

Historical  
Walla Walla

The oldest organization in Walla Walla, antedating the city a year and a half , is Walla Walla Lodge No. 7, F and A.M. for which a dispensation was issued August 19, 1859. The lodge organized on the 19th of October, 1859 . A charter was granted in September 3, 1860 . The lodge is in a flourishing condition today--Yakima Herald, January 14, 1892.



## Walla Walla

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This has brought a great many settlers to the valley to raise wheat and apples as the board of trade has worked the tragedy for all it was worth in its advertisements throughout the east. Another point in favor of the town is that it has a large brewery. This concern belongs to Hon. Jacob Betz, mayor of Walla Walla. Mr. Betz is applying the same sound principals to municipal affairs that have made his brewery a success and the result is that Walla Walla's finances are in better shape than for many years. Walla Walla is also famous because it is the home of the Hon. Levi Ankeny.

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Historical--Walla Walla  
Power

Ten thousand farms are now receiving electric service from Pacific Power & Light Co. L.R. Sheeley, Yakima district manager reported yesterday.

Marking a milestone in the development of rural service, the 10,000th farm customer was connected in the Walla Walla district on April 14.

The first farm to receive electric service in the territory served by the PP & L was in the Hood River district. Elva L. Day, rural service salesman at Hood River, connected this first farm in July, 1906.

Farms served by the company use an average of 190.7 kilowatt hours of electricity a year at 2.79 cents a kilowatt hour, Sheeley said.

The 10,000th farm customer is John W. McGuire, who emigrated from Iowa with his parents by wagon train in 1862 to settle in the Walla Walla valley. He has lived on the 160-acre wheat farm continuously since that year.

An unusual feature of the McGuire farm home is that one wing of the house encloses the log cabin built by a homesteader about 1857. The logs were covered with board siding when the house was enlarged and only the deep window and door casings give any indication that a pioneer's log cabin is preserved within the walls--Yakima Herald, May 16, 1937.

## Eastern Tramps

Our Eastern exchanges contain many items concerning "tramps". To the Pacific Coasters generally this term sounds strange, in fact it is, for we have no "tramps". A "tramp" is one who wanders over the country from place to place, house to house, during the Summer, living upon the charity of the people, sleeping in barns and around wherever they choose to be. They go upon the principle the world owes them a living, and they often become insolent and troublesome, and in not a few instances commit many outrages. Thanks to our remoteness, we are not troubled with tramps.

--Walla Walla Union, Oct. 9, 1875



### Bothersome Flies

Much of the profanity that comes to the surface this warm weather is very justly attributable to the flies.

--Walla Walla Union, <sup>Aug.</sup> Aug. 14, 1875

## **"Camp Meeting"**

Providence permitting, camp meeting for Walla Walla County will commence at Father Paul's grove on Dry Creek near his residence on Wednesday, Sept. 29th, about 6 miles northwest of this city.

G.W. SHAFFER

--Walla Walla Union, Sept. 25, 1875

## Putting Up Ice

Those who have ice houses have been asking themselves, "Where is our ice to come from?" If it continues as cold for a few days as it was last evening, anybody will be able to answer the conundrum.

--Walla Walla Union, Jan. 22, 1876

Just now there is a lively business being done in the way of putting up ice. Mr. Stahl has a large number of men engaged and is putting up enough ice to keep the people cool all next summer. At the garrison they are also putting up a large quantity for the use of the post.

--Union, Jan. 29, 1876



## Wood Wagons

The other day Deputy Sheriff Thompson attached a wagon and span of horses and a load of wood, belonging to some delinquent debtor over in Umatilla County. As he drove down the street he was mistaken for a regular though high-toned wood merchant and was beset by all those who wanted to buy wood. He was also followed by a brigade of Chinese wood sawyers(cq) who wanted to saw the load as soon as it should be unloaded...

(also story in earlier issue of guy coming in with load of wood, selling it and getting drunk)

--Walla Walla Union, Jan. 15, 1876

Last Thursday noon there were standing on Main Street nine wagon loads of wood and five empty wood racks. The supply seemed to be in excess of the demand, as ~~several~~ several loads remained unsold at nightfall.

