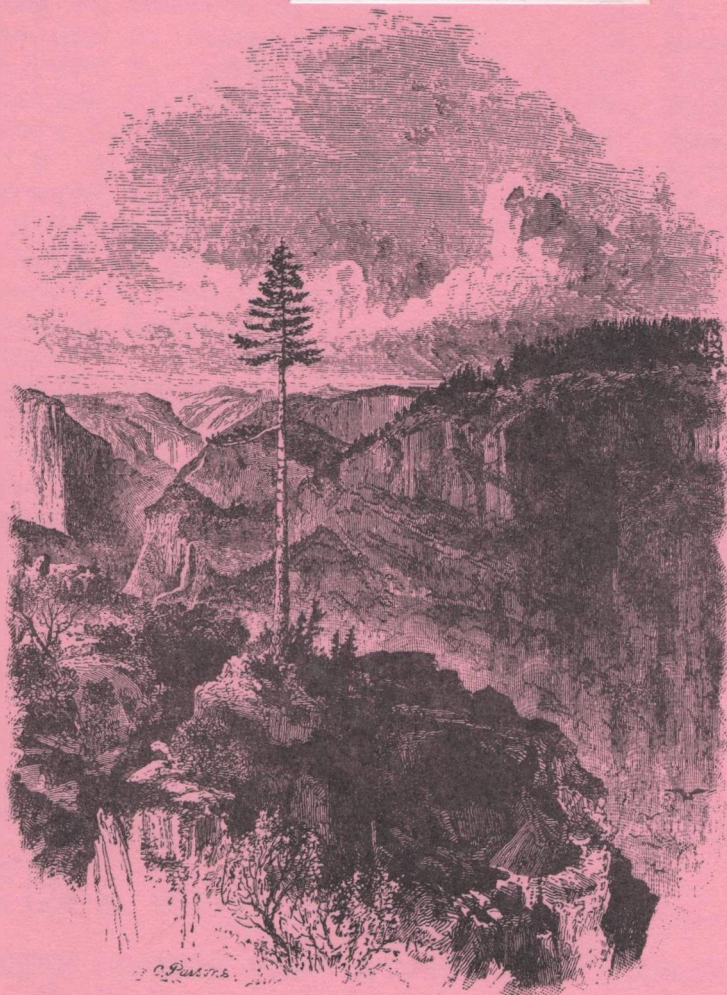


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NINETEENTH CENTURY OREGON POSTMARKS: TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON
[PART IX OF THE 19TH CENTURY OREGON POSTMARK CATALOG]

By Charles A. Whittlesey

Tillamook County has to be one of Oregon's most unique and interesting counties. The beautiful coastline featuring rocky headlands and haystacks interspersed with long stretches of wide bars and dunes, the rugged Coast Range rising sharply to the east, the numerous rapid flowing rivers rushing downward from the mountains toward the bays, and the wide alluvial fan of Tillamook Valley all combine to make the geography of the county a spectacular of nature.

The economy of the county has historically relied on dairy farming and lumbering, but more recently tourism has come to play an increasingly important role and the commercial fishing industry has always been important. Tillamook County is not a rapidly expanding population area. The county seat, Tillamook, is by far the largest town with a population of about four and one-half thousand. During the summer its business streets bustle with the summer tourist trade, but when the long wet days of winter arrive the town is quiet.

The postal history of Tillamook County is colorful, but known examples of early postmarks from the county's several offices are few and far between. Of the 32 different post office names which are believed to have existed during the 19th century in Tillamook County, postmarks are known from only 16, and most of these are represented by only one known postmark type. The only two offices from which more than a couple types are known are Tillamook and Oretown, and our knowledge of types from this latter office is due in the main to the covers from the Gage correspondence.

Examination of the table of postmaster compensation on the following page quickly reveals why the lack of Tillamook County postmark examples should come as no surprise. Until 1883 there was no office in the county whose postmaster received a compensation of as much as \$100. The Tillamook post office apparently grew rapidly during the 1880's and '90's, but most other offices remained small. Nehalem, Oretown and Bay City all attained a measure of some size during the 1890's.

It is clear that the majority of Tillamook County's 32 post offices were established late in the century. Many of these were very small affairs as indicated by low postmaster compensations at offices such as Barnegat, Blaine, Blybach, Illingworth and Emma. Some of the earlier offices also remained quite small throughout their sometimes long existences. Nestocton, for example, received a compensation of \$57 in 1877, and was at the time larger than Tillamook, but growth did not occur. The peak compensation for a Nestocton postmaster was only \$58, and that was reached in 1889.

Given the small size of most of the Tillamook County post offices, the coverage listed for known postmarks appears to be a reasonably good start. If you are aware of unlisted varieties please contact the author or the editor of LA POSTA.

POSTMASTER COMPENSATION (\$), TILLAMOOK COUNTY POST OFFICES, 1867-1899

Post Office	1867	'69	'71	'73	'75	'77	'79	'81	'83	'85	'87	'89	'91	'93	'95	'97	'99
Tillamook	6	12	12	12	8	45	91	94	295	326	229	492	672	770	764	902	1000
Nestocton	----	11	8	13	35	57	14	44	17	26	31	58	51	46	48	42	34
Nehalem	----	---	12	17	49	15	15	16	22	43	86	131	233	276	231	271	226
Garibaldi	----	---	12	13	6	---	---	8	---	---	16	---	---	56	67	---	---
Netarts	----	---	12	---	---	---	7	10	2	10	17	25	27	70	135	53	51
Trask	----	---	---	12	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	33	56	26	22	31
Kilchis	----	---	---	12	20	37	32	27	36	53	47	71	---	---	---	---	---
Oretown	----	---	---	---	---	---	10	20	34	88	118	91	98	236	305	90	82
Hebo	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	28	34	46	77	126	104	87	151
Hobsonville	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	5	35	43	83	103	71	60	72	96
Onion Peak	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	39	31	12	55	---	---	---	---
Woods	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	38	86	135	144	171	191	174
Dolph	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	53	60	73	96	130	182	132
Neskowin	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	37	53	47	58	73	67
Meda	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	NR	74	47	---	---	---	---
Hayland	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Folley	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	7	20	11	---	---	---
Bay City	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	230	299	235	208	167
Beaver	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	25	54	55	76	113
Hembree	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	52	64	55	56	---
Barnegat	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	NR	10	20	---	19
Corrie	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Blaine	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	12	19	26	23
Blybach	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	4	13	---	---
Spruce	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	8	45	47
Foley	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	28	66	67
Wilson	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	12	25
Illingworth	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	6	10
Emma	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	8	25
Balm	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	NR	37
Sandlake	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	38
Cloverdale	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Source: Official Register, 1867-1899

