

Historical.

July 4th

The very first Independence day celebration in Yakima, then North Yakima, took place on the first anniversary of the national holiday in the new town on July 4, 1885 and was an event which attracted settlers and Indians from all parts of the valley.

Difficulties and inconveniences were no discouragement and simply added zest to the whole affair. It was a day of real festivity and included on the program a parade, speeches, fireworks and sports as recalled by R.B. Milroy, commissioner of the land office.

As part of the morning program the people wended their way down to the river where the speaking was held. The fact that the road to the river was only a trail alternating mud holes with dust and chuck holes had no effect on the assembled populace which gathered in great numbers to hear a patriotic oration delivered by L.S. Howlett, editor. The parade which followed wended its way down Yakima avenue which was even then becoming a pretentious thoroughfare amid the cheers of the people ranged along both sides on the board walks.

One of the main features of this gala procession was the Liberty car. This corresponded to floats of later days with girls decked out in holiday attire to represent the states of the Union seated around the sides of the car. In the position of honor at the top sat Columbia while Uncle Sam guided the prancing steeds for the ship of state.

Long before the picnic dinners eaten at noon had begun to settle the program of races and sports was begun. These were held in the streets with the young and old participating with great gusto. Already the town boasted stores and buildings along the avenue to Second street and board walks to Third street. The avenue itself was taken care of after a fashion and offered a fair course for the running of races and other events of the after-

noon.

Fireworks and firecrackers belonged to the day at that time as much as did flags and oratory. A committee consisting of Doc Hill, Frank Shardlow and Judge Milroy was delgated as the fireworks committee and during the day they touched off quantities of explosives and fireworks.

In the evening with this same committee entertaining the multitudes with skyrockets, roman candles and firey pin wheels an episode occured which was not scheduled on the regular p gogram but which provided thrills for the performers and spectators alike.

With more enthusiams than judgment Hill touched off a skyrocket in such a fashion that the sparks of its trail landed in the midst of a bunch of roman candles. In no time at all the spectators were being bombarded in all directions with the brilliant fire balls.

The Liberty car of the parade had been selected as an ideal location on the str et from which to set off the fireworks and the committee members stayed by their guns even when the float began to burn. With the nearest water available the dauntless three extinguished the flames and the watche s returned to witness the rest of the display. The committee members therefore played the part of the first fire department in town.

In spite of the fact that Yakima was a pioneer community in the wage brush country with the usual reckless element present there was little ruffianism or disorder displayed o these occasions says Milroy. Some imbibed too freely and had to be taken in hand but there was little of the shooting up of the place so commonly associated with the western frontier. Celebrations of the Fourth were almost annual events in the early an00 days and were looked

forward to with enthusiams which is lacking in these sophisticated times.

The judge recalls other celebrations inthe valley communities also during theyears that followed as the people prospered and populations increased.

On one occasion when Prosser observed the national holiday Judge Milroy became the oratory of the day. With the estab,ishment of regular fire departments in Ellensburg and Yakima one of the annual events became the fire drill contests in which picked teams made record runs in laying out the hose and shooting water on imaginary fires--The Yakima Republic, July 4, 1924.

Holidays

Memorial Services Monday, May 25

Memorial services will be held at the opera house on Sunday, May 25th at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon. Rev. John Uren will officiate and a general invitation is extended to citizens to be present.

The following committee has been appointed to decorate the opera house for the occasion: Mrs. J.H. Thomas, Mrs. E.R. Leaming, Mrs. M.N. Mansfield and Miss Belle Dunn; assistants, Mrs. G.W. Cary, Mrs. George Goodwin, Miss Rose Cary, Miss Elva Baxter, Mrs. J.T. Eshelman, Mrs. P.J. Flint, Mrs. Dr. Rosser, Miss Sadie Ward, Miss Emma Young and Miss Carrie Jacobs.

Committee on flowers: Mrs. E.R. Leaming, Mrs. M.N. Mansfield, Mrs. Rob Dunn and Mrs. J.K. Ward. A request is made that those contributing flowers have the same at the opera house or at Ward Bros. Store.

Committee on music: Mrs. S.F. Haines, Mrs. J.F. Thomas, Mrs. L.K. Arnold and Mrs. T.M. Vance.