The other day a pious man was heard to ejaculate, "God help the woodpiles of the rich these cold nights, The poor can help themselves."

--Union, Dec. 9, 1876



## Walla Walla Amusements 1876

Amusements are not numerous or varied here as we have no regular theatricals, but our people <sup>can</sup> ~~are~~/usually put in the evenings at some of the religious night meetings, and now and then at a dance.

--Walla Walla Union, Jan. 29, 1876

IN TRAINING--There are now some 25 trotting and running horses in training at the Trotting Park. An early riser can witness some fast stepping on a pleasant morning, by riding or walking up to the park. If you ain't an early riser, you won't see it, as the training is nearly all done in the morning.

--Union, April 1, 1876

CIRCUS--The Italian Circus performed here on Monday and Tuesday nights...The tumbling, trapeze, bottle-balancing, slack-wire and other acts are about the best we have ever witnessed. Owing to the tired condition of their horses, the riding on the night we attended was poor...(known as "Great Italian Circus"; details in ad of same issue)

--Union, July 29, 1876

LEWIS BROTHERS--...Lewis Brothers will give two of their fine entertainments in this place...The entertainment consists of transformations, startling feats, amusing acts of jugglery and Hindoo sports by Prof. C.A. Lewis...Bertha B. Lewis will enliven the entertainment with difficult musical renditions...Mlle. De Courcey will...present a routine of fascinating pictures entitled Scenes From Life.

--Union, Aug. 5, 1876

(Violin concerts and lectures were patronized by the Walla Wallans in the winter of 1875-6)

Walla Walla Charivari

Last Wednesday evening some of the boys met with a collection of pans, fish horns and other musical (?) implements and gave a newly married couple of young folks a serenade of discordant sounds.

--Walla Walla Union, May 13, 1876



"...The Poet Saxe wrote the streets of Philadelphia are right angled and those of Boston right tangled. but I doubt if any poet or civil engineer could define the angle of some of the streets of Walla Walla. They were obviously laid out to avoid some of the forest grants that constitute a conspicuous feature of the town.....the trip was pleasant and interesting but how much nicer it would be if the road ran down the Columbia and crossed over to Wallula, for then one could avoid passing through that conglomeration of sagebrush , sand and cinders known as Pasco. My advice is to keep your eye (shut) on Pasco--  
The Yakima Herald, Oct. 28, 1903.

The last of the Yakima boys returned from the Walla Walla races Saturday. While they did not have much to say they looked as if they had failed to pick the winner.

As souvenirs A.J. Splawn brought home a secondhand jockey bridle, Judd Pratt a leather cane and H.D. Winchester a tired look which he said was caused by keeping his eyes on Pasco for six hours between trains--The Yakima Herald, Oct. 28, 1903.

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## Walla Walla Library

The rooms of the Walla Walla Library Association are now kept open day and evening under the supervision of Mr. A. E. Izah Isham as librarian. Quite a number of young men nightly avail themselves of the privileges of the rooms. There is room for more though. Try one evening in the library. It is better than racing the streets.

--Walla Walla Union, Oct. 2, 1875

Walla Walla's city government has changed its form a number of times since the city started.

First the county commissioners governed and on November 17, 1859, established the boundaries of Walla Walla and appointed officers.

The city of Walla Walla was originally incorporated by an act of the territorial legislature, passed January 11, 1862. The charter made provision for the election on the first Tuesday in April each year of a mayor, recorder, five councilmen, marshal, assessor, treasurer and surveyor. All vacancies save in the offices of mayor and recorder were to be filled by appointment by the council which was also given the power of appointing a clerk and city attorney. No salary was to attach to the offices of mayor or councilman until the population of the city had reached 1,000, when the stipend of these offices was to be fixed by the council.

The charter designated the following to serve until the first regular election: B.P. Standerford, mayor; James Galbreath, recorder; H.C. Coulson, B. F. Stone, E.B. Whitman, D.S. Baker and Mr. Schwabacher, councilmen; George H. Porter, marshal.

At the first meeting of the council, March 1, B.F. Stone presided and James McCauliff and George E. Cole were appointed members of the council since it could not be determined which of two Schwabachers was meant and Coulson was a non-resident.