Note: NR indicates no returns

TILLAMOOK COUNTY

TOWN TYPE NO.	POSTMARK CODE	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE	EXAMPLES KNOWN	KILLER TYPE	NOTES
BAY CITY (1889-1963)						
1.	C1EN1BBR26.5	30Nov90	18Aug97	3	Target	
BEAVER (1889-1964)						
1.	C1EN1BBR27.5	23Sep99	??	2	Target	
DOLPH (1886-1921)						
1.	C1JS1B30.5	8Nov91		1	Star	
2.	C1EN1B27.5		20Feb00	1		
EMMA (1896-1903)						
1.	C1EN1B27.5	27Mar97		1	Target	
HEBO (1882-Date)						
1.	C1EN1BBR26.5	10Nov9?	30Oct95	2	Target	(1)
HEMBREE (1890-1898)						
1.	C1EN1BBR26.5	27Nov93	3Feb97	2	Cork grid	
MEDA (1887-1892 & 1915-1920)						
1.	C1EN1BBR27.5	14Nov87		1	Target	
NEHALEM (1884-Date)*						
1.	C1EN1BBR26.5	16Dec88	18Oct98	2	Target	
NESKOWIN (1886-1906 & 1910-1959)						
1.	C1EN1B28.5	17Nov93		1	Oval grid	
2.	C1EN1BBR27	30Jan96	7Mar99	2		(2)
NESTOCTON (1867-1904)						
1.	C1E?BB?25	ca71		1	Target	
NETARTS (1870-1872 & 1879-1957)						
1.	C1EN1BBR26.5	21Aug91	2Sep97	2	Target	
ONION PEAK (1884-1893)						
1.	C21J1N1B32	17Jul85		1	Maltese Cross	
2.	C1EN1BBR27.5	24Jun89		1	Target	
ORETOWN (1877-1954)						
1.	OV1E9,13RRB44	10Apr82		1	Target	(3)
2.	OV1J2,9RRB44	16Apr83	19Jul86	8	Target	
3.	M	22Apr87		1		
4.	C1EN1BBR26.5	6May87	20Nov94	4		(4)

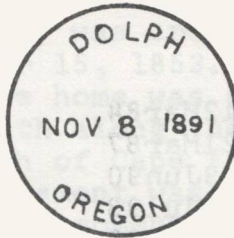
TILLAMOOK COUNTY



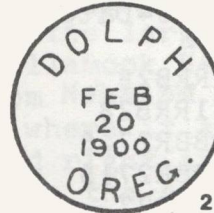
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1



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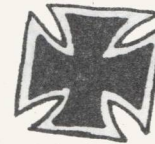
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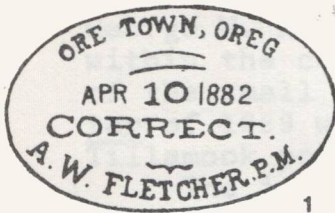
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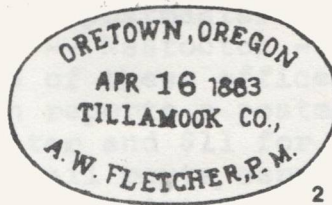
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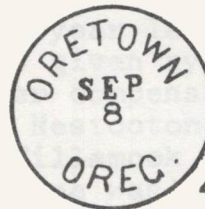
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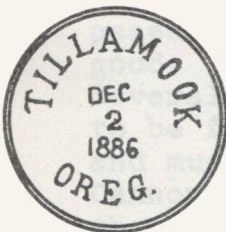
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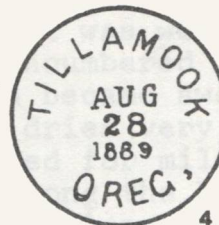
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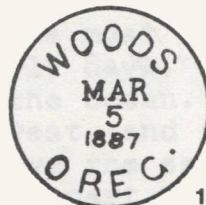
2



4



1



1

TOWN TYPE NO.	POSTMARK CODE	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE	EXAMPLES KNOWN	KILLER TYPE	NOTES
TILLAMOOK (1866-Date)						
1.	M	8Nov67		1		
2.	ClJN1RRB28	21Dec83	12Mar84	2	Maltese Cross (5)	
3.	C21EN1RRB28	2Dec86	21Mar87	2	Cork	
4.	ClEN1BBR27.5	4Apr89	9Jun90	5	Target	
5.	ClEN1BBR27.5	5Jan91	2Jul93	2	Target	(6)
6.	ClJN1BBR27	17Jun95	31Oct98	4	Cork	
7.	ClEN1BBR28	4Apr99	20Oct99	6	Oval bar grid	
TRASK (1872-1874 & 1882 & 1890-1906)						
1.	M	ca73		1		
2.	ClJN1B26.5	21May90		1	Star	
WOODS (1886-1935)						
1.	ClEN1BBR27	5Mar87	4Mar95	3	Target	

Notes: (1) Earliest is date type N3 and appears on 3¢ Columbian.
(2) Earliest has year date in mss.
(3) Device normally used for post office reports and not as a postmark.
(4) Year sometimes appears in mss.
(5) Spelled "TILLAMORK".
(6) Spacing of letters wider than in Type 4.

