

KELSO IS RAPIDLY FORGING AHEAD

Little Smelt Worth Thousands to Town Which Has Two Banks.

FARM LANDS ARE BIG ASSET

Prosperous and Biggest Little City in Cowlitz County, With Paying Second to None, Destined to Play Important Part.

BY ADDISON BENNETT. KELSO, Wash., Oct. 20.—(Special Correspondence.)—I do not know of a better way to start an article about Kelso than to give the statements of the two strong banks they have in this little town of a city. The Kelso State Bank is the oldest institution. It is one of the substantial concerns of Southwestern Washington. F. M. Carothera is president, E. T. Stewart, cashier. It has a capital of \$25,000, a surplus of \$25,000 and deposits of \$251,934.55. This bank has a large banking-room in its own building, with the very latest equipment in the way of safes, vaults and everything to insure the safety of funds deposited therein.

The First National bank has also its own building, which is well adapted to banking purposes. E. S. Collins is the president, C. C. Basher, cashier. It has a capital of \$25,000, a surplus of \$11,188. Its deposits amount to \$198,188.25.

Kelso is in Cowlitz County, being the largest city in that county. It is located on the Cowlitz River, and but a short distance from the Columbia River. It always has been a prosperous place and has had a steady growth for several years. It came into existence, I think, owing to the smelt that annually come up the Columbia to the Cowlitz and then turn up that stream to go to nobody knows. The smelt, I suppose everybody knows, is a fish not much larger than the smelt, but mighty good eating, considered a great delicacy by some—when they are worth, say, two bits a pound. When the price drops to 15 pounds for a quarter, or perhaps to two bits a bushel—then they are not so good!

River Off Alive With Smelt. Nobody knows just to a minute when the smelt will begin to run, as their yearly advent is called, but just a few days before Christmas, varying not more than a week. Within a few days after the first ones come, the river actually is alive with them. They are caught usually in dip nets holding from a peck to a half bushel and frequently the nets will be hauled in filled to capacity.

Within two weeks from the time the run begins there comes a scarcity which lasts from the 15th of the January, then the second run begins. This lasts a few weeks, when they disappear, save in small schools, enough probably to supply the hotels and restaurants. But meantime there has been a great scurrying around Kelso, and its people are richer to the extent of about \$75,000 for each annual "harvest" of the tiny little smelt.

I suppose Kelso has somewhere about 2300 people. I have heard it asserted that by taking in the people living in the suburbs but not within the city limits the number would run up to 3000. It looks like it. It is, in every particular, a fine little city with a prosperous look. No better paved city of its size I know of—and the best job of paving. You scarcely will find a better built city of the same size in the West—I surely know of none.

Slump Comes Suffering. I think Kelso has suffered some through not air, redded by outsiders who went there to turn a shoestring into a pair of boots. For instance, to show how the slumps, named and named, ragers ragged overtime there were eight moving-picture shows in town at one time and a daily and two weekly newspapers. But to Kelso he said, when there came a slump, it came so slowly and gradually that the new growth about kept up with the departure, until now there is a vacant store room or dwelling in town.

And not a failure worthy the name has ever taken place in Kelso. Indeed, always have the Kelsonsians, or the Kelsoites, or the "Kelseys"—take the word you like best—always have the true residents gone ahead making money. Consequently, Kelso is not a town in the past—but not so good as will be the Kelso of tomorrow.

For this little city has a future of rosy hue. There is a cause for the existence of the town and that cause is getting brighter every day. Originally Kelso was built on the lumber industry. It has six sawmills and three shingle mills in the city limits, with great logging crews in the adjacent woods, with an annual output of 26,000,000 feet of lumber and 100,000,000 shingles, not mentioning the timber operations on the Columbia River. Only a couple of miles away, where the great clear-shaped rafts were built and shipped to the south. These rafts each contained about 5,000,000 feet of logs.

