

Land grants
Statehood

W.T. Forrest, commissioner of public lands in this state has prepared a report showing that of the 132,000 acres granted by congress for the capitol buildings, 25,662 have been selected in eastern Washington at an average value of \$13.18 per acre and 45,869 acres in western washington at an average value of \$10.40 per acre.

The total value of the 71492 acres selected is \$814,726
Of the 100,000 acres granted for the state normal schools, 55,586 have been selected in eastern Washington and 1,106 in Western Washington. The average value of the eastern Washington land is \$7.78 and that of western Washington \$13.91--Yakima Herald, Jan 10, 1895.

Miscellany

The crickets have made their appearance in Okanogan and Douglas counties in great numbers. They visited these sections last year but they were not as numerous as at present.

They made their appearance near the headquarters of the Okanogan and stripped the country all the way down, even carrying their depredations into the Wenatchie country.

J.H. Thompson tells how they visited his place. The night before his ranch was ravished there wasn't a cricket to be seen, but when he got up in the morning they were myriads of them and they swept over sixty acres of grain, leaving total devastation in their wake--Yakima Herald, June 25, 1891.

Historical

Everett, Oct 20-The remains of what appears to be a pre-historic dock^K has been unearthed by the dredge Seattle while deepening the anchorage around the Everett Improvement company docks.

A lot of old piles, some of them 15 feet long, were struck from 18 to twenty feet under ground where the dredge was working. How they got there is a mystery.

They were about forty feet north of the present dock, at a point where there never has been a dock located during historic times.

The engineer for the old land company, George Mentandon, laid out all the water front improvements during the early days and he has no knowledge of a dock having been built there or any piles driven for any purposes.

Nothing is on record to show there was.

To all appearance the piles have been used in some ancient dock, but by whom constructed is not known. Old settlers say that there is a tradition among the Indians that many years ago ships from some foreign power landed here and engaged in trade with them.

It is argued ~~that~~ from this that there may have existed a trading post here before historic times and that the piles discovered embedded in the harbor are the remains of some ancient landing place for ships--The Yakima Herald, Oct. 21, 1902.

Salvation Army.

Gold piece

Harrassed by the fear that he would be robbed by the men with whom he was traveling, G.A. Gerritson of Prescott, Arizona, now, then a hobo, two years ago hid on the Northern Pacific depot grounds in this city a ten dollar gold piece.

Beneath two ivy vines that grew on the side of the little church on Yakima avenue between Fourth and Fifth the same man concealed a five dollar gold piece. Gerritson wrote on July 24 to Captain Jenkins of the Salvation Army regarding the money and asked him to make a search for the hidden coin.

Saturday the Salvation Army leader went to the Northern Pacific grounds and found that the excavations for the new depot had buried the ten dollar piece. At the little church on Yakima avenue, wrapped in a moldy rag, the five dollar piece was revealed. The Yakima Herald, August 25, 1909.

North

St Johns, Sept. 8, 1909--Commander Peary who announced today that he had discovered the north pole on April 6 of the present year found no trace of Dr. Cook who reported that he made the same discovery in April of the preceding year.

This news reached here tonight through Captain Robert Bartlett of the Roosevelt, Peary's ship.

While Peary did not expressly repudiate Cook's contention in so many words, his statement may have an important bearing upon determining the extent of Cook's explorations.

The Roosevelt was in good condition and the crew all right, Capt. Bartlett wired and he reported that the schooner Jeanie, carrying supplies for the expedition had met them off the coast of Greenland coming south the Roosevelt passed Etah and upper Navik, where Cook had preceded Peary.

The Roosevelt tonight is bound for Chateau bay with the Peary party on board where she is due tomorrow.

Chateau bay lies northwest of Castle and Henley islands on the northern shore of Belle Isle Straits and is due east of Belle Isle.

New York, Sept. 6-1909-In Reaching the north pole Commander Peary has achieved the ambition that has endured since childhood. As a boy his dreams were of the unexplored north and in college days he made a close study of Arctic exploration. He entered the navy in 1881 in the capacity of a civil engineer. In 1886 he visited Greenland and in July 1 of that year began what proved to be the first of seven expeditions to the north.

Lost jewelry

San Francisco, Oct. 26 , 1909- Somewhere near Shasta mixed with the cinders and the gravel ballast of the Southern Pacific tracks are \$18,000 worth of diamonds, the property of Mrs. J.E. Chilberg, the wife of the Seattle banker who was president of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition and her husband is to blame for the loss of the jewels.

Coming down on the Oregon express Friday Mrs. Chilberg decided to clean the jewels. She placed them in a glass of Shasta water and left the glass upon the window ledge of their drawing room.

