

Diamond Drill

Out of the Past

November 5, 1959

Answering the request of Heino "Hap" Puotinen, nine enthusiastic East Iron County "old-timers" gathered at the Crystal Inn (400 Superior) to reminisce about the by-gone logging industry of the area. The old-time lumberjacks traded stories, some actually true, which enthralled all who would listen. The French- Canadian influence on the early years of logging was demonstrated by the fact that the majority of the conversations were spoken in French. The group included: George Burns, George Cody, Alfred Johnson, Emil Johnson, Roger Jackson, August LaCount, Ed LaFreniere, Basilio Prandi and Frank VanCamp. Mainly through the efforts of Puotinen, who for months has been active in reviving interest in the logging history and as a result of the get together an organization has been formed who are interested in the preservation of the history of the logging industry in Iron County. The International Order of Lumberjacks (IOC) was formed with local members with future plans to expand outside the area to justify its name.



LUMBERJACKS ALL—Shown above are the nine east Iron county oldsters who can claim an active past in the by-gone logging industry of this area. Standing, left to right, are: August LaCount, Alpha; George Cody, Crystal Falls; Alfred Johnson, Swan Lake; Basilio Prandi, Triangle Ranch; Emil Johnson, Swan Lake; and George Burns, Mansfield. Sitting, left to right, are Frank VanCamp, Roger Jackson, Crystal Falls, and Ed. LaFreniere, Amasa. Friday night the men were assigned to stores in the Crystal Falls business district where they made their knowledge of the logging history of the area available to all who inquired. See accompanying story.