and Pete and Jim, they were in separate cars, drove up there or whether it was Clarence Davis and Gallagher. I've got some notes here that indicate that it was Clarence Davis and Gallagher that drove up there but that doesn't seem to kind of fit in with some of the other things I have here. As my recollection is from talking with Jim Hickman, that it was Gallagher in one car and Jim and Pete in the other that drove up the Palouse Highway. Now the Palouse Highway at that time wasn't like the Palouse Highway is now. It's been widened out. Also, right by the Klemgard Pea Plant and that's still there yet, just a little bit towards town, there was quite a pronounced hill there, a knoll that's been graded out. Well, as they approached the Klemgard Pea Plant, before you get there on the College Hill side which is on the east of the highway, there's some flat houses there. Some of those flat houses I'm sure are still there yet, but they were talking back and forth between the two cars, and Gallagher crossed the railroad tracks and went up behind the warehouses closer to the east hill so that he'd be better able to look over to McIntyre's house. Pete and Jim drove up the Palouse Highway and they stopped near the top of the knoll. Pete got out on the right hand side, which was the proper side to get out on if McIntyre was up at his house. Gallagher got out of his car, stopped back of the warehouses, just a ways north where he could see across to the McIntyre house and got out on the right-hand side so he had the protection of the car, which was likewise good procedure if McIntyre was at his house. But it turned out that McIntyre was not at his house. The panel truck was up there. Gallagher radios to the officers in the other car that, "Yes, he's up at the house. His panel truck is up there and I see him standing out there." Actually, he was mistaken. It was someone else standing out there. McIntyre was not there.

Hall: McIntyre's house was outside the city limits?

Hickman: No, it was in the city, it was in the city but it was up on what you call Military Hill there but it was on the edge of the hill, on the eastern edge, overlooking the Palouse Highway and his house could be seen from down there so they were out to observe and try and spot where he was. So, they had that mistaken information. Gallagher got out on his right-hand side and he was shot. Pete Parnell gets out on the right-hand side of the car. He was shot and killed. Jim Hickman got out and laid down flat, he told me, on the pavement under the car and he said he'd laid there quite a while. Now of course, under those circumstances, I suppose a person's judgement of time gets warped, but he thought it was quite a while. Maybe a matter of five, ten minutes, I don't know. That I don't know, but he said while he was lying there, two men came walking up, traveling north, walking up the hill, talking. He said there was no shooting. Everything was quiet and as the men approached the car, he asked one of them. He said he felt kind of silly there laying down on the pavement, but he asked one of them to look on the other side of the car, if there was a man there. They looked on the other side of the car and they said yes, which of course was the sheriff. They walked on up the road and left and nothing happened. Jim told me that he finally decided that maybe the time had come for him to try and make a get away, and he managed to slip in the car on the driver's side and he started the engine up, got it in gear and just then, wham, and that's when he got his hair parted but he had it in gear. He gave it the gas and he got out of there and got in behind the shelter of the steel tanks that are just to the north of the Klemgard Pea Processing Plant. Now there is where I'm not sure whether what I've just said is 100 percent accurate or whether it was Gallagher and Davis who drove up. It's been my understanding until I looked at my other notes, that Davis came along later. But Davis got a bullet hole through the windshield and I'll mark this, I believe it's 8 now, isn't it? This is a picture of, taken afterwards of course, of Clarence Davis in the car that he was driving and you can see where the bullet hole went through the windshield. He was not struck by any bullet but he was struck and got minor cuts from glass from the windshield.

Hall: Who is this sitting in the car?

