The Story *of* Rigby's Achievements During the Year

THE story of Rigby's achievements during the past year can best be told in plain, simple facts, rather than indulging in newspaper glittering generalities. The reading public has of late years read so much "boom talk" in the newspapers of various kinds, concerning different towns, that it is becoming surfeited, hence the desire in this short article to state nothing but facts. From the size of the town Rigby, of course, does not attract an over amount of attention, but all travelers who stop over here invariably remark, "What a busy town. More people are seen on your business streets, and greater activity seems to prevail in Rigby than in the other towns along the line, most of which are larger." This is true.

DENOTE ACTIVITY.

Rigby's streets always denote activity. As the years go by the people in the surrounding country are learning more and more that their wants in a business way can be looked after here as well, if not better, than anywhere else. More than a dozen country settlements surrounding the town, all within about six miles, find in Rigby their railway and express shipping point, their trading, banking and general outfitting source. There is today in Rigby 35 business concerns, all of which seem to be in a thriving condition.

The cause of this general prosperity, of course, is the extensive and unequalled agricultural country of which Rigby is the business center. Good farming land, abundantly watered, surrounds the town in every direction for 15 miles. The climate is excellent, making it possible to produce fruit in large quantities, as well as sugar beets and other farm products. This year two straight carloads of apples were shipped from this point, and sufficient shipments by local freight were made to easily make up another car, were sent from here. This is a good showing when a few years ago fruit raising in this vicinity was thought unpromising. The records at the railway station show over 350 car loads of home-grown produce was loaded and shipped from Rigby during September, October and November of this year, the value of some of these carloads running up to over $900 each.

ABANDONED BIG SALARY.

Mr. T. W. Lee, formerly general passenger and ticket agent of the Delaware & Lackawanna Railroad company, with headquarters in New York, left a $15,000 salary to locate and farm in Idaho. The results of his first year's (1907 operations is as follows: 16,000 bushels of wheat, several hundred bushels of oats, six cars of potatoes, over 500 tons of hay and other smaller crops. His big farm of about 2,000 acres, located a mile southeast of Rigby, called the Bungalow, is rapidly changing from a sagebrush waste into a model farm. Nearly a 1,000 acres was put into crop last season, and double this amount will be planted next year. After his first year's experience Mr. Lees is more enthusiastic over Idaho's possibilities than ever. If such men can leave such high positions in the eastern commercial world to avail themselves of the great resources Idaho offers, why cannot men of smaller means and less fortunate do likewise? It is not necessary to go to Canada or Mexico to find all thing, that go to make up prosperous and wealthy communities, or the best of opportunities for the investment of capital, or obtain homes. Better opportunities exist right here for investment than rubber or banana plantation stock in Mexico, and all this close at home and in the most delightful and progressive state in the Union.

MANY IMPROVEMENTS.

Rigby shows the following improvements and growth during 1907:

The Western Mill & Elevator company is just finishing a 75,000 bushel grain elevator, with large cellar for the safe handling of potatoes and other perishable freight. The Idaho Power and Transportation company has built its pole line into town, and before this article is read the town of Rigby will be lighted with electricity, and furnished electrical power, generated by the mighty Snake river near by. The Call block, in which is located the Golden Rule store, has doubled its ground floor space and added another story to the entire building. The Rigby Furniture company has the foundation in for its large brick store.

The Wipperman Jewelry store, 25x70 feet, has just been completed, with modern plate glass front. The Rigby Milling company has just completed a large additional warehouse, to meet the demands of its business. Rigby also boasts of new plank sidewalks in the residence district, and a new street sprinkler, which improvements have made it much more pleasant to live in this thriving town. The Rigby school, housed in a $15,000 modern building, is the equal of any city school in the intermountain country. In addition to furnishing excellent school facilities for Rigby's numerous children, it furnishes high school opportunities for the surrounding country districts.

SUPPLY BIG TRADE.

One noticeable feature in Rigby's commercial life this year is the large number of people from Star Valley, Wyo., and Grand and Swan valleys up the South Fork of Snake river, that come here for their winter supplies. A good road has now been built from Rigby up the river to those valleys, making the distance to Rigby shorter and the opportunities better than to the Bear Lake country, hence the innovation.

