

Urugation: UAC

Fruitvale

(ditch)

Articles of incorporation of the Fruitvale Ditch company were filed with the auditor last Friday.

The company is capitalized at \$1,000, divided into 500 shares of \$2 each. The organization is for mutual benefit. The five directors named are:

W.L. Wright, W.B. Newcomb, Alfred Gobalet, F. E. Koreski and W.P. Guthrie--Yakima Herald, April 22, 1902.

Leadbetter canal

A movement has been on foot for some time relative to the building of a canal and throwing open to settlement the big body of land fronting on the Columbia river in the northeastern part of Yakima county.

There are 150,000 acres of the finest land in that part of the county belonging to the state, the federal government and the railroad company that only awaits a canal for development.

The old ~~legislated~~ Leadbetter canal was intended to cover this land but like many such institutions in the hard times the company that started the canal busted. There is now a plan on foot to straighten out the legal tangles into which this company has fallen which was started a short time ago when George Donald was appointed a receiver to settle its affair. Since then a Portland company has been endeavoring to get hold of the property with a view of building the canal but so far it has not been successful. It is the opinion of those on the inside that work on the canal will be commenced before another year rolls by. -Yakima Herald, April 15, 1902.

Irrigation

Selah

The reports of blasting that have been heard in the city lately are due to working in the rock for construction of an irrigation ditch in the east Selah valley to irrigate 1,500 acres of land belonging to George S. Taylor, P.A. Bounds, Theodore Daum, Joseph Repp and Wenzel Maywald.

The ditch will be finished by the time the water is required and the land to be covered is now being grubbed and made ready for plowing and seeding--Yakima Herald, January 14, 1902.

new arrival

Irrigation-Historical

What has irrigation done for the Yakima county? With sage brush on all sides as far as the eye could see it looked very gloomy indeed when I landed here on August 2, 1881.

I came from California where irrigation was carried on very extensively and settled on Nob Hill and having had some little experience in that line of work it was not long until the settlers of Nob Hill banded themselves together and built the Natchez and Cowyche canal.

Well do I remember the struggle we had to complete the ditch as none of us had any too much means to fall back on. Consequently we were forced to do the work ourselves. We put our shoulders to the wheel and all made a determined push together and completed the ditch in 1882 as far as Nob Hill, a distance of about six or seven miles.

This is now the paradise of the valley, the beautiful garden of Yakima county where land is selling at from \$150 to \$300 per acre. Some of our new arrivals will say it is not worth that price; but I will say it is and can prove it. On this same land there has been raised as high as 18 tons of potatoes to the acre which at the present price of \$18 per ton would amount to \$324 per acre. Of course this is not all profit as the cost of planting and harvesting would have to be deducted from that amount.

This is an extra large yield ten tons per acre being the average in this locality. Equal if not larger yields per acre are obtained in fruit, hops, alfalfa and melons. So much for what irrigation has done for Nob Hill.

Since 1881 irrigation canals have been built at an amazing rate. Among the most important of these is the Selah valley canal which waters a beautiful tract of land from five to ten miles north of this city. Seven or eight years ago this was a barren sage brush plain but now it is capable of raising equally as good crops as the Nob Hill tracts. On the same side of the river but a little farther

down is the Glead ditch and directly opposite this ditch across the Natch Natchez river is where the famous Yakima valley canal which supplies the water to irrigate what is called Northwest Nob Hill has its intake.

The land under this canal has become famous for its large yields of fruits, alfalfa, hops, potatoes and garden truck. Without irrigation this land would be almost worthless but now it is selling at from \$100 to \$250 per acre.

The Hubbard ditch, which irrigates the west part of the Moxed valley and the Selah-Moxe ditch, which irrigates the eastern part of the same valley, are two very large canals and are now irrigating about 10,000 acres of land. Under the latter, named ditch, about 75 or 80 families have settled during the last eight months.

Directly east of this is the same valley is the artesian well district of about 2,000 acres which is watered by wells. The upper land of this valley about 12 years ago was practically worthless, whereas today the settlers ship thousands of dollars worth of produce to market raised on the same land. Irrigation has done all this.

Still farther east in this valley is the contemplated high line canal to Sunnyside. The survey has already been made and when constructed will be about 100 miles long and will water about 100,000 acres.

