

THE DELTA INDEPENDENT.

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GOOD DESCRIPTION OF FRUITLAND MESA

Fertile Tract of New Land That is
Being Reclaimed in Eastern
Part of County.

(By E. E. Hammond.)

Not many of the INDEPENDENT readers know that in the North Fork country there is yet a tract of land—beautifully smooth fruit land, eight miles long and two miles wide, containing sixteen sections or more than 10,000 acres of rich, red, virgin soil.

Such is Fruitland Mesa, eight miles south of Hotchkiss and four miles south and west of the thriving little town of Crawford which is the postoffice and outfitting point for the few pioneers who are already here plucking the fruit of nature's lavish gifts.

To water this mesa, a canal twenty miles long has been built conveying water from Crystal Creek. This, with a reservoir to be built in Onion Valley impounding 20,000 acre feet of water gives an ample water supply at but little more than twenty dollars an acre.

The soil is a red, sandy loam underlain with a porous subsoil giving that combination so much sought after for fruit growing.

The altitude varies from 6,000 to 7,000 feet, the surface gently sloping to the north, looking down by enchanting vistas upon the valley scenes below, as the proud of her position and superior gifts from nature.

Altho the subjugation of these lands was begun but a little more than a year ago, there are now several hundred acres cleared of the natural growth of sage brush and cedars and planted to grain, orchard and alfalfa.

A more progressive class of farmers could hardly be found than the little band who are now settled upon Fruitland Mesa. The second steam engine has lately been put to work clearing and plowing the big smooth fields. The engine is especially useful in clearing, being able to pull out by the roots several hundred trees per day, or to draw three brush grubbers, the work of eighteen horses.

Fruitland Mesa is about three-fourths in Delta county and one-fourth in Montrose county; the reservoir site and most of the ditch, including one-half mile of tunnel being in the latter county. When this mesa is improved it will furnish homes for several hundred families and much additional wealth to each county. What we need now are more good, hustling people.

Delta County Apples \$7.00 a Box.

W. W. Lawler, who spent the winter in Delta but is now in the grocery business in Denver, was in that city's market one morning a couple of weeks ago when he got his eye on a box of Delta county apples, Winter Bananas, from the orchard of Mr. Coburn of Paonia. Mr. Lawler bid \$5.00 for the box, thinking he was sure to get them, but was informed that they were already sold for \$7.00. Mr. Lawler figured that in order to come out the purchaser would necessarily be compelled to retail at 15c each. This must be a record price for Delta county apples on the Denver market.

Fruit, Lots of It.

On the 4th the editor and his wife and Mr. and Mrs. Fleetwood stopped at the hospitable home of Dr. and Mrs. A. E. Miller near Cory to see the fruit we had learned was in their orchard. It didn't seem possible that there could be much and we thought the Doctor might be excited over just a little this year. Imagine our surprise to find 600 Rome Beauty trees loaded with fine apples, a big measure full crop, which actually necessitates thinning. The apples are evenly distributed on the trees and are a sight to behold. Six hundred Gano trees are not quite so full but nearly so and these also can be truthfully stated as a full crop. We figured a little on the crop the Doctor will have, selling at \$3.00 per box (and they won't bring less) but decided not to publish these figures now. People wouldn't believe it, so—what's the use. You can bet your life, however, there is a fortune in the Miller orchard this year if nothing happens.

Another interesting incident of our visit was the privilege of eating Johnathan and White Winter Pearmain apples which had kept well and retained their flavor in the Doctor's cellar since picking time last year.

Strawberries a Profitable Crop.

J. P. Kernohan will have picked, when the season is fully completed, 250 cases of strawberries from one acre. The average price received per case is \$3.00, making a gross income of \$750.00. He figures expense for picking, boxes and marketing at 75c per case, which on the 250 cases would amount to \$187.50. Deducting this amount from the gross income leaves \$562.50 net profit from one acre of ground.

The INDEPENDENT has no figures from other North Delta growers, but many have no doubt done equally as well. There was a strong demand this year and the supply was not sufficient to fill all orders.