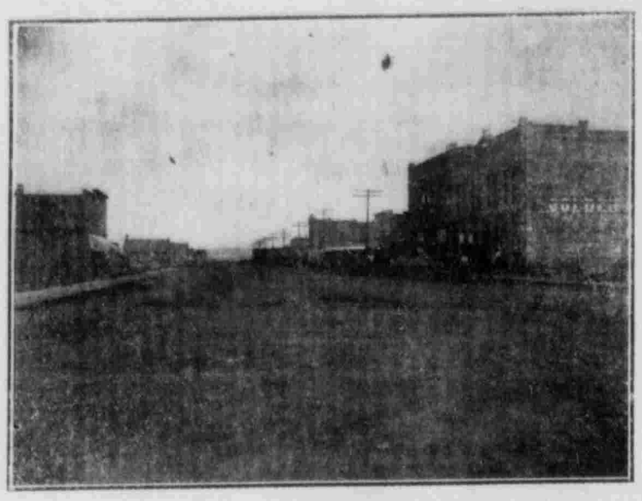
Indications are stronger now than ever before, that the Chicago & Northwestern Railway company, will extend its line from its present western terminus at Shoshone, Wyo., a distance of about 200 miles east of Rigby, into Idaho via the South Fork of Snake river, and across the valley near the Hub city for the west. This is what is needed more than any other thing in Idaho today. Such a road would forever settle the shortage of coal, as boundless quantities of this fuel exist in the mountains east of this valley. It would also furnish the added railway facilities so badly needed in addition to what the valley already has, because this country has now developed entirely beyond the capacity of the present railroad, which is particularly true of Rigby.

LEADING INSTITUTION.

The Rigby Hardware, Lumber and Manufacturing company, Rigby's leading commercial institution is abreast of the times and still maintains its high commercial standing, both with the consumer and wholesaler. This firm is composed entirely of local capital, and the personnel of the company is made up from Rigby's foremost citizens, who put their capital together during the town's pioneer days, and from the humble beginning have developed a commercial institution that any city might well be proud. Because of the local nature of the men and capital composing this firm it should be loyally supported by the people of Rigby and vicinity. The ability and character of the members of this company insures fair treatment and the best goods to all prospective purchasers.

This firm buys in car lots and is consequently able to set the prices in this part of the country, and it sells wholesale and retail. It handles nothing but standard goods, among which may be mentioned McCormick harvesting machinery, John Deere and Oliver plows, Sharples tubular cream separators, Good Luck ranges and Cole's hot blast heaters, Reach's harnesses, Hallack's paints, Boker tree brand knives, and Keen Cutter tools.

In connection with its hardware and implement business the company also operates a well stocked lumber yard and modern planing mills, at which anything in the building line can be had as cheap as any place in the valley. About 200 cars of merchandise, including the many cars of wheat, oats, hay, hogs, potatoes and other farm produce, sent out are handled annually by this company. It certainly is an institution that helps much to give Rigby the commercial importance it enjoys today, and merits the full support of the citizens of the south end of Fremont county. Its aim is always to meet the increasing demands made upon it commercially, which it is doing in a most satisfactory manner.



RIGBY'S PRINCIPAL THOROUGHFARE.

THE QUALITY STORE.

Under the popular name of "The Quality Store" was organized in May of this year soon after the old company of Eckersell-Fillmore company went out of business, and with which firm it has no connection. The new company is composed of Rigby's most prominent and reliable business men, with plenty of capital to conduct its already large business. It is amply able and does carry an immense stock of general merchandise, suitable for the needs of all and with sufficient variety for the most exacting to select from. In adopting the name of "The Quality Store," the new firm has emphasized this feature of its business more than any other, and nothing but "high class merchandise of all kinds" is dealt in. No cheap shoddy goods will be carried. The new store fills "a long felt want" in Rigby's commercial life, which is being appreciated by its patrons. The customers of this institution have learned to rely on the quality of the goods they purchase, and always become permanent buyers. This firm caters to the best trade, and guarantees to give the very best goods at the lowest consistent price, which is always cheaper to the cunsumer in the end. Cheap and inferior goods attract attention in the beginning, but only produce regret later. To give the best value for the money, and produce satisfaction is the alm of Rigby's new store.

