

Moxee

Mr. William Ker has resigned the presidency and management of the extensive interests of the Moxee company, to take effect on January 1st, and will be succeeded by D.E. Lesh.

Mr. Ker's resignation has long been before the board of directors but he was persuaded to remain in charge until the beginning of the coming year and Mr. Hubbard's recent visit in Yakima was for the purpose of selecting his successor.

The selection of Mr. Lesh is a glowing tribute to his worth and executive ability, so high is his appreciation of the worth of Mr. Ker and the great benefit which he has been to Yakima as a progressive and public spirited citizen, that his acceptance of this important trust was made only on the assurance that Mr. Ker's resignation was fully determined upon and was final--Yakima Herald, December 8, 1892.

## Agriculture

### Cotton

Mr. William Ker, president of the Moxee company, is in receipt of a letter from J. Van Andres, the leading cotton broker of New York, who stated that he had been a careful student of reports of climate and soil analysis of the Yakima country and he felt convinced that a very good grade of cotton could be grown here.

Mr. Van Andres offered to furnish the finest of Egyptian seed and every assistance in his power to further the experiment and in return would ask for the handling of the crop for the first ten years.

Mr. Ker answered that he had no doubt but what cotton could be grown here as that fact had already been demonstrated in a small way, but that for the present at least the Moxee company has its hands full with tobacco, hops, alfalfa and cattle and could not give it the attention it required. Perhaps some other enterprising farmer would like to accept Mr. Van Andres' offer in which event his address can be had upon application to Mr. Ker--Yakima Herald, August 26, 1890.

## Agriculture

### Moxee company

Sixty thousand dollars, a low estimate, will be the income of the Moxee company this year.

Roughly estimated it is as follows: Hops \$20,000; manufactured tobacco, \$20,000; hay \$10,000; cattle \$10,000. Yakima Herald, August 21, 1890

### Moxee farm

The Moxee plantation promises within a few years to become a most beautiful spot. Improvements are constantly being made. The latest is the planting of two thousand shade trees along the driveways.

The trees will be of the catalpa, walnut, maple, elm and tamarack varieties. In addition the orchard area is being extended by the planting of 750 fruit trees--Yakima Herald, April 3, 1890.

## Agriculture:

### Tea

The experiment of growing tea in Yakima county is to be given a trial on the Moxee plantation next year.

Mr. Ker was led to this by his brother-in-law, Lieutenant Bell of the British navy, who after visiting Yakima and posting himself on our climate and getting an analysis of the soil, maintained that the necessary conditions were here. He said the same conditions existed in Yakima that made tea culture in Japan a success and urged that a test be made. Lieut. Bell is somewhat of a scientist and on his judgment Mr. Ker has decided to send for tea cuttings and make the experiment--Yakima Herald, Feb. 26 , 1890.

## Yakima Tobacco

The Yakima Republican says M.J. Stout of Yakima has about an acre of as fine tobacco growing on his place east of town as we have ever seen. Some of the leaves measure 15x25 inches and the plants have not yet attained their full growth. The same paper expressed the opinion that Mr. Stout is about to make a success of the experiment of growing it.

— The Dalles <sup>T</sup>imes-Mountaineer, April 21, 1886

A former resident of Willamette valley, Ore., writes to the Salem Record under date of Selah, Yakima county, July 22, as follows:

...We noticed the crops along the road from 'Barlow's gate' to the base of the Simcoe mountains were rather light, especially in the Klickitat valley, but on our arrival in Yakima valley we found the crops invariably from average to very good. Everything in the vegetable or grain line is luxuriant and thrifty, the result of irrigation. ~~Wheat~~ Wheat, oats, barley, rye and corn can be grown here to perfection...

The country needs railroads to make it prosperous and wealthy. It will never make a very extensive farming country but by combining farming and stock-raising the settlers can do well, and there is room for many more, although the most desirable locations are claimed.

-- Tacoma Herald, Aug. 16, 1878

Rich harvests of grain have been taken from the wheat, oat, rye and barley fields...Sweet corn and common Indian corn reminded us of our boyhood days away back in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Iowa... Pumpkins squashes and gourds were growing nicely during our visit, and watermel and muskmelons were in their prime...Vegetables yielded large returns. (Yakima valley)

-- Tacoma Herald, Sept. 6, 1878

(from Selah correspondent)...We want a railroad to Puget sound... and then our industrious farmers can afford to raise grain and ship by the Sound. We can never have a market for our produce until such a road is built. Our present facilities for transportation to market eat the very bottom of the wagon bed for carriage...

YOUNG AMERICA

-- Herald, Aug. 23, 1878

## Beet Sugar. Description of the Process

of Manufacturing Throughout. An enterprise especially adapted to the Great Yakima Country. Let there be legislative aid to start the industry.