When it comes to making well on to \$600 profit from an acre of ground it is enough to cause most anyone to sit up and take notice. Call attention of your eastern friends to this and see what they think about it.

Commissioner's Adjourn.

The county commissioner's adjourned Wednesday after a busy ten days' session. Much business was transacted and the full proceedings will probably be published in the INDEPENDENT next week.

A matter of importance decided on at this session was to establish a hot water heating plant in the court house. Bids will be advertised for at once and the plant installed before cold weather.

Base Ball Here Sunday.

Sunday, July 13, is to be base ball day in Delta. Ouray is coming down to play Delta a return engagement and their team will be accompanied by a trainload of rooters and visitors, also the Ouray band. The game is to be called at 2:30 p. m. at the fair grounds and a record crowd will undoubtedly be present to witness the contest. Ouray is playing good ball, having defeated Montrose and other strong teams recently. Everybody invited. Usual prices.

PEOPLE ENJOYED THE CIRCUS.

Sells-Floto Show Draws Big Crowd.
Performance and Menagerie
Please All.

Delta had what some claim was the largest crowd in its history last Tuesday, when the Sells-Floto shows were here to give two performances and exhibit a fine menagerie. The Denver Times had heralded the show as a snide and connected it with a lot of grafters and thieves, but after reading this in the Times people were convinced that the show was all right and it turned out that way.

Early in the morning the town commenced to fill up with people, many of whom came from long distances to give their children the first opportunity of their lives to see a real circus. It was the first circus of anything like "big show" proportions to visit Delta, owing to the fact that the town has always been on the narrow gauge line and therefore impossible for a big show to get in here. Many Delta county children saw their first elephant last Tuesday and all other animals that go with a regular menagerie. It was a jolly time for the little people and they enjoyed everything from the parade to the performance. But little folks were not alone in their pleasure for papas and mamas and grandpas and grandmothers were having a good time too.

Just at the close of the afternoon performance a windstorm came up and blew down the menagerie tent and the horse tent. Fortunately no one was injured and there was no damage. The crowd started to rush out of the big tent, but were easily quieted and thus what might have been a panic with attendant consequences was averted.

The afternoon crowd completely filled the big tent, from 3,000 to 3,500 people being present. The night audience was not so large but not less than 5,000 witnessed the two performances.

There were no fakirs or thieves, and slanderers of the show proved to be liars of the big L. brand.

Mr. J. E. Hennessy, the gentlemanly press agent, who takes a great interest in the welfare and pleasure of everybody attending the show, told the Independent they were more than pleased with the patronage and treatment received in Delta and that the show would visit here again next year. For the benefit of Mr. Hennessy we can say the Sells-Floto circus is assured of a monster crowd every time it returns to Delta if the same quality of performance is given, and brand of conduct exhibited as was the case this year.

8 YEAR OLD BOY BURNED TO DEATH.

Pouring Coal Oil on Live Fire Causes Explosion Resulting in Fatal Burns to the Lad and Total Destruction to Home and Contents.
Boy's Mother Seriously Burned.

A terrible accident happened at the home of Oliver Trammell, on the Hutchison ranch five miles down the river, about two o'clock Monday afternoon, July 8, when Alvis, 8 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Trammell was burned to death. The house and entire contents was destroyed and Mrs. Trammell badly burned about the hands and arms while trying to save the life of her son. The accident was due to the explosion of a coal oil can in the hands of the boy while he was pouring oil on the dying embers of a cook stove fire.

The mother was preparing to do some baking and told her son to kindle a fire in the cook stove. He first used shavings for the purpose, which did not burn well, and then picked up the oil can and poured oil in the stove, which act was not noticed by the mother. The explosion threw burning oil all over the boy and the room. Instantly the house was ablaze. Mrs. Trammell managed to get her son out of the building, at the same time taking care of her two year old baby. She rolled the boy on the grass and finally tore the clothing from his body in her efforts to subdue the flames. But it was all in vain as the little fellow died soon after the doctor arrived and had completed dressing his burned body.