Hickman: That is Clarence Davis. He's the only one of the force at the time of the shootings that survived to continue his duties there. McIntyre actually had gone out of his house. He had taken a rifle with a telescope sight on it. It was a German make gun that he had brought back, I understood, from Germany. It was a 8 mm rifle, beautiful telescope sight on it. He had a pair of Range Finder binoculars around his neck so by the use of those he could tell the distance. He was a expert marksman and anybody out



Panel of citizens aid Whitman County officials with an inquest.

there who didn't know where he was, didn't have a chance. But it's very obvious, he was only after officers. He didn't bother other people who were out in his field of vision there. He didn't shoot at a single civilian out that way. The only civilians he shot at were those that were behind him that were apt to give his position away. He eventually, the officers found out exactly where he was located and the firing got kind of hot. He tried to move his position and he up and made a run for it and he was felled by three bullets. I have some pictures that were taken at the, well let's see, I should have given this one before. I'll mark this 9. This is a picture at the service station with Ross Claar after the shooting. Here is a picture I'll mark 10 which is just a general shot showing the ambulance out there. I'm quite sure that McIntyre had just been placed in this ambulance at the time. It shows the crowd around there. Here's another picture that I will mark as number 11, taken just before that, showing McIntyre on the ground and a crowd that had gathered around. I'll mark this as number 12. Here's a closer up shot of McIntyre. You can see his gun on the left. You can see it's got a telescope sight on it. You can see the binoculars still around his neck. The thing that I don't know, whether he was carrying two guns. I've got no recollection as to this gun that he's lying on there. I don't know whether, what that accounts for. I didn't recollect that he was supposed to have had two guns with him. Just while I'm on these pictures, I'll mark these others just as well. We've got 11, here's 12, 13. All right, here's 14 and 15. I'm not sure whether this is a picture of the car that Gallagher was driving or the one that Jim was driving with Pete as a passenger. I'm inclined to the view that it's probably the one that the sheriff was in, but that's only speculation. Looking at 13, you'll see a bullet hole through the side of the hood on the car. Here's one, 14 is of the same car with the hood raised up showing the bullet hole and showing two bullet holes in the radiator. 15 appears to be obviously the same car and it shows a hole through the rear end. You can see the entry hole and the exit hole. The exit hole is always larger than the entry hole and if you look closely the metal on the exit hole is forced out. Now, a

person might ask, who killed McIntyre? The truth of the matter is, I don't know. No officer knows, to my knowledge. I know of no one who knows who killed McIntyre. I talked with several people who thought they killed McIntyre or might have. I'm convinced that neither one of them did or could have. Someone, in my opinion, knows who killed McIntyre, but I never worried myself as prosecutor or coroner to try and find out who killed McIntyre. It was entirely justifiable. The coroner's jury subsequently so found. Whoever did it did the officers and the public a favor and I strongly suspect that whoever did it had to have an illegal weapon and I certainly, under the circumstances, didn't want to have myself in the position of having to prosecute somebody for having an illegal weapon who did us a favor like that. Now why do I come to that conclusion? Number one, Dr. Troy M. Price was the doctor who examined the bodies. He told me personally that McIntyre had three bullet holes through him in the vicinity of the heart entering from the chest and going out the back placed about like I have my fingers here, which is about in a triangle of about an inch and a half to maybe as much as two inches apart and that he could roll the body over and without changing the position of his fingers, he could place them in the same three holes on the other side of the body. What does that mean? It means that the bullets that killed McIntyre were all fired from exactly the same angle. You also need, number two, to realize and appreciate that the time McIntvre was shot he was on the dead run. He was trying to move. I submit and I've done a little hunting and done a little shooting myself. I've done some target practicing, that it's impossible for one person to put three bullets through a man exactly parallel to each other, when he's in a dead run, with an ordinary gun. You cannot fire that fast. Even with a semi-automatic you couldn't do it. In my opinion, the only type of gun that could have done that job the way it was done was someone who had a fully automatic weapon. A fully automatic weapon, then and now, is illegal in the state of Washington. By a fully automatic weapon, I mean one where you pull the trigger and it will empty the gun. You don't pull the trigger for each shot. A semi-automatic, you squeeze the trigger each time you shoot but a fully automatic, you just pull the trigger back and it empties.

Hall: Like a machine gun?

