

The Oroville Weekly Gazette

FOURTH YEAR. NO. 39.

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\$1.50 PER YEAR.

COUNTY DIVISION NO GO

Return Home Disgusted of
One of Our Delegated
Representatives.

BAD CASE OF COLD FEET

Representative Bolinger Dodges
Pre-Election Promises made
to Oroville Residents.

C. F. Sigrist, who was sent to Olympia as plenipotentiary to represent this place in the effort to talk the legislature into putting the knife to Okanogan county and cutting out a new county to be known as Tonasket, returned from his fruitless mission Tuesday evening. That it was fruitless was no fault of Mr. Sigrist, nor his active associate, Hon. Geo. J. Hurley, of Loomis, who was on the firing line in the same worthy cause. Probably the late date of putting the matter up to the legislature was the strongest factor in leading off the commendable effort to secure the division of an unwieldy territory, but that was not alone the stumbling block, for had our representative stood fairly to promises made and the Methow delegation voted fair, even the late hour at which the bill was presented would not have prevented its passage.

This paper has not said a great deal about the division movement, because it was so sudden, and so precipitately dashed that there was little time to exploit the proposition, yet it was an open movement against which little or no opposition developed within the territory that the people therein proposed should be set aside. Up to a fortnight ago county division was not discussed, nor did it enter into the calculations of the residents of the county. About that time the people of the Methow valley suddenly developed a desire to be set aside as a separate county. The residents of the north half of the county at once took up the suggestion years ago advanced of organizing a new county out of the several rows of townships just south of the international boundary, and made the proposition to the Methow people that two new counties should be made instead of one. The Methow tribes eagerly fell in with the plan, promising united action in the effort to bring about division. Delegates were sent to Olympia, both from the Methow and the upper Okanogan to push the scheme, while representatives were present from what was to remain of the old county to see that the lines did not cut too great a chunk out of parent body. At Olympia the Methow delegates fell out among themselves, presumably upon a division of the leaves and fishes, and the Methow bill was squelched. However, that disappointed region claimed to be friendly toward the proposal to make Tonasket county, but from subsequent developments their protestations must have been insincere. When Representative Bolinger was asked to introduce the bill providing for the formation of a new county he flatly refused and would not even introduce it as by request. In order to get it before the legislature at all it was necessary to appeal to the representative from a neighboring county. Of course it is recognized that at so late a moment a bill of this importance would meet with difficulties hard to overcome, but had Mr. Bolinger adhered to promises made to residents of this place, and given it his hearty endorsement and support, success might have followed. Of course the people up here feel very kindly toward the gentleman for his attitude in the premises and only hope to be able some time in the future to award him by promotion to the senate. In the meantime the people of what was to be Tonasket county will continue to saw wood and grow apace, and will come in on the home stretch two years hence.

WILL WORK PLACER GROUND.
Dave Roberts, who has been in charge of the Golden Sands mining claims during the winter, was in town Sunday. He reports that it is the intention of those interested to commence work on the property on an extensive scale during the coming summer, and if the plans in contemplation are carried out it means employment for quite a number of men. The Gold-

en Sands is a placer property along the Similkameen river, only three miles above Oroville. The claims were located by the late Wm. T. Peterson, and Milwaukee people became interested in them. It is claimed by the engineer who carefully examined and tested the ground last fall that the dirt will yield \$4.75 to the cubic yard. This is a remarkable showing for ordinary placer ground, for dirt yielding one fourth that sum would leave a substantial margin to the operators. If there is any extent of pay dirt holding up to the figures claimed, and it is properly handled, the property could be made to yield a profit that would compare favorably with the output of the old Rich Bar diggings, located above the Similkameen falls, which created a stampede over 50 years ago. It is the intention of the company to put in an electric pump and hydraulic the ground, at least it is so reported, and no doubt correctly, as it is the cheapest and most effective system that can be used for working placer ground on a large scale.

IN ON A GOOD THING.

