

of the general increase in population and have reaped quite as much benefit as the real estate men and in many instances more.

In 1896 under the auspices of the club the a state fair was given, there being not state ap ropriation for that purpose and this effort on the part of the club through its committee, is remembered as giving the most satisfactory results. The fair itself was one of the best ever held and the net proceeds amounting to about eight hundred dollars were devoted partly to paying the indebtedness of the club, partly to the public library and partly to the Antanum academy, all worthy objects....A plan is afoot to build a club house better adapted to its requirements to which it is intended to add a bowling alley and perhaps a swimming tank and gymnasium.... The officers are: W.L. Steinweg, pre ident; Frank Horsley, first vice preident; Matt Bartholet, second vice president; O.A. Fetcher, secretary; H.H. Lombard, treasurer, who have conducted its affairsthe past year in a most satisfactory manner--Yakima Herald, Dec. 22, 1898. By Edward Whitson.

The resignation of Dr. Joseph F. Barton, secretary of the North Yakima Commercial club which has been on file for several days was accepted by the governing board of that body at a largely attended meeting Monday evening and Rev. C.G. Ware of Zillah was elected to the position.

Dr. Barton is in ill health and has recently gone to the south to recuperate.

Rev. Ware recently resigned as pastor of the Presbyterian church of Zillah where he has been stationed for the past two years and where he is at the present time president of the Commercial club...

Yakima Herald, April 3, 1912.

Commercial club

At the Tuesday meeting of the Commercial club the annual election of officers was held, the following being chosen

President A.B Weed; first vice president, G.A. Graham; governing board, O.A. Fichter, Frank Horsley, W.L. Steinweg, Dr. W.H. Hare and George Donald; treasurer, Henry Deal; trustees, H.H. Allen, J.M. Gilbert, Edward Whitson, John Sawbridge and Alex Miller. Yakima Herald, Jan 31, 1895.

At the Tuesday meeting of the Commercial club, reports were given.

In addition to discussion upon the proposition of having printed a large pamphlet descriptive of Yakima county and this city, for free distribution. The information so far gathered is very valuable and its dissemination throughout the United States would be productive of great good because it would be impartial and reliable.

One of the reports was read by Secretary James M. Gilbert and is comprehensive in scope.

Among the subjects upon which action has been taken were:

"The building of a road to the fair grounds.

The repair of roads and bridges across the Indian reservation.

Promotion of the Portland, Vancouver & Northern railway.

The planting of nut-bearing trees.

The introduction of game birds.

The establishment of creameries, starch factories, canneries and a pressed brick factor.

The expenses of county officers.

Reducing the city of vagrants.

The relief of the indigent.

The location of a packing house.

The location of a United States judge at Yakima.

The use of home manufactured goods and many other subjects.

The question of the opening the Indian reservation has been carefully considered and correspondence has been had with our representatives in both houses of congress.

Early in the year the club notified the state fair commission that it was ready to cooperate with the commission in the matter of holding a state fair.

An effort was made to secure the early geological survey of the Cascade range between Yakima and Portland with every prospect of success when the appropriation will justify.

Through the governing board, a large number of view of Yakima county have been supplied to William E. Smythe, editor of the "Irrigation Age" and to Prof Albert White, who will use them to illustrate lectures on Yakima county.....

Financial statement

Cash received. Initiation fees \$859; sales of keys \$12.50; dues \$1,234.80 total \$1,689.00

Contra. Paid old Yakima club \$455; paid W.I. Lince, treasurer \$1,234.80 Total \$1,689.

Expense. Richard Morris, janitor \$142.20; rent \$300; light and water \$174; stationary and periodicals \$76.05; printing and postage \$56.85; repairs \$13.55; fuel \$44.80; salary assistant secretary \$178.14; social entertainment \$50.60; sundries, insurance, keys etc. \$132.40 Balance in hands of treasurer \$66.20 \$1,234.80 total. Yakima Herald, Feb. 7, 1895.

Commercial club
locations

The opening event of the Commercial club in their new quarters in the Clogg building last Friday evening was the most brilliant affair of the kind held here in years.

