

The Oroville Weekly Gazette

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\$1.50 PER YEAR

BOOST FOR THE OKANOGAN.

Those attending the irrigation meeting at Tonasket on January 29th, report one of the most successful meetings ever held in the district. There was a good attendance of the landowners from the south end of the district and quite a number went down from Oroville and vicinity. The two important discussions were given by C. Stevens and Mr. Ross R. Brattain. Mr. R. L. Picken of Tonasket pointed out a number of the advantages of the district plan of managing irrigation projects, and Mr. J. Douglas spoke in his usual optimistic manner of the future of irrigated lands. The importance of the success of the North Okanogan project in its relation to other prospective systems was well presented by Mr. J. W. Graham of Tonasket. He gave as the principal elements of success of any project, the following five points and enlarged very carefully on each one of them. First, the soil—we have it, it is well tested and there is no question as to its value; second, proper construction of the system—the West Okanogan project has good engineers and is building a good system; third—the up-keep cost, how large; fourth, ultimate cost of water.

The cost here will be reasonable and even if construction cost should run at \$100 per acre with the up-keep at \$10 to \$20 per acre, the total cost is not too high and our lands will stand up to the test. Fifth—whether or not lands are held at speculative prices—too high values endangers the success of any project.

He emphasized the fact that it is strictly up to the people who live under a project whether or not the lands are sold and that the best way to sell and was to improve it. An irrigation system is purely a business proposition.

Mr. George H. Major gave a short talk on the advantages of the district plan and dwelt especially on the financial end of the features. He stated that any project that has lots of water and is feasible in its construction and system of irrigation, can be financed if properly managed.

The principal talk was given by Mr. C. Stevens, engineer in charge, who spoke at length regarding the West Okanogan project and the type of construction and answered many questions that brought out the strong points of the system now being built. He stated that the canals and flumes are ample to carry water to supply all the lands below the ditch and for all that are within a reasonable pumping lift above. The construction of the ditches and flumes is at the highest practical location and reaches all of the land that can be reached by a gravity system. The plans for the lateral distribution system will be placed before the land owners within a few days and the land owners will be given an opportunity to examine the same and suggest any changes that may be advantageous for their particular lands. Mr. Stevens spoke especially on the splendid pipe lines that are being constructed by the Portland Wood Pipe company. He says there are the best that he ever saw, being made of the best quality of fir. At critical points the staves are crested and all will be given two coats of protection paint to insure as long life as possible. The wooden flumes are all pine planks put together in good workmanlike manner; trestle supports are substantial fir timbers.

Wooden flume construction is cheaper in the interest, cost and up-keep charges than metal flumes. The metal flume, being comparatively new and its wearing qualities not fully tried out. The galvanizing sometimes fails or the gravel in the water may wear out the metal. On account of increased interest charges on a greater first cost of construction of a system using metal flume, it is cheaper to build of wood and replace than to bear the first heavy cost of metal flume construction although the operating expense of the metal flume construction is less. Mr. Stevens advises that the irrigation lines carry water the full year except for that short period of time when the severe freezing endangers overflow; keeping the water in the flumes minimize the shrinkage and drying of the flumes and will keep the system in better order. He explained at length the duty of water, and says that the amount supplied by this system—2.5 acre feet, is ample for all needs and is more than should be used on most of the land. He declared that cultivation is the essential thing in irrigation farming and that water was but an adjunct. Mr. Stevens laid special stress on the importance of the preparation of the land and started some of his hearers by saying that the water would be ready for use before the land was ready. A point that specially pleased his audience was the statement that the entire system would be fully tested by the contractors before being turned over to the district. Another good point regarding the construction was that in ditch building practically all of the water areas was in cuts, there being but few embankments.

Mr. Delatur was the superintendent of an irrigation project at Vernon, B. C., spoke very happily and emphatically of the benefits of the project here and created a very favorable impression on his hearers. Mr. Delatur is a man experienced in irrigation matters and the handling of water.