Mr. Hutchison's daughter rushed to the rescue and succeeded in saving a few of the household effects, but the

building and nearly everything of the Trammell family possessed was destroyed. Charley Blumberg, who lives in the neighborhood, rendered every assistance he could as soon as he reached the scene of conflagration and suffering.

Mrs. Trammell burned her hands and arms severely in trying to save her son's life. The entire family are now at the home of Arthur Barger in Delta, who is a brother of Mrs. Trammell, where it will be necessary for them to remain until Mrs. Trammell is sufficiently recovered to again assume her household and family duties.

Funeral services of the son, Alvis, were held Tuesday and the body interred in the Delta cemetery.

The Trammell family consisted of the husband, wife and four children. They came from Illinois last February. The fire destroyed practically everything they possessed in household goods and clothing and any assistance the people of Delta can render in supplying clothing or furniture will be gratefully received. Such articles can be left at Mrs. Robinson's store. Those able to render financial aid have a worthy cause in this case. The children now living are a boy 11 years old, a boy six years old and the two year old baby.

Mr. Trammell is compelled to leave his work while caring for his suffering wife and helpless children.

O. C. Skinner and associates have bought the old ice plant at Grand Junction and will move it to Montrose. It is 20 tons capacity and when new cost \$14,000.

S. M. Hirsch, manager for the Colorado Telephone Co. at Paonia, was in town yesterday as a guest of W. E. Fleetwood, who is the company's agreeable manager in Delta.

Supt. Luke of the D. & R. G. was in Delta yesterday, having been up the North Fork Wednesday. He is out on a trip of inspection and went on to Grand Junction yesterday evening.

Manager Fleetwood of the Colorado Telephone Co., accompanied by the Burgin Bros., went to Grand Lakes last Sunday to connect up their line and establish the Colorado's service for the season. They returned Monday night.

Mrs. L. M. and Miss Helen Peck came to Delta yesterday from Canisteo, N. Y., to be guests of their son and brother, Mr. Frank Peck, for a few weeks, after which they will proceed to the state of Washington.

T. K. Seaton and family and Dr. Burgess and family left for Sapinero yesterday and from there they go to Soap Creek where they will go into camp for a two week's fish. They were dressed and equipped for the business they expect to follow, kids and all.

Presbyterian ladies had a large crowd out to their lawn social at the home of Mrs. Penley last evening. A special effort was made to introduce strangers, many of whom were present. Wance brothers, Bertha Mundry and Nellie Nutter rendered excellent music.

Mrs. M. A. Smith, who came from Iowa with her daughter last spring, departed Wednesday afternoon for Seattle, Wash. to visit a son. At the conclusion of her stay there she will return to Davis county, Iowa. The daughter went back several weeks ago.

E. P. Gibbs arrived from Lowell, Mass., Wednesday afternoon to visit his brother, Dr. H. K. Gibbs, who was so seriously injured last week. Mr. Gibbs is connected with machine shops at Lowell engaged in the manufacture of cotton machinery. He will probably be here a month.

Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Meyer have been guests at the D. P. Smith home several days this week before returning to their home on the Sanders ranch near Olathe. They came back last Friday from a visit to the old home at Mound City, Mo. where they were present at the marriage of a near relative.

Deputy Sheriff Hammond got rid of Frank Jerrel, a crazy man picked up at the depot some time ago by sending him to Denver at the expense of the county. The fellow was sent away yesterday. A St. Louis brother is supposed to have made provision for him when he arrives in Denver.

Local and Personal.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Mather's baby is much better. The little one was very critically ill.

Judge Baxter came down from Paonia Wednesday to look after a case in county court.

M. D. Vincent has been down from Paonia nearly all week looking after legal business.

Mr. Harry Cole, a real estate man from Ames, Iowa, is visiting his cousin, Dr. C. A. Hadsell.

A. C. Botsford was down from the cattle country yesterday just to see how hot it is in Delta.

Fred King went up on Grand Mesa last Saturday where he has a position as water commissioner.

J. J. Hollingsworth came from Canon City yesterday and will spend a few days in Delta on business.

F. C. Helt's mother and nephew left for their home at Kansas City last Monday after a pleasant visit.

J. M. Mathew and family left for Iowa last Sunday to make their home. They will live at Delta in that state.

The assessed valuation of Delta county has increased \$200,000 since 1906. The exact total is \$2,921,912.