No project has ever been suggested for the great Yakima country that is better adapted or would be more beneficial to the country than the manufacture of sugar from the sugar beet. Thorough tests have demonstrated that this beet can be grown here with as great, if not greater success, than in any other section of the Pacific coast. The soil and climatic conditions are well suited to the growing of the sugar beet and all that is lacking to inaugurate this industry is the capital to place and operate the machinery for manufacturing. Congress made an appropriation to encourage experiments in diffusion process and various states have offered bounties for every pound of sugar manufactured. These states, and notably Kansas, have reaped golden returns on their investments and if Washington's legislature will give equal encouragement the capital will be forthcoming and the Yakima valleys will become the nucleus of the profitable industry.

The following description of the manufacture of sugar from beets is taken from the San Francisco Chronicle.

When the beets are dumped into the bins they pass from the farmer and are ready to start on their way to sugardom. Beneath each bin is a concrete ditch and into this ditch the beets fall through adjustable trap. A stream of water is constantly flowing through the ditches in the direction of the factory and it takes the beets to the south end of the main building and empties them into a cistern in which is working a large screw that extends to the second floor, from which they pass into a large drum shaped, iron cylinder, called the wash barrel, where the beets are thoroughly cleaned. When cleaned they are thrown from the wash barrel into a hopper from which they pass

they pass into an endless elevator which runs to the top floor, where the beets are discharged into a large hooper. Then they pass into a cage which will hold 1,000 pounds of beets and when this weight is indicated the cage empties its load into the cutter. The cage and its indicator enable the factory people to closely estimate the amount of raw material used each day in the manufacture of sugar. It is also a check on every department, will show any error that may arise in the receiving or shipping department.

The slicer or cutter is a round iron shaft with steel knives, capable of slicing 500 tons of beets every twenty-four hours, which runs down to the floor below. The lower end of the slicer opens into a wooden trough, about two feet square on the bottom of which is an endless belt. As the sliced beets fall from the cutter into this trough the belt takes them along as fast as they descend. Placed on this floor and ranged alongside the trough is a battery of twelve diffusion tanks into which the sliced beets are next passed and diluted under a water pressure of eighty pounds. By this pressure the sugar and salts amounting to ninety per cent, are released in liquid form, leaving only ten per cent of pulp to represent all the solid matter contained in the sugar beet of commerce. From the diffusion tanks the liquid sugar is then passed into the heater. Each tank is emptied every five minutes. In the heater the liquid is subjected to seventy-five degrees Fahrenheit for some time, when it is again sent onward to the carbonization tank, where it is put through a clarifying process by lime and lime gas.

From the carbonization tank it is pumped into the presses, through which it is run three times under tremendous pressure, every particle of lime being retained in the presses while the liquid sugar is conveyed to the quadruple evaporator, probably the heaviest pieces of machinery used in the whole process of sugar making. After going through the evaporation process it is delivered to the vacuum

pans at the top of the building where it is crystalized. Underneath the vacuum pans are placed very large square receivers into which it is allowed to fall when crystalization has taken place; these receivers have revolving screws which form the bottom and are kept constantly in motion to keep the sugar from caking. From the receivers it again descends to the centrifugal machines, where it is purged of the molasses and finally emptied into sacks on the lower floor and loaded on the railroad cars for shipment to the refinery....Yakima Herald, Washington Territory, Thursday February 14, 1889.

## . Sugar Beets

Yakima people are urging the planting of sugar beets on a scale to determine the value of that region for their production. Washington should have the \$15,000 a year to use under the Hatch act for the testing of such questions. If it is possible, as has been said, to utilize the extensive sage growing districts for beet sugar production, it may be that a good future awaits a section of country now undervalued by all the world. Our experimental station is preparing to test sugar beets and find out what they will do here--  
Yakima Herald, North Yakima, W.T. April 4, 1889.

## Yakima Watermelons

Yakima beats the world for watermelons. Melons weighing upwards of 40 pounds are too common to excite attention...

--Yakima Herald, Aug. 8, 1889

Jim McCann, a tramp, is now enjoying a needed respite from skirmishing for grub in the city jail. He topped off a 'hand out' with a melon from S.J. Lowe's melon patch, for which Judge Reed granted him 5 days.

--Yakima Herald Aug. 22, 1889

(Herald earlier reported farmers had watched their patches with guns, etc., until market bottom fell out)

## Agriculture

E.R. Leaming has plenty of peanuts for seed. They are Yakima grown and as fresh as a daisy. They make better seed than those shipped in here. Yakima peanuts will one of these days be quoted in the markets, Herald, Feb. 13, 1890.

## Agriculture

C.L. Gano

C.L. Gano is one of the most progressive and enterprising farmers in the Yakima valley. Last year he experimented with various varieties of corn in order to find that best adapted to this section and this year is proposing to set out a vineyard and large patch to blackberries.

He sent to New York for the choicest varieties and will soon have here a thousand blackberry bushes and four thousand grape cuttings including the Eaton and Moyer. Not requiring this large quantity he is disposing of his surplus to other farmers at low prices.

Mr. Gano has eleven hundred asparagus plants growing and is preparing to set out two thousand more. He will also build a green house. Mr. Gano came out here from Ohio for his health which he has not only recovered but he is laying the foundation for the fortune that is bound to come in this northwest to any young man who is industrious, enterprising and economical--Yakima Herald, March 13, 1890.

