

The Oroville Weekly Gazette

ELVENTH YEAR No. 52.

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\$1.50 PER YEAR

MANAGANESE MINE.

Fred Neal has developed into a mining promoter who promotes and for a new hand at the business his record in that line is phenomenal considering what luck others have had in this country following the same line. Mr. Neal is not engaged in promoting mines that carry the common metals of commerce, or those that enter into the composition of hard money—that is common in the ordinary conversation of mining districts, yet rather uncommon as a possession of the ordinary citizen—but in the more rare minerals that the war has given a new and attractive value.

Nature in the distribution of various minerals that are "digged out of the bowels of the harmless earth," has been generous to Okanogan county, so generous indeed that man is yet really ignorant as to the extent of that generosity. Every once in a while discoveries of new and rare deposits are made until one is led to believe that about everything of a mineral nature that enters into use in science, chemicals and commerce are to be found in this county if men would only take the trouble to go out and hunt for it.

Early in the season Mr. Neal handled a tungsten property situated a few miles west of Tonasket, finding a syndicate to take it over, and within the past week he has engineered a deal by which a manganese mine, located near the celebrated J. I. Pogue orchard, west of Omak, has been bonded to Tacoma residents. The newly organized company, made possible through the exertions of Mr. Neal, will have the local designation of the Omak Manganese company.

Now this is not a new discovery. The claim has been owned by Jas. Burdette and others for years, but owing to the low price of manganese it has never been worked, nor has the value of the ore ever been sufficient to justify shipping. The European war, which has put a new value on many things in this country that were formerly valueless, owing to this country depending upon Europe for a supply, cheap labor and water transportation favoring importation. Among those things is manganese, and now, on account of the war, that mineral has reached such a price that the Okanogan county deposit can be worked at a large profit.

Mr. Neal got on the trail of manganese, knew that the local deposit existed, ran down men who are interested in obtaining the mineral, made a bulk shipment last week to Tacoma, and demonstrated so conclusively that the property was worth getting hold of that the Tacoma people at once closed a contract with him to take over the claim at a very comfortable and comforting figure.

The following information relative to the property is obtained from Mr. Neal:

The property consists of 160 acres, 120 acres patented and forty acres leased from the state for a term of years. It is located about two and one-half miles northwest of Omak, a station on the Oroville-Wenatchee branch. The outcrop is very strong and persistent. It is opened up in three places by shallow shafts over a distance of 2000 feet, each of which shows manganese ore of good grade, especially the south shaft, which is located on school land. In this shaft there are three feet of solid ore, which will probably average over 40 per cent metallic manganese. The general formation consists of granite rocks, the ore occurring on contact with quartz dyke, and between 15 and 20 feet wide making it a quarrying proposition, with almost unlimited tonnage of medium and low grade ore immediately available. The wagon road from the mine to the railroad station is exceptionally good, all down grade and level and surfaced most of the distance.

Webster describes manganese as "a metal of a dusky white or whitish gray color, very hard and difficult to fuse." It enters largely into certain chemicals, and is used in making glass, porcelain, etc., according to the encyclopedia, although the etc., conveys little information or satisfaction. Anyhow, it is an ore that is in demand and all concerned are liable to make a neat thing out of the transfer and the working of this property.

CELEBRATION AT TONASKET.

The celebration at Tonasket last Thursday, commemorating the completion of the irrigation system, and arranged in conjunction with the celebration at Oroville the previous day, was a success beyond the anticipations of the most sanguine resident of our neighboring town. The understanding and arrangements were for a dual celebration, the two towns to aid each other in carrying out the plans to make the occasion a state wide event as well as an exhibition of local satisfaction and gratification over the consummation of an improvement mean-

ing so much to the valley and the towns depending upon the prosperity of the valley for future development and growth. The crowd at Tonasket was one of the largest, if not, indeed, the largest, ever assembled in the county, and the people of that place provided a program of amusements that kept the people interested throughout the day. The great drawing card and the one which was responsible for the collection of so many people, was the aeroplane. The day was perfect as regards weather conditions, and the aviator ascended to great heights, making some hair lifting evolutions. Tonasket responded nobly to the Oroville celebration, and Oroville reciprocated by contributing several hundred to help swell the crowd. Both towns are to be congratulated upon the result of their efforts, and the residents of both towns are perfectly satisfied with the attendance and the nature of the entertainment extended to visitors.

COUNCIL MEETING.

Minutes of the regular meeting of the town council of the town of Oroville, June 12, 1916.

Present, Mayor Samson, Councilmen Beale, Friis, Starrett and Smith. Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved as read.