S. B. Gough, the manager, has had over 14 years experience in his line, while Albert L. Paul, the secretary and treasurer, recently from Salt Lake City, is well qualified in his department. These gentlemen with the efficient corps of clerks, insure courteous and business like treatment. In fact the entire make-up of "The Quality Store" is such as to guarantee to the purchasing public of Rigby and vicinity everything they can desire in a well-stocked and modern institution of this kind, for which the people of this part of the country are to be congratulated.

SAFETY AND SOLIDITY.

Rigby is to be congratulated upon having for a banking institution an associate bank in connection with the oldest banking house maintained in the great Snake River valley, that of Anderson Bros., of Idaho Falls. In this same connection it should be noted that the Anderson Bros'. bank is the only financial institution at Rigby and so carefully has the business been handled that it is a question whether another bank could be made to pay there at the present time.

This institution is incorporated with a capital stock of $10,000. It was established four years ago and the business has steadily grown until today it has grown far beyond even the fondest expectations of its promoters. The present officers and directors of the bank are:

C. C. Campbell, president; George A. Cordon, vice president; J. H. Steele, cashier; directors, C. C. Campbell, M. M. Hitt and J. C. Anderson.

There is little or no need to comment on the safety and solidity of any financial institution in Idaho which is handled by men identified with Anderson Bros. For years the name Anderson in Idaho financial circles has stood for everything that could be rightly termed proper and careful banking methods.

Active management of the Rigby bank affairs is in the hands of Mr. J. H. Steele, cashier. He is rated a careful and conscientious banker and long ago he not only won the confidence of his associates, but of the entire country surrounding Rigby.

This bank is the depository for Rigby funds, the independent school district funds and all other special funds that accumulate from time to time in progressive Rigby.

Having the entire confidence of the district to those who desire a safe financial institution to do business with, merchants and others in and about Rigby will find every facility for their accommodation at the hands of Anderson Bros.' bank.

Large and small accounts are solicited by the institution, which is centrally located in the heart of the business section of the city. In this connection it should be noted that the home of the bank is a modern brick building that would do credit to cities many times larger than Rigby.

LARGE FURNITURE LINE.

No furniture concern in the great Snake River valley carries a more up-to-date line of furniture, carpets and wall paper than the Rigby Furniture company, limited. The present business was established under articles of incorporation one year ago last July and the company is incorporated for $25,000. At present the business is under the able management of Mr. A. G. Marler. Under his able guidance the business of the company is steadily increasing.

Nowhere in the state of Idaho is there a more thoroughly up-to-date and modern furniture establishment than that of the Rigby Furniture company. Mr. Marler is a man well acquainted with the business, and he insists that Rigby people are as tasty as the people living in any large city. That he is absolutely right is testified to by the large stock he carries. Anybody doubting the assertion has but to visit some of the Rigby homes. Mr. Marler takes a hand in furnishing most of them.

"Do what is right," is a motto of the Rigby Furniture company, and Mr. Marler insists that the only correct method of transacting business is to guarantee satisfaction. He also believes in doing a strictly cash business, and this is one of his methods of continually adding to his stock with the latest things in house furnishings.

The Rigby Furniture company occupies one of the largest storerooms in the town and the show room is replete with everything in the way of house furnishings that will gladden the hearts of the most fastidious.

Mr. Marler has gained the entire confidence of Rigbyites and farmers for miles surrounding his place of business.

One of the principles of the Rigby Furniture company is that no order is too small or too large to receive the most careful attention. Competent salesmen and attendants are always on hand to show goods and answer all questions.

RIGBY'S LARGE MILL.

An establishment in which Rigby takes great pride is a mill which has a capacity of 150 barrels of flour daily. This manufacturing plant is owned by the Rigby Milling company, limited, manufacturers of high grade flour, germade, graham and mill feed.

The mill is under the direct supervision of Mr. F. P. Robert, president and manager. J. T. Caldwell is vice president and R. Robert is secretary and treasurer. The directors include R. Robert, Samuel Whitehead, G. C. Paxton, J. T. Caldwell and F. P. Robert.

The brands of flour turned out by the mill are in great demand and farmers from Wyoming think nothing in the cold winter months of driving from 100 to 150 miles to secure a winter supply at the mill.

For the excellence of its wheat this section of Idaho is famous and as the plant is equipped with the latest machinery, its product has become justly famous.

GENERAL MERCHANDISE.