The Yakima Indian reservation is coming to the front in irrigation, having two large canals completed and now watering about 10,000 acres of fine land. Most of this land however, is leased to the whites by Indians, thereby turning out large yields yearly. Then comes the Sunnyside canal by far the largest canal in the county being 30 feet wide at the bottom with one to two feet slope and about seven foot banks. The main canal is now completed 41 1-2 miles and covers about 60,000 acres of which about 20,000 are under cultivation,

new arrival

13,000 acres of which have been settled on within the last year.

The profits derived from these lands yearly runs away into the hundreds of thousands of dollars. Without irrigation the land would hardly be worth paying taxes on.

Still farther down the Yakima river is the Prosser Falls canal and also the Kennewick canal, both of which cover large tracts of land. This does not include the 15 or 18 smaller ditches that irrigate from 500 to ~~6,000 acres~~ 4,000 acres of farming land.

No one who is not familiar with irrigation can be made to realize the vast prosperity derived from irrigated lands. I have spent almost 21 years in this valley and I can safely say that lands here are more productive when irrigated than any land I have ever seen and double as productive as when watered by the elements. Furthermore the water supply is inexhaustible. If every acre that is tillable in the county was under water we would have abundance and some to spare. We want more irrigation canals built and hope congress will take heed to that part of President Roosevelt's wise recommendation of reclaiming the desert lands of the western states. A portion of the public money could not be put to a better use. By W.I. Lince, Yakima Herald, Dec. 21, 1901.

Selah-Moxee canal

On Tuesday the Democrat man accepted the invitation of Contractor Burlingame to accompany him in his buggy on a tour of inspection of the new Moxee ditch, the construction of which has been under way since December 13 last when the first furrow was turned.

Burley's fine roadster soon landed us at the graders camp about six miles east of town where a stop was made for dinner. About 30 men and perhaps 20 teams were making their home at this camp and hove in sight for the noonday meal as we arrived.

The scribe felt much interest in what he saw, particularly the well trained horses and mules which came trooping in and refreshing themselves in a nearby ditch, went each to his particular stall where feed awaited them.

After inner man was satisfied the trip was resumed and the course of the canal followed to a point beyond Artesian Heights.

...As was stated the work was commenced on December 13 and 26 miles of the canal is now virtually completed with exception of the four miles of fluming. The time mentioned in the contract for completion of the work is May 15.

The scribe and his companion surveyed the landscape below from that splendid point of vantage, Artesian Heights and after counting some 30 new houses recently erected by new settlers, both simultaneously gave utterance to the same sentiment that moved them, which was about as follows:

"What a paradise the life giving waters will make of this hitherto useless desert.--The Yakima Democrat, March 30, 1901.

"Water has been run through the Seāah-Moxee canal from one end to the other without a break. There are yet several small features of the ditch to be put in condition before final acceptance but to all intents and purposes the contract has been completed in a most admirable manner.....

J.W. Clise of Seattle, one of the principal backers of the enterprise was in the city Wednesday and went out to inspect the ditch.....The Yakima Democrat, Saturday, May 18, 1901.

According to the program heretofore mapped out the Commercial club on last Saturday proceeded to celebrate the dedication of the recently completed irrigation canal which waters 5,000 acres of the Moxee high lands.

The canal is 25 miles in length and the cost of construction was over \$50,000. The project was advocated for a long time by W.T. Clark who has for a number of years been interested in artesian water as a means of irrigation for the upper levels of the Moxee section.

The scheme as proposed by Mr. Clark for a high line ditch to cover the lands with water from Yakima river received a second in G.S. Rankin and after long months in exploiting the advantages of the proposition J.W. Clise, a monied man of Seattle joined with the original promoters and assisted in putting their ideas into effect.

The ditch is now completed and water runs upon the most fruitful soil to which the vivifying touch of irrigation has hitherto been unknown. Those of us familiar with the erstwhile condition of the section through which the canal now deviously takes its way, need only to go through the old road leading to the

Columbia to see the marvel wrought...

The visitors were entertained by a banquet at the Hotel Yakima Saturday evening. The guests included: From Seattle J.W. Glise, W.H. Parry, A.J. Blethen, Jr., S.P. Weston, and C.R. Collins. From Tacoma, F.W. Dowell, manager of the Northern Pacific railway company; Thomas Cooper, western land agent; F.W. Gilbert, division superintendent and I.A. Nadeau, general agent.....The Yakima Democrat, June 15, 1901.

Shanno ditch

Work was commenced on the changing of the Shanno ditch last Monday so as to make it run down Rainier avenue from C street to Yakima avenue.