Minutes of a special meeting held June 1, 1916, read and approved as read.

Letter from P. H. Pinkston in regard to certain parties having the south end of Fourth street fenced in, asking that this fence be ordered removed, was read and the clerk was ordered to notify the owners of this fence to remove it at once.

The petition of certain citizens asking for the closing of Second street between State street and Washington street was read and after some discussion in the matter motion was made that the petitioners be granted permission to temporarily close the above described street subject to the order of the council for the opening of the same. Motion seconded and carried.

The following bills were read and on motion were allowed and ordered paid: Jas. Fraser, assistant engineer, \$3.00; W. Wentworth, assistant engineer, \$1.50; G. H. Major, engineer, \$7.50; M. Walmer, labor on water works, 2.40.

Ordinance No. 74 granting a franchise to the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company was read and motion was made and seconded that the ordinance pass its third and final reading. Yeas Beale, Friis, Smith and Starrett. Nones, none.

Motion was made and carried that the town treasurer be instructed to transfer \$275.00 from the Water Company fund to the Current expense fund. On motion council adjourned.

E. R. HOOSE, Clerk.

CARD FROM EXCURSIONISTS.

Seattle, Wash. June 9, 1916. To the Commercial Clubs of Tonasket and Oroville, Washington—

We, the undersigned members of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, who have rejoiced with you on the completion of the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation project, take this means of congratulating you on the consummation of your project and thanking you for two very enjoyable days in seeing your beautiful country.

We feel the utmost confidence that your long and patient efforts are now to be rewarded by bountiful harvests from your fertile fields. Signed—Hiram C. Gill, Mayor of Seattle; E. A. Anderson, Pres. Western Drygoods Co.; J. T. Hardeman, Pres. J. T. Hardeman Hat Co.; H. C. Henry, Pres. Northern Life Insurance Co.; F. T. Fischer, Fischer Bros. Wholesale Grocers; Carroll B. Graves, Attorney; Dan. W. Bass, associate manager of the Hotel Frye; Geo. Algers, Algers Milling Co.; A. S. Eldridge, Northwest Buick Co.; Leo Schwabacher, Schwabacher Hdw. Co.; Samuel J. Wetterick, Trans. Bureau Chamber of Commerce; Leonard Martin, Northwestern Mutual Fire Insurance; W. L. Bilger, Seattle Hdw. Co.; Roy O. Hadley, Ass't. Secy. Seattle Chamber of Commerce; F. W. Graham, Immigration Agent, G. N. Ry.

The weather during the celebration was a good omen. The meteorological conditions on those occasions would indicate that Providence approves of the irrigation system. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of last week were the first three consecutive pleasant days the valley has experienced in months. But no sooner had the celebration closed at Tonasket last Thursday evening than one of those health-giving, although unappreciated, Okanogan zephyrs swept down from the high places, howling like fun and accompanied by a very low temperature. Had the same conditions prevailed Wednesday and Thursday last the celebration would have been a dismal failure.

THE MYSTERY UNSOLVED.

The date for holding the examinations of A. J. Wickersham, Angus McLean and Lester Armstrong, charged by a coroner's jury with direct or indirect responsibility for the death of Henry Hofmeier, was set for Friday last, but was continued over until Saturday at 1 o'clock p. m. At the hour fixed Prosecuting Attorney Johnson, Deputy Sheriff Ward, the three accused men and two or three Canadian officials were present. Judge Parsons was prepared to conduct the proceedings. As the crime was committed in British Columbia, if a crime was committed at all, the prosecuting attorney and sheriff had no jurisdiction in the case, and offered to turn the prisoners over to the British Columbia officials, and they could have charge of the examination. These officers, who claim to have made a thorough investigation did not feel that sufficient evidence could be secured to convict any one of the crime, and declined to carry on an examination or go further into the matter at that time. Under the circumstances, all that the judge could do was to dismiss the case and discharge the prisoners.

Prosecutor Johnson stated that at no time did the county officers feel, considering the nature of the evidence that the case could be taken up and prosecuted in this county as the alleged crime was committed outside of the jurisdiction of the county and state. In the face of the findings of the coroner's jury the local officers could do nothing more nor less than hold the accused for the action of the Canadian officers. When the case was referred to those officers the responsibility of the county officers ended.

J. C. Martin is building a residence on his Lakeview orchard tract, east of town where he will make his home. Mr. Martin has lived on Palmer mountain almost since that eminence was first discovered, but the winters are too cold for him after the accumulation of years and so he decided to come down into the valley to make a home. He has a fine tract under the ditch and will make an attractive home of it in a very few years.

