

## Pioneers

### Okanogan Smith

It is reported that Okanogan Smith who last year represented Okanogan county in the state legislature has closed the sale of all his mineral claims in the Palmer mountain section, 14 miles from Loomiston, to a Tacoma and Seattle syndicate for \$300,000.

It is said the terms of sale bind the purchasers to locate a smelter with a capacity of 300 tons per diem on the Similkameen river this side of the boundary line--Yakima Herald, April 14, 1892.

Ed Judge George Turner of the Second district, Spokane Falls, is thirty-nine years old. He was born in Edina , Knox county, Missouri and is a lawyer. He has held the office of United States marshal for the Southern and Middle districts of Alabama and associate justice for Washington territory, the first by appointment from General Grant, the second from President Arthur. Judge Turner was a personal friend of both and largely consulted by the latter in Southern matters. He was chairman of the republican state committee in Alabama in 1876-80-84 and in the two latter years , member at large and chairman of the delegation. He was one of the 306 in the convention of 1880 for Grant. He came to Washington territory in July, 1884. Judge Turner was wrongly assailed by labor organizations as not in sympathy with that class in hi candidacy for the constitutional convention. He was likewise assailed by the Northern Pacific railroad as inimical to their interests, and also by the woman suffragists and prohibitionists, but was elected by 300 majority and by seventy-five votes more than his associates on the republican ticket. Judge Turner is not a crank on anything. He believes in giving every interest a fair Show-- Oregonian, Portland, July, 1889.

Seattle, Dec. 29-- More than 50 pioneers from Washington and Oregon were expected to attend a birthday party of Ezra Meeker of Seattle who was 94 years old today.

Mr. Meeker, accompanied by a bride, drove an ox team from Indianapolis, Ind. to Olympia Wash. in seven months in 1851-52, following the Oregon trail.

In October of this year Mr. Meeker returned via the same route in three days in an airplane piloted by O.G. Kelley--The Yakima Daily Republic, Dec. 29, 1924.

Meeker, John B.

Walla Walla, Dec. 28- John B. Meeker, 86 years old, brother of Ezra Meeker, marker of the Old Oregon Trail died on Monday in this city in the Odd Fellows home of which he had been an occupant during the past three years. Death was due to apoplexy.

Mr. Meeker had been a member of the Odd Fellows for 57 years, joining the order in 1853. He was a prominent member of this great fraternal order being not only a past grand master but also a past grand chief patriarch of the encampment of this state.

He was born in Butler county, Ohio, July 13, 1824 sailing around the Horn. Landing in Portland he secured a position as school teacher. Within a few months he moved to the Puget Sound region, settling in 1864 near Puyallup where he lived until he entered the Odd Fellows home here.

At Puyallup Mr. Meeker raised hops, carrying the roots from Olympia in a sack on his back. He was one of the first in the northwest to engage in this industry. He also bought and sold hops on an extensive scale.

He is survived by three daughters, Mrs. Mary Bean, Mrs. E.M. Dana and Mrs. M. Fernandez, all of whom live at Tacoma; by a son, Joseph Meeker of Sebastopol, Cal. and by an adopted daughter, Mrs. May Huntley of Independence, Ore. His brother, Ezra, a national figure, is in Indianapolis raising funds with which to erect monuments to mark the Old Oregon trail.

Local Odd Fellows had charge of the funeral services which were held yesterday. The body was shipped to Puyallup where it will be interred beside that of his wife - The Yakima Republic, Dec. 30, 1910.

President Roosevelt last week sent to congress the nomination of Sen. Edward Whitson to be United States judge for Eastern Washington.

Senator Ankeny called upon the president and last Wednesday recommended Edward Whitson for the judge. George H. Baker for marshal and Joseph Lindsay for attorney of the judicial court of eastern Washington. The entire Washington delegation joined in the endorsements.

George H. Baker for many years has been prominent in state legislation and has won a host of friends who are identified with every section of the northwest. He is an old and honored resident of Goldendale in Klickitat county and for a protracted period he conducted a successful mercantile business at that point. While of a quiet and unassuming personality he is amply qualified for duties as marshal.

Joseph B. Lindsay is an active practicing attorney at Spokane..

...The Yakima Herald, March 15, 1905.

## Stephen Judson

Tacoma, Oct. 20--The war horse of Pierce county, its first sheriff, representatige for years in the territorial and state legislature county trea urer for two years, for many years trustee on the board of audit and control of the Western State hospital; a Jeffersonian Democrat of sturdy ideals and a pioneer who came th this section drivin an ox team, Stephen Judson, 88, finished a life of usefulness and hard work last night. He died at his home in Steilacoom near Tacoma.

The Judson family came to the United States from Germany where Stephen was born seven years earlier and settled in Galena, Ill. The call of the great West was upon the pioneer father, Peter Judson. After nine years in the midwest he gathered his family together and started for the Oregon country.

They settled in a spot now occupied by the Union railway station near the present business center of Tacoma and cleared a few acres in the wilderness.

They were the only white residents for miles around and the Indians resented their coming. One night, having received a warning from a friendly Indian, the family hurriedly fled only a few hours before the Indians swooped down upon the place and burned their buildings to the ground.