Geo. Loudon, jr., who is at the head of a flourishing mercantile establishment at Keremeos, B. C., passed through Oroville Saturday on a brief visit to Spokane. Mr. Loudon is a young man who is keenly looking forward to a competency early in life, as he is not contented with the natural accretion that comes with a prosperous line of trade, but has his eyes open for such investments as look good for substantial returns. In this laudable pursuit for substantial returns he secured an interest in the Carbon Hill Coal and Coke company, that holds an extensive territory rich in a high grade of coal, located in the Fernie district, a region from which the chief coal supply for a vast scope of country is drawn. The writer has had some opportunity to look into this proposition, and while not an authority on coal feels confident that Mr. Loudon has made an investment that will speedily pry his bank account into prominence.

SCHOOL NOTES.

Rev. H. M. Course gave a very interesting talk on Yellowstone National Park to the Athenian Literary Society last Friday. The talk was very much enjoyed by all, and the pupils found the same beneficial.

The Oro basket ball girls have now two well organized teams, and have had several profitable practices. The teams hope to play a matched game in the near future. Miss Stella Wurtz is acting as captain of the town team.

Misses Mildred Mitchell and Cora Morris made a short visit at their respective homes near Kipling last week.

It is reported that Mrs. L. W. Follis, who had charge of the elocution work in the high school, will return next week. It is greatly desired by the high school students that the lady will resume the elocution course.

Miss Blanche Bissell spent a few days last week with Mrs. J. Myers, of Chopaca.

Richard Jackson, who has been ill for the past few months, has fully recovered, and it is hoped by all that the "little chap" will soon be able to return to school.

The first of a series of three games of basket ball to be played between Riverside and Oroville was played at the former place Saturday last. The following was the line up:

RIVERSIDE	OROVILLE
Prof. Johnson	Right Forward
A. Smith	Left Forward
G. Williams	Center
Roy Leonard	Left Guard
Hubert Smith	Right Guard
	Billy McMillan
	Leslie Stansbury

First on the list for that evening was a game between the Riverside town and school girl teams. After a warm contest the game was decided in favor of the town girls.

The game between Oroville and Riverside was called about 9 o'clock. Both teams went in for a hard scrap, and for some time the game was rather rough, resembling foot ball more than basket ball. Time was called for the first half with a score of 12 to 2 in favor of Riverside. After 10 minutes intermission work was again resumed so vigorously that Referees Savage and Davis were kept very busy for a few minutes calling fouls and assuring the boys that they were not playing foot ball. In the last half Oroville succeeded only in making one point, while the other team scored 9, making a total score of 22 to 3. After the game everybody joined in merry making, and all enjoyed a pleasant evening indulging in the dance. It is true the Oroville boys returned skinned, but not "sore."

O. F. Hall and D. D. England, of Wenatchee, were arrivals to look over the country this week. Mr. England will take charge of the Ellis-Ford Okanogan valley ranch.

A NEW INFANT INDUSTRY

A Concrete Plant Soon to
Be in Operation in
This Place.

ENCOURAGE THE ENTERPRISE

A Popular Building Material that
is Destined to Enter Largely
Into Future Improvements.

Carl Hamilton, Jacob Kast and David Lonie have completed arrangements for installing a concrete plant at Oroville. The necessary machinery has been ordered, and as soon as a suitable location can be secured and building erected the trio will begin the manufacture of concrete building blocks, brick, tiling, and such other articles of utility that concrete can be fashioned into. Several parties about town have expressed an intention to erect concrete buildings this summer, and when the fashion is fairly started others will fall in, and that cheap, convenient and durable material will enter largely into improvements to be made in the future. Two members of the company engaged in the project are experienced mechanics and builders, and hence will turn out a superior quality of material in shape to be used to the best advantage. Concrete is rapidly growing in favor as a substitute for lumber, brick and stone, and in a few years it will become the principal material used in private and public construction. It is more economical than brick or stone, and in time will be produced at less cost than lumber. Besides the recommendation of cheapness experiment and experience have demonstrated that concrete makes the most durable and comfortable building in comparison with any other constructive material in use. The addition of a concrete plant to the active industries of Oroville is a matter of general congratulation, and it is to be hoped that the promoters of the movement may realize a full measure of success from the enterprise they are displaying.