D. C. Heney of Portland, chief engineer in charge of the irrigation system on behalf of the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation district, was in town several days this week inspecting the system as it nears completion, and seeing that the contract is carried out in accordance with plans and specifications. Mr. Heney is considered one of the best authorities on irrigation construction in the west, and aside from his exalted professional standing is personally a charmingly affable gentleman to meet.

J. V. Richards of Spokane, practical and experienced mining engineer, arrived here Monday evening and spent some days investigating and examining mining properties in this vicinity. Mr. Richards is not only thorough and capable in his profession but a young man who can be depended upon to give an honest decision in matters of this kind submitted to his judgment. If a property he examines, no matter where located, possesses merit he will so report, otherwise, otherwise. We trust he will find merit in the claims he has been employed to pass upon, as a favorable report would be followed by extensive development.

It is just possible that Otto Case may elect to become a permanent resident of Oroville. He is considering that step, and should he make a favorable decision this community would be fortunate. Mr. Case has for years been a prominent citizen of Seattle, and when a man reaches prominence in a city the size of Seattle, where naturally many bright men collect, there is something to him far beyond the ordinary in ability, resourcefulness and forcefulness. Mr. Case has held high office in King county, and has been secretary of one of the largest commercial organizations of the west, and is so popular that he could be elected to almost any office to which he might aspire. He has even been very favorably mentioned as available timber for governor.

Considerable interest is being manifested in mining property, or the mineral conditions of this neighborhood judging from the frequent visits from mining experts and engineers, lately. Several well known mining men have been in Oroville during the past few weeks, and from here made excursions out into the surrounding country to look at mining claims. Some of our residents have also recently taken an interest in mines. C. W. Smith, assayer and chemist, has been actively engaged this spring and most of the winter looking up various deposits in the surrounding country that showed evidence of merit. Out of all this activity we may expect some good results, and should those results end in a producing mine, or chemical works, there will be a great influx of both capital and population.

A GREAT WORK.

Traveling up and down the valleys of the Similkameen and Okanogan, within the lines of the West Okanogan Valley Irrigation system, one is struck with the magnitude and excellency of the work that has been performed. Not only is that impression created by the stability and thoroughness of construction itself, the surmounting of topographical difficulties, especially where the flume is carried for long distances along the face of perpendicular cliffs, but to that more important feature, the engineering feat that carried the ramification of ditches and flumes so many miles, over so many inequalities of surface, and yet with such perfect alignment and such exact calculation as to elevation that the water flows with just such a regulated current as is required throughout the entire length of the system. To the uninitiated this is the marvelous aspect of this big irrigation system. Of course it requires engineering skill and familiarity with elevations to direct the husky labor of digging the ditches and building the flumes. That, however, is not what attracts the particular attention of the observer. That which astounds him is how with instrument and the mystery of figures the engineer carried his lines so accurately around sharp curves, over hills and draws, around the face of rocky cliffs where a fly can hardly find a foothold, where straight lines are few and far between and of only short distances at best for many miles, and yet when water is at last turned into the channels thus laid out there is not a variation sufficient to check the flow of water in the direction intended by those who laid out the course over which that water was to flow. It is wonderful, and reflects much credit upon the ability, skill and efficiency of the corps of engineers that laid out this irrigation system.

EXPLANATION.

Editor, Gazette—
In our report of the sale of the Similkameen power plant last week you state that Slyver & Enloe took over this property at the same figure offered by Messrs. Kipp & Taylor. As the statement published would leave room for suspicion that the bid from Milwaukee was not made in good faith, I wish to say that this bid was \$27,000.00 for a 54 per cent interest in the plant, on a basis of \$50,000.00 for the entire property, leaving the other 46 per cent representing \$23,000.00, free and clear to the Haggerty estate for its interest. This \$27,000.00 was paid in cash two days before the final order of the court on June 3rd, at which time Slyver & Enloe appeared and raised their former bid to \$51,000.00, or \$1,000.00 more than the Kipp & Taylor bid.

L. L. WORK,
President Similkameen Power Co.

GOOD ROADS REPORT.

The county association stands for better roads in Okanogan county. We work for efficiency and economy in road building. We believe that every section of our county is entitled to good, passable roads and that these roads should then be made better.

We work with county and state officials in the betterment of the roads of the county and state. The association is strongly organized, every road club having ten or more members is entitled to a trustee. The trustees will meet sometime before the next county road levies are made and every association should be represented through its trustee. Local associations are paying in their dues. No pay goes to any officer but funds are needed for the convention expenses. A united effort will bring good results.

Treasurer's Report.

