

The Oroville Weekly Gazette

TENTH YEAR, No. 45 OROVILLE, WASH., APRIL 30, 1915 \$1.50 PER YEAR

IMPORTANT TO MINERS

Residents of this county interested in mining and mining properties have been in correspondence with Francis A. Thomson, head of the department of mining engineering and school of mines of the State College of Washington, at Pullman, with the object of securing the department to make a thorough geological survey and reconnaissance of the mineral resources of the county. An investigation by a body of expert mining engineers and geologists, and reports upon their findings, would be of inestimable value to the county, and contribute largely toward awakening more interest in that important industry. A letter from Mr. Thomson, and also one from J. C. Fisher, secretary of the Northwest Mining Association, are herewith published with the hope that publicity will arouse sufficient interest among mining men and claim holders to secure the much desired survey and reports:

Oroville, Wash., April 25, 1915.
Dear Mr. Dallam:
I am sending you herewith a letter received from Professor Thomson of the State College of Washington which refers to the possibility of his department making a reconnaissance of the mining resources of this county under certain conditions.

It is my understanding that the college would issue a bulletin or bulletin giving the results of this research. This would give our mining interests better publicity than any other effort that we could make and would be of great value to us as the work will be done by one of the best economic geologists in the northwest. It would also be of great benefit to individual mine owners on account of suggestions and advice that would be received.

If 50 property owners would give \$10 each it would meet the requirements called for and would not be felt by any one. In order to get concerted action quickly we suggest that all mine owners communicate with the Northwest Mining Association at Oroville, Washington, and let us know of their willingness to subscribe to this enterprise to the amount of \$10 each.

At points where there are mining associations in the county they should take the matter up locally and let us know the result at earliest possible date. Will you kindly give this matter all the publicity in your next issue of the Gazette that you can consistently, and ask other exchanges in the county to copy.

Yours very truly,
J. C. FISHER,
Secy. Northwest Mining Association.

Pullman, Wash., April 9, 1915.
Mr. J. C. Fisher,
Secy. Northwest Mining Association,
Oroville, Washington.

My Dear Sir:
I have your letter of the 3d inst. containing my letter to Mr. Gamble. I am glad to note that the proposition which I made Mr. Gamble meets with the approval of your association, but I desire to call your attention to the fact that in my letter to Mr. Gamble I said "that if you could raise in the neighborhood of \$500, perhaps the president of the board of regents could be persuaded to appropriate a like amount," and it will require some work on your part to present this matter to the board. I would, therefore, suggest that on behalf of your association you address President Bryan in the matter and I will do what I can at this end to insure favorable action. The college here closes about the middle of June and it would be possible to begin work on the geological survey immediately thereafter. I am glad to note you have in mind the exhibit of ores, etc. and we shall be glad to give the specimens attention when they are received.

Yours very truly,
FRANCIS A. THOMSON.

A CRACK ORCHESTRA

This town has one musical organization that it can be good and proud of—aside from the cornet band, of which everybody speaks in glowing words of commendation—and that is the Oroville orchestra. This organization was perfected during the past winter, and has reached such a state of proficiency that it stands second to few orchestras outside of the very largest cities in the state. Each and every

member is an artist on the instrument handled, and as a body they have practiced together so assiduously and consistently that they produce music that would charm the savage beast while those not so savage can never hear too much of it. This orchestra adds a charm to every entertainment at which it appears, and when it breaks loose for dances the most straight-faced opponent of that pastime could not keep his, or her, feet still if within hearing of the sweet, inspiring and dance-inspiring strains. For time, harmony, volume the Oroville orchestra meets every requirement of a first-class organization of the kind and whenever or wherever high class music is desired it is not necessary to search further. The orchestra as now constituted consists of six pieces, and the following are the performers: Violin, Oscar Trummel; pianist, Miss Edwynna Tilley; clarinet, W. B. Simmons; cornets, Traver Mallory and Aubrey McMahan; trombone, E. W. Mallory.

BUILDING UNDER WAY

Actual construction on the Civic League building, located in the pretty park at the depot, has commenced and will continue until the work is completed. When ready for occupancy the Civic League will have accomplished the object that the ladies have been working for for three years. The aim has been to secure an attractive and comfortable home for the League, and thanks to the exertions of the membership and the liberality of the citizens that object is now in sight. Through the efforts of the League a library was established in Oroville which has been a source of much gratification to those who have taken advantage of the chance to secure reading matter. Out of necessity the library has been kept in a small, dingy building on Spokane street, somewhat out of the way and inconvenient to the public. The members of the League have given of their time cheerfully to keep the library open at stated hours for the benefit of those who wished to patronize the same, and everybody has always found a cordial welcome during open hours. The ladies felt that a more centrally located and comfortable building should be procured both for the library and as a meeting place for the society. The officials of the Great Northern railroad were communicated with, and privilege was granted the League to lay out a park and construct a building on the right-of-way, just west of the depot. The League went to no little expense fencing the plot putting in a system of water pipes for irrigation, planting trees and seeding the ground to grass. Both the trees and grass flourished and have been scrupulously cared for, with the result of a delightful oasis in the very center of the business section of the town, a glad sight to travelers and a credit to the ladies responsible for its existence. Business men were interviewed and money was generously subscribed to aid in the construction of the building. The carpenters of the town came through handsomely, all of them contributing labor to help along the good work. When ready to commence construction the plans of the proposed building were submitted to the railroad officials. The plans met their approval and permission was promptly granted to build on the location selected.