NINETEENTH CENTURY POST OFFICES OF TILLAMOOK COUNTY, OREGON

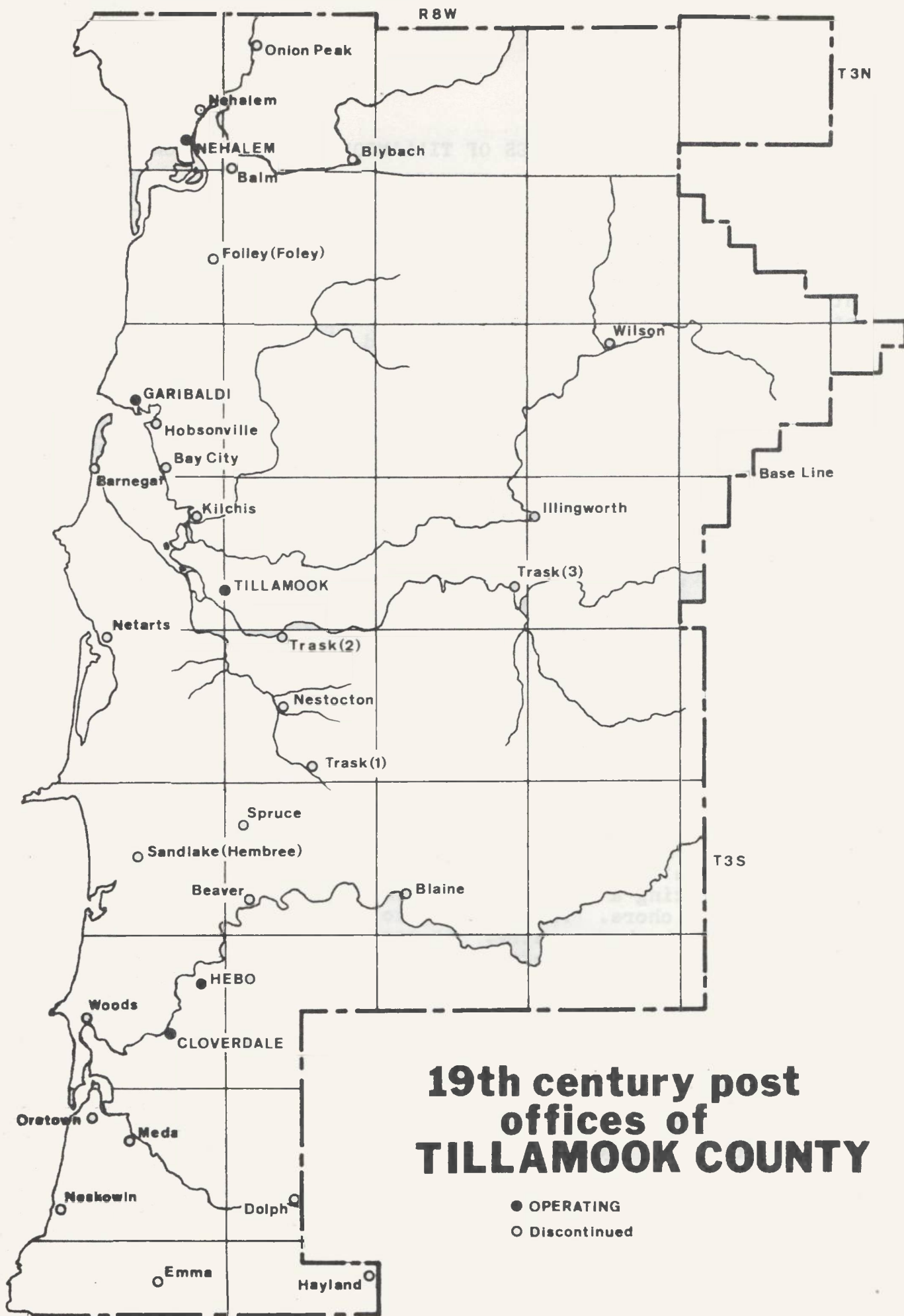
By Richard W. Helbock

Tillamook County was created by the Oregon Territorial Legislature on December 15, 1853. Named for the large tribe of Salish Indians whose home was south of Tillamook Head. Tillamook County extended south along the coast from Nehalem Bay to a point a little north of Cape Foulweather where it abutted Benton County. Early settlement was concentrated right around Tillamook Bay from the original community of Trask in the south to Garibaldi in the north. The entire southern half of the county was declared to be the Coast Indian Reservation.

Settlers entered the county from the Clatsop Plains area to the north. For those few intrepid souls who braved the dangerous trail around and over Neahkahnie Mountain to file donation land claims in the vicinity of Tillamook Bay, there were both advantages and disadvantages. The advantages included a well-watered fertile alluvial plain formed by the junction of the several rivers which flow out of the Coast Range and into the Bay, abundant salmon and trout, and a generally mild, although very wet, year round climate. The disadvantages included isolation, the tenuous supply/communication link to the north, and a pronounced lack of sunshine which somewhat limited the kinds of crops which could be grown.

The initial settlements of Tillamook County remained quite small for the first decade or so. A post office was finally authorized at Tillamook on March 12, 1866, with the appointment of George W. Miller as postmaster. A second office was established within the county -- Nestocton -- one year later, but an indication of the small size of these offices is given by the Official Register of 1869 which reports a postmaster compensation of \$12 for the Tillamook postmaster and \$11 for the Nestocton postmaster.

The initial mail route serving Tillamook County followed the coast trail south from Astoria. Service was once a week and the task of transporting a sack of mail from the Columbia to Tillamook Bay was no small chore. From Astoria to Cannon Beach the trail passed through unbroken country. It was well marked, but none too good. The forest path was often encumbered with fallen trees. Several small streams, which often became swollen with rains, had to be forded. Rain-soaked ground dried very slowly in the forest, and mud to the knees was encountered for miles at a stretch. From Cannon Beach the trail proceeded along the beach, and travel in the hard-packed low tide sand was a pleasure compared to what lay behind and ahead. The trail began to leave the beach at Short Sands climbing gradually to the higher ground of Neahkahnie Mountain. The mountain became the most feared point along the entire Oregon Coast during the early days. It is a rugged headland, 1700 feet high protruding into the ocean. From its crest the mountain slopes sharply toward the west, and finally breaks off in a nearly vertical cliff 500 feet above the sea. The surface is made up of old rock slides for the most part, and footing is treacherous. An Indian trail skirted the cliff face without climbing too high, but



its width was described as "about two hands," and it proved to be impossible for livestock. Settlers used a safer trail higher up the mountain, but even there footing was poor.

Once over Neahkahnle the mail route crossed the Nehalem River by canoe and proceeded down the beach to Garibaldi and the settlements of southern Tillamook Bay. The route changed from time to time as new post offices were added and old offices shifted location with a change in postmaster.