Mr. Ross R. Brattain, who is living near Tonasket for the present, gave a very happy speech on boosting and

made everybody feel happier and certainly inculcated the boosting spirit. He maintained that happiness is essential to a true boosting spirit and that boosting for the Okanogan Valley stands the test of true boosting, for it must be done in a happy spirit and by a happy man for the purpose of bringing happiness to others. He quoted from the diary of the first voyager who came into the Okanogan valley 105 years ago. This quotation was in flowery language and showed that the art of boosting is not all confined to modern times. However, Mr. Brattain out voyaged the old voyager when he described the Okanogan Valley as he, in vision saw it. The talk of Mr. Brattain was a happy climax of a successful meeting.

SLIGHT DAMAGES.

A few—and it may be said to the credit of the principle of justice and fairness in the average man, only a few—owners of land under the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation district reclamation system have required the district to resort to the courts to secure a right of way for the flumes and the ditches and have demanded damages for that privilege. In almost every instance those who have insisted on payment for a right of way are land owners who have made no improvements upon their holdings, and probably would never go to the expense of installing a private irrigation system. These landowners, seeing an opportunity to get something for nothing, for such is the case where payment is asked for land that is absolutely worthless without water, and caring nothing for the great benefits that are to accrue to the entire valley and consequently to themselves ultimately, resort to this method to harass the district officials and put the district to heavy and unnecessary expense. In most instances the damages asked for far and away beyond the market value of the lands, indeed, far more than the land would ever bring without water if the owner held on for 50 years.

The latest case of this kind to be tried before the superior court was that of the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation district vs. A. Laugaard, in which the defendant asked damages in the sum of \$3050. Now the last man in the valley that the public would suspect of resorting to such action is Mr. Laugaard, and the question has often been asked if there was not an ulterior object behind this attitude. Mr. Laugaard is a civil engineer of large experience, with the reputation of being an exceptionally good one. He has been connected with the construction of other irrigation systems. No man in the country is in a better position to understand the value of irrigation as applied to the semi-arid lands of this valley totally, valueless without the revivifying influence of water, prodigally productive under irrigation. One would naturally suppose that he would hail with delight any enterprise that would have for its aim the bringing of water to any land he might own in this valley and use every effort to secure the same. Moreover, Mr. Laugaard has been a direct beneficiary from the inauguration of the project. The officers of the district employed Mr. Laugaard at a salary that you or I or any of us would be delighted to draw, during the preliminary stages of establishing the system. At that time we know, if he was honest in his expressed opinion, that Mr. Laugaard felt that the project was the salvation of the land owners of the valley under the system. Why he should have afterwards changed his mind and decided that water would be deleterious to his property is something beyond understanding. Mr. Laugaard owns a tract of land on the west side of the Okanogan river near Tonasket and he came to the conclusion that the sterile and barren desert would be damaged \$3050 worth is more it is said, than he paid for the tract, or will have paid for it when the tract is paid for. The case was tried last week and the jury awarded him \$375 damages, just \$375 more than he should have had, in the opinion of a great many people.

WILL ORDER SEEDS.

The Okanogan Seed Growers' association will meet on Saturday, February 12th, at 2 p. m., sharp. At this meeting the various members will place their orders for pedigree stock seeds, through the association, and be in readiness for early spring planting. Mr. C. W. H. Heideman sent the association a special list quoting prices, prepaid by parcels post or express, to Oroville, and also to mail the Kootenai Seed Growers' association catalogue soon. The meeting will be held in the town hall and a goodly number is expected to be present at this important meeting. Mr. Heideman will visit Oroville some time during the month of February, as he is greatly interested in the movement.

EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Services will be held as follows on next Sunday, February 6th: Morning prayer and sermon at 11 Sunday school at 12; evening sermon at 7:30. All are most cordially invited to attend these services.

REV. G. H. SEVERANCE, Vicar.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

Services both morning and evening, Sunday school as usual. All are most cordially invited to attend and worship with us.