There were two hundred guests composed of members of the club and their lady friends and they initiated the new quarters in a way that was pleasing to all.

Speech making, dancing, card playing and banqueting were the features with unrivaled sociability to add to the charm of the occasion.

The costumes of the ladies were surprisingly handsome and the men were attired equally as attractive. The hall was tastefully decorated and the dining table was the finest thing seen here for many a day.

The quarters being new the excellent furnishings and decorations made an excellent scene.

The event was opened by Ira P. Englehart, president of the club who made a speech fitting to the occasion. He was responded to by L.H. Clogg, owner of the building, whose talk brought a happy smile to all. The affair was then turned over to the ladies of the Women's club who took charge and made a wonderful success. Mrs. Estal Snyder, president of the Women's club made an address and then the lodge gave an exhibition of the way they conduct club affairs. Special features were a song sung by Mrs. Louis Lesh of Everett who is visiting here and piano solos by Miss Daisy Boyle and Mrs. Guy McL. Richards. The banquet served was magnificent and enjoyed most heartily. The Yakima Herald, Tuesday, February 11, 1902.

The Commercial club last week moved all its property from the Lewis-Engle building to the new quarters in the Clogg building.

Commercial club
Lodge floor

"As soon as vacated the Modern Woodmen took possession of the whole third floor of the building and are now fitting it up in elegant shape for future use. They will establish a reading room for the benefit of the members and will make the hall as inviting as any in the city.

The lodge expects to rent the room to other lodges of the city, among which is the Fraternal club, the Modern Brotherhood of America, Foresters and Loyal Tribe of Joseph--The Yakima Herald, Feb. 2, 1902.

The Commercial club last week moved all its property from the Lewis-Engle building to the new quarters in the long building.

When some of the old records of the Commercial club were being moved today to the new quarters a manuscript of yellowed paper fell to the sidewalk.

Picking it up W.E. Richardson, assistant secretary found it to be the first annual report of the Yakima Commercial club submitted by J.M. Gilbert , secretary in 1894.

This ancient paper disclosed that the Commercial club was organized late in 1893 at the suggestion of E.F. Benson and was "born in the conviction that growing interests of Yakima county demanded for their oversight and guidance the concentrated effort and care of her business men."

The report goes on to say: "Throughout a year of unprecedented business depression the club has inaugurated its work and I do not doubt that every member who is familiar with the results attained will voice the sentiment that the organization was justified.

The Commercial club at the time of its organization took over the funds and machinery of the Yakima club which up to that time had been a sort of social group.

The first annual report does not show who was the first president and some of the charter members who are still here do not recall for certain whether the first president was Edward Whitson, W.F. Prosser or William Kerr.

Search of the files of the old weekly Herald disclosed the announcement that the first election would be held on a certain date and the next issue after the election simply recorded the announcement that the first election was held as foretold in

The Herald of last week and fails to give the important information as to results.

The first annual report shows that the origin of the club's interest in the State fair dates back to the first fair which was held

in 1894.

The club offered its cooperation to the State fair commission which appeared to be without funds and raised several thousand dollars in money, labor and materials to assist with the first show.

The club also aided in building a road to the fairgrounds.

Other accomplishments listed in the report included the repair of roads and bridges across the reservation, promotion of the Portland, Vancouver & Northern railway, planting of nut bearing trees, introduction of game birds, establishment of creameries starch factories, canneries and a pressed brick factory, ridding the city of vagrants, relief of the indigent, establishment of a packing house, location of a federal judge at Yakima, reduction of freight rates on Yakima products, discussion of the opening up of the reservation with members of congress, entertainment of a party of agricultural editors from the east and the institution of a series of bi-weekly socials.

The earliest list of officers found among the old records was that for 1897 when Edward Whitson was president; W.H. Hare first vice president; J.L. Smith second vice president; H.H. Lombard, treasurer and Charles F. Bailey secretary.

Members of the governing board that year were A.B. Wyckoff, A.B. Weed, O.A. Fechter, F.M. Spain, Alex Miller, Phil A. Ditter, Frank Horsley, G.A. Graham, W.H. Bogle and G.S. Rankin. Trustees were Charles Carpenter, George Donald, A.C. Coburn, T.G. Redfield and Fred Parker.

