



P. O. Box 232
Black Diamond, Washington
98010

BDHS Newsletter

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Send dues to:
Black Diamond Historical Society
P.O. Box 232
Black Diamond, Washington, 98010

Editor.....Chuck Holtz
32422 5th Ave. N.
Black Diamond, Washington, 98010
886-2964

Recollections, articles, questions, corrections, and comments are welcomed by the Editor.

IN MEMORIAM

It is with deep regret that we report the passing on of the following "oldtimers" this past quarter: Fred Elder, Sr. (75) of Franklin, Harold Hubert (73) formerly from Selleck, Katie Lushing (94) of Black Diamond, and Frances (Zumek) Schoning (62) formerly of Black Diamond.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The Society has produced a slide program as fulfillment of a contract with the King County Arts Commission for a \$250 grant. The program consists of slides of old pictures of the area and an oral explanation of the presentation. Our plans are to continue to add to the presentation and narrate the slides with a cassette recording of various oldtimers in the area. The program has been shown at the Black Diamond Senior Citizens' luncheon, the Enumclaw Lion's Club and the Enumclaw chapter of the Womens' Business Association. The show will also be shown to the Woodinville

Historical Society on January 17. The presentation has been well received.

Planking has been purchased to build the freight platform on the front of the Depot. The old platform ran the length of the building and we plan to restore, or rather replace the platform as near as possible to the original.

Mr. Edward Berntsen from the Burlington Northern Railroad presented "The History of the Pacific Coast Railroad", a slide and oral program, at the January meeting of the Historical Society. Approximately 120 persons were in attendance and the conference room in the City Hall was packed to capacity to say the least. Railroad pictures of the past brought back many memories to many in attendance and the program was enjoyed by all.

The Society will host an Antique appraisal to be held in the Depot some time in March. Watch the local papers for the exact date. Antiques or pictures of antiques (if the items are too bulky to carry in) can be brought to the depot where a staff of expert antique appraisers will be on hand to tell you what your antiques are worth. Appraisals will be made for \$2 an item and the proceeds will go toward restoration of the depot and other Society projects. If you have ever wondered what that treasured antique of yours was worth now is the time to find out. Free coffee and cookies will be served. I hope you will all turn out for the occasion. Even if you don't want an appraisal, you will be able to see many antique items and talk with old friends. See you there!

'78 CALENDARS

We have now sold almost 3/4ths of the 1000 Calendars we had printed

this year. If you plan to buy one and have been putting it off for one reason or another, it might be well to make your purchase now so you won't miss out. We sold over 1100 copies of last year's calendar and we don't plan to reprint this year's edition. When the 1000 are gone, they are gone forever, so get your now!



1978 MEMBERSHIP FEES NOW DUE!



Membership dues for 1978 are now due. Please make your payment in person to Ann Steiert or send your check or money order to Ann care of the Society address shown on the cover of this newsletter. Please don't forget as the next edition of the newsletter will not be sent to delinquent members.

DECALS

An attractive four inch decal of the "Coal Car" against a black diamond background topped with the Logo "Historical Black Diamond" are available through the Society for \$1.00. A 16" x 18" Duo-tone lithograph picture of the Black Diamond Bakery picture that was in last year's calendar is also available for \$2.00. The picture is two tone (black & gold) mounted on a cardboard backing and heat sealed with a transparent protective cover. The picture is an excellent reproduction and can be framed to make a beautiful picture for your home.

★ GOOD EATING! ★

The following recipe is taken from the cookbook "Key to Black Diamond Good Eats" published by the Lady's Aid Society of Black Diamond in 1913.

College Sandwiches

<u>25 cents worth boiled ham</u>	7 hard boiled eggs
2 green peppers	1 small onion
juice of 2 lemons	salt and pepper to taste:
a little lettuce and parsley.	Grind ham, green peppers, onion, lettuce and parsley.

Stir in lemon juice and mustard also hard boiled eggs.

