

Trapping & Wildlife Accounts/Chronology
Edited 11/13/2007

1812 – Ross Cox visits Flathead village (Bitter Root Trails [BT], Vol. I, p. 21)

1820-1835 – During these years a number of hunters and trappers visited the Missoula/Bitter Root area. (Frank H. Woody [FHW], “Historical Sketch of Missoula County,” in The Missoulian [MSLN] 7/19/1876)

1822 – Michel Bourdon led the first trapping brigade [in BRV?] (BT, I, p. 21)

1824 – Alexander Ross and brigade of 54 men were snowed in at Ross Hole for a month. Ross was the first white man to mention the Ram’s Horn Tree or Medicine Tree. On his return trip [through the BRV?] in November 1824, Ross had been joined by Jedediah Smith and 7 American trappers including Bill Sublette, Thomas Eddie and Arthur Black. (BT, I, p. 21)

2/21/1824 – Alexander Ross and Snake Country expedition arrived at Hellgate. Party consisted of 55 persons with 20 lodges, 212 traps, 75 guns, a brass three-pounder and 392 horses. (BT, I, p. 45)

2/25/1824 – Ross’s brigade followed Courtine’s Fork (Bitterroot River) from Hellgate. “Elk and small deer in great plenty. Flocks of swans flying about. (BT, I, 47)

March 1824 – Ross’s brigade apparently near forks of Bitterroot. “There fall seen inches of snow. Good place for horses, passé the day to prepare for passing the mountains between the head waters of Flathead and Missouri Rivers. Killed eleven elk, four sheep, seven deer, They’re very fat here. (BT, I, 47)

3/23/1824 – Ross reported “Thirty persons went on snowshoes across the mountains to buffalo. I feel anxious at our long delay here.” (BT, I, p. 48)

3/28/1824 – Ross wrote: “The buffalo hunters came back today, buffalo in plenty, thirty killed. Six of the men brought over 140 pounds of dried meat but becoming snow blind could not secure the meat left behind. Grass began to appear through the snow.” (BT, I, 48)

4/14/1824 – Ross wrote: “In the evening we raised camp and moved to the foot of the mountain at the source of the Flathead River, 345 miles from its joining the Columbia.” (BT, I, 49)

4/15/1824 – Ross wrote: “This day we passed the defile (Gibbons Pass) of the mountains after a most laborious journey for both man and beast.” (BT, I, 49)

1825 – Peter Skein Ogden, William Kittson and 56 men of the Snake River brigade traveled through the valley in January (BT, I, p. 21)

1829 – Jed Smith and David E. Jackson passed through the valley in July. (BT, I, p. 21)

1832 – Thomas Fitzpatrick and a party of trappers including Kit Carson came into the valley from the Salmon River. (BT, I, p. 21)

1833 – Warren Angus Ferris and Doc Newell came to the valley in July to trade with the Flatheads. (BT, I, p. 21)

1841 – St. Mary's Mission established by Father DeSmet near the present site of Stevensville. (BT, I, p. 21)

1845 – Father Ravalli came to St. Mary's. (BT, I, p. 21)

1847 – The Hudson's Bay Company erected a trading post on Crow Creek on the northern portion of the present Flathead reservation and is still known as Hudson's Bay Post. (FHW)

1850-1854 – Mexican trapper Emmanuel Martin aka Old Emmanuel brought wagons into the BRV from Ft. Hall or Salt Lake. Wagons were brought through the Big Hole Prairie and over the Big Hole Mountain and down the Bitter Root River. "Old Emmanuel" had spent a lifetime in the mountains and knew the country perfectly from Mexico to the British possessions. He died near Ft. Owen some 3 years since [c. 1873]. (FHW)

1850 – Maj. John Owen took title to the Mission property from the Jesuits. (BT, I, p.21)

c. 1850 – W. F. Sanders was the Fourth of July orator in Hamilton in 1900. He said the best cooking he ever tasted in his life "was at Ft. Owen during the early days in the Bitter Root Valley. The old major enjoyed good living and used to have the best things to eat and drink that money could buy. In earlier times he used to gather about him a lot of rappers and hunters who came and went. He like their company and never thought of charging them anything. He kept open house somewhat after the manner of feudal times and used to send down to Portland and get the finest kinds of old wines, Rhine and Tokay, and away off here lived like a prince." Account of social life surrounding Garfield treaty mission in 1872. (Ravalli County Democrat [RCD] 7/11/1900)

1853 – Lt. Mullan wintered in the BRV with the stock used by the Stevens RR Survey. Mullan's quarters were named Cantonment Stevens, located on Willow Creek, northwest of Corvallis. (BT, I, p.21)

1855 – Emanuel Martin, Mexican trapper, brought the first light wagon into the valley following the old Indian trail from Trail Creek into Ross Hole and French Basin and over the hills south of Rye Creek. (BT, I, p.21)

1856 – Frank J. Woody and others brought ox teams and wagons over Martin's trail. (BT, I, p. 21)

John Hightower's memoirs of life in the Stevensville area during the late 19th century included a reference to the death of an Indian woman, killed near the new Hightower home built on "John's grandfather's old place". A few years before, an Indian woman had been killed in the neighborhood while picking service berries. The woman had been killed by a bear, but not outright. "when they found her she was just about gone and died soon after. This happened about a quarter of a mile from our home on the Burnt Fork. We gathered service berries from the same trees for years to make pies and to eat raw." No reference to type of bear. (Ravalli Republic [RR], 5/15/2002, 8)

1871 – When Garfield Was Here. Extremely long article by J. U Sanders in the Anaconda Standard in 1871. Description of stage coach ride from Deer Lodge to Missoula. General Garfield, W. F. Sanders, J. U. Sanders and W. H. Clagett went bird hunting at Ft. Owen while the rest took rods and whipped the stream for trout. Hunters had no luck, but later met an Indian with a string of birds. Clagett and Sanders bought them, swearing the Indian to secrecy. Fishermen turned over a fine string of fish to the commissary dept., as they did the birds. Dinner was accompanied by liberal drafts in Major Owens' wine cellar. It turned out the fish had also been bought. Account of negotiations and Charlo's eloquence on behalf of his people. Descriptions of Charlos, Arlee, Adolph. Charlos' refusal to give in and sign; bitterness over "mistake" as J. U. Sanders called the forgery. Visit with Father Giorda at St. Ignatius. (RR 6/5/1908)

1870s – Johnny Richie caught 9 grizzlies in two weeks in the West Fork for Uncle Fay Humble (Bud Moore, The Lochsa Story [TLS], 250-274)

3/9/1872 – Mountain sheep have been seen from [Missoula] for several days past on the mountains south of the river, taking a peep at the wonderful little city below and gently nipping the luxuriant bunch grass on the mountainside. (MSLA PIONEER 3/9/1872)

5/2/1873 – Bitter Root Correspondence. Lengthy letter to editor describing items of interest re: BRV. "The river has been quite high but has fallen some within the past few days owing to a cool snap, which checked the thaw in the mountains, and at this writing it is fordable at some points. There are many small lakes and ponds on the low flat lands near the river, forming a perfect paradise for geese, ducks and other waterfowls, and myriads of them may be seen floating upon the placid bosom of the waters." (Msla Pioneer 5/2/1873)

6/6/1873 – The Bitter Rooters certainly harvested a large crop of bears last season, if we are to judge from the number that now infest the valley. We hear nearly every day of depredations committed by bruin upon the hogs of the valley farms. W. G. Edwards tells us, that at Lafontaine and Edward's mill on Burnt Fork, the bears have killed some nineteen hogs this spring. We would suggest to our friends in the Bitter Root, to petition

the Government to remove the bears at the same time that the Flatheads are removed, or that a war of extermination will be declared against them. (MSLN 6/6/1873)

7/18/1873 – Coyotes raiding the poultry yards in the BRV. About two weeks ago they visited the ___ of Jas. Sanders and killed about 80 fowls in one night. Last week they got into the chicken house of Wm. Chaffin and got away with something over one hundred. (MSLN 7/18/1873)

7/25/1873 – Coyotes are raiding poultry in the Bitter Root Valley. Jos. Sanders lost 80 in one night. William Chaffin lost over 100. (MSLA PIONEER 7/25/1873)

8/1/1873 – Sportsmen are now slaughtering the chickens by the hundreds. The birds are rather small to kill, but are most excellent eating. (MSLN 8/1/1873)

11/14/1873 – A hunting party, consisting of Messrs. Reinhard, McMurtry, Mayhew and Kennett, went up the Bitter Root Wednesday and will make it unpleasant for the birds. (MSLN 11/14/1873)

2/26/1874 – Dan Woodman, lives near Bitter Root River crossing, 7 ½ miles from Missoula, killed on the Bitter Root River, a monster baldheaded eagle. Wingspan measured 6' 11". (MSLN, 2/26/1874)

5/21/1874 – Amos Buck was down from the Bitter Root River. A bear got 12 of his best hogs last week. (MSLN, 5/21/1874)

8/26/1874 – Deer Lodge Item: Game law had expired, grouse and chickens being slaughtered by the hundreds. Last Sunday about 150 birds were brought in. (MSLN, 8/26/1874)

9/9/1874 – C.G. Birdseye accompanied by his wife arrived by private conveyance last Thursday evening, and is enjoying his annual sporting season among the finny and feathery tribes. Mr. B. fully relishes this kind of recreation and finds no place better adapted to it than Missoula Co. (MSLN 9/9/1874)

9/9/1874 – Account of hunters separated and late getting back to Missoula. Out for a day's shooting 4 miles from town. They were hunting with shotguns, and had well-filled game bags. (MSLN 9/9/1874)

9/16/1874 – Charley Kenyon and Ben Venor went to the Flathead Lake country, prepared to hunt for all kinds of game from a pine squirrel up to placer diggings. (MSLN 9/16/1874)

9/23/1874 – A number of fishing parties have recently visited Tree Lake, a body of water about 3 miles in length by 1 mile in breadth situated on the mountains about 25 miles West of Big Blackfoot and about 40 miles from Lincoln. Water is 2 or 3 hundred feet deep and perfectly clear. Immense fish, 5 or 6 feet in length can frequently be seen

though we believe none of these monsters have ever been caught. Lake is believed to have formed from a landslide, as trees more than 100 feet high can be seen standing in the bottom of the lake. (MSLN 9/23/1874)

9/23/1874 – Our young friend Master Charley McWhirk went one day last week and returned with 23 birds – not a very good day for shooting either. (MSLN 9/23/1874)

10/7/1874 – The Mitchell boys, near Corvallis, killed a large cinnamon bear of the fiercest persuasion one evening this week. The bruins, three in number, were raiding upon the swine pens when a well directed shot from a needle gun in the hands of Alex Mitchell brought down the largest one, when the others fled. A number of hogs have been killed by bears in that vicinity this fall. (MSLN 10/7/1874)

12/16/1874 – Mountain Sheep. The Buck boys made a raid on the mountain sheep in the hills west of their ranch, and succeeded in getting away with four of them. They brought one of them into town, which from the enormous size and appearance of the horns, we would judge to be the veritable “oldest inhabitant” of whom we have heard so much. The carcass attracted considerable attention among the curious. (MSLN 12/16/1874)

1/20/1875 – Messrs. R.A. Eddy and Wm. McWhirk returned with I.A. Robinson Sunday from a small hunting excursion “down the road” having succeeded in bagging 27 deer, besides numerous small game, such as mules, etc. This is a pretty good showing and will doubtless excite more of our Nimrods into polishing up their shooting irons and going after some of the same. (MSLN 1/20/1875)

2/17/1875 – Successful Young Sportsman. Charley McWhirk, age 15, spent several days at mouth of Quartz (Robinson’s station) during the late hunting season and succeeded, with the assistance of his trusty needle gun, in killing 18 deer. Gave a nice ham to the editor. (MSLN 2/17/1875)

2/17/1875 – I.A. Robinson, General Supt. Of the Missoula, Cedar Creek and Bitter Root stage and express line gave the Missoulian editor “a couple of behind quarters of a freshly slaughtered deer.” (MSLN 2/17/1875)

4/21/1875 – A Hunt with Moral. “A couple of our young and accomplished sportsmen, one of whom deals in the weighty nail and gorgeous stove (the other’s occupation shall be nameless) went out Saturday for an afternoon’s shooting. Purveying a team and buggy, loaded up guns and dogs . . . breathing destruction dark and dire against the feathered tribe.” Hunted in Grass Valley. (MSLN 4/21/1875)

4/21/1875 – Ducks and geese are pretty thick judging from the way the boys talk and the amount of feathered game that we see brought into town. And some of our young sports, with more money than time or vice versa, can exercise their breach loaders now to great advantage. (MSLN 4/21/1875)

5/12/1875 – Up the Bitter Root and Back. Editorial correspondence. Editor and Frank Kennett took trip up Bitter Root, well supplied with shot guns and ammo. Crossed river on bridge near Buckhouse's used grade on the west side between the bridge and Woodman's. Grade in many places at an angle of 45 degrees, treacherous. The Lolo, or Traveler's Rest Creek as it is called by Lewis and Clark, was full and rising and threatened the bridge across its main channel (the Lolo Bridge). At McClain's in the slough to the east of the road we spied some mallard and teal, a mudhen or two and a plover. Ferd took a shot at the ducks while we leveled our Wesley Richards at the plover, and brought him down. In the slough near Larry the Pipers we found a few more duck. Hitched horses to a tree and sallied out in quest of game. Wild cattle discouraged them. Near the lower end of Bass & Bros. Place is the site selected for the Bitter Root bridge. John Rankin contractor. John with Russian John was on the other side of the river arranging bridge timbers, so that they could have the benefit of the sun. Here we also found J. Pardee and Oliver Talburt operating their ferry, which they had just got in position. Ferried us across River about 300 ft. wide and very deep. Went on to Ft. Owen, "which now resembles some of the old ruins in Woody's new paradise, Lower California. Portions of the outer walls have yielded to the wear and tear of the elements and lie in broken fragments about the base. Within these walls, but a few years ago, dwelled one of the kindest and noblest spirits of our race, and now, like these walls, a complete wreck with nothing left but fragmentary fits of rationality to remind you of that sprightly, hospitable and genial spirit that dwelt therein. Poor John Owen! May the fates vouchsafe to you a remnant of rationality in the days yet left you!" At Stevensville: "The Flatheads under a military escort had pitched their tents on their old stamping ground and buffalo robes and pemmican were in active demand. On to Aetna: farmers busy breaking new soil in sagebrush district. Near old Etna post office saw large flocks of mallards, teal, whistlers, and a few more plover. Got 3 plover, Ferd got 20 more teal. Next day to Corvallis. Rev. McCraven was absent in the field with his shotgun, keeping the ducks out. (MSLN 5/12/1875)

6/23/1875 – Angus McDonald, now residing at the Hudson's Bay post below ST. Ignatius Mission on the Jocko, called last Saturday. Visited town to telegraph Victoria B.C. for the price of a certain class of furs; "but the unsatisfactory condition of the telegraph line, and the uncertainty of reaching that place from want of through telegraph connection, induced him to return and trust to his judgement . . . Mr. McDonald promises shortly to correct a former correspondent in relation to the advent of the first white woman into Montana and furnish other sketches of interest connected with the early settlement of this country. (MSLN 6/23/1875)

6/30/1875 – Bear are becoming quite numerous in Bitter Root Valley and their depredations are becoming a serious annoyance and loss to the settlers. In direct violation of the Mosaic law, they go for the hogs and scarcely a ranch has been free from their visits. Something must be done – either through bounties offered or the organization of settlers for bear hunts. Suggests "setting spring guns, charge with plenty of lead and so placed as not to endanger human life." (MSLN 6/30/1875)

6/30/1875 – T.W. Harris came in Monday night with a load of Chinamen from the Three

Mile diggings. The supply of water is getting light for this mine, and but four of this company can now work there to advantage. He complains of depredations from bear, having lost eleven hogs, and having a horse picketed near his house severely bitten in the flank. (MSLN 6/30/1875)

9/15/1875 – C.G. Birdseye and William B. Judd arrived from the upper country for a few days of shooting in this region. Birdseye does it annually. This is Judd's first visit. (MSLN 9/15/1875)

11/24/1875 – Angus McDonald, than whom perhaps no other person possesses a more interesting fund of thrilling adventures on the frontier, spent a few days with us court week. Just back from Victoria on a fur venture, which his long experience with HBC and intimate knowledge of the business made reasonably profitable to him. "On the occasion of his visit he mentioned a circumstance where Kit Carson, years ago, was in close quarters with the Indians and it was suggested to him that the publication of his recollections would not only be interesting but profitable." (MSLN 11/24/1875)

