

## Richland

Richland, Jan. 30, 1909-"hile Richland has only been on the map for a little more than two years it has industries that would do credit to a town much older.

The united industries company of Chicago who recently purchased a section of land from the Richland Land company will plant to apples, peaches and cherries, have purchased their supply of nursery stock from the Richland Nursery company.

It hardly seems possible that where two years ago nothing but sagebrush and sand with an occasional coyote and jackrabbit habitated the country there would be a town with such activities as has Richland

This prosperity is due to the Richland Land company who purchased the interests of the Benton Water company, thereby making it possible to irrigate 16,000 acres of sand and sagebrush. Their new ditch is 15 miles long, the greater part of which is completed. Water has already been turned in at the head-gates and a force of men are puddling the canal as fast as possible.

This is the shortest canal covering the same amount of land in the northwest.

J.H. Stenson is erecting a modern two story concrete building, 60 x 75 feet. The lower floor will be devoted to store rooms and the upper is designed for office rooms. There are at least ten residences in the town that would do credit to any town or city in course of construction at the present time. School opened last September with 60 pupils.

The German Lutheran church has under construction a handsome edifice of worship while the Methodist and Christian churches intend to erect buildings of their own in the near future.

This project was put on the market a little over 90 days ago. 4

## Benton county

The county division bill which has been presented in the legislature and has been favorably reported upon will doubtless be finally disposed of at an early date.

There is a great deal of apparent opposition to the bill. If it passes in its present form the present county of Yakima will lose one of its commissioners, Carl A. Jensen of Presser and a special election will be necessary to fill the vacancy.

The bill provides that the new county shall be known as Benton, that the county seat shall be Presser and that the first board of commissioners shall be Carl A. Jensen, J.W. Carey and W.P. Simms.

The boundaries of the new county are set forth in section 1 of the act which reads as follows:

All those portions of the counties of Yakima and Klickitat described as follows to wit: Beginning at the point of intersection of the main channel of the Columbia river with township thirteen north range twenty-three east and township thirteen north range twenty-four east; Willamette meridian; thence running south along the township lines.. etc. etc.....

Yakima Herald, Feb. 22, 1905.



## Benton county

The first county convention of the new county of Benton was held in the opera house at Presser last Saturday afternoon and was an enthusiastic and harmonious gathering in every respect.

E.L. Beardman of Presser was chairman and F.L. Gloyd secretary. Twenty of the thirty one delegates to the convention were present. It nominated a full set of county officers, which the county commissioners under the law creating the new county, were to appoint. The commissioners however after the nominal nominations were made appeared before the convention and endorsed them so that the action was equivalent to the election at the polls.

Presser, which is the largest town in the county and the temporary county seat was good and generous to the outside precincts, giving them all the offices with the exception of sheriff and the outside precincts were as enthusiastic for the Presser candidates as the home delegates.

The following is a list of the officers nominated:

Sheriff A.G. McNeill of Presser; auditor, A.H. Petter of Kennewick; treasurer, C.O. Kelso of Kiona; ~~treasurer~~ assessor, Harry Van Horn of Horn precinct; attorney, C.O. Anderson of Kennewick; surveyor, ~~to~~ A.L.

Smith of Horn precinct; coroner, Dr. F.S. Hedger of Kiona; clerk, J.D. Mass of Rattlesnake; superintendent of schools, J.W. Gilky of Rattlesnake. The Yakima Herald, Wednesday, March 29, 1905.



## Benton county

The new county, Benton, commenced doing business Friday June 23, just a little before midnight when the board of commissioners organized and elected Carl A. Jensen chairman.

Things have been running smoothly ever since.

The first business to be transacted by Clerk Marsh was to acknowledge a bond on Tuesday for Attorney Andrew Brown for which the county received a fee of 50 cents.

Sheriff McNeill performed his first official act on Tuesday. It was to serve a restraining order on E.A. McEchran from the superior court commanding him not to allow the waste water from his ditch to run on the premises of W.H. Burrell.

The first instrument filed in Benton county was received by Auditor Gloyd last Saturday. It was a warranty deed by George J. Hessleman and wife conveying to Edward Reed lots 7 and 8 block 57 Prosser for a consideration of \$250. In addition to the above, up to yesterday noon, three mortgages have been filed with the auditor and a warranty deed.

County Attorney C.O. Anderson earned the first money for Benton county a week ago last Monday. On that day, after County Attorney Krutz of Yakima had notified the officials there to transact no more business from Benton county Mr. Anderson telephoned the auditor, Newcomb, that there was a sick pauper at Kennewick that they wanted to send to the hospital at Yakima. He replied that the county would not receive him; that Benton county must care for its own paupers. A few minutes after this transaction Mr. Anderson, as justice of the peace, tried a man for petit larceny. He was fined \$25 which was paid and the money will be turned into Benton county.

## Asotin

Asotin, Aug. 10 , 1909- The worst fire in the history of this town occurred early this morning destroying property worth \$25,000 , about one third of which was covered by insurance.



