1-1-1934

Chronicles of the '33 Summer Camp

Hans Milius
Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/amesforester
Part of the Forest Sciences Commons

Recommended Citation
Milius, Hans (1934) "Chronicles of the '33 Summer Camp," Ames Forester; Vol. 22 , Article 18.
Available at: https://lib.dr.iastate.edu/amesforester/vol22/iss1/18

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in Ames Forester by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
And it came to pass that MacDonald spake unto Horning:
Get thee hence and gather thine flock; yea, for great distinction and happiness are to fall upon you.

And the flock was gathered and came forth: the proud and overbearing Seniorites, the calm and brave Juniorites, and even the meek and gentle Sophomorites. But the Sophomorites outnumbered them all. And Horning spake unto them: Many and difficult are the tasks before us. Our enemies are many, and we are few. Before us lie unmeasured deserts; yea, untold discomforts are in store. Wherefore, he spake, let any man turn back and go to his own house if he so desireth.

But a great murmur arose among the flock and they cried: Have we not given you testimony of our strength and courage? Why dost thou doubt us?

And Horning was glad in his heart and he spake unto them:
Gird your loins with sackcloth and drive your chariots for three days and three nights into the setting sun. You shall cross the plains and the great mountains; you shall be harrassed on the way and sorely tried; great misfortune shall befall you. But on the nineteenth day in the sixth month you shall make camp on the shores of the lake called Wenatchee in the land of the Washingtonites.

And it came to pass that on that day a great multitude gathered on the shore of the lake Wenatchee, which means Lake of the Insects.

And moreover the skill and the wisdom of the leaders were great.

For there was Horning, skilled in the snaring of the wily fish and in providing substance for the store house; great also was his wisdom in council with the Washingtonites. And the flock would gather around him and he would shower upon them his knowledge of felling the tree of the woodland and even of the working of the sawmill.

And there was the strong Larsen, son of the mighty Lars. None could stand before his powerful axe, guardian of the tented town.
For it later came to pass that a great gathering of the women of the Washingtonites fell upon the tents and cried: Give us Chisholm and Dilworth; for we long for their caresses. And Chisholm and Dilworth hid themselves in terror. But the mighty Larsen went forth and the women fled before him like chaff before the whirlwind. Yea, even at the campfire he would sing to his flock and make them to forget their hardships. And the flowers and trees of the fields would speak to him and he knew their language, and the paths of the wilderness held no fear for him.

And there was Chisholm, keeper of the storehouse, provider for the hunger of men. Curly of hair and fair of face, he cast eyes upon the women of the Washingtonites—yea, even multitudes of the women fell for him. And the flock were angered, and they rose in wrath and cried: Cast him upon the water. But they were afraid.

And on the second day Horning gathered his flock and he spake:

Set the center stake and spread the tent cloth, for this place seems good to mine eyes. And he broke the ground with his staff where they set the first stake. And they prepared themselves a great chamber, and stretched the walls and the roof with finest cloth. And they took wood from the fir tree and made themselves a great table and long benches and placed them into the tent wherein they should partake of the food offerings.

And moreover they built other tents, seven in number, to protect the flock from the sun and rain and from the beasts of
the field. But it came to pass that an host of mosquitoes fell upon them during the quiet of the night, and their spirits were sorely tried.

And these were the followers of Horning: Grau, Efnor, Baughman, and Maas. And it came to pass that Chisholm spake unto Baughman: Let us take your chariot and go into the town which is named with the name of Leavenworth, for I have fair counsel: The Washingtonites are about to partake of the feast of the fourth day of the seventh month; when they have fallen asleep, heavy with wine, we shall make away with their women. And so it happened that they followed this evil counsel and fell upon the city of Leavenworth. And by chance it came to the ears of their captain Horning and by token he gathered the men on the following day and led them to the top of the mountain to be purified by their own sweat.

And there were Smelser, Harlan, Wiehn, and Rhody; famous they were among the flock. Their songs lightened the burdens of sorrow from the shoulders of the weary flock. Well versed they were in the laying of lines and in measuring the distance. But it came to pass that the cold winds made them many great discomforts and they cried: Let us make a fire to keep us from freezing. And they gathered boughs from the pine tree and kindled a friendly flame and happiness was in their hearts. But even then did a spark leap to the wall of their tent and burn it. Their sorrow was great, and the fear of Larsen was in them, and Larsen had no pity upon them.

And there was Milius; far from the throngs of the multitude, deep ran his thoughts.

And there were McElhinney, Holscher, Lantzky, and Compton: men of mighty voice; yea, even their neighbors hearkened unto them through the dark hours of the night. Wherefore Larsen rose in wrath and chastised them to their grief. And it came to pass that they were following the line and they came to the shores of the Lake which abounds in fish. And McElhinney spake to his companions: Let us rest our legs and exercise our minds, and lo, they saved themselves much labor.

And besides these there were in the flock Phillips, Mehlin, Melvin, and Perry, mighty men with the fish nets. Manyfold was their prey and tasty to the palates of their fellows. They were first to greet the rising sun, never tiring of the journey to the far Wenatchee. Great was their knowledge of the ways of nature. For when Mehlin returned from running the line, lo: The lake had risen forty feet toward the heavens.

And moreover there were Gibson, Dilworth, Cecil, and Hodges;
strong huntsmen and horsemen were they, sinewy of body and
fair of countenance, favorites of the women, friends of the
spirits, helpers of mankind, fearless and untiring.
And these were the flock. Many brave deeds they accomplish-
ed; many marvelous sights did they see; and much good counsel
were they given.