THE MAGIC OF IRRIGATION

Idaho Falls, Idaho, Jan. 24, 1916. Editor Oroville Gazette.—Dear Sir:—In a little outing from the routine of life in the Okanogan, we find ourselves here in the midst of an irrigated section, and with all the interest of an up-to-date Okanogian we have been taking in what irrigation is doing for others.

The Snake river valley at this place is a high plateau of sagebrush land with an altitude of 4,800 feet, of great extent and carrying a soil very much the same as is found in the Okanogan. There are thousands of acres now under irrigation and have been for some ten years or more, and the transformation of the country is simply most wonderful.

In meeting with farmers in Okanogan we have heard it remarked that "alfalfa could not be grown on our highlands, it was too cold." Well, here is land higher than any ranch in Okanogan, where the thermometer knocked the foundation from under 24 below zero, a day or two ago, with thousands of acres of alfalfa, cutting three crops with a yield of from five to eight tons to the acre. Not too cold there. A great area is also devoted to the potato crop, it being one of the great staple crops of this section, but second to the grain crop. Wheat, rye, oats and barley are grown with the highest degree of success, a failure of crops being unknown, thanks to irrigation. The sugar beet industry is also very largely developed, and a large sugar factory here is taking care of the great crops produced. Another branch of the work, one that has been discovered in Oroville lately, "seed growing," is bringing in a handsome profit, the main article being seed peas. It is too high for beans. At the warehouse in this place, that receives the pea crop, there are in addition to the most modern cleaning machinery, some sixty girls employed in hand-picking from an endless belt, all imperfect peas, or other matter that may have escaped the machine. This crop is all grown on contract price announced in the spring, and is saving the producers from \$30 to \$50 per acre, and several thousand car loads are shipped from here each year. Dairying is also carried on quite extensively with gratifying results, with beef cattle and hogs adding to the steady income of the farmer. These productions are wide spread and general, and can best be appreciated by observing the great number of buyers and the warehouses provided for receiving the different crops from the producers. Honey also fills an important part of the many other sources of wealth that is raised here.

Idaho Falls claims to be the largest out shipping point of agricultural products of any place in the United States which has all been brought about by irrigation, and I am convinced that very few of our Okanogan people as yet begin to realize what our irrigation project will do for us if we apply ourselves to it. If this valley, at an altitude of 5000 feet, limited to certain hardy crops, can produce such wonderful results what can be expected of our own valley, where not only all these crops can be grown at a greater success, but almost anything else that one could desire can also be grown with equally as good results. A few weeks spent in these surroundings is surely a boost to the determination of any man interested to reach out with both hands to grasp all the advantages that irrigation holds for us.

Prices here are excellent and the marketing of the various crops grown is very brisk at this time. With wheat at \$1.15, oats \$1.10, barley \$1.25, potatoes \$1.30, alfalfa \$8 to 10, beef 10 cents, pork 6 cents, the raisers of these products are surely reaping a golden harvest from their little drops of water mingled with the sand. But Okanogan valley, with an altitude of less than 1000 feet, can discount this place in every way. We have the soil, we have the water, we have the climate, and when we meet these with the energy required to put them in operation, the "zone of plenty" will surely be the banner of the Okanogan irrigation district.

Yours truly,
CHAS. A. ANDRUS.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Minutes of the meeting of the town council of Oroville, Washington, January 21, 1916:

Present, Mayor Samson, Councilmen Beale, Smith, Friis and Bartell.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved as read.

Several citizens appeared before the council in regard to the proposed ordinance in regard to the closing and regulating the pool halls and card rooms, asking that the ordinance be laid on the table at this time as it would be inconvenient at this time to comply with the provisions as set forth in the ordinance. After some discussion in the matter and all parties interested being present agreed to certain things in regard to closing hours and curtains. Motion was made and carried that the ordinance be laid on the table indefinitely.

The matter of purchasing a new typewriter for the clerks office was taken up at this time and the council decided that the finances of the town at present did not justify the purchase of a new typewriter.