Remember Saturday March 29 is the date you can be supplied with the following vines and roots: Concord, Warden, Isabella, Catawaba Niagara, Rockelton, Clinton, Empire State, Eaton and Myer grapes; Lucretia de berry and Erie blackberry. C.L. Gano, March 27, 1890.

## Agriculture

Crescent and Wilson strawberry plants at eastern prices, \$4 thousand delivered in North Yakima; 60 cents per hundred. Also Snyder blackberry Turner and Hausell red raspberry. I also have 100 each of box elder and black locust 6 to 12 fee . Cheap. M.B. Curtis at 12 1-2 cent store--<sup>n</sup>erald, March 20, 1890.

## Agriculture

### Alfalfa

Our farmers are waking up to the value of alfalfa for feed and many extensive fields are being sown. Dan McDonald, W.W. McCarthy, E.J. Erickson, E.V. Flint, J.A. Stone, R. Dunn and a number of others are putting in considerable acreage to this useful and remunerative crop.--Yakima Herald, March 27, 1890.

## Agriculture

S.O. Morford is working industriously to have the banner farm of the county. He now has under cultivation three hundred acres , having increased the area by one hundred acres of new ground this year. More farmers like Mr. Morford are wanted in this section--Yakima Herald, April 17, 1890.

Agriculture -Mining (Rosa)

Natcheez, Selah and Wenas Melange--Crops in the Rosa neighborhood are looking well and the farmers expect big yields. Fruit was uninjured by th winter and peaches and plums are now in bloom.

The range is excelent and sheep and cattle are getting in prime condition. Cameron Bros. will shear next week. The Wenas people are putting in large acreages and will have no reason to complain of the Scarcity of water this season.

Mr. Meed's crop is nearly in and Cliff Cleman has finished sowing while the Nelson brothers are still busy at the lower end of the valley. Chills and fevera are prevalent , the Misses Cleman and Gleed being among the sufferers.

A large party of prospectors are now on the way to Hanging Rock and the probabilities for the diggings are encouraging. The miners hope to have a good road completed to the camp this summer. It is claimed that a stamp mill will be erected there this year by Tacoma parties who are interested in the mines. Gold Hill is still snow bound and no work will be done there forsome time--Yakima Herald, April 24, 1890.

## Agriculture

### Alfalfa

The Moxee company has an order from the sound for approximately one thousand tons of baled alfalfa to be delivered during the summer.

As the contract price is \$10 a ton, the neat little sum of that many thousand dollars will be realized on this order. Farm Superintendent J.R. Bell informed the Herald on Saturday last that they had on that day started the mowers to cutting 250 acres of alfalfa.

This is two weeks earlier than last season and the yield will be larger than ever before--Yakima Herald, May 22, 1900.

## Farming

As an indication of the great things that can be done in the fruitful Yakima valley, the success of D.J. Stevens is cited.

From 65 acres which one year ago was producing but sage brush, Mr. Stevens this season took off produce valued at over six thousand dollars, consisting of 15 tons of onions, 2,400 bushels of potatoes, three tons of hops, 30 tons of carrots and 90 tons of hay.

Besides this he raised 30 head of hogs and other stock.

These figures are verified by Chaprell & Cox who handled the produce--Yakima Herald, November 6, 1890.

## Agriculture

### Onions

Mr. Simpson, who lives south of the city, has twelve acres of Onions that are a wonder.

Conservative estimates place the yield at 1,000 bushels per acre. He has been offered a cent a pound for his entire crop. That would give him \$470 per acre or \$5,640 from the twelve acres. Is there any reason why a farmer should not get rich in this country? Yakima Herald, August 20, 1891.

## Agriculture

### Potatoes

How is this for the down-trodden farmer of the Yakima?

J.M. Stout and W.A. Cox visited the former's potato patch the other day. Several hills were tested and the yield was six to eight pounds to the hill. Mr. Cox estimated that the yield would be 600 bushels to the acre.

Judge Stout asserted it would be a thousand and to settle the question they went to figuring. They allowed five pounds of spuds to the hill, 280 hills to the row and 70 rows to the acre. The result was 98,000 pounds or 1,600 bushels--Yakima Herald, August 20, 1901.

## Agriculture

In 1890 L.C. Parrish bought a ranch of 160 acres in the Moxee valley, four miles from this city for \$2,500 or \$22 an acre.

The first year he cut 200 tons of hay which he sold at \$12 a ton or \$2,400; 1,300 bushels of wheat at 75 cents or \$975; 300 bushels of potatoes at 40 cents, \$120; garden truck, \$350. Thus the first year his crop paid for his farm and left him a balance of \$345.

Mr. Parrish says that he has done fully as well during 1891 which would make his receipts from the farm in two years \$7690 or a balance to his credit of \$4190 after paying for the land.

Estimating his expenses, including help at \$1200 a year he has in two years netted \$5290 , or paid \$3500 for his 160 acres and has accumulated in cash \$1790.

It is a net annual return of over 75 per cent on the investments and any country that will do this is a good one to tie to--  
Yakima Herald, December 31, 1891.