Rec. Bal. from Cecy. Culver	\$ 9.26
Rec. membership fees at county convention	29.00
Individual membership, paid since	2.00
From F. D. Culver, collections membership from R. W. Hunter, Brewster	16.00
H. W. Champneys, Sec'y. Loomis	10.00
G. R. Assn.	14.00
W. R. Moore, Wauconda G. R. Assn.	8.00
Mrs. Wm. Briley, Sec'y. Wanicut-Golden G. R. Assn.	6.50
F. E. Hixson, Sec'y. Palmer Mt. G. R. Assn.	5.50
Ben. Longbottom, Sec'y. Huntley Unit Okanogan Co. G. R. Assn.	5.50
Total	\$100.26

Copies of the new by-laws of the County Association have been printed and are ready for distribution to local clubs and associations.

Yours for better roads

E. RISTE, Sec'y.-Treas.

RETURNED AFTER MAN DAYS.

Mr. and Mrs. John Isenhart, of Wenatchee, came up to the celebration last week and remained over several

days visiting with friends. It was the first time in fifteen years that the Isenharts have been in Oroville, and it is hardly necessary to add that they were surprised at the many changes that have taken place here within that period. Mr. Isenhart lived in the old village of Oro at one time and was connected with the Washington Commercial company, a mercantile corporation that in the heyday of its existence had branches in Oro, Loomis, Riverside and Conconully. At that time the store was located in the far south end of the present town, where a stone cellar is the last remnant of that once flourishing establishment. It was a nucleus around which several buildings were scattered. Once upon a time, some fifteen years ago, Mr. Isenhart went to Conconully, from there to Chelan, and a few years ago located in Wenatchee, where he is at the head of a large furniture store. The few old timers living here when the Isenharts were a portion of the population were delighted to meet them again. It is hoped that they will not wait another fifteen years before visiting Oroville again, or there will be a lot of us ancients who will not be on earth to greet them.

R. L. Phillips of Chelan was circulating about town this week. Mr. Phillips resided in Oroville a number of years ago, and like all those who have been away from the town any length of time expresses surprise at the improvements that have taken place within a comparatively short period. Now that he is here, Mr. Phillips may decide to remain permanently.

The Russians have suddenly come to life again on the eastern front, and are driving the Austrians back on the run. According to the latest returns the Russians have captured 118,000 Austrians and an enormous quantity of munitions of war. On the western front the fighting continues as fierce and bitter as at any time since hostilities commenced, with thousands of lives paid for every foot of ground won. There seems to be no hope of an early peace at this price.

Marshal Wilson wishes to notify dog owners that he now has tags for distribution. If you have a dog and are interested in his future health and welfare you will at once put in an application for a tag. The ordinance relating to dogs is drastic. It requires that every dog shall wear a collar and a tag. After the first of July the dog without those decorations is liable to sudden death. The marshal has no choice. He is instructed to shut such dogs as fall to exhibit the collar and tag. Better comply with the law than mourn for the pup.

Geo. J. Hurley was over from Loomis Monday. Mr. Hurley reports that he has had a number of letters from people considering investments in land in this part of the county under the irrigation systems, but that they have postponed coming until the Colville reservation is thrown open, when they can kill two birds with one stone, so to speak. They will be able to take a chance in the drawing and on the same trip have an opportunity to look over the country for investments. There is no doubt but that many who fall to draw prizes on the reservation will extend their investigations and if they really wish to locate in the country will not fail to secure irrigated lands.

C. M. Fassett, head of the commission that has the regulating of the affairs of the city of Spokane, was among the visitors here during the big celebration, and in his speech during the dedicatory exercises stated that he came through this part of the valley on horseback 20 years ago. He expressed surprise at the changes that have taken place in the town and valley, for at the time of his visit a score of years ago there were hardly a sufficient number of houses in existence to designate as a cross roads hamlet. Mr. Fassett predicted that within a comparatively brief period still greater changes would take place here than have marked the passage of the past 20 years.

There is something more than an empty name about the Good Roads Association at Loomis. That organization was organized to look out for roads in that neighborhood and see that they are kept in good condition. When the road supervisor has money to spend he interviews the members of the association and secures their advice as to where to spend the cash to the best advantage. If a member of the association discovers rocks in the road the nearest rancher is requested to remove the same and send in his bill to the road supervisor. By this eternal vigilance the roads leading into and out of Loomis are kept up, and it is an example that other good roads associations could follow to advantage.

TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The Sunday school will meet every Sunday morning at 10 a. m. All are cordially invited. Next service will be Sunday morning June 23 at 11 a. m. The Rev. John Leacher will conduct the service.