The marshal was instructed to try and make the road running north out of town more passable.

On motion council adjourned.

E. R. HOOSE, Clerk.

CORN IN THE OKANOGAN COUNTRY

(By Thomas Shaw.)

The marked adaptation of the Okanogan Valley for growing corn and especially seed corn is but little known. And yet it is a fact that such adaptation is of a very high order. This follows from a variety of conditions among which are the following:

1. Notwithstanding that it is so far north, in fact reaching up to Canada, the elevation is low, relatively. At Oroville, up near Canada, it is 941 feet, and at Pateros, where it joins the Columbia, it is but 773 feet.

2. The valley is bordered by rugged hills of mountainous proportions. These protect it from wind storms. The fierce winds of the prairies are there virtually unknown, a matter of considerable importance when growing corn.

3. The winter climate is mild. Snow seldom lies long in the valley. Spring comes relatively early, earlier than in many places farther south, where the elevation is higher. This allows a season of sufficient length for the proper maturing of the corn.

4. The days are usually sufficiently hot to ripen up the corn in good shape at the season for the ripening of the same. This fact is of special value when growing corn for seed.

5. The supply of water for irrigation is abundant and will be never failing, as soon as the irrigation system now under way is completed, which will be in time for next season's crop.

The irrigation system will bring water to 10,000 acres of silty soil, which is easily tilled. In the system are five miles of pipe and syphon construction, 25 miles of wood flume and 30 of canals. The head gates are of concrete and steel, hence the work ought to be of high grade. One of the finest things about the construction of the whole plant is the great abundance of the water supply, coming down as it does from the large surface of snow-capped mountains from Canada.

All the conditions would seem to be present for the successful growth of seed corn. The specimens that were grown last summer were very fine. Two varieties were grown. The only name that the growers could give were yellow and the white ones. When seed is grown, the growth should be specific as to the name. The yellow dent and white dent are rather vague, as there are so many varieties of each. Several varieties should be grown, some large and some small, to suit the needs of the growers at different elevations and for different uses. The larger varieties should be used on the higher elevations for producing foods for cattle in the cured form, or the silo, and the second for hogging off on the same elevations and those that are still higher. But why should attention be given thus to the growing of seed corn in the Okanogan valley? For two reasons at least:

The first reason is that it should bring good money to the growers. It may be asked, how can this be in a country that will grow five tons of alfalfa to the acre. The answer is that the same land should grow from 35 to 40 bushels of seed corn to the acre, and in addition a large amount of ears that may not be considered suitable for seed, but which would furnish good grain for feeding. Such seed should bring not less than \$2.00 per bushel for many years to come, as northern-grown seed corn always sells at a premium and will for years to come. This would mean that the seed portion of the crop should bring to the grower from \$50 to \$80 per acre. This would mean as much or more money than alfalfa.

The second reason is that the seed is northern-grown and, therefore is better suited to the needs of a northern climate than seed grown farther south. In wide areas in the north it is not possible to grow the seed wanted because of the shortness of the season and yet it may be possible in these sections to grow corn at a profit for the silo and for other uses. The only uncertain question is how far will this demand be met by the growers of seed far to the northward.

On the uplands of the Okanogan country there is also much room for the growing of corn, but not so much for seed as for other uses. Farmers are found growing corn at elevations as high as 4000 feet above sea level. On these high elevations it was subject to autumn frosts sometimes, if not cut early, but if cut ahead of these it would still make much fodder and quite useful for feeding. On these elevations or on many of them, there are good reasons for believing that the white flint squaw corn, sometimes called Dakota White Flint, could be depended on to mature. This would be for hogging off or for being grazed down by sheep. Another variety spoken of as Australian flour corn has been grown with considerable success. Like the squaw corn, it suckers much and produces many ears. The ears in both are of a fair size. Both are quite lanky in their habit of growth and, therefore, especially well adapted to the fattening of sheep and lambs.

GOOD ROADS MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Oroville—Similkameen Good Roads association will be held at the town hall at Oroville, Saturday, February 5, 1916, at 2 o'clock p. m. sharp.

