

Zillah

A.C. Walker is up from Zillah this week where his duties as postmaster are not especially confining and brings the following brief items of news:

R.K. Hatch & Son are just completing a three story addition to their hotel.

The postoffice has been removed from the headquarters building to the score of Harvey & Jaeger.

The work of excavating for the new \$10,000 hotel to be erected by the company is being diligently prosecuted.

The N.P. Y & K.I Co. is now selling land beyond the completed portion of the canal, notably east of Snipes' mountain in the Wrysten flats.

A new bridge has been built across the slough of the Yakima near Zillah to replace the one washed out during the recent high water. ~~Underedidididididididididid~~ There is now interrupted connection with Toppenish.

The work of clearing the land for the state experimental station to be located one-half mile from Zillah is being pushed. Within a radius of a mile from Zillah several large outfits are engaged in clearing land and the aspect of the country is changing very materially. -Yakima Herald, December 8, 1892.

E.J. Jaeger of the firm of Harvey and Jaeger, merchants of Zillah, spent several days in this city during the past week, his family having arrived from Tacoma on Saturday last and joined him here. Mr. Jaeger states that business has exceeded his expectations and he shows his good feeling toward the Herald by adding one more name to our rapidly growing Zillah list of subscribers-Yakima Herald, January 12, 1893.

Earl Hardison and Elmer Darnes, the proprietors of the new meat market at Zillah, were in the city on Saturday last and made a business call at the Herald office--Yakima Herald, January 12, 1893.

J.H. Lovell of Zillah has some bargains in lumber etc. advertised in this issue of The Herald--Yakima Herald, January 10, 1893.

Zillah

School district No. 32 has been organized at Zillah with A.C. Walker E.F. Fleming, E.J. Jaeger as directors and Walter Gager (copy) clerk. Miss Edna Haines has been engaged as teacher and is temporary school room has been secured until spring when the district will build a suitable school house on a block of land to be deeded by the irrigation company.

Zillah has been fortunate in maintaining its daily mail service, the carrier crossing the frozen river on foot and making connections with the trains at Tonpenish. The ferry boat has been checked for safety and when the ice moves the people of Zillah expect to be isolated from the railroad for some time.

Many letters have been received from parties who have bought land from the company, asking if the weather would permit of building and expressing a desire to begin work as early as possible.

J.H. Lovell is expecting to remove to Idaho where he will be interested in an irrigation scheme in connection with D.W. Ross, late engineer of the N.P.Y & K I Co. Zillites are sorry to lose such an enterprising citizen.

W.N. Granger, general agent of the company who has been east for three weeks is home again and Col. William Ham Hall is daily expected from California.

The work of extending the canal is going along steadily and the contractors say they are making satisfactory headway, notwithstanding the severity of the weather. The thermometer has been down to zero and light snows have fallen daily, resulting in numerous sleighs being called into service.

A pair of swans have been seen flying up and down the river daily. So far the local sports have not been able to bring them down. Ducks, geese and jack rabbits are plentiful--Yakima Herald, February 9, 1893.

Postmaster A.C. Walker was up from Zillah this week shaking hands with his numerous friends. He says the Herald is very popular in the Sunnyside district--Yakima Herald, March 16, 1893.

Zillah

You can reach Zillah from Toprenish, the nearest railroad station, distance three and a half miles, and by a ferry across the Yaki a river.

Zillah is named after the daughter of T.F. Oakes, president of the Northern Pacific Railroad company. It could not have been named before her as it is even now an infant.

Taken in connection with its aboriginal surroundings, Zillah life is primitive; not, however, to such an extent as to suggest that it is capable of sanctioning even the slightest offense against what it considers the laws of eastern etiquette.

For instance last night Zillah gave a ball. About half past seven, as I was walking homeward from my evening ramble, I saw the dignified company gathered--silent, waiting, the sexes in separate rooms; and I felt like congratulating the workday folk on such reasonable hours.

But the Zillians are made of sterner stuff. There they sat, so I afterward learned, nobly patient, until 10 when the dancing began. Mr. Walker invited me to go with him, but I refrained. Mr. Walker by the way is a shining example. He is a Boston man; came here when 50 years old and has picked up a homestead and sert claim, tree claim and a second youth. He says to dance all night is a bagatelle to him now and felt aged when he came.

