

Land grants
Statehood

W.T. Forrest, commissioner of public lands in this state has prepared a report showing that of the 132,000 acres granted by congress for the capitol buildings, 25,662 have been selected in eastern Washington at an average value of \$13.18 per acre and 45,869 acres in western washington at an average value of \$10.40 per acre.

The total value of the 71492 acres selected is \$814,726 Of the 100,000 acres granted for the state normal schools, 55,586 have been selected in eastern Washington and 1,106 in Washern Washington. The average value of the eastern Washington land is \$7.78 and that of western Washington \$13.91--Yakima Herald, Jan 10, 1895.

One of the most popular pasttimes among territorial legislatures in the Pacific Northwest was to make big counties smaller by creating new ones.

As territories became states , the pasttime retained favor for several years.

One of the most recent of such maneuvers in Southeastern Washington created Asotin county out of what had been Garfield county, which had been created out of what had been Columbia county which had been created out of what was originally Walla Walla county.

With such goings-on it is easy to understand that reporters collide with all sorts of confusion when interviewing people born in what is now Asotin county. About the only out in many cases is to trace county pedigrees from the original to the present.

Not the most bewildering case in point but the latest happened when chinning with W.B. Ground, sheriff of Garfield county

Ground has lived continuously in Garfield county for 66 years yet is not a native. About the best he can do is to call himself and oldtimer in these parts.

He was born in what is now called Cloverland in Asotin county by present reckoning, but Columbia county at the time of Ground's birth. So, although he was born in Asotin county, instead he was not born in Asotin county. Instead he was born in Columbia county but was not born in Columbia county. All of which is very confusing.

On one point there is certainty: He was born in 1830, one year before Garfield county was carved out of Columbia county. His father , who was a school teacher had come up from the Willamette valley, died in the spring of the year in which Ground was born in the fall.

Two years later his mother moved to the Alpowa country to live on what is now known as the Clayton place.

After the reader has absorbed the foregoing he can understand why a reporter sometimes gets sorely twisted in this business of identifying the county in which a given person was born, particularly if in Asotin, Garfield or Columbia county--Walla Walla Union Bulletin, October 24, 1948.

North Yakima, one of the most flourishing towns in the state is situated on the main line of the Northern Pacific railroad, about 100 miles east of Tacoma. It is the county seat of Yakima county.

The city, though laid out in 1885 and incorporated during the following year, already contains a population of about 3,000. It had the advantage of being laid out on a modern and scientific plan with some of its streets 100 feet wide and others 80 feet, while the alleys have the advantage of being 20 feet wide. The streets are nicely shaded by trees, watered by small irrigation streams flowing through the city.

The Yakima and Natchez rivers, at the confluence of which the young city is advantageously located, afford excellent water power, which is already utilized to some extent in the running of a flour and a planing mill, and several other manufacturing enterprises are in contemplation, some of them in fact, projected.

There are two national banks in the city, the First National having a capital of \$100,000 and the Yakima National with a capital of \$50,000. The assessed value of property in the city is nearly \$1,000,000 which represents but little more than one-fourth of its actual cash value. The rate of county taxation is the lowest of any county in the state of Washington, especially for a railroad town. This fact is explained in part at least by the other correlative fact that its educational and moral institutions--schools, churches and benevolent societies, etc. are numerous and active. The public school building is a large and very handsome brick building which would do credit to any city of 10,000. Another and large public school is to be erected next spring.

North Yakima has six church edifices, namely Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational, Christian or Campbellite, Episcopalian and Roman Catholic.

Among the much needed and soon to be introduced improvements are a new city water works and an electric light plant. Propositions looking to the construction of both of these have been submitted to the people and though no final action has yet been taken, there is no doubt whatever of early adoption. The water mains are to be four miles in length and there will be at least 25 hydrants for the use of the city in putting out fires. The water will be taken from the Natcheez river at a point about two miles distant from the city.