STUTBY COMPANY COMING.

Arrangements are being made with the Stutby Big Theatre company for their appearance in Oroville while en route to the coast cities. The Stutby company does not usually play the smaller towns, as it is composed of 11 people, and the expense attached to handling a traveling company of that size hardly justifies playing any but the large cities. The company is highly recommended, and no play put on the stage by the Stutby people will offend the most exacting or refined. The agent for the company will arrive in a few days and complete arrangements for the appearance of the troupe, and fuller particulars will be given at a later date.

PREPARING TO WORK THE TRIUNE

C. M. Strowbridge, who is the superintendent in charge of the Triune mine, at Golden, was in town Tuesday for supplies. A line of poles is now up from the mine to the Similkameen Falls power plant, and the wire will be strung so soon as the snow is reduced sufficiently to work over the mountain ridge between the mine and the power plant. The company has a large quantity of material en route from the east, but the consignment has been side tracked somewhere and cannot be located. When the plans of operation that have been formulated are carried out the Triune will be operated by electric power, and that well proposition that turned out much bar gold in years past, will again be pounding out the yellow metal. This will be advantages to Oroville, as the mine is only a few miles west of the town, and all business connected with the mine is done at this point.

A MATTER OF PUBLIC UTILITY.

The unsightly condition of the main streets at this time leaves a rather unfavorable impression on the stranger visiting town, and, indeed, the firmly implanted citizen by no means looks upon the situation with complacency. The streets in many places are awash, and mud is prominently in evidence. No provision has been made for drainage, no grading has ever been done, and hence the ponds remain to be paddled through until natural percolation and evaporation removes the mois-

ture. If the financial condition of the city exchequer is such as to warrant the expenditure—and thanks to the uniformity of an ideal townsite this expense should be comparatively light—those in authority should make an effort to grade the principal streets and cover them with a coat of gravel. It would eliminate the water and mud nuisance, and reduce in a large measure the circulation of real estate during the summer months. This item is not written in a spirit of criticism, but as offering advice that none can deny as being good. Everybody is interested in the material advancement of the city, which has exceptionally bright prospects, and there is hardly any expenditure that could be made that would add more to the attractiveness of Oroville than providing neat, solid and well cared for streets.

TO HANDLE REAL ESTATE.

Mr. Guy Fruit, of Loomis, arrived in Oroville Wednesday, and brings his blankets to stay. He has formed a partnership in the real estate business with his brother, Price, and the firm will be located in the new building about completed, opposite the Peerless hotel. The Fruit brothers are among the oldest residents of the north part of the county, and are thoroughly familiar with every locality where land can be taken up, or is under improvement. They will handle fruit and farm lands, as well as town property, and their knowledge of conditions and surroundings especially qualifies them for giving their patrons satisfaction. Both members of the firm are wide awake pushers, and those who transact business with them are assured of square treatment and honest representation.

PUBLIC MEETING.

A call emanating from the Commercial Club has been issued through the medium of dodgers—or otherwise this office would have been ignorant of the movement—for a mass meeting, at the Peerless hall, next Monday evening, to take up the question of a comprehensive city water system. Probably there is no public utility to be provided for a municipality more important than an adequate supply of pure water, and the sooner the matter is settled, providing it is settled right, the better for the population. The question is one in which every individual citizen is directly and vitally interested. There should be a large and representative crowd at the meeting, and the question carefully and calmly considered.

FOUND BAD ROADS.

F. M. Hall, the genial representative of the Gray, Ewing & Co. paper house, of Spokane, came in from Molson Tuesday. He started down the slope on runners, but the snow gave out and the last few miles was made on the vertebrae of a cayuse. Not being hardened to that method of locomotion the young man was seeking cushions to sit on. Mr. Hall announced that he was about to shake the road and go into the mercantile business at Hatton. He will be missed by the press boys along the route he has so long traveled.