By 1905 H.H. Lombard had become president; W.L. Lemon first vice president; C.A. Marsh second vice president; Frank Bartholet treasurer and Fred Chandler secretary--The Yakima Republic, March 28, 1925.

S.J. Small, Jr. field representative of the United States Chamber of Commerce with western district headquarters at San Francisco came to Yakima today to aid the Commercial club in carrying out its plans for reorganizing as a valley chamber of commerce.

Mr. Small is a stranger to Yakima but fought side by side with many Yakima youths in the 146th field artillery of which one battery was organized here, in the Argonne.

Mr. Small will remain in Yakima for several days and begin his service this noon at the meeting of the Rotary club. Tomorrow he speaks to the Lions club, on Saturday meets with the Commercial club's reorganization committee and on Wednesday will speak at the monthly membership luncheon of the Commercial club when the girls glee club of Washington State college will also be on the program.

J.L. Hughes, who has taken the lead in the move to form a chamber of commerce that will be valley wide in its outlook and scope of activity says that he has found great interest in his project in all sections of the valley.--The Yakima Republic, February 5, 1925.

Members now enrolled 874.

Present cash assets \$4,853.

Tourist park investment \$8,002.

Receipts for year \$22,585.

Total club assets \$24,766.

Yakima Commercial club members it was revealed at the annual meeting held at the club last night are in a flourishing condition with support of the club even stronger as shown in the membership dues.

Five directors, F.F. Stubbs, Dr. H.E. Wight, E.M. Fisher, Leo Ross and Erling Helliesen were elected to serve for the coming two years. A.B. Cline, treasurer presented his report.

J. Wood L. Hughes suggested that the time had come for an expansion of the club into a Chamber of Commerce to handle the community's matters for the entire valley. This organization would make it more effective. The club appointed Hughes, Grover Durrows, and A.B. Cline with Secretary Soots to look into the feasibility of making the change.

"Second in importance to serving the fruit growers and agricultural interests (also livestock) is the need for a new community hotel to serve for the next 25 or 50 years.

"A good road to White Bluffs and Hanford will bring immediate and substantial dividends to commercial interests of the city. Early completion of State Road No. 5 to Mt. Rainier and the Mt. Adams highway to connect with the new bridge across the Columbia at White Salmon, were noted as projects in Soots' annual report -- Yakima Republic, Dec. 18, 1924.

Grover Durrows of the Durrows motor company was this noon elected president of the Yakima Commercial club to serve for the coming year.

A.B. Cline was named first vice president is chairman of the commercial and industrial committees; H. Stanley Coffin, second vice president, chairman of the agricultural and livestock committee; H.M. West, third vice president, is chairman of the civic and publicity committee; F.F. Stubbs, fourth vice president is chairman of the horticultural committee; Charles Heath, treasurer and O.C. Soots, secretary.

Soots came here seven years ago next July from Walla. He was reemployed for one year. December 24, 1924.

Commercial club

The annual meeting of the Yakima Commercial club was held on Tuesday when the old officers retired and new ones assumed their duties.

The officers for the ensuing year are J.M. Gilbert, president; G.A. Graham, first vice president; George S. Vance, second vice president; H.H. Lombard, treasurer; A.B. Wyckoff, A.B. Weed, W.H. Redman, W.M. Heiney, F.M. Sain, W.H. Hare, O.A. Fechter, Frank Horsley, W.L. Steinweg and George Donald, members of the governing board; Charles Carpenter, H.B. Rigg, T.G. Redfield, Alex Miller, and E.M. Reed, trustees.

Summary: During the year 8,000 handsomely illustrated pamphlets recounting the advantages of the Yakima valley as a home for prospective settlers.

Memorializing the legislature on the subject of reduction of freight rates and bringing to the attention of railroad officials the need for a new depot.

A large number of stereoscopic views of Yakima county were made to illustrate lectures given in the east on Washington and Yakima was advertised by means of large placards on 100 carloads of potatoes shipped to eastern states.