And on the third day Horning spake: Let us gird our loins
to be reviewed by the chiefs of the Washingtonites. And it
came to pass that for three days they were weighed by these
chiefs, and the chaff was divided from the grain. And the names
of the chiefs were Gilbert Brown, the noblest of them, and Elof-
son and Putnam, next in rank.
And it came to pass that on the seventh day of the seventh
month Elofson betook himself to the camp of the flock from
Iowa and he spake unto them: Thou shalt not destroy the pas-

\"Let us make a fire to keep us from freezing.\"

\t

tures of the land and thou shalt not violate the trust placed up-
on you. And he led the flock to the top of the mountain and
showed them the land and his mouth was full of wisdom.
And it came to pass that on the eighteenth day of the seventh
month Horning led his flock to see the felling of the trees of
the pine woods and to hear the singing of the sawmill near the
town called Peshastin. And great was the wonder among the
flock.
And it came to pass that they gathered on the twenty-fifth
day of the seventh month and drove their chariots toward the
falls of the Snoqualmie. And it was there that great revelations
were made to them by the chiefs of the Weyerhauserites. And
they were shown the felling of the majestic fir tree and even
the ancient cedar, the craft of the men of the woods, and the
employment of their tools. Yea, even on the long log train they rode, and great was their astonishment. They were shown the work halls of the great sawmill, the spinning and whirling headsaws, the screeching edgers, the many-sawed trimmers, and even the heated dry kiln. And their marvel knew no end. And the names of the chiefs of the Weyerhauserites were O’Neil, Fisher, and Wahl.

6 And then it came to pass that Larsen lifted his voice and spake:

The time has come to foregather under the shade of the greenwood trees where the woodline twineth and the sawmill singeth not.

And the flock took up their goods and followed their captain, and this was the eighth day of the eighth month. And Larsen’s eye fell upon a goodly spot on the banks of the river known as Chiwawa, and he spake to his men also: Behold, this place pleaseth mine eyes; for the trees grow tall and dense and the underbrush is thick; yea, even the hillsides are steep.

And for five days the flock ran lines and measured the land, counted the trees and passed judgment upon them. Many leagues they walked through the thicket, and the thorns tore their clothes into rags. Thirst parched their throats, and in the night hosts of bloodthirsty mosquitoes descended upon them. But the flock were patient and strong.

7 And it came to pass that the time had come to go out among the Washingtonites and see the work of their hands and the cause of their fame. And Horning spake unto the flock: Fold the tent cloth lightly and bind it with stout cord, for even today it shall be taken hence. And the flock wept from happiness, for soon they should taste the joys of the homeland. Busily they folded the goods, and gaily they bound them, ready for next year’s use. And sage Horning encouraged them with wise words, and this came about on the seventeenth day of the eighth month.

And on the next day they mounted their chariots and set out for the city of Everett. There great enlightenment came unto them, for they were shown the Everett Pulp and Paper Mill and even the Walton veneer plant. And their hearts were full of joy.

Farther they journeyed, until they came to the Halls of Learning of the Washingtonites in the city of Seattle; and Jeffers, chief of the Rearer of Trees, welcomed them into his sacred halls; the men cleansed their bodies, put on new raiment,
and rejoiced; and thus ended the first day. And for two days the flock were shown the Seattle Cedar Lumber Company, and even the Coleman Creosote Plant; and their minds were open. But on the twentieth day they gathered in the forest given unto the Washingtonites by the generous Pack. And for many hours chief Jeffers showed them the land and spake words of wisdom.

And again the flock mounted their chariots and traveled until darkness overtook them; and they gathered for the night at the foot of the snowcapped Mount Ranier, and for two days they wandered about its endless vastness, and great was their mirth.

But on the twenty-second day the men were gathered in the city of Tacoma and were shown the Ernest Dolge Mill and even the Gange Mill, where the Swedish gang saw cuts shining boards from the dark fir tree. Whence they journeyed on the following day to the city of Shelton, which lies hidden on the green Peninsula. And the wealth of the Simpson Logging Company caused great astonishment among the flock. On they went to the wooded shores of Twanoh Park, to bathe in the cooling waters of the Sound and to lie under the blinking stars by night. And on the next day the flock followed the superintendent of the Simpson Logging Company, nimble of foot.

And on the twenty-fifth day of the eighth month the flock gathered in the city of Aberdeen, and the winds were cold and the fog thick, hiding the golden ball of the sun. And the flock were shown the Harbor Plywood Mill and also the General Packages Plant, and they saw many strange sights. And on the following day they gathered on the shore of the rolling ocean. They traveled the far-stretching beaches and even visited the sturdy light house, built on stony cliffs overlooking the waters.

But on the following day the flock went to the city of Longview and for two days were shown the Weyerhauser sawmill, and even the pulp mill. And those that had eyes saw and those that had ears heard; and this was on the twenty-eighth day of the eighth month.

And when it was high noon Horning spake unto his flock:
Get thee hence, for no longer shall I remain with you; be everyone gone into his own land in his own fashion, and there shall he remain until the Halls of Learning throw open their gates in the autumn. And the men bid farewell to one another and dispersed in the direction of the four winds. And some drove in chariots and others walked afoot.

But they took with them the wisdom and knowledge gained in the silent forests and in the roaring sawmills.