

12/9/83

Dear Hal,

I've got to get this off or it will be several weeks. We are getting swamped with Christmas things and it is now or much later. These pictures are as follows:

1. This is (at least to my knowledge) the last passenger train to climb the grade from Culdesac to Ruebens. It was the second of two excursions made in May (I think) of 1960. The train made a morning trip to Grangeville and returned to Lewiston. Many people stayed and the town had some entertainment planned. The train then brought a second group of travelers for an afternoon and then returned with the whole gang who had stayed.

2. Picture 2 was taken after the train had made the turn through the tunnel and was leaving the road, climbing the grade up "breakheart pass."

These were taken from slides, which I have. I am not too thrilled with them, but it is what I have.

I remember being on the first section (it was the same consist). We were just ready to pull out and the man in the seat ahead said how interesting it was going to be to go over that high trestle. His companion immediately said, "You don't mean that we are going over that bridge up in Lawyers Canyon?" Why sure! At that moment she got up to leave, but the train started and she was stuck. I don't know if she really would have left, but I got the impression that she surely would have. The train did cross the trestle with caution, going quite slowly.

The next 3 pictures are of the "Clearwater Timber Co." (Boylatch) Heislars in action up near Headquarters Idaho. I have  $2\frac{1}{4} \times 3\frac{1}{4}$  negatives of these. I do think that with car you can get better copies of each of these, but I don't have a darkroom available.

Picture 3 is heading away from Headquarters, about 2 miles long the way. I don't know why they were pushing a flat with rider on front. It was not always done. (I can get the name of the creek where this picture was taken if it is important. The train had come from Headquarters along the side hill which you can see behind the train and then circled around to its present location. Sept 5, 1929 Only the 39th picture I'd ever taken. Picture 4 and 5 were taken right at Headquarters. No 3 was taken in 1929 late August. Pictures 4 & 5 were in 1933 (I think. I can get the exact date if you decide you want them -- right now it was between 1932 and 34) no. 5 was taken June 26, 1933./

no 4 was on June 28, 1934.

That's all I have.

I do know a nice guy who lives on a farm up along "Breakheart Pass". Actually across the small ravine as the train comes back down from Reubens. He may know of people in that area who might have pictures or reminiscences. Frank A. Pentzer, Route 2 Box 78, Culdesac, ID 83524 -- (208) 843-7127

Hope you are having luck with the project and that we get to meet sometime. AND I wish you a very merry Christmas and happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Al Pentzer