

## White Bluffs

At White Bluffs. \$60,000 worth of land. Has been sold within the past three weeks and it may be known that a goodly share of this amount is held by Yakima people.

Do you own a tract of land at White Bluffs? Have you seen White Bluffs recently and are you informed of the tremendous future of the great valley possesses. Do you realize that every boat up the Columbia brings a homeseekers to White Bluffs and that every trek from Yakima, Sunnyside and other older districts swells the tide of investments and populzation..

At White Bluffs is absolutely perfect drainage, free from alkali, rock, hard pan and cement gravel, soil unequalled.

Van Holderbeke in a recent address at White Bluffs states:

"It will not be unreasonable to say that in five years hence the orchards at White Bluffs will command a value of \$5,000 per acre. Why not. With the quality of your soil, nature of your climate, freedom from frost, ideal fruit conditions, excellent drainage and your location on the Columbia river..."

We sell these lands today in 5 and 10 acre tracts for from \$175 to \$250 per acre within 1 to 2 miles of White Bluffs, terms one-fifth down, four annual payments. Be on the ground floor. It means much. July 4, 1907, White Bluffs was put on the market. At this writing we have the following:

White Bluffs Inn, building lots and furniture, \$12,000;  
Land and Irrigation Company plant 100 hp gas producer, building etc \$14,000; Irrigation Co. 150 hp gas prod. building \$16,000;  
Mercantile co, building and stock \$11,000; R. Athow, drug store and building \$5,000; F.V. Long, drug goods and building; D.J. Boag, Oasis lodging house and saloon; A.J. Schiling, rooming house; Story & Leitch, real estate, building etc. C.H. Judkins, cafe building, Chas. H. Collins, Co. stock and building;



The country is warmer and three weeks earlier than in the famous Yakima valley, fifty miles away. Now they have some communication by river with Pa co on the Northern Pacific where they float down considerable of their produce. What was once their herds of thousands of cayuses they are **changing** for cattle and hogs and turning into beef and pork. By and bye that section will be known and grow famous as one of nature's most favored sections.

"The country is a hunters' paradise. Sage hens and jackrabbits, and wild geese and numerous waterfowl are abundant and they are found on every farmers' table as a staple article of the larder. Small wolves are numerous and lynx are found back in the hills where they find congenial hiding places and dens for raising young in the clefts of the rock.

"Special Agent Marsh Atkisson of the Interior Department writing of the White Bluffs table lands in the Seattle Times. June, 1895.

## White Bluffs

The flavor and color of the fruit is marvelously perfect and the corn and grain is bounteous.....Yet until you cover that land with water it is as valueless as the wood lot or pebbly beach of the seashore.

Sage brush and sage hens, jackrabbits, rattlesnakes and coyotes find an abiding place...

There are quite a number of settlers located along the bluffs and lowlands and are building for themselves homes that may well be the envy of the most fortunate farmers of the east.

Some look across and see their nearest neighbors 10 miles off, yet they speak of them as though they lived on the adjoining lot. Their nearest postoffice is 65 miles. And it is 40 and 50 miles to a trading center.

Water can be had in abundance, worlds of water, once the hoisting apparatus is set going. River wheels and windmills bring it to the surface and then it runs out over the arid lands and the sand reaches change to rose gardens..

I went in there last spring and from the time I left Rattlesnake mountain as it is called, saw no water till I arrived at the river bluffs and looked down on the broad majestic sweep of the Columbia.

There is no growing timber but the farmers there have fuel for fifty years in sight. Drift from the mighty stream can be gathered readily to last a lifetime. They even build houses and barns, fences and boats and floats from the drift that comes down on the bosom of the river. One man I saw built himself a hewn log house from the logs picked out of the



Adjudication of settlers' claims on the state soldier settlement at White Bluffs-Hanford is under way at Olympia with the committee headed by Erle Barnes state director of conservation and development, in charge.

The adjudication is in accordance with an act passed at the special session of the legislature.