Hickman: That's right, the same thing. It had to be that type of a gun. I speculate that the man who did the job was one of our G.I.s up on the campus who possibly had maybe a 30 carbine that the Army had. They could be set at semi-automatic or they could be set at fully automatic. It would have been illegal for him to have had a weapon like that. Why do I say it was a G.I.? Because unless you had a lot of experience with that type of a weapon I don't think even with a fully automatic that the average marksman could have put those bullets in the way he did. For example, I fired, only once did I fire a fully automatic weapon. It was when I was in the university in R.O.T.C. That was a Browning automatic and this is what happened. My first shot hit the target. My second and third shots, each one was higher than the other. The gun has a push to it rather than a kick and it will just push you and it will rise. You've got to have experience at holding them down and whoever fired that gun that got McIntyre knew how to hold it down.

Hall: At what range do you think it would have been fired from?

Hickman: Well, of course there I do not know but there were people probably within 50 yards of him at the time it happened. I mean people had been crowding in. And until, there's no way of telling how far. Now the doctor who examined the body, his first report was, he committed suicide. Why? He says there's powder burns. But when he examined what he thought were powder burns and I called his attention to the

fact that he had a pair of binoculars around his neck that had been shattered by one of the bullets and he had some of the metal to compare what he thought were powder burns were simply the imprint of the metal from those binoculars. There were no powder burns there at all. Besides that, I defy anybody to shoot himself three times through the heart with the bullets going exactly parallel. I don't think it can be done. Now I had, we had officers down from Moscow, there were some from the State Patrol, there were all of the city police that were possibly available there and there were private people around I'm sure with guns. I had a man from Moscow. He was just sure that he was the one that he was afraid did that. When I explained to him what we'd found and everything, and that I didn't believe he could have possibly done it, he felt considerably relieved. He was convinced that the little revolver he had didn't do that and for . . . vou could theroize that well, three people fired at the same time but they would be in three different positions. It would be extremely unlikely in the first place that three bullets would go from different guns. We had a coroner's inquest on the 19th of April. It was called at the funeral home . . . in, Kimball's Funeral Home in Pullman. Then we adjourned and went to the city hall where we actually had the inquest. The jury rendered verdicts finding that Ross Claar, Gilbert Gallagher, Ernest Buck, Pete Parnell all died from gunshot wounds as a result of being shot by George McIntyre. They also found that George McIntyre was shot by someone and that the shooting was justified.



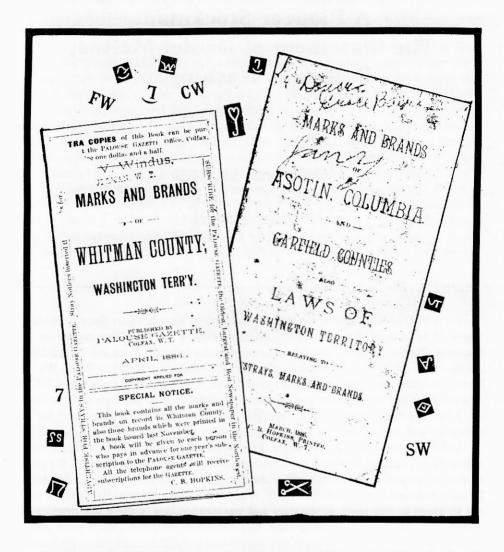
A Pioneer Stockman: The Statement of Daniel McRae, Pullman, Washington

Made June 19, 1920 Collected by L.F. Jackson and Arthur Daniel

I was born in Nova Scotia, but in the '70's came to Nevada where there were good wages on account of the mines. I stayed there about a year and then moved on to Portland, Oregon. A friend advised me to come to the Inland Empire and I started for Spokane. I went by boat to Wallula, then took Dr. Baker's railroad to Walla Walla. Here I bought a horse and saddle and started north. This was in the early fall of 1877. The fall rains had begun and it was raining most of the time. When I got as far as Colfax, I decided that I had come far enough and I determined to look around for a homestead and work. This was late in September or early in October.