Paul Harvey and Lulu Turner patronized the county for a marriage license this week and were married Wednesday.

Judge and Mrs. Croxton returned from Iowa yesterday, both looking well and having enjoyed the visit with old friends immensely.

On the 5th inst. Drs. Hick and Sheldon operated on Mrs. Hillis Barger for appendicitis. The lady is making an excellent recovery.

Miss Alice Royce went to Eckert this morning to visit her sister, Mrs. Wenger, and next week she will go to Montrose to attend the Chautauqua.

Miss Norma Wolbert, daughter of H. H. Wolbert, came home from Kansas City Tuesday where she has been attending school for the past year.

A. E. Penley did not go to attend the Head Camp session W. O. W. at Seattle and his alternate, Mr. McBeth of Hotchkiss, will represent this district.

W. E. Steele and wife left on yesterday afternoon's train for Seattle, Wash. They will remain on the coast some time for the benefit of Mr. Steele's health.

Harry Faulkner says he is fixed now if all the boarding houses do shut up for hot weather. His mother, Mrs. Mary Owen, is here to spend the summer with him and they have taken the Kistler house for two months, or while Mrs. Kistler and the children are absent at their summer home in the mountains.

Scandal at Montrose.

Montrose, July 9.—A sensational divorce suit was filed in the district court here today by Isaac Tarkoff against his wife, alleging infidelity and naming J. A. Davison, a prominent druggist; Fred Hall, clerk in the First National bank, and C. A. Sweet, a contractor, as correspondents and describing in the complaint several others whose names are not mentioned. Mr. Tarkoff alleges that his wife had dressed and conducted herself in a manner to excite the passions of men and that she received company of men at their home during all hours of the night while he was absent. The couple have four children and they told their father about their mother receiving company. The children have been placed in a sanitarium for fear the mother might do them bodily injury on account of what they told their father.

Montrose people are much stirred up over the affair because of the prominence of all those involved. Mr. Tarkoff is one of the leading clothing merchants here and two years ago ran for congress on the Socialist ticket.

Late this afternoon Mrs. Tarkoff walked into her husband's store and refused to leave the place, saying that half the property belonged to her and it was not until threatened with arrest that she was persuaded to leave the place.

Girardet Criticizes Dairies.

Delta's James J. Girardet, deputy state dairy commissioner, has been visiting the dairies at Grand Junction, Glenwood Springs and Buena Vista. He tells the people of Grand Junction there is not a sanitary dairy in their city. The business is so cut up that no single dairy has business enough to warrant the installation of an expensive sanitary plant. He advises the city council of Grand Junction to pass an ordinance requiring that all milk bottles be steam sterilized and then placed in some secure place where flies and other insects cannot get at them. All milk cans should be cleaned with boiling water and similarly protected. It has been found that a large part of summer sickness among babies is due to infected milk cans and bottles. Mr. Girardet's suggestions to the Grand Junction council are no less important here in Delta.

THE MONTROSE CHAUTAUQUA

Begins July 19th and Continues to
the 28th. Excellent Program
Arranged.

A. J. Heskett, manager of the Montrose Chautauqua which begins at Montrose July 19 and continues to and including July 28, was in Delta Tuesday distributing programs and putting up bills advertising the event. A careful perusal of the program will convince any one that each day of the Chautauqua will be a good day and disappointment will be practically impossible.

SPECIAL DAYS

On the 20th will be "Missouri Day" when Champ Clark, the famous Missouri congressman, will be the principal attraction. "Iowa Day," the 25th, will be another special date when Gov. Cummins of that state will speak. The management expects to run a special train from Grand Junction on both of these days. J. Adam Bede, noted humorist of the national house of congress, will give his famous funny lecture, "Civilization, Its Cause and Cure," on the 27th.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

Among the attractions of special note is the Hungarian Orchestra which will be in attendance several days and render special programs. The Euphonium Glee Club is another high class musical organization that is sure to please and be highly appreciated. Dr. Frank L. Loveland will deliver several lectures as will also Dr. Frederick E. Hopkins of Chicago. Both of these men have national reputations and the opportunity to hear them is exceptional.