3/1/1876 – The Game Law. Buffalo, moose, elk, rocky mountain sheep, goats and antelope not to be killed Feb. 1 to Aug. 10 and at no time for their hides only. Penalty \$50 to \$250. Beaver, otter, martin and fisher are not to be taken from April 1 to October 1, and no person except owners is allowed to take them in any field or enclosure. Penalty \$50-\$250. Robins, meadow larks, thrushes, gold finches, flickers or yellow hammers, black birds, orioles, snow birds or any songbird not to be killed for 4 years beginning 5/11/1876. Penalty \$5-\$25. (MSLN 3/1/1876)

4/19/1876 – Duck and goose hunting is currently popular. (MSLN 4/19/1876)

5/31/1876 – A large black bear that had been foraging around the hog pens of Burnt Fork farmers was shot. (MSLN 5/31/1876)

8/9/1876 – The game law expires on the 10th, and the boys are placing themselves in readiness for an indiscriminate slaughter of the feathered tribes. Use a little moderation, boys, and leave a few for seed. (MSLN 8/9/1876)

8/16/1876 – Jack Fisher, guide and trapper, came in from the foot of Flathead Lake. (MSLN 8/16/1876)

8/16/1876 – The game law being out the boys are using their Parkers to good advantage, bringing in the feathered animals in large numbers. (MSLN 8/16/1876)

11/1/1876 – Harvey Lent gave account of his trip up the Bitter Root Valley. Cattle and horse herds grazing on low hills of the West Side. Bottoms are covered with blue joint grass and wild timothy; hills covered with bunchgrass. He describes Burnt Fork as a "scatter" of about 40 small rivulets. "On one of its channels stands old Ft. Owen, now in a dismantled state, its once massive adobe battlements fallen down and in a comparative state of ruin. It is still habitable, however, and is tenanted from year to year by persons

employed in the Ft. Owen mill, which is situated within a few hundred yards of it. This is the first mill erected in Western Montana. It was built by Major John Owen and passing from him through a number of hands, is now in the charge of W. J. McCormick, of this place. It still continues to do good work, and its brand of flour has a famed record throughout the Territory.” Stevi consisted of 2 stores, 2 saloons, a carpenter shop and two blacksmith shops. Country around is filled with farmers and ranchers – good soils, plenty of timber and sufficient water for irrigating purposes. Comment on grasshopper damage to oats. “Etna is badly scattered for a town” but has new school and church, and Cortez Goff’s residence. Corvallis has 2 stores, a blacksmith shop, 1 church, 1 school, 1 saloon. Majority of people there have joined the Grange. Grangers Lodge numbers around 50, owning a good threshing machine. Gird’s Creek also covered with beautiful farms and neat dwelling houses. “The establishment of a lodge of what is called “Toppers” on this creek is greatly derogatory to the morals of the young men of the community. . . . Skalkaho is the last settlement of importance up the valley – mainly stockgrowers, plus all staple veggies. People are hoping for the railroad. “The road is constantly lined with teamsters carrying away the productions of the valley to the outside mining camps. . . .” 4 threshing machines at work. (MSLN 11/1/1876)

11/15/1876 – J.G. Dooley, former post-trader at the Mission . . . reports that Angus McDonald is daily expected from his trip to the Sound. (MSLN 11/15/1876)

12/6/1876 – Duncan McDonald, post trader at the Mission, . . . reports that his father Angus McDonald, Esq. had just returned from Victoria B.C. whither he went last summer with a cargo of furs. (MSLN 12/6/1876)

1890-1902 – Bertie Lord’s family returned to the BRV from Arkansas in 1889-1890. For the next twelve years, Bertie hunted and trapped in the Bitterroot. His trophy room contained the heads of bighorn, moose, deer, elk, stuffed birds and many other mementos of his early days in the valley. There were not many beaver in the valley, but there was a plentiful supply of mink, muskrats, coyotes, bobcats and lynx. Occasionally he would trap a brown or black bear, but the prices for bear dropped and made this unprofitable. Among his possessions were two enormous bear traps which he used. The double springs which spring the trap are so strong that special clamps were required to set them. The teeth in the traps are cone shaped knobs set in the jaws which crush a man’s leg very easily. (RR, 4/23/03, 3)

7/22/1896 – Pinchot’s diary entry, written at Missoula and Hamilton: “Lieut. Ahern called & we all had good talk. He is very sensible. I wired Harry [Graves] to come on & wrote Father about it. Took 2:45 train for Hamilton, & after long talk first with Bishop & then with Prince [Printz?], it was decided that I should make the Clearwater trip. Spent evening looking over the big mill (Anaconda Copper Mining Co.) with Bean & ----- Dr. said matter w. my knee was rheumatism. Not serious.” (Conservation Diaries of Gifford Pinchot [CDGP], 73)

1/6/1897 – The Stevensville Rod & Gun Club received last night a shipment of young Missouri quail sent by a brother of John T. Williams, who lives not far from Kansas City. . . The original shipment was 47 birds, but only 25 birds arrived alive. They were shipped through Wells Fargo Express and took 11 days on the road, and from indications, had been neither fed nor watered at all en route. The dead birds still lay in the cage when it reached here and the express company will be called upon to explain its neglect. Those that are alive will no doubt pull through and will be turned out in the Burnt Fork country in the spring. -- Ravalli Republican cited in Western News [WN] 1/6/1897)

1/20/1897 – The local trappers are not reaping the expected harvest. Fur is scarce. (In “Overwhich” article, WN 1/20/1897)

1/27/1897 – C.A. Laird and Wm. Ryckman were out hunting horses on the hills last Sunday above T.W. Laird’s and report having seen a band of 18 or 20 elk. They left them undisturbed for two good reasons: first, because it is unlawful to kill them, secondly and perhaps a better reason, they had no gun. They say Elk Gulch is so tracked up with elk it looks like a band of cattle run in there. (Darby Sentinel cited in WN 1/27/1897)

2/24/1897 – Col. Boubert is paying close attention to his traps. (WN 2/24/1897)

2/24/1897 – W.H. Wright, the famous guide, spent a few days in Hamilton last week. He will join the Carlin party as soon as spring opens on an excursion into the wilds of the Clearwater country. (WN 2/24/1897)

3/3/1897 – Petition being circulated and signed by everybody requesting the county commissioners to appoint a game warden and recommending Judge A.H. Bradley for the position. This valley has been far famed as the fishermen and huntsmen’s paradise, but of late owing to the negligence of the owners of ditches leading from the river and the wholesale slaughter of game and fish out of season, the preserves are becoming badly thinned out. It is common report, too, that parties are killing fish along the river with giant powder. As a measure of protection to the fish and game of the valley, a warden is badly needed. The judge would grace the position and his appointment would be acceptable to everybody. (WN 3/3/1897)

3/3/1897 – “Tragedy in the Wilderness.” Jim Smart and Jim Nolan reported that Gilroy had been shot by his partner, Murphy. . . and was lying in his cabin, on the banks of the Clearwater, about 25 miles below their cabin. . . suffering awful agony when seen by Nolan. Fifteen days after the shooting, Smart and Nolan arrived in Darby. . . while coming out on snowshoes they encountered fearful weather along the “storm swept grizzly infested trail.” One night they built a fire and on awakening in the morning, 13 feet of snow had banked up around them. The trappers are quite certain that the poor unfortunate on the Clearwater is dead by this time, and as that region is beyond the jurisdiction of the Montana authorities, no action toward apprehending the man who did the shooting has been taken. (WN 3/3/1897)

3/3/1897 – A party of 7 or 8 hardy adventurers, guided by Smart and Nolan, the Clearwater trappers, left for that region this morning. They will attempt to relieve Gilroy, the wounded trapper and hope to arrive in . . . time to save him. A sufficient amount to pay the expenses of the trip was quickly raised among the employees of the Bitter Root Stock Farm where Gilroy was formerly employed. (WN 3/3/1897)

3/5/1897 – “The quail that are being wintered by Amos Buck for the Rod & Gun Club have pulled through the winter in good shape and will be turned loose in the Burnt Fork country in about 3 weeks.” (MSLN 3/5/1897)

3/10/1897 – The County Commissioners appointed A.H. Bradley fish and game warden for Ravalli Co. and fixed his compensation at \$50.00 per month. (WN 3/10/1897)

3/10/1897 – The quail that are being wintered by Amos Buck for the Rod & Gun Club have pulled through the winter in good shape and will be turned loose in the Burnt Fork country in about 3 weeks. There is no reason why these birds would not thrive and become numerous. (The Ravalli Republican cited in NW 3/10/1897)

3/17/1897 – “A Hazardous Journey.” Lengthy narrative of George W. Solleder, one of the rescue party who went to Clearwater in aid of a wounded trapper. Group left Darby on 3/3/1897 to rescue Anthony Gilroy, shot by Peter Murphy on 2/12. Party consisted of Solleder, Eph Gognon, Neil Parks, Ed Barril, Pete Hotts, Chas. McQuirk and Fenwick Collins. They left Darby at 1000, made Lost Horse canyon at 1:30 or 2 p.m. There they made a hasty dinner and arranged their packs. Four pairs of Web and three pairs of “Skies” snowshoes. “and we were loaded about 35 lbs. to the man. James Smart who came out with Nolan, returned with us. We left our first camp about 3 o’clock and made about six miles that night. We carried no blankets on account of having to carry all the provisions we could. We built up a big fire and set around telling the usual camp stories of bear, elk, moose and fish.”

They left camp early the next morning, made about 8 miles by noon. Solleder broke a snowshoe. The group decided to let two return after more supplies and meet group on the summit on the 9th day, “as we were short of provisions.” Hotts and Collins returned; Parks and Solleder took their snowshoes, and their packs were divided among the group. It snowed heavily and retarded progress. “McQuirk had the Skies snowshoes on and the snow stuck very bad, and when we arrived at the foot of the summit, McQuirk could not climb the mountain with his pack, and we were compelled to take his pack to the top.” Over a foot of snow fell in four hours. They arrived at Twin Lakes about six o’clock. Camped there as Barell gave out. It snowed all night. The group was in much distress, but no one complained. “The fire melted the snow in spite of our precautions and sunk down about eight feet,” the snow here was 12 feet deep. They had plenty of medicine, were prepared to bring the wounded man out on a taboggen [sic], “the distance is 80 miles over the roughest country imaginable.” Crossed the divide 20 minutes after breaking camp. Two feet of new snow atop old snow. They took turns breaking trail, made the trapper camp of Matick by one o’clock. Burrell gave out there with a lame foot. Party had had no sleep. It kept on snowing, but no one complained.

They left camp early the next morning, going down Moose Creek, through Hell's Canyon and made Smart's cabin by 2 o'clock. Here they made a hasty dinner. Barrell gave out completely; group left him with Smart, who remained at his cabin. The Group camped 6 miles farther down, where the snow was still 6 feet deep. They were almost exhausted for sleep, but pushed on at daylight. It was heavy going in the afternoon due to thawing. They arrived at Nolan's cabin Sunday at 5 o'clock. They found Murphy there with his feet badly frozen. He said Gilroy died the night of the same day he was shot. Murphy was alone and in bed for 15 days with no wood. When Gilroy died, Murphy had tried to go to Nolan's cabin. In crossing the Clearwater, his raft ran against a rock and he fell in. he had to swim out, then travel 5 miles and froze his feet. Nolan had already gone to Darby. The group got their first sleep at Nolan's cabin Sunday night. Murphy kept the fire all night for them. The next day they proceeded down Moose Creek to the Clearwater, built a raft and went to Gilroy's cabin. Gilroy had been dead for 24 days. "We dug a grave in the cabin, after making an examination of his body, we wrapped him in a blanket and covered him in canvass and buried him. We wrote a note and placed it on the head board, giving the date of his death, and then we hastened to return. We arrived back at Nolan's cabin at 5 o'clock and put in two hours patching snowshoes. We started on our return trip the next morning. (WN 3/17/1897)

3/17/1897 – Letter from Pete Murphy to Gilroy's sister. Stated shooting was an accident while they were preparing to hunt deer. Gilroy owned 2 horses and 35 traps, "half of the outfit." One of the relief party took Gilroy's rifle out. (WN 3/17/1897)

3/17/1897 – "Relief Party Returns." Party arrived back in Darby Thursday afternoon (3/11/1897). They covered the 70 miles to Smart's cabin via the Lost Horse trail. From Smart's to Nolan's it was another 25 miles. Murphy's hands and feet were frozen and his wrist broken, he is in a bad way. Anthony Gilroy was 22 years old, formerly of Greely Co., Nebraska where his parents still reside. Gilroy's cousin, F. Meagher, came to Darby. Both Gilroy and Murphy had been employees of the Bitter Root Stock Farm. Murphy was 34 years old, and also a cousin of Gilroy. Murphy a man of good reputation. (WN 3/17/1897)

3/17/1897 – editorial item re: the Clearwater Country: "This romantic and almost inaccessible wilderness is frequented solely by hermit trappers and occasionally invaded by an adventurous party of summer tourists. It's a grand outing place in the summer time for those adventurously inclined. . . . The Idaho authorities should see that law and order prevail as too many mysterious deaths and disappearances have been reported from that tragic domain where it would seem murderers and outcasts may roam with impunity." (WN 3/17/1897)

3/24/1897 – "The New Game Law," p. 1. New law in effect, and all rod & gun devotees approve, many of them worked to get it enacted. Killing of "bison, buffalo, quail, Chinese pheasant, beaver and mountain sheep is absolutely prohibited." Limit is 2 moose or elk per season, season runs 9/15 to 11/15. Not more than 6 deer, antelope or mountain goat may be killed in one year. Season 9/1 to 1/1. Dogs in the chase are prohibited. Not more than 20 grouse, prairie chickens, fool hens, sage hens, pheasants or partridges may

be killed in 1 day. Season runs 8/15 to 12/15. Season for ducks, geese, brants and swan is 9/1 to 5/1. Singing birds and nests of birds of all kinds are protected. It is illegal to trap, catch or restrain for sale or domestication any buffalo, elk, moose or mountain sheep. The sale of any game birds or animals is prohibited, so is the killing for hide or head. Pole, line and hook are the only legal implements for fishing, except below Great Falls where 2-inch seine is permitted. The sale of trout and grayling is prohibited. The practice of dynamiting for fish is a penitentiary offense. The dumping of sawdust, bark or other debris from a sawmill into any stream is prohibited. A fishway or ladder is required at every dam. Half of every fine goes to the informer. The provisions and penalties apply to Indians and half-breeds when outside their reservations. The placing of screens across heads of ditches didn't pass, as it was opposed by irrigators. (WN 3/24/1897)

3/31/1897 – Jim Nolan and Albert Hammond left Tuesday by the snowshoe route for the Clearwater country to spend the remainder of the spring trapping for furs. They will be expected to return about the 1st of June. (Darby Sentinel cited in WN 3/31/1897)

4/14/1897 – After Untold Hardships. Peter Murphy, partner of Anthony Gilroy, who was shot at his cabin on the Clearwater on Feb. 12, arrived in town last evening after a wearisome tramp lasting 7 days covering a distance of about 70 miles. He left his cabin on the Clearwater April 7, traveling on snowshoes. His feet had been frozen and were not well yet and for lack of proper food he was weak and emaciated. On the divide he became lost in a blinding snowstorm, but struggled on, almost famished and finally came to a cache of provisions at the mouth of the Lost Horse, where he cooked and ate some food. On account of the snow balling in the web of his snowshoes, he had abandoned them. Murphy arrived at Hamilton, foot sore and completely exhausted and it will require several weeks good care to pull him together. He'll seek employment in the vicinity for the summer. Mr. Murphy appears consumed with grief over his recent awful experience in the Clearwater, although he converses freely about the affair, and courts a thorough investigation. (WN 4/4/1897)

5/5/1897 – “It has been the yearly custom of large parties of Indians from the Jocko reservation to pass through the Bitter Root to the hunting preserves and slaughter lots of game. Fish and Game Warden Bradley has stopped this. He wrote Major Carter, the agent at Arless, and requested him to acquaint the noble red man with the stringent nature of the game law and of his intention to vigorously prosecute offenders. Two Siwashes came through as a sort of advance party to try the mettle of the officer and it is safe to say from the reception they received they will have no imitators. Judge Bradley deserves commendation . . . in this matter as it has long been a mystery why the Indians should be allowed to illegally slaughter game at will and it is to be hoped the quietus will be effectual. (WN 5/5/1897)

6/9/1897 – “Eden in Montana.” Page 1. Arid Land Commissioner Donald Bradford praised the Bitter Root Valley as one of the future garden spots of the world – potential for agriculture especially fruit. “. . . climate. . . delightful, . . . scenery . . . grand and the mountains and hills are covered with fine timber that supplies lumber at \$8/1000 ft. . . . streams full of trout, and bear, elk, deer and mountain sheep are numerous. A summer of

vacation spent in the Bitter Root Valley . . . would never be forgotten.” (Helena Independent cited in WN 6/9/1897)

6/9/1897 – Sam Lucas received two pair of China pheasants by express forwarded by Oregon friends. “He will attempt to propagate the species in the Bitter Root.” (WN 6/9/1897)

6/9/1897 – Albert Hammond returned Monday from a 3 months trip in the Clearwater Country. He reports deer and elk as thick there as cattle are in the Bitter Root, having counted 223 elk in one band one morning. He had his Kodak with him and secured about 60 fine photographs of game and scenes in that famous country. He intends to return in about a week after the remainder of his effects, among which are 3 magnificent pair of elk horns which he will have mounted on his return to the Bitter Root, his partner Jim Nolan, remained at camp to look after things during Albert’s absence. He was just four days in making the trip across the mountains. Mrs. Albert Hammond will accompany her husband on his next trip into the Clearwater. (Darby Sentinel cited in WN 6/9/1897)

6/30/1897 – Jim Nolan who has been trapping in the Clearwater country came in Tuesday, brining in some furs with him. He will go back and spend some time prospecting. (WN 6/30/1897)

6/30/1897 – Long, the trapper, came in from the Clearwater country last week. He brought in a large bale of furs and skins as an evidence of his prowess. The pack included 25 bear skins, one a mammoth grizzly which he says he could be prevailed upon to part with for 40 metallic plunks of the cartwheel variety. . . . (WN 6/30/1897)

7/7/1897 – Mr. & Mrs Frank West and Mr. & Mrs. W. D. Currier of Spokane passed through Hamilton to Lake Como where they will spend their annual summer outing, fishing and hunting. (WN 7/7/1897)

7/21/1897 – Reports that game of all description are exceptionally plentiful this season. Grouse thicker and in better condition than for several years. Open season commences next month. . . . (WN 7/21/1897)

7/28/1897 – Gov. Smith appointed M. H. Bryan to the state fish & game commission to succeed A. J. Fisk resigned. (WN 7/28/1897)

7/28/1897 – Quail in the Bitter Root. Amos Buck last fall imported 28 Bob White quail and turned them loose among the grainfields on Burnt Fork. . . . he says they have become acclimated in good shape. Estimates from farmers are that 200 young birds are around this month. This will be good news to the sportsmen who have been watching the experiment with interest. (WN 7/28/1897)

8/4/1897 – The Game Law. Killing of bison, buffalo, quail, Chinese pheasant, beaver and mountain sheep is absolutely prohibited. A pole, line and hook are the only legal implements for fishing except below the Great Falls where 2-inch scene is permitted.

