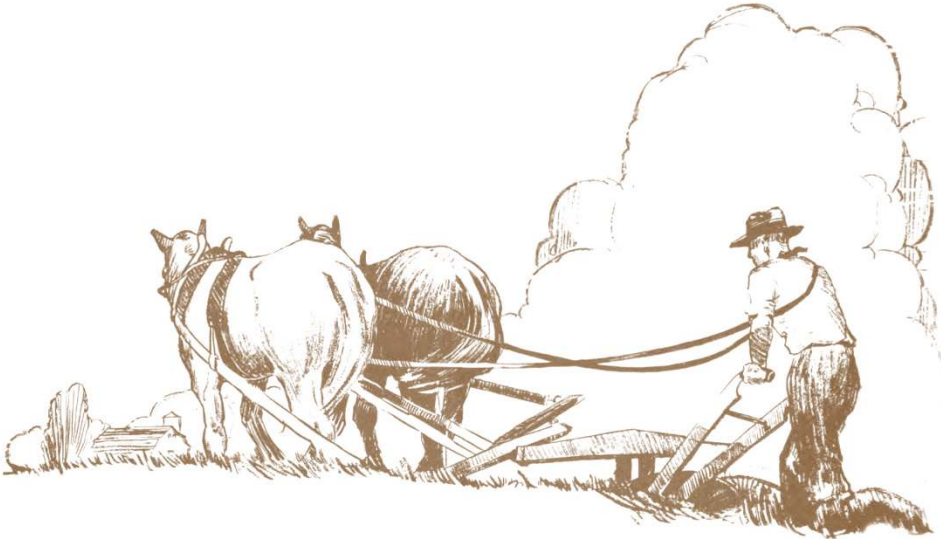


# Who We Are!

*The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society is an association of individuals dedicated to the preservation of the history of our community. To the preservation of the region's oral history, literary history, social history, graphic and pictorial history, and our history as represented by the region's artifacts and structures. To the preservation of this history for future generations. To the art of making this common heritage accessible to the public. And to the act of collaborating with other individuals and organizations sharing similar goals.*



*Illustration from the February 1st, 1922, issue of Farm Machinery/Farm Power.*

**Join the  
Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society.**

Box 293, Clayton, Washington  
(509) 276-2693

*(Yearly dues: Twenty dollars per household.)*

**Free — Take One**

*The C/DPHS meets at 9 a.m. every second Saturday of the month. Join us at the Clayton Drive-In, Clayton, Washington. Visit our website at <http://www.cdphs.org>*

*The C/DPHS is an association of individuals dedicated to the preservation of the history of our community. To the preservation of the region's oral history, literary history, social history, graphic and pictorial history, and our history as represented by the region's artifacts and structures. To the preservation of this history for future generations. To the art of making this common heritage accessible to the public. And to the act of collaborating with other individuals and organizations sharing similar goals.*

THE  
CLAYTON/DEER PARK  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# Mortarboard

© C/DPHS

## Winter Scenes: An Artifact from the Arcadia.

by

*Wally Lee Parker*

The actual lifespan of the Arcadia Orchards project has yet to be firmly determined. It's currently believed to have begun as early as 1906. And, according to the lead historian for the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society, Pete Coffin, it "officially ceased to exist in 1934 when the Netherlands American Mortgage Company wrote the company off at a loss of several hundred thousand dollars." It's the complexity of the company's

history that makes what should be a simple answer difficult. As Pete notes, "There were at least three names for the same company..." And with each reorganization, each corporate name change, there appears to have been a fresh burst of promotional activity, accompanied by a rash of new spending. Visible traces of those investments still litter the landscape around Clayton and Deer Park. In an article appearing in the Novem-



Front Cover — Arcadia Orchards Promotional Booklet — circa 1911.