The decade of the 1870's saw five new offices added to the Tillamook County list: Nehalem, Garibaldi, Netarts, Trask, and Kilchis. In 1877 yet another office was established, Oretown, and this office marked the beginning of postal service to the southern (at the time central) portion of Tillamook County. Oretown was not supplied by the mail route south from Astoria, but was instead supplied from the Willamette Valley by way of the Yamhill River (see 1877 Route Map).

Thirteen new post offices were established in Tillamook County during the 1880's, and 13 more were added during the 1890's. Some of these offices resulted from changes in name, but most were new post offices which reflected the spreading pattern of settlement in the county. The expansion of post offices and the changes in mail routes connecting these offices are illustrated in the 1877-87-97 postal route maps.

TILLAMOOK. Established March 12, 1866. Named for the Salish Indian tribe which made its home in the northern portion of the county, Tillamook was the original county seat and has historically been the principal center of the county.

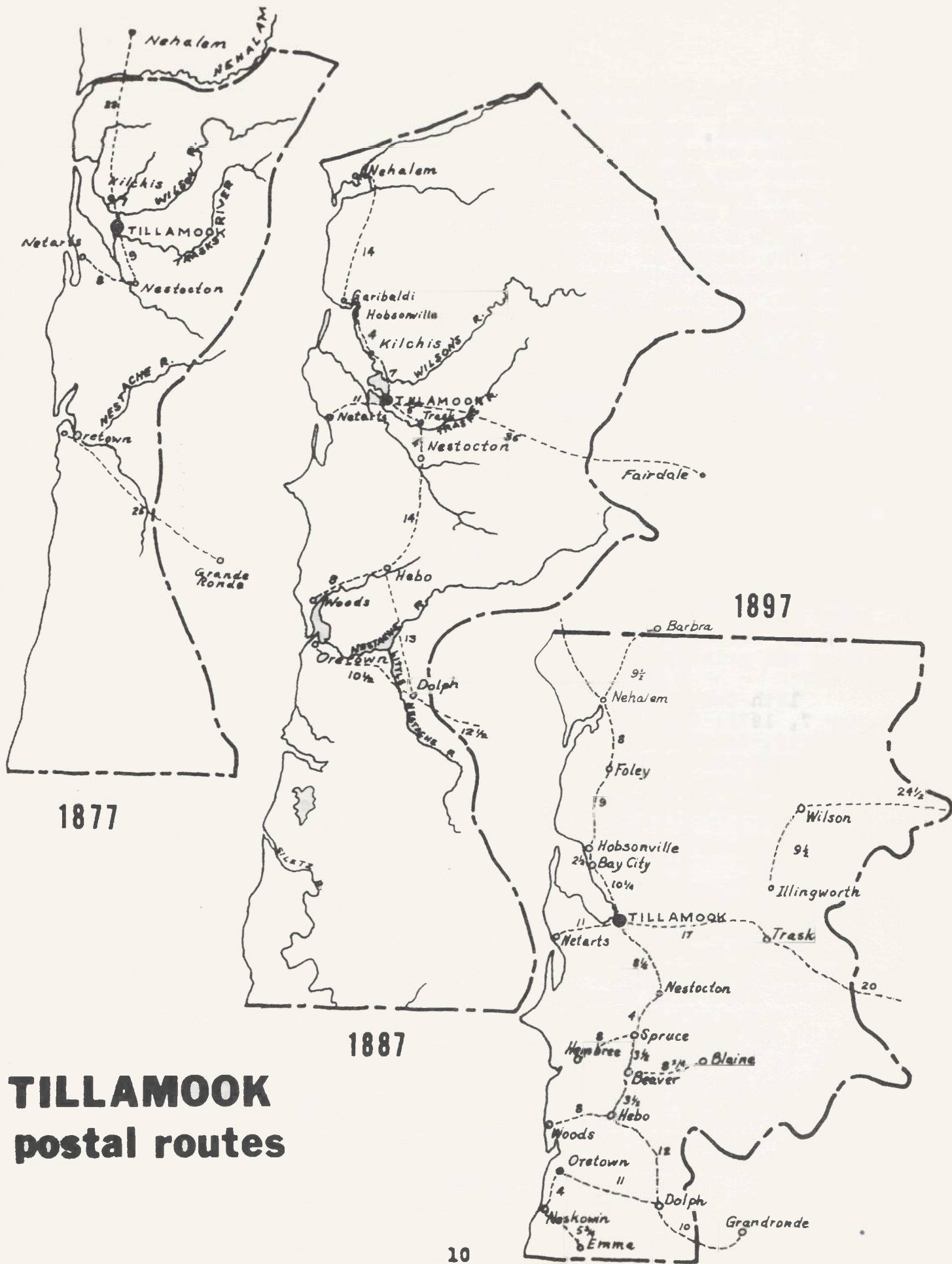
19th Century Postmasters: George W. Miller; Geo. W. Fearnside, May 7, 1875; Geo. P. Lasselle, Oct. 10, 1879; Martha H. Gatchell, Mar. 30, 1880; Charles H. Miller, Sept. 6, 1880; Maggie C. Fearnside, Sept. 11, 1885; James C. Mason, Oct. 4, 1887; Jay Bee Edwards, Jul. 30, 1888; James C. Mason, Dec. 12, 1888; Sophia Severance, Feb. 15, 1890; Lucia J. Hunt, Mar. 1, 1894; Abel W. Severance, Dec. 22, 1898.

The Tillamook post office is currently operating; ZIP Code - 97141.

NESTOCTON. Established February 7, 1867. The name of this office is reported to derive from an Indian word, but the meaning is not known. The office was located eight or nine miles south of Tillamook along the Tillamook River near the community now known as Pleasant Valley. The location of the office moved about in this general area with changes in postmaster.

19th Century Postmasters: Leonard Killiam; E. Saint John, Oct. 8, 1869; Francis M. Lamb, June 28, 1871; Truman Harris, Mar. 26, 1879; J. Marolf, May 5, 1879; Jonathon G. Sears, Feb. 6, 1880; Wm. C. Fawcett, Apr. 5, 1881; Goran Munson, Sept. 1, 1892; Wm. Schlotter, Feb. 12, 1899.

Nestocton post office was discontinued June 13, 1904, mail to Spruce.



TILLAMOOK **postal routes**

NEHALEM (1). Established August 9, 1870. This office was named for the Salish tribe which made its home along the Nehalem River. Nehalem post office was originally located in the home of Samuel Corwin, which was on the west bank of the river a mile or two above the present town site. The office moved with changes in the postmaster, and from time to time it was located across the river between present day Wheeler and Mohler, up the north fork, and eventually to the Upper Nehalem.