The sale of trout and grayling prohibited. Dynamiting for fish is a penitentiary offense. (MSLN 8/4/1897)

8/11/1897 – Lake Como, the Springs and every cool inviting retreat in the mountains of this vicinity have grown very populous of late. Nearly everybody who could disengage themselves from their usual haunts are rustivating – boating, fishing and not necessarily hunting until after the 15th inst. – and berrying. The wild berry crop this season is reported fair and would be extremely good were it not for the bands of vivacious black and grizzly bear feasting on the most luscious patches. . . . the myriads of whirring, buzzing bodies of grouse meandering about [invite] castigation from a cane. Grouse are unusually plentiful this season. Many Missoulians and parties from all over the state are enjoying their summer outing in this ‘neck o the woods.’ (WN 8/11/1897)

8/11/1897 – Sidney Ward, Wilbur Catlin and O. G. England (he of Missoula), university students left the first week on a little hunting expedition in the Hughes Creek hills. (WN 8/11/1897)

8/18/1897 – The Game Law. Reprint of the new law, now in full effect. (WN 8/18/1897)

8/18/1897 – Andy Heavilen and Will Jenkins returned from Idaho last week, where they had been on a hide hunting expedition. (WN 8/18/1897)

8/25/1897 – Sam Lucas received two pair of Chinese pheasant last spring. Four healthy young ones are now added to the flock. The birds seem to thrive and enjoy life in the Bitter Root. (WN 8/25/1897)

8/25/1897 – A Bear Story. Black and grizzly bears were unusually plentiful this weekend. Word comes that an enormous black bear was recently killed on Sleeping Child not far from the baths. Tracks and other indications of the presence of a whole family of bears in the near neighborhood had been seen for some days and Dan Wicker who was sojourning at the Springs announced his intention of capturing a cub. . . . the big adult was shot by a party, with her cubs escaping. A lady from Kansas City, Mo. Fired the fatal shot. (WN 8/25/1897)

8/25/1897 – Rev. Geo. A. Blair, pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Corvallis . . . heading for the East Fork where he will enjoy some of the splendid fishing and hunting for about 10 days. (WN 8/25/1897)

9/1/1897 – Maine observes the closed season for moose rigorously. A young man who killed one out of season and got off by paying a fine of \$1,000 was considered lucky. In the Clearwater country, not 50 mi. from Hamilton, hunters ruthlessly slaughter entire herds of noble animals to bait bear-traps to obtain mangy \$3.00 bear hides. (WN 9/1/1897)

9/15/1897 – D. A. Bishop and D. V. Bean with a complete outfit left for the Clearwater on a three weeks hunting trip via the Lost Horse Trail. (WN 9/15/1897)

9/15/1897 – T. A. Chaffin and Joe Bowden bound for the West Fork on a hunting trip. (WN 1897)

9/15/1897 – Mr. Heimelwright came in from the Clearwater, left for home in New York. Was guest of Mr. & Mrs. Carlin. The Carlins will return to Hamilton in a couple weeks. (WN 9/15/1897)

9/15/1897 – Last Monday Sir Broderic Clote and party left for the Clearwater on a hunting expedition. The gentleman is the celebrated Englishman from whom Mr. Daly bought the stallion Matt Byrnes. He came direct from London to make the Clearwater trip. (WN 9/15/1897)

9/29/1897 – H. Bell Irving of Vancouver B. C. spent several days in town, then left for Clearwater on a hunting expedition. Herman Mull and Doc Feduloff will pilot the party. (WN 9/29/1897)

9/29/1897 – D. A. Bishop, D. V. Bean, and Albert Hammond returned from the Clearwater hunting expedition Saturday evening. They report a good trip over a very rough trail and the country teeming with game. It is next to impossible to bring out any game owing to the nature of the trail. They killed an elk and lots of small game. They lost a horse in Hell's Ford, an accident that handicapped them somewhat. The gentlemen left the Carlin party encamped at Twin Lakes. (WN 9/29/1897)

9/29/1897 – Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Carlin and party, returned from the Clearwater country in . . . time to attend the Fair. "The party has spent the summer in the picturesque Clearwater wilds photographing scenery and game for Recreation, a New York publication." (WN 9/29/1897)

9/29/1897 – W. Broderic Cloete returned from hunting trip in Clearwater country. He's the representative of large financial interests in England. (WN 9/29/1897)

9/29/1897 – "H. Irving Bell and party are about the only parties remaining in the Clearwater at this time who went in by the Lost Horse Trail. The party is encamped at the Cedars, and stand a good who to get some elk in the vicinity." (WN 9/29/1897)

10/20/1897 – Stevensville News. Newt Chaffin killed a large female mountain lion in the cottonwoods in front of his house near Victor. (WN 10/20/1897)

11/10/1897 – "Doc" Feduloff . . . spent the summer guiding parties into the Clearwater . . . left for Chicago on Friday . . . may continue on to Old Bay state before returning in the spring. (WN 11/10/1897)

11/17/1897 – "All Montanians will remember the adventures of the Carlin hunting party in the fall of 1893 on the infamous LoLo trail. A.L.A. Himmelwright has written a history of their experiences in his "In the Heart of the Bitter Root Mountains, "which is of interest to lovers of adventure." (WN 11/7/1897)

11/24/1897 – Mr. Bontine of England . . . spent the summer in the Clearwater country, is doing some successful deer hunting up the Skalkaho. . . having brought down three fine specimens last week. He will shortly leave for Switzerland where he will spend the winter. Next season he proposes to spend in Ceylon. (WN 11/24/1897)

12/1/1897 – Hunters should note that the season for killing moose and elk closed Nov. 15. Deer, antelope and goat open until Jan. 1. Chicken season closes the 15th of this month. (WNH 12/1/1897)

12/8/1897 – Two Rocky Mountain goat kids about 9 mos. Old were shipped from Hamilton Monday. They were taken by W. R. Waugh and a companion on the Salmon River in Idaho. They have become domesticated and thrive in captivity. They were sent to eastern parties. (WN 12/8/1897)

12/15/1897 – Marcus Daly bought several pair of deer hounds in Kentucky for use in capturing wolves. (WN 12/15/1897)

12/22/1897 – The Game Law Again. Synopsis of Montana's game law reprinted. (WN 12/22/1897)

2/9/1898 – A Canadian traveler who has spent a couple years in the far northwest, part of the time along the Peace river, says there are in that country at least four herds of wild buffalo, numbering altogether not less than 1,000. (WN 2/9/1898)

4/27/1898 – BRSF last Thursday received 21 brace of quail forwarded by RE DeLopaz from Pleasanton, CA. The birds were turned loose on the farm. (WN 4/27/1898)

5/4/1898 – “Battle with Mountain Lions – Three Killed Thursday Night up the Skalkaho.” Ed Johnstone walking home from Thomas Coffee's place. Johnstone within 75 yards of his place (three miles below the forks of the Skalkaho and about 17 miles from Hamilton), about 10 p.m. “when he was startled by a ferocious growling and glancing along the trail beheld by the bright moonlight several cat-like forms bounding toward him . . . unarmed save for a small ax with which he had been hewing logs . . . first lion sprang “and Johnstone cleft its head almost in twain.” Hurling ax at second cat, wounding it in the side. The cat jumped over him, knocking him down. It returned to attack, but Johnstone was up and had grabbed a club, and beat the cat to death. His partner, John Henry, came out of the cabin with a rifle, saw a third lion nearby and shot it. The cats were full grown, measuring 6' 2" tip to tip. Two were females. “This is believed to be the last of the family that has terrorized the upper Skalkaho for some time past. Henry shot the mother last March. Cats to be mounted by Taxidermist Rodgers.” (WN 5/4/1898)

5/11/1898 – Sheriff Tom Irvine received 7 fox hounds, a gift from Warden Frank Conley. Irvine will place hounds with ranchmen in the valley, “who will keep them safely

kenned except when on the chase. The hounds will be used to exterminate coyotes that are becoming alarmingly thick throughout the valley. . . ." (WN 5/11/1898)

5/25/1898 – Jim Nolan came in from the Clearwater Country Monday. He reports having killed 50 bears while sojourning in the wilds of Idaho. He will soon return to bring out the hides. (WN 5/25/1898)

5/25/1898 – Byron Castner reported to have killed a large black bear near Overwhich last week. (WN 5/25/1898)

6/8/1898 – Last week John Richie shot a blue heron near Riverside that measured 6 ½ feet from tip to tip and stood three feet high. This is one of the first of the kind ever killed in this section. (WN 6/8/1898)

6/15/1898 – Item re: appearance of English sparrow in Missoula. Urges their slaughter lest they drive all the other birds away. (WN 6/15/1898)

7/27/1898 – "A number of painted Americans, big, little and otherwise, descendants of those who first attempted the formation of an American protective association, are in the neighborhood. They are en route from the Jocko Reservation to the Mineral Hill country where they will make a slaying of venison in the absence of a game warden." (WN 7/27/1898)

8/31/1898 – A. E. Shappee, R. Gwinn, and John Bennett set out Monday for the Clearwater country to be gone about a month prospecting, hunting, and fishing. (WN 8/31/1898)

9/7/1898 – R. W. Nicol lost a valuable mare, shot by careless hunters. "He now forbids hunters to frequent his premises." (WN 9/7/1898)

9/14/1898 – Al Shappee and R Gwin returned from hunting and prospecting trip in the Clearwater country – had a splendid time. (WN 9/14/1898)

1898 – Trapper Jim Nolan had a cabin on the North Fork of Moose Creek, according to the USGS 19th Annual Report of 1898. Nolan named Dead Elk Creek running into Moose Creek sometime in the 1890s, for the two dead bull elk he found there, with their antlers locked. (PDIC, II, 226)

August 1898-summer 1899 – Wesley Fales made his first trip into the Selway in August 1898, over Lost Horse Pass and down Bear Creek. Late in the season. He did not have time to get his supplies in that fall. He went back to the BRV and worked in a logging camp through the winter. The following summer (1899) he gathered a pack string and went back to the Selway with traps and supplies. "I left the Bear Creek trail a few miles below the pass and struck Moose Creek a few miles below Dead Elk Creek and went to White Sand Lake where I built my home cabin." Lengthy narrative by Fales includes his trapping techniques. (PDIC II, 226)

10/26/1898 – W. H. Baker had an accident while hunting in the field back of Mrs. Toole's residence. Climbing through the wire fence, trailing his shotgun behind him, the weapon discharged, mangling his left hand. All but the thumb and index finger were amputated. (WN 10/26/1898)

11/30/1898 – Major J. B. Webber, supervisor of the Bitter Root reserve, and corps of rough riders are on the lookout for any who violate the fish and game laws within the reserve and promise to make it exceedingly interesting for any persons guilty of ruthless violations of the law. The fish dynamiters and game slaughterers are under the ban, Mr. Webber having recently received iron clad instructions from the Interior department. (WN 11/30/1898)

12/21/1898 – D. V. Bean returned from Hughes Creek Saturday. He shot an otter on the West Fork that he presented to F. K. Parmenter who will have it mounted and placed on exhibition. (WN 12/21/1898)

c.1899-1905 – W.C. Tuttle hunted grizzly “a few miles up Trapper Creek.” (W.C. Tuttle, Montana Man, 106)

2/1/1899 – W. C. Wann and Arthur Woods hunted coyotes on George Ward's place on Camas Prairie. (WN 2/1/1899)

2/1/1899 – Four deer, purchased in Carbon County, arrived Friday for the deer park on Marcus Daly's stock farm. Now contains about a dozen deer and nearly as many antelope that seem to thrive within the beautiful park that is strongly safeguarded. (WN 2/1/1899)

c. 3/1899 – “I Wonder If It's So” column. Item re: G. T. Runnings, “a hunter, trapper and prospector who has wandered through the Clearwater country until all parts of that region seem to him like home.” Runnings captured two bear cubs after killing their mother. Carried the month-old cubs out over Lost Horse Pass. It was early spring of 1899, snow deep, and he came out on snowshoes carrying the cubs. (RCD 6/6/1900)

3/22/1899 – A trapper who came in from the Clearwater the other day and who has hunted in that section for many winters says that on the divide at the head of Lost Horse, where usually the snow is 10 or 12 feet deep at this season, it is now 20 to 22 feet deep on the level. It is feared that high water and washouts will prevail this spring. (WN 3/22/1899)

4/5/1899 – [A] recommendation which was incorporated in the sundry civil bill was the matter of permitting every forest ranger to become a deputy state game and forestry warden, to serve without expense to the state. This would add a strong force to that department of the state, composed of men daily roaming the forests and penetrating where the ordinary deputy warden would never go, and violators would soon almost cease if this was accepted by the state. Heretofore forest rangers were not empowered to

enforce state laws, and consequently could not aid the state authorities much. (WN 4/5/1899)

4/26/1899 – For Killing a Moose. George Solleder and Ed Barrill of Darby were arraigned, charged with killing a moose in the closed season. Larkin Cameron was the complaining witness. Solleder admitted having the carcass in his possession that he found cached in Ross Hole in late December, and that he and a Mr. Slaughter hauled it to Darby, but denied killing the animal. Bond set at \$500. Case against Barrill dismissed for lack of evidence. (WN 4/26/1899)

5/10/1899 – Game warden Hammond last week turned back a band of Jocko Indians who were headed for the hunting grounds of the upper valley. Violations of the game law are falling off mighty fast of late. (WN 5/10/1899)

6/7/1899 – G. W. Solleder was acquitted of killing a moose out of season. (WN 6/7/1899)

6/7/1899 – During the past week one bull and two female elk were received at Bitter Root Stock Farm to be added to the collection of the wild animals in Mr. Daly's park. The elk came from Wyoming. (WN 6/7/1899)

6/7/1899 – Jacob Overturf was down from Darby. He shipped two two-year-old mountain goats to a man who supplies the big zoological parks of the country. The goats were captured as very young kids in the Big Hole Mountains, and are to be sent to the Washington D. C. zoo. (WN 6/7/1899)

6/28/1899 – D. V. Bean brought in a bear cub . . . that he presented to Sam Lucas and which has been added to the collection of living curios at Tammany Castle. Cub was captured on Skalkaho near the mill. The mother . . . and another cub were killed. The trio were of the black species. (WN 6/28/1899)

7/12/1899 – Albert Hammond, Darby, captured a couple of young bears a few days ago. Mr. Hammond is a Kodak artist as well as a hunter, and while the young bears were up a tree he succeeded in getting a fine picture of the little fellows in their native haunts. . . . (WN 7/12/1899)