The assessor was assisted in the work of getting statistics on products of the county and J.D. Medill is now completing his extensive work upon which he has been engaged for some time, showing the acreage of various fruits grown in Yakima.

A remonstrance was sent against the proposed increase in the freight rates on hops.

Yakima fruit samples were sent to the Minnesota state fair and the fair held at Rock Rapids, Iowa.

Photographic views of Yakima were sent to the Franklin institute of Philadelphia to illustrate a lecture on irrigation.

Delegates were sent to the promising field of Michigan
endeavoring to secure settlers for this locality.

The Yakima fair was one of the main works of the club

Membership at beginning of the fiscal year 1895
was 103; new members elected during the year 25;
members resigned 3; members dropped from the rolls
11; present membership 114; non resident members 2.
Yakima Herald, Feb. 6, 1896.

The annual election of the Commercial club was held on Tuesday evening resulting in the following choice:

President, Edward Whitson; first vice president, W.H. Hare; second vice president J. Lovell Smith; treasurer, H.H. Lombard; governing board, J.M. Gilbert, G.A. Graham, G.S. Rankin, W.H. Bogle and Alex Miller.

One more member will make the board complete but there was a tie between Phil Ditter, I.H. Dills and E.B. Watt which will be settled at the next meeting--Herald, Jan. 28, 1897.

The third annual meeting of the Yakima Commercial club was called to order Tuesday night by Hon. Edward Whitson, president and after the reading of the minutes of the last meeting called for reports of the secretary and treasurer.

The Yakima Commercial club has completed its fourth year and stands today as one of the substantial institutions of the community and is recognized abroad as a leading factor in the development of Yakima county.

...Perhaps no more important matter has been taken in hand by the Club at any time than the building of a wagon road to the Gold Hill country mining district. This was started by the club at whose solicitation sufficient funds were pledged to go a long way toward building the road.

Largely as a result of this work sufficient state funds were appropriated to complete the road and today the work is nearly done and stands as a monument to the energy and push of the people of Yakima county. As a trade avenue the importance of this road to North Yakima cannot be overlooked.

Realizing the fact that all of Yakima's interests depend on the products of the soil the Club gladly assisted the Northern Pacific Railway Co. in inducing farmers all over the county to take part in the sugar beet experiment that has been so successful during the past year. The results have been satisfactory, so much so that the State Agricultural College at Pullman has seen fit to issue a special bulletin on the subject showing the very high grade of sugar beet that has been produced here and the establishment of a beet sugar factory in this country is quite likely to follow in due time. Five hundred of these bulletins have been bought and will be carefully circulated where they will do the most good..

Report of secretary, above:

Financial statement \$1116, total, including Feb 1, 1897
balance of .50; \$808 dues collected; \$90 initiation fees;
balance account Olney Sub list 1.50; keys sold \$3; Jan dues not
collected \$84; back \$129;

Expenses: Furniture and repairs \$38.65; printing
\$27.50; entertainments \$81.95; postal cards 5.05; periodicals and
stationary \$43.45; fuel \$69.50; light and water \$175; rent \$275;
janitor work \$105; secretary's salary \$146.92; insurance \$24.74;
sundries \$35.15, total of \$1027, net earnings of \$88.49.

....When the reports had been read President Whitson addressed the
meeting with a few well chosen remarks after which he introduced W.L.
Steinweg, president elect who thanked the club....E.F. Benson, being
one of the pioneer members of the club and formerly a very active
member, spoke...Yakima Herald, Feb. 3, 1898.

Commercial Club
Digging down into their memories and the musty record books 10 past presidents of the Yakima Commercial club last night at the housewarming smoker in the new quarters vied with each other in bringing to light accomplishments of their administration.

It turned out that Oscar Fechter who was president in 1898, and was the ranking past president on hand had a distinct advantage over others. A diligent search of old minute books failed to uncover one for his administration, leaving him free to depend entirely upon memory.

It was developed that Fred Chandler, who was secretary at that time, was present but maintained silence.