19th Century Postmasters: Samuel Corwin; Clayton Richardson, July 13, 1876; Wm. R. Deane, Mar. 2, 1877; John B. Hunt, July 13, 1880; E. R. Scovell, Jan. 12, 1882; Elisha K. Scovell, Mar. 7, 1882; Geo. E. R. Deane, Jan. 16, 1883; John M. Alley, May 10, 1883.

The name of this office was changed to Onion Peak on February 6, 1884.

GARIBALDI (1). Established August 9, 1870. This community was named by Daniel D. Bayley, the first postmaster, for the Italian patriot Giuseppe Garibaldi. Located at the north end of Tillamook Bay, Garibaldi was for a time the only rival to Tillamook. The exact location of the office moved about at the north end of the bay.

19th Century Postmasters: Daniel D. Bayley; William Ralston, Sept. 17, 1873; J. H. Laisen, Feb. 2, 1880; William Ralston, Dec. 29, 1880.

The name of this office was changed to Hobsonville on February 6, 1883. It was not in service from Feb. 29, 1876 to Feb. 2, 1880.

NETARTS. Established August 25, 1870. This office was named with an Indian place name which described the bay upon which it was sited. The community is located at the north end of Netarts Bay, and was served with an 11 mile route southwest from Tillamook.

19th Century Postmasters: William H. Hardman; Edw. C. Bunnell, Oct. 9, 1871; Rollin M. Trobridge, May 5, 1879; Susan Griner, Dec. 29, 1880; Wm. C. O'Hara, Mar. 12, 1883; Cornelius Desmond, Dec. 1, 1887; Wm. C. O'Hara, Oct. 22, 1890.

The Netarts post office was not in service for two periods during the 19th century: Aug. 27, 1872 - May 5, 1879; and Oct. 4, 1882 - Mar. 12, 1883. On May 3, 1957, Netarts was discontinued, but a rural branch out of Tillamook was established in Netarts on June 1, 1957.

TRASK (1). Established April 25, 1872. Elbridge Trask was a pioneer resident in Tillamook County. He moved there before the legislature erected the county, and lived there until his death in 1863. There appear to have been three separate Trask post offices in the county. This is the earliest, and it was located about five miles south of Nestocton.

19th Century Postmasters: James Quick; William M. Carnahan,

Nov. 11, 1872; Horace Holden, Mar. 23, 1874.

The Trask post office was discontinued April 24, 1874.

KILCHIS. Established May 28, 1872. This office was named for the river which flows into Tillamook Bay near the site of the facility. The river, in turn, was named for a chief of the Salish tribe that previously inhabited the Tillamook Bay area.

19th Century Postmasters: William D. Stillwell; Peter Morgan, Sept. 27, 1877; P. Edward Coleman, May 27, 1881.

The Kilchis post office was discontinued April 4, 1890, mail to Tillamook.

ORETOWN. Established October 8, 1877. The story goes that James B. Upton settled this portion of the county in 1875-76, and that he had with him a seal with "OREGON CITY" cut in the die. Wishing to make use of that seal, he petitioned the post office for an office named ORE CITY, but the POD refused him because the existence of Oregon City would surely create problems. Upton then requested Oretown, and that was permitted. No mention is made of whether or not the seal was ever used.

19th Century Postmasters: Christian Christensen; Peter H. Dye, Mar. 26, 1879; Avery H. Rubcock, July 8, 1879; Emma Emmett, Aug. 27, 1879; Albert Fletcher, May 13, 1881; Jefferson R. Shaw, Jan. 26, 1887; Vincent Sutton, Oct. 29, 1889; Caroline M. Myers, Dec. 22, 1896; James I. Hoopes, July 28, 1897; Angus W. Atterbury, Apr. 15, 1898.

The Oretown post office was discontinued February 28, 1954, mail to Cloverdale.

TRASK (2). Established May 23, 1882. The location of this Trask post office was along the Trask River about 5 miles southeast of Tillamook. Service was limited to the summer and fall of 1880 for this second incarnation of Trask.

19th Century Postmasters: Robert H. Renshaw.

The Trask post office was discontinued December 6, 1882.

HEBO. Established October 17, 1882. Hebo post office was named for nearby Mount Hebo, a 3,154-foot peak located near the southeastern border of the county. The name of the mountain is reported to be a distortion of "Heave Ho," and was apparently applied by a party of early explorers.

19th Century Postmasters: George W. Bodyfelt; Alonzo W. Richards, Aug. 22, 1894; Elmer E. Cross, Nov. 18, 1897.

The Hebo post office continues to operate; ZIP Code - 97122.

HOBSONVILLE. Established February 6, 1883, by change of name from Garibaldi. At about the time this name change took place, John Hobson and his partner, Leinenweber, both of Astoria, opened a salmon cannery some three miles southeast of Garibaldi. The post office left the old community, and its name was changed accordingly.

19th Century Postmasters: Joseph E. Sibley; Joseph T. Marr, Apr. 15, 1889; Joseph E. Sibley, Dec. 2, 1889; Annie C. Babbidge, Sept. 19, 1894; Joseph E. Sibley, Aug. 27, 1896; Leigh Jones, Nov. 16, 1898.

Service was interrupted at Hobsonville between Oct. 26, 1887, and April 6, 1888. The office was finally discontinued November 15, 1913, papers to Bay City.

ONION PEAK. Established February 6, 1884, by change of name from Nehalem. When John M. Alley became the Nehalem postmaster in May 1883, the office moved to his home which was customary. His home however, was quite far north of the original site of Nehalem and he sought a change of name. Onion Peak is a 3,058-foot mountain located about two miles north of the Tillamook County line in Clatsop County. Since the site of the post office was very near the county line, Onion Peak was the dominant geographic feature in the area.

19th Century Postmasters: John M. Alley; Margaret J. Gary, June 14, 1887; Stephen R. Scovell, Oct. 28, 1888.

Service was interrupted briefly from March 15th to October 23rd in 1888, and the Onion Peak post office closed April 7, 1893.

NEHALEM (2). Established May 12, 1884. With the original post office situated near the northern border of the county, residents of the community of Nehalem felt deprived of service. Once the name of the original office was changed to Onion Peak, Nehalem's residents petitioned for and received a new Nehalem post office.

