

# THE COLFAX GAZETTE.

THIRTY-FIRST YEAR.

COLFAX, WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1907.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## BANKERS' CONVENTION

Some of the Things Discussed at Spokane Sunday.

Financial Situation is as Satisfactory as Could Possibly Be Expected at This Time.

The bankers of the Inland Empire, to the number of 161, met in convention in Spokane on the 10th to discuss the banking situation. In looking over the proceedings as published in the daily press the atmosphere seems to have been cleared considerably by their assembling together. For instance, this extract from an interview with E. P. Coman, until recently a resident of Colfax, throws a ray of light on the subject:

"The banking situation throughout the Inland Empire was thoroughly discussed for more than two hours in the general assembly. The visiting bankers then unanimously decided to appoint a committee composed of one member from each county and district in the Inland Empire to meet with the Spokane Clearing House association and determine what, if any, action should be taken. This committee and the Clearing House association gave the matter careful consideration and decided that the situation is as satisfactory as could possibly be expected and did not, at this time, call for any essential departure from existing banking methods.

"We find that the situation among the county bankers is very satisfactory, all of them having large amounts of loans secured by merchandise, wheat and lumber in transit. As soon as the currency situation is sufficiently relieved the worst of the difficulties will be over."

### Transportation Problem.

J. C. Lawrence, state railroad commissioner, said the railroad commission had tentatively taken up with the railroad companies the matter of having special diligence practiced in allowing cars for wheat transportation, and that inquiries had been set on foot regarding the amount of ship tonnage available at tidewater for the same wheat. He suggested that the bankers lend their influence with the railroad companies to further the plan.

### Opposed to Fiat Currency.

J. K. McCormack placed himself and the other Whitman county bankers on record as being opposed to forming an organization and issuing fiat currency

of any kind. "We have recommended," he said, "that each member treat with the Spokane clearing house. The farmers would object to local currency, and may object to Spokane currency. We have also recommended that each member write to the railroad companies in regard to the movement of wheat and fruit. We have formed an organization for the purpose of relieving the situation, this organization being capable of meeting at any time with a day's notice."

### NO INTEREST IN ELECTION.

Registration is Smallest in the History of the City.

The city election to take place in Colfax soon has not created much of a stir. But one ticket has been placed in the field, and the registration, which closed on the 12th, is the smallest in the history of the city. The table given below illustrates this:

Wards.	1904.	1906.	1907.
1	223	216	58
2	278	224	69
3	165	156	49
Total	666	596	176

### Open Season Closes Today.

The open season for shooting prairie chickens closes today. It is hoped the law will be respected and that we shall not hear of birds being killed until the season opens again. From one of the greatest prairie chicken countries in the world the Palouse has become one of the poorest. Settlement of the country and too much killing is responsible for this. There are a few left, however, and they should be given a decent show to live and multiply.

### Marriage Licenses.

Marriage licenses have been issued by the county auditor to the following: Tolbert Cochran of Hay and Laura Babb of Colfax.

William H. Ragan and Hallie McMillen, both of Okesdale.

Robert Martin and Willie Maxwell, both of Colfax.

Ira C. McCurdy and Bessie L. Hagan, both of St. John.

### Kicked by a Horse.

Charles F. Crampton, a well-to-do farmer and pioneer of Whitman county, who moved to Spokane to spend the winter, was kicked on the knee by a horse one day last week and badly injured. We did not learn full particulars, but the injury was said to be serious, the knee pan being shattered.

Those who have used it the longest praise it the most—Cleveland Baking Powder.

New tally cards for fall and winter parties at the Elk Drug Store.

Read the Great Eastern's Thanksgiving linen talk on last page.

## GETS THE BIG APPLES

Miss Katherine Ridgeway Hogan Lets Boston See Them.

Box Sent From Colfax Put on Exhibition at Food Fair—Boston Herald Tells About It.