Colfax, at that time, had two stores, a livery stable, restaurant and perhaps a mill. A man by the name of Robinson and I started out to go look over the country. We rode all over the region immediately north of the Snake River. We were at it about ten days. I finally homesteaded in Garfield county, south of the Snake River as this country was not so rough as that north of the river and was cleaner, that is there was practically nothing but bunch grass growing there, while north of the river a good many other kinds of plants mixed in, wild roses, sun flowers and so forth. In some places the bunch grass grew thick and one could cut as much as one and a half tons per acre. It grew best on the north and north-east slopes of the hill. The sun flower roots on the south slope were a nuisance in breaking up the sod. They were often as big as your wrist and tough. They often broke double-trees while plowing.

During this first fall that I was in the country, Rainier, Carter and Adams were building a flour mill at Almota. A man by the name of Low and I went down to get a job at building. He offered us a dollar and a half a day and we refused. We left. Later he asked us what we wanted as he was badly in need of men and we said two and a half a day. He said he would take us on and try us for a day or so. He had half a dozen others working for a dollar and a half a day but he gradually fired them all and kept us all winter.



Brand Books published in Colfax in 1886, along with some brands. (Subsequent brand illustrations from the same sources.)

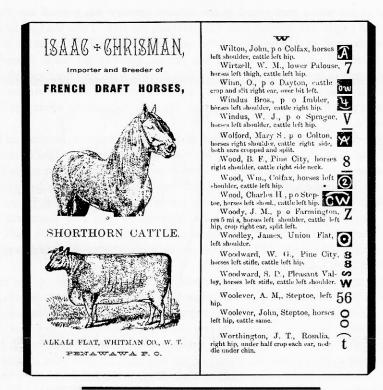
VF 979, Manuscripts, Archives, and Special Collections, Washington State University Libraries. Most of the wheat then raised in the Palouse country was ground into flour for local use but a little was shipped from Almota down the river. I was working from time to time at the mill at Almota during the next few years and the quantity of wheat received increased very rapidly during that period. Much of the wheat frosted for at that time it was all grown on the flats. The freight rates were very high and often nearly equalled the value of the wheat. Captain Bachman on one of the river steamers, once made a statement that was pretty largely true. He said, "We get the wheat; the farmers get the straw."

At this time Henry Spaulding lived at Almota, engaged in farming and some sheep-raising. L.M. Ringer has a little store and made money. Almota got its mail from Penawawa on route to Colfax. There were two grain warehouses. All the goods for Colfax and the Palouse country came here and were freighted out. The freighting was mostly done by horses. There were ferries across the river in 1877 at Lyons Ferry, Central, Penawawa and White's Ferry (at Alpowa). A little later there was one at Almota. They charged fifty cents for a horse and rider and one dollar for a team. About the only road in the county, aside from the one between Almota and Colfax was one by Union Flats from Colfax to Lewiston.

I built my house shortly after homesteading. The lumber came up the river by boat. It was built as most of the houses at that time were, of upright boards with stripping over the cracks. As to what we ate in those days, we had lots of bread and butter produced locally. Meat was cheap, two year old steers sold for ten dollars apiece. Most common garden vegetables were missed. Potatoes often produced good crops, planted in the furrows as the ground was ploughed and broken. Chickens were abundant and cheap. A good many settlers went down to Walla Walla in the fall and brought back a lot of fruit. Dark sugar sold for fourteen cents a pound. Clothes were poor and expensive.



The brand used by Daniel McRae, then living at Ilia on the south side of the Snake, is included in this list of Garfield County Cattle brands.



There was little game, a few jack rabbits and grouse. Coyotes were plentiful. There were no trees except in the gulches. Occasionally the bunch grass caught fire but there was no serious trouble as with the prairie fires in the middle west.