The election of new officers and the consideration of any business relating to good roads will be the object of this meeting.

E. RISTE, President.
E. TRUAX, Secretary.

ALMOST A COLD BATH.

Chas. F. Sigrist, of this place, his brother, L. M. Sigrist, of Antwyne, and Albert Judd of Loomis, had a narrow escape from a cold, clammy, death, last Friday. Mr. Sigrist had occasion to go down to Tonasket, where he was joined by his brother, Albert Judd was at Tonasket on his way home from Seattle and Mr. Sigrist accommodatingly made room for him in the sleigh. When they reached Spectacle lake a long, double lake a short distance east of Loomis, they decided to take to the ice as easier going than the country road. When near the dividing point in the lake, which is a narrow channel of water, and traveling at a lively pace, the horses suddenly disappeared from sight. A hole was broken in the ice just large enough to let the horses through and the sleigh stopped on the very edge of the hole. Mr. Charles Sigrist and Mr. Judd leaped out and detached the tugs, and as the ice was firm immediately around the edge of the hole the horses were able to scramble out. Within three minutes from the time the horses broke through the ice the animals were again harnessed to the sleigh and the travelers on the way to their destination, but they took to the highway in preference to running any more chances of another accident.

The ice in Spectacle lake is very treacherous. The lake freezes every winter and bold spirits think nothing of making it a speedway, driving to or from Loomis. But it is never entirely safe, no matter how cold the weather, for there appears to be springs in the lake, and wherever they occur the ice is thin. In past years a number of accidents have occurred similar to the one reported, fortunately without loss of life. But that immunity cannot continue always, and a fatal accident may happen any winter if people continue to use the surface of the long stretch of ice highway.

STOCK ASSOCIATION.

Supervisor C. C. Reed, of the Colville National Forest, assisted by Deputy Supervisor L. E. McDaniel, of the Okanogan National Forest, have during the past week organized two cattle and horse associations on the north half, one at Wauconia, with a membership of 26, and one at Mount Hull, with a membership of 22. The one at Mount Hull will have a much larger membership, as the election of permanent officers and the adoption of several important resolutions was held over until the next meeting which will be held at Mount Hull Grange hall Sunday, February 13. The stock men of the Anglin district have requested the Forest officers to meet with them and assist in forming an organization in that section. The Forest officers were accompanied on their trip through the north half by County Agriculturalist Hughes, who addressed the stock men on the subject of "Vaccination as a means of preventing blackleg," and in other ways assisted in making the meeting a success.

DELIGHTFUL ENTERTAINMENT.

The Mendelssohn Sextette, one of the features of a lyceum bureau that visited this winter, gave an entertainment in the Orpheum Tuesday evening. The troupe was billed at Molson Monday evening, and from there was to jump to Tonasket for Wednesday evening. That left Tuesday an open date, and it was decided to give a concert at Oroville Tuesday evening. This conclusion was not reached until about noon Monday, and then there was no time to advertise the coming attraction. Word was sent out over the telephone that the concert was to take place, and the fact was not generally known in the community. To further interfere with the getting out of an audience one of the worst snow storms of the season was raging early Tuesday evening, and the train upon which the troupe was to arrive was an hour late, not arriving here until about 9 o'clock. Yet, for all those drawbacks quite a number of people braved the elements and turned out. They were well repaid, and those who were present would attend another entertainment by the same troupe were the weather ten fold more disagreeable. The company is made up of six young ladies, who are artists on the several instruments which they play. As vocalists, they are not prima donas, but their catchy songs are very pleasing. As a whole it was one of the most delightful entertainments ever given in Oroville, which is the opinion of all present, and if the troupe should ever return a crowded house is assured.

