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# Good, Dave

By Bud Gawne, 1981

Dave Good, a freighter from North Dakota was born in January 1848. Before he arrived in Naramata, he located in Sandon, BC, when the town was really at its peak in the early 1880s.

At the age of 62, in 1910, he came to Naramata, took up a pre-emption near Squally Point. He ran a team of pack horses for the survey crew of the CPR and for anyone else who had a need. He could always be counted on for gentle horses and eventually getting the job done. Age made him discontinue his pack train and take up with three Percherons: Bobby, Baldy and Pat. He worked with them on roads and in the orchards.

When Bud first knew him, he appeared to be a real old man. He was heavy-set and had trouble with his feet and he was blind in one eye, apparently losing his sight while he was shingling a roof - the nail bounced back and hit him in the eye.

Dave never talked about a family. He appeared to be a real loner. It's understood that he had two brothers.

Bud Gawne remembers Dave was getting too old to handle the horses, so he told me he was going into the trucking business; at least he wouldn't have to feed the things. Then Dave goes to Bill Mitchell and buys an old Model T truck. Bill didn't think the truck needed too much explanation so he just told old Dave to play around with it for a day or two and he'd get the hang of it. Well, Dave couldn't do a thing with it so he called Billy Yardman and I down to see this new truck of his. He asked us if we knew anything about these critters because he wanted to learn how to drive it. Well, we all piled in and gave Dave lessons. The truck was a top heavy old thing, 36 inch rims on the back, you had to be real careful going around corners.

Well, he finally got up enough nerve to drive to Penticton. We went down to see him the next day and asked him where his truck was. He said, "Oh, that S.O.B. I was just going to stop at the butcher shop for some sausage. I turned and hollered 'WHOA' but it just drove right in." That was the end of old Dave's trucking business.

He was definitely one of the town's characters.