Pasco, Wash. Aug. 20, 1909 Bankers of New York and Seattle recognizing that irrigated lands in eastern Washington offer a substantial and enduring basis for the profitable investment of idle money held in eastern banks have undertaken the financing of the Pasco Water & Power company's irrigation enterprises covering 15,000 acres at the confluence of the Columbia and Snake rivers recently transferred by order of Judge C.H. Hanford in the circuit court to the Burbank Power & Water company.

The total value of the lands, power plant, improvements and townsite of Burbank in Walla Walla county is placed at \$2,000,000.

Eastern capital has invested \$500,000 in first mortgage bonds in the new company which is headed by James D. Hoge, president of the Union Savings & Trust company. Jacob Furth of Seattle is vice-president, and the following others interested being C.E. Farnsworth, H.K. Owens, J.E. Chilberg and W.H. Parry. The investment was made after a report on the project by eastern experts, who were enthusiastic in their praise of the work already completed.

The Pasco Power & Water company was organized in 1906 by William H. Parry, Harry K. Owens and W.J. Grambs of Seattle and F.T. Blunck of Davenport.

The company filed on the waters of the Snake river at Five Mile Rapids four miles above Pasco, the application calling for the diversion through a poker canal of sufficient water to generate 16,000, horsepower. At the point of diversion the fall of the Snake river is 18 feet in three and one-half miles and the water right owned by the company is one of the most valuable assets.

Power and irrigation engineers had long known of the valuable power and water rights at Five-Mile Rapids. The surveys of the rapids above Pasco and an outline of the present project



was made by Mr. Owens in 1896 and was done for the Northern Pacific Railway company.

The Pasco company, headed by Mr. Parry, began construction in 1906 and on April 20, 1909 the big rotary pumps began delivering the water into the main irrigating canal and 25 miles of laterals. The flow of water since has not been interrupted. Water is being delivered to 15,000 acres of sagebrush land, south of the junction of the Columbia and Snake rivers and tapped by the Northern Pacific, Harriman and the North Coast railroads.

The last named company of which Robert E. Strahorn of Spokane is president is building a \$1,000,000 bridge across the Columbia river not far distant from the new town of Burbank which the company has platted and which will be at once improved by the construction of a hotel, stores, lumber yard and electric light and water systems.

After the Northern Pacific had decided to leave the field of supplying water by artificial means on lands in eastern Washington to private enterprise, Mr. Owens determined to design a power plant and irrigation system which would make possible the reclamation of the level-lying plains south of the junction of the Columbia and Snake rivers.

His plans were adopted and a power canal 10,250 feet in length, 120 feet wide at the top and 50 feet wide at the bottom was constructed.

Taking advantage of the natural conditions the canal was so constructed that its width is 300 feet on the bottom for about a mile. Half of the eighteen-foot wall is used for the generation of power by means of rubber turbines directly connected to horizontal rotary pumps which have a capacity of about 29,000,000 gallons of water in 24 hours.

The water is pumped from the power house built on solid rock

through a wooden stave pipe 1,280 feet in length and 40 inches in diameter.

The water is discharged into a concrete basin and flows thence through the main canal and lateral system. The cost of maintenance an acre is \$2.50 a year and nearly three acre feet of water is supplied at a cost of 11-4 cents per acre per day. The daily cost of water during the irrigating season is less than 12 1-2 cents for a 10-acre tract.

Mr. Hoge president of the holding company said in an authorized statement that the favorable consideration by New York capitalists of this project marks a beginning of great things for the state of Washington adding:

"First mortgage bonds of private irrigation corporations will, in my opinion, be hereafter listed among the gilt-edged securities which the northwest offers to the eastern investors. This simply means that investors in New York and other financial centers of the east are closely watching the development of the northwest, and are particularly interested in the reclamation of the arid and semi-arid districts in eastern Washington where irrigation has proved successful and where development of natural resources is progressing so rapidly.



Benton City,

Kiona.

P.F. Parker of Spokane, manager of the new town site of Benton City on the North Coast railroad has returned to that city after a three weeks stay on the town site says the Chronicle (Spokane)

Mr. Parker reports everything booming in the lower Yakima valley. The North Coast railroad contractors have established grading camps near Kiona and large crowds of men and teams are now at work grading the Spokane line. It is understood that the work upon the Wenatchee line will begin soon at this point.

The Walla Walla line crosses the Yakima river at Benton City and a large crew of bridge carpenters and cement workers is busy constructing the new bridge.

The Yakima Valley Power company is installing a transformer to carry power from their line to the pumping station at Benton City where a cement power house is being erected and a 100 horse power dynamo is being installed.

Some Spokane people are now clearing the sagebrush from a large tract of land near Benton ~~which~~ City which will be irrigated in the spring. A Seattle real estate firm is putting a large tract of land into orchards a few miles from Kiona on the Yakima river.

It was announced at Kiona that the North Coast railroad company has purchased a tract of land from Mr. McAlpine which makes about 60 acres recently acquired by its adjoining its right of way at Benton City which it is understood will be used as terminal grounds.