Mrs. Evan Botting

POPULATION ANNOUNCED

The following census figures were taken from a newspaper clipping (Paper Unknown) dated Friday 24, either 1912 or 1913:
Arthur 216, Auburn 759, Bellevue 466, Black Diamond 2051, Black River 519, Bothell 927, Cedar River 522, Cedar Falls 93, Cedar Mountain 156, Christopher 635, Covington 145, Cumberland 585, Des Moines 357, Durham 170, Eagle Gorge 304, Elliot 119, Enumclaw 1129, Fall City 55, Franklin 326, Gilman 556, Green River 231, Hobart 279, Hot Springs 54, Issaquah 628, Kennydale 525, Kent 1908, Kirkland 741, Krain 321, Lester 405, Maywood 49, Meeker 667, Newcastle 834, North Bend 596, Orillia 440, Osceola 282, Palmer 214, Ravensdale 726, Redmond 790, Renton 2740, Seattle, co-extensive with Seattle City 237,194, Snoqualmie 556, Star Lake 152, Squak 164, Tolt 394, Tukwila 361, Wabash 267, White River 329, Woodinville 487, Yesler 782, and King County total 284,638.

FROM THE "SPARKLER" (Black Diamond School Paper) January, 1932.

Senior News...Cut Kravagna who is trying out for the Olympic Games boxed at the Washington Athletic Club last week and knocked his opponent out in the third round. John Kravagna will next tackle the Far Western Champion from Portland in a final match before he will go to Portland for the first round of the Olympic Games to be held in California.

The Senior Class wishes to extend their sincerest sympathy to Merle Davies in her recent bereavement of her grandfather, Thomas X. Davies.

Lost....A half an eyebrow in Upper Woodland Field. For further information get in touch with Shiek Manowski.

A filling out of a bottom molar, between Issaquah and Renton. Reward Offered---Louis Zumek.

Sparkler continued...

Sophomore News...We wish to congratulate Johanna Savicke the only Sophomore girl on the Girl's Basketball Team. Good luck, Johanna. The French Club that we were so enthused about having here has not been voted upon yet, but we are hoping on all sides that we do have one. Come on "Soph's, vote for it. Two of our well known Frenchmen dropped out of the class after the first semester. Dwight Garrett and Bill Lewis.

Boys Sports-Basket Ball

BLACK DIAMOND TURNS BACK UNDEFEATED BELLEVUE TEAM. On Jan. 19, the Black Hawks traveled to Bellevue, and upset them to the tune of 24 to 13. The game was a wonderful exhibition of Diamond's stubborn defense, and wonderful offensive plays.

Girls Sports- The Basket Ball girls took a trip to Bellevue on Jan. 7. After a close game the Diamond girls lost to their opponents to the tune of 24 to 30. The line-up was: Muriel Evans-center, Suama Johnson-side center, Emma Becker-forward, Merle Davies-forward, Pat Kravagna and Bernetta Harrington-guards. The forwards made twelve points apiece.

General News...What could be more shocking, surprising, and astonishing, yet ever so lovely, than to see Mr. Edson simply run off and get married? We do get surprises once in a while, but oh! this was so sudden. It almost set us going backwards. Maybe it was "EDSON'S" turn to give a surprise, after all. Well, congratulations, Mr. Edson.

Fourth Grade News...A contest is being waged in Geography and History. Glen Fredrickson is in the lead, but Butler McVicker is running a close second. Monday they plan on starting long division, and the children are eagerly awaiting the first lesson.

Sixth Grade News...In a picture coloring contest, Billy McLoughry won a tooth brush and a holder offered by the Prohylactic Brush Co.. All of the pictures were well colored, and the final selection of the winner was very difficult. We hope that Billy will get much satisfaction from his prize and that he will do as well in other contests.

★ POST OFFICE MEMORIES ★

The following letter was given to the Bellevue Post Office which forwarded it to the Black Diamond Post Office and then on to the Society. The letter contains reminiscences of Mrs. Rose Small and her early days of work in the Black Diamond Post Office..... Tues. Jan. 3, 1978.....