As for the ball, the decorum of the early evening had vanished at midnight, I judged from the sounds, the shaking hotel sent to my cot; and this morning the fiddle was still in its minor chord when I took my chair at breakfast. From the echoing floor two dancers came to the table to become my vis-a-vis. They were female Indians, half crossed with white blood. Their oval, olive faces were lit by eyes shadowed yet brilliant, like the style of Chateaubriand. I wish they hadn't spoken; for then came out the best of the beauty, the guttural Indian biggerish--all k's.

At breakfast the good housewife who brought my provender exploited the hotel for me.

"We've taken this job of feeding the folks here and we're doing well. One thing that helps us out is the onions. You see, back on the ranch we put seven acres all to onions and being slow about selling them I don't know how we would have worked them off if we hadn't come here; not's it's easy."

The case was manifest. Onions inhabited the leathery stage steaks, the stewed dishes and the fries. They were plentiful in the potatoes, the hash and bacon. The cold cabbage was folded in the pale coating of the odorous esculent and it was served whole as "onion fritters." I sought the prune preserves for relief. They were seasoned with onions.

One enjoys Zillah most for what one learns there. It is the center of the canal system. In the engineer's rooms and the topographic studios of the large headquarters building are gathered the profile alignments, sketches and maps showing every border and lateral of the great canal which itself flows a quarter of a mile behind the town and 150 feet above the river from which it was taken.

These drawings alone cost thousands of dollars.

From Zillah I drove to one of the company's surveying camps where William Ham Hall, San Francisco, the chief being absent, I found Guy Sterling, the hydraulic engineer. He was straightening some of the preliminary lines of the canal.

"Here I shall save," he said pointing to the chart on the table, "a thousand feet over the old survey within a mile and a half. It is mostly normal work, no flumes or fills. The capacity of our canal is 650 cubic feet per second. We have only one waste weir for the entire length. The extreme height of our water at Prosser, our terminus, will be 350 feet above the river.

Colonel Prosser, the gentleman from whom the settlement took

it's name, I found to be a rewarding man to meet. He taught me that the extraordinary depth of this soil is the secret of its endurance.

"It is not only" he said "permanent, it improves under agriculture; so contrasting with England and many of the older states where the ground has lost its vitality.

"The soil is the dressing itself. It is phosphate and it grows better with age. Twenty years ago these Yakima people raised just such crops--eighty five bushels of wheat to the acre right along and timothy has renewed itself twenty four years in these river bottoms without reseeded.

...These miles of broad sunny hillside, nourished by these tiny streams with ten months of summer and frostless winters I should think would form a good home for the grape.

The Swiss to whom I address this answered.

"I am from the Rhine, and the home I have here reminds me all the time of it. The air, the river and the exposures and much the same. The Black Hamburg and the Catawaba grow as if born here. The Whitewater and Concord yield as they do not in their native homes I am an old man but I will grow grapes and manufacture Rhine wine right here, certain."

Mr. Paul Schulze has sent to Germany for a large shipment of varieties for planting.

The cheapness of tillage is a feature. The land is sold at \$55 per acre with perpetual water right. The cost of cleaning the same is about \$3 an acre and of ploughing about \$2 per acre. The first year, any of the small fruits, sweet potatoes, green corn and all garden growths can be raised. The second year grapes, apricots and peaches are in bearing. Fuel and lumber are at hand from the vast forests of the Cascades.

"And not only wine but good beer," continued my phlegmatic Swiss removing his omnipresent pipe for a moment for freer speech; "we're all

surrounded by hop poples. The growers of the vine are moving here fast from the valleys of the Sound. Here they have no aphids; the vermin appear in the spring just as they do there but our hot sun cooks them; they would dry up and disappear.

One curious little place attracted me. It was a house with neither orchard, hay field or berry garden--a few flower beds and the home that was all, and some bee hives. The owner's words were interesting:

"It was in '84 or '85 that a swarm of wild bees came to us. We hived them, and for the next two or three years we had several kinds of hives. Finally we concluded to have some standard or patent hives. We sent for the Wisconsin hive which is similar to the Langstraugh and some Italian queens, and became interested in them. The next season we produced 150 pounds of honey from each swarm of our Italians and 25 from the Blacks. Now we have quite an extensive apiary, all Italians. In 1902 we sold 1100 pounds of honey and a number of hives. One swarm produced 240 pounds of comb honey. We find the bees industrious and the business has proved quite lucrative. The bees do their own rustling on the alfalfa and clover.

