

The Oroville Weekly Gazette

ELEVENTH YEAR, No. 4

OROVILLE, WASH., JULY 16, 1915

\$1.50 PER YEAR

NEW BRIDGE FOR RIVERSIDE

Riverside is to have a new bridge to replace the old one that was condemned by the county engineer some months ago. The new bridge is to cost \$8000, and the town of Riverside contributes \$1000 toward the sum. This is different from the way the old bridge was constructed. In the early days of that town the citizens realized the necessity of a bridge. The county was not in a condition to put up a structure of the kind, as the cost, on account of the necessity of having a draw for the convenience of steamboats, as the river is navigable for a brief period during the summer to that point on the Okanogan, was quite heavy. It devolved upon the people of the place, and there were few of them at that time, to dig up a considerable sum. The town people were in earnest and a campaign of collection was inaugurated. Any one who lived in Riverside at that time will remember that season of touch. Jeems Forde, who has a happy faculty of working the public when funds are needed for an improvement of general utility, was the leading spirit in that raid on pockets of his fellow-townsmen, and that the bridge became a reality was owing almost wholly to his zeal and persistency. Some were slow to respond. In those cases a few bottles of hop water would lubricate the liberality of the hold off, and the victim would let go. It was a terrific strain, but the necessary sum was at last subscribed and the bridge, such as it was, secured. It was a frail looking structure from the first, and as evidence of its debility the draw collapsed at the first trial. Still it has done good service and kept life in Riverside. A substantial bridge is a necessity at that point, and no one is going to find fault with a new one.

SOME STORM

The cloud burst has been a common phenomenon and a popular theme of conversation during the past week, as stories of wash outs, more or less exaggerated, drift in from several points of the compass. From the Chesaw country, from the Anglin neighborhood, where an auto was covered from sight by the debris, from the Peterson canyon, from Okanogan, from White-stone come tales of sudden flood and corresponding wash and damage. Of all these stories the most remarkable narrative drifts in from Ruby canyon, where the conditions are ideal for freak elemental performances in the way of rain and wash. They had a storm, and cloud burst, and accompanying wash out down that way last week that throws all other similar convulsions of nature of that character completely in the indifferent class. There a miniature deluge swept down the narrow canyon, between high mountains, ripping and tearing out everything in its pathway. Miles of road were obliterated and much damage was done to the small farms that fringe the course of Salmon creek. Only on a smaller scale was it a repetition of the great flood, many years ago, that almost completely erased Conconully. The marvelous part of this particular storm was the unprecedented fall of hail. It is alleged that hail fell to the depth of three feet in a portion of the canyon. The story goes that one farmer, after the storm, found his hogs buried in hail until only the tip of their snouts were sticking above the accumulated collection of icy pellets, and they had to be rescued from their chilly environment by excavation. Some of the smaller animals that were unable to keep their noses above water, or hail, succumbed. Those that were in temporary cold storage seemed to suffer no particular ill effects from the experience. This miraculous tale comes through authentic channels, although sounding like fiction. It certainly indicates that Ruby canyon stands for the most remarkable combination of cloud burst, flood, hail stones and accompanying disaster so far recorded in the county.

Sam Rider was in town from his ranch near Huntley Tuesday. In the early days Mr. Rider was a resident of Nighthawk and Oroville, but decided to get back to the soil. He secured a good homestead and by industry and perseverance has done much better than he could have done in town. Moreover, he is now in robust health, which is better than much worldly possessions.

BREAKING GROUND FOR THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM



Action immediately followed the signing of the contract by A. Guthrie & Co. for the construction of the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation system. The contract was signed at midnight Wednesday night of last week, and early last Friday morning a force was put to work and the first ground broken on the big ditch project. The above is a view of turning the first sod, which was witnessed by a number of keenly interested residents of Oroville. Photo by Gregg.