Rev. G. H. Severance,
Vicar.

M. E. CHURCH SERVICES.

Sunday school at 10 a. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. Sermon by the pastor. Epworth League at 7 p. m. Preaching service at 8 p. m. Sermon by the pastor. Everybody welcome; everybody invited; everybody come. The home-like church and the stranger's friend.

W. W. STRITE, Pastor.

STRAWBERRIES AND ICE CREAM.

The ladies of Trinity Guild will serve strawberries, ice cream and cake on the lawn of the Civic League park next Thursday evening, June 22. Everybody invited to attend.

Trinity Guild will meet with Mrs. Geo. Whistler Wednesday afternoon, June 22. Ben Prince returned to Oroville last Thursday evening from a visit to Spokane.

Miss Maude Keeler has gone to Spokane to have her eyes treated and will be absent about ten days.

Summer hit the valley this week good and hot, and in consequence the swimming hole has become a popular resort.

Mrs. C. L. Clendennon and children are down from Oroville visiting Mrs. Clendennon's sister, Mrs. Frank Putnam—Tonasket Times.

It is reported that Mrs. Pierce, mother of Tom Pierce and Mrs. J. M. Richmond, of Loomis, is very seriously ill at the home of her daughter at that place.

Miss Louise Studley left Saturday for Seattle where she will visit with Mrs. Harry Evans, formerly Miss Mildred Mills of this place.

Mrs. F. V. Covert was a passenger for Everett Wednesday morning, where she goes as a delegate from the local lodge to the session of the grand lodge of the Eastern Star.

Ferry Blackler, who attended the University of Washington during a portion of the winter, returned to his home last Friday evening. He expects to go back to the University next winter.

Tuesday afternoon two young men hammered each other on Main street to make an Oroville holiday until Deputy Sheriff Burden put an end to the proceedings. The young men were fined by Judge Ferguson for their exhibition of savagery.

J. A. Spencer, of the Cozy Corner ranch has the thanks of this office for a liberal supply of the delicious strawberries the Cozy Corner is noted for. It was a pleasure to see Mr. Spencer out again, although wobbly, after his long and serious siege of illness.

While crossing the river at the power house Wednesday on his way to work on the ditch, Lawrence Dallam struck his right arm against a sharp butcher knife that a companion was carrying, cutting a deep gash near the elbow. Dr. Rhenwinkle sewed up the cut, and the young man is on the idle list for a week or ten days.

The first mention of the Oroville dedicatory celebration, from its first inception to the present time, was in the last issue of that paper, when it generously and profusely expressed appreciation for the appearance in that town on the date of the Tonasket celebration of several hundred citizens of this place.

The Okanogan Independent states that J. H. Hughes, late county agriculturalist of this county, was recently examined by physicians at Portland who pronounced him afflicted with cancer of the stomach. Mr. Hughes has given up his Colorado position and will go east to be operated on. This alarming news will be read with sincere regret by all who are acquainted with the gentleman.

W. Leonard Davis, who made an enviable record during the past two years as instructor in the high school, through whose efforts the athletic features of the school were brought up to such a high state of efficiency, has decided not to teach again next year. He will hold a position with the Union Title and Trust company, and will make as great a success in the business office as he has in the school room.

Last week Geo. Bartell sold a Studebaker car to Riley Hulbert, of Tonasket. Now what do you think of that? Riley Hulbert, that old time cow man, manipulating a car. Why, he'll be wondering all the time why the blamed thing don't buck, and through a habit of a lifetime will involuntarily attempt to apply the spurs. The glory of the Okanogan is departing before the introduction of new fangled ideas. In another year or two the cow boy will be riding the range in an auto.

Oroville turned out en masse last Thursday to the Tonasket celebration, showing that up this way a most friendly feeling prevails towards our neighboring town. One hundred and twenty five tickets were sold for Tonasket at this station Thursday morning, and every automobile in town went down loaded to the guards. Oroville people very materially swelled the immense crowd that was present at Tonasket on the day of its celebration and this place had the appearance of being deserted.

The business of the local telephone system, both immediately in town and long distance, is growing almost with leaps and bounds. Only a short time ago one person could answer all calls and then enjoy long intervals of repose. That was before the public had become educated up to the use of the telephone for the transaction of business, or means of social calls. Now it is different. It requires relays to keep tabs on the calls, and operators must freeze close to the stool and be nimble with the plugs in order to meet the demands of the impatient patrons. If business continues to increase it will not be long until the switchboard will have to be enlarged and a flock of operators employed to meet the demands of the public for service.