They pushed on to Steilacoom, the first town to be established in the state and for 72 years Mr. Judson lived there--The Yakima Republic, Oct 20, 1925.

John Beard Allen, who on the 10th instant was chosen to represent the new and vigorous state of Washington in the United States senate, was born at Crawfordsville, Montgomery county, Indiana, May 18, 1842, and is therefore 45 years of age. He lived at or near his native town, educating himself as best he could, for the future which for him has been full of well earned honors, until the spring of 1861 when he answered the call of Abraham Lincoln for 75,000 men to assist in crushing the great rebellion. Although not yet 19 years old, he enlisted in the 138th Indiana Infantry and served in Tennessee and Alabama until mustered out.

In 1865 with his parents he became a resident of Rochester, Minnesota, where for a year he served as agent for a firm of grain men. Next he read law in the office of Judge Wilson of Rochester and soon entered the law school at Ann Arbor, Michigan.

In 1869 he became admitted to the bar; in 1870 he became a resident of Olympia, where he opened an office in the public reading room, of which he became custodian at the salary of \$15 per month.

At that time there was in all this broad territory no familiar face, no one with whom he could claim acquaintance; and yet, with no helping hand or friendly influence to assist, within 12 months his practice had grown to unprecedented dimensions for one so young and he was regarded as a lawyer of great promise and an orator of unusual force and ability, although but 25 years old.

In 1875 he was appointed United States attorney for Washington territory and in this position for over 10 years through the administration of Grant, Hayes and Arthur, served with that distinction so characteristic of theman.

In 1881 he made the city of Walla Walla his abiding place where he has

built up what is probably the most lucrative as well as the most successful practice of any attorney in Eastern Washington.

In 1888 he was chosen to represent Washington in congress by a majority of 7371, over his democratic opponent, Charles S. Voorhees, who for two terms had been territorial delegate, and his defeat of Mr. Voorhees, himself one of the most popular and able men of Washington, is one of the most emphatic evidences of Mr. Allen's popularity and force of character--Yakima Herald, November 21, 1889.

## Pioneers

### Ninevah Ford

Ninevah Ford, a resident of Walla Walla, aged 78, an old timer in the Northwest, tells the following tale to an inquisitive reporter about the days when Oregon and Washington formed one territory:

"Yes, it is true, I was here from the beginning and helped make Oregon what she is today. I came to Oregon in 1843, fifty one years ago this summer, my party crossing the plains in covered wagons. My wagon was the first to enter the Grand Ronde valley, the second to descend the Blue Mountains on this side, the first at The Dalles, and one of the first five which arrived in Oregon City.

I built the first tannery in Oregon, the first shoe shop and the first butcher shop.

I well remember Governor Lane, who came in 1849, and knew intimately General U.S. Grant when he was stationed at Oregon City. Yes, I am an old man now, but I do not regret the hardships endured in clearing the way in a wilderness of nature for the generations who now travel the paths we opened--<sup>1</sup>akima Herald, May 17, 1894.

## Pioneers

Charles W. Savage, an old pioneer of the coast, died suddenly Saturday, April 21st on the Moxee, from neuralgia of the stomach.

The deceased crossed the plains in 1846 with General Fremont and before there was any settlement where Portland now stands opened a store in Oregon city.

He was well known throughout the Willamette valley by all of the old settlers who will learn of his demise with sorrow.

Mr. Savage was an Odd Fellow and his funeral which took place Monday was under the auspices of that order. He leaves a wife and three sons--Yakima Herald, April 24, 1894.

## Pioneers

Charles Russell, an old and well known pioneer of Walla Walla, died at his home on Friday, August 7.

In 1855 Mr. Russell had charge of transportation in the Yakima Indian expedition under Major Raines--Yakima Herald, August 13, 1891.

Marcial Bernier, who is said to be the first white child born in Washington died at his home near Chehalis, Dec. 26, aged 69 years--Yakima Herald, January 2, 1890.

Governor E.P. Ferry

Governor E.P. Ferry who died in Seattle on Tuesday morning at the age of 70 was so closely identified with the history of the territory and state of Washington for the past 25 years that his name is known to all--with perhaps the exception of the very newest comers,

He was twice governor of the territory during Grant's presidency and was the first governor of the state capable and satisfactory in all his public life.

He was seriously ill during his term as governor of the state which gave us Laughton as chief executive for a few months and had never been in robust health since that illness.

He was well enough last winter, however, to be somewhat considered among the senatorial possibilities; and it is probable that he never lost his aspiring ambition. He was stately in appearance and manner, like an old school statesman; was born in Michigan and came from French stock--the same as produced Jules Ferry, the once president of the French republic--Yakima Herald, Oct. 17, 1895.

## Indians

There is another old timer who is seeing his last days here and possibly his last hours right now. This is Capt. Hedges, who is well along in years. He lies ill at the residence of his son-in-law, J.B. Chapman, of consumption. The only thing he mentions as undone is a visit to his old home in the Willamette valley. He wanted to go there once more and see his old place at Oregon City. He likes to talk about politics and the time when he was an active democrat and cannot be contented for a day unless he sees the Oregonian or hears it read to him.