Every city prides itself upon its stores and hotels when both are of the proper kind. Such is true of Rigby, and among the leading places are the Idaho Trading company, managed by William G. Kimball and the Kimball hotel. Mr. Kimball is equally at home catering to the wants of the temporary visitor within the city's gates or attending to the wants of Rigbyites who desire to purchase general merchandise such as dry goods, groceries, boots, shoes, hardware, crockery or tinware.

Mr. Kimball is one of the pioneers of Rigby and he has built up his various interests through conscientious methods until today he is one of the strong factors in the affairs of the hustling and growing little city.

As a host Mr. Kimball is well and favorably known throughout the entire Snake River valley and his hotel is one of the popular and best conducted hostelries in the state. The cuisine is the very best and all rooms are perfectly furnished.

ANOTHER GENIAL HOST.

Another well conducted temporary abiding place at Rigby is the Pioneer hotel. This place is under the direct management of Mr. O. S. Taylor, an able and efficient caterer to the wants of the general public. No better accommodations in Rigby can be offered than those held out by Mr. Taylor. The Pioneer hotel caters to the traveling public in every sense of the word.

Lately the hotel underwent many important changes and it now has 24 rooms. Its rates are $1.25 per day up, according to rooms selected. At this hotel one of the aims is to satisfy travelers with good cooking.

FIRST CLASS MECHANIC.

J. W. Hobley, the recognized blacksmith of Rigby, recently purchased the business formerly conducted by Hobley & Boam. Mr. Hobley is young and enterprising and through perseverance has built up a business which gives him all the work he can possibly attend to.

A thorough mechanic in every sense of the word Mr. Hobley does general blacksmithing, horse shoeing, wagon work and deals extensively in second hand wagons and buggies.

Mr. Hobley does not fear competition in any form and judging from the splendid support he receives it will soon be necessary for his increased business to enlarge his present quarters.

CROWDED WITH WORK.

George D. Hoggan & Sons are recognized as the best harness makers in and about Rigby. Mr. George D. Hoggan arrived in Rigby from Cache valley three years ago and at once established a harness shop. Two years ago he was forced to enlarge the capacity of his shop and at the same time he took his sons into partnership. Again this year business increased to such an extent that it was necessary to rent an adjoining building and enlarge the business once more.

The firm makes a specialty of harness, saddles, collars, bridles, whips, spurs, etc. All repairing is promptly attended to and all work turned out is absolutely guaranteed to give satisfaction.

The reputation of the firm was established on the making to order of handmade harness. The farming community around Rigby commission this enterprising firm to make harness.

TO OPERATE STAGE LINE.

Among the hustling business men of Rigby is numbered Green Taylor, who together with his sons conducts the only livery barn in the city. Included in his equipment for the service of the public are 10 rigs, five cutters and two large sleighs for winter parties. Fifteen head of horses are constantly on hand and the barn has accommodations for stabling 50 head of horses at all times.

Mr. Taylor is an expert in the livery business and he enjoys the fullest confidence of the traveling public. He is prepared at any and all times to furnish rigs for country travel. Soon he will place in commission a stage line between Rigby and Heises Hot Springs for the general accommodation of Rigbyites and the traveling public.

A PERFECT PHARMACY.

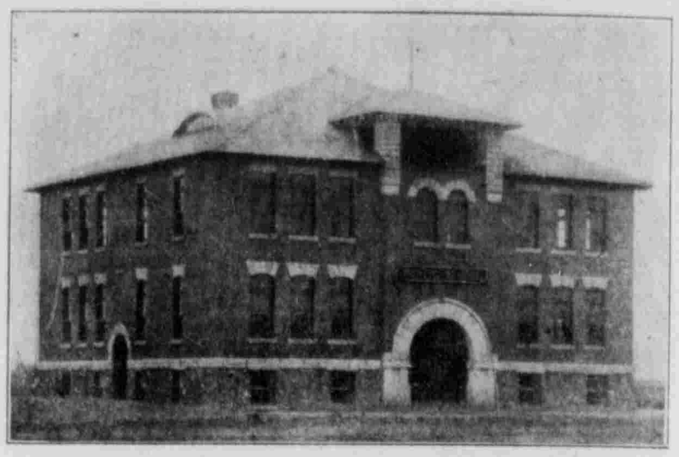
One of the more recent additions to the business world of Rigby is the Red Cross Drug company, limited, managed by J. A. Langtry, a young man of enterprise. Mr. Langtry is a graduated pharmacist, and conducts his drug store in connection with an experienced physician. The establishment is stocked with an entirely new line of drugs and medicines and it is the constant aim of the company to please all patrons.