7/12/1899 – The forest reserve supervisors announce that they will prosecute all violators of the game laws. (WN 7/12/1899)

7/19/1899 – Jim Smart, well known Clearwater hunter and guide, who has made headquarters at Darby for several years past, left last week for the Klondike, directly to Dawson City. Says he won't return until he makes a big stake. (WN 7/19/1899)

7/19/1899 – The Clearwater will be visited by more parties than ever this season and quite a number of them will outfit in Hamilton. Coleman's party . . . will be the first to get away. One day next week a party consisting of Marcus Daly, Jr. and Howard Walsh, his school chum, R de B Smith of Anaconda, start on a trip to be gone a month or six

weeks. Albert Hammond will accompany [them] as guide and cook, and several assistants and plenty of horses will also be taken along. Upon his return, Albert Hammond, who knows the Clearwater like a book and is unexcelled as a hunter and fisherman, will conduct a party of titled Englishmen through the Clearwater wonderland. Several other parties will outfit from Hamilton shortly. (WN 7/19/1899)

8/2/1899 – Of Interest to Sportsmen. Hunting season dates. (WN 8/2/1899)

9/6/1899 – J. Jackson Todd and David A. Cral, two noted English sportsmen arrived here Saturday evening and left the next morning on a hunting trip into the Clearwater country. They have about 20 pack horses and will be piloted by Vick Smith, the well-known guide. (WN 9/6/1899)

9/27/1899 – The birdhunters are abroad . . . limit 20 at one time. (WN 9/27/1899)

10/4/1899 – Disgusted. Englishmen J. Jackson Todd and David A. Croal, English notables who with Vic Smith as a guide have been wandering through the Clearwater for several weeks, came out and returned home convinced that the Clearwater is a hard proposition for sportsmen. They paid Smith \$200 in advance and bought him \$40 of supplies and he contracted to show them game. They claimed he hadn't fulfilled his contract, was unfamiliar with the country and found no game for them. They refused to pay balance and he attached their outfit. They ultimately settled. (WN 10/4/1899)

10/18/1899 – Duck and other wildfowl shooting is unusually good . . . Billy McCauley brought in 33 and on last Saturday D. A. Bishop and W. H. Eastman together bagged 78. (WN 10/18/1899)

12/20/1899 – Charles Payton in from Willow Creek. (WN 12/20/1899)

c.1899-1905 – W.C. Tuttle and Al Baker decided to hunt/trap predators for the bounty. "The bounty of five dollars a scalp was very good, and with a shot hide, you could get at least a dollar. It sounded like a real good idea; so we bought two old nags, packed them, and headed into the wilderness. Our destination was a spot on Gird's Creek where we could pitch our tent and spend the winter. It worked out fine. The snow was only a foot deep. We cut a birch for tent poles and put up the old tent beside the creek, where we threw water on the tent until it was frozen hard. . . . we were down at the mouth of a small canyon, well brushed in, where the wind would not bother us. Plenty of wood and water. After our camp was completed, we took the horses back in the canyon and shot them for wolf bait. It was an ideal spot, judging from the wolf and coyote sign. We had a good supply of rifle ammunition and a good supply of strychnine. While the dealers would pay nothing for a poisoned hide, they'd pay a dollar for a shot hide. So all you did was find the dead coyote or wolf, blast him with a six-shooter – and make a dollar a shot." (Montana Man, Tuttle, 127)

1/3/1900 – Local sportsmen at Stevensville are keeping a close watch of certain parties in this end of the valley . . . suspected of trapping and killing quails, and there are likely to

be some arrests in the near future. The birds were put out at a considerable expense and are multiplying rapidly and should be given the protection the law affords them. The evidence is very strong. . . . John W. Bennett, of the West Side, is up before Judge Bennett for killing beaver. (WN 1/3/1900)

1/3/1900 – Local sportsmen to meet this evening at Sheriff's Office to organize a rod and gun club. Will start off with membership of about fifty. (WN 1/3/1900)

1/3/1900 – John Bennett was charged with killing beaver in violation of the game laws. (RCD 1/3/1900)

1/10/1900 – Bitter Root Rod & Gun Club organized. Officers will be elected. Membership is about 50 and admission fee is \$2.00. Some fine trap shooting is promised in the near future. (WN 1/10/1900)

1/10/1900 – Johnnie Phelps of Burnt Fork brought in 19 coyote skins to secure the county bounty. The animals were caught by his pack of hounds. (WN 1/10/1900)

1/17/1900 – Permanent organization of the Rod and Gun club President, W. W. McCrackin, V.P. F. M. Lockwood, Secretary H. F. Cook; treasurer, J. D. Watts. Other members of the executive committee are F. J. Morris, C. M. Johnson and D. A. Bishop. The traps, string pulls, etc. of the defunct Stevensville gun club were bought for \$25. The old ball grounds will be used for target practice. Each member of the club becomes a local game warden and can obtain ammunition at reduced rates. (WN 1/17/1900)

1/24/1900 – Jake Goff, Rye Creek, making up a pack of hounds to exterminate coyotes and black wolves, which overrun his section of the country. (WN 1/24/1900)

2/7/1900 – It is said that a band of over 200 blacktail deer are wintering in Ross Hole. (WN 2/7/1900)

6/6/1900 – “The Bloodhounds Quest.” Two men came through Hamilton with two massive Siberian bloodhounds, “cruel, savage-looking animals.” The men were heavily armed, carried Winchesters and said they were going into the Clearwater to hunt big game. Went to Darby and stayed over. Again the dogs were subject of much attention, one of them weighing over 140 lbs. The two were anxious to see Albert Hammond, running the Kendall sawmill near LoLo. “There is no man living more familiar with the Clearwater country and the difficulties of entering it from the Montana side, so they wished to see him and learn as much as possible about the country into which they were going. Albert Hammond has been into the Clearwater country probably as often as any other man in Montana, frequently being absent months at a time. More than once he has acted as the guide of eastern hunting enthusiasts and the walls of the Darby hotel are thickly hung with the spoils of his prowess as a hunter and evidences of his skill as a taxidermist.”

Eventually the two men revealed their mission: “Ever since the Coeur d'Alene trouble five men, for whom a large reward is offered, have been in hiding in the

Clearwater country. At least they are now supposed to be hiding there.” The two men are Hallerton and Roberts, from Wardner. Someone in Darby recognized them from Wardner and knew the five fugitives and where they were to be found in the Clearwater. He left for Clearwater to warn them. (RCD 6/6/1900)

8/1/1900 – Prairie chickens and grouse will be very plentiful this season, which begins on August 15. (WN 8/1/1900)

8/1/1900 – Party composed of Bill Rumble, Harry and Mrs. Thompson and Ike Sears, Jr. went fishing and hunting up Blodgett Creek canyon last Friday to be gone several days. (RCD 8/1/1900)

8/8/1900 – Hills Full of Grouse. Past three or four years grouse and chicken were none too plentiful in the Bitter Root hills. Past winter and spring have been excellent conditions for the young, hills said to be full of fat young grouse. (RCD 8/8/1900)

8/15/1900 – The people who secured the quails for distribution request the farmers throughout the valley to leave a few shocks of wheat where they can have access throughout the winter. The quail have done well and many flocks of young . . . hatched. With proper care for a year or two, the valley will be well stocked . . . the quail is a great insect destroyer. . . . (WN 8/15/1900)

8/15/1900 – Hamilton Gun Club met, moving for more rigid enforcement of state game laws. Offering a \$25 reward for evidence against anyone shooting ducks before Sept. 15th. (RCD 8/15/1900)

8/29/1900 – Those pot hunters who are killing ducks out of season had better “look a leedle out.” (WN 8/29/1900)

8/29/1900 – Hundreds of Flathead Indians from the Jock reservation are in the Mineral Hill country slaughtering game on the Forest reserve. The miners of Hughes Creek are not allowed this privilege and woe be to the white hunter who transgresses the law and it would seem that the nation’s wards should be restricted somewhat. The local gun club and the forest rangers, who are also game wardens, should interest themselves in the matter. (WN 8/29/1900)

8/29/1900 – Messrs. S. F. Frantz, and E. C. Langdon of Hamilton and Dennis Zigrang of Livermore, Iowa started upcountry for a couple weeks’ hunting for deer, bear, elk, moose, goat . . . Zigrang is the brother-in-law of the editor of this paper. “the party has two teams, a pack team and drive which they send ahead to some designated spot with instructions to prepare camp, while they follow along behind hunting and fishing. They take their own cook . . .” Zigrang will probably remain a month of six weeks hunting and enjoying the freedom of the wilderness. He is joined by Attorney W. M. Draffen. (RCD 8/29/1900)

8/29/1900 – W. C. Fordge, Charles P. Pettus and his brother, Morrison Pettus, all from St. Louis, arrived in Hamilton on 8/29 bound for the Clearwater country on a hunting trip. The three young men are related to some of the best people of St. Louis, their folks being well known in banking circles. For the past several years they have been taking a hunting trip in Harrison County, Wyoming. This year they varied the program, leaving Friday morning for Darby, where their guides, Bob Vance and Fred Printz, well-known in the valley were awaiting their coming. They carried a splendid equipment and were certainly going into the elk country right. They expect to return about October 15. (RCD 9/5/1900)

9/5/1900 – Sam Frantz is up the valley hunting “deer and things.” (RCD 9/5/1900)

9/12/1900 – Hunting Season Now On. Duck season in full swing. Discusses migration and the flyway. Deer still to be found in the Sapphires, but not very plentiful. Eastern side of BRV seems to be more the favorite haunt of the bear than of deer, “and probably as many are killed on that side of the valley as on the Bitter Root mountain side. Bear hunting . . . is chiefly a trapper’s game, for to find the pig-like fellows is always a matter of accident. For the past two weeks, parties bound for the Clearwater have frequently passed through the valley. Hunters forming these parties have come from St. Louis, Maine and Denver, and have planned their expeditions many months in advance, securing their guide, hunter and pack horses early in the season. Generally one of the party reaches Hamilton a few days in advance to make final preparations, then telegraphs the others to come . . . they meet in this city and go up to Darby where their guides and outfits are waiting and start . . . through Lost Horse Pass. Local parties don’t go so far. “A trip through Blodgett into the Clearwater, then southward and back through the Nez Perces Pass is one of the many allurements. It has only been recently that the Clearwater could be reached through Blodgett Canyon. To Mr. Bell, probably, more than any other person should be given the credit of opening up the trail through Blodgett Canyon into the Clearwater. The trip is not an easy one; in fact, it is beset with many dangers and difficulties; but every one of the hardships met with amply repay the voyageur for the exertion it costs.

“Twenty miles up the canyon the pass widens out into a broad and beautiful meadow, an elk meadow as perfect as anything to be found in the entire Rocky Mountain system.

“There are elk up there too, if reports are to be given credence. Not one or two lonely specimens of the hunter’s prize, but a large band of the magnificent animals, a band sufficient in numbers to tramp the water places sufficient to cut it into a morass with their hoofs.

“Bear come down to the very mouth of the canyon. But that is nothing unusual as Bruin has been killed within the month while making an inroad upon the hog pen of a rancher in this valley. They have also been known to come down from the canyon mentioned and carry off suckling pigs from ranches within two miles from town. To attempt to capture them, however, by any means other than a trap were labor lost, for there is no animal more cunning than the aforesaid Bruin.

Deer hunters’ “home” is up the valley on the eastern crest of the western range, along the hills beyond the West Fork and southward. Locals believe no deer winter in

BRV, "but all pass over the range and spend the winter in the Clearwater country. The trails by which they pass from the valley into Idaho are distinctly marked, almost as plain as the buffalo trails to the eastward."

[Discussion of deer migration from BRV.]

"For the past six weeks bands of Indians have been making their way up the valley on their annual hunting excursion. They go early simply to avoid the rush and not to get ahead of the game law and season. They travel very slowly, making the trip in short stages. Bucks, squaws and papooses all bob along on their little scrawny ponies, all assist in urging on their shiftless-looking pack ponies, making the trails over the hills. The Indians do not go very far up the valley. About 50 miles from Hamilton will catch the most adventurous of them. The majority of the aborigines turn westward after passing Darby and follow the West Fork, from there taking to the hills and camping near the game trails.

"The Indian's hatred for work is not overdrawn, and in nothing does he show it better than in his hunting tactics. A white man will travel many miles every day he spends hunting in the hills; the Indian keeps pretty well to one narrow circle and depends on the game coming to him. His method has the merit of success. He knows the deer have to cross the hills in getting out of the country, so instead of hunting over a vast area for them he waits near the place where they are certain sooner or later to attempt to pass. No doubt many deer are killed out of season by these bands of Indians.

"Because of their early invasion of the hunting grounds, also because of a race hatred which seems natural to man, the public looks with a jealous eye upon the coming of the copper-colored hunters. But the early hunter, the man who came into the country in advance of the general influx of whites, feels more kindly toward the Indian. He remembers that in days gone by this valley and all the thousands of square miles of a hunter's paradise surrounding it were nature's gift to her red children. Today there are a few startled deer where then they roamed in herds; today the Indians have to travel 200 miles through their former valley home, now inhabited and marked by the enterprise of the relentless whites, to reach the hunting grounds only to find it invaded by seemingly omnipresent prospectors. So the old-timer thinks of the past, and begrudges not to the children of the forest the little pleasure and profit they derive from their yearly migration into the hill country.

"This spirit of sympathy forms the integral part of the ethics of hunting. It is natural to man to look with an envious eye upon anyone excepting himself killing game. Man cannot escape the thought that the woods, hills and streams were created for him who will dwell among them. Therefore, the hunter feels, with that sensation of being monarch of all he surveys, that no one else has a right to hunt the game which dwells within his kingdom.

"There are few exceptions to this: one is that the Indian has a right – a right which is his heritage from nature – to kill game in season and out of season; another is that the prospector, the man who wins the west for generations to follow where he has led, has also the right to kill game whenever it can minister to his material wants." (RCD 9/12/1900)

9/19/1900 – R.W. Shoop, C. Wenderoth, and W. A. Brady of Pittsburg, PA and C.H. Sloane of Philadelphia, PA registered at the Ravalli on their way home from the

Clearwater – Mr. Wenderoth being especially enthusiastic as on their expedition he succeeded in killing a splendid specimen of mountain goat. Mr. Brady . . . is a prominent figure in sporting circles, being perhaps most celebrated as Corbett's old trainer. (RCD 9/19/1900)

9/26/1900 – F. H. Cook, enthusiastic sportsman from Leominster, Mass. Has been at the Ravalli since Saturday with an injured arm and shoulder. He started with a guide and proper equipment of pack and saddle horses for a trip in to the Clearwater. About one day out from Darby, was injured by a "refractory cayuse." (RCD 9/16/1900)

10/3/1900 – Yesterday a party of Denver sportsmen consisting of Messrs. Borchardt, Mechlin, Daniels and Dr. Rivers returned from a month's hunting trip in the Clearwater where they had been conducted by Charley McWhirk, the well known guideThe party bagged three bull elk, several deer, and seven mountain goats. Game is very plentiful in the Clearwater this season. (WN 10/3/1900)

10/3/1900 – War against the ducks continues; every morning bombardment rattles and rolls across the surface of the mill pond. (RCD 10/3/1900)

10/10/1900 – Hunting party of J. D. Watts, John H. Watts, D. A. Bishop, and D. T. Larriau, returned from a trip to Frog Pond Basin at the head of Rock Creek did not strike big game, but secured plenty of birds, etc. (WN 10/10/1900)

10/10/1900 – Under Sheriff D. A. Bishop, J. D. Watts and party returned from two weeks outing on the East Fork – bagged small game but failed to get any big game whatsoever. (RCD 10/10/1900)

11/28/1900 – From all accounts big game and consequently venison is very plentiful this season and the nimrods are not collecting their opportunities. (WN 11/28/1900)

12/5/1900 – D. V. Bean brought in last week the skin of a mountain lion killed near his sawmill which measured 8 ft. Gave skin to Charley Donovan, who will have it prepared for a rug. (WN 12/5/1900)

12/12/1900 – Master Lovell Blodgett caught a large mink in his trap. (WN 12/12/1900)

12/12/1900 – McVey hunting party returned well loaded with game (WN 12/12/1900)

12/19/1900 – Frequent hunting parties returning from the East Fork hunting grounds, say there is very little game there this winter. (WN 12/19/1900)

12/26/1900 – Several of the boys around town have been out recently on hunting expeditions. (WN 12/19/1900)

12/26/1900 – Supt. Moser says the game law is a dead one. The game wardens are powerless. (RCD 12/26/1900)

1/1/1901 – Darby, 1/1. Hunting parties seem to be quite numerous of late. (WN 1/2/1901)

1/9/1901 – J. D. Vance, Louis Kincaid and Al Morrison returned last week from a hunting trip in the East Fork country. (WN 1/9/1901)