The news that the Horse Heaven wheat belt is soon to be irrigated caused some excitement. At the station of Kiona, which is one mile from Benton City, is a hotel and it is rushed for business. Mr. Parker will return to Benton City next week to look after the work now going on at the new town site--

The Yakima Republic, Jan. 14, 1910.

## Benton City

W.W. Ewing of Calhoun, Denny & Ewing of this city has returned from a trip into the lower valley and reports considerable activity in the new town site of Benton City on the North Coast railroad.

A hotel and two stores have been built and two lumber companies have secured ground as sites for mills to be put in operation in the near future.

The North Coast is laying steel this side of Benton City and materially adds to activity.

The Benton City townsite is adjacent to the 2,000 acre tract of land at Kiona watered by the pumping system of the Kiona-Benton Water company. Division One of which goes on the market today. Division 1 of the tract is to be sold in 10 acre divisions unimproved but it is unlikely that a considerable portion of the balance will be held and improved.--Yakima Republic, July 8, 1910.



## Benton-Colonization

Twenty families, comprising an aggregate population of about 80 persons and occupying more than 200 acres of land have formed a Bremerton Colony on the Kiona-Benton Highlands owned by Calhoun-Denny & Ewing of this city.

This wholesale pilgrimage of Bremerton people to the acreage in the lower valley is the result of one small sale recently of Kiona-Benton land to a citizen of the Harbor city.

The original investor was so favorably impressed by the advantages that he interested his neighbors and they were eventually induced to join him.

Calhoun-Denny & Ewing are making every effort to cooperate with the Bremerton people in the realization of this ambition and are now in touch with about 50 North Yakima, Toppenish and Green River people who are ready to go to Kiona-Benton. When they have established themselves the local firm will donate several acres for platting purposes and it is probable that within a year a flourishing village will occupy the erstwhile sagebrush and jackrabbit heaven.--Yakima "epublic, Oct. 21, 1910.

Beverly, Wash. Nov 1-<sup>1</sup>his place is the scene of much activity these days on the part of the development company and the local townspeople who are preparing for a big year.

Strangers are dropping in ~~DD~~ and looking over the country with a view of locating and there is considerable traffic down into the Wahluke and Bend districts farther down the river where the Strahorn and General Electric companies are beginning their gigantic operations.

Beverly is the gateway to this interior country, being the nearest railroad point.

The Milwaukee surveyors are working on their permanent survey down the west bank of the river toward Kennewick supplies of hay and grain are being purchased wherever found along the route and there is every indication that Contractor Henry's statement issued some time ago to the effect that the Yakima branch would be built this winter is true.

The irrigation company which is preparing to place under water next spring 1,400 acres adjoining the town on the north has a crew of men at work cutting out and grading the roadways and this company is also beginning the improvement of the town's principal streets.

Manager Weisberger states that the contract for the powerful pumping machinery to be used on this project will be placed within a few days for early delivery and he is gathering a crew to begin the construction of the power house. This will be located just on the outskirts of the town and will be fire-proof throughout, concrete and iron being used almost entirely in its construction. The pumping machinery will be high pressure type and it will be the only plant of this kind operating in the Northwest...Yakima Republic, Nov. 4, 1910.



## Byron

At a conference held yesterday at Prosser, County Superintendent Busch and Miss Annie Goff, superintendent of Benton county decided to form a joint school district at Byron which will care for children of both counties in that district.

The school will be located at Byron and the district will take in a portion of Benton and Yakima counties, each one of which will bear its share of the expenses of maintaining the school. The district will include about 45 changes--Yakima Republic, Nov. 18, 1910.

## Benton county

One of the political issues this fall in Benton county will be the question of a permanent seat of government and it now appears that the voters of the county will see interesting political things says the Hanford Columbian.

Three towns want the court house--Prosser, the present seat of government; Kennewick, the railroad town and Benton City, a new town, two years old on the North Coast railroad at Kinca.

It has been made public that promoters of Benton City are planning to pick the plum and will spare no effort to get it.

This week F.L. Pitman, chief engineer of the O.W.R. and N and also one of the promoters of the Benton City made the statement that Benton City would go after it and get it.

The promoters it is said have offered a whole block in the center of the town on which they will build a \$30,000 courthouse and donate the building and all to the county for the change in the seat of government from Prosser there.

In connection with this report it is said that the present owners of this townsite have ample capital to carry out plans and also very good financial backing--The Yakima Herald, April 3, 1912.



Seattle, May 23-- Seattle is 72 years old today. R<sub>o</sub>land H. Denny only surviving member of the A.A. Denny party which landed at A<sub>l</sub>ki beach on November 13, 1851, today was host to a civic birthday party celebrating the filing of the first city plat on May 23, 1853.

A<sub>l</sub>l old timers in the city were invited to attend the commemorative activities at the Denny home.

The history of the city's growth from the landing of the schooner, Exact--wh ch brought 12 adults and 12 children as the first ~~prodded~~ permanent residents to the present day when the population is approaching 400,000, was depicted by pioneers.

Col. Byron Phelps, Civil war veteran and Seattle's mayor from 1894 to 1896 arranged the program--Yakima Daily Republic, May 23, 1925.