

The Oroville Weekly Gazette

ELEVENTH YEAR. No. 9.

OROVILLE, WASH., AUGUST 20, 1915.

\$1.50 PER YEAR

SHAKEN UP.

A sharp earthquake was felt in Oroville at about 6 o'clock Wednesday morning. There is no mistake about the tremor. It was so distinct that it awakened many people from sleep. There were at least two distinct shocks. The jerky motion was from east to west. Houses were distinctly jarred, and loose articles rattled and banged. Those who have never felt one could hardly believe that this jar was an earthquake. Those of us who have experienced earthquake shocks in California recognized the old jolt instantly. Earthquake shocks, even of the slightest nature, are very rare in this north country, and on account of their rarity the experience Wednesday morning created much comment among those of the community who felt the shake.

TENNIS TOURNEY.

The annual Okanogan county tennis tournament will be held this year at Oroville on the 10th and 11th of September, and from present indications there will be a larger entry for honors this year than ever before. The program provides for many matches including men's singles and doubles for county and all comers, ladies' singles and doubles for county and all comers, boys junior, county and all comers, mixed doubles, county and all comers. Over \$200 in silver cups are to be awarded as prizes to successful contestants. Last year Oroville failed to be represented at the Loomis tourney. It is to be hoped this year a number of players will be on the courts for Oroville. We have here several tennis enthusiasts and experts and for the credit of the town they should enter the lists and make an effort to carry off some of the prizes. Okanogan will extend a hearty welcome to all visitors, as is customary with the people of that place, and those who are present on the occasion are assured of a pleasant time and many exciting and interesting games.

LEASES OKANOGAN HOTEL.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Prentice left Monday morning for Okanogan, where Mr. Prentice will, in all probability, close a lease on, and take charge of the Okanogan hotel, if he can make the arrangements he contemplated when he left. Mrs. Prentice will have immediate charge of the business while Mr. Prentice will continue his residence in Oroville for the present at least. Mr. Prentice is mayor of this place and has filled the position efficiently and conscientiously, with much credit to himself. As a clean, upright, progressive citizen, fair and just in his relations with his fellowmen, the gentleman is a factor in the community that the town cannot well afford to lose and if he elects to change his residence he will leave behind a large circle of warm friends, who, while regretting his departure, trust that he may meet with success far beyond his expectations in his new home.

MYSTERIOUS FIRE.

Last Friday morning early, Ed. Anderson, living on Ellemeham mountain noticed a heavy smoke in the direction of Clay Hershberger's home, and riding speedily over the ridge separating his place from that of his neighbor discovered Mr. Hershberger's home to be in flames, and the fire spreading in the field. It was impossible to save anything in the building, or the two buildings constituting Mr. Hershberger's home, as there was a frame and a log structure close together and used by the family, so Mr. Anderson turned his attention to extinguishing the grass fire that was spreading toward the barn which was filled with grain. He thought he had the fire out, and rode to neighbors for assistance. On his return with help he found that the flames had again ignited the grass and the fire was extinguished only after much labor. The cause of the fire is a mystery. Mr. Hershberger and his family were away at a ranch at some distance assisting with the harvest. Not a single household article was saved, and as there was no insurance the loss falls heavy on Mr. Hershberger.

INDIAN WOMAN DROWNED.

Friday morning a young lad named Cooper while crossing the railroad bridge that spans the Okanogan river east of town discovered the body of a woman lodged against one of the piles supporting that structure. He informed a man by the name of Cody of the ghastly discovery, and Cody at once came to town and sought out Marshal Case. The officer repaired to the bridge with Undertaker Barnes and a number of others, the body was removed from the water and proved to be that of an Indian woman, some 45 years of age, the wife of an Indian known as John Wells, living a few miles east of town.

The remains were taken to the Barnes morgue and there examined. At first, owing to the presence of bruises on the forehead it was thought that the dead woman had met with foul play, but Isabelle Rhinehart, a prepossessing and intelligent half-breed girl, cleared away all suspicions by a straight-forward account of how the drowning occurred as far as it was possible to conjecture, as neither she, nor anyone else, actually witnessed the accident.

There is an Indian habitation and general rendezvous on the east side of the river, not far from where the body was found. The Rhinehart girl was at this house last Tuesday night. She stated that the Wells woman, who was her aunt, arrived at the house at an early hour Wednesday morning of last week, considerably under the influence of liquor. Shortly after her arrival the Wells woman declared she was going into the river bathing, but the girl persuaded her not to do so. Later the woman insisted upon going to the river at least to bath her feet. That was the last seen of her until the body was found Friday morning. The Rhinehart girl had thought that her aunt had gone over to town, or possibly home, but as she failed to appear by Thursday she became uneasy and started out to search for her, of course without success. She accounted for the bruise on the woman's face by saying that she and her aunt had tried to ride a horse a few days before and the animal had thrown them off, her aunt sustaining the injuries in the fall. After hearing the Rhinehart version of the case the prosecuting attorney and sheriff decided that the drowning was purely accidental and that an inquest was unnecessary. It is the general supposition that the woman waded out into the water and in her intoxicated condition fell down and was unable to regain her footing.

