

# Head 'Em Up, Move 'Em Out

The trails leading out of the Eastern Sierra Nevada mountains all have one thing in common ... they are pretty steep and it's generally a long ways to anywhere. Horse and mule packing quickly came into being as "the" method of travel for people trying to get around in the High Sierra. Many of the trails in use today were first built by packers and are often maintained today by same.

The packers would pack in food for the fire lookouts stationed throughout the back country. They also would carry all of the tools and supplies needed by CCC crews for trail building and other wilderness improvements.

Firefighters would count on equipment hauled in by the mules to assist in fighting fires, and many lovers of the outdoors got their first experience in the Sierra high country thanks to the efforts of a skilled packer and his string.