Dear Post Office Friends....A long time ago, I promised someone a "History" of my experience as a P.M.. My late husband (72 yrs. of marriage) and son John, about 6 mos. old, moved from Whitehorse Y. Terr., Canada--where my husband had been mining engineer of a copper property, for 6 or 7 yrs--(during a war metals are needed-to fire at the enemy.) As all the "line" men had left for the front, he was considered less than popular till someone remembered he was an American--& as such had to report to the Am. Counsel in Skagway, Alaska every month--also he had to manage 300 men, digging out the much needed ore--so we were "noticed again". The very hour the armistice was signed, we started to move to Seattle where an old friend "arranged" to have him hired as engineer at one of the many coal mines near. The one at Black Diamond was in difficulty & as he had experience with "flooding" he was hired. In a few weeks, the Mgr. of the Co's General store suggested I take over the Post Office. I protested "ignorance & a six mo. old baby", but by adding a stove, carpet & screen, I was installed--scared to death! I'd heard of inspectors behind panels, and the "Pen" is stamps were missing, etc.. The store manager was the P.M., but he said it was new to him and just read the Bible and a book along with the Sears & Montg. Ward catalogs. All kept busy. School children would stop with money and "write a letter to get my Mother a dress, or Father some underwear"--much questioning & guessing. I'd manage somehow & never rec'd objections. But, the pay day's money to "the family" in some foreign country really bothered. I tried to show them maps, but the towns weren't shown. Finally my husband suggested sending the "order" and letter to the Am. Consulate of that country.

I was raised among Idaho mines where hard rock miners were mostly Scandinavians--coal miners were "Cousin Jacks"--Welch & Pennsylvanians. I found dozens of Money Orders & Registered mail wedged in back of shelves & the little Money Order desk drawers. We were horrified--Then I knew the Inspector wouldn't catch me, but I did write asking for one to come, and he, like all you people, was very kind. He didn't know that the only talent I had was to tidy up dresser drawers & cook chicken with milk gravy (the last captured my husband) & I didn't have to take an exam! The only times I heard from "on high" were from the men in the baggage mail cars. They'd throw

continued.....

P.O. Memories, cont'd.....

notes in the mail bags; nice but funny. I had to divide the mail and tie with the fuzzy brown string. I was too careful, it had to have one long string to flip the bundle open quickly. Also, I didn't need to wrap "for mailing" the registered and money order letters. So after a long while, I pleased everyone, privately gloated over the first money I'd ever earned. My husband insisted I have my own account and learn to write checks!

Then someone suggested I organize a P.T.A.. A regal looking lady from Tacoma; we seemed to take a lot of orders from there, I never learned why, made the suggestion, so I wrote to the Univ. of Wash. and finally rec'd plans for the P.T.A.. I called on most homes and had to promise "Eats" to get the people with children to attend an evening at school. The store furnished coffee and cookies. I was all ready, on the platform, and a no. of parents were seated. I introduced a teacher-fine-she added a greeting-then couldn't find the Principle. When the party (eats) started and all the people busy, he emerged from behind the piano! That was the end of the P.T.A.. I'm sure I never told John that sad story. (He's teaching at Bellevue High).

You will need new specs and patience to read this far, but I keep writing faster and poorer and I wouldn't dare try this again. I just touched on the hi spots--it was serious then, but not any more.

Love to you all and a Good Year, Sincerely..... Rose Small

LETTER FROM THE PACIFIC COAST COMPANY PAPERS

August 11, 1922

Mr. Walter Barnum, Treasurer,
The Pacific Coast Company
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

The attached memorandum will give you an idea of our house purchasing program at Black Diamond up to date.

In the estimate prepared last November, when Mr. Barnum was here, we included an item of \$125,000 for the purchase and repair of Black Diamond houses, and you will note that this figure will not be exceeded to any large extent.

Yours truly,

E.G. Ward

Vice President and Gen'l Mgr.

C O P Y

August 10th 1922

Purchases authorized to date (this AFE included)	232 buildings
	\$ 94,534.62
Repairs authorized to date (this AFE included)	166 buildings
	\$ 24,232.86
Total cost to date	\$118,767.48

Average cost of houses to date.....\$407.48

Average cost of repairs to date..... 145.98

Purchases completed.

Buildings not yet repaired, 66 @ estimated
average cost of \$145.98..... \$ 9,634.68

\$128,402.16

☆ HISTORY ☆

The following article is the third part of a continuing series on the town of Franklin. The article was taken from part of an unpublished masters thesis titled "Washington's Green River Coal Company: 1880-1930, by C. William Thorndale, the complete work which can be checked out from the Society.

To keep the peace between the two races, guards stood watch along newly raised fences. A deadline was established on both sides of the road running through town, and the whites were admonished not to leave the road. Newly-strung barbed wire ran along the path leading to the school, making the play-

History, cont'd.....

grounds off limits to the miners, who used the level area as a meeting place. What undoubtedly kept the peace were the hundred white and fifty black guards, whose Winchesters and elaborate code words regulated all movement in the town.