The first news of the tragedy that spread about town was to the effect that the body of a woman had been seen in the river opposite the Presbyterian church, and a number of people flocked to that part of the stream. Two or three motor boats put out. One manned by F. S. McDonald and E. McCammon reached the railroad bridge about the same time as Marshal Case and Prentice's motor truck, and the occupants of the boat brought the body to the shore. It was placed in the truck and conveyed to Barnes' undertaking rooms.

Saturday morning G. Wells' the husband of the dead woman, was so drunk that he was thrown into jail until he had sobered off sufficiently to remove and take charge of the remains. The body was buried near the Rhinehart place among the Indian allotments on the hill east of town.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the town council of Oroville, Wash., August 16, 1915.

Present, Councilmen Beale, Smith, Friis, Bartell and Peterson.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that Councilman Smith act as mayor, pro tem.

Minutes of previous meeting read and approved as read.

Letter from C. F. Sigrist in regard to bill of J. W. Carrel and J. A. Faulkner against Silke & LaPlant, read and on motion was laid on the table for one week.

Mr. Cash, representing the Studebaker Wagon Co., appeared before the council in regard to the purchase of a sprinkling cart. After some discussion regarding the matter, motion was made by Councilman Beale seconded by Councilman Friis that the town purchase a sprinkling cart from the Studebaker Co., the price to be \$400 F. O. B., Oroville. Motion carried.

On motion council adjourned.

R. E. HOOSE, Clerk.

MUCH NEEDED IMPROVEMENT.

At last there is a convenient and roomy sidewalk from Central avenue to the bath houses at the swimming pool in the Okanogan river. It extends north on Sookane street to C. W. Smith's residence, and from there east to the river. Other necessary improvements have been made on the grounds. Heretofore it has been necessary to plough through the dust in order to reach the swimming hole, and one was about as dirty from the accumulation of restate on the return trip as when going into the water. Many will probably continue to take the short cut, but those who bathe for cleanliness as well as pleasure can escape the dust by taking the new walk.

This walk has been long considered, but has been slow in materializing. Lumber and cash contributions have been on hand for some time for putting it down, but there was no one to take the initiative and it looked for a time as though the walk would never be put down. C. W. Smith at last took the proposition in hand and it was owing almost entirely to his exertions that the walk is in existence today. He solicited more contributions and then talked a number of young men who use the swimming pool into assisting in the physical work. The Guthrie & Co., outfit willingly lent valuable aid, as did also Engineer Major, and the trick was finally turned.

Anything that can be done to make this bathing place more attractive to the public is money and labor well spent. It is an ideal place for public baths. A growth of trees shades the houses at a stretch on the river where the bottom is soft, the water shallow near the shore and deep enough for experienced swimmers only a short distance out, with an absence of any dangerous currents to jeopardize the lives of the beginners. The men's and women's bath houses are built out over the river so that bathers can if so desiring, dive directly from the platforms into the water. For years this has been a popular resort for both men, women and children every day during the heat of the summer, and its general use may in a measure account for the health of the community. Hundreds of citizens take advantage of this convenient bathing pool, and a visitor to the town speedily finds his way to that part of the river. From early morning until late at night there is hardly an intermission to the stream setting toward the pool, and the river is constantly dotted with bobbing heads. It is owing to the presence of this swimming pool and its easy access that so many people of Oroville are able to swim. There are few children in the community that have not mastered the trick and many are as much at home in the water as young ducks. This knowledge of swimming is not confined to boys and men, for there are quite a lot of excellent swimmers among the female members of the population. It is an accomplishment that is both healthful and a safeguard to those who know how, and one that every person should learn. For that reason, and the fact that the pool is an attractive feature of the town, every effort should be made to improve the facilities and conveniences in and about the bath houses, and there is considerable room for improvement just at this time.

DOMESTIC SCIENCE ROOM.

The Oroville high school is now the most thoroughly equipped for the teaching of domestic science of any school in the county. This department has been furnished by the board of directors at an expense of upwards of \$600, in addition to the equipment already on hand. A range, gas stoves, and all the necessary paraphernalia have been installed, and Al Fox has completed the cabinet work that supplies working quarters for a class of sixteen pupils, and it is expected that the class will be completely filled. The room assigned for this branch is neatly and artistically arranged, and will be under the immediate charge of Miss Pauline Davis, a graduate of a domestic science department at Pullman college, which is acknowledged to be second in efficiency to none in the whole country. This feature added to the Oroville public school, broadening and making more important the curriculum, should attract many young lady pupils from the surrounding country, fitting them as it does for all the contingencies of future life.