While the Red Cross Drug company, limited, is the latest drug store to operate in Rigby, it has by long odds the best patronage. This is due largely to the fact that its manager is a hustler. He has entered into the profession heart and soul and one of the principal aims of the company is to render satisfaction on all occasions. Prescriptions compiled at this store are certain to be filled with the very best drugs the market affords. At the same time prices are consistent with good service.

DOES ALL LAW WORK.

George E. Hill, Jr., does practically all the law work for the people of Rigby and vicintiy. He also writes fire and life insurance. Communicate with him for anything wanted in the above lines.

No person should be without the safeguard of insurance and in soliciting your business, Mr. Hill will be pleased to quote rates upon application.



RIGBY PUBLIC SCHOOL.

GRUESOME FIND.

Urn Said to Contain Columbus' Bones Disinterred in New York.

The demolition of the old Consolidated Stock Exchange building at the corner of Exchange Place and Broadway, which is being torn down to make room for a modern skyscraper, the exchange having moved some time since to its new structure, corner of Beaver and Broad streets, has brought to light a most unusual and unexpected find, and one that has aroused a great deal of interest and curiosity.

In tearing down the old building the contractors uncovered a small metal box, which was placed in the cornerstone of the structure at the time the foundation was started, on Sept 8, 1887. This box was recently removed to the Exchange's new home, and upon being opened by President Ogden D. Budd in the presence of the entire board of governors, was found to contain, among other relics, particles of the bones of Christopher Columbus, which for over 20 years have quietly rested amid all the hurry and bustle of one of the busiest parts of New York's most prominent thoroughfare.

Every minute of the day throngs of people for nearly a quarter of a century have passed the spot, unmindful of the fact that they have been in the presence of portions of all that remains of the "great discoverer" of their country.

With the little gold-mounted urn holding the portions of Columbus' bones was a letter written by G. W. Stokes, an intimate friend of the late Charles G. Wilson, who when the cornerstone of the old building was laid, was president of the exchange. This letter, which establishes the authenticity of the venerable relic, reads as follows:

"Herewith I hand you my contribution to the cornerstone ceremony of our new and beautiful exchange building. It is a few grains of all that remains of Christopher Columbus. On Sept. 10, 1877, Jesus Marie Castillo, a Cuban engineer, made some repairs in the walls of the cathedral in Santo Domingo. This noble structure was planned and partially built by Diego Columbus in 1511. In touring away the defective masonry, Senor Castillos men uncovered a leaden casket on which was inscribed "Fro Al is D'Cristobal Colon." Before surrendering his great find to the archbishop Castillo abstracted from the casket a part of a rib. All the rest of the bones and dust is guarded night and day by the Dominican authorities. Aside from myself the only sharers of Castillo's forethought are the Pope, Gen. Ullyse Herreaux, President of Santo Domingo, and Mr. Charles Nordlinger editor of the New York Herald. I think you need have no doubt as to the authenticity of the few particles of the bone I hand you."

This highly prized relic now rests in the archives of the Consolidated Stock Exchange, an object of veneration, and is among the most cherished possessions of that institution.

TREE OF MYSTERY.

The Mojava Yucca a Vegetable Freak —The Creeping Oak of Monterey.

California has one tree which is the personification of mystery. Found nowhere else in the world, it had a mysterious origin and thrives in a region of mystery.

The Mojava yucca is a vegetable freak which has developed into a species. It has the characteristics of several plants, to which no relationship can be traced.

It is an endogen, yet its bark shows concentric rings such as characterize the exogenous stems. It lives and thrives in great numbers in a region early devoid of vegetation, in a land of heat and thirst and barrenness.

Another tree in California which has a peculiar personality is the creeping oak of Monterey.

Nowhere in the vegetable kingdom can be found so true a representative of monopoly. The tree is of quick growth, its limbs, like those of the sycamore, bending and twisting in all directions.

Whenever a branch touches the earth it takes root and becomes, as it were, another trunk, though still a branch of the main stem, drawing nourishment both from the parent stem and from the new source. In this manner the tree is spread till it has taken possession of five acres of ground, and it is still advancing.—P. E. Magazine.

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