No mere resume of the program will do justice to the fine array of talent. Delta people will find an intellectual treat for them at the Montrose Chautauqua and the small expense necessary to attend is nothing compared with the pleasure and benefit to be derived. Tickets for the entire session can be had for \$2.50, which is but 25c per day; on sale at Seaton's Drug store. Board or camping accommodations can be secured by addressing the manager, Mr. A. J. Heskett, at Montrose.

DELTA CATTLE BRING TOP PRICE

With a Load of Our Hay Fed Prime
Stuff Tom Mostyn Gets a
Record Figure.

The following from the Kansas City Daily Drivers Telegram of recent date tells a brief but interesting story of how Delta county heads the list in hay fed cattle, the same as in everything else:

"T. A. Mostyn of the firm of Schwend & Mostyn, butchers of Ouray, Colo., had in a car of hayfed steers from Delta, Colo., today, weighing 1,385 lbs. that sold for \$5.90. This is the last end of 600 cattle that these gentlemen have fed on hay the past season and the only car that has come to the market as the balance were all slaughtered by them for their local trade. This is the top price for hayfed cattle for the year. These same parties had two loads of the same brand of cattle here last June that weighed 1,490 lbs. and sold for \$5.25. They have demonstrated the fact that steers can be finished in their section on alfalfa hay if properly handled; these cattle were in the feed lot about seven months.

Delta Firm's Denver Layout.

During the editor's recent trip to Denver he was the guest of that whole souled Deltan, N. H. Castle, on several automobile trips in the 20 h. p. Stanley steamer owned by the firm of Phippeny, Travis & Castle. Newt has become a proficient chauffeur and sends the car wherever he likes with the skill of an expert. We had the pleasure of a run out to the 30,000 acre tract of land which his firm is handling and which is located eight miles from the Denver postoffice. The promoters have what Mr. Castle says is an adequate water supply for all the land. The water comes from Cherry Creek and is reserved. Newt says if he did not know the water was there he would not be trying to sell the land. It is being sold off largely in small tracts for suburban homes. The land lays excellent and commands a splendid view of the mountain range for several hundred miles up and down the Eastern Slope. The soil is heavy and deep and will grow any kind of a crop.

As an investment we do not consider this proposition equal to many that can be secured in Delta county, but for those who wish to live near a city and have a nice home, or for the small fruit or vegetable grower, the proposition our Delta firm is handling could not be excelled and it will undoubtedly sell readily. The price with water is \$250 an acre.

Notice to Old Soldiers.

The old soldiers and their families who desire to attend the Grand Army Encampment to be held at Saratoga, New York, from Sept. 9th to 14th, will be charged one full fare for the round trip—that is one half of the regular fare of all roads on March 1st, 1907. Hotels will charge from \$1.50 to \$4.00 per day, and all restaurants 25 cents per meal during the seven days. By paying \$1.00 at Saratoga, visitors can have their return tickets extended for sixty or ninety days. All railroads will sell tickets so ample time will be given to reach Saratoga by Sept. 9th. For further information see R. J. Coffey.

Special Notice.

DELTA, COLO., July 10, 1907.
To the Editor of the INDEPENDENT.

Dear Sir:—Next Tuesday night (16th inst.) there will be a special meeting of the Business Mens' Association at the Court House. Several matters of importance will come before the meeting for consideration and discussion and a full attendance of members and the interested public is requested. First and foremost, will be the question of a county fair this fall, and this must be settled without delay. A committee from the Western Slope Veterans' Association will be present to ask our co-operation with them in making their annual reunion or encampment, in Delta, a success.

The alternative of a Street Fair or Carnival and Baseball Tournament in place of a County Fair will also be discussed, as well as other matters of equal interest and importance.

Let every business man and loyal citizen make it their special duty to attend. Next Tuesday night at 8 p. m. prompt!

Sincerely Yours,
PERCIVAL E. COOMBE, Sec'y.

21 meals at the Home Cafe \$4.00