While the building is mainly intended for a library and meeting place for the League, it will be utilized as a rest room, so that those coming from the country can make it their headquarters. Ladies coming here from the country, on a day's visit or shopping will always find a welcome in this cozy and comfortable building, which will have wash and dressing rooms especially for their use. It will also be used for social parties and gatherings, and when once in use it will become a popular resort and a valuable addition to the town. The League is entitled to great credit and praise for their zeal and energy in making a building of the kind possible, and if any there be who have not extended assistance toward the accomplishment of this important object they are invited to do so at this time.

PRESBYTERIAN SERVICES

"The Light of the World," is the subject for the morning sermon. Services begin at 11 a. m. The Sunday school is at 10 a. m. You are cordially invited.

ROAD MONEY AVAILABLE

According to the ruling of the supreme court the emergency clause in the appropriation bill stands, and state road money is now available for proposed road work. As will be remembered, and over which considerable harsh legislative criticism developed—not a criticism of the appropriation, but the methods employed to try to divert it or head it off—something like unto \$30,000 were appropriated for the improvement of state road No. 10, between the Chelan county line and the British Columbia boundary. It is conceded in all quarters, official and otherwise, that that sum half will be applied on the road between Tonasket and Oroville a concession that the residents of the two towns worked hand in hand to secure. Just how soon work will commence, and the manner of carrying on the work, is not known at this writing, but it is a great satisfaction to be able to announce that the beginning of this important improvement will not be long delayed, although the red tape of state performance has a habit of lagging. There are two reasons why this expenditure of several thousand dollars will be a stroke of good fortune to this upper country, and a matter of congratulation to the people thereof. The primary reason for feeling cheerful over the prospective distribution of such a large sum is that properly applied, and that is the way it will assuredly be applied, one of the great Highways of the state, traveled over more than any other road in the county, will be permanently improved for as long a distance as the money will go. This road No. 10 is a connecting link between the almost perfect boulevards of British Columbia and the state roads of Washington, that in their turn will in time become attractive boulevards. Put in a condition similar to the high state of perfection shown in the road systems on the north side of the line No. 10 will become a popular drive into and coming out of British Columbia, and that travel will steadily increase from year to year. Furthermore, from session to session of the legislature, if the county is properly represented, further appropriations will be made to complete road No. 10, as it is too important a highway to be neglected in the future. The secondary reason, and not so secondary, either, is that the expenditure of this road money will put a considerable amount of ready cash in immediate circulation at a time when ready cash is a scarce article in this part of the state. The amount to be scattered for its equipment in hard work is only a few thousand, but a few thousand will quite a figure where at present a dollar here and there is about the limit of individual holdings. The distribution of this appropriation, or a neat share of the appropriation, just at this time can be considered a very auspicious event, from which a good many are to be more or less benefitted.

THE LARGEST COUNTY

A subscriber sends in the following inquiry:
"The undersigned would like to know the largest county in the United States. Is it correct that Okanogan county is the largest? If not how does Yavapai compare, naming the state?"
The data is not at hand to give the information asked, but Okanogan is far from being the largest county in the United States. There are many counties in western states in comparison with which Okanogan, with its 4500 square miles of territory, is a very small county. Yavapai county, Arizona, contains 10,200 square miles, but it is surpassed in size by Valley county, Montana, 13,368 square miles, and Dawson county, Montana, with 13,227 square miles, while those huge counties are overshadowed by Chouteau county, Montana, with its 16,049 square miles.

THE POSTOFFICE SITUATION

Fred T. Neal received word late Wednesday afternoon that Congressman Dill had recommended R. P. Hoskyn for postmaster at Oroville, vice Postmaster Mills, whose term expires in May. Mr. Dill intimated to Mr. Neal some two months ago that such a selection might be made. Mr. Hoskyn is to be congratulated, as two other citizens, Mr. Mills and Mr. Riste, had been endorsed, between them, by about every single patron of the office.