1/9/1901 – John Phelps and his coyote hounds are making quite a raid on the coyotes on Burnt Fork, having killed about 19 so far this winter. (WN 1/9/1901)

1/30/1901 – H. L. Cooper and J. L. Conner left for the Clearwater country where they go to look for Cooper's brother who went into that country in the early fall, was to have been back by Christmas, but has not been heard from. (WN 1/30/1901)

2/6/1901 – J. L. Conner and H. L. Cooper returned from the Clearwater. Found Cooper's brother was all right, he returned with them. The first night out, going over, they camped on the snow with a tree for shelter and nothing but fir boughs for bedding. They went through and returned by a new pass into that country, which was discovered by J. Frank Cooper and W. A. Kerlee two years ago. On their return trip they left cabin [sic] six miles below the head of Canyon Creek, on the Clearwater side of the range, and about 45 miles southwest of this place at 8 a.m. Friday and arrived in Darby at 10 a.m. the following day, having traveled all of the previous night. Report that the snow is 8 feet deep on the level where they crossed the range. (WN 2/16/1901)

2/6/1901 – Coyotes are doing much damage up here [East Fork] this winter. Sheep, pigs, chickens, turkeys, ducks, etc. are easy victims to these sneaking varmints. . . . (RCD 2/6/1901)

2/27/1901 – Henry Haacke killed a large cougar on upper Burnt Fork. (RCD 2/27/1901)

3/6/1901 – T. A. Cooper left Saturday for the Clearwater country where he spent most of the winter trapping. (WN 3/6/1901)

3/6/1901 – New bounty law is \$5 per wolf and coyote, \$7 per mountain lion. (WN 3/6/1901)

3/13/1901 – East Fork – George Robbins and Ed Williams have waylaid 19 coyotes this winter . . . every one killed by moonlight. (RCD 3/13/1901)

4/3/1901 – Item re: requirements for claiming bounty on coyotes, wolves and lions. (WN 4/3/1901)

4/3/1901 – The New Game Law. Absolute protection extended to moose, bison, caribou, buffalo, quails, Chinese pheasants, mountain sheep, antelope and beaver. Fines not less

than \$50 nor more than \$500, or imprisonment in jail, not less than six months or prison more than two years. Exception is beaver upon one's own land when they injure the same by dam building. No killing of female elk and moose; males only between 9/1/ and 12/1, limit 2. Penalties listed. Deer and mountain goat season runs 9/1 to 1/1, limit 6. Chasing of any of the above with dogs is prohibited. Grouse, prairie chicken, pheasant, fool hen, and partridge season 9/1/ to 12/1, limit 20. Sage hens and turtle doves, 8/1 through 12/15, limit 20. Wild geese, ducks, brants, and swan, 9/1 to 5/1. Prohibits killing of songbird, destruction of nests, or taking of eggs. Trapping of moose, buffalo, elk or mountain sheep banned. Fishing with hook and line allowable any time. Ditch owners must maintain at ditchheads a water wheel to prevent fish entering ditch or flumes. Also bill passed re: state game warden, licenses, etc. (WN 4/3/1901)

4/3/1901 – Charley Peyton last week while trapping marten in the hills east of town caught a panther that measured 9 feet from tip to tip in an ordinary No. 1 steel trap. The varmint was caught by one toe in such a manner that he could not escape and Charley dispatched him with a .22 rifle. (WN 4/3/1901)

4/3/1901 – New state game warden is William F. Scott, son of old Deer Lodge hotel man Sam Scott. (WN 4/3/1901)

4/17/1901 – W. P. McCauley met with painful accident while hunting ducks on the river. (RCD 4/17/1901)

5/15/1901 – Biggest haul of coyotes and bounty money in one bunch on record in this section was made by D. R. Frogge of Willow Creek last week. He located and dug out their hole on his ranch a short distance from the house, a mother coyote and 7 cubs. Bounty on the 8 was \$40.00. (WN 5/15/1901)

6/19/1901 – New bounty law may bankrupt the bounty fund. (WN 6/19/1901)

7/17/1901 – According to an opinion of Game Warden W. F. Scott, Indians, when off their reservations, are amenable to the state fish and game laws, and Mr. Scott has instructed his deputies to enforce the law against them. (WN 7/17/1901)

7/24/1901 – J. O. Hendrix of Victor killed a big cinnamon bear on Fred Burr Creek. (WN 7/24/1901)

7/24/1901 – Huckleberries ripe and plentiful; many parties going in quest of them. Cinnamon and brown bears also ripe and plentiful, according to the berry pickers. (WN 7/24/1901)

8/7/1901 – Fellows slaughtering chickens and ducks prematurely will be investigated and prosecuted by Deputy Game Warden Higgins. (WN 8/7/1901)

8/14/1901 – Flathead County is the only county in the state that has buffaloes listed on the assessment books. 125 head in the county, assessed at \$200 a head. (WN 8/14/1901)

8/21/1901 – Last Thursday, four Chicagoans, E.M. Ashcroft, W.H. Wilder, F. A. Johnson and W.M. Schermerhorn, outfitted here and started on a month's hunting trip in the Clearwater. Thomas Running is guiding the party. (WN 8/21/1901)

8/21/1901 – It's reported that State Game Warden Scott has appointed special deputies to assist in enforcement of game laws. Identity is kept secret so that they will be better enabled to catch violators. "It is said this corps of deputies is made up of sportsmen who are interested in the protection of game and who do not receive pay." (WN 8/21/1901)

8/28/1901 – Peter Boltz killed a bear in their field near Florence. Six others were killed during the week. (WN 8/28/1901)

9/4/1901 – N. J. Tillman was accidentally shot by his brother Bud Tillman while hunting chickens on Eight Mile. (WN 9/4/1901)

9/4/1901 – George Beckwith of Missoula Mercantile Co. was up the valley hunting. (WN 9/4/1901)

9/4/1901 – A flock of five cinnamon bears called at G. W. Ward's on Camas last week and Sidney bagged one of them with the first shot. (WN 9/4/1901)

9/4/1901 – G. E. Ludeman, Charles Moore, of Hamilton and Ed Barrill and W. R. Gibford of Darby, have all gone into the Clearwater on a hunting trip. (WN 9/4/1901)

9/11/1901 – Bear are quite plentiful this season. Last week several were found in George Ward's orchard eating apples. Sidney shot one and T. J. Blankenship another. The rest escaped. (WN 9/11/1901)

9/11/1901 – For a second time this summer, Goodenough and Commee's chicken house was raided by badgers, and not a chicken was left alive. (WN 9/11/1901)

9/11/1901 – Oliver Blood returned from a successful hunt upon the South Fork, where he killed a 200-lb. five-pronged buck and bagged lots of birds and fish. (WN 9/11/1901)

9/11/1901 – Joe Lafond almost stumbled upon a large black bear while duck hunting at the head of the mill pond. (WN 9/11/1901)

9/18/1901 – W. W. Barr killed a black bear that had been foraging in his orchard, just north of Corvallis, with a six-shooter. (WN 9/18/1901)

9/25/1901 – Bears are becoming very plentiful in this section. A large cinnamon bear was seen near the James Dykeman residence, a half mile from town Saturday night. (WN 9/25/1901)

9/25/1901 – Hunters in the valley armed with rifles had better be very careful or serious accidents may result. Several narrow escapes are reported. (WN 9/25/1901)

10/2/1901 – Robert Varnum of New York City departed yesterday by way of Lost Horse Pass, for a hunt in the Clearwater, and expects to be out 30 or 40 days. He has a well equipped outfit, furnished by Jim Vance and Fred Printz, who go along as guides. (WN 10/2/1901)

10/2/1901 – A party of New Yorkers returned Wednesday evening from a successful hunt in the Clearwater country, where they had been piloted by the well known guides, Jim Vance and Fred Printz. As trophies they brought in a magnificent elk's head and four mountain sheep which they will have mounted. (WN 10/2/1901)

10/9/1901 – Messrs. J. W. Rickman, M. M. Goodenough and J. F. Comee started Friday morning for a few days hunting and fishing at Burnt Fork. (WN 10/9/1901)

10/16/1901 – The hunting party at Burnt Fork Lake returned home with any amount of small game. (WN 10/16/1901)

10/16/1901 – Martin Oertli killed two full grown black bears and a cub. He bagged them on Sleeping Child Creek. (WN 10/16/1901)

10/23/1901 – A. L. A. Himmelwright of New York, who was a member of the unfortunate Carlin party that got lost in the Clearwater several years ago came in last week from a 35-day trip in the mountains. Charles McWhirk and W. R. Waugh of Darby, the well known hunters, guided the expedition. They party went in by the Elk City trail. Mr. Himmelwright's chief occupation was collecting views and taking elevations. The party ascended Ridge Mountain, of the Big Hole range, and found its elevation to be 10,540 feet, or 265 feet higher than Trapper Peak, the loftiest of the Bitter Root range. The party found lots of game in the way of bear, deer, sheep, goats, fox, coyotes, etc., and while here Mr. Himmelwright expressed himself as being highly pleased with the trip and declared Messrs. McWhirk and Waugh as being the best guides he ever met. (WN 10/23/1901)

10/30/1901 – Mr. & Mrs. Richard Parmenter enjoying an outing at Lake Como where Dick expects to bag a few wild geese. (WN 10/30/1901)

10/30/1901 – Uncle Jess Russell exhibiting a full grown wild hawk's foot around which a heavy wire is twined. Hawk was shot by Frank Johnson of Grantsdale and had evidently been encumbered with the wire a long time. (WN 10/30/1901)

11/6/1901 – G.H.Garnett and J. J. Bond returned Friday from their 10 days hunting trip in the vicinity of Burnt Fork lake. (WN 11/6/1901)

11/13/1901 – From the number of hunting parties in the hills we judge venison will soon be abundant in Hamilton. (WN 11/13/1901)

12/11/1901 – Dr. Goodenow and John Ritchies back from a hunt on Skalkaho, where they killed some deer. (WN 12/11/1901)

1901 – According to Wesley Fales: “Hoodoo Lake was formerly called Elk Summit Lake and the name was changed by Albert Hammond of Darby, Montana about forty years ago [c.1901]. He was a hunter and guide, who lived in Darby, eighteen or twenty miles above Hamilton in the Bitterroot Valley. He was a very successful and popular guide into the Clearwater Country of Idaho in the nineties. He always found plenty of game for his hunters and his favorite campground was at Elk Summit Lake, formerly so called. But his good luck finally failed and after having taken several parties to the lake with no success, Hammond became disgusted and said that the lake was hoodooed. After this he always referred to Elk Summit Lake as Hoodoo Lake.” (Fales communication, possibly to Than Wilkerson, November 1941, cited in Elsensohn, PDIC, II, 372)

1/15/1902 – John Grush trapped a full grown eagle away up the Skalkaho – now on exhibit at the Paragon. (WN 1/15/1902)

1/15/1902 – Willie Stuart, 16, Stevensville, died from a gunshot wound received while hunting on the island. He saw fish swimming beneath the ice, struck at them with his gun butt, the .22 went off, the ball penetrated his left lung, mortally wounding him. (WN 1/15/1902)

1/29/1902 – Meeting of Hamilton Rod & Gun Club. Agenda includes reorganization for the ensuing year. (WN 1/29/1902)

2/5/1902 – Report of the Hamilton Rod & Gun Club Meeting. (WN 2/5/1902)

2/19/1902 – James Grush and Howard Smith were arrested on complaint of Fritz Eggenberg, charged with shooting grouse out of season. The case was dismissed. (WN 2/19/1902)

3/19/1902 – Rod & Gun Club to meet at the firehall Friday night at 7. Grounds have been placed in tip top shape and regular shoots will now be had. (WN 3/19/1902)

4/2/1902 – Sid Parks in from the West Side with the carcass of a monster mountain lion he shot. One of the biggest ever killed in this section. (WN 4/2/1902)

5/14/1902 – Charles B. Peyton of Willow Creek received bountain certificates to the amount of \$155 on 15 old coyotes and 16 pups, 31 in all, which he captured recently. . . .

biggest bunch ever turned in to the county. Peyton sold his certificates to a Butte bank at 10% discount. (WN 5/14/1902)

5/28/1902 – Hamilton Rod & Gun Club will be held to consider the challenge by the Stevi club. (WN 5/28/1902)

6/4/1902 – The Belgian hare industry is meeting good success in Darby. “Albert Hammond and G. W. Solleder returned from a trip into the Clearwater a couple of weeks ago. They made the return trip on snowshoes and found the beautiful about 5 ft. deep on the range. The journey of 75 miles consumed seven days. They report game still abundant in this, the finest remaining hunting preserve in North America., but that the ruthless slaughter of the past few years is fast thinning out the game. Mr. Hammond estimates that last year fully 500 elk, including 140 bulls were slaughtered in the Clearwater district within an area of 50 miles square. Prompt steps should be taken to protect these magnificent game preserves. (WN 6/4/1902)

6/15/1902 – D. Hunsaker received three foxhounds from Missouri, trained to capture wolves or coyotes. To keep a pack of 12 to 15 hounds to fight coyotes. (WN 15/1902)

6/15/1902 – Rufus O. Russell, proprietor of City Meat Market, was charged with game law violation. Charge dismissed. (WN 6/15/1902)

1902 – W.C. Tuttle, Hank Tuttle and Than Wilkerson encountered black bears during a fire on Overwhich (Montana Man, Tuttle, 64-65)

8/6/1902 – T. C. Coleman of New York, owner of Coleman flats in Missoula, guided by W. H. Wright of Spokane, came in from Clearwater via Lost Horse last Wednesday. (WN 8/6/1902)

8/6/1902 – Quartz miner James Bubaer arrested by game wardens for killing deer out of season. He admits to doing so out of need. (WN 8/6/1902)

8/13/1902 – The Montana Game Law. (WN 8/13/1902)

8/13/1902 – J. D. Vance returned from the Clearwater this week and reports having safely conducted the McMurry-Balliet party safely into the Clearwater country. They went in by way of Lost Horse for a month's outing and were well supplied with saddle and pack animals and a complete outfit. The party consisted of W. E. McMurry of Helena and A. C. Balliett, wife and daughter, of Honeywell, Missouri. (WN 8/13/1902)

8/20/1902 – James Bubaer, charged with game violation for killing a deer, was tried. Defense attorney H. L. Myers, defense witnesses George W. Solleder and James Vance. He was acquitted on the grounds that his offense was covered by the provision for killing when oppressed by hunger of destitution. (WN 8/20/1902)

8/27/1902 – Madison and DeForest Grant, New York City, arrived here Saturday evening and on the following morning left for the Clearwater by way of Lost Horse on a 30 day hunting trip. They were met here by Ed Barrill and Bert Townsend, who went along as guide and cook. The party is finely equipped having 15 head of saddle and pack horses. (WN 8/27/1902)

9/3/1902 – John Grush and party are spending the week on West Fork hunting and fishing. (WN 9/3/1902)

9/3/1902 – Rev. B. C. Black and W. H. Bell and party went to the Clearwater for a few weeks outing. (WN 9/3/1902)

9/3/1902 – William Dyson, Missoula, and A. O. Confield, Tacoma, left Hamilton for a hunting and fishing trip up the valley. (WN 9/3/1902)

9/3/1902 – W. E. McMurry party returned from their trip to the Clearwater country Sunday. A most enjoyable time hunting and fishing, and aside from losing one pack horse that fell from the steep trail, the trip was successful. (WN 9/3/1902)

9/3/1902 – Mr. & Mrs. Emerl Seton and Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Bemis of New York City arrived, went to Darby to outfit and complete preparations for a 2 months' hunting tyrip in the Clearwater country. (WN 9/3/1902)

9/10/1902 – M. H. Williams, Harry Swarts and several others left Wednesday on a hunting trip expecting to be gone several weeks. (WN 9/10/1902)

9/17/1902 – S. T. Hauser Jr. of Helena and G. M. Dillard of Virginia have returned from their hunting trip into the Clearwater country. (WN 9/17/1902)

9/17/1902 – Joseph Bowdon, Arthur Woods, Dean Stanley, and Peter Flugstad of Corvallis returned from a successful hunting trip on Blue Joint. (WN 9/17/1902)

9/17/1902 – Superintendent J. E. Totman requests that all boys under 18 refrain from shooting over the mill pond. Everybody else is welcome. Anybody using a rifle will be prosecuted. (WN 9/17/1902)

10/8/1902 – B. F. See, R. Lee McCulloch and Jack Campbell left for Rock Creek country on a little hunting trip. (WN 10/8/1902)

10/8/1902 – Fred Printz, well known guide, returned home to Darby from Nome, Alaska where he had been operating with a geological survey party all summer. (WN 10/8/1902)

11/12/1902 – Duckshooting is the favorite pastime of the male population. (WN 11/12/1902)

11/20/1902 – Rev. B.C. Black, William Dowkes, W.H. Bell and Z.R. Moore have returned from their trip across the Bitter Root range where they went with the express purpose of reaching a lake which has often been seen from the crest of the mountains at the head of Canyon Creek directly west of Hamilton, but which no man before has ever been able to reach.