Invests at Oroville.

Jas. True, an old and well-known pioneer of the Molson country, recently disposed of his ranch that he located on shortly after the opening of the north half of the reservation, and has purchased a string of lots from J. F. Samson, located in the south part of town. It is reported that Mr. True will at once improve a portion of his purchase by erecting a comfortable home. It is a wise plan, and others are invited to locate in Oroville and follow Mr. True's example.

POVERTY SOCIAL.

Remember the poverty social in Sigrist hall, Friday evening, March 5, given by the Ladies' Aid of the M. E. church. A prize will be given for the most poverty stricken gown, both lady and gentleman. Ladies are requested to bring half a pound of tea in a fancy bag, with their card inside. The sacks will be sold at auction. Lunch will be served free to all. Everybody welcome.

Paid a Fine.

The trial of the young man before Justice Fraser last week developed the fact that the case against 17-year-old Alva Hottle, of Kipling, was not as serious as at first reported. The original charge was attempted rape on the person of a school girl, but investigation convinced the justice that this charge could not be sustained in the superior court, so he assessed a fine against the boy on a charge of simple assault and dismissed the case. Several people from the Kipling neighborhood were down as witnesses, among them being the boy's father, who paid the fine at the conclusion of the case.

BACK FROM THE EAST

Monroe Harman Expects to Install a Treatment Plant
at the Ruby Mine.

TO BE A CHLORINATION SYSTEM

It Means a Paying Mine at Last
For This Upper Country
After Long Waiting.

Monroe Harman, manager of the Ruby mine, one of the most thoroughly developed and promising properties in the Similkameen valley on this side of the international line, situated on the northeast slope of Mount Chopaca, directly on the railroad and only a short distance west of Oroville, returned last week from an extended visit to his old home in Ohio. Mr. Harman made a combination pleasure and business trip, and it goes without the saying that he reaped a full measure of the former, and found time to transact a good deal of the latter.

Mr. Harman has been at the head of the Ruby, camped immediately upon the ground, for a number of years, and has given freely both of his means and his best energies in the effort to make a producing mine. Under his management a vast amount of underground work has been accomplished, and a comprehensive system of tunnels, shafts, drifts and uprisings has exposed a vast quantity of ore, the chief values therein being silver. Some of this ore carries ruby, brittle and other characters of the richer formation of silver, running into high values, but the vast bulk of the product is of such grade that the best results can only be obtained by treatment immediately at the mine. Considerable of the high grade ore has been shipped at different periods in the past, but producing, transportation and treatment charges have been so high as to cut deeply into the returns, and the company wisely decided that it was throwing good money away to continue the system.

It has long been the aim of the stockholders, and the one great ambition of the manager, to secure and install a treatment plant to handle the output of the mine, as the quantity of ore in sight, with indisputable evidence of its continuation in the workings, is so great that a profitable income is assured whenever local treatment is possible. One of the objects of Mr. Harman's mission east was to personally witness the operation of a new method of chlorination in conjunction with electrical treatment. A 30 hour test run was made, and while some difficulty was experienced with the electric feature that prevented a more extended test, the result in the saving of the values of the ore treated was so satisfactory that Mr. Harman feels confident that the system, when the defects that interfered with extended operation are remedied, is just what he has been looking for to make the Ruby a producer of riches in bulk metal. Just when a plant can be installed is not known, but Mr. Harman hopes to have one working out the values in the Ruby ore during the coming summer. If this expectation is realized those who have supplied the sinews for carrying out the work so far done on the Ruby can figure on returns upon their investment they have so long, and not very patiently, waited for.

From a party who met Mr. Harman upon his return it is learned that the gentleman is not only hopeful of an early consummation of long deferred hopes as relating to the mine he is interested in, but he has a very optimistic opinion of the future of Oroville. He overheard much favorable mention of the place during his travels, and expressed himself as confident that the town is sure of enjoying a rapid and substantial growth. If our informant did not slip a cog on a cypher or two, Mr. Harman is quoted as having expressed the belief that Oroville would grow to be a city of 20,000 inhabitants within the next five years. We would not be at all surprised if he hit the mark, but most of us will be satisfied with half the number in that length of time, with a 50,000 margin in ten years.