The procession will form at the GAR hall on First street and march to Front street, down Front to Chestnut, out Chestnut to Second, Second to Yakima avenue and thence to the opera house. The order of formation will be as follows:

Company A, first regiment, N.G.W.: civic societies; Sons of Veterans, Woman's Relief Corps, Grand Army of the Republic, Mayor, council and citizens.

The exercises at the opera house will consist of prayer by Rev. S.C. Head, music, G.A.R.: services, address by Mayor R.K. Nichols, recitation Miss Libby Lewis, recitation by Miss Badger, oration by W.L. Jones, music and benediction by Rev. J.T. Eshelman--
Yakima Herald, May 22, 1890.

Customs Miscellany

Yakima was entertained for several days during the past week by a phonograph. There was no drop a nickle in the slot business about this affair and the proprietor made a killing at twenty-five cents a head.

The twenty-fifth silver anniversary of the organization of the G.A.R. will be observed Monday evening by Lincoln post at their hall over H.H. Allen's drug store.

There will be music, recitations and an account of the organization of the society.

The Sons of Veterans, Woman's Relief Corps and the public generally is invited to be present on this occasion.

Four additional water hydrants have been located on the four corners surrounding the corner of First street and Yakima avenue. There is no no good reason why the streets shouldn't be given a good soaking occasionally.

Denman Thompson and troppe have written to secure a date here some time the latter part of this month. The "Two Sisters" will be placed."

Harold Preston, Mrs. A.A. Boyers and the Misses Zona and Myra Howlett spent a couple of days at Amasa Walker's Sunnyside ranch this week.

J.R. Peter received four carloads of timber for the Natcheez railroad bridge today. He has thirty-five men at work at present and will increase the force on Monday--Yakima Herald, April 2, 1891.

Customs (Yakima Herald)

Because she rode into the city yesterday in overalls a young woman was stopped on the street by a policeman and taken to the station and questioned.

Her husband accompanied her, both being engaged for the season at a hop ranch outside the city. They left the farm early yesterday morning and reached town early in the afternoon. When an explanation was made to the police the young woman was released. She explained she was dressed for hard riding. Yakima Herald, Sept. 25, 1912.

A Girl Should Learn

- To sew
- To Cook
- To mend
- To be gentle
- To value time
- to dress neatly
- To keep a secret
- To be self reliant
- To Avoid idleness
- To respect old age
- To mind the baby
- To darn stockings
- To catch a husband
- To hold her tongue
- To Make good bread.
- To keep ho se tidy
- To be above gossiping
- To humor a cross man
- To control her temper
- To take care of the sick
- To sweep down cob webs
- To marry a man for his worth
- To be a helpmate to a husband
- To keep clear of trashy literature
- To take plenty of active exercise
- To read some books besides novels
- To be light hearted and fleet footed
- To get into a mother-in-law's good graces-- The "ashington
Farmer, ^{April} March 4, 1885.

Yakima

Customs

Only eight marriage licenses have been issued in this county since the first of the year. The trouble might be laid to the establishment of the Yakima club, if it were not of such recent origin--Yakima Herald, April 17, 1890.

Several large sleighing parties have taken place on Nob Hill but one deserves special mention. There was six fine horses hitched to a sleigh 40 feet long. The crowd consisted of 38 couples. After riding until a late hour they were invited to the house of Bert Allen where they partook of a delicious oyster supper and played many games. At three o'clock they started for their many homes--Yakima Herald, Jan 26, 1899.

Cultural

The preliminary spelling contests inaugurated by the Good Templars was finished Tuesday evening by Miss Jessie Henderson winning the 10th silver medal.

The final contest will take place at the opera house Tuesday evening next, the successful aspirant to be awarded a gold medal.

Those who will contest for the gold medal are F.M. Spain, J.B. Pugsley, W.H. James; Henry Teal, L.E. Sperry, Lee Purdin, Robert Noonan, Miss Lettie Kingsbury, Miss Ina Phillips and Miss Jessie Henderson.

The evening's entertainment will close with an excellent musical and literary program--Yakima Herald, March 10, 1891.

The gold medal spelling contest which occurred at the opera house Tuesday evening attracted a large audience.

The spelling was preceded by a literary and musical which was well received, especially the recitations by Miss Henderson.

Of the ten silver medal winners, but eight participated in the final contest, Messrs Sperry and Teal being absent.

City Clerk F.M. Spain was the successful candidate although he was pressed hard by his competitors and declared "down" twice by the moderator on words which an investigation of Webster demonstrated were spelled two correctly, two methods of spelling being given in each instance.