The company guns encouraged the whites in their resolve to avoid violence, but left only two alternative policies. Assuming the Negroes had come to Franklin under the false pretense of manning a new mine, then a simple statement of facts would presumably send them home. The second line of action involved pressuring the OIC by boycott and sympathy strikes.

The Western Central Labor Union took an active interest in the lockout and asked permission to talk to the Negroes, but the company refused. But, the assumption that the Negroes would leave once they understood the situation proved wrong. The Seattle newspapers gave heavy coverage to all the various viewpoints and many Negroes were seen in Franklin reading those papers. Within a few days they began writing letters to the editors justifying their right to stay. Clearly for the preponderant majority it little mattered whether Corey had misrepresented the facts; they had jobs at Franklin and why should they leave?

The second alternative demanded much voluntary action on the part of the many unions, most of whom would run the risk of self-destruction if they struck in sympathy. Attempts to get the transportation unions to refuse OIC coal failed. Neither the Coast Seamens Union, the longshoremen, nor the teamsters would strike, and most of the men on the Columbia & Puget Sound kept on the job. Better response came from their fellow miners. Black Diamond and Newcastle went out, the former to deprive the OIC of railroad revenue. With the Gilman Mine already on strike and the Cedar Mountain Mine virtually shut down due to a poor market, King County again had a coal strike. By the end of a week the lockout at Franklin seemed a success. Smith claimed many Newcastle miners wanted to return to work, while at Franklin the calm allowed a fifty per cent reduction in guards.

The miners confined themselves to mass demonstration, hardly effective against an absentee corporation such as the OIC. On Sunday, May 24, two hundred and fifty Black Diamond miners led by their brass band marched to Franklin where a total of nine hundred listened to fiery speeches calling for peaceful opposition. The meeting resolved to ask Governor Elisha Ferry to call a special session to enact an anti-Pinkerton law. The chairman alluded to the fifty men who controlled the United States economy while a member of the joint local executive board of the Knights put the crisis into dramatic perspective:

I tell you it is a struggle for right against a system of robbery. The corporations have rights. The people have given them rights-- the right to rob those by whose authority they exist...Every man who toils is a slave to the corporations, and the only way to regain your freedom is by means of your ballots; and after you have crossed the chasm burn the bridge of monopoly behind you.

Thus did the leaders of the Knights try to show the miners how their lockout was part of the general battle between the people and the interests, but to most it was still a battle against a specific company trying to drive them from their homes and jobs.

That the Knights did not represent the sentiments of the majority became apparent when on May 27 a meeting in Seattle among the labor leaders saw the Western Central Labor Council tell the Knights and the miner's assemblies that everyone would have to submit to their control or the Council would withdraw from the strike. The miners accepted the Council's authority to seek a solution, to the dismay of the Knights.

The miners showed remarkable solidarity as the strike continued. At Franklin many of the whites drifted away, although many determined Knights refused to abandon their cause or their own homes and property. At Black Diamond the strike hurt the Black Diamond Company and the miners more than the OIC, and Superintendent Morgan Morgans publicly threatened to import Negroes. But the miners did not return to work. The strikes continued at Newcastle and Gilman, although a large segment of the Newcastle miners wished to return to work in spite of their militant neighbors in the Knights of Labor. On May 24, the miners had publicly vowed not to return until the locked-out men were reinstated, and the resolve was re-emphasized at a Cedar Mountain meeting held June 13. The Western Central Labor Council felt miffed over that meeting, held under the auspices of the Knights, but it endorsed the resolution and asked all miners to stay away from the five struck mines. At the same time, donations from various unions helped to keep the whites at Franklin on strike. The Brewery Workmens' Union of San Francisco sent \$50; the Typographers Union of Tacoma sent \$100.

But in spite of the singular solidarity of the King County coal miners and the aid from other unions, the sympathy strikes began to fall away. The policy of white miners staying away from Franklin actually suited the OIC, something Corey acknowledged when he bemusedly signed a few of the Council

History, cont'd.....

notices asking the miners to stay away with a "Approved. T.B. Corey." By late June, Black Diamond began listening to Cornwall's offer of a sliding wage scale on the seasonal 15% formula. Such an agreement was made between the company and the miners' committee of the Western Central Labor Council, but the Black Diamond Knights rejected it in a secret meeting, demanding some say over hiring and firing. Once again the Knights proved both radical and arbitrary in dictating to the other miners.