Time after time hunters and prospectors have looked down from the cliffs above into the basin 2,000 feet below where a beautiful sheet of water was spread out. Time after time they have attempted to reach the lake but have always turned back from the edge of frightful precipices, descending seemingly sheer down to the edge of the lake.

But the party which has just returned went with the determination of taking a definite route which they reasoned would lead them down into an entrance to the basin, and their theory of the formation of that country proved to be the correct one. A three days' journey brought them around far west of the lake and let them through a narrow opening between the cliffs into the basin of the mysterious lake.

Unquestionably they were the first white men to ever reach the elusive sheet of water. Nowhere could be found the scar of trailblazer's axe. Nowhere were the hoofprints of the pack horse. Nowhere could be found signs of campfires of long ago. Nowhere was any indication that any human being had ever set foot within the basin.

The lake was a beautiful sheet of water probably half a mile wide and a mile long. A smaller lake continuous to it was frozen from bank to bank and a sheet of ice already encircled the larger lake. The basin of the lake contained probably 1,000 acres, nearly all meadow, knee high with dead and rustling grass. Closer to the cliffs was a fringe of trees and back of them rose the forbidden cliffs which had so long baffled the hunter and explorer.

A cold winter swept across the basin, carrying a threatening scurry of snow. It was snowing heavily on the divide and the party hastened away from the lake on their homeward journey. First they left in a conspicuous place, carefully packed away in a sardine box, an account of their trip, the names of the members of the party, the date of their discovery; so that whoever enters the basin will find that he has been preceded by other adventurous spirits.

Several Hamilton people intend making the trip to the lake next summer, now that the route has been discovered, and spending a couple of weeks camping in the basin, fishing where trout are myrmidonian and hunting where the sound of rifle has never echoed before. ("History" column, Ravalli Republic, 11/20/2002.)

12/17/1902 – State Game Warden Scott's report: arrests between 4/1/1901 and present were 128. 79 convictions, 29 acquittals, 17 dismissed; 1 broke jail and 2 jumped bail. Total amount of licenses collected \$1,855. Fines imposed \$3,280. Sale of confiscated articles, \$119.98. (WN 12/17/1902)

1/21/1903 – Editorial item re: “even the coyote, friendless and persecuted, seems to have a place to fill in the scheme of nature’s system of checks and balances, observes the Kalispell Inter Lake. “Ref. to Meagher Co. where coyotes have nearly disappeared due to bounty. . . Immediately the jackrabbits . . . began to multiply . . . became so numerous . . . they are playing havoc with the hay and alfalfa crops. . . .” (WN 1/21/1903)

1/21/1903 – John A Smith down from Ross Hole . . . reports a foot of snow there, but stock in good condition. Says many deer slaughtered of late by hunters and coyotes. Coyotes chase the deer over the crusted now until exhausted and then dispatch them at leisure. (WN 1/21/1903)

2/11/1903 – Matt Sullivan brought in carcass of a monster mountain lion measuring 8 ft. tip to tip, which he caught in a steel trap near Sleeping Child Springs. (WN 2/11/1903)

2/18/1903 – Wash McKinney brought in a lion carcass, killed on his place near Como. It measured 7 ½ feet long. Bounty is \$7.50. (WN 2/18/1903)

3/4/1903 – Matt Sullivan brought in another mountain lion, 7’8” long. Caught in his traps on Sleeping Child. Matt’s second in a fortnight. (WN 3/4/1903)

3/25/1903 – New bounty law in effect March 7. \$3 per coyote; \$5 per grown wolf; \$3 per wolf pup; \$7 each for bears and mountain lions. Claimant must within sixty days of the killing exhibit the skin of the animal, including tail and skin from the entire head, including the ears, the upper and skin of the lower jaws, together with the lips attached, to the country, (WN 3/25/1903)

4/22/1903 – New Game Law. Moose, bison, caribou, buffalo, antelope, or beaver protected, except beaver in defense of property only. Quail, dove, Chinese pheasant protected. Sets seasons for big game. (WN 4/22/1903)

4/22/1903 – Meeting of Hamilton Rod & Gun Club to reorganize. (WN 4/22/1903)

7/15/1903 – Natural Gateway to Clearwater. The Greatest Hunting and Fishing Preserves in America. Ten Hours Travel from Hamilton. Movement on Foot to Push Hamilton as Outfitting Point. Cut-Off Trail and Telephone Line Proposed. Local businessmen quietly working on idea to develop the Clearwater’s hunting and fishing resources to the fullest potential – only 10 hours from Hamilton. 1) advertise the proposition extensively in sporting journals “and in other such mediums as to bring the matter convincingly to the attention of wealthy men the country over, who every year are casting around for new hunting grounds;” 2) make the hunting grounds as easily accessible as possible; 3) cooperate with the Idaho authorities for the protection of game. Ref. to the Clearwater as “a huntsman’s paradise, unexcelled in the world.” “every year a few parties of hunters from the East and Europe enjoy their annual outings in the Clearwater, - but these are comparatively few – these rich game preserves have been given over chiefly to trappers and pot hunters who have ruthlessly slaughtered the game, with little resulting benefit to

anybody.” “In many localities, the outfitting and entertainment of hunting parties contributes a most profitable source of revenue.” Cites Maine’s statistics. “Hamilton is the natural gateway to the Clearwater. At present the Lost House [Horse] trail is the entrance-way. By this route, 3 or 4 days are consumed in arriving at the heart of the hunting region. We have it on the authority of Rev. B. C. Black, W.M. Bell and others that the Blodgett Canyon trail is a much better and shorter route. Rev. Black is positive that a trail can be cut from the mouth of Blodgett Canyon, just across the river from Hamilton, to the first of the Chain of Lakes for \$500, and that a wagon road to the edge of the hunting grounds can be constructed at small cost. By this trail, the distance can be covered in 10 hours travel. “The road should be made, a supply station built at its terminus, and a telephone line connecting with Hamilton should be maintained. The Clearwater hunting grounds should be properly exploited and extensively advertised. Here’s an opportunity for the business men of Hamilton – let them grasp it and great will be the resultant benefits.” (WN 7/15/1903)

7/29/1903 – “Under the rules of the forest reserve, migratory Indians are limited to one saddle horse and one pack pony each while traversing a reserve; and by rigidly enforcing the regulations, it is hoped that the big band of Siwashes, who every year slaughter a great deal of game in the upper valley, will be kept out.” (WN 729/1903)

8/19/1903 – Open season for grouse, prairie chicken, fool hens and partridges began last Sunday and there was an exodus of nimrods from Hamilton. A scarcity of birds due to a cold wet spring. (WN 8/19/1903)

8/19/1903 – Douglas McGregor of London, England left here yesterday by way of Lost Horse for 6 weeks hunting trip in Clearwater country. E. S. Crester and George Gridly of Glens Ferry and John Hell of Jackson Hole, Wyoming were guides and assistants. Party was splendidly equipped for such an expedition and will not doubt made “a big killin’.” (WN 8/19/1903)

9/2/1903 – Henry Lowenberg on a recent hunting trip bagged four grouse, two rattlesnakes, and a 1903 black bear. (WN 9/2/1903)

9/2/1903 – Prominent visitors to Bitter Root from St. Louis, on a pleasure and hunting expedition are J. D. Perry Francis and wife, Dr. E. Smith and wife and Messrs J. DeMun Smith and P. C. Piatt. Mr. Francis is son of ex-governor Francis of Missouri. The party is stopping at the Ravalli and taking daily hunting and fishing excursions. Mr. & Mrs. Francis left Thursday morning with tents and camping outfit and a party of friends to spend a few days at Lake Como. (WN 9/2/1903)

9/9/1903 – M. M. Goodenough and brother W. A. Goodenough have been spending some very pleasant weeks hunting in the mountains near Victor. They are from Louisville, Illinois. (WN 9/9/1903)

9/9/1903 – H. G. McIntyre, Dr. W. C. Biddell, and Robert McIntyre of Helena were in the BRV this week on a fishing and hunting excursion. (WN 9/9/1903)

9/30/1903 – Ed Smith and Tom Watts back from a hunting trip up the East Fork. The boys killed lots of time but found big game pretty scarce. (WN 9/30/1903)

9/30/1903 – Ed Brewer, dishwasher at Stevensville hotel, was arrested by Deputy Game Warden Arthur Higgins for shooting quail on Burnt Fork. Fined \$40. (WN 9/30/1903)

10/7/1903 – D. McGregor, London, England and party returned Sunday from a hunting trip in the Clearwater country. Stated they did not meet with much success on account of disagreeable weather. (WN 10/7/1903)

10/7/1903 – All true sportsmen and lovers of justice should be pleased with the action taken last week in fining a young man for killing quail. Law is explicit in prohibiting the killing of the choice little game birds which were imported in the BRV by progressive citizens having at heart the future welfare of the sportsmen. It has often been stated that quail were being slaughtered, and it is believed by some that quail are now being shot on Burnt Fork. Reward offer expected. (Stevensville Register cited in WN 10/7/1903)

10/28/1903 – Percy Edwards purchased a big bull elk for Bitter Root Stock Farm for \$65. Had been kept in the big park for several years among a number of elk, deer and antelope, had grown vicious and had to be disposed of. (WN 10/28/1903)

10/28/1903 – Fred Printz returned from Alaska where he spent the summer with Dr. Cook's exploring party. They failed to climb Mt. McKinley. (WN 10/28/1903)

11/4/1903 – William Cole and Jacob Read of Victor are on a week's hunt. (WN 11/4/1903)

11/4/1903 – C. B. Cates, Fred Cates and G. W. Johnson left for a two week hunt up Rock Creek. (WN 11/4/1903)

11/11/1903 – W. McVey, George Harris, George Fulkerson, M.M. Williams and Joe Case of Missoula are on a 10-day hunt on Rock Creek. (WN 11/11/1903)

11/11/1903 – P. H. Edwards doled out elk steak at the Hamilton Meat Market, having butchered the big bull elk he purchased from the Bitter Root Stock Farm. He intends to have the hide mounted for the St. Louis world's fair. (WN 11/11/1903)

11/18/1903 – Victor. The Williams McVey hunting party returned with three large deer to show for their 10 days' outing. (WN 11/18/1903)

11/18/1903 – Adolph Frederickson, 15, Woodside, was accidentally shot in the thigh by his hunting companion Bert McMahan. (WN 11/18/1903)

11/25/1903 – Cole-Reed and Johnson-Cates hunting parties returned home several days since, reporting no success. (WN 11/25/1903)

1/27/1904 – Matt Sullivan of Sleeping Child . . . found a big lion in one of his traps. Matt roped the ferocious animal and managed to get it into a stout wooden cage uninjured. Yesterday he brought the lion to Hamilton. It is a magnificent specimen . . . a male, and measures 11 ft. from tip to tip . . . about 6 or 8 years old and in fine condition When first discovered the lion was up a tree about 30 ft., having dragged the heavy bear trap with him when treed by dogs. (WN 1/27/1904)

3/9/1904 – Percy Edward's magnificent bull elk, mounted by Missoula taxidermist Albert Hammond, was shipped to St. Louis for exhibition at the world's fair. (WN 3/9/1904)

4/27/1904 – James Morris, Fred Holbrook, Ed Ensign and Mr. Rosenberg spent last week on a hunting trip near Darby. (WN 4/27/1904)

5/4/1904 – "Kills the Birds, Too." Helena, 4/27. State Game Warden W. F. Scott stated that people in Missoula and Ravalli Counties are using a poison known as "Woodlark" to kill gophers. Woodlark aka poison wheat. Stuff is put up in cans and sprinkled around rodent burrows. But it also kills small birds and quail. "Rather, I think, they have, in their zeal to rid themselves of the gophers, left the birds out of their consideration. I should like to suggest that they confine the poison to the gopher burrows exclusively. In this way they will . . . accomplish the same result and the birds will have been saved." (WN 5/4/1904)

6/1/1904 – Fred Printz and Jim Vance, the well known guides and mountain men, are awaiting the arrival of an eastern party headed by Henry Disston, a young millionaire of Philadelphia, son of the great saw manufacturer, whom they are to accompany to Alaska The party will ship about 25 pack and saddle horses to be used. (WN 6/1/1904)

6/8/1904 – "To Ascend Mt. McKinley." Henry Disston of Philadelphia Proposes the Feat. Bitter Rooters to Guide the Expedition. . . . Pack Horses and Outfit Purchased Here Fred Printz, J. D. Vance, Dick Vance and Charley Printz will sail from Seattle 6/16 aboard the steamer Santa Anna to Toniak on Cook's Inlet. From Toniak, 100 miles across swampy country, with 8 men in the party. With Disston, they will proceed up the Sushitna River, then overland to Tonzona River, and then to Mt. McKinley. Bitter Root contingent expects to be home around 10/1 or 10/15. P}} Fred Printz, who will guide the expedition, has achieved a national reputation as a hunter and guide. He has piloted parties of wealthy eastern and European hunters on extended hunting trips and his services are always in demand by geological survey parties. P}} Last year he was employed as a scout by Dr. Cook in Alaska and accompanied him on the ascent of Mt. McKinley. Cook recommended Printz to Disston as a guide. Disston summoned Printz to Philadelphia and engaged him to guide the expedition and together they mapped out the trip" (WN 6/8/1904)

6/15/1904 – Henry Disston telegraphed Frank Printz that Alaska trip must be postponed due to his failure to secure certain hunting permits. The group may go in July. (WN 6/15/1904)

7/13/1904 – Benjamin F. Gladding was charged with killing game out of season and hunting without a permit. He pled guilty, was fined \$200.00. Offenses were committed in the Owl Creek district. (WN 7/13/1904)

8/3/1904 – Game Laws Revised. (WN 8/3/1904)

8/3/1904 – W.E. Carlin and A.L.A. Himmelwright of New York telegraphed W. R. Waugh to have everything ready to guide them on a hunting and prospecting trip by August 15 . . . Carlin and Himmelwright were members of the ill fated “Carlin” party that got snowbound in the Clearwater several years ago. (WN 8/3/1904)

8/10/1904 – Reports from all parts of the valley are that prairie chickens and other game birds are more plentiful this season than they have been for years. (WN 8/10/1904)

8/10/1904 – Robert T. Varnum, NY, departed for the Clearwater, accompanied by Fred Printz, guide and Charley Printz and Dick Vance, assistants. The party will enter the Clearwater region by way of one of the West Fork passes, and return by Lost Horse. Ten pack horses will carry the outfit. Mr. Varnum made a trip into the Clearwater three years ago. (WN 8/10/1904)

8/17/1904 – The local gun club is on the trail of persons who have been shooting ducks out of season and proposes to make it “hot for them.” (WN 8/17/1904)

8/17/1904 – The Carlin party, of Mr. & Mrs. W. E. Carlin, Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell of NY, guide Wright of Spokane, and W. R. Waugh, cook, departed yesterday on a six weeks outing in the Clearwater country. The party outfitted at Nick Kramis’ ranch and went in by the Lost Horse Trail. (WN 8/17/1904)

9/7/1904 – Mr. Francis and party of friends up to Florence from Missoula on a hunting trip. (WN 9/7/1904)

9/7/1904 – John Chauven and J. Strausser, Butte, with Jack Kleinoeder up the East Fork for a hunting and fishing trip Saturday through Monday. Caught 75 lbs. of fish, but the game was not as good as expected. (WN 9/7/1904)

9/14/1904 – L. D. Howard, A. A. Howard, Wm. Creighton, and Warren Shapp of Missoula left Monday for West Fork for hunting and fishing trip. (WN 9/14/1904)

9/21/1904 – Supt. P. J. Shannon of the Bitter Root stock farm, W.O. Fisk, Joe Bush Jr, and Fred Printz returned from a 7 day’s trip to the Clearwater. They saw lots of game and report a very successful hunt. Mr. Shannon brought back a 6 point elk herd. (WN 9/21/1904)

9/28/1904 – Z.R. Moore, George Ludeman, and John Ritchie left for two weeks hunting trip up the West Fork. (WN 9/28/1904)

9/28/1904 – Fred Burrill, A. W. Martin and A. Lemeux (“Frenchie”) returned from 17 days hunt in Clearwater. Got four elk and a deer besides other small game. (WN 9/28/1904)

10/5/1904 – John Ritchie and George Ludeman returned from a few days hunt up the West Fork. (WN 10/5/1904)

10/5/1904 – Elmer Stackman returned from a few days hunt up West Fork. (WN 10/5/1904)

11/16/1904 – Wm. Fowler and Wm. Craddock to mountains for a month’s deer hunt. (WN 11/16/1904)