Members of the committee recently spent several days at White Bluffs during which each World war veteran who had taken up a tract under state terms was interviewed. It is understood that individual settlements are to be made with the men in proportion to the degree of expressed dissatisfaction.

Some of the settlers who received the better tracts and had sufficient funds for the needed development work are understood to be fairly well satisfied while others less fortunate wish the state to return to them all expenditures made during the time they have been on the tracts and a bonus in addition, as well as to release them from their contract with the state.

Following the adjudication the state will be definitely out of the soldier settlement business, it is understood with some valuable experience and a ~~dis~~ sizeable bill as the only salvage--the

Yakima Republic, March 3, 1926.

## Land Settlement

### Hanford lands

Eight men and three women were in line at the door of the land office on Monday night and will hold their positions having their meals brought in to them until 9 o'clock Thursday morning when they intend to make entry on land on which they have settled in the White Bluffs Hanford country.

Two of them took places near the door as early as Monday morning and the rest of the crowd straggled in during the day and last night.

At 2 o'clock this morning about 10 more arrived and the line will probably be a lone one by Tuesday night.

M.M. McConaghy and R.L. Leitch of Pasco and Kennewick were the first two to arrive.

The others are F.W. McMillan, G.W. G.E. Mounsey, J.E. Plummer, James Lindsey, A.J. Allphin and Charles Anderson.

The ladies are Miss Ivy Phelps, Mrs. Aerhardt and Miss Marion Leitch, daughter of R.L. Leitch. The women have secured a rest room close by their places in line.

All of these are people who located themselves on the land. The later comers, the first of whom arrived on the night train from the east, were located by the F.M. Weil company of White Bluffs and there is much rivalry between the two crowds. Those of the first lot each represented a claim. Most of the second lot are contestants of claims occupied by those of the first.

The law is interpreted by the homesteaders making the first to appear in the land office the entryman and the others are contestants and the contestants are supposed to have to pay the costs of the inevitable hearings.

The probabilities are that there will be some exciting scenes in the corridors of the top floor of the Miller building before



Thursday morning which is the moment that filings can be made--  
The Alaska Herald, Oct. 6, 1909.

Eight men and three women were in line at the door of the land office on Monday night and will hold their positions having their meals brought in to them until 9 o'clock Thursday morning when they intend to make entry on land on which they have settled in the White Hills land country.

Two of them took places near the door as early as Monday morning and the rest of the crowd struggled in during the day and last night.

At 2 o'clock this morning about 10 more arrived and the line will probably be a long one by Tuesday night.  
M.M. McConagh and H.L. Leitch of Reno and Kennewick were the first two to arrive.

The others are E.W. McMillan, G.H. G.H. Munnay, J.E. Padden, Hanner, James Lindsay, A.J. Alphin and Charles Anderson.  
The ladies are Miss Ivy Phelps, Mrs. Aephart and Miss Marion Leitch, daughter of R.O. R.L. Leitch. The women have secured a rest room close by their places in line.

All of these 9000 are people who located themselves on the land. The later comers, the first of whom arrived on night train from the east, were located by the E.M. Well company of White Hills and there is much rivalry between the two crowds. Those of the first lot each represented a claim. Most of the a cord lot are contestants of claims occupied by those of the first.

The law is interpreted by the homesteaders making the first to appear in the land office the entryman and the others are contestants and the contestants are supposed to have to pay the costs of the inevitable hearings.

The probabilities are that there will be some exciting scenes in the corridors of the top floor of the Miller building before

Pasco-Cold Weather  
water famine  
(Richland-White Bluffs)

Pasco, January 11, 1909- Unless a radical change in the weather takes place before this evening, Pasco will be without water.

Exceptionally cold and low water has caused the water in the Columbia to fall below the intake completely shutting the city service off. Restaurants and saloons are compelled to melt snow for their use.

The Northern Pacific service is also hampered and engines are compelled to either take water at Relief or Eltopia, thus causing a delay in freight and passenger service.