The day before the rejection of the contract, the OIC broke the Newcastle strike by sending about a hundred Franklin Negroes to operate the mine. Thus, by the end of June, Newcastle and Franklin had excluded the Knights while Black Diamond looded toward an end to its sympathy strike.

The breaking of the Newcastle strike sparked a riot in Franklin. The train carrying the Negroes had been guarded by nine whites, and around 7:30 P.M. on June 28, it returned the guards to Franklin. Between Black Diamond and Franklin the guards, apparently drunk, fired on Sunday strollers along the track. As the train pulled into the town with shots still ringing in the air, the Negroes, excited by the wounding of a black guard earlier in the day, seized their guns and rushed to the edge of the dropoff overlooking the houses on the flat below. Most of the strikers had retreated there to escape the guards and guns, but they soon rued that decision. The Negroes began indiscriminate firing on the unprotected people below, sending men, women and children diving for protection or fleeing across the river. The deputy sheriff of the county later estimated a thousand rounds flew in the brief outburst, mostly on the houses far below. As the bullets rained down on the houses, women and children hid under beds, listening to the bullets whiz by. Two women were wounded, one very seriously. No Negroes were hurt in the attack.

The white miners grabbed their guns and headed for the shooting. During the exchange of shots, the inside boss killed two of the strikers. Whether they were armed could never be determined since there were no witnesses. The first white miners to the side of the dead men later swore both had no guns and the gun the OIC later produced was a plant. One of the men gave death day testimony that both he and his friend had been unarmed and had been shot in cold blood. But the boss later won acquittal on grounds of self-defense.

The first published report of the riot charged the white strikers with deliberately starting the riot as part of a general campaign to drive the Negroes from Franklin. According to the story, the whites seized upon the absence of the guards sent to Newcastle as a chance to overwhelm the town. Twenty-five men were supposedly stationed between Black Diamond and Franklin, twenty-five more just east of the town, while the main force of fifty were stationed just at the west end. An attack on the train would draw the Negroes to the west end, allowing the whites at the east to sweep through the town and pin the blacks in a cross fire. Just how one hundred whites, split by two or three hundred armed Negroes and detectives expected to win a shoot-out, was never explained. Later the plan appeared to be the overworked imagination of the OIC, a fact recognized by the Post-Intelligencer a few days later, when many non-residents testified about the guards shooting first from the incoming train.

But regardless of the blame, the riot had taken place, two men had died and two women were wounded, and the sheriff appealed for the state militia. By 3:50 A.M. June 29, two companies reached Franklin, under the overall command of Colonel J.C. Haines, an attorney for the OIC. As Col. Haines noted, calling out the militia happened often; in eight years he had served eight times, one during the Seattle fire and seven times in labor disputes. The militia at Franklin ended the violence, but not the feel of violence. On July 1 a rumor of an impending Negro attack sent women and children fleeing from the town, most never to return. Following those who had left on the night of the riot, the new refugees went to Palmer, South Prairie, Carbonado, and other coal towns where friends would take them in. Even the sick and wounded were removed, except for one girl whose father feared to move her. Thus did the Franklin riot drive most of the whites from the town. Only a few strikers remained to support the hopeless cause.

(Continued Next Issue --- Reaction to the Riot)



****NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE****



The Society meets the second Monday of every month (excepting June and July) and the February meeting (Feb.13) we will host a slide and oral presentation by Dr. Nigel Adams of Green River Community College entitled The Holden Mine, 1938 to 1957. The Holden mine was a copper and silver mine located on the north end of Lake Chelan and Dr. Adams' program has drawn high praises from many sources. See you there!

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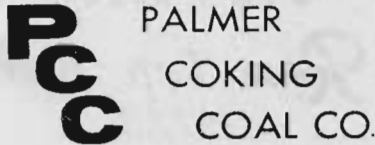
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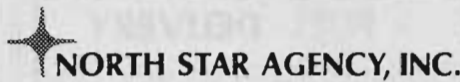
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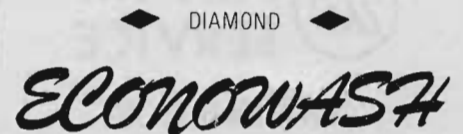
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