The box of apples sent to Miss Katherine Ridgeway Hogan at Boston the last of October has borne fruit. It was fruit of excellence and has borne fruit of the kind that will add to the renown and greatness of Whitman county. The idea was conceived by Charles N. Hinchliff and I. B. Harris. Box after box of the finest apples that ever bled a community were being hauled to town every day, why not to the noted entertainer at her home in Boston to show to the people of the far east what could be done in the way of raising apples in this comparatively new section of Uncle Sam's domains? It seemed to be an inspiration! Each fruit raiser, when told of the plan, enthused and asked permission to contribute of his best to help fill the box. Possibly of the total number of apples which filled the box no one raiser gave more than two or three, it being the purpose to have the contribution as general as possible. Mr. Hinchliff saw to the selection and packing of the box, and with the sanction of the Colfax Commercial Club shipped it to Boston as coming from the club.

Last Sunday morning the Boston Herald of November 3 was received in Colfax, and with it a half column of reading matter telling of the receipt of the box of apples, besides two pictures, one a two column picture of Miss Hogan, the other a three column cut of six apples, a watch in the center with the hands on the dial pointing between the figures 2 and 3, meaning that the six apples weigh 2½ pounds each. It is an attractive feature of the great paper. The headlines, in big letters, read as follows:

"Miss Ridgeway gets big apples. Boston woman remembered by old friends in town of Colfax, Wash. Send her bouncing beauties from trees. She owns ranch there and plans to some day return to life in the open."

Then follows the reading matter, which will be of interest, and which we give in full. Probably no simple act will do more to let Whitman county be known abroad as a great apple country than this—an act which carries with it as well the best wishes of all for a gifted daughter who spent her girlhood days here and looks upon this as her future home. This is what the Herald has to say:

### Remarks of Boston Herald.

A sample of what they can do in the line of apples in Whitman county, Washington, a group of apples that weigh from two to two and a half pounds apiece, and measure six inches in diameter and 16 and 17 inches in circumference, was on exhibition at the Food fair.

They belong to Miss Katherine Ridgeway of this city and are a tribute sent her from the chamber of commerce in her old home town of Colfax, Whitman county, Wash.

Miss Ridgeway is herself a ranch owner in Whitman county, and some day she will return to her old western home and begin to raise big apples and peaches and things. In the meantime her old friends keep her supplied with the editions de luxe that are called fruit in Whitman county.

Miss Ridgeway is a personage in Colfax. The Katherine Ridgeway Theatre adorns the main street of the town. Each year the chamber of commerce and private individuals as well send "tributes of fruit," and hearty invitations to her to come back to "God's country." Apples, peaches and fruit of all kinds of enormous size form curiosities in the East, but they are the normal every day crop in Colfax.

Miss Ridgeway, who is a tall brunette of striking beauty and vivacity, was born in Atlanta, Ga., but early in her girlhood moved to Washington. Then Colfax had just been founded. Its rapid growth has made it today one of the leading communities of Washington.

She grew up there on a ranch which is now her own. In spite of her education at Spokane College and the Boston College of Oratory and her 12 years in the lyceum field, there is still a fascination for her of the times when she was breaking in wild cayuses and swinging lariats at grazing steers.

"I'll return to Colfax," she says, "when I have attained my ideal of being able to set forth to my audiences the best in literature and making people link the imagination and the reality."

"When the chamber of commerce of Colfax sends me apples like these—some years they send peaches, some years even onions—I have a strong yearning to leave the lyceum field for my ranch."

"I certainly should advise any one starting out in life to go to Washington.

It is roomy, prosperous and booming. The people there are a hearty, cheerful sort. If one wants to enter agriculture, the soil there needs no fertilizing and no irrigation. If one would enter a profession, there is no wider field anywhere. See what the people there are when they send mementoes like these apples to one whom they know."