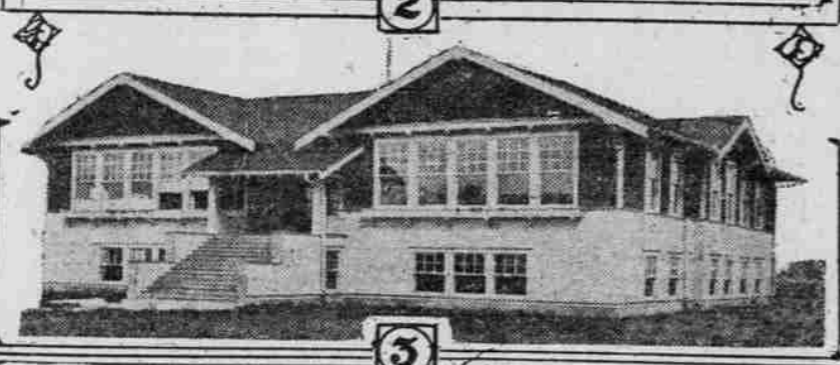
Agricultural Lands Big Asset. Gradually Kelso is finding that her greatest asset is the splendid agricultural lands surrounding the town. Foremost of these are the tidelands between the Columbia and the Cowlitz. It is a pretty well-known fact that the overflow lands along the lower Columbia are about as productive as any land can be, but somehow there has been a backwardness in reclaiming these lands—that is, in keeping the water off so that they could be cropped. Just now about 3500 acres of these lands are being reclaimed surrounding Kelso—9500 acres of as fine land as there is in the Northwest.

The reclamation is being done under the district diking law, there being three districts, containing the total area mentioned. District No. 1 contains 3000 acres, and the diking will cost \$35 an acre; district No. 2 contains 1500 acres, and the diking will cost \$30 an acre, while district No. 3 contains 5000 acres, and the diking will be \$25 an acre.

I have included the latter district, but no work has been done toward reclamation, and this tract may not be ready for next year's cropping. As to the other 4500 acres, the bonds were sold some time ago through the Lumbermen's Trust Company, of Portland, and the work is being pushed at all possible dispatch, to the end that every acre of it may be utilized next year.

Bonds Carry 7 Per Cent. The bonds carry 7 per cent interest and are payable in 15 years. During the first three years nothing is paid on the principal, simply the interest.

SCENES AT KELSO, WASH.



(1) Second Street, Looking South. (2) Kelso State Bank. (3) Wallace School.

It is said that the dairy cows are multiplying rapidly in the vicinity, and that as soon as the newly diked land is placed in cultivation the present number will be more than doubled, as most of the owners will follow dairymen. If they do, there ought to be more than 2000 cows on the first two units. As 500 cows will sustain a creamery with great profit, it will be seen that there will be room for more than one.

Kelso has a good commercial club. Al Maurer is president and J. L. Spurling secretary. They issue some good literature, which will be mailed upon request.

The Kelso people take great pride in their schools. There are three grammar schools and one high school, and all have fine buildings. Professor Lee F. Jones is the city superintendent, and he is highly spoken of as an educator and a citizen. There is also a firemen's club, in which the citizens take great pride. It has 65 active members. Dr. L. R. Boner is chief and Thomas Garner assistant. The city has its own executive building, C. O. Taubert being the present Mayor. The city is on the Pacific Highway, the main business street forming a part of it. There are two good hotels, one at the Hotel Rockwood, of which the Mayor is proprietor—C. O. Taubert. The Washington House is also a good stopping place in the town, and the Hotel Rockwood, of which the Mayor is proprietor—C. O. Taubert. The Washington House is also a good stopping place in the town, and the Hotel Rockwood, of which the Mayor is proprietor—C. O. Taubert.

And there is the whole thing in a nutshell—business is excellent in Kelso. The town is doing well. While others are crying hard times the Kelso people are doing a good business; the people are prosperous, and there is scarcely a "For Rent" sign in the town.

AGGIES HEAR CAMPBELL

University President Gives Address on Choosing Vocation.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Oct. 20.—(Special.)—E. L. Campbell, president of the University of Oregon, lectured here last night under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, which is offering a special course of lectures for young men on subjects bearing upon the choosing of a life vocation.

President Campbell emphasized the importance of considering the demands of society and citizenship, and urged a broad training in general lines for all students whose future work is undecided.

KLAMATH COLLISION FATAL

Motorcycle Rider Dies of Injuries Received in Auto Crash.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Oct. 20.—(Special.)—Stewart Freeman, an employee of the Klamath Manufacturing Company, of this city, was fatally injured last Sunday evening, and died at Blackburn Hospital here Monday morning. He was riding with M. Hirvi, a local baker, on a motorcycle, when they collided with an automobile. Freeman's skull was crushed. The car lost a wheel in the collision and the occupants were thrown out, but none was injured. Mr. Hirvi was badly bruised but not seriously hurt. The motorcycle was hardly scratched.

Students Hear of Civic Needs. PACIFIC UNIVERSITY, Forest Grove, Or., Oct. 20.—(Special.)—The first number of the Lyceum course for the winter was given in Marsh Hall Monday night by Nelson S. Darling, on the question of "Civic Improvements." The three remaining numbers are Herberman, in impersonation and dramatic reading, December 22; Metropolitan Grand Quartet, February 13, and Schumann's Orchestra, March 8.