Extreme cold weather continues to prevail, the mercury tonight however is between 8 and 10 below.

All up river towns are practically cut off from the outer world according to advices from Richland and White Bluffs the ice jams, some of which are 30 feet high, obstruct the river.

All boat service has been discontinued. An effort will be made tomorrow to carry mail by team to up river towns.



White Bluffs, Feb. 28- A bank is to be opened within 30 days at White Bluffs by Bonn brothers of The Dalles, Ore., who were here this week and purchased property to the value of \$10,000.

A new annex to the White Bluffs inn is being built at a cost of \$9,000. This hotel building was erected last September, the opening being on Thanksgiving.

(copy)

A.V. Long of Tacoma is opening a large department store on Almon street.

The old White Bluffs ferry which was established 28 years ago to connect the old Colville trail has been purchased by Carl P. Colvin and is being transformed from its ancient dignity to modern usefulness.

A new school house is to be built in White Bluffs at a cost of \$5,000. Bonds for the same have been sold at Prosser.

1908  
28  
1880  
2



## White Bluffs

No decision has been rendered by the local land offices in the case below cited although it might so appear from the Post-Intelligencer's account of it.

Agent Marsh Atkisson of the land office has been in Yakima prosecuting several cases before Register A.F. Snelling in which

it was alleged there has been an attempt to defraud the government by filing on and claiming desert land along the Columbia river for agricultural purposes that could not be irrigated and in a number of cases there has been no attempt to irrigate it.

As the most of the entrymen had not been able to make proper use of the land they had filed upon they relinquished their claims but several made a hard fight, especially G.M. McKinney of North Yakima who produced a map in his trial which it turned out, was inaccurate and worthless, as were the claims he made for an irrigation pump of which he had proposed to transform the desert into farms--  
Yakima Herald, August 8, 1895.

## White Bluffs

Special Agent Marsh Atkisson of the interior department is in the city for the purpose of continuing the investigation of the alleged land frauds along the Columbia river White Bluffs--Yakima Herald, July 4, 1895.

Special Agent Marsh Atkisson is in the city conducting the contest cases against Harry Coonse, F.E. Whitcomb, H.J. Philpot, M.O. Ball, L.E. Ball and G.M. McKinney. Their lands are located along the Columbia river in the vicinity of White Bluffs and the water required to make proof was obtained by means of Nye pumps--Yakima Herald, July 11, 1895.



## White Bluffs

A portion of the famous White Bluffs, located 50 miles east of Yakima City on the Columbia river is decided to be asbestos, and a gentleman from Chicago has a patent for covering boilers with a composition made chiefly of asbestos was made by the writer at Butte Montana, some weeks ago and informed of the deposit at White Bluffs. He was eager to find such a formation. His process of coating boilers retains the heat and renders it cheaper to operate with less fuel...

Thos. Edison will no doubt be delighted to read in the Farmer of this valuable discovery and the editor would be pleased to have some one who ranges over about White Bluffs take the pains to bring to his office specimens of the article in order that we may forward them to New York and to the New Orleans Exposition--Washington Farmer, Dec. 6, 1884.

The big plant of Priest Rapids is ~~w~~orking like a charm.

The highway connecting Hanford with the Yakima road has been completed and the signboard directing thousands of travelers to their fortunes in and about Hanford stands out like a loyal sentinel in the great sage plain.

The big ferry across the proud Columbia at this point, connecting Benton and Franklin counties and therefore, the two empires on either side of the stream is now in successful operation.

The pumping station for the city water supply has been installed and is now in operation.

The big Hotel Planters is receiving the finishing touches of the busy workmen and the farmer and gardner, the builder and merchant, pioneer and newcomer are all happy.

Heretofore the traveler by the public highway from the Yakima region to the center of the Hanford district was compelled to circle Gable mountain almost to reach this little city.