SUB-CONTRACTS LET.

A. Guthrie & Co., have sub-contracted a large amount of the work to be done on the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation system to a number of firms that are by experience well qualified to carry out the work according to plans and specifications. The names of some of these contractors are familiar to the older residents of this place. These sub-contractors are busy assembling men and material for the immediate beginning of active work, and getting camps arranged for the accommodation of the crews. From E. F. Hoffmark, superintendent in charge of the A. Guthrie & Co., interests, the names of the sub-contractors and the sections of the system they will construct has been obtained.

Grading main canal—from station 0 to station 130 will be excavated by the A. Guthrie & Co., forces with a steam shovel. This is from the intake on the Similkameen river eastward toward town. From station 130 to station 544 has been sub-let to Carlson & Chindahl, who will work about 50 head of stock.

Southwest branch, near Tonasket—sub-let to Dan Mickulich, who will work about 20 head of stock.

Southeast canal—sub-let to Andrew Johnson, who will work about 12 teams.

Cordell lateral—sub-let to Carlson & Chindahl.

North branch canal, east Osyoos lateral, Stansbury lateral will be graded by A. Guthrie & Co., and 18 teams are now busy.

Flume work—The work on the main canal flumes has been divided equally between Byers & Chamberlain and Archie Dibblee, both timber contractors. These two contracting forces have their camps established, and are busy blasting out benches around perpendicular rock cliffs.

Flumes on southwest branch, near Tonasket, have been sub-let to Hartman & Campbell, timber contractors, of Portland, Oregon.

Flumes on the entire east side have been sub-let to Smith & Wylie.

EXHIBITS WANTED.

Farmers, gardeners and orchardists of the neighborhood are invited and requested to bring into town samples of grain, fruit and vegetables and turn them over to any business man, so that they can be placed on display to give strangers an idea what the fruitful soil of the valley and hill country can produce. Telling of what the soil can produce is not as convincing as outward and visible evidence in the shape of samples of those products. It is easy to doubt what appears in print, but the evidence of the eye carries conviction. This paper has devoted columns to descriptions of what can be raised from the soil of this country, and every statement has been the honest conviction of the writer, backed by what he has seen, yet it is doubtful if columns of laudatory commendation of the capability of Okanogan real estate would strike the stranger as forcefully as a window display of huge grasses, grains, fruits and vegetables. There is no drawing on the imagination, in the opinion of the stranger with the real thing in the shape of visible products of the earth. This proposed display of farm and orchard produce is not for the benefit of the town and the people thereof, it is wholly for the benefit of the country, for it advertises the capability of the country as a source from which to draw a substance. The people of Oroville insist that behind the town is the most kindly land in the west, and they want to be able to prove their contention by having samples of the products of that land to back the position they have taken. Such display will give the land a value in the eyes of all who see, and by that means will hold those coming in search of land investments. Those who supply samples will be given credit for the same so that it can be known by everybody just where, and by whom, the products were raised.

Geo. Kays, a prominent mining man of Republic, was in town Tuesday. He was very favorably impressed with the mineral showings in this vicinity, and was especially pleased with the appearance of the claims east of town owned by Dr. C. P. House. Every mining man who comes here expresses the same surprise at the extent and character of the neighboring ore exposures and their wonder is that more are not under development.

COMMERCIAL CLUB LUNCHEON.

The first noonday luncheon given under the auspices of the Commercial Club, last Friday, was a rattling success from every point of view, far better than could have been expected considering the short notice, and the difficulties the ladies labored under who served the refreshments. The luncheon was served in the conveniently arranged and exceedingly pleasant new library building by the ladies of the Civic League, and a better meal could not be procured for anything like the same price anywhere. It was home cooking, daintily served, by home cooks who know the art of tickling the palate. The menu was one that appealed to and satisfied and highly gratified those so fortunate as to be partakers. Some 60 guests were served at this first luncheon. Many outside of the club membership were at the tables, while the club itself was well represented. As the library is not as yet either entirely finished, nor fully equipped for entertaining so many people at one time, the tables had to be set twice before all those present could be accommodated, the Commercial Club members giving away to their guests at the first tables.