Twenty five miles from Tillamook, on the bank of the river, fifty-five miles as the road winds from North Yakima, our journey ends. For this is Jock Morgan's 1,340 acre stock ranch. During twenty one years it has been the home of his cattle: and as we enter one of the long approaches to the straggling colony of roofs in either of which resides at will the eccentric but hospitable owner, we cannot but notice the air of refinement and composure which the old proprietorship confers on the land.

Among these lakes is the habitat of the wild fowl, whose skurrying wings we have heard at intervals all this last half day. Here all the streams are trout streams and floating down the river you will see unquiet badgers recede from your boat prow and the tooth marks of beaver on the bark of the young trees.

Zillah

The hop acreage of the Sunnyside is already assuming large proportions, much larger in fact than is generally appreciated by the people not acquainted with the facts.

Among other yards being prepared is one by Fred Bellinger, a leading hop grower of the sound. Mr. Bellinger has contracted for breaking and cultivating the ground for an 80-acre yard near Zillah. He is enthusiastic over the Sunnyside as the coming hop growing country.

The snow has almost entirely disappeared, leaving the roads in good condition and in some places they are already dusty.

Colonel W.C. Alberger of San Francisco, one of the leading irrigation engineers of the country, made an examination of the Sunnyside canal and works and reported it as being the most perfect piece of construction that he has ever come across.

William Loryea, formerly of North Yakima, is building a residence on his claim seven miles below Zillah and is having poles hauled for a 30-acre hop yard.

W.N. Granger, general manager of the irrigation company is again living at Zillah and will remain permanently. The company is preparing to operate the canal and will soon have a large force employed in getting it in readiness for the season. They expect to deliver water through 40 miles of the main canal by April 1--Yakima Herald, March 19, 1893.

The bridge contractors are now at Zillah locating the piers and looking after the construction of a pile driver which will be used in the work--Yakima Herald, March 30, 1893.

Nate Moarison and family of Columbus, Klickitat county, have become citizens of Yakima. Rev. Orchard of the same place has also changed his residence to Ellish where he will conduct services in the school house--Yakima Herald, May 25, 1893.

Among other yards being reported is one by Fred Bellinger.

A leading man known of the county, Mr. Bellinger has contracted

for grading and cultivating the ground for an 80-acre yard

near Ellish. He is enthusiastic over the prospects of the county

for growing industry.

The snow has almost entirely disappeared, leaving the roads

in good condition and in some places there are already dunes.

Colonel W. D. Albrecht of San Francisco, one of the

leading irrigation engineers of the country, made an examination

of the Shuswap canal and works and reported it as being the most

perfect piece of construction that he has ever seen.

William Lowrey, formerly of North Yakima, is building a

residence on his claim near where John Ellish and his

having notes handed for a 10-acre homestead.

W. H. Bennett, general manager of the Irrigation company

is now living at Ellish and will remain permanently.

The new and improved to operate the canal and irrigation

has a large force employed in getting it in readiness for

the season. They expect to deliver water through 40 miles of

the main canal by April 1--Yakima Herald, March 10, 1893.

The bridge construction are now at Ellish looking the river

and looking after the construction of a river which will be

used in the winter--Yakima Herald, March 10, 1893.

Zillah

Zillah, the new town on the canal of the N.P.Y & K I Co. derived its name rather romantically.

Miss Oakes, daughter of the president of the company, was one of the party who took the memorable bath and to avoid the young lady's forgetting the circumstances, and the place forgetting the lady, it was given her christian name, Zillah.

Work is progressing rapidly down there, the streets are staked and clearing has commenced.

It is the intention to move the company's office to that place as soon as quarters, the plans for which are now out, are built, It is also the intention of the company to bridge the river at that point to connect with the railroad to Toppenish--Yakima "erald May 26, 1892.

Fred E. Reed has been appointed agent for the handling of the lots for the new town of Zillah.

There is considerable activity exhibited there at present, a force of men being engaged in grading the streets preparatory to making the extensive building improvement.

Plans have been drawn and work will be started at once on a handsome building, to cost \$3,000, which will be used as headquarters for the irrigation and townsite companies.

Manager Cranger will also build a residence and move thereto with his family, and several merchants are arranging to put in stocks of goods.

Surveys are progressing for the new line of railroad between Zillah and North Yakima and in the meantime stages will be utilized between the two points--Yakima "erald, June 9, 1892.

Zillah

Ad: one-half page, Yakima Herald, Thursday, June 16, 1892.