Both the water works and the electric light plant will be operated partly at least, by steam power, which the occasional freezing of the river renders necessary.

Among the new railroad enterprises is a line from this city (Seattle) to Portland, toward the construction of which our citizens have pledged a bonus of \$100,000. The construction of this line will greatly increase the importance of North Yakima as a commercial center. During the year just ended two important irrigation ditches have been constructed in Yakima county--the Selah ditch from the Natcheez river on the north side and extending 12 miles toward town with many branches which open up about 30,000 acres of good land, at a cost of probably \$60,000. The other ditch is between the lower Yakima and Columbia rivers and will water some 25,000 acres at an estimated cost of \$30,000.

The city is growing rapidly with many new buildings projected, while the county will have the most important irrigation canal on the west, the work upon which it is intended to begin in February, 1890.

Following is a list of the new brick buildings, with estimated cost, all of which have been erected during the year 1889:

interpretation. I remember of hearing of one instance that was said to have occurred at the Klamath Lake agency. The minister read a passage in the new testament where it says "Jesus went down to Jerusalem ~~60~~ with his twelve disciples. The said the interpreter rendered it "Jesus went down to Jerusalem and stole twelve apples!" Had the minister been aware of the interpretation he certainly would have been thunderstruck at its remarkable character. It maybe the story was an exaggeration. It probably was.

Indians

Medicine Man's Success. Written for the Herald by William Ker.

The long, delicious Yakima fall had come. The sky was without a cloud. The gently -moving, sweetly-scented air was benison. The anxieties and difficulties of the season were forgot, as orchard and hopyard yielded their red and golden fruitage.

The day's work over, I was lying on the porch. My thought were playing idly about the proposition that well earned rest is the most satisfying of human sensations, when they were broken in on by the ranch foreman who rode up and reported that the Indian pickers were making trouble in the hop field.

I rode down and found that some of the young men had been too pronounced in their attentions to the young squaws and the bucks had resented it.

The difficulty was soon adjusted, but the desire to rest in inaction was gone.

There was about four miles of level sage-brush plain to cross and then a low spur of foothills flung out by the distant Cascades, to reach the next hopyard. The moon was at the full and my horse, fresh and eager for a gallop, struck a bee line for the trail across the hills.

The pickers were some Columbia Indians, non-reservation, but as the sequel will show, not without a glimmering of the bright light of civilization. They were accompanied by So-happy, the chief, and Columbia Jack, a sort of sub-chief.

Taking a leaf from the book of the pale face, they had struck for higher wages. Realizing that the crop must be got in, and shrewdly suspecting that their white brother would rather stand a gentle squeeze than run any risks, the sophisticated children of nature had demanded 25 cents per box of hops more than they had bargained for. Till their demand was complied with they were unconcernedly taking their otium cum dig.

Asking for Jack I was directed to a field a short distance from the camp ; and proceeding thither, I witnessed the scene which I shall try to describe.

Some 200 yards beyond the northern end of the camp was a large tepee, or wigwam, in front of which was a blazing fire. Approaching thither I found some six or eight young bucks squatted at a log before the fire, and on the side farthest from the tepee.

A few feet beyond them and just at the entrance of the tepee, from which the canvas was rolled back so that the inside could be plainly seen, sat So-happy, on his heels.

To his left and in the opening on the tepee, crouched an old medicine man of the tribe.

Lying inside on a heap of old blankets and in the full glare of the fire was a young squaw.

The picture was as strange as it was fair. The valley lay resting deeply in the moonlight, the dark-fringed river shimmered in the middle distance, while far beyond, strongly silhouetted against the pale sky, the lordly Cascades kept watch and ward.

Close at hand were the quaint tents of the Indian camp, and before me, glowing in the strong firelight, were the savage children of the scene.

They formed a group, which in its appropriate setting was indeed the last expression of picturesque.