A SPLENDID PERFORMANCE

The Orpheum theater was comfortably filled with a select and appreciative audience, a receptive and insistent audience, a happy and well pleased audience, last Friday evening, on the occasion of the entertainment given under the auspices of the Civic League. This paper promised the public just what it got, one of the best amateur performances, taken from every angle, that the people of Oroville have ever had the opportunity to enjoy. Those present were in the humor to fully appreciate the several numbers on the program, and the applause that greeted every number was spontaneous and enthusiastic. The local hits especially brought down the house, for they were funny without a sting. There was sufficient variety in the bill to keep up interest, and those appearing on the stage performed the parts assigned them most admirably. "The Train Tomorrow," was a delightfully amusing skit. Mrs. Masters is admirable in any role that she assumes on the stage, and her assistance is always in demand whenever amateur performances are arranged. She acted the part of the garrulous old woman to perfection, keeping the house in a constant roar. She was ably assisted by Louis Bremer, as the bored station agent, and little Gladys Smith, as her precocious son. Mr. S. B. Starrett was in excellent voice and his solo, "The End of a Perfect Day," was most pleasingly rendered. In response to vociferous applause he sang, "In the Garden of My Heart." A swinging and fetching comic song, "The Little Ford Rambled Right Along," by Mrs. D. H. Lewis, was a delightful number and elicited long and continuous applause. The lady had to appear and sing another verse in order to still the clamor for more. The serpentine dance by Mrs. H. A. Reed, under colored spot lights, was a very pretty number, and gracefully and artistically executed. The big hit of the evening was burnt cork sketches by Dr. and Mrs. D. H. Lewis. Nothing better in the way of colored comedy has ever been presented in this place, either by amateurs or professionals. The make ups were mirth provoking, and the bubbling fun kept the audience in a constant uproar of laughter. The good natured local hits struck a responsive chord, and even the victims joined in the hilarity in which the house was convulsed. The one-act comedy, "The Village Dressmaker," in which Mrs. Samson and Mrs. Willis took part, was a screaming bit of acting which seemed to touch the risibilities of the crowd. Mrs. H. A. Reed, as a colored maid, contributed to the pleasure of an excellent program in a funny coon song, "Why Adam Sinned." She was recalled but was so much exhausted by the serpentine dance that she was not able to finish her song. One number, not on the original program, was a well executed clog dance by Frank Earp, a stranger visiting in town. He volunteered his services to help out the performance, and his dancing was a very interesting feature. It would not be just in mentioning the entertainment to fail to give full credit to the Oroville orchestra for the part it took. This splendid musical organization, assisted by Mr. Gregg on the cello, played a number of selections, and that feature alone was worth the price of admittance. At the close of the performance a large number remained and took part in the dance that followed.

THAT AUTOMOBILE TOLL

Customs Officer Jermyrn, located at the Osyoos customs house, just across the line, reports that there is an erroneous impression prevailing in regard to the automobile tax on cars coming in from this side. The law under which this assessment is levied is an old one, that until recent months was "more honored in the breach than the observance." Those higher up insisted upon a more rigorous enforcement of the law, and hence now the stranger must pay as he goes, if he goes at the time when the tax is collectable. The tax of 50 cents is not levied upon each passenger, but on the car. This tax is charged only on cars crossing the line on Sundays,

legal holidays and after or before, regular office hours. A car pays the assessment traveling only one way, providing the car returns within 24 hours. A ticket about the size of a postal card is issued to the driver when he pays at crossing, and is taken up on the return. Of course this will cut down Sunday auto excursions into British Columbia on the day that most cars are out for pleasure. It should be remembered that on all other days, unless it might be a Canadian holiday, and providing you time your trip between office hours, there is no charge for crossing the line in an automobile.

MAKING THE TOUCH EASY

County Assessor C. H. Knosher was prying into the possessions of business men of this place Friday last listing property for taxation. If there is any time in the year when gaunt poverty stares a man in the face it is just about the time the assessor appears upon the scene. It is more a virtue than a fault in the eyes of the bulk of humanity to note a fierce shrinkage in the value of everything one possesses when it becomes necessary to get confidential with the assessor. At that particular moment all things of an assessable nature become little better than junk. However, in the hands of Mr. Knosher this process of assessment in a large measure ceases to be a painful ordeal. In the first place Mr. Knosher is a gentleman, and in the second place he performs his duty with kindness, consideration and courtesy. Indeed, one feels a desire to overestimate rather than to underestimate in treating the subject of values with Mr. Knosher. While he is acting fair and just with the individual who is willing on his part to be fair and just, Mr. Knosher is not going to be imposed on. He is performing his duty strictly in conformity with the law and the county is not losing anything through the administration of his office.