### Miss Hogan Writes Mr. Scott.

A. M. Scott, president of the Colfax Commercial Club, received a letter from Miss Hogan last Monday, thanking him and her friends here for their remembrance in sending the box of apples, which we reproduce in full and which will be read with interest. It will be seen she lost no time in letting them be seen by the people of "The Club," and that apples of the size and quality sent which we look upon as an every day sight, created quite a furor there. Here is Miss Hogan's letter of acknowledgment:

Hotel Westland, Boston, Mass., Nov. 4, 1907. To the Chamber of Commerce, Colfax.

Gentlemen and Esteemed Friends: For your courtesy and kindness in sending me "a box from home" of the most beautiful apples I have ever seen, mere thanks seem inadequate to express to you my real delight. They arrived in perfect condition and were so wonderfully beautiful that I wanted all Boston to see them, so I took two or three down and showed them to the managers of the Boston Food Fair, being held in Mechanics' building, and told them I would like to exhibit them at their fair. Both Mr. Greene and Mr. Rowe said they would be delighted to have me do so, and said I might have my choice as to place in the entire building, and you can rest assured I chose the most conspicuous. I immediately secured a glass showcase and had a card printed stating they were "Apples grown in Whitman County, Washington State," and most of the past week I stayed down there and tried to answer as best I could the thousands of questions by those who stopped to admire and wonder. One day the attendance was 60,000, and it seemed to me that every man, woman and child of that entire number asked me a question. And it was a pleasure, indeed, to tell them what I knew of our splendid state of Washington. I had a man stand by them and explain and answer questions when I couldn't be there. The following are samples:

"Are they wax?" (A thousand times.)

"How do they taste?"

"Are they for sale?"

"Are they natural?"

"How large are the trees they grow on?"

"Are they make-believe?"

"How do you blow them up?"

"You can't fool me; they aren't real."

"Makes a man think there's something the matter with him when he looks at these."

One elderly gentleman who had stood by and listened to me while I was talking about them stepped up and said: "If you take such pride in exhibiting and talking about their beauty, how do you suppose the trees that bore them would feel could they speak?"

The fair closed Saturday night and the management expressed to me their thanks for my having given the public the opportunity to see such rare fruit. Many people wanted to buy them and offered from \$1 to \$5 for an apple. They are now on exhibition at Horticultural Hall, where the elite of Boston go, and where the choicest of the New England states is shown, and nothing there can compare with them in any degree.

My only regret is that I know so little of the history of apple raising in our state, and as a favor I ask you to send me any literature that will give me full information, for I have resolved to know more about apple growing, their preparation for the market, price, etc. If it had been grain I would have known more about it.

Please express my sincere thanks to those who so kindly contributed to "the box from home." Could they have stood for an hour beside the case and heard the exclamations of wonder and admiration they would truly feel repaid for each one who gave the apples could have been to them.

I am ever proud of my state and her good people.

Sincerely and gratefully yours,  
KATE HOGAN.

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## REPORT OF GRAND JURY

Concluding Portion Treats on Various Subjects.

Good Roads, Bridges and Culverts Receive Attention--Recommend Sub-Dividing Road Districts.

Last week The Gazette printed that portion of the grand jury report relating to the public prosecutor's office, which indicated that office from any aspirations that may have been placed against it. This week the concluding portion of the report is given, which treats on various subjects of interest to tax payers. It reads as follows:

From our general investigation we find that Sunday closing laws are enforced in varying degrees, or not at all, in different towns of the county. This we regard as a very unfortunate state of affairs. We find that in some towns a very open and liberal policy will obtain for months, and even years, when suddenly some active individual or organization will inaugurate a crusade against Sunday opening of any business in such town, and by procuring a few warrants of arrest from some justice of the peace will succeed, without the agency of either the county or municipal authorities, in putting the town on the other extreme of law enforcement, while, perhaps, a great majority of the people want neither extreme. So it happens that the people are living under neither general and uniform laws, nor have they local option; but seem rather to be ruled on this subject by the accident of spite, zeal or whim. We think the law and its enforcement should be uniform throughout the county, at least. The chief fault for this condition, we believe, is to be found in the law itself. We believe that strict enforcement of the Sunday closing law is not today applied to five per cent of the population of the state. Why not? Evidently the people don't want it. Then, we think the legislature should have the moral courage to overhaul our so-called laws in aid of morality, and eliminate the radical parts which make it a crime to do things that in themselves are harmless, and actually discommode and inconvenience the community, and needlessly curtail and hamper the personal liberty of action of a large percentage of the people. We believe that such a modification of these laws would please the great majority of people, and that a wholesome public sentiment would then demand the enforcement of our Sunday laws, as well as other statutes. We think that but few will deny that a law that is not enforced against or obeyed by half of the people of the state should be repealed. It is certainly no aid to the morals of a community to become accustomed to the constant violation of law. We find that our county authorities have no definite policy of enforcement of these laws throughout the county, and the disposition has rather prevailed to leave such matters to the option of the municipal authorities.