11/16/1904 – Mr. & Mrs. Lester Smith, Mr. & Mrs. F. V. Hoagland, Mr. & Mrs. George Talbot, J. C. McIntosh and Miss Gerstrude Owens on a pleasure and hunting trip to Como. (WN 11/16/1904)

12/14/1904 – Geese slayers migrating between Hamilton and Lake Como this week. (WN 12/14/1904)

12/28/1904 – 18 young Stevi men in rabbit hunt. 77 bagged. (WN 12/28/1904)

1/5/1906 – Charles B. Peyton and J. F. Printz, left to look at their traps on the east range. They have 825 traps set and have been unusually busy this season. (RR 1/5/1906)

1/11/1906 – Charles Peyton returned from short business trip to Helena. (RR 1/11/1906)

1/26/1906 – O. T. Spooner shot a magnificent . . . golden eagle near his house Monday. 7’ 4” wingspan, tip to tip. It was sitting on the ground and Spooner shot it with bird shot at 25 yards. (RR 1/26/1906)

3/9/1906 – Charles Peyton has left for Anaconda where he will join a party of Milwaukee Road surveyors. He went across the mountains on snow shoes. Mr. Peyton was requested to join the surveyors at Anaconda by Chief Engineer Baker. . . now at Miles City. Mr. Peyton was guide for the Baker party when the surveys were made over Skalkaho pass last summer and the fact that he has been asked to join the surveying party at Anaconda is regarded as significant. (RR 3/9/1906)

4/13/1906 – A mountain sheep came down to view the sights of Sula Friday morning. (RR 4/13/1906)

5/11/1906 – S. W. Bullock and Harry Cockley spent the winter trapping near Sula, returned to the lower valley on Thursday. (RR 5/4/1906)

8/10/1906 – Quail in the Bitter Root. These Little Birds are Rapidly Multiplying Under the Protection of the Law. Quail found in large numbers in the Bitter Root Valley this summer. Persons . . . remark in their increasing numbers and their tameness. “When the quail were brought to the valley several years ago and turned loose, it was a considerable time before any of the birds were noticed by the farmers. During the past year or two, however, they have been thriving and there is now hardly a farm that does not have one or more coveys.” Details re: numbers, tameness. Game laws protect them. “It is predicted that should it ever become lawful to kill quail in the Bitter Root Valley, the birds would be exterminated in one season.” “It has been said that . . . great numbers have been killed . . . by eating poisoned wheat . . . set out to slay gophers. That was doubtless true a year or two ago, but the farmers are not killing many gophers that way this season. . . .” (MSLN cited in RR 8/10/1906)

8/10/1906 – Joseph Coughenour, Corvallis, went to Medicine Springs “where he will pass a month hunting, fishing and taking pictures at that picturesque spot.” (RR 8/10/1906)

8/31/1906 – C. B. Cates and brothers Fred and George, and Charley Siminson left Monday for Wiles Springs and Lost Horse on a hunting expedition, as the season opens Sept. 1. Deer will be ripe and the boys go early so as to be on the grounds in good time. (RR 8/31/1906)

8/31/1906 – E. M. Smith, Charles A. Waddell, Dr. R. W. Beck, and Martin Johnson left for Ross Hole, where they will pass two weeks hunting. Mr. Johnson, who came here for them, will act as guide. (RR 8/31/1906)

9/14/1906 – Charles Siminson, who has been in the upper valley hunting, returned with one deer. (RR 9/14/1906)

9/14/1906 – A party of ten drove to the Darbee camping grounds on the Bitter Root River Sunday morning where the pleasure of a day’s outing was enjoyed. Mr. & Mrs. F. V. Haogland, Mr. & Mrs. C. S. Kendall, Miss Gertrude Owens, Miss Adeline Gohr, Miss Edna Chapin, J. G. McIntosh, F. C. Kendall, and J. C. Conkey. They were astir before daylight and reached camp in time for breakfast, giving those inclined ample time for fishing and hunting. (RR 9/14/1906)

9/14/1906 – E. M. Smith and Charles Waddell returned last Friday and Dr. R. W. Beck returned on Tuesday from their hunting trip to Ross Hole. Smith and Waddell secured an elk. Beck got an elk and a mountain goat, and they all say they had a delightful outing in that rugged and picturesque country. (RR 9/14/1906)

9/21/1906 – B. Fred and Al Cates, been hunting in the upper valley, had the time of their lives. (RR 9/21/1906)

9/28/1906 – E. Williamson . . . left his home on the east side and drove to the hill west of town and before night had two fine bucks. (RR 9/28/1906)

9/28/1906 – Mrs. A. S. Blake, who has been enjoying an outing with Mrs. Frank Ess, returned home. . . bringing six fine deer with them. (RR 9/28/1906)

9/28/1906 – Robert Holt . . . has been visiting relatives at Grantsdale and hunting big game in the Bitter Root Valley. (RR 9/28/1906)

9/28/1906 – James Henderson of Sunnyside, WA left here Sunday by way of Blodgett canyon for a hunting trip into the Clearwater country. He is a druggist and taking his annual outing in an endeavor to secure an elk and a mountain goat. (RR 9/28/1906)

10/12/1906 – Ed Reimel, uncle of Lloyd Reimel, and Fred Brule are from Walkerville, will spend several weeks in the Bitter Root Valley. They returned Tuesday from a hunting and fishing trip to Ross Hole. (RR 10/12/1906)

11/2/1906 – Lloyd Chaffin attacked by a buck while trying to take a picture of the deer on the Bitter Root Stock Farm. Ref. to the farm's "deer park." (RR 11/2/1906)

12/7/1906 – Dr. R. W. Beck and Ed M. Smith were charged with hunting without a license by Deputy Game Warden Hall. (RR 12/7/1906)

12/14/1906 – Sheriff Cook is back from Ross Hole where he served a subpoena on Martin Johnson as witness against Dr. R. W. Beck and Ed M. Smith for hunting without a license. (RR 12/14/1906)

12/21/1906 – Ed M. Smith and R. W. Beck acquitted of hunting without a license. (RR 12/21/1906)

2/6/1907 – W. C. Smith, well known land commissioner, farmer and trapper, of Darby, was in Hamilton, had a large catch of furs with him which he shipped to a fur dealer in Minneapolis, which will net him a good-sized sum, as they were an exceptionally fine lot. He says he has another bunch at home which he will ship later in the season. He also says this is a good season for the trapper and . . . the fur is of an extra good quality on account of the cold weather early in the fall. (WN 2/6/1907)

2/22/1907 – Wesley Fales returned Tuesday from the Clearwater country, where he had been trapping during the winter. (RR 2/22/1907)

4/3/1907 – Charles B. Peyton, the well known guide, has been appointed special deputy game warden by State Game Warden Scott. He will have charge of a new district embracing portions of Flathead, Powell and Lewis and Clark counties. It's probable that Deer Lodge will be his headquarters. His pay is \$1,800 a year. He and family expect to depart for Deer Lodge in a couple of weeks. (WN 4/3/1907)

4/5/1907 – Appointment of Charles B. Peyton as special deputy game warden. (RR 4/10/1907)

4/10/1907 – John Kleinoeder bagged a big beaver in the mill pond Thursday. It was a beauty, weighed 50 lbs. (WN 4/10/1907)

4/24/1907 – Game Laws are Compiled. But Few Changes Made. Lengthy article re f & g laws. Biggest change was dropping of requirement for fishing licenses for residents. The closed season on antelope was abolished and the deer season was extended from Dec. 1 to Dec. 15. (WN 4/24/1907)

5/31/1907 – Hunters Kill a Black Bear . . . on Lick Creek near the Bean sawmill. Walter Moody and Robert Peel killed a young black bear that had been “helping himself to pork at D. V. Bean’s sawmill.” . . . making frequent visits to the logging camp. “The big animal on a previous visit had attempted to carry off one of Mr. Bean’s pigs.” (RR 5/31/1907)

6/19/1907 – Wesley Fales arrived home Saturday from the head of Blodgett Creek where he has been looking after his traps. He brought along a young male grizzly bear about 3 months old and ten bear hides taken from 5 grizzly, 3 black, and 2 brown bears. He trapped and shot a mother grizzly that had 3 cubs, one of which he captured alive and brought to town. (WN 6/19/1907)

7/17/1907 – Charles B. Payton left yesterday for Ovando to attend his duties as deputy game warden. (WN 7/17/1907)

7/19/1907 – Deputy Game Warden Charles B. Peyton to Ovando to enforce state game laws there. (RR 7/19/1907)

7/30/1907 – Dr. E. W. Hagyard of Lexington, Kentucky is here for a visit of several weeks. Will take advantage of the hunting season that opens Sunday. (RR 7/30/1907)

8/7/1907 – Open season for all game, Sept. 1, approaching. All need license to hunt, even on their own premises. (WN 8/7/1907)

8/9/1907 – Charles Peyton, now located at Ovando, was here for a short visit. (RR 8/9/1907)

8/16/1907 – An outing party – Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Glass, Mr. & Mrs. John Hull, Misses Inez, Margaret and Jeanette Summers, Miss Blanch Watts, Miss Mona Backus, and John Boyd of Wallace, ID returned . . . from Lake Como, where they had been enjoying camp life for a week. They all had “such a good time” hunting chickens, fishing and doing the thousand and one things that make camping so delightful. (RR 8/16/1907)

9/4/1907 – WO Fisk, Joe Bush Jr., and Justin Shannon. . . on a hunting rip in the wilds of the Hell Gate forest reserve. (WN 9/4/1907)

9/13/1907 – Harvey Fullerton, Wesley Walls, Fred Holt and Lloyd Chaffin returned from a hunting trip on the West Fork, with 1 deer. (RR 9/13/1907)

9/18/1907 – Joe Bowdon, Corvallis, had a hunting accident at Mineral Hill. He shot off his index finger while reloading a revolver. (WN 9/18/1907)

9/25/1907 – Charles B. Peyton and E. L. Alvard have returned from the wilds north of Ovando, where they have been guiding a party of hunters from Washington, D. C. (WN 9/25/1907)

10/2/1907 – Obit. For Joseph B. Peyton, father of Charles B. Peyton, game warden. (WN 10/2/1907)

10/9/1907 – D.E. Greenup brought in a she grizzly bear weighing about 300 lbs. yesterday. . . . one of a bunch that have had possession of the Bitter Root orchard west of Grantsdale for a couple of weeks while gorging themselves on plums and other fruits preparatory to hibernating. . . . Wesley Fales, champion bear hunter of the Bitter Root was enlisted to rid the orchard of the bruin family. On Monday evening he set a No. 15 bear trap, baited with honey and the following morning the mother bear was found in the toils. Local hunters are after the other 3 members of this bear family. Mr. Fales brought in another bear this morning. (WN 10/2/1907)

10/11/1907 – A big grizzly . . . was trapped Tuesday in the Bitter Root orchard a few miles south of Hamilton. Wesley Fales was engaged. He set a #15 trap baited with honey, got the mother bear and another later. (RR 10/11/1907)

10/16/1907 – WO Fisk, Pat Dineen and Wesley Fales left . . . for the hills. . . .known to harbor designs on bear, sheep and elk, which will doubtless take to the tall timber during the week's foray. (WN 10/16/1907)

10/18/1907 – W. O. Fisk, Wesley Fales, and Pat Dineen took to the mountains in quest of elk, bear and other wild beasts of the forest. (RR 10/18/1907)

10/18/1907 – Scott Bones and Samuel Stockham of Murray, ID left for a hunting trip in the mountains. (RR 10/18/1907)

10/18/1907 – Charles B. Peyton visited valley for several days. (RR 10/18/1907)

10/23/1907 – Frank Timmons shotgun accident while hunting ducks from a boat in the mill pond. (WN 10/23/1907)

10/23/1907 – W. O. Fisk, Pat Dineen and Wesley Fales returned from the Clearwater, without any big game. They took everything they needed except cartridges – they forgot the cartridges. (WN 10/23/1907)

10/23/1907 – Best Trail to Clearwater. Forestry Guards at Work on Shortcut to Famous Old Hunting Grounds. Fred Printz, the well-known guide and hunter, accompanied by Wood Hart and Curtis Matison, of Darby, came in from Blodgett Canyon Thursday after a stay of several weeks. Mr. Printz was employed by the National Forestry bureau to open the trail through Blodgett Canyon to the Clearwater. His party began work at the summit and cleared the trail to within three miles of the mouth of the canyon, where the work will be taken up by the local forestry officials and completed.

Mr. Printz has hunted and trapped for years in the mountains of this Treasure state and Alaska. He is perfectly familiar with all the trails into the Clearwater and he emphatically declares that the Blodgett Cree trail is the shortest and best of all. From the mouth of the canyon four miles west of Hamilton to the summit at the head of Sand Creek, it is just fourteen miles, and from there down to the hunting country it is about an hour's ride. The trip from Hamilton to the hunting grounds can be made quite handily in one day, while by way of Lost Horse it is a two days' trip. He predicts that in the future, since the Blodgett trail has been opened, most of the travel will go that way.

For some reason, perhaps because of the financial storm that has been raging among the wealthy men of the east, no eastern hunting parties have visited the Clearwater this season. This is the first year the big game hunters of the east and Europe have passed up the Clearwater in twenty years. (WN 10/23/1907)

10/25/1907 – Frank Timmons' Hunting Accident. He went out alone to hunt ducks on the mill pond with his dog and was putting his boat away in the boathouse when his pump shotgun discharged. The gun was in the boat as he was pulling the boat after him into the boathouse it discharged. (RR 10/25/1907)

10/25/1907 – W. O. Fisk, Pat Dineen and Wesley Fales returned Monday from a hunting trip through Blodgett canyon. They reported excellent weather for the outing, but the big game . . . kept out of their range and they returned with only one mountain goat. This Mr. Fisk secured near the head of the canyon, and he wil have the head mounted. (RR 10/25/1907)

10/25/1907 – Albert Thrailkill and C. C. Williamson went hunting and camping for a few weeks in the Blackfoot country. (RR 10/25/1907)

Fall 1907 – Fales had lost an old pack horse below White Sand Lake, used the meat for marten and bear bait. He had also lost 75 lbs. of bacon (treed) to bears. (PDIC, II, 228)

11/1/1907 – Rev. Paul Castle and Lester Smith went to the East Fork on a hunting trip. (RR 11/1/1907)

11/6/1907 – Ed Burrell, Geo. Waldo and several others from Darby have gone out for their fall hunt, some going up the West Fork, and others up the East Fork. From all reports, game is plentiful in both sections. (WN 11/6/1907)

11/6/1907 – G. W. Solleder last week killed a mountain sheep with 16-inch horns. The largest he ever saw. (WN 11/6/1907)

11/8/1907 – C. L. Taylor hunting around Sleeping Child Springs, got a supply of deer and grouse. (RR 11/8/1907)

11/8/1907 – Deputy Game Warden Charles Peyton shipped his household goods to Ovando. (RR 11/8/1907)

11/13/1907 – Charles Coleman, James McGary and Wm. Gilbert of Spokane are here, intend to spend a few weeks in the mountains looking for big game. (WN 11/13/1907)

11/13/1907 – Deputy Game Warden C. B. Peyton and family to return to Ovando, headquarters for his district. (WN 11/13/1907)

11/15/1907 – Fred Moss, C. B. Effinger (both of Missoula) and B. V. Tabor went up Lost Horse on a hunting trip. (RR 11/15/1907)

11/20/1907 – A flock of English sparrows has recently taken up its abode in Hamilton. These tiny forages, which subsist on insects and seeds, will quickly multiply into myriads. In some localities they are regarded as pests and a bounty is offered for their destruction. (WN 11/20/1907)

11/22/1907 – Harvey Keirns, Ira Dickson, Joe Minor and Milt Dowd started on a hunting trip Tuesday. (RR 11/22/1907)

11/27/1907 – Local sportsmen complain that small game is becoming very scarce in these parts due largely to the marauding magpie which swarms in the valley. Many claim . . . exterminating the magpie would enable small game to increase rapidly “and the Bitter Root would again become a hunter’s paradise.” (WN 11/27/1907)

11/29/1907 – Byrd East of Victor, Dave Dwyer, Will and Frank martz of Three Mile started on a hunting trip on Three Mile Sunday. (RR 11/29/1907)

12/4/1907 – C. B. Cates gone to Lo Lo, to be gone for some time on a hunting trip. (WN 12/4/1907)

12/4/1907 – Henry McVey back from hunting trip in the Blackfoot country. . . reports not having very good success killing deer. (WN 12/4/1907)

12/4/1907 – Lee Bass, Wm. Templeton, Haynes Hoblitt, and Harry Parks hunting big game up the Lo Lo. (WN 12/4/1907)

12/6/1907 – C. B. Cates, D. D. Wofford, and John Blake left on a hunting trip of several days. (RR 12/6/1907)

12/13/1907 – Wesley Walls, Emerson McLeod, Theo. Chaffin and Arch Mitchell returned last night from a hunting trip on Gird’s Creek with one deer. (RR 12/13/1907)