Almost all of the early settlers were principally stock owners. Everyone had a few head, and as they could be driven out to market, they were about the only things raised that had a money value. The stock could range almost all the year around. There was very little feed put up. Many of the early stock men had come into this section at the time of the Idaho gold rush, had accumulated a little cash that way, and put it into stock. There were a few large holders only; Johnston Brothers at Penawawa, Duffy Brothers at the head of Almota Creek. John Tabor had sheep. These are all I remember that had any quantity of stock and I rode all over the range. Cattle were driven out to market in the east. There was a good deal of cattle rustling. Many of the larger stock men took unbranded calves from the settlers. There was no use in going to law about such thefts, as it cost more than the property was worth. It was practically impossible to prove anything in court and the man who brought suit simply got himself into more trouble.

I remember one instance in my own experience. One day some calves which I had neglected to brand, failed to come home. I took a horse the next day and I went out to see if I could locate them. One of my neighbors saw me, called me over and asked me what I was looking for. I told him that I guessed I was on a fool's errand, that some of my unbranded calves had not come home and that I was looking around to see if I could see anything of them. He told me I might as well stop looking. He had seen one of my neighbors branding them a short time before. I wanted to know who it was. He said he did not want to tell because he would steal from him if he did tell. I asked him



to tell me and promised to keep quite. I wanted to know simply for my own interest. He gave me the name of the man.

Shortly afterwards, just as I was driving into Pomeroy, I saw the man who had stolen my calves, in the wagon just ahead of me. Before I realized what I was doing, I jumped into his wagon and had him by the throat. I accused him of stealing my calves. He whimpered and whined and wanted to know who told me. I told him that was none of his business. By this time a crowd had gathered and he was making such a fuss that I let him go for fear the crowd would think I was abusing him. A little while afterwards I was in a blacksmith shop getting a shear sharpened, when a man came in and said he wanted to talk with me outside. His name was Tom Paine and he was one of the cattle thief's men. I knew it, but foolishly went outside. There I found a half a dozen or more of this man's men, lined up around the door. The rumpus attracted the attention of the blacksmith, who was an honest fellow and he came out with a red hot iron and the men took to their heels.

Some time later I heard Paine's voice in a saloon at Almota. I went in the door just as he was softing a glass of whiskey to his lips. I did not want to take chances on the glass, so I waited till he set it down, when I grabbed him and hoisted him in the air over my head and slammed him on the floor. I was scared for a while. I thought I had killed him, but that was the end of our quarrel. Most of the other fellows who had attacked me at the blacksmith shop finally came around and apologized.

Some time later, I was coming home from Pomeroy about dusk. I looked around and saw a horseman behind me. I slackened my pace and waited for him to catch up as I wanted company. I noticed, in looking around that he had struck off through the fields, and I recognized my cattle-stealing neighbor. I had a better horse than he. I cut

across and headed him off and grabbed his horse by the bridle. He reached over his head for a knife which he always carried at the back of his neck between his coat and shirt. I caught his hand and threw the knife out in the field. Then I began to box his ears, treating him kind of rough and told him I had come over there to thrash him within an inch of his life. He was a coward and whined and begged to get off. I finally told him that if he would straighten up and be a good neighbor, I would let him go. He promised. I let him go and he lived up to his promise.

The stock raisers generally discouraged settlement and were insistent that grain could never be raised on the hills. During the years 1877 and 1878 a great many people flocked in along the Snake River. There had been very few there before that time. About 1880 they began to take up land on the hills and in the early '80's, all the choice land was taken up. In the '70's the machinery used was mostly ploughs and wagons. The farmers generally made their own drags. The land was generally broken in the spring, cultivated during the summer, and sown in the fall.

There were quite a few Chinamen then on the Snake River, a group lived just across from Almota. They had dug-outs in the river bank in which they lived. They had a big batteau on the river where they washed the sand for gold. There were Chinamen on most of the banks of the Snake River, all the way up to Lewiston.