The H.I. & P company without asking aid of the county or other agencies, constructed a wagon road 10 miles in length connecting the old military highway from North Yakima to the Columbia directly with Pope avenue in Hanford thus saving the traveler many miles in his journey.

In addition the Hanford company has constructed a large ferry boat built massive towers and swung a four-ton cable high above the smokestacks of the steamers that ply the river to this point, thus enabling those who travel by team from the great wheat belt east and south of the river to the Yakima country to take a direct course through the Hanford fruit belt. This will save them many miles of travel--Hanford Columbian (Watson's paper)



Crops in the Hanford section along the Columbia river are weeks ahead of schedule, Floyd Foster, secretary of the Tieton Water users association said in commenting on his recent motor journey to Spokane and return here.

Whi000 Mr. Foster, who was accompanied by his wife and three boys stopped at the ranch of his brother, Charles Foster for the day. His brothers place is on the Franklin side of the river near Hanford. Strawberries were on the table and new potatoes have already been used. Apricots were an inch in diameter, Mr. Foster said--The Yakima Republic, A ril 27, 1926.

White Bluffs wants to get in on the proposed cheap power project outlined to the city commission 10 days ago by officials of the Inter-Mountain Construction and Electric company of Seattle. Mayor William B. Dudley received a wire yesterday from the White Bluffs "power users committee" announcing a determination to cooperate and asking advice as to what plans are taken here to further the project.

A committee of White Bluffs citizens is forming to push the development, the telegram stated. It was signed by R.R. Woods, M.S. Branick, Ira C. Hawley, C.A. Whitney, F.J. Bonn, J.C. Schuster, R.B. Barge and L. Andrew Coddington.

Since the conference with the Seattle party the city commission has done nothing more toward investigating the project and does not expect to take any action until more details are available and the plan takes more material shape, Mayor Dudley said today.

The proposed power plant that would be located in Glade canyon and would be capable of turning out 130,000 horse power electric energy and the same water running its turbines would irrigate 300,000 acres of Horse Heaven land, the officials said. Power could be laid down at Yakima for 1/2 cent per kilowatt hour it was said--The Yakima Republic, October 31, 1924.



Additional reasons why Yakima county should improve the road to Hanford and White Bluffs are contained in a letter received by the Commercial club today from the Hanford Community club. The Hanford organization points out Franklin county spent \$21,000 last year in order to improve the Connell-Hanford road. Franklin county has included \$20,000 in its 1925 budget for work on the same highway. The Connell-Hanford road gives a much shorter route to Spokane from Yakima and therefore is of much value to Yakima the letter explains.

The present routes to Spokane are by way of Pasco on to Walla Walla and to the Falls City by the Yellowstone trail or by way of Ellensburg. The road mentioned leaves the Central Washington highway at Connell and extends in a westerly direction to Hanford and across the Hanford ferry, connecting with the Hanford-Yakima road.--Yakima Herald-Examiner, Republic, Nov. 7, 1924.

The proposed power plant that would be located in Glade canyon and would be capable of turning out 130,000 horse power electric energy and the same water turning its turbines would generate \$300,000 a year. Power could be laid down at Yakima for 1 1/2 cent per kilowatt hour it was said.--The Yakima Herald-Examiner, October 31, 1924.

told of the development of the department for which a half mill state levy is made. From this fund \$250,000 was loaned for furnishing seed to needy farmers which has practically all been repaid. Yakima Republic, September 25, 1924.



Progress made in recent years in the White Bluffs-Hanford district was told this noon to the Rotarians at their weekly meeting at the Elks temple by means of a program arranged by W.C. Rider.

J.C. Scott, director of the soldier settlement project gave a history of the project saying that in 1922 the state started the experiment of making farms from sage brush land getting the land in shape and then selecting the men.

"The system of watering is by wells doing away with ditches," Mr. Scott said. "The wells furnish an ample flow with the water raised by centrifugal pumps operating with electric power. The state provides building improvements worth about \$1,500 and pays the power bill for three years. The aim is to have the ranch self supporting from the time the occupant comes on it.