19th Century Postmasters: Henry Ober; Mary G. Smith, May 13, 1887; Edward G. E. West, Mar. 16, 1888; Clarence L. Robbins, July 11, 1893; Henry Tohl, June 12, 1897.

The second Nehalem post office still serves the lovely little hamlet on the north bank of the Nehalem; ZIP Code - 97131.

WOODS. Established April 10, 1886. Woods post office was named in honor of Joseph Woods, a pioneer who settled in the area about 1875. This office was located on the Nestucca River about a mile north of the bay and inland from Cape Kiwanda.

19th Century Postmasters: William Booth; Nancy E. Booth, Oct. 7, 1899.

The Woods post office was discontinued August 29, 1935.

DOLPH. Established April 22, 1886. This post office was named in honor of Joseph N. Dolph, who was serving as United States Senator from Oregon at the time it was established. Dolph came to Oregon in 1862, and served the state in the Senate from 1883 to 1895. The post office was in the southeast corner of the county on the Little Nestucca River.

19th Century Postmasters: Carrie E. Hill; Allie Cary, May 8, 1890; Phoebe Cary, May 21, 1892; Wm. H. H. Cary, July 20, 1892; Lewis L. Shortridge, Jan. 11, 1894.

The Dolph post office was discontinued October 21, 1921, mail to Willamina.

GARIBALDI (2). Established September 10, 1886. The movement of the original office to Hobsonville, some three miles away, left the residents of Garibaldi without a convenient mail facility. They petitioned for and eventually received this new office.

19th Century Postmasters: William Ralston; Peter Bryant, Oct. 13, 1887; A. Jay Sheppard, Feb. 8, 1892; Phoebe J. Alderman, Nov. 12, 1892; Richard P. York, Oct. 26, 1899.

The Garibaldi post office was not in operation for two periods in the late 19th century: April 6, 1888 - February 8, 1892; and October 31, 1895 - October 26, 1899. The office continues to operate; ZIP Code - 97118.

NESKOWIN. Established December 4, 1886. Neskowin is reported to be a Salish Indian word meaning "Plenty Fish." The name was applied to a creek in the southern part of the county, and the post office borrowed the name of the stream. The creek and community were briefly known as Slab Creek, but no post office was ever established with that name.

19th Century Postmasters: Weston Burdick; Sarah Page, Aug. 6, 1887; Albert Bowman, Feb. 4, 1888; Ella Plank, Apr. 15, 1895; Cora Hellenbrand, Aug. 3, 1899.

The Neskowin post office was discontinued October 19, 1906. It was subsequently reestablished by a change of name from MARX, and eventually converted to a rural station of Cloverdale on August 31, 1959.

MEDA. Established May 11, 1887. Meda post office was named in memory of the deceased sweetheart of the first postmaster, Wallace Yates. The office was located on the Little Nestucca River about three miles from Oretown on the road to Dolph.

19th Century Postmasters: Wallace Yates; Lima Dunn, Aug. 30, 1889; George Ellizner, Apr. 23, 1890.

On July 7, 1892 the Meda post office closed. It was reopened on Feb. 17, 1915, but closed again August 25, 1920, with papers to Cloverdale.

HAYLAND. Established April 16, 1888. This name is reported to have been descriptive of the low grassy meadow in which the office was located. Hayland is one of the county's more elusive 19th century post offices since it was only in existence during the summer of 1888. It was located in a community which was later known as Boyer.

19th Century Postmasters: Mary J. Mulligan.

Hayland post office was discontinued September 26, 1888, papers to Dolph.

FOLLEY. Established June 7, 1888. The Folley post office was named for Foley Creek, near which it was located. The spelling variation was corrected some six years later.

19th Century Postmasters: Frank Worthington; Eliza Sales, Sept. 12, 1889; Lizzie M. Ripley, April 17, 1893; Lydia J. Hoskins, Dec. 23, 1893.

The name of this office was officially changed to Foley on December 27, 1894.

BAY CITY. Established June 17, 1889. The area served by this post office was traditionally known as "down by the bay." The first voting precinct was called Bay Precinct. Winfield S. Cone, who founded the community in 1888, was from Bay City, Michigan. With all these factors in mind, it hardly seems surprising that the name Bay City was chosen.

19th Century Postmasters: Onslow Young; William C. Marsh, Oct. 29, 1891; Clarence H. Hicks, Feb. 7, 1893.

On December 30, 1963, Bay City was converted to a rural station of the Tillamook post office.

BEAVER. Established August 22, 1889. Beaver post office was located near the junction of Beaver Creek and the Nestucca River in the southern portion of Tillamook County. The name of course called attention to the location of the office.

19th Century Postmasters: Benjamin Bunn; Joseph Bixby, July 15, 1892; Christopher Mills, Mar. 15, 1895; James R. Finley, Aug. 24, 1896.

The Beaver post office was converted to a rural station of Cloverdale on June 20, 1964.

TRASK (3). Established January 11, 1890. This third Trask post office was in existence for over 16 years, longer than either of the two earlier offices with this name. It was located along the Trask River on the road over the Coast Range to Yamhill County at a distance of 17 miles from Tillamook.

19th Century Postmasters: Leonard Crenshaw; Doniphan Hays, Aug. 7, 1893; Everett Baels, Mar. 28, 1894; George Crowson, May 26, 1894; George F. Buxton, Dec. 12, 1894; Joseph A. Huston, Apr. 2, 1896; George W. Grayson, May 1, 1897; Charles L. Smith, Nov. 23, 1899.

Trask post office was discontinued October 16, 1906, papers to Tillamook.

HEMBREE. Established July 10, 1890. Hembree was named for the family of the first postmaster, Absalom J. Hembree. The name persisted for a few years after Hembree ceased to be postmaster, but was eventually replaced with a name calling attention to a prominent local geographic feature.

19th Century Postmasters: Absalom J. Hembree; Lawren A. Hoyt, Nov. 2, 1892; Charles H. Colton, Oct. 11, 1897.

The name of this office was changed to Sandlake on January 18, 1898.

BARNEGAT. Established April 28, 1891. Barnegat post office was located on the Bayocean Peninsula on the west shore of Tillamook Bay. The office is reported to have been named for Barnegat Bay, New Jersey, although the identity of the person who named it thus is the subject of some confusion.