12/20/1907 – Thomas Blackmore, James Pattullo, Bert Ray and William Sheridan returned Sunday from a hunting expedition into French Basin where they secured 4 deer. (RR 12/20/1907)

1/3/1908 – Deputy Game Warden Peyton was in Hamilton a few days ago. (RR 1/3/1908)

1/8/1908 – J. P. Hughes brought in a big wildcat . . . that had been trapped on his Skalkaho ranch. Bobcats are very rare in this section, but this was the real thing. (WN 1/8/1908)

1/10/1908 – Deputy Game Warden Charles Peyton was in Missoula Friday. His wife underwent an operation at Sisters' Hospital. (RR 1/10/1908)

1/15/1908 – Wesley Fales, who has a line of traps in the Bitter Root range west of Hamilton and makes frequent trips into the mountains, reports that the snow has already reached a much greater depth than is usual at this season. It has been snowing right along every day and the snow is well packed. (WN 1/15/1908)

1/29/1908 – Carl Magni and Louis Wolfe returned from hunting trip in the mountains east of town. (WN 1/29/1908)

1908 – Wes Fales brought his trappers catch from his Headquarters cabin at Big Sand Lake over Blodgett Pass to Hamilton. There were both black bears and grizzly in the Big Sand Lake Basin. (TLS, 252)

Spring 1908 – Fales had plenty of grub in different camps on the marten line. He had packed bear traps in the previous fall, so he had only to pack his snowshoes and rifle. He made it into his cabin "above the meadows" in Blodgett. The next day he went to White Sand Lake and his "home cabin." (Pioneer Days in Idaho County [PDIC], II, 228)

Spring 1908 – Fales took a camera with in the spring of 1908. Describes bringing a black bear cub out over Blodgett that spring. (PDIC, II, 229)

March 1908 – At the close of marten season, mid-March 1908, Wes Fales gathered his furs from line camps and headed for Hamilton. He baled his furs and shipped them to "a well-known fur house in St. Louis." He then waited for bear season in the Bitterroot Mountains, which began about April 25 and lasted 5 weeks. (PDIC, II, 227)

3/18/1908 – John E. Smith brought in the pelt of a silver fox which he recently shot near Sula. The silver fox is very rare, the skins being quoted at from \$200 to \$500 in the markets. (WN 3/18/1908)

3/25/1908 – Sportsman's Club. Western Montana Men Form Novel Organization, Buy a Game Preserve. Formed by Missoulians to preserve forests in wild state, protect fish and

game and birds, support better enforcement of game laws, and hunting and fishing for recreation only. Details. (WN 3/25/1908)

4/24/1908 – Deputy Game Warden Charles B. Peyton was in Hamilton Friday. (RR 4/24/1908)

4/29/1908 – Deputy Game Warden Peyton returned to Ovando after a short stay in Hamilton. (WN 4/29/1908)

May 2, 1908 – Pack carried by Fales that day consisted of 2 bear traps, 20 lbs. of horse meat, rifle and ax. Said it was “a respectable load.” Traps weighed 17 lbs each. He followed the blaze line he used in the fall to take horse and supplies to his marten camp at Hidden Lake. Description of the route from his home cabin to Hidden Lake. On a rainy day he stayed in camp, smoked his pipe and rested, caught trout in the lake. He placed his sets between Hidden Fork and Flat Creek, over the divide on Dead Elk and on Blodgett Creek a half-mile below the lower meadows. “Next I set a trap in the bottom, a short distance above the lake, and one down below the lake about 3 miles on the sidehill to the east.” His round trip was about 12 miles. He said, “It was rough going before the Forest Service improved the trails.” (PDIC, II, 229)

5/8/1908 – M.R.C. Smith is game warden for the Hamilton district. (RR 5/8/1908)

5/13/1908 – Deputy Game Wardens C. B. Peyton and MRC Smith arrested Martin Johnson at his home on the headwaters of East Fork charged with killing moose in violation of the game law. Johnson pleaded guilty, was fined the minimum \$50 by Justice Morris. (WN 5/13/1908)

6/19/1908 – Streak of Bad Luck. Account of Deputy Game Warden Charles Peyton’s loss of two horses in the flood, and his travel with Frank Linderman. (RR 6/19/1908)

7/10/1908 – Deputy Game Warden Charles B. Peyton was in Hamilton while here he arrested Augustus Hill, a foreigner for fishing without a license. Hill pleaded guilty, got 10 days in county jail. (RR 7/10/1908)

7/10/1908 – Two bears killed at Sula, but there are others, as they killed one and wounded two cows one night last week for John Smith. There have been ten cattle that have been found killed or wounded by bruin this spring. (RR 7/10/1908)

7/24/1908 – Deputy Game Warden Peyton was in the Bitter Root Valley in the interest of the game laws. (RR 7/24/1908)

7/29/1908 – Curtis Hart and John Semple were arrested last week on West Fork by Deputy Game Wardens Peyton and Lownds, charged with killing deer in closed season. Bound over on \$200 bond each. (WN 7/29/1908)

8/12/1908 – The Hunting Season Will Soon Be Open. Account of hunting laws, etc. (WN 8/12/1908)

8/19/1908 – J. C. Conkey joined C. B. Meeker of Anaconda for hunting and fishing trip on West Fork. (WN 8/19/1908)

8/26/1908 – Eugene Adams, Ed Couch, Fred Adams, Frank Selby, Dan Gardner, Clarence Heavlin and F. K. Parmenter left for the West Fork country, will pitch camp and await opening day Sept. 1. Supplied for 20 days. (WN 8/26/1908)

8/28/1908 – a black bear made its way to Hugh Murray's home. It probably wandered too far from one of the canyons and became bewildered. Several persons started in pursuit of bruin and the animal was killed at Woodside that evening. (RR 8/28/1908)

9/2/1908 – W. H. Roberts, Frank Morris, D. W. Meeker, Llewellyn Roberts, and M. D. Kippen left for a week's stay in the vicinity of Alta to inspect mining property and take advantage of open season. The trip was made in Mr. Roberts' automobile. (WN 9/2/1908)

9/4/1908 – W. H. Roberts and brother L. D. Roberts, D. W. Meeker, and F. J. Morris went to Mienral Hill . . . to take advantage of the first days of the hunting season, and also to visit the Copper Queen mine. M. D. Kippen followed the party Monday. (RR 9/4/1908)

9/9/1908 – Accidentally shot on mill pond while hunting ducks. Started to rain, left his boat to seek shelter, grabbed shotgun by barrel and pulled it from boat. Wounded in arm, not dangerously wounded. (WN 9/9/1908)

9/11/1908 – J. D. Watts, Missoula, and W. W. Watters, Portland, left Hamilton for a hunting trip in Ross Hole. (RR 9/11/1908)

9/11/1908 – Jesse Withers and Lovell Blodgett returned last Friday from a hunting trip in the Clearwater country, got 4 deer. (RR 9/11/1908)

9/16/1908 – Joe Sick returned from hunting. (WN 9/16/1908)

Fall 1908 – Fales had a cabin on North Lake, and bears trashed it during the fall of 1908. Fales used No. 5 traps exclusively for bears, and explained why he found No. 15 unreliable. No. 6 traps were bigger and heavier than necessary in the US. Detailed description of a bear set. (PDIC, II, 228)

10/9/1908 – A party of hunters consisting of Fred Cates, W. A. Poindexter and several others returned last week from a trip up the East Fork and brought home four deer as trophies of their hunt. (RR 10/9/1908)

10/9/1908 – Charles B. Peyton in Hamilton. (RR 10/9/1908)

10/21/1908 – Civil Murder Is Cause of Sorrow. Killing of Charels Peyton by Indians Regretted Here. 2nd Item: But Not Before He Kills Four Bucks. Peyton was killed in a shooting affray with four from the Flathead Reservation. He and deputy game warden Herman Rudolph charged Indians with hunting with dogs. Women interfered in attempt at arrest. Indians fired first. (WN 10/21/1908)

10/23/1908 – Killed By the Indians. Charles B. Peyton, Deputy Game Warden. At Swan River, 60 miles north of Ovando, he was investigating reports that the Indians were killing more game than the law allows. He located them and charged them with game violations, threatened their arrest. The entire camp out was loaded on 8 ponies. Four Indians and Peyton died in the shootout. Dr. W. P Parsons performed the Peyton autopsy in Missoula. He was 35 years old, well liked in the Bitter Root Valley. Prior to his appointment he was a guide and trapper. He came to the Bitter Root Valley about 17 years ago. He was married to the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tip See of Grantsdale. (RR 10/23/1908)

11/18/1908 – Lolo News. Erick Ostberg and brother have gone on a hunting trip up the Lolo. They say Erick is looking for a deer. (WN 11/18/1908)

11/18/1908 – Leslie Majors killed the first deer on the Lolo this year. (WN 11/18/1908)

11/20/1908 – Will Bell, Will McFee, Elwin and Walter Tilton of Grantsdale retruend Monday from a hunt at Gird's Creek, with 7 deer. (RR 11/20/1908)

11/25/1908 – Louis Greenough of Bozeman was visiting his uncle J. M. Taylor. Had ridden wagon "to an old setting of the Dunbar and Johnson sawmill near Blodgett Canyon." Took his shotgun along to shoot prairie chickens. It was jarred by the wagon, and he shot himself in the shoulder. (WN 11/25/1908)

11/25/1908 – Wesley Fales spent the summer in Sandpoint. (WN 11/25/1908)

12/16/1908 – Dr. F. E. Buchen, W. I. Moody and Robert Peel returned from a hunting trip in the upper valley. Secured 7 deer. (WN 12/16/1908)

1908-1909 – Sabe Creek – believed by Elsensohn to be named from some circumstance connected with the Spanish word sabe, for "know" or "understand." George Kelso told C.J. poxleitner that he had spent considerable time trapping on Sabe Creek in 1908 and 1909. In the fall of the latter year he and his wife went to the old Buster mine, but when equipment broke down there they continued on to Sabe Creek to trap, staying from September until March, when they snowshoed to Dixie. The nearest road or trail was about 10 miles away, near Barths Hot Springs in the vicinity of the Crowfoot ranch. Marten, mink, lynx, bobcat, coon and beaver were to be obtained by the trapper. (PDIC, II, 89)

June 23, 1909 – Wes Fales caught a brown bear on Rock Creek, across the range to the east of the Bitterroots. (PDIC, II, 227)

1909 – Trapper George Johnson had a cabin near the shores of Big Creek Lake. George “Chink” Clarke, Bryan “Rip” Clarke, and Jack Clarke had bigger cabin nearby. Gus Robb partnered with Chink Clarke. (TLS, 239)

1910 – Earl Malone, 18, and Fay Burrell, 16, trapped on weekends in Blodgett Canyon. On Thanksgiving they backpacked thru knee deep snow on Blodgett Pass to Wes Fales cabin near shores of Big Sand Lake. (TLS, 193)

1912 – Wes Fales left the mountains, Fay Burrell and Earl Malone took over Fales trapping territory. (TLS, 193)

1919 – all of the Upper Lochsa was made a game preserve, and trapping was banned within it. (TLS, 193-194)

1919 – Charley Powell and Earl Malone trapped on Blodgett. Had a trappers cabin on south side of Blodgett Creek about 1 ½ miles below foot of Blodgett Pass, and a headquarters cabin at Big Sand Lake. Their traplines extended in several directions from Big Sand Lake: to Moose Creek divide at Jeanette Lake, into Dead Elk Creek, back over Moose Creek Divide back to Big Sand Creek, to HQ cabin; through Pass in ridge to the north to cabin at Hidden Lake, and from there a spur line into the North Fork of Hidden Creek. (TLS, 193-194)

1920s – a five-gallon coal oil can to be used as a stove was carried by trappers, used in cabins. Cabins were easy to heat because they were small. (TLS, 197)

1920s – grizzlies in East Moose, Paradise, branch of Bear Creek, and Spruce Creek (TLS, p. 274)

1920 – USFS rangers began to challenge poachers. Malone snowshoed up Blodgett on a January night, 30 miles to Elk Summit to warn of Forest Service pursuit. (TLS, p. 201)

1921-1922 – Earl Malone trapped alone using Elk Summit Ranger Station, he occasionally used the Forest Service phone. Bill Bell overheard him at Brushy Fork station. (TLS, p. 202)

1924 – Bill Bell killed a big male grizzly at Elk Summit (Bud Moore, TLS, p. 274)

October 1924 – Charlie Powell recalled: “In the fall of 1924, after the protection force was off fire protection, I received a call from Supervisor Lowell saying a fire was reported near the lake on the head of Mill Creek. The call from Lowell came just about quitting time and it was up to me to go to the fire. I had a 3-man trail crew working on Blodgett creek, so I decided that I would take a few iron rations and go to their camp and

then the next morning I would take them with me to the fire on Mill Creek. This was in the month of October and the moon was almost full which made it nice for night traveling. After hiking up the trail a couple of miles, I came to a short, steep pitch, and being somewhat winded when I reached the top, I stopped and looked up. Not over 20 feet ahead of me stood a grizzly. In the moonlight its fur had a silver cast. Standing nearly 10 feet high, it looked like a pillar and it glistened like an icicle. I froze, and felt as cold as it looked. I didn't make a sound because I couldn't but I did turn off the trail, walked down and waded the creek and then went on my way up the creek, really afraid to look back. I doubt that I even rested until I reached the camp, which was about 10 miles up the creek." (MEDR, 105)

1925 – Grizzly was seen on the Blodgett Canyon Trail (Bud Moore, TLS, p. 274)

mid-1920s – The Clarke brothers built a trail from Big Creek lake in the mid-1920s through the notch above the lake down to Storm Creek Meadow. (TLS, p. 240)

1927 – In 1927, William Eddy shot a grizzly bear that was attacking his cattle, inside his barn. This is believed to be the last known grizzly killed in the Bitter Root Valley. (William N. Eddy, grandson, in Bitter Root Trails, Vol 3, 216)

1928 – By 1928 Clarke Bros. had a one-room lodge in the meadow with a bathhouse. (TLS, p. 240)

1929 – Joe Alkire trapped a grizzly at Big Sand Lake (TLS, p. 275)

11/17/1929 – Fresh snow capped the mountains Monday morning, making ideal conditions for hunting on the first day of the open season for elk. It has been estimated that 200 or more men were camped along Willow Creek from the ranger station to the summit. Some went into the district with horses, others left their autos to hike up the canyon in the open, while others remained overnight with their cars and were on the ground early for the first shots. With weather conditions favorable it is expected there will be a great number of elk killed during the week. (from the Miles Romney Archives, RR, 11/17/2004)

1930 – Wesley Fales wrote an account of his encounter with a grizzly bear on Blodgett Creek trail. Elsensohn saw and read the account in December 1941. (PDIC, II, 226)

1930 – Ranger Mackay began burning or dynamiting trapper cabins in game preserve. Trappers retaliated by stealing stoves and dishes from Lookouts at Grave Peak, Savage Ridge, Diablo Mountain. They lugged stoves, etc. to sites in fur country where they built crude shelters. During the Depression, rangers pursued only the most flagrant prosecutors, but some continued to mess with government cabins anyway. (TLS, p.203)

1930s – Stearns Reed saw grizzly tracks at Clark's Pass. Ed Blake met on in the trail at Big Creek Lake. Bob Boyd saw several in East Moose Creek and the forks of the Selway. (TLS, p. 275)

1931 – Western Montana Livestock Association trailed sheep from the Bitter Root Valley to graze Elk Meadows and vicinity. Trail boss was Louis Endem (TLS, 272)

1934 – grizzly seen near Powell Ranger Station (TLS, p. 275)

1934 – USFS evicted the Clarke Brothers from their lodge in Storm Creek Meadow. (TLS, p. 241)

mid-1930s – “From the late ‘20s to the mid-thirties the blatting of sheep lured many grizzlies to their doom at the hands of the herders . . . in the wake of each band’s passing lay the ruins of the finest of bears.” (TLS, 274)

1935 – The Selway Game Preserve was reopened to hunting. (TLS, p. 242)

1939 – Lawrence Humble saw his last grizzly track in the Big Creek Canyon (TLS, p. 275)

12/1941 – Wesley Fales was living in Helena, and in contact with Than Wilkerson. Sister M. Alfreda Elsensohn contacted Fales through Wilkerson, and included several pages of Fales’s recollections in her book *Pioneer Days In Idaho County*. (PDIC, II, 226)

by 1945-1955 – No grizzlies seen in the Lochsa anymore (TLS, p. 276-277)

1946 – Bud Moore saw his last grizzly track along Spruce Creek on the Brushy Fork. Idaho Fish & Game then closed the season on grizzly, but it was too late. (TLS, 278)

1947 – Spruce budworm activity first reported on Lochsa. (TLS, 344)