The first one to miss was Miss Henderson who slipped on "contagious". She was followed by Miss Lettie Kingsbury with "asthma," Robert Noonan with exhilaration," Miss Ina Phillips with "acknowledgment," W.H. James with "Millennium" J.B. Pugsley with "ethereal" and Lee Purdin with "tyrannize." The awarding of the medal was done by Dudley Eshelman in a neat

Customs

Marriage presents

Rev. W.H. Cornett today pronounced the words which united the destinies of Henry R. Kern of Missoula, Mont and Miss Addie E. Coombs at the residence of the bride's parents.

The happy couple leave tomorrow for their new home in Missoula. Following is a list of presents they received.

Silver card receiver, Dr. and Mrs. Hargrove, Boston, Mass.; driving horse, Mr. and Mrs. M.G. Kern, Cornwallis, Mont; bedroom set, Mr. and Mrs. E.P. Kern, Missoula, Montana; silver berry spoon, Mr. and Mrs. F.M. Ingalls, Missoula, Mont., pickle caster, Mrs. Masters; silver cake basket, the Hilcox family; teaspoons, Frank Jordan; tablespoons and pair of Indian clubs, H.F. Coombs; silver mustard spoon, C.C. Coombs; celeby glass dish and two silver napkin rings, Mr. and Mrs. Blard; silver butter dish, H. Voorhees and Fred Miller, silver napkin rings, Mr. and Mrs. T.W. Davidson; cake plate, Miss May Masters; sauce dishes, Mr. and Mrs. Kesling; chair tidies, Harry Davidson; glass set, Mr. and Mrs. F. Foster; salt cellars, Maggie and Lloyd Foster; chair saddle-back, Miss Effie Cary; chair tidy, Miss Rose Cary; whisk broom holder, Mr. and Mrs. Fry; chamber set, Alex Branderburg and J. Sindall; pair of wivels, Mr. and Mrs. C. Scow; napkins, Mr. and Mrs. C. Swain, sheets and pillow cases, Mr. and Mrs. B.B. Coombs; napkins, Miss Annie Parmeter; napkins and towels, Messrs Herke and Gammon; Napkins, Mr. and Mrs. Nat Yeats; silver berry spoon, Miss Jeannie Kelly.

Miss Belle Yeats acted as bridesmaid and W.H. Robinson as groomsman-Yakima Herald, September 3, 1891.

Historical -records

Faded and dingy with age a bundle of papers on a shelf in the clock tower of the Yakima county courthouse bears evidence of the prohibition movement among county pioneers in Washington territorial days.

8 The bundle contains the records of a local option election June 28, 1886 along with the petitions signed by the requisite number of voters calling for the election to prohibit sale of liquor within precinct boundaries under territorial local option laws.

Records indicate only 473 votes were cast. Most of these were in North Yakima and Yakima city precincts which favored local option by slender margins.

The vote in North Yakima precinct including what is now Yakima was 197 to 151 and in Yakima city precinct, including the present Union Gap was 35 to 33.

Judge R. B. Milroy, an early day Yakima resident recalls that local option prevailed until the territorial supreme court later invalidated the local option law. However the legal ban against sale of liquor here meant little, he commented, as every train brought anywhere from a pint to a keg of whisky.

"All anyone who wanted liquor had to do was tell a brakeman on the train how much he wanted and the trainmen would bring it down," he said.

The bundle of local option election records was discovered among other aging documents in the courthouse attic and clock tower by WPA workers who since February 26, 1936, have been indexing old records of historical matter for research purposes. They are the earliest election records the WPA men have found although elections were held many years prior to 1886.

The election of November 8, 1892, is the first for which the county auditor's office has a complete summarized record. It is the first one recorded in an office volume which contains data on all general elections from that time to 1908.

Customs saloons
free lunches

It's gone. By one fell swoop the council has abolished the free lunch.

In a resolution offered by Councilman Miller and supported by Councilman Miller and supported by Councilman Janeck and passed unanimously the hobo's banquet table and poor man's feast have been swept away.

The blast friend it had was Councilman Smith who arose in protest at the unexpected coup saying: "Sirs, I think that you are about to disturb some people in this city. " But it went just the same.