19th Century Postmasters: Absalom B. Hallock; Lizzie Biggs, Mar. 26, 1898; Carrie A. Hauxhurst, June 20, 1898.

The Barnegat post office was not in service from Oct. 31, 1895 to March 26, 1898. On February 24, 1909, the name of the office was changed to Bayocean.

CORRIE. Established May 23, 1891. The Corrie post office is a mystery, and there is some question as to whether it really ever existed. The Oregon Postal Route Map of 1892 shows no such place in Tillamook County and the Official Register of 1891 makes no listing of it. The author has been unable to find any maps showing Corrie, or any other mention of the place outside of its listing in the Records of Postmasters microfilm.

19th Century Postmasters: Marrian Buchanan.

Corries post office was discontinued on May 1, 1893, and the fact that no papers were listed gives further support to the notion that it may not have really existed.

BLAINE. Established June 1, 1892. Named for the unsuccessful Republican candidate for the presidency in 1884, James G. Blaine, the Blaine post office was located on the Nestucca River near the mouth of East Creek.

19th Century Postmasters: William Smith; James Patterson, Jan. 17, 1894; Edwin L. Cady, Mar. 3, 1898; Marion A. Cady, Nov. 30, 1898.

The Blaine post office was discontinued January 31, 1956, papers to Beaver.

BLYBACH. Established September 5, 1892. The Blybach post office was named for its first and only postmaster, Hattie Blybach. It was located on the Nehalem River about five miles east of Mohler.

19th Century Postmasters: Hattie Blybach.

Blybach post office was discontinued March 5, 1896, mail to Nehalem.

SPRUCE. Established November 13, 1894. Spruce post office was named for the Sitka spruce trees in the vicinity. It was located about 12 miles south of Tillamook on the Coast Highway.

19th Century Postmasters: Henry Peters.

Spruce post office was closed May 3, 1907, mail to Hemlock.

FOLEY. Established December 27, 1894, by change of name from Folley. This name change corrected the spelling error in the name of the original office and made it agree with the spelling of Foley Creek.

19th Century Postmasters: Lydia J. Hoskins.

Foley post office was discontinued July 13, 1906, mail to Balm.

RESORT. Authorized January 10, 1896. Lula V. Mauritzen was appointed postmistress of an office to be named Resort, but the order was rescinded before the office began operation on March 24, 1896.

WILSON. Established July 2, 1896. Wilson post office was named for the Wilson River, which was in turn named for a pioneer who is credited with first bringing cows to the county from Astoria and thus beginning the Tillamook dairy industry. The post office was situated on the stream near the mouth of North Fork, and, therefore, in the vicinity of the latter-day community known as Lees Camp. The mail was initially brought to Wilson post office from Gales Creek post office in Washington County, rather than out of Tillamook.

19th Century Postmasters: Walter J. Smith; James F. Reeher, May 29, 1899.

The Wilson post office was discontinued November 30, 1917, papers to Gales Creek.

ILLINGWORTH. Established July 7, 1896. This post office was named for a family of prominent local settlers. Located on the Wilson River some 14 miles east of Tillamook, Illingworth was served by a mail route from the east out of Gales Creek through Wilson.

19th Century Postmasters: James R. Harris; Earl Stanley, July 3, 1899.

The Illingworth post office was discontinued December 8, 1899, mail to Wilson.

EMMA. Established December 16, 1896. Emma post office was named for Emma Chitwood, a prominent local personage. The office was located on Neskowin Creek and was served by a spur route out of Neskowin post office.

19th Century Postmasters: John D. Chitwood.

Emma post office was closed February 26, 1903, mail to Neskowin.

BALM. Established May 24, 1897. Balm was named for a local variety of cottonwood tree called a balm. The office was situated near the mouth of Foley Creek.

19th Century Postmasters: Everett R. Bales; Clay Daniel, Nov. 17, 1898.

The name of this office was changed to Mohler on December 6, 1911.

SANDLAKE. Established January 18, 1898, by change of name from Hembree. Sand Lake, a small body of water along the Pacific shore, lies nearby, and apparently the residents wished their post office and community to be known for this geographic feature.

19th Century Postmasters: Charles H. Colton; William C. King, May 9, 1898.

The Sandlake post office was finally closed June 30, 1953. It was reactivated as a rural station of Cloverdale the following day, but even the rural station was discontinued on April 20, 1956.

