

# Here's What Happened Here During 1940

A lot of things happened in Cascade the past year. Things mostly important to residents of this community, but with one or two events attracting nationwide interest. But a lot of things did happen.

News started off slowly after the first of the year when residents of this mountain town put energy and ambition in mothballs and settled down to the old winter routine of taking things easy.

Townpeople were startled into action late one evening when the Art Kimball residence near town caught on fire and turned out en masse to offer their assistance. The house, however, burned to the ground with the loss of most of the household goods. Mrs. Kimball narrowly escaped the flames.

Then, too, came the news that Cascade would have to get along without federal aid in the construction of a ski course unless the citizens could find a suitable skiing hill. With no nearby slopes reported, the project died a sudden death and was buried in a snowdrift for future reference.

Saddest news in January came with the announcement of the death of Senator Borah and the community joined others throughout the nation in mourning Idaho's "Grand Old Man."

## February

February started off more briskly with news from Washington, D. C., that \$700,000 had been set aside for the dam here with hopes of eventually getting the ante raised to \$1,200,000. Local spirit was roused somewhat when the Cascade high school won the Long-Pin basketball tournament. Changes were made in the personnel of the Payette Forest Service and introduced to the

enthusiasm but little action by forest authorities and gradually was assigned to the "unfinished business" files.

The Cascade Rod and Gun Club, long inactive, was organized one week and reorganized the next week to form the Valley County Sportsmen's Association, a county wide group designed to make life easier for the wild life of the county.

Most discussed event of the month was the announcement that one of the largest bodies of antimony ore in the world had been uncovered near Yellow Pine after government operations. Men were put to work to discover just how large the body was.

## April

April came in with its traditional showers to melt away deep snows in the back country and open the roads to mills and logging camps there. Logging trains were running day and night on the short line and the night shift went into action at the Hallack and Howard mill, bringing the total of men working to nearly 200.

Traffic lights were installed at each end of town to slow down passing tourists and the community began to hum with activity.

## May

With May came plenty of spring weather and a howl from disgruntled fishermen that fishing "Ain't what it used to be" and the newly formed Valley County Sportsmen's Association began to remedy the situation by planting thousands of trout in local streams and lakes. Reports of other fishermen differed, however, as record catches were displayed around the town.

Local athletes, and those athletically minded, formed a softball league, and sponsored by business houses, and sponsored by business houses, and the annual parade of limps, scratches and began down Main street.

Arrowrock and Deer Flat dams combined. Total cost was to run to \$3,665,000 when the railroad and highway were re-routed and the present landowners bought out. Several new businesses were started in the town and old timers prepared for a rush of business for some time to come.

## June

June swept in in a blaze of white shoes, sport coats and sunburn to be one of the busiest months of the year. Politics began to edge toward the limelight with free picnics, campaign cigars and announcements of candidacies. The Lions Club began their annual learn-to-swim campaign and sportsmen began their fishing in earnest.

A posse, headed by Sheriff Jerry Logue, returned to Cascade with the body of Ralph Ward, 24 year old miner lost in a blizzard in December, 1939. Members of the party reported that Ward had died of exposure and exhaustion as he still had plenty of matches when found. He was buried in Holton, Kansas.

A prospector in the Salmon river country reported the discovery of the body of Charles Robinson, drowned six weeks before.

Forest fire season began with a rush as 500 fire fighters were hurried to blazes at Deadwood, Pistol Creek and Garden Valley where thousands of acres of forest land were in flames. Airplanes were highly instrumental in gaining control of the fires before too much damage was done and tons of food and supplies were parachuted to fighters and emergency crews were flown to smaller blazes.

## July

Forest fires continued burning well into July until providential showers gave harried forest service men a brief respite. The Fourth of July was spotted by numerous ac-

cade held its annual flower show with lots of entries and lots of prizes.

Forest service men consumed pounds of aspirin when 43 fires broke out in one week and worked night and day until they were all extinguished. Nearly 1500 fire fighters drove themselves to exhaustion to complete a miracle of firecontrol.

Cascade residents began to adopt an "Oh, Yeah?" attitude toward and rumors concerning the dam after authorities announced that the project would be delayed indefinitely due to disputes with the railroad concerning the location of the new route. Heat waves continued with safety precautions being taken by the forest service.

## September

Harried parents breathed a sigh of relief in September when schools opened to receive 256 students in Cascade. Forest fires were put out and fire fighting tools were packed up and stored away for future reference.

The Long Valley Power Cooperative was formed to make a request to the federal government for rural electricity. Farmers between Smith's Ferry and McCall were enthusiastic about the project and volunteered support.

Primary elections over, surviving politicians bent to the task of campaigning and campaign cards and leaflets fell like January snows.

## October

October found the young men of the county facing the prospect of spending a year in an army training camp as they marched to polling places to register for the nation's first draft since the World War I. Main interest of the month was the result of the draft selections with the release of first draft numbers.

An engineer arrived to map out Long Valley for the Rural Electrification program and plans were made for 115 miles of power lines.

# Co. tions comes

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when the Cascade high school won  
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Changes were made in the personnel  
of the Payette Forest Service and  
local residents were introduced to the  
new supervisor—big, genial Thomas  
Van Meter who played a big part in  
keeping down fire losses in the forest  
during the summer.