END OF STEAMBOATING

Four steamboats that formerly plied on the Columbia river between Wenatchee and up river points, and one season of the year running up the Okanogan river as far as Riverside, were destroyed by fire at Wenatchee last Thursday. As they were not insured the loss is total. For years this fleet of craft, at one time owned and operated by the Griggs family, did all the carrying trade for this upper country. Freight and passengers were landed at Brewster and from that point distributed over the county by stage and freight wagons. For a few weeks in June, during high water, boats navigated the Okanogan to Riverside, which was at that season a lively shipping point. Business houses to the north of Riverside generally made it a rule to lay in goods for the year while boats were running to Riverside, as that reduced the expenses for wagon haul. Such a disaster as the destruction of the boats in those days would have worked a severe hardship on the people of this county. Now that the railroad parallels the river there is no longer business for boats, and the loss will be felt only by the owners. The age of steamboating is over for this upper country, but those who have traveled by that means on the Columbia and experienced some of the dangers and excitement of river navigation will never forget those old days even in the face of these better days.

AN UNUSUAL SERVICE

Being a John Huss Anniversary service at the Presbyterian church will be held next Sunday morning at 11 a. m. This month marks the 50th anniversary of the martyrdom of the great reformer. This service is one of especial interest. The pastor will speak on the interesting subject, "The Life and Work of John Huss." The music will be specially arranged and appropriate to the occasion. The public is cordially invited and strangers in the city are specially welcome. The church, these days, is a pleasant and comfortable place in which to assemble and worship God. The Sunday school is at 10 a. m.

H. D. CHANDLER, Pastor.

BARNES' WILD ANIMAL CIRCUS

Without doubt, some of the most sensational, thrilling, death-defying wild animal acts ever shown are presented by the A. G. Barnes wild animal circus. Sixty-five sensational, amusing, amazing, thrilling acts are presented at each performance. These acts are given in two divisions, the wild animals acts in a large steel-barred arena in the center of the big tent and those

of the domestic animals in the regulation sawdust rings at either side of the arena. There's something doing in these two rings and the arena every minute of the three solid hours of entertainment.

The members of the Barnes animal acting troupe have been recruited from jungles, plain, desert, forest, ocean, and homestead. Lions, tigers, elephants, leopards, jaguars, zebras, hyenas, camels, zulus, monkeys, apes, ouran-outangs, dogs, horses, ponies, goats, seals and sea lions are members of the troupe—every one trained to perform, in fact every animal carried with this big show is an actor.

The most thrilling wild animal spectacle known is Herr Roth's group of man-eating African lions—24 in number, which he presents in one act. Mile, Florine, with a group of Persian leopards and jaguars, and Miss Mable Stark's Royal Bengal and Siberian tigers are also "thrillers" of the first rank. Thirty bear actors among which is Big Bill, the wrestling grizzly, provide another exciting feature. A big herd of posing and comedy elephants also have a headline act.

A glittering, six-band, mile-long street parade is presented at 10:30. Performance will be given here at 2 and 8 p. m., Thursday, July 22.

RETURN OF OLD TIMERS

Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Fine and infant son are visiting in town, stopping at the Radbourne. That is Mrs. Fine in town and will remain a week, while Mr. Fine skirmishes through the county investigating state lands in his capacity of state land examiner. It is the first visit Mrs. Fine has made to her old home since her departure some three years ago. Since that time a charming boy, now two years of age, has been added to the family. Mr. Fine has a great deal of traveling to do inspecting school and state lands in all parts of the state, and the department now furnishes him an automobile. By the use of a car the expenses of travel are greatly reduced. Mr. Fine calculates that by the time he completes his summer work he will have saved more than the cost of the car over the old practice of traveling by rail and hiring vehicles to make trips to lands remote from the railroad. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fine are looking exceedingly well. They received a cordial welcome from their host of friends in Oroville and vicinity.