This change is made on account of the bad condition the ditch is in in that part to be changed.

"Willows have grown up so in the channel that it is filled and the water runs out over the land, causing pools of water to stand in many places--Yakima Herald, Oct. 24, 1901.

Sunnyside Canal

Big Ditch to be Sold.

Judge Hanford of the United States court having issued an order for the sale of the property of the Yakima Investment Co. the sale has been set for February 26. The property includes the Sunnyside canal and all lands acquired by the company in that great irrigation enterprise. It will terminate a receivership that has extended over a period of five years and restore to private management the most important business proposition in the country.

No one connected with the receivership at this place knows who the prospective bidders are. However the sale being ordered at the instance of the plaintiffs, it is just to presume that a scheme of reorganization is on foot. ..

The minimum bid which the master will accept is \$335,000. This will cover all outstanding receiver's certificates. Aside from this indebtedness there are bonds unpaid amounting to \$263,000 and unsecured claims of \$200,000.

The Sunnyside canal in its inception was projected by Walter N. Granger, the present manager. He had secured options on 31,000 acres of the Northern Pacific lands and on these for a basis he formed a corporation in 1890. The Northern Pacific soon came into the deal and has been closely connected with it since. Subsequently there were two organizations. In each case Paul Schulze, general land commissioner for the Northern Pacific was made president. In 1893 the main canal, 42 miles in length, the Rocky Ford and Snipes Mountain branches, 45 miles in length and 300 miles of distributing ditches were completed.

Late in 1894 the California Safety Deposit and Trust Co. brought suit against the Yakima Investment Co. to foreclose on a mortgage given to secure \$750,000 in bonds, of which \$400,000 had been issued. As a result of that action Paul Schulze, J.S. Allen and George Donald were

appointed receivers. The cost of the canal as shown by the books turned over to the receivers was \$750,000.

Much of this was unpaid. In April, 1895 Shultz committed suicide owing to complications in his business affairs. Mr. Donald retired from the receivership in January, 1898 and Judge Allen continues in that capacity to the present time. The Yakima Republic, January 26, 1900

(Sale date later changed to March 5)

Moxee..Irrigation

Messrs Clark and Rankin of this city who have worked so faithfully for the past 18 months on their scheme to irrigate a large body of land in the Moxee have now the satisfaction of feeling and knowing that their dream of rippling water trickling through the parched and thirsty soil of the Moxee plains bids fair now to soon become a blessed reality.

In the initial work on their scheme these enterprising young men have had many obstacles to contend with, but with absolute faith in their proposition have persevered in their efforts to interest capital in their canal scheme and have at last received assurances that all the money needed to prosecute and successfully finish the work will be forthcoming at once.

The financial arrangements for carrying on the enterprise have been consummated with the Clise Investment Co. of Seattle, the president of which institution is Mr. J.W. Clise, president of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce.

The last stumbling block to the success of the scheme was removed last Saturday when the school land that remained unsold in sections 16 and 36 in the Moxee was sold by Auditor Kelso at public auction at the front door of the court house. The only bidder was J.W. Clise who bid for and bought all the same at the appraised price of \$10 an acre.

The number of acres sold was 800 so the purchase price was \$8,000. This land lies under the proposed canal and was deemed necessary for the success of the scheme.

On Monday morning Surveyor J.M. Hall was promptly set to work with a good force of men to cross-section the proposed route in order that contracts may be made at once and work started as the financial backers of the enterprise are said to be desirous of having

water running in the ditch by the time the irrigating season opens next spring.

The proposed canal when completed will be 22 miles in length and not 34 ~~ms~~ was erroneously stated by a local paper.

The intake of the high line canal will be the present source of the Bouds-Meyer ditch in the east Selah, the new ditch in fact by arranging with the Bouds & Meyer people, absorbs the present ditch which will be enlarged to several times its present capacity.

When the Selah mountain is reached the canal will wind its way around the base of the hill in a strongly built fluming of which something over three miles will be required. After the big hill is left behind the work will be comparatively easy as the ditch will then for the balance of the way run through a rich soil. The lower end of the canal will be in the neighborhood of the old Nick McCoy ranch.

9 The dimensions of the ditch it is said will be 18 feet on top and 10 feet on the bottom and will be designed to carry enough water to irrigate 5,000 acres of land that will be tributary. The land is especially fertile and will make desirable farms especially so on account of its proximity to this city. An agent of the company in Iowa has already, it is said, made arrangements with a number of Hollanders and German families to occupy a portion of the land--The Yakima Democrat, Dec. 1, 1900.