None of the presidents who served during the next five years were present but A.E. Larson, 1904 president had a bit to say about the record. Chandler was still secretary, his salary being 12 1-2 per cent of all the collections of dues at \$1 per month and he was just as loyal to Larson as Fechter.

Larson built the foundation structure by the improvement of city streets and roads running into his town. His administration forestalled the plan of the Northern Pacific to build straight through from Lind to Ellensburg thus putting Yakima on a stub line.

Then came a jump to 1909 when Alex Miller directed the club. His year in office saw the rapid strides toward reclamation development. He recalled that in the old days the Commercial club was a social group as well as business and he had a faint recollection that there had been such a thing as lockers in the club room.

W.L. Lemon, who served in 1910 said his term stood prominently in history of the club that he wouldn't run the risk of starting arguments by being too specific. Robert Rundstrom, 1911, told of raising \$6,000 for publicity to bring people to the valley. The hardest job he had though was raising \$2,500 with which to pay a debt due a furniture company.

Dr. Robert Prior, 1916 and R.D. Rovig, 1917 told of the development of 1008 industries to provide work for the thousands of people brought into the valley by Rundstrom's publicity /Prior took credit for the suga beet factories bu t didn't do much boasting about it while Rovig contented hi self with the Libby, McNeill & Liberty 00000 cannery.

L.A. Dash, 1920 and F.A. Duncan, 1921, said not enough time had elapsed since they served to be able to get away with some of the extravagant claims .

H.C. Lucas, who was president in 1911 and now lives in Olympia sent a telegram of congratulation which was read. W.A. Bell, 1914 president disa ppeared just before it was his turn to talk.

The argument over who was the first president of the club was settled with announcement that Col. W.F. Prosser held that office. The first quarters of the club we located on the third floor of the building now occupied by the Star Clothing company. The next move was to the Cogg building where the rooms w re especially arranged. Next came the Masonic temple from which the move was just made.

The Yakim Republic, April 4, 1925.

New quarters for the Yakima Commercial club formed the chief topic discussed by the board of trustees this noon at the Commercial hotel.

Nothing definite was decided but a building committee, composed of Grover Durrows, Frank H. Sharkey and Jacob Lentz was appointed to investigate and report at the next meeting.

The club could build a structure adequate to its needs for \$25,000, containing an auditorium capable of seating 400 persons and two or three offices, O.C. Soot, secretary said. In his opinion the club should not delay longer acquiring its own quarters.

The lease on the present location on the fifth floor of the Masonic temple building expires December 1. Whether the club will erect a building or lease space in another business block will have to be determined soon.

A.B. Cline suggested a community clubhouse housing the American Legion and the Commercial organization.

Between Dec 1, 1923 and Nov. 1, the club's receipts totaled \$28,008.15 and its expenditures \$27,358.68 Soots said. Of the receipts \$3,000 represented securities which had to be cashed leaving the financial standing the past year in the debit column. Expenses the past year have been heavy, due to entertainment and donations and disbursements. Approximately \$1,000 of the club's money was spent in donations and \$2,200 was lost on the harvest festival, he reported.

The committee voted to pay the annual dues of \$50 to the state chamber of commerce--Yakima Republic, Nov. 5, 1924.

Joseph F. Barton, A.B. was last evening elected secretary of the North Yakima Commercial club to succeed Dr. H.P. James, the latter not being a candidate for reelection.

The campaign has been a warm one for the past 30 days but when the trustees dog down to real business it did not take long. But two ballots were taken. The first was informal and showed that Mr. Barton had a majority of the trustees with him and on the second ballot, which was formal, he was declared duly elected.

..Yakima Herald, February 21, 1912.

Yakima has an unusual member o

Joseph F. Barton, a. B. was last evening elected secretary of

the North Yakima Commercial club to succeed Dr. H. F. James,

the latter not being a candidate for reelection.

The campaign has been a warm one for the past 30 days but when

the trustees dog down to real business it did not take long, but two

ballots were taken. The first was informal and showed that Mr. Barton

had a majority of the trustees with him and on the second

ballot, which was formal, he was declared officially elected.

..Yakima Herald, February 21, 1912.