2009 FALL CITY CALENDAR
FALL CITY AT WORK

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE FALL CITY HISTORICAL SOCIETY $10
Large mills in the area, such as the Preston Mill, provided employment for many Fall City folks. Claude Hoover and Ray McFarland were co-owners of McFarland-Hoover Logging Contractors, shown on the cover and in the photos here. The company cut and transported logs to the Preston Mill in the 1920s.
Above: Dunstan Brothers’ General Merchandise, c. 1905. Oliver Dunstan is behind the counter. (Jack Kelley)

Right: The Dunstan Brothers’ Store operated on the ground floor of the IOOF Hall in Fall City from 1905 until the IOOF Hall was torn down in 1929 to allow widening of River Street. (Jack Kelley)

Ads: (left) Fall City Spirit, 1927; (upper right) The Coast magazine, 1906

Jack’s History of Fall City, p. 200
The Valley Hotel was built in the late 1890s on Main Street (now 337th Pl SE), just north of the present location of the Fall City United Methodist Church. It burned in 1910 and was not rebuilt. (1972 Fall City Centennial Supplement to the Valley Record)

Jack’s History of Fall City, pp. 177–178
Farming was an important livelihood for Fall City folks, and perhaps one of the least well documented, since there were no memorable “storefronts” and little advertising was done by most farmers.

**Howes Establish First Poultry Business**

The John Howe family moved to Fall City from Vaughn in 1908. There were six children: Elsie, Arthur, Willard, Millard, Horry and Ray.

Mr. Howe established a large poultry business, the first enterprise of its kind in the area.

Arthur and Horry went into a farming partnership. Art remained on that farm all his life and was also the local insurance man.

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Right: John and Effie Howe’s house, with family in front, c. 1910. (L–R) Visiting friend; Effie Howe holding granddaughter Irene (Whitfield); Ray Howe in front with boots; Millard Howe; John Howe; and Bill Howe.

As noted by granddaughter Florence Howe Koss, “That square house was not very large—two bedrooms at most. There was a milk house and a large wood shed at the back of the house. The group would be facing—at some distance—an orchard of apples, plums and petites (small red plums). There were sheds there also. At the left of the photo, where the trees are—there were chicken coops later.”

*Jack’s History of Fall City, pp. 161-170*
Starting in 1914, the Snoqualmie Falls Lumber Company provided employment for many Fall City folks, men and women alike. In this c. 1919 photo, employees of the SFLC Planing Mill are shown, with Milly Burns Divers sixth from the right in the second row from the front.

Jack's History of Fall City, pp. 155–156
Small towns have many small businesses, which often leave little trace in history. This 1940 King County Assessor’s photo (Washington State Archives, Puget Sound Region) shows the house at 4318 Preston-Fall City Road SE, built in 1932 by Harold Howell and serving as H.Howell Photos when this photo was taken. Frank Howell, Harold’s father, was a well known early Fall City photographer.
Confectioneries (purveyors of candy and other sweets) were very popular in the early 1900s. They also frequently sold tobacco products. The photo above shows the interior of the Hazelhurst Confectionery and Tobacco Store, operated by Fred Hazelhurst on River Street from about 1907 to 1919. The advertisements from the Fall City Spirit school newspapers show similar businesses in Fall City in following years. At right is Magee’s Confectionary [sic], c. 1924. (Jack Kelley)

*Jack’s History of Fall City, Chapter 11, pp. 175–198*
During the 1880s, the growing and exporting of hops was the largest agricultural enterprise in King County. The photo above shows a hop drying shed possibly similar to the historic Fall City Hop Shed when it was originally in use by Davis Rutherford at a landing on his farm. It shows the type of ramp commonly used to bring the boxes of hops up to the drying floor and back down for baling when they were dry. The dried hops were taken to a press that compacted them into 200-pound burlap-covered bales for shipment. Records show that 108 bales were shipped from Fall City in 1891.

*Jack’s History of Fall City, p. 161*
In 1922, George and Sarah Chapman built a grocery store on the southwest corner of James (336th Pl SE) and River Streets. (This site is currently the parking lot for the Farmhouse Market.) Chapman’s Store was the first store in town with a refrigerated meat case. The Chapmans operated the store until 1928, when they sold the building and business to William “Reg” Johnson.
Ben Moore and crew, shown in this photo from 1914, harvested crops for Valley farmers with the first steam threshing machine in the area. (Photo and article from the 1972 Fall City Centennial Supplement to the Valley Record)

Ben Moore and his wife Jessie (Prescott Moore) continued to work and improve the dairy farm carved out of the wilderness by his father Lance in the early 70s. Ben believed in modernizing and always had the best equipment possible. He brought the first steam threshing machine to the Valley.

Ben had a way with animals and was on call day and night to help his friends and neighbors doctor a sick cow or horse.
The exact location of this mill is not known. It was west of Fall City toward Redmond. *Timberman* magazine lists the owner as M. C. Perkins and states, “Circular saw cut 20,000 board feet of fir in one shift [8-hour day in 1922]; also had planing mill, trimmers, edger, and was steam powered.”
In 1909, Robert and Mecie Burns opened the Burns & Son Store on River Street and operated it until 1922. The “Son” referred to his son, Perry Burns, and the “One Price” meant there would be no dickering on the price.