



Albert Henry Powers, Jr.

1900-1961

Albert Henry Powers, Jr. came from a family that was rich in pioneer logging history, from the woods of Minnesota to the forests of Oregon.

Born in Minneapolis on April 20, 1900, to Albert and Johannah Powers, young Albert moved to Marshfield, now Coos Bay, Oregon, with his family in 1907. The move was spurred by Powers' father, who was captured by the lure of opportunities in the Northwest forests. On their arrival in Oregon, the senior Powers teamed with C.A. Smith to form the Smith-Powers Logging Co. Frederick Powers, son of Albert, Sr., also joined the firm.

Yet despite the broad timber background, Albert Powers, Jr., later chose cattle ranching as a career, in which he excelled. Indeed, he at times showed an affinity for animals. According to his sister, Margaret, he had to leave a goat team behind when the family moved from Minnesota. She also writes "...when Albert was a young boy (in

Oregon), he turned the buggy horse...into a fine saddle horse."

He attended grade and high school in Marshfield, then went to college at the University of California. After two years at Berkeley, Powers transferred to the University of California, at Davis, where he graduated in 1922 with a degree in agriculture.

In 1926, Powers married Ruth McBride, of Berkeley, California, who had attended Stanford University. The couple made their home at the family ranch in Powers, Oregon, where they raised Hereford cattle. The town was named after his father and was headquarters to the Smith-Powers Logging Co.

Local residents remember Albert, Jr. for his donations of beef to the local hospital and at Christmas time for his gifts of fruit to the town's telephone operators.

Powers was the organizer and past president of the Western Livestock Association, as well as past president of the Coos-Curry Livestock Association. He was also a member of the board of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association and president of the Coos-Curry Fair Association. He served on the Oregon State Board of Forestry for 25 years.

Albert Powers, Jr. died in 1961. He was survived by his widow, Ruth, and two sons, Albert and Quincy and a daughter, Diana.