Moxee canal

The Selah and Moxee Canal co. last Saturday bid in at auction 760 acres of school lands on the Moxee in sections 16 and 36 of township 13 at \$10 per acre. This was the important step which decided that the canal would be built. These lands were purchased in the name of J.W. Clise a prominent business man and baker of Seattle and president of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Clise with his brother, H.R. Clise, a Seattle lawyer, and their sons, Charles and Francis Clise, came over Saturday morning to be present at the sale which took place at the courthouse that afternoon.

Mr. Clise said "We of course had been figuring on the canal for some time but acquiring these lands was the step which decided us and now we will go right ahead. The surveyors have not completed their work but they will in about two weeks and then we shall know more definitely in regard to many points about the construction of the canal."

"The cost will be in the neighborhood of \$50,000. The canal will be a great thing for the Moxee valley. Its surface will be much higher than what is known as the Moxee ditch and it will water the land situated between the artesian wells and that ditch, in all about 6,000 acres of land."

The ditch will be in all about 26 miles in length and the water will be taken from the Yakima river at a point between seven and eight miles above the gap. The dimension of the ditch north of the gap will be 15 feet in width at the bottom, 30 feet at the top and about three feet deep. When complete it will carry 65 to 70 cubic feet of water and will be as large as the Hubbard & Fowler and the Moxee ditches combined. The price of the land under the ditch with perpetual water rights has been fixed at \$60 per acre. The Yakima Republic, Nov. 30, 1900.

Bids for construction of the Selah & Moxee canal the new irrigation enterprise in the Moxee valley were opened in Seattle on Saturday and word was received here Monday that the contract had been awarded to B. C. Burlingame, a well known contractor of this place. Mr. Burlingame will perform construction work for the company in the amount of nearly \$50,000. About 200 men and 100 teams will be employed and the ditch is to be ready for use after 100 working days.

He has already begun work and parties will be stationed at various places along the line and kept busy all winter. Should the weather be favorable so that work could be carried on every day, Mr. Burlingame's task will be completed about the middle of March. He has 26 miles of ditch to dig.

Mr. Burlingame said he expects to pay \$1.75 and \$2 for men and \$3.75 for men and teams. The fluming will be let in sections to local carpenters. About 1,000,000 feet of lumber will be required.

The project will provide homes for from 100 to 200 families and the indications now are that every foot of the land will be sold to settlers before the water is turned into the ditch. It is said that should this enterprise prove as successful as those who promoted it believe it will be, the completion of the Burlingame ditch will probably follow. His ditch takes water from the Naches and will open up over 10,000 acres of excellent land near town. It is intimated that the eastern men back of the Selah & Moxee will come to the assistance of Mr. Burlingame by the time he finishes his work for them.--The Yakima Republic, Dec. 14, 1900.

Irrigation-Sunnyside

Elwood Meade, chief of the irrigation bureau of the agricultural department was at Sunnyside last week with Prof. Waller of the agricultural college. Mr. Meade made arrangements for a scientific investigation of the duty of water.

It is the purpose of this investigation to determine the amount of water needed in the growth of all kinds of crops. The relative quantities required for different products will be ascertained. The work will be under the direction of Prof. Waller, assisted by the Sunnyside force.

Mr. Meade selected the Sunnyside district for these experiments because he believes it has the best future of any irrigation district in the United States. He considers the water supply of the Yakima valley better than in any other district. At present large quantities of water are wasted. With his investigation completed the best methods of conserving the supply and using every inch will be found out--The Yakima Republic, Sept. 21, 1900.

Irrigation - General

Hubbard Ditch

Pioneers

The death of John Haines Hubbard occurred at the family residence in this city last Friday night at 11 o'clock. The prevailing ailment was Bright's disease, complicated with infirmities of old age.

He was born in Pickaway county, Ohio, June 3, 1829. He was married to Miss Elizabeth A. Vickroy in Vermillion county, Ill. on March 20, 1850. The issue of this marriage was two daughters, Mrs. Emma B. Smith and Mrs. Florence M. Lince.