It is found that 100 male dogs go mad, as compared with 14 female.



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to 25 cents a round trip, with Tacoma transfer privileges, and give half-hour service. This rate is to go into effect tomorrow. The bus companies followed this lead by cutting their rates to 20 cents round trip. Many of Puyallup's citizens work in Tacoma and cheap and rapid transportation is a big factor in the development and prosperity of this city.

SALMON RUNS ARE LIGHT

Coo's Bay Fishermen Are Making Only Scanty Living.

MARSHFIELD, Or., Oct. 20.—(Special.)—The silverside salmon run is not heavy on Coo's Bay, and fishermen are taking about 60 to a boat each night. The Talent cannery is paying a flat price of 15 cents for each fish, and fishermen are making only ordinary wages. On the Umpqua River the sea-

son has not been reported average yet. On Rogue River, the reports indicate the season will not be overly profitable, although some good catches have been made. The Rogue River fishermen are yet taking some chinook, which bring them good prices. Practically all the canned salmon has been shipped out of Wedderburn, both from the Macleay and Seaborg plants, and less than 500 cases are left at either of the establishments. At the Macleay cannery the crews are mild curing, and the first casks will be ready for delivery this week.

ABERDEEN SEEKS REALTY CONVENTION.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Oct. 20.—(Special.)—That Aberdeen will be the next meeting place of the State Real Estate Men's Association is the opinion of J. E. Calder, of Montesano, who has just returned from the gathering of that organization in Seattle. The next meeting place or date has not been named.

Advertisement for 'The White Pearl' photoplay, featuring Marie Doro. Text includes: 'You May Look for Something Exceptional at Your Favorite Photoplay Theater - THE PEOPLES (West Park at Alder) When You See THE WHITE PEARL Which Is One of the Best Photo-Dramas Paramount Program Has Ever Released - Not Alone Is the Story Beautiful, the Production Elaborate But Stageland's Most Talented Player MARIE DORO Is the Star We Indorse This Photoplay as Exceptionally Good, and Will Stand Back of Our Indorsement, Therefore Don't Miss It! Come Today!'

Advertisement for 'The New Adventures of Rufus Wallingford' motion picture. Text includes: 'Bring on your OLD FOLKS "We have discovered the well-known Fountain of Youth" "Why grow old? Why become wrinkled and gray? We are preventing old age, wrinkles and all signs of fleeting youthful charms. We remove old age as well and make the centenarian as spry as the boy. Granny can outdo grand-daughter." So announces the Wallingford Old Age Sanitarium, subject of this week's motion picture gasp. You have figured that Wallingford brought out outrageously impossible schemes which were probable in his mouth and his way of putting it. This week's motion picture episode - is the crowning achievement of audacity, in THE NEW ADVENTURES OF RUFUS WALLINGFORD You must not miss this episode in your favorite motion picture theatre. Not only is it entertainment for you - full of laughs and thrills, but it gives you something to talk about for months to come.'

Klamath Falls Plans Sale Event. KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Oct. 20.—(Special.)—Klamath Falls is to have a Dress-Up week, the same as Portland and other large cities. The last week in October has been chosen. The Klamath Falls Business Men's Association is behind the movement, and special prices on merchandise are promised by some of the houses.

Barley Experiment Success. KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Oct. 20.—(Special.)—Experiments carried on this year at the Leever farm, near Port Klamath, north of this city, in co-operation with County Agriculturist Glainyer, developed several new agricultural possibilities for Klamath. One is Hannah barley, a late variety, that averaged 60 bushels to the acre.

Advertisement for Edison Week Concert Today. Text includes: 'Edison Week Concert Today Come to the special concert in Mr. Edison's honor today. The whole country is celebrating the master inventor's achievements this week. Come and hear one of his greatest triumphs—the perfected musical instrument—the New Edison Diamond Disc Phonograph "Real Music at Last." The laboratory re-creation of music—human, lifelike, natural. Don't confuse this perfected re-creation of the finest music with ordinary talking machines. It is a musical instrument delivering to you the tone of the instrument which it reproduces. No needles to change. Hear It— Come to the special concert today. Bring your friends. No charge for seats. (See our prize window display) GRAVES MUSIC CO. 151 FOURTH ST., NEAR MORRISON. PIONEER PHONOGRAPH DEALERS. ESTABLISHED 1895.'

Advertisement for 'Tonight is Ford Night' at the Empress. Text includes: 'TONIGHT IS "FORD NIGHT" AT THE EMPRESS SECOND SHOW—A Ford Car will be assembled on the stage in full view of the audience by Ford employes working against time, including our regular BIG VAUDEVILLE SHOW and the Professional Troutout Acts'