We recommend increased activity on the part of our prosecuting attorney and sheriff in enforcing the saloons of the county to conduct their business within the bounds of law, both as to keeping closed on Sunday and selling liquor to minors; and further recommend the suppression of all nickel-in-the-slot machines inhibited by law.

The grand jury has gathered considerable information concerning the condition of county roads throughout the county, and has secured a report from nearly all of the mail carriers in Whitman county on the condition of the

roads traveled by them. We have done this with the view of learning the workings of the new road law, and to endeavor to provide, if possible, a better understanding amongst the people of the county with reference to road matters, and, if possible, improve the conditions in that respect.

We find that the roads of the county are not at this time in good condition, many bridges and culverts needing repairs, and the general impression of the people of the county, we believe, is that the road work under the new law has not been satisfactory nor given as good results so far as the old law did. The great complaint seems to be that portions of the roads are entirely overlooked or neglected by the supervisors. We have consulted with the board of county commissioners in this matter and fully acknowledge the many difficulties in their way, and can only recommend that they make increased effort to bring about better results through their supervisors and their helpers.

We believe that the plan followed now, to some extent, of subdividing the districts into rather smaller sub-districts, and the appointment of sub-supervisors in these, thus bringing us nearer to the old system, and giving the sub-supervisors or helpers smaller territory to cover, is a move in the right direction and tends to bring the responsibility of keeping up road repairs closer to the people.

The chief complaint seems to be the neglect of many small culverts and bad places in the roads, which it would seem require but little work to put in fair condition; but, of course, these in the aggregate call for much labor, but their importance demands attention, and we urge the best efforts of all having this matter of county administration under their charge to use their best energy and efforts to remedy the situation.

We have examined the offices of the various county officials and have written reports from them, which are herewith submitted to your honor. Some of such officers we find would like to have some little additions to furniture; some would like to have a little more room and vault convenience, but we think they are getting along very well, and believe that the board of county commissioners are disposed to make necessary provision for the requirements of all the county officers.

We deem it not out of place to say that our county offices are filled by capable, trustworthy and industrious officials. Their system of handling the business of their various offices seems to be good, and the work handled with ability, neatness and dispatch.

The matter of removing the jail into a separate building to be constructed has been discussed before the grand jury, but we have no recommendation to make concerning the matter, further than to direct the attention of the county commissioners to the subject, to take such action as they deem for the best interests of the county.

The question of the usefulness of the grand jury has been discussed by us, and it might not be amiss to give an expression of our views on this subject, too. We think the grand jury system is entirely too expensive to be used generally as the channel for the institution of criminal prosecutions; nor do we think the system of criminal prosecutions as now practiced and conducted through the offices of the county attorneys, has at all failed to meet ordinary requirements, yet it is our opinion that all need of a grand jury has not entirely passed out of our system of government yet. The fact that an accusing power, reaching all officials as well as private citizens, has lodged in the hands of the people themselves, undoubtedly, if called into use occasionally, must have a wholesome restraining and deterring influence in all quarters. We therefore believe that the occasional convening of a grand jury ought to be beneficial.

Our labors having been concluded, we respectfully ask that we be discharged.

W. K. SOUTHWARD, Foreman.

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