E.B. Whitman was elected mayor at the first election April 1, 1862 with J.F. Abbott, R. Jacobs, I.T. Reese, B.F. Stone and B. Scheideman councilmen; W.P. Horton recorder, George H. Marshall, marshal; Edward Nugent, attorney; L.W. Greenwell, assessor; E.E. Kelly, treasurer; A.I. Chapman, surveyor and S.F. Lenyard, clerk.

On April 11 W. Phillips was named councilman in place of J.F. Abbott and in the succeeding year J. Hellmuth was named in place of B.F. Stone.



## Walla Walla

There are many missing landmarks here in Walla Walla. The town cow is no longer seen, pursuing the farmer's wagon by day and burglarizing restaurants at night, and so many grassy lawns have dared to take down their fences and now lie outdoors, and Col. H.E. Holmes' donkey no longer balks and barricades the streets and the big Carlyle dogs which were intended for elephants have disappeared and the Cayuse stables has given a way to a brick building and the Chabot vineyard is covered with new homes and grows wine no longer.

There are no rats in Walla Walla, although they raise some fine fat ones at The Dalles. There are in Walla Walla no street-cars to scare horses and no big hotels. The horse cars seen here some years ago seem to have moved on, and the tracks were torn up as obstruction to navigation--J. Watermelon Redington in Oregonian-March, 1899.



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at once. He did all the odd jobs which came his way and milked a neighbor's cow. In his moments of leisure he learned the addition and multiplication tables but never had time to get as far as subtraction and division. In a short time by strict economy and faithful application to business he had accumulated nearly \$100,000. He took this money and went into the banking business. Now he has money to burn and has extended his acquaintance among the leading politicians of the state so he is frequently mentioned either favorably or unfavorably as a good man for governor or United States senator. We shall hear more of him later.

The Yakima men were met atasco by Warden Catron of the state penitentiary who was bound for Seattle. He went word back to Capt. Young they were coming and commanded them to turn the pen over when they arrived. This the captain did and the four who were not looking for work were royally entertained.

Warden Catron is from Yakima himself and learned how to be hospitable here. He has 354 steady boarders now, all but about 80 of whom are jute mill operatives. This mill is in charge of John Scott, a brother of Assessor Robert Scott of Yakima county, one of the few fusionists in the state who has a trade outside of politics and is master of it.

There are a few Yakima people in Walla Walla outside the penitentiary. George Needles is doing a good business at the Olympic Horseshoeing shop and says he likes the town. Mr. Kerkman has a tin shop across the street in the next block. Alfred Schanno, a brother of Mrs. Catron is employed at the penitentiary. All the ex Yakima people are doing well.

Walla Walla has 34 saloons which pay the city \$350 each for the privilege of doing business. Some of them are excellent testimonials of the wisdom of the Yakima plan which makes the license fee \$1,000. The Yakima Republic, January 26, 1900.



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The city ran along under the original charter until the city was reincorporated under an act of the legislative assembly November 23, 1883, Walla Walla having become, according to the 1880 census, a second class city. Under the reincorporation plan the city was divided into four numbered wards and into eight election precincts, Lewis, Clarke, Whitman, Steptoe, Mullan, Fremont, Stevens and Stine.

T.R. Tannana was named mayor. William Glasford councilman first ward; H. Winter councilman second ward; A.S. Bowles councilman third ward; T.S. Tobinsson marshal; W.G. Langford, attorney and F.W. Paine treasurer. Dr. A. Marion was named health officer; J.B. Wilson surveyor; J.B. Brocks street commissioner; William Harnkess assessor; Le F. A. Shaw clerk.

The fourth ward did not elect a councilman until 1884, W.H. Kent being given the post.

Next change came after agitation began for commission government and the method was adopted at an election July 10, 1911, the vote being 1943 to 1049. The plan went into effect September 11, 1911 with A.J. Gillis mayor, George Struthers and A.K. Dice commissioners. Under the new charter the commission was given the right to appoint all minor officers. This method has continued since.

One of the first actions of the commission was to abolish the office of city assessor and turn the work over to the county assessor.

During the early days the councilmen engaged in numerous clashes and the city commission has not avoided scraps at times--Walla Walla Union Bulletin January 9, 1949.