JUBILEE DANCE

That is what those who are behind the big dance that is to take place in the Orpheum theatre this Friday evening call it. It might be designated a jubilee and consolation dance combination, and no mistake made. This social

event is to be an exuberant demonstration through the medium of the light fantastic over the beginning of work on the great irrigation system, and the proceeds are to be applied to the 4th of July celebration fund, which is a trifle shy, through the laudable efforts to give a champagne blow out on a beer income. That error of judgment is one to be praised, as it provided the best celebration that this county has ever seen, and now it is the duty of the inhabitants to support the movement loyally and liberally and make the dance the biggest thing in the Terpsichorean line that has ever taken place in Oroville. This should be done to show that public sentiment is effervescing over the happy consummation of the grand object of securing water in the valley, and also to help wipe off the slate of such chalk marks as may be chalked up against the celebration. The Commercial Club is sponsor for the dance and the membership will do their part to make it a blooming success. This is a late hour to announce the doings, but it is the first chance since the doings were decided on. If you have not already purchased several tickets, more or less, as you should if possessed of the rhino, waltz around to the Orpheum tonight and get in the swim. It will only cost one and a half bucks.

A HARD GAME

E. J. Russell, of Chehalis, was a visitor in Oroville Saturday. Mr. Russell's wife owns a valuable timber claim in the Bonaparte country, and he was over here for the purpose of examining the property, it being the first time that he had seen it. Few men are more competent to pass judgment upon standing timber, or timber in any shape for that matter, than Mr. Russell, as he has been engaged in every phase of the lumber business on the coast for over a quarter of a century, and at present is logging for a large milling plant near Chehalis. Mr. Russell reports that the lumbering industry is in a most deplorable condition at the present time. Few mills are in operation in the big timber districts on the west side, and none of those running are making more than bare expenses. Lumber never was known to be so low as at the present time. The market is all shot to pieces. Hundreds of men are out of employment, mills representing an investment of hundreds of thousands of dollars are idle and apparently there is no relief in sight. Naturally the depression in the lumber trade has had hard those communities depending upon the lumbering interests for business. Mr. Russell was much pleased with the general appearance and prospects of this country. He returned to his home early this week.

HEAVY CLOUD BURST

A cloud burst in the canyon that debouches into the valley from the hills to the east, a few miles south of town, did considerable damage one day last week. Henry Peterson's residence is directly in the mouth of the canyon, and E. F. Steiner's is near by. The flood that came down the canyon four feet high above the creek bed reached into the Peterson home, forcing the family to take to the higher ground. Boulders and sand were washed over Mr. Steiner's garden, and a ridge of debris four feet high was piled up between his house and barn. A section of the railroad track was swept out. Some idea of the force of the water can be understood when it is stated that rocks weighing fully a ton were carried for over 150 feet.

M. E. SERVICES

Rev. W. E. Armfield, of Spokane, the financial agent for the Central Washington Deaconess hospital, of Wenatchee, will represent the hospital Sunday morning at 11—subject, "Practical Christianity." In the evening the Epworth League Institute will be reported by the delegates that attended it at Cheelan. Rev. Armfield will be there to assist in this important service—time 7 to 9. Sunday school at the usual time 10 a. m. It will be a very interesting program both morning and evening. You will miss it, if you miss it. Prayer meeting on Thursday evening as usual at 8. All are gladly welcomed to any and all of these services. Come.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Rev. G. H. Severance, Vicar)

There will be no services in the church on next Sunday. Sunday school as usual at 10 a. m.

Dr. E. E. Efner has been appointed physician for the crew to work on the irrigation system by the A. Guthrie Co. Dr. Efner was resident physician for the company when it was known as Guthrie-McDougal Co., and constructed the southern branch.

As an artist in photography Herb Gregg takes a back seat to few following that line. His out door views are superb in delineation and finish. Monday he was on hand taking views of the first breaking of ground for the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation system. A number of interested citizens were present and their mugs appear along with the general scenery. Of course the photographs are gems. Mr. Gregg was probably the first man to realize a dollar out of the beginning of construction on the project, as he received orders with deposits for pictures before the films were developed.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the meeting of the town council of Oroville, Washington, July 12, 1915.