TO LOSE A VALUABLE CITIZEN

E. F. Magee, for a longtime cashier of the First National bank, left Wednesday for Twisp, and as he was accompanied by his wife his stay in the Methow valley may lengthen out to an indefinite period. During his residence here Mr. Magee has made many warm

friends by his uniform urbanity and courtesy. He is a valuable citizen for any town, as his influence is always enlisted on the side of good government and progression, and his efforts are directed toward advancing the best interests and welfare of the community of which he happens to be a member. While wishing Twisp no tad luck it is the hope of those who know him best that Mr. Magee will find his way back to Oroville in an early date. In the meantime the bank will be left in capable and efficient hands, as Messrs. Murray and Armstrong will be at their posts to give the business public the right kind of service.

Basket Ball at Riverside.

The high school basket ball team, with a few rooters, drove down to Riverside and tried conclusions with the team at that place Saturday. Owing to the limited space in the hall, which prevented the springing of the team work that our home boys had framed up, which was confidently expected would wipe their rivals off the earth, and other causes that shall not be enumerated, the Riverside boys, with little regard to the courtesy due guests, threw the visitors over the fence by the lopsided score of 21 to 3. The following are the names of the home team that took part in the festivities: Glen Mitchell, Wm. McMillan, Henry East, Jas. East, Leslie Stansbury.

Nighthawk to Work.

The report reaches this office that the Nighthawk mine and mill is soon to start active work, and that Henry D. James, of Milwaukee, the manager, will probably spend the summer at the mine, taking personal charge of the work. The Nighthawk has a finely equipped stamp mill, operated by electric power, and large ore bodies have been opened up, by means of a main working tunnel, that carry strong values. Owing to the late financial pinch the property has been idle for some time, and a revival of operations would put new life in the adjacent village of Nighthawk. The mine is on the railroad only some twelve miles west of Oroville.

The Loomis Dance.

Ed. Kingman was the only Oroville who attended the masquerade ball given under the auspices of the Commercial Club, at Loomis, last Friday night. It proved to be the most largely attended and most enjoyable public social event that has taken place in that camp during the winter. The Club profited handsomely by the effort, and those present express themselves as fully repaid by the quantity and quality of pleasure in circulation. In the award of prizes Mr. Herbert Gregg secured that awarded for the best sustained lady character, and Miss Millie Richards for the best lady's costume. Mr. Bert Champneys captured the prize for the best dressed gentleman, and Mr. Robt. Vail for the best sustained character.

Send the Paper East.

What a local paper needs to be efficient in its service to the community it represents is a large circulation, and if the community is loyal to the paper it will aid in securing that circulation. There are few residents of Oroville who cannot afford to subscribe for from three to ten extra papers, having them mailed to friends at a distance. This will be aiding to build up Oroville and surrounding country by spreading broad east the bright prospects of this locality, at a small tax upon the individual residents. Try the scheme and see the effects. This office is open to an experiment of the kind.

A German Colony.

Price Fruit, who is rapidly taking the higher degrees in the real estate business, expects to land a colony of Germans, from North Dakota, with a representative of whom he has been in correspondence for some time. The object is to get the homeseekers located in a body on land in this vicinity. If the project can be carried through it will be a fortunate stroke of business, as the Germans are a thrifty, steady, industrious class of farmers, who will place the land they occupy in a high state of cultivation, and make a valuable addition to the population.

An Ellemehan Property.

W. H. Hix, who has long been identified with a group of mining claims located near Golden, and possessing evidence of being the making of a valuable mine, arrived from Spokane Monday evening, and left for the mountains Tuesday. Mr. Hix is sustained by an abiding faith in the value of his holdings, and will continue after the ore all summer, if it requires that length of time to reach it. He expects a party of Spokane people, interested with him, out here so soon as the earth breaks through the snow capping.