The Northern Pacific , Yakima & Kittitas Irrigation company in its great work of reclaiming 200,000 acres of arid lands by building immense canals and irrigating the same has placed Yakima county in the front ranks as the great Pop, Fruit, Vegetable and Hay producing section of Washington.

In the center of this magnificent agricultural and horticultural country the Northern Pacific, Yakima & Kittitas Irrigation company has platted and laid out the town of Zillah and on Monday, June 27th, 1892, the town will be placed on the market.

Zillah is 25 miles south of North Yakima on the river of that name and is the official terminus of the Motor Railroad to be built to North Yakima.

Zillah is headquarters of the company and handsome quarters are being erected to be occupied by the officials as soon as completed. Situated as this town is there are legitimate reasons why it should be prosperous, progressive and healthy.

Investigate Zillah.

Fred R. Reed & Co, agents, North Yakima. (Northern Pacific Progress)

Zillah

The commissioner of the general land office has affirmed the decision of the local land officers in the contest of Fred Thompson vs Joseph Bartholet, Sr and the Bartholet heirs, whereby the land is awarded to the contestant subject to an appeal to the secretary.

The land in question is some 420 acres within about a mile of the new town of Zillah and there is quite a history attached to it.

The Bartholets have made strenuous efforts to comply with the law and get the land under water, and have filed on it three times, paying \$1,225 per acre all told for desert filings.

The commissioner strongly maintained that the equities of the case, which had been urged by the local officers, did not hold in the face of an adverse claim--Yakima Herald, June 30, 1892.

Zillah

The town of Zillah is beginning to move. The contract for a \$10,000 hotel has been let, several residences are in course of construction, Messrs. Harvey & Jaeger will at once open a large general merchandise store and a blacksmith shop, hardware store and other business establishments will be opened as soon as the buildings are completed--Yakima Herald, October 27, 1892.

"The days of forage are over here," exclaimed my pastoral friend as we waked among his fine horses and cattle. "These must go and I must go with them."

I looked upon him as the last sturdy specimen of those powerful barons whose sway has been for a generation over all this domain from the Snake to the mountain. Now the wall of water conducted along its way to Prosser hangs over this land, and it is wanted.

Charles J. Woodbury, New York Evening Post, February, 1893.

Zillah

Applications for the Zillah postoffice are still being circulated. We are inclined to believe that the language of the Texas judge, ~~that~~ the offices at the disposal of the president are entirely inadequate to the wants of the people--Yakima Herald, January 25, 1894.

Zillah

Col Amasa Walker indignantly contests the claim that there was fraudulent voting at Zillah .

When he denied the charge his eyes flashed and his breath came in short bloomers, for while the colonel doesn't exactly think that Zillah is as pure as the driven snow he says there was no snow for running in illegal republican votes for those old line democrats, John Egan, Jerry George and E.J. Jaeger, were guarding the polls all day long and that astute democrat Dan A. McDonald was judge of the election board and kept his eagle eye on every ballot that was dropped into the box.

"There were but two votes" asserted the colonel "as to which there are there can be any question and both of those were deposited under oath. Zillah might have done some crooked work but the opportunity wasn't there--Yakima Herald, Nov. 22, 1894.

The new school house at Zillah which cost \$2,000 and which is the pride of Director A.C. Walker and his associates will be the scene of a grand ball on Thanksgiving night. Music will be furnished by North Yakima talent--Yakima Herald, Nov. 22, 1894.

Zillah

Mr. McDonald, who will be remembered as the builder of the Zillah bridge, this year, died at his home in Tacoma early this month--Yakima Herald, January 11, 1894.

Zillah experienced her first fire of any importance early on Tuesday morning of last week when the hardware store of Knowles Bros., McCracken & Armitage's drug store and the residence of C.S. Hale went up in smoke.

The fire started from the overturning of a lamp in the sleeping room of Mr. Knowles and so rapidly did the flames spread that practically nothing was saved except the furniture of Mr. Hale's dwelling.

Knowles Bros. building cost \$450 and the stock of hardware and tinware was valued at \$1,000. Fred Pennington of this city can be considered the heaviest loser as he supplied the stock of hardware and held the note of Knowles Bros., for \$1,000, secured by the lot and building and stock. McCracken & Armitage, the druggists, lost everything. Manager Rankin estimates the loss of the house of Pennington at \$1,500. Yakima Herald, January 17, 1895. (Thursday)