"The state of Washington has tremendous areas of land just as capable of production as these which can be brought into similar development. It is desired to keep down the tenant system of farming as the man who owns his property takes a deeper interest in the duties of citizenship. There are now 60 farms that have been sold and 39 more to be sold with development work proceeding at a good pace. The state department is learning on this project how best to make a successful settlement and obtain the most efficient production. As soon as the Priest Rapids power dam is in there will be 60,000 acres on the east side of the river ready for water.

"Soldiers have preferential rights on the project. All men on the lands at present are ex-service men. The units are 20 acres costing from \$4,500 to \$6,000 including all improvements."

F.W. Agatz of the state department of development and reclamation

## White Bluffs

It is stated that active operations will commence on the new townsite of White Bluffs early in the spring.

The contractor who is to have charge of ditch construction is already there. One of the first enterprises will be a brickyard and the first brick building will be a store 25x60. The steamer to ~~Op000 Op000~~ ply between that point and Pasco is an assured fact--The Yakima Herald, January 10, 1904.



Judging from a deed filed with County Auditor Jenkins there is going to be more than one new town over in the White Bluffs country in this county under the Hanford irrigation project. The deed in question was the transfer of section 29 in 14-27 by Walter Hersom and wife to the White Bluffs Land & Irrigation Co. of which C.B. Smith of Tacoma is president, the consideration being \$32,640.

On the same day the company recorded a mortgage to Mr. Hersom for \$24,480, indicating that the difference, \$8,160 was paid in cash.

As stated in the Bulletin last week the Hanford Irrigation Company filed with the auditor the plat of the new town of Hanford which is located in section 26, 13-27 while Manley Haynes, a relative of Judge Hanford filed the plat of Haynes' garden tracts which lie in section 23, adjoining the townsite of Hanford, both being on the Columbia river.

Several months ago the Hanford company purchased section 33 in 14-27 for \$31,000 in which J.R. McKeand of this city was interested, it then being supposed that would be the site of the company's new town. But the town of Hanford, which is undoubtedly the official town of the company has been located about six or seven miles down the river.

Whether the purchase made for the townsite will now be used for that purpose is not known, but it is undoubtedly the intention of the White Bluffs Land & Irrigation company to start a town on the land just purchased of Mr. Hersom. President Smith of this new company is understood to be a heavy stockholder in the Hanford Irrigation & Power company, a number of his associates also holding stock and it would therefore appear that there has been or is about to be a clash between the stockholders in

reference to where the towns hall be located which will result in two towns being started.

This will in no wise injure the Hanford irrigation project as a whole, all the land be mentioned being under their canal but if the efforts of all the stockholders were united to build up one town instead of being divided between two, a much larger town would be the natural result--The Hanford Prospector Bulletin, May, 1907.

being \$22,040.

On the same day the company recorded a mortgage for

\$24,480, indicating that the difference, \$2,180 was paid in cash.

As stated in the Bulletin last week the Hanford Irrigation

company filed with the auditor the plat of the new town of Hanford

which is located in section 26, 13-27 while Manley Haynes, a relative

of Judge Hanford filed the plat of Haynes' garden tract which lies

in section 23, adjoining the towns of Hanford, both being on

the Columbia river.

Several months ago the Hanford company purchased section 23 in 14-27

for \$31,000 in which J. E. McLeod of this city was interested. It

then being supposed that would be the site of the company's new

town. But the town of Hanford, which is undoubtedly the official

town of the company has been located about six or seven miles

down the river.

Whether the purchase made for the towns site will now be used

for that purpose is not known, but it is undoubtedly the intention

of the White River Land & Irrigation company to start a town on

the land just purchased of Mr. Hanson. President Smith of this

company is understood to be a heavy stockholder in the Hanford

Irrigation & Power company, a number of his associates also holding

stock and it would therefore appear that there has

been or is about to be a clash between the stockholders in