AN EXPERIENCED CONTRACTOR

Harry Silk, of Colville, a well known railroad construction contractor, spent some days in Oroville during the past week. Mr. Silk was here for the purpose of looking over the proposed street improvements and submitting bids for doing the work if he considered it worth while. If he is so fortunate as to secure this street contract it means that the grading will be properly, perfectly and permanently done, because it will be done under the direct supervision of a man who knows how to do it right. Mr. Silk has not only had years of experience at railroad construction, but he has done state road work, and wherever he has had charge of that class of work he has given excellent satisfaction. Possibly almost any one with an inkling of how it should be done can grade a street, but when grading is done by inexperienced persons that grading generally has to be done over again in a year or two. Those who pay the shot, and in this case the cost falls directly upon property owners to be benefitted by the improvement, want to know that they are getting full value for the money they pay out. If the grading is done by Mr. Silk, or some contractor of equal experience and ability, those who pay will feel that they are getting full value for the money they are called upon to let go to meet the expense.

ODD FELLOWS CELEBRATION

The anniversary of the founding of Odd Fellowship falls on April 26th. This year recorded the 96th anniversary of the order. Wherever a lodge of Odd Fellows exists it is customary to observe this important date in some manner. Lodges are given a latitude as to the date of holding commemorative ceremonies, and they may be held a day or two before or a day or two after the 26th. The local lodge of Odd Fellows, in conjunction with the Rebekahs, observed the anniversary Saturday evening, April 24. The lodge held a brief session, after which the two lodges met together socially. A delicious luncheon was served by the ladies, and the evening was passed with cards and dancing. Some 60 members of the order participated, and those so fortunate as to be present pronounced the evening entertainment as one of the most enjoyable within their memory. H. D. Merritt, of Spokane, made an address under the good of the order, while that body was in session, and spoke again during the evening upon Odd Fellowship.

CHANGING THE ROAD

Ever since the agitation to improve the road extending south from Oroville, on the west side of the Okanogan river, efforts have been made to have the route changed in order to secure a better grade. This change has been considered more necessary since the highway has been designated an extension of state road No. 10, and state money has been appropriated for improvement. The old road is very much cut up with draws requiring much grading down and filling up. Indeed there is so much up and down to the old road that for the better convenience of travel another road swings off to the west before reaching the cemetery, and makes a long detour over the flat. The object in view by residents along the proposed road and the county authorities has been to change the road lower down toward the river, in order to eliminate the hill grades and the rougher ground where the road is now laid out, thus insuring a much more uniform grade and greatly cheapening construction and maintenance. The difficulty at first was to induce property owners to favorably consider the change and grant right-of-way. At last all those owning property through which it was desired to lay out the new road expressed a willingness to concede a right-of-way. Last week the county commissioners and Engineer Gardiner went over the route as selected and were greatly pleased with the improvement that the change will make in that important artery of travel. In following the route as selected the road will be laid out for a long distance below the bench lands. It will swing into and through the Truax place just south of the bridge, reach the old road at the Forde ranch, then turn off and go below the Andy Johnston orchard; then on a line between the Bottomley and Hoskyn ranches. It passes in front of the Spencer residence, and through the Granger place on the flat, thus eliminating the high road at the Spencer ranch, and the steep climb at the north end of the Granger farm. From the Granger place the road is to run through the Loudon ranch to Lauber canyon. The only place where any great hardship will be worked on an individual land owner is at the Granger ranch, through which the road extends for a mile. Mr. Granger went to considerable expense putting up a new residence so that he could be near the main traveled road. The change would throw his house off the road a long distance, besides requiring the construction of two fences the full length of the road through the farm. None of the state funds can be diverted for fence building, and neither can the county lend any assistance. However, some measure should be taken, by public subscription if necessary, to aid Mr. Grainger in this emergency. It would be no more than an act of justice, as the proposed change in the road will be for the general good, as it is claimed that a much better road much easier of travel, can be laid out over this new route.

COMMERCIAL CLUB MEETING

Next Thursday evening, May 6, is the date for the next regular monthly meeting of the Commercial Club. As there has been nothing of a special nature going on recently to demand action on the part of the club no meeting has been held since the last regular session. Long intervals between meetings have a tendency to weaken interest in an organization of this kind, but it is sincerely to be hoped that this local institution, started under such favorable auspices, and having accomplished so much during the short time of its existence, is not going to halt at well doing. The entire membership is urged to remember the date of the next meeting, Thursday, May 6, and let nothing interfere with a full attendance. In order to keep alive interest in the upbuilding and progress of the town it is necessary to meet together and consider such activities as may tend to benefit the community as a whole. Every resident of the town should be an active member of the Commercial Club, and every resident of the town is cordially invited to be present at the meeting next Thursday evening. And don't you forget it.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Ellis motored in from Spokane Wednesday, and will spend a week or two visiting with Mrs. Ellis' parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Dallam.