The old medicine man, I learned that he was over one hundred years of age, was the only one of the number who could not fairly be called handsome; but for the strength of his square and wrinkled face, he was hideous.

Yet the intense earnestness of his appearance and action and the undimmed fire of his deeply sunken eyes, made him the most striking as he was the central figure of the group.

He was kneeling on all fours, with head bent toward the earth. For

a few minutes so still were they all that every figure might have been carved from wood.

Suddenly the old medicine man raised himself on his knees, turned towards the sick saugw and began in a low monotone a chanting incantation.

When he came to the end of a period he became silent. Immediately the chief behind him turned towards the young man and in a loud voice repeated the chant.

Then they took up the burden of the song in a mournful chorus which lasted longer, beating time with sticks on the log at one which they were squatted and swaying their bodies in harmony with their melancholy music.

When silence fell on them there was a pause "while one might slowly count a score." Then the old medicine man began again. Again the chief repeated and again the young men raised the chorus.

Each period of the recitative lasted for about five minutes and there were probably six periods.

And now the whole group was frozen into immobility for several minutes. As a tribute to the mesmeric power of the rite, I am bound to say that I don't believe I could have moved had I tried. My attention was riveted on the ancient medicine man as the wedding guest's was on the ancient mariner.

Presently he began to crawl slowly towards the recumbent form on the couch, his eyes intently fixed on her. When he reached her feet he began vigorously to knead her limbs in a kind of savage massage, gradually working over her whole body toward her head.

The massage lasted for about 10 minutes, I should say and was conducted with as much violent energy that the poor squad must have ached all over. So far as could be seen, however, she did not move a muscle.

The idea of the treatment seemed clearly to be that the old

man was squeezing something in her body, and gradually driving it towards her head.

When he got it there he became still more excited, stooped suddenly, glued his mouth to hers and seemed strenuously trying to suck something from her.

Evidently succeeding he closed his lips, rose to his feet and forming with his hands a hollow box and raising them to his mouth he ejected into them whatever it was he had taken from his patient, closing them firmly.

He then stepped over to a large bucket which stood by, full of water, plunged his hands into it, still keeping them closed, worked them frantically as though trying to drown or purify the evil principle which he had captured.

When he felt that this was accomplished he stepped out clear of the group, faced toward the north, raised his still closed hands to his mouth, and blowing into them with mad strength, tossed them open towards the sky and collapsed, the young men bursting into a long and evidently triumphant chorus.

This entire program was gone through three times before the earnest old fellow was finally exhausted. Indeed, the work would have been a heavy strain on a much younger man and the dusky centenarian must have been possessed of a noble spirit to have stayed with it as he did.

As the young Indians began to steal away I came to myself and found that I had been standing spellbound for over two hours. Joining myself to the chief I asked him what it all meant. He replied:

"Sick klooohman, mamook medicine." A sick woman, we have been trying to cure her.

"But do you really believe," I asked "that will cure her?"

He answered:

"Klonass yaka chaco kloshe, klonass wake. Taleat kakwa Boston medicine man. Perhaps it will do good, perhaps not, just the same

and that the remainder of the proceeds from the sale of the lots shall be deposited in the treasury of the United States and become a part of the fund belonging to the Yakima Indians arising from the disposal of the surplus lands on the reservation.

Section 11: That the lands allotted, those retained or reserved and the surplus lands sold or otherwise disposed of shall be subject for a period of 25 years to all the laws of the United States prohibiting the introduction of intoxicants into the Indian country--" Yakima Republic
May 27, 1910.

and that the remainder of the proceeds from the sale of the lots shall be deposited in the treasury of the United States and become a part of the fund belonging to the Yakima Indians arising from the disposal of the surplus lands on the reservation.

"Section 11: That the lands allotted, those retained or reserved and the surplus lands sold or otherwise disposed of shall be subject for a period of 25 years to all the laws of the United States prohibiting the introduction of intoxicants into the Indian country--" Yakima Reservation

May 27, 1910.