No more can the hungry wayfarer wedge his way into the crowded barroom and with a hamburger in one hand and a stein in the other immerse his growing hunger with the satisfying lager. Gone are the "r-r-red hots." the choice morsels of boiled ham, the rye bread and roast beef sandwiches and all of the other dainties that have added spice to the Bohemian life... The Yakima Herald, Dec. 9, 1908.

Sunday closing

The saloons were not only closed tight in North Yakima last Sunday but seven business men were also arrested for selling cigars and foodstuffs. This latter action appears to be carrying Sunday closing a little too far. Public sentiment, in the opinion of this newspaper will not sustain it.

The people of North Yakima evidently wanted the saloons closed but such drastic measures as arresting business men will not long be tolerated. Perhaps, however, the authorities took such action to make Sunday closing unpopular and kill it. Officers have been known to do such things in the past-Prosser Bulletin, Oct. 1905.

Sunday ban

Official action may be taken at Monday's session of the city commission to settle once and for all the pool and billard hall Sunday opening controversy, Mayor William B. Dudley said today. He said he was agreeable to havin the stand of himself and colleagues recorded on the matter, something Harry Traub, commissioner of public works has contended should be done

The pool hall men have been in here and had their conference, he told the mayor, but the other side hasn't yet. Some persons opposed to the Sunday opening have hung on the phone and stopped men on the streetz but I would like to have them in here and see what kind of a showing they can make, Traub said--The Yakima Republic, Nov. 13, 1924.

Yakima City

Yakima City has gone dry. Two thirds of the voters of the Old town expressed themselves yesterday as opposed to the sale of intoxicating liquor within the limits of their corporation.

The vote was 63 to 32. And perhaps it was the greatest surprise of the day in this county, at least to the people of that community who have been waiting for some time.

It was only the other day that a pioneer recalled seeing 94 men drunk on the streets when he came into the valley with a thought of making his home Yakima Herald, Nov. 6, 1912.

Saloons

The total number of saloons in the city will be reduced to 17 in September when the city commission, according to notice already given, will ~~renew~~ not renew licenses of O. Sandberg and J. Sandmeyer.

Three applications for renewal of licenses are to come before the commission today, those of Joseph Ponti, proprietor of the Bohemian Bar at 7 South Front street, the Ford Liquor Co, South First street and the Kensington Bar, Garrison & Stroup, on East Chestnut street.

The reduction to 17 will make a total of six licenses cut off since the commission went into office and one, bought by Herman Hatfield for the Grand Hotel, the commission refused to transfer to another building and it is inoperative.

Twenty-four were in operation last fall. Those cut off besides Sandberg and Sandmeyer have been T.G. Thompson and Bodega, North First street; Madden & Pleckert, Ernest Lund, both on Front street and the ~~Stag~~ Stag on South First street.

The Alfalfa and Madden & Pleckert were cut off on March 30, 1912, the Stag on May 7, T.G. Thompson & Son, the Bodega, was to have expired July 6, Sandmeyer's is to expire on September 28, Sandberg's Sept. 7 and the Grand Hotel October 21, 1912.--Yakima Herald, July 3, 1912.

Saloons

If last Sunday had been a real hot day there would have been many a tongue lolling from dry mouths for the saloons were closed and the side door, even, was locked.

It came about as the result of an order given to City Marshal Curran to see that the closing law was strictly enforced. He carried out the order literally.

..⁴ resolution was adopted by the council a few weeks ago providing that all parties who were granted licenses or renewals of license to do any kind of business in the city must in the future live up to the law strictly. It is said that the Sunday closing feature was in the minds of the councilmen when the resolution was adopted as much as any other thing. City Attorney Forsyth upon request furnished the marshal with all the law bearing on the subject of Sunday closing in this state The Yakima Herald, May 24, 1905.

Morals-Saloons

The much mooted question of the number of saloons to be allowed in the city was settled by the passing of an ordinance by the council Monday evening which provides that no more than 22 licenses shall be granted until this city reaches a population of 22,000.

After that time the legal restrictions shall be an additional saloon for each additional 1,000 population.

The present number of saloons in this city is 22 and owing to the difficulty in cutting down this number and the refusing of licenses as was contemplated in a recently proposed ordinance during the life of the last council, it was finally decided to let the present condition remain and restrict the issuance of licenses to this number.

However, in case of the instituting of a new hotel containing 30 rooms or more the council may, at its discretion, make an exception to the rule and issue another license--The Yakima Herald, January 20, 1909.