Local heroes were the group of  
young men who assisted movie stars,  
Alan Curtis and Ilona Massey when  
their car wrecked down the canyon  
a few miles from town.

## March

In March the lethargy of the winter  
began to lift as warm weather  
came to melt the snows and clear the  
industrial arenas for action. Crews  
worked feverishly at the Hallack and  
Howard mill to prepare for the sea-  
son's run and the opening day was  
a record-breaker for a daily cut only  
to be marred by the sudden death of  
Walter Johnson, general foreman of  
the mill who dropped dead from a  
heart attack.

A movement was started by local  
business men to locate the head-  
quarters of the Payette forest in Cas-  
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the annual parade of limps, scratches  
and bruises began down Main street.

Many local students finished their  
school days when 20 seniors graduat-  
ed before an auditorium full of ad-  
miring friends and relatives.

Fate dealt two Valley county min-  
ers a backhand when accidents proved  
fatal to one and nearly so to an-  
other. Charles Robinson, Warren  
miner, was drowned when a cable car  
plunged him into the swollen Salmon  
river. Charles Green, another miner  
from Warren, was critically injured  
in a fall from a dredge and was  
flown to a Boise hospital in a danger-  
ous night flight by the Johnson Fly-  
ing Service.

Business men were exuberant as  
reports came that \$1,100,000 had been  
definitely appropriated for the dam  
and work would begin in July. Plans  
and work would begin in July. Plans  
called for a structure 90 feet high,  
800 feet across at the crest and 400  
feet at the toe. Water would be  
backed up 15 miles and the reservoir  
would store more water than the

June swept in in a blast of white  
snow, sport coats and umbrellas to be  
one of the busiest months of the  
year. Politics began to edge toward  
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paign cigars and announcements of  
candidates. The Lions Club began  
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A posse, headed by Sheriff Jerry  
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vice men a brief respite. The Fourth  
of July was spotted by numerous ac-  
cidents on the highway and recrea-  
tion areas but none were fatal. A  
few broken bones and bruises were  
the sum total of casualties. The Hal-  
ler Interstate Mine at Deadwood became  
a busy scene again as its directors  
decided to have another try after  
several years of idleness.

Members of the Valley County  
Sportmen's Association were busy  
tramping the hills with tanks of fish  
for local waters and reported that  
future fishermen would find several  
hundred thousand fine trout to nib-  
ble at hooks. Many from the town  
dashed to McCall one evening to of-  
fer their assistance when fire swept  
through the town, leveling the mill  
and several nearby buildings.

## August

August saw the first fatal accident  
in county logging operations when  
Buck Mills, young logger, was killed  
by an overturning load of logs. Cas-

cade residents began to adopt  
an "Oh, Yeah!" attitude toward  
rumors concerning the dam after the  
board announced that the project  
would be delayed indefinitely due to  
disputes with the national govern-  
ment over the location of the new route.  
Heat waves continued with safety  
precautions being taken by the fire  
set service.

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Hurried parents breathed a sigh of  
relief in September when schools  
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Long Valley for the Rural Electrifi-  
cation program and plans were made  
for 113 miles of power lines. Relief  
authorities announced that the food  
stamp plan would be tried out in the  
county in the near future in the place  
of direct payments in cash. Many lo-  
cal children received physical inspec-  
tions in special health clinics and  
were found normal.

## November

November produced bad weather  
and a Democratic landslide in the  
national and local elections with few  
Republicans surviving the balloting.  
Order numbers were drawn and were  
memorized by local draftees who  
breathed great sighs of relief when  
it became known that this vicinity  
had been spared from the first draft  
by volunteers.

The Red Cross started its drive for  
war relief and local women worked  
long and hard to gather supplies for  
war refugees. Talk was started a-

the first year in Cascade  
The District court was  
more famous production  
of shows at the time of  
press agent a show of  
prize for silver and gold  
the present national  
made the same in  
in the western states  
a lot less different  
will be put into operation  
some are in record  
Fire Recovery of  
in charge of the  
DR. WARD SHOWN  
BUT STILL CARRIES ON  
Friends of Dr. W. C. Ward  
struggled to see him walking down  
street after hearing that he had  
the misfortune to break a leg.  
But sure enough, every day  
could be seen walking down the  
with a steady gait and a  
bounced limp. The limp is still  
the walking is not.  
However, Dr. Ward explains  
only one of the two lower legs  
that was broken and it is not  
but painful to walk with the  
a cane.  
The bone was broken when he  
kicked the top rail from a gate,  
killing the doctor.

Coming in the middle of a  
epidemic, the accident could  
been tragic to many families of  
community, but Dr. Ward still  
his trips to the county and  
on in his office.

## SARAH MARTHA WALLACE PASSES AWAY THURSDAY

Sarah Martha Wallace, wife of  
H. Wallace of Donnelly, died at  
home near Donnelly this Thurs-  
day.  
Mrs. Wallace suffered a stroke  
some time ago and never regain-  
her full strength following the  
ness. She was born in Missouri  
was 82 years of age at the time  
her death.

Funeral services under the di-  
rection of the Robt. Mortuary of Cas-  
cade, will be held from the Deane  
school auditorium this Saturday  
afternoon at 1 o'clock, and burial will  
be in the Holmes cemetery near De-  
nelly.

A complete obituary will be pu-  
lished next week.

