

Foreword

“Riding the Nez Perce War Trail Twice” gives twice the photographs and twice the story contained in most narratives. The route taken by the second series of Chief Joseph Trail rides was slightly different from the first series of rides. Most of the route was not traveled single file. With a large number of family groups traveling and the necessity of foraging for food, scouting and obtaining horse pasture the route was wide and photographs of two times over the route gives a broad picture. The photographs were taken by professional photographers Jim and Anne Mischel. Most present-day photographs of the route were taken from the nearest highway or country road.

Having a different historian telling riders the story as he interpreted it gives a broader insight on the history.

Among the history lecturers were Dr. Francis Haines, Professor of history at Western Oregon College of Education and author of “Red Eagles of the Northwest,” “The Nez Percés, Tribesmen of the Columbia Plateau,” and “The Buffalo;” Dr. Merrill Beal, history

Professor at Idaho State College and author of “I Will Fight No More Forever;” Mark Brown, military historian and author of “Flight of the Nez Perce, The Frontier Years” and “Before Barbed Wire;” Al Maxey, former superintendent of the Big Hole Battlefield National Monument; and myself, lifelong student of Appaloosa horses, Nez Perce and Palouse Indian history, author of “Horse Camping” and “Pioneer.”

In addition, people living near the trail that were descendants of settlers who were present at the time events took place, spoke to the riders. Their accounts broadened the story.

—George B. Hatley