He was three terms a member of the Oregon legislature, was agent of the Siletz Indian reservation and was carpenter at the Yakima reservation under Father Wilbur and Gen. Milroy, up to two years ago--Yakima Herald, January 23, 1890.

## Indians

Fort Simcoe, W.T., Oct. 18, 1889. Looking over the columns of your paper I see a brief narration of my father's life and habits. I wish to say that while father was a highly respected citizen and always lived as such, he never shunned the society of his own race or made himself obscure by associating himself with the Indians.

When he left his father's roof he was a good sized boy. He came away with Judge Nelson's family who are now aged and living on the Natcheez his parents commending him to their care; and after he had come with them to some point in the west he joined a scouting party and left Father Nelson and family and had not seen or heard of them until he met them in the spring or summer of 1865 on the Natcheez.

To go back to where I left off. He then worked his way up to Oregon, where The Dalles is now situated and where he made his home. He took with him to California four or five Indians for the purpose of digging gold for him. He made a good sized fortune and went to some point and purchased a lot of merchandise and shipped the same up the Columbia river by canoes to The Dalles, where he established a trading post. There he married (bought) an Indian woman. This wife had a daughter by him and died. He then sent the little one to his brother who had come out afterwards to a point where Astoria now stands.

Father continued his trade for some time. When he bought my mother, then a girl of 15 years, he removed to the Deschutes river and there built a ferry and kept a store, ferrying emigrants back and forth and made a good stake at it. He finally became Indian agent, being appointed by Franklin Pierce, then president of the United States, for the Warm Spring agency. He served four years as agent; then he retired and took up a farm on what is called the Five Mile creek, east of The Dalles.

After this he fought the Indians who then broke out and after the

Indian war he again resettled on the farm. Emigrants made this point their chief camping place, and there he kept a provision store. Afterwards he sold out and bought another farm, owned by a Mr. J. Todd, seven miles from The Dalles. The country was being rapidly settled up, The Dalles was then a growing city and we children had lots of neighbor children to play with. They visited us and my father used to take my mother and visit them. There were no Indians to be associated with.

Finally he was elected sheriff of Wasco county, served two terms and in the summer of 1865 came to this county and found Mr. Nelson and family. He located on a 160-acre tract just to the north of the limits of the Yakima reservation and went back to The Dalles where we were living, accompanied by Mr. Nelson's boys, to move us to our new home in the Ahtanum valley. Father then lived a little over a year until his death occurring at his home and not on the reservation and among the wild Yakimas, on the 18th of September, 1866. He never adopted himself unto the tribe of the Yakimas nor did he commit self banishment by burying himself among the Indians and shunning the society of his own race any more than other white pioneers did in those days. After a few years had elapsed my mother married a German, and then not wishing to remain at home any longer I went about to find work. I finally made my way to the reservation and at the agency made application to learn the wheelwright's trade. My application was accepted and I served four years, after which I settled on the reservation where my brothers and sister came and made their home.

My father never lived on the reservation in his life. George W. Goodwin knew him well as did Mr. Lindsey and had he shunned the society of the whites they would have known it. This was not his inclination, neither do his children inherit any such tendency.

If father shunned any society at all it was that of the Yakimas, although he treated everyone alike so long as they acted humanely. The sorry piece of narration which calls forth this statement was written for the St Louis Globe Democrat and the writer of it had better never begin anything when not knowing where to begin right, for the ending is bound to be false when the beginning is imperfect. I hope this explanation will set things right and place Nathan Olney before the public in a light other than that conveyed by the correspondent of the Globe Democrat....Franklin P. Olney, Yakima Herald, October 24, 1889.

Pioneers

Judge Thomas E. Gamble

Cle Elum-Kittitas

Judge Thomas E. Gamble, 80 years old died Monday morning at his home in Cle Elum.

He was one of the pioneers of North Yakima and had friends here, among the warmest being Walter J. Reed.

He went to Cle Elum in 1883, before ~~0000~~ there was talk of a railroad at that point. He served as justice of the peace in the town for years and in 1902 was elected mayor. After Senator Reed of this place had platted Cle Elum Judge Gamble opened an addition called Hazelwood which is now thickly populated. He was the first mayor of the city and was held in highest esteem, not only by people of Kittitas county but by Yakimans. He was county commissioner of Kittitas for a number of years. His body will be shipped to Carnegie Pa for burial..Yakima Herald, Oct. 24, 1907.

Ellensburg, Aug. 10, 1909- Thereon Stafford a well known business man of Kittitas county and the pioneer druggist of Cle Elum died at his home in that city Thursday.

Mr. Stafford came to Kittitas county in 1885 and established a general and drug store at Teanaway siding four miles east of the Cle Elum. When the Northern Pacific boomed Cle Elum Mr. Stafford put his store on wheels and moved it to the new station.

In a few years he abolished the general store and devoted his business entirely to drugs. In 1899 Mr. Stafford suffered injuries at the hands of two hold up men which is generally believed to have caused his physical breakdown.