

gender, and in obtaining the county seat exhibited a robustness that makes the gentle gender rather inappropriate. The depot at Cheney is a very fine building. In it is located the local Land office of the Northern Pacific, where are displayed a variety of fine products of the country. Cheney has a \$10,000 academy donated by, and dedicated to the Hon. Benj. P. Cheney of Boston. It is a fine structure and will control and direct the educational interest of this fine country. Almost all the different religions sects are represented, excepting mormons of course. It has good hotels and fine stores. The citizens are decidedly enterprising. The *Sentinel* published by F. C. Montgomery and the *Northwest Tribune*, published by E. L. Kellogg, have offices here. Both are well conducted and contain some really good writing.

Fine roads lead east and west of Cheney, the latter entering the Crab Creek country, and the country near the big bend of the Columbia. This country contains some of the most productive lands now open to settlement. It is amply watered by clear flowing streams, and covered with bunch grass and sparse timber, adequate for building purposes for some years to come. Through this country, in a few years, a branch railroad will undoubtedly be built which will open up a region unequalled in natural and agricultural requirements. On the south of Cheney, after passing over a thin streak of rock bottom land, the settler will again find rich, deep soil, extending beyond Spangle, and on the headwaters of Hangman creek. Aside from the fine residences and large stores at Cheney, and the general evidence of thrift, one, looking from a car-window, will be disappointed; but by following our example—taking a conveyance and going off from the line of railroad—all we have said as to the quality of land will be verified, and the settler will take us by the hand and say: "Send me the WEST SHORE—here's five years' subscription."

Clear Lake, six miles west of Cheney, is a beautiful sheet of water, clear and cold. It is quite a resort for geese and ducks. We suggested to an old goose on the train that it would be a real nice place for him to go to. He believed us and went. A few days after we met the old fellow at Spokane Falls, and, although the lake contains nothing in

the way of fish larger than a minnow, he told us a string of lies about three and four-pound trout he had hauled out. To get even we introduced a man to him who had caught trout in that lake weighing fourteen pounds, and he chirruped up that he caught one weighing fourteen pounds and eighteen ounces, and had presented it to a friend; we don't believe that man has a friend in the world.

About eight miles from Cheney, northwest, lies Medical Lake, a resort for people of damaged propelling powers and crushed constitutions. The curative properties of the water are said to be marvelous. It will cure almost any disease, except lying and poverty. It will sugar-cure a ham in six minutes, if the directions on the label are properly observed. A very bad Indian, fuller than the Esmond house, fell into the lake on Sunday morning, and when taken out on Tuesday he was a good Indian, and very quiet, too. The water is very buoyant. In order to take a bath, you have to be driven in with a pile-driver—that is, some people have to. No one has yet sunk any money in the lake. Nevertheless, it is a pleasant place to visit. There are about 100 people there, and really first-class hotel accommodations can be had. The country around is excellent. The lake has an elevation of 2,400 feet above the sea. It is one and a quarter miles long, $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile wide, and 45 feet deep. The shores have an even, gradual slope. It never gets ruffled, no matter how ruthlessly its bosom may become torn. Fish found it so difficult to navigate that they have all gone and left nothing but turtles, which have to sink out of sight edgewise. The wonderful medical properties of Medical Lake are not the results of scientific labors; they are not the result of inventive genius. They are a French discovery. Years ago Andre LeFevre, then habitating this region, was a confirmed *rheumatique*. He was all snarled up, as crooked as a New Jersey bank cashier. He was a sheep herder and tended his flocks on a thousand hills. They had the "scabs" and he the "*rheumatiques*." On a hot and sultry day he might have been seen, looking more like a French brandy distilling worm than anything else, on the banks of Medical Lake. He thrust his arm into the waters, and noticing the peculiar "sliqueness," as it were, thereof, he betook himself to bathe, his sheep

following him. In a few days his *rheumatiques* had vanished and the sheep were also cured. Numerous other cures of rheumatism and paralysis are said to have been effected by bathing in these waters. When the wind blows strongly the surface of the lake becomes foamy and the suds sigh and sough sadly. Bathing is free to all who would wash and be clean. Convenient bath-houses have been erected by Messrs. Nichols & Goodwin, where bathing can be indulged in without molestation or soap, for a small charge. By condensation, powders are manufactured from the water, and they have been introduced to the public by The Medical Lake Powder Manufacturing Co., incorporated with a capital of \$20,000. W. H. Bishop, one of the principal stockholders, is manager. They have built up a large and lucrative business. The little town of Medical Lake contains some of the most enterprising men in the upper country, and boasts of its own weekly newspaper, recently established there by Mr. Mattice, formerly of New Tacoma. Granite Lake, four miles northwest of Cheney, and about two miles from Medical Lake, is very similar to the latter in respect to its peculiar properties. This lake is owned by the Northern Pacific, and will be sold to some man of enterprise who will contract to erect a suitable hotel on its banks. Granite of the finest quality and having great resisting power, is found in abundance here. Some day it will be extensively quarried.

The land in this vicinity is remarkably productive, forty bushels of wheat is not an unusual yield, seven-five bushels of oats are frequently raised, to the acre, tomatoes, melons and vegetables of every variety are successfully raised. Land is being taken up very rapidly. Plover, curlews, prairie-chickens ducks and geese are abundant. Near the south end of the lake a polishing powder is found, it is superior to Tripoli and in due time will be as largely utilized. The weed Killekenick, used in connection with a certain well know brand of tobacco, grows extensively on the banks of the lake. Years ago a firm of post traders or army sutlers named Green, Heath and Allen, from Richmond, Virginia, controlled the army trade of the whole northwest. They began the manufacture of, and were the first to introduce the brand known as Killekenick tobacco, which has had such a large sale throughout the United States. Killekenick grows like a running vine, and those who have drank the tea made of it assert that it is wholesome and invigorating. [This is not an advertisement.]