THE NEED FOR BETTER SIRES

The average farmer pays little attention to the sires which he uses on his flocks and herds. To pay more than \$100 for a bull or \$10 for a ram or boar seems to him an entire waste of money. If people could only be brought to realize that on an average every beef animal sired by pure bred bulls will bring at least \$10 a head more than the one from scrub breeding; that every well bred lamb will no doubt bring from 50c to \$1.00 more than the one of scrub origin; that pure bred hogs always top the market. If they would think they need realize that the extra money spent for registered sires is the best investment they ever made.

At the recent combination of breed-

ing stock handled at the Union stock yards during the Pacific International Live-stock Exposition, breeding cattle averaged around \$275.00 a head. One of the breeders present stated that the cheapest bull that he ever bought cost him \$3,500, for, as a calf, and that this one animal had made his name famous as a breeder. This expression was echoed by many of the breeders present, all of whom at different times had paid large prices for herd headers.

Under the present law in the state of Oregon, it is unlawful to allow scrub bulls of a best breed to run at large on the range, there being a heavy fine for this misdemeanor. If livestock men could realize their own first interests, as served by the use of pure bred sires there would be no need for such a law.

It was recently estimated by one who makes a close study of such problems that an increase in tonnage of over 25 per cent would have been handled by the railroads coming into this section, had pure bred sires been used altogether. In many instances large cattle men have been using good blood for many years, but it is the small farmer who juggles things by his reckless use of the scrub.

It should be the business of every progressive livestock man who has the interests of the industry at heart to inform the proper local authorities of the evasion by anybody of this law regarding the running at large of scrub sires, particularly bulls.

PALMER MOUNTAIN NOTES.

Judging from the amount of smoke arising from near the ice house, we are of the opinion that the boys are getting up some ice.

The many friends of Joe Ley, who has been on the sick list, will be pleased to learn of his daily improvement, and we hope to soon see him about his usual employment.

Clint Sandford, who is employed at the Ivanhoe mine, has moved his family from Palmer mountain to a vacant house at the Bert Chapman ranch.

Dr. Etnor of Oroville was a visitor at the Ivanhoe Thursday.

Mr. Buckles, formerly of Oroville, has purchased 20 acres of the Norris ranch, better known as the Pitman place, in the Cove, and will occupy the Jordan house, which is situated on the south end of the land.

The many men employed by the Ivanhoe are storing a vast amount of ice, getting the summer supply of wood from the mountains, and erecting several new buildings at the mine during the past week.

Mr. Green, who has so faithfully held his position of cook at the Ivanhoe mine for the past three years, has been on the sick list for a week, having had to secure an assistant until he is again able to resume his duties.

We are having some very cold weather here since the spring bluff has passed, it being 19 below zero on Monday morning. No wonder that the boys would prefer the summer time to such a cold store. The use of a sled does not look so out of place as it appeared at this time last week.

PEGGY.

LOOMIS ITEMS.

Dr. Etnor of Oroville, was called to the Ivanhoe mine Sunday, where a number of cases of grip are reported. On his way back home he made a few professional calls in Loomis.

All the freight teams in Loomis are busily engaged in hauling machinery from Nighthawk to Loomis, the most of it being boilers, engines and concentrating machinery ordered by Mr. Marshall for the tungsten mine. Mr. Marshall has a force of men working on the road between here and the machinery at the mine just as quickly as men and money can do it.

W. E. Grant, who has been to Spokane and other outside points on legal business, returned home on Saturday.

Arnold Curtis, who has been spending a few weeks on his homestead near Tonasket, made a flying trip to Loomis Saturday.

A number of Mr. F. C. Retzer's friends surprised him Wednesday evening. The evening was spent at cards and music. The occasion of this visit was Mr. Retzer's birthday, but just how old the gentleman is your correspondent knoweth not.

Paul Loudon, who has been living out on the Okanogan river, moved into the Enright cottage Saturday.

W. B. McChesney and wife were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. J. Hurley Saturday.

Marvin Chase of Richmond Beach, superintendent of the Whitestone Irrigation and Power company, arrived from the west side Tuesday.

Father Sherman has engaged Mrs. Wm. Watson as a housekeeper.