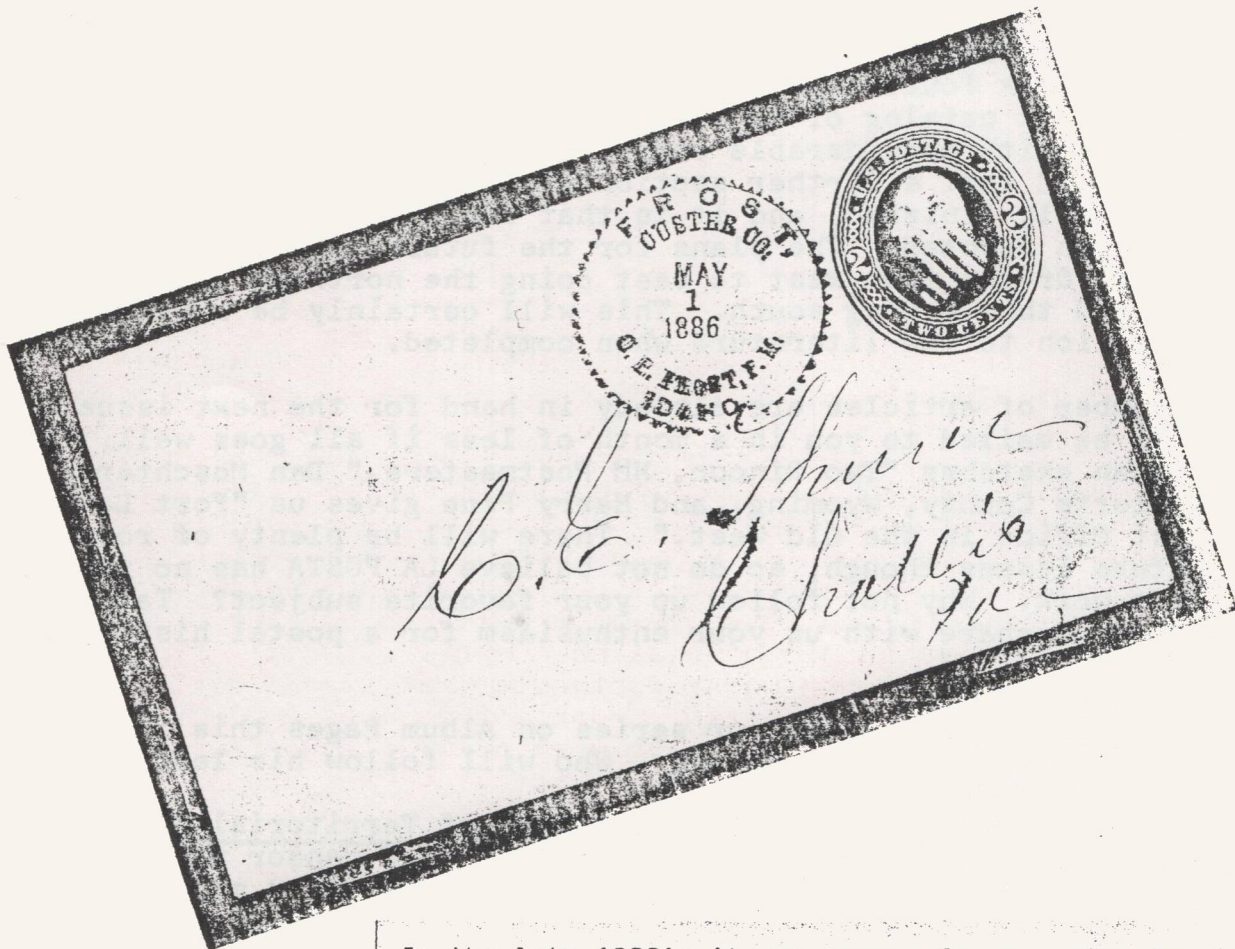
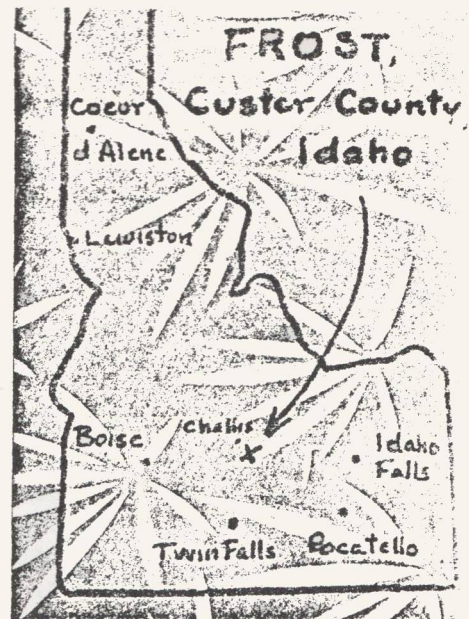
CLOVERDALE. Established July 1, 1899. Cloverdale bears a name descriptive of the fine dairy country in which it is located. The name was apparently copied from Cloverdale, California, but then originality isn't everything. The post office is located near the Nestucca River and the Oregon Coast Highway in southern Tillamook County.

19th Century Postmasters: Charles Ray.

The Cloverdale post office survives to this day; ZIP Code - 97112.

FROST, Idaho

Frost, Idaho, lasted as a post office for 818 days. It was located 18 miles south of Challis in Custer County at Frost Hot Springs. Charles P. Frost, the one and only postmaster received his papers Sept. 3, 1885. On November 3, 1887 the office was discontinued and thus one of the most attractive Idaho cancels fell into disuse. The service was taken over by nearby Challis.



In the late 1800's it was common for a postmaster to furnish his own cancels and occasionally a postmaster would promote himself a little by having his name put on the postmark. Sometimes they would include the county name to distinguish their town from another by the same name in a different county. Once in awhile you will see both the postmaster's name and the county name on the same cancel.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Today is the first day of fall. Unfortunately, by the time you read these lines it will be late October, perhaps early November. Anyway you look at it LA POSTA is late, and for that I apologize. Summer was very busy for me. My family and I visited parents and friends in Oregon during the month of July. It was lots of fun, but La Posta got behind schedule. When I returned home I plunged full time into MILITARY POSTMARKS OF TERRITORIAL ALASKA, which turned out to be a 197 page manuscript, much larger than I had originally thought. Now that job is at the printer, and I leave Las Cruces in three days for a month long trip to Alaska and the Pacific Northwest.

It was a genuine treat to meet at Chuck Whittlesey's house in Portland with so many ardent Northwestern postal historians. The hobby is alive and well in the Willamette Valley. No doubt about that. Dick Poultridge and Howard Mader discussed their plans for a postmark catalog of Washington Territory, and the project was greeted with considerable enthusiasm all around. Chuck Whittlesey announced that a further section of the 19th Century Oregon study was nearly finished, and it is that section to which this issue has been devoted. The plans for the future call for a progression across Oregon from west to east doing the northern tier of counties and then moving south. This will certainly be a valuable contribution to the literature when completed.

A number of articles are already in hand for the next issue which will be mailed to you in a month of less if all goes well. Tom Todsen sketches "Two Rincon, NM Postmasters," Dan Meschter presents Sublette County, Wyoming, and Harry Fine gives us "Fort Laramie, Post Office in the Old West." There will be plenty of room in future issues though, so do not believe LA POSTA has no room for your work. Why not follow up your favorite subject? Take pen to hand and share with us your enthusiasm for a postal history subject.

Richard Shepard begins our series on Album Pages this issue with a beautiful Frost, Idaho cover. Who will follow his lead?

Brief commercial: Military Postmarks of Territorial Alaska, which features the World War II APO postmarks and censor markings of Alaska and western Canada, but includes the early military postal history of Alaska as well, is available to La Posta subscribers at \$14 per copy postage paid. That is \$2 off retail price, and in my undoubtedly biased opinion not too bad a deal.

Honors: LA POSTA received a vermeil medal at PIPEX and a large silver medal at STAMPEX Canada. To those of you who have written for these pages, my sincere thanks. These are your awards too.

RICHARD W. HELBOCK, EDITOR, 1635 MARIPOSA DRIVE, LAS CRUCES, NM