Of course the luncheon was for the purpose of promoting sociability, good feeling and fellowship among business men and citizens generally who should attend. Added to this social feature was the aim to take up and discuss ways and means to carry out a plan recently suggested by F. W. Graham to procure exhibits of farm garden and orchard products indigenous to the surrounding country. In a speech before the Commercial Club Mr. Graham pointed out that in other places local products were on exhibition for the purpose of showing strangers and visitors what the adjacent lands could and would produce. In Oroville, he was surprised to note, there were no exhibits of this nature. He suggested that the business men make a strong and united effort to correct this deficiency, as it was especially important and necessary at this time, when attention was being attracted to Oroville and the Okanogan valley by the construction of the irrigation system, in order to show the new comer indisputable evidence that the soil is as fertile as is claimed by the public at large, and that its products will vie with those raised in any other part of the coast country. Owing to the necessity of splitting up the crowd, and consequent protraction of the luncheon beyond the time intended, it was not possible to take up the subject at length, but Dr. Lewis, president of the Club, made a stirring address, going into the matter of local exhibits pretty thoroughly, and urging upon the business men present to use every effort to secure samples of the products of the surrounding country and place them where they will show off to the best advantage and at the same time inviting any farmer or orchardist present to co-operate in the good work as the object is to advertise the country.

Everybody was well satisfied with this first effort of the Club to get the business men and citizens together, and the initial luncheon will be followed by others in the future. After this first experience it is safe to predict that the attendance at future Civic League feeds under the auspices of the Commercial Club will be more largely attended than the first, for those who partook of the Friday luncheon will certainly take the first opportunity presented to repeat, and those who overlooked the first one are not going to make the same mistake the second time after learning what an excellent meal the ladies serve.

Word has been received that Marvin Chase, head of the Whitestone irrigation system, has secured the necessary capital for carrying out that very important project, and that Tilman's saw mill is now engaged in cutting lumber for the flumes, there being much flume to construct for the carrying of the water to the land to be reclaimed. This proposed system reaches the fertile and sheltered lands between Spectacle lakes, just east of Loomis, and the breaks of the Okanogan river, including a very large acreage, which once under water can be made enormously productive. It will be a great thing for the country if that project can be finished coincident with that of the Oroville project.

BAND PICNIC.

The local band will hold a picnic at Smith's Point, one of the most attractive spots on Osyoos lake, Sunday. Boats and autos will convey people to and from town and the picnic grounds. The band will furnish music during the day. This will be the largest picnic held on the lake this summer, and it is safe to say that few will miss the chance of enjoying a day's outing on that beautiful sheet of water. There is a good beach at the point that bathers can take advantage of.

FOR A NEW BRIDGE.

A delegation of citizens from Loomis and Oroville headed by George Ellis and Jas. Forde interviewed the county commissioners early in the week on the proposition of constructing a bridge across the Okanogan river at Ellisford, a station on the Great Northern eleven miles below Oroville and seven miles above Tonasket. They presented petitions signed by 127 citizens of the north end of the county setting forth that a bridge was very much needed at that point as an accommodation to the Loomis country and the ranchers living along the river between Oroville and Tonasket. The commissioners referred the matter to the county engineer for investigation.—Okanogan Independent.

What action the commissioners may finally take on the above application is yet to be determined. There is hardly a spot on the Okanogan river, outside of the towns along the water-course, where a bridge would prove a greater convenience to a very large number of people. The railroad is on the east side of the river, and those living in the Loomis, Whitestone Flat and Horse Spring Coulee neighborhoods—and there are many of them and there will be many more within a year or two—now have to travel to Tonasket or Oroville, many miles out of their way, to reach the railroad. With a bridge at the point designated the railroad is in comparatively easy reach of the neighborhoods mentioned. Such a bridge would be especially convenient for the people living to the westward who have products to ship.

AN ATTRACTIVE SCHOOL.

Within a fortnight the public schools of Oroville will be open for 1915-16 terms, with an exceptionally able corps of teachers and from every indication there will be a large attendance in every department. The high school will be especially attractive to those pupils who have passed through the grades and are ambitious for further advancement. To young boys and girls living in the adjacent country entitled to enter high school the Oroville school holds out attractive inducements, and parents desiring to take advantage of these facilities should locate in town during the winter. There is no educational institution in the country any better, and those who come here will enjoy the pleasure of living in a live community while giving their children the advantages of a higher schooling.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Rev. G. H. Severance, M. A. Vicar.

There will be no service in the church on next Sunday. There will be morning service at 11 a. m. on Sunday Aug. 29. Sunday school every Sunday at 10 a. m.

Is your child receiving a complete religious education as well as secular? If not, why not send your child to our Sunday school where it will be given a religious education. We use the graded system.

M. E. SERVICES.

Services at the Methodist Episcopal church next Sunday. Sunday school at 10. Mr. P. M. Snider will speak at 11. Epworth League at 7. Miss Arnold leader, subject: "How to make the world happier." The pastor will speak in the evening at 8. Subject: "What is your object of glory?" Prayer meeting on Thursday evening at 8. A goodly number come out to this meeting. You come and see who comes. We will be glad to see you out to any and all of these services.

MINING.

MINING

TRANSPORTATION.

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WATER POWER.

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