Mr. and Mrs. Hubbard went from Illinois to California in the spring of 1875 and thence to Yakima four years later. The family were the first settlers on Nob Hill and Judge Hubbard, as he was commonly called, originated the plan of the extensive irrigation ditch known as the "Hubbard." This ditch was often mistaken in the news of the day for the incorporated "Hubbard" ditch in the Moxee. The Nob Hill water course irrigates between three and four thousand acres of the choicest bench land in the county and through the rapid increase in value of these lands the deceased acquired a large fortune, much of which he subsequently invested in town property.

John Hubbard was county commissioner from 1892 to 1894. Besides his daughters, one of them the wife of W.I. Lince, he leaves two granddaughters, Blanche I. Smith and Mrs. Florence A. Curry and one great grandson, Ira R. Curry.

The Yakima Republic, July 20, 1900.

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River Flow
Storage reservoirs

Sydney Arnold, government hydrographer, has prepared a comparative statement showing the estimated flow of the Yakima river for the month of June in the year 1897, 8, 9 and the present June so far.

There is a suggestive disparity in the flow of the present June 1st and the same day for the previous years.

The estimated flow on June 1, 1897, in cubic feet per second or second feet, about 50 California miners' inches was 14,946; in 1898 it was 9,534 and in 1899 11,030 and in 1900 only 3,390.

On the seventh day of June it was only a flow of 4,351 cubic feet per second and Mr. Arnold believes there will be but little additional rise owing to the absence of snow in the mountains. There is food for reflection in these figures and storage reservoirs may in time become a general necessity--The Yakima Republic, June 15, 1900.

Irrigation-Wenas

George H. Maxwell of Washington, D.C. wired Fred Chandler, secretary of the Commercial club on Tuesday good news to the people of the Wenas and other valleys needing storage reservoirs. The telegram, dated June 5 is as follows:

"Irrigation appropriation passed senate for \$25,000 to cover surveys for Yakima reservoirs. House votes tomorrow. Jones favors appropriation. Both senators with us. Turner made fine speech for measure-"The Yakima Republic, June 8, 1900.

Sunnyside Ditch

The first meeting of the Washington Irrigation company was held in Seattle last Monday. Articles of incorporation of the new company were filed at Olympia the day before.

The incorporators are R.H. Denny and Dwight P. Robinson of Seattle and O.F. Paxton of Portland.

Officers have been elected as follows:

William Ladd of Portland, president; George Donald of North Yakima vice president; D.P. Robinson, secretary; R.H. Denny, treasurer; and general manager. The board of trustees is composed of William Ladd, George Donald, John S. Bartlett of Boston and R.H. Denny and D.P. Robinson. The company is incorporated for one-half million dollars, one half of which is paid up and one half in bonds.

O.F. Paxton stated at Seattle that the company proposes to make every effort to settle the lands under the ditch. He also said "We intend to add another 25 miles of ditch at once and in the future we will build a railroad to take in the richest part of the district. This road will probably run from the Toppenish station on the Northern Pacific in a northeast and southeast course and rejoin the main line at Prosser. Our head office will be at Seattle and our cashier will be Mr. J.R. Walthew." The Yakima Republic,

May 16, 1900

In his suit David Longmire, who settled on the Wenas in 1871 sought to enjoin all the settlers above him on this stream from using the water on the ground that he was entitled to have the full flow of the stream because he was a prior riparian settler. He maintained

that those above him were not entitled to use water out of the stream because they had settled along its banks subsequent to its settlement.

The fact of Longmire's priority of settlement was established.

At the time of his settlement all the lands above him on the Wenas belonged to the public domain. Since 1871 Mr. Longmire has had extensive cultivation of lands, gradually bringing a large acreage

under irrigation. During this time other settlers had located above him on the Wenas and likewise began to draw upon the creek for irrigating waters. Expensive improvements had been made both by the plaintiff and the numerous defendants, so that hardship and loss of expended labor and money must come to all.

The litigation was started in the fall of 1898 by Mr. Longmire. The trial of the case came off in June 1899 and the judge has had the matter under more or less constant consideration since that time;

there were between 30 and 40 defendants in the suit and these represented perhaps 150 persons interested in the outcome. The plaintiff was represented by Whitson & Parker and H.J. Snively. The defendants by Graves & Englehart, Jones & Guthrie, Dogle & Riggs and Snyder & Preble--The Yakima Republic, April 27, 1900.

to use water for stock and domestic purposes. Each party to pay its

own cost.

The Wenas is a stream too small to irrigate all the land along

its course. Usually the supply is adequate until June 30 of each

year. This condition of things made a dispute between the settlers

inevitable.