Then she and her husband went to breakfast in the diner. Chilberg returned first. Dust was floating through the open window and he decided to close it, not however, until the glass filled with four ounces of water and three beautiful diamonds was sent hurtling through the aperture.

Miss Chilberg returned. The rings were gone. At the next station an engine and car were chartered and the couple returned to the vicinity where the jewels were supposed to be. The search was supposed to be. The search was fruitless, the wet spot made by the water had evaporated and with it the hope of recovering the diamonds. The Chilbergs are at the Fairmont.

Seattle, Jan 4-- Charles R. Hall, painter of mountain scenery who with his brothers, Vogel and Richard Hall has lived for years in the coast mountains, will leave Seattle Monday for Alaska in search of new subjects for his brush.

Mr. Hall claims to have perfected a combination of color vibrations according to numerals. "With this scheme he says he is able to combine light and shade in better relations to the big out of doors country in this region than by the other method of mixing paint on canvas according to the inspiration of the moment. Mr. Hall numbers his canvas from one to three or five and then lays in the vibratory colors that correspond to the numerals in his combinations. Mr. Hall says he is able to paint a large number of pictures in a given time and achieve lights and perspective impossible by the old method.

The Yakima Morning Herald, January 5, 1913.

One of the most popular pasttimes among territorial legislatures in the Pacific Northwest was to make big counties smaller by creating new ones.

As territories became states, the pastime retained favor for several years.

One of the most recent of such maneuvers in Southeastern Washington created Asotin county out of what had been Garfield county, which had been created out of what had been Columbia county which had been created out of what was originally Walla Walla county.

With such goings-on it is easy to understand that reporters collide with all sorts of confusion when interviewing people born in what is now Asotin county. About the only out in many cases is to trace county pedigrees from the original to the present.

Not the most bewildering case in point but the latest happened when chinning with W.B. Ground, sheriff of Garfield county

Ground has lived continuously in Garfield county for 66 years yet is not a native. About the best he can do is to call himself and oldtimer in these parts.

He was born in what is now called Cloverland in Asotin county by present reckoning, but Columbia county at the time of Ground's birth. So, although he was born in Asotin county, instead he was not born in Asotin county. Instead he was born in Columbia county but was not born in Columbia county. All of which is very confusing.

On one point there is certainty: He was born in 1830, one year before Garfield county was carved out of Columbia county. His father, who was a school teacher had come up from the Willamette valley, died in the spring of the year in which Ground was born in the fall.

Two years later his mother moved to the Alpowa country to live on what is now known as the Clayton place.

Guy F. Atkinson Co. South San Francisco was Tuesday awarded the first major construction contract on Ice Harbor lock and Dam -- \$1,362,377 for construction of the first step of the coffer dam.

A Corps of Engineers Spokesman at Walla Walla said start of the job would depend on completion of access roads to the dam.

The roads would be necessary for steel hauling, necessary for construction. Access road contracts for the \$1000 million project have been let.

The coffer dam contract award was announced at Portland.

Ice Harbor is about eight miles up the Snake river from the Tri Cities.

The lock will be the world's highest single lift navigation lock. The 35-mile lake behind the dam will cover 9,200 acres.

Feb. 29, 1956 Columbia Basin News, Pasco.

Treasure

San Francisco, Sept. 14-- On the steamer Mariposa , which has arrived from Tahiti were several members of an expedition which sailed in search of treasure alleged to be buried on Cocos island. They were unsuccessful in finding the hidden gold and silver.

Miscellany

Harry Barrymore, late actor , having adopted domestic life and settled in North Yakima, attempted to water the family cow , Tuesday night, when the unruly beast became obstreperous and poked her horn through the fleshy part of his cheek. Dr. Coe sewed up the wound and Barrymore is himself again--a little disfigured but still in the ring. 11-24-89

Miscellany

Edwin Booth, the famous actor whose creation of Hamlet is conceded the most perfect in thispian history died at New York June 7. Booth was in his 60th year.

The banking houses of Ben F. Snipes & Co at Ellensburgh and Roslyn closed their doors on Friday last, being unable to weather a run made on the Roslyn bank. The Ellensburgh fire, business depression, a heavy judgment against Mr. Snipes in the Banner-May case, extensive purchases of Settle real estate on a dull market, losses of cattle and low prices of beef, the Roslyn bank robbery and costs of prosecution together with the inability to realize on securities all contributed to bring about the suspension. The Roslyn and Ellensburgh banks are \$192,000 while the assets are estimated at \$310,000. Much sympathy is expressed here for Mr. Snipes has many friends and there is a general belief felt that he will be able to pull through his difficulties. 6-8-1893