

Stories

Over at Yakima the other evening Julia McCartney, an Irish lassie, was in a casket surrounded by weeping friends, the occasion being her "wake."

Some careless mourner^e flipped a drop of hot tallow from one of the candles upon the waxen face of Julia and she bounced out of the casket with a howl that completely robbed the wake of its solemnity, and refused to return.

It is seldom that the chief figure at one of these ceremonies gets a chance to participate actively in the proceedings that Julia's experience is really worthy of record--Seattle Press-Times, April, 1893.

A ghost story comes down from the upper country to the effect that a great monster serpent lives in Rock lake, near the mouth of Rock creek, and has been seen several times lately.

It is said to be 100 feet in length and is as large around as a barrel. There is an old tradition that a regular man-eater dwells in Rock lake and the Indians live in dread of it.

They have told the story of the immense size and craving for human flesh for many years, but white men have not reported having seen the monster until recently--Yakima Herald, May 11, 1893.

Yakima

Stories

Harry Hampton would rather succeed in perpetrating a good joke than to set down to a royal meal and he is fond of telling this one on his wife who wanted a garden.

His wife, a trifle miffed at Hampton's offishness to make a garden, said she would have one. She mapped out the beds that evening to be ready for work in the morning.

Hampton went down town, picked up little pebbles^s along the road which he nicely gilded, then covertly took them home and buried them in the platted ground.

In the morning, Mrs. Hampton was out with a shovel and rake bright and early. In a few moments she found one of the nuggets. She picked it up and dropping her spade stared for the house, but reconsidering returned to her work, depositing the supposed precious bauble in the folds of her dress. In a short time she found another and another and then a nest of them. This was too much. Gathering up her wealth she rushed for the house calling, "Harry, Harry." But that wretch was so convulsed with laughter that the snap was immediately given away and now Mrs. Hampton exhibits a perceptible amount of coolness toward her husband, who wishes that his humor had been directed in almost any other direction--Yakima Herald, April 17, 1890.

Tree plantings

The program for Friday, Arbor day, is as follows:

The city fathers and citizens will leave Yakima avenue at 10:30 a.m. for the city park where Mayor Prosser will deliver an address. Capt. Kingsbury will read Bryant's "Planting of the Apple Tree" and then the trees will be set out.

In the afternoon at 2 o'clock there will be interesting and appropriate exercises held at the Central and Columbia school houses by the pupils and teachers to which the citizens are cordially invited--Yakima Herald, April 12, 1894.

Arbor day was observed at the Ahtanum academy by appropriate exercises and the planting of about twenty-five ornamental trees.

L.S. Brown, a former student, showed his generosity by the gift of 60 fruit and ornamental trees and Messrs. Leaming and Simpson also contributed similar favors--Yakima Herald, April 26, 1894.

Fifty trees, mostly plums and apples, were set out this week on the depot grounds. The trees were donated by C.L. Whitney, of Walla Walla, who is overseeing the planting of a similar groves at every water tank in the arid belt along this division of the Northern Pacific. The object is to illustrate to Northern Pacific travelers the practical results of irrigation--Yakima Herald, May 3, 1894.

Water for irrigation is now flowing throughout the cemetery and shade and ornamental trees have been planted on the corner of every block.

This improvement should have been made before, but even at this late date the people are gratified over the prospect that the present dreary looking "God's acre" will before long be transformed by flowers, shrubs, trees and grass into a garden home for the caskets of our beloved dead--Yakima Herald, May 10, 1894.

Every tree blown down in the recent wind storm should be replaced by a locust, box elder, blue ash or catalpa. The balm and poplars which form a part of the number of shade trees lining North Yakima's streets are of short life at best, aside from being a prey to borers which still further shorten their existence. There is yet time this season for tree planting.--Yakima Herald, June 7, 1894.

....The matter of cutting down worthless cottonwood trees and replacing them with better varieties was discussed and on motion it was ordered that 350 trees--elm, soft maple and box elder be purchased for this purpose. Yakima Herald, Feb 24, 1898

Never before in this city's history of existence was congregated within its corporate limits such a mass of humanity as gathered here last Monday morning to welcome the president of the United States, an event which this community experienced for the first time on that day and justly deserving the great out-pour of Yakima county's sons who came from the remotest districts to gaze upon the countenance and figure of a nation's chief and hear uttered from his very lips words of encouragement and felicitations to a prosperous valley.

Early in the morning hours began the assembling of the masses and by 10 o'clock the town presented the appearance of a seething mass of humanity with hardly room for even one more.

Promptly at 10:30 o'clock the president's train arrived at the depot and was met by the mayor, Congressman Jones and members of the executive committee,

The carriages were in waiting to receive the distinguished party and all were promptly ushered to them and the procession started down Yakima avenue to the president's stand at the corner of Naches and Yakima.

Governor Henry McBride and Senator Levi Ankeny accompanied the president. The home guard preceded the president's carriage with in which were seated Mayor Jack Shaw, Governor McBride and President Mellen of the NP railroad.

All along the line people greeted with deafening shouts the Cowboy President, The Hero of San Juan Hill, Teddy and various other synonyms by which Mr. Roosevelt is commonly known..... The pupils of the public schools were massed on the bicycle path securely reposed off on Naches avenue between A and Yakima avenue.