Present—Mayor Prentice, Councilmen Friis, Beale, Smith and Bartell.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved as read.

Monthly report of J. Ferguson as police judge was read and on motion was accepted.

Monthly report of town treasurer was read and ordered placed on file.

W. O. Hamisch appeared before the council asking for permit to move the frame building now situated on lot 5 block 44 to lot 8 block 44 during the construction of a brick building to be erected on lot 5 block 44 the said frame building to be removed to another location as soon as the brick building above mentioned is completed. Mr. Hamisch also submitted plans and specifications for the proposed brick building asking for a permit to build the same. Motion was made by Councilman Beale that the permits asked for be granted. Vote by roll call. Yeas—Beale, Friis, Smith, Bartell. Noes—None.

At this time the special committee public improvements reported that Mr. Stevenson had made an offer to construct two concrete horse drinking fountains according to plan made by town engineer for \$25 each. Motion was made and seconded that the offer of Mr. Stevenson be accepted and the fountains ordered constructed under the direction of the town engineer. Motion carried.

The town engineer at this time submitted an estimate of the work as completed by Silke & La Plant to the council. Motion was made and carried that the estimate be approved and accepted.

On motion the following bills were allowed and ordered paid: E. R. Hoose, salary, \$101; E. E. Efner salary, \$15; C. H. Neal, salary, \$25; S. R. Case, salary, \$75; E. A. McMahan, salary, \$23.05; Jas. Ferguson, police justice fee, \$3.55; Frank Harpham, labor on water works, \$46.20; John Collins labor on water works, \$42; Morris Walmer, labor on water works, \$15.00; Darwood Smith, labor on water works, \$13.50; L. H. Prentice, hauling gravel, \$15.00; Similkameen Power Co., light and power, \$111.15; Standard Oil Co., oil, \$14; Gazette Publishing Co., printing, \$18; H. J. Desmond, supplies water works, \$5.40; Crane & Co., supplies water works, \$43.88; Hughes & Co., supplies water works, \$33.89; Sam Bodie, street sprinkling, \$2.60; Arthur Lund, street sprinkling, \$2.50; A. S. Pratt, street sprinkling, \$9.75; W. Allen, street sprinkling, \$21.50; P. Blackler, street sprinkling, \$1.50; E. Benson, hire of mower, \$2.50; I. N. Wickersham, street work, \$9; W. S. Keeler, street work, \$9; J. Remington, street work, \$4.50; J. Glasco, street work, \$2.60; J. Goddard, street work, \$9; E. Hoxworth, street work \$5; J. W. Seaward, street work, \$7.50; George Major, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$293.17; J. M. Fraser, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$33.78; Sam Kaser, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$23.55; Al. Saling, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$19.95; L. D. Dal-lam, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$2.10; A. McMahan engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$1.60; Ben Prince, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$2.10; C. D. Macy, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$12; A. A. Spencer, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$18.60; P. Z. Davis, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$48; Bruce Cyr, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, \$9.45; L. Provo, engineering L. I. D. No. 1, 30c.

At this time the matter of a petition of W. S. Keeler and Francis Keeler praying for the vacation and closing of the alley in block 26 of the plat of Oro coming on regularly for a hearing pursuant to an order heretofore made, fixing and designating July 12, 1915, at the hour of 8:30 p. m. for a hearing on said petition and it appearing that due legal notice thereof had been given by the town clerk as provided by law, and there being no protest filed and no persons appearing to protest against the closing and vacation of the said alley and whereas W. S. Keeler and Francis Keeler are the sole owners of all of the abutting property, the council on motion duly seconded and carried ordered the petition granted and authorized the said W. S. Keeler and Francis Keeler to close the said alley as described in said petition.

On motion council adjourned.
E. R. HOCSE, Clerk.

The circus tent next Thursday will be pitched at the ball grounds.