Fory Judd, who has been in Spokane for several months, returned home Saturday.

VALENTINE TEA.

A valentine tea, with musical programme, for the benefit of Trinity Guild, will be held at the home of Mrs. F. M. Dallam on Monday, February 14, from 3 to 5 o'clock p. m. All the ladies of Oroville and vicinity are cordially invited to attend.

W. A. Glenn, who has been working at the salts lake, had both of his feet frozen last week. He is able to get around but his feet are still very tender.

AN ENTICING MENU.

The complete menu for the chicken dinner to be served by the young ladies of the high school, Saturday evening is as follows:

I
Stewed Chicken
Mashed Potatoes Creamed Onions
Bread and Butter Pickles
Coffee—Cream and Sugar

II

Combination Fruit Salad
Cheese Straws

Apple Pie and Cheese
As announced last week this dinner will be served by the girls and lady teachers of the high school for the benefit of the High School Athletic association. As the Athletic association is somewhat in debt it is hoped that the efforts of the young ladies will be liberally rewarded. The dinner will be served in the Civic League building, Saturday evening, February 5, at five o'clock.

COMMERCIAL SEED GROWING.

A great deal of the radish seed sold in the United States at the present time is of very low grade. We import from Europe large quantities of radish seed that could be better grown at home. The bulk of the radish seed that we get are grown by the market gardeners near the large cities. Time was, when any one could grow nice, crisp radishes, but when we understand the source of our seed and the methods by which it is grown we need no longer wonder at the present difficulty of getting crisp radishes. Acres upon acres are planted. All the marketable radishes are sold and the culls that are left are allowed to go to seed and this is our present supply.

Radishes thrive in any good garden soil that contains an abundance of moisture. A rich humus or loam soil that have grown good crops of potatoes, corn and such crops is all that could be desired. The soil requires no special preparation other than that which is given for any crop of vegetables.

Seed and Seedling.
The seed should be large and plump and of the very best quality obtainable. Plant thinly in drills 18 to 22 inches apart. Seeding is best done with a garden seed drill set to sow rather thinner than for a market crop.

Cultivation and Thinning.
Cultivation should begin just as soon as the row can be seen and continued until the plants begin to branch to such an extent as to interfere with cultivation. Just as soon as the general shape and size of the root can be determined, the plants should be thinned to about 4 to 6 inches apart and just as soon as the first lot of plants begin to send up the blossom shoots these first plants should be rogued out.

Pollination.
Radish blossoms are cross pollinated mainly by insects and but one variety should be grown in the same field unless a considerable distance apart. A distance of half a mile at least between varieties should be had, and even this distance may not always guard against mixing. Cross pollination is best secured by planting radish for seed in blocks.

Harvesting.
As the radish blooms and continues to get seed pods throughout the summer season the crop is usually not ready for harvest until severe frost has checked the bloom. The seed does not shatter easily and harvesting may be delayed somewhat until all of the pods are mature. Hand pulling of the plants, cutting off the roots to prevent dirt from getting into the seed is the only method available for small growers. Two or three days drying in the sun will make the stems and pods brittle enough to thresh out with a flail.

On a large scale, threshing can be done with an ordinary grain separator and the seed is easily cleared by winnowing in a light breeze after which it should be cured or dried and stored away.

Selection.
Care should be exercised to leave only the very best roots to go to seed. Roguing must be very strict. All plants that go to seed prematurely and all plants with bloom off color should be removed. In this way, only, can high seed be produced. The soil and climate conditions of the Inland Empire are admirably adapted to the growing of a high grade of radish seed and it should be the aim of all growers to produce strains that will produce the old time crisp radishes of our fathers.—Kootenai Valley, (Idaho) Times.

January, 1916, will go down in the annals of local history as one of the cold periods that has had few parallels. With the exception of two days when a chinook got in its work, the mercury has constantly hovered in the neighborhood of zero, and to add to the discomfort of the chill, wind constantly whooped it up out of the north, and a north wind in the winter through this valley is something to be dreaded.