While leaving the speakers stand the president, who up to this time had refused to shake hands with any of the people came face

to face with several of the Yaki a Indiansbedecked in their war paint and eagle feathers and wearing many colored blankets. They had come to see the Great Father of the white man, the Hyas Tyee and in recognition of this the president extended his hand which was heartily shaken by the aboriginies.

While the town clock had finished striking the hour of 11 the president was still speaking and it was 11:15 before the special train had pulled away from the station....(speech quoted) the Yakima Herald, May 27, 1903.

Even while the mercury was pressing hard against the bottom of the thermometer hoses were to be seen tied up for hours at some hitching posts, knee-deep in snow, while the owners were toast ng their shins near some red hot stove--Signal, Feb. 10, 1883.

On last Sunday evening when the thermometer had become an object of great interest a la ge num r of cattle were seen hurriedly making their way in the direction of the Yakima Gap, evidently bent on finding shelter among the trees on the reservation--Signal, February 10, 1883.

Yakima City has a street sprinkler, Record in Tacoma News, July 19, 1883.

The Signal ueges every property owner within the city limits to clear his grounds of sage brush, Tacoma News February 22, 1883.

The Yakima young gent w recently made an engagement to escort a young lady to the Hall and wandered about the stfeets in search of her residence failing to find it says our city fathers will be prosecuted for nonfeasance in office unless they numeer the city residences immediately,...Record, Jan. 26, 1884.

Since so many eulogies have been spun on the Japanese current and their warm breath fanning out plans and tempering the chinook breezes, why in all conscience don't the ancient a. original prophet give us a breeze.

Three weeks of solid winter befalling us like an abalanche on to $\frac{1}{2}$ of an Indian summer autumn.

- The mails have been blockaded three weeks except those plying between Ellensburg, Yakima, Ft Simcoe and Coldendale; these have run daily.

The trains have run without interruption from here to St Paul but owing to superior management of the division superintendent of mails everything to and from the country in 1918 which the railway through the Yakima valley runs, every letter and paper has been locked out at The Dalles.

Ben Snipes came down by rail from The Dalles, Wednesday night. Nine feet of snow has fallen at that place and there is now four feet of packed. A number of roofs have fallen in.

All over the Columbia river basin the fall of snow has been nowhere less than two feet and at Yakima there has been less than anywhere else.

Nine years ago was at the old Umatilla House at The Dalles and saw the water mark on the ceiling from the flood a short time previous and look forward to more of the same. Now in the upper Columbia is two to five feet deep. The Indians of the Kittitas have driven their ponies to the Columbia range. Many cattle of the whites are over on the same range while a large percentage of those of the Kittitas are being fed.

The Localizer says:

"two feet of snow on the level in Kittitas valley, 8 degrees below to 18 above. All mail routes snowed under and all post offices snowed in. Yakima bank froze up and Antanum whisky selling at 10 cents per solid inch kerosene color. Reports give five feet of snow at Seattle and all along Puget Sound, four feet of snow at Portland. Five feet of snow at Walla Walla, Wallula and Simcoe. The Great Bend country under five feet.

The Indians are driving all their ponies to Priest Rapid coulees and browsing sequesters. Two feet of snow at the rapids on river flats. Three of our Peshastin freighters are snowed in at the Swauk mines. The boys are catching rabbits alive in the deep snow. ..

Seven sacks of paper mail arrived at Yakima 1a00 last night, the freshest of it seen two weeks old. The latest Walla Walla paper is dated Dec. 16th. The absence of letter mail is not accounted for. ...The Washington Farmer, January 3, 1885

Many of the cottonwood trees on the city streets will be cut down this fall and winter.

The tree has become a nuisance on account of the pests of different kinds that live upon it.

It is likely that by next spring the entire city will be freed from this tree and the elm will be planted to take its place--Yakima Republic Herald, Oct. 24, 1901.

The more it is discussed the more popular becomes the proposition to turn forward the clocks one hour during the summer months.

The officials of the street railway company have given the subject the seal of their approval, bankers and professional men have declared it to be a good thing and the people generally seem ready to have it tried.

If put into effect it will be necessary to put up many signs and otherwise advertise the matter so that strangers and others not aware of the change may take notice and not miss trains on the railroads which of course will not be able to change their time ^{cards} ~~clocks~~ to conform to the local clocks.

.... Official action will probably be taken so that the plan can be put into operation by April 1. If not feasible to turn the clocks forward an hour an attempt will be made to have the people rise and begin work an hour earlier--The Yakima Herald, March 22, 1911.

North Yakima,

Historical

..resolved that the sheriff of Yakima county be requested to appoint a suitable person as deputy sheriff to act as peace officer in the town of North Yakima....it shall be the duty of said deputy sheriff or marshall of the town of North Yakima to preserve peace and order to use all means to prevent and smother fires to buildings, to examine all flues now in existence and hereafter to be constructed and to report to the committee all cases of danger from fires which are not remedied through his advice in the matter...

He shall exercise a supervision over all the sanitary measures adopted by this committee and approved by the citizens of this town.

He shall be required to examine all privies and offensive places and to notify the property holders whenever any nuisance is occasioned....

resolved that the compensation of said acting marshall shall be derived from subscription by the citizens of North Yakima and compensation not to exceed seventy five dollars per month...

Resolved that should the subscription fund as herein provided exceed in any one month the rate herein fixed the surplus shall be turned over to this committee to be held in trust for town purposes as may hereafter be designated..

W.J. Milroy, secretary, R.W. Mitchell, president..

The Washington Farmer, March 14, 1885.