*The Brochure Unfolded — Front & Back View .*



*(Images somewhat modified from original.)*

**Arcadia Brochure Size & Layout:**

*The brochure's cover is a single 19¼ inch long piece of gray colored, matte cardstock folded double (4¾ by 9¾ inches). The title and cover art is applied to the front side in four colors — black, silver-grey, and two tones of red. Barely visible on the upper right surface is the notation "1 Feb. 1911," in what appears to be graphite pencil. With slight variations in composition, two other pencil notations on the interior pages suggest the same. The interior foldout, in fairly heavyweight white polished paper that is, as expected, slightly tanned by age, unfolds to 37½ by 7¾ inches. The width is folded down horizontally to just under 4 inches. The length is folded into four segments, each approximately 9¾ inches long. Once folded, the blank back segment (see the lower of the above images) is glued to the back cover.*

*There is wear to the edges of the cover cardstock. The interior sheet is cracked and partially separated at certain of the fold lines, assumedly from repeated use. There is no appearance of water damage or staining to the cover or the interior paper. Everything considered, the brochure is in reasonably good condition considering its age.*

ber, 2009, issue (#19) of the *Mortarboard*, Pete wrote, "Originally the main irrigation ditches were dug into the dirt, but early promotional success and incoming money caused the inefficient ditches to be replaced by iron-bound wooden stave pipes and underground concrete piping." Much of the wood from the pipes and flumes either rotted away or was carted away to be converted into homes, barns

or fences long ago. Isolated bits of the durable concrete still stand, either as singular monoliths — their original purpose often obscure — or long buried segments of siphons occasionally uncovered. And if one knows where to look, a few remaining traces of the century old ditches and flumes can still be seen as far away as Deer Lake.

Reconstructing the history of the Ar-



*Original Caption Reads:  
Interior view siphon pipe line  
No. 2, under construction.*

*Image 1.*

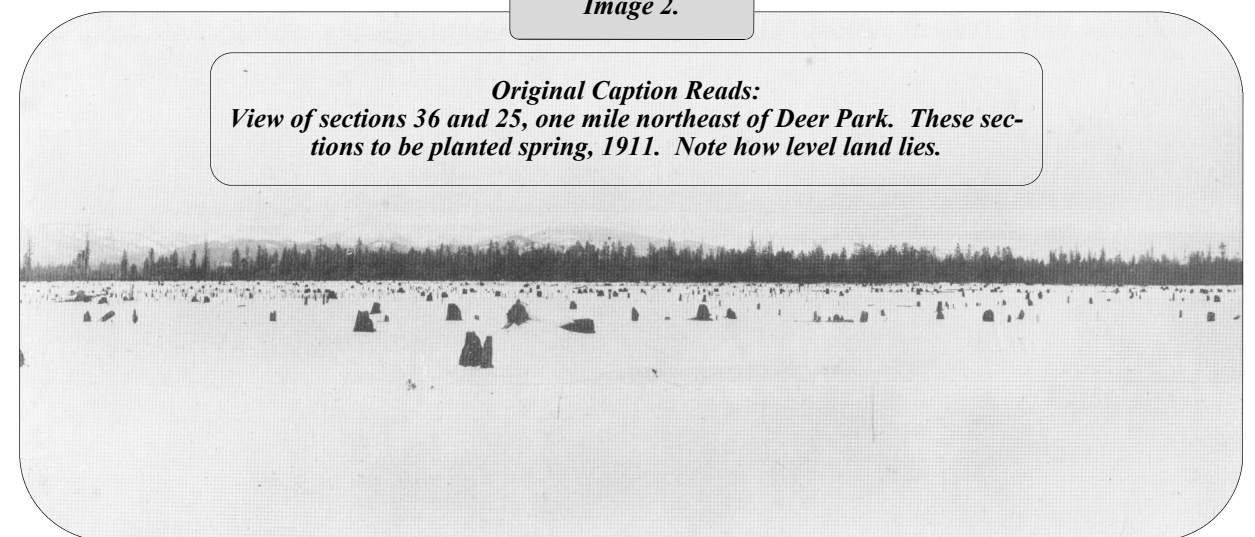
arcadia Orchards Company is an ongoing process. Clues can be found in newspapers, various government and private archives, in diaries and recorded bits of personal recollections, and in the physical remains of the project sprinkled throughout the company's area of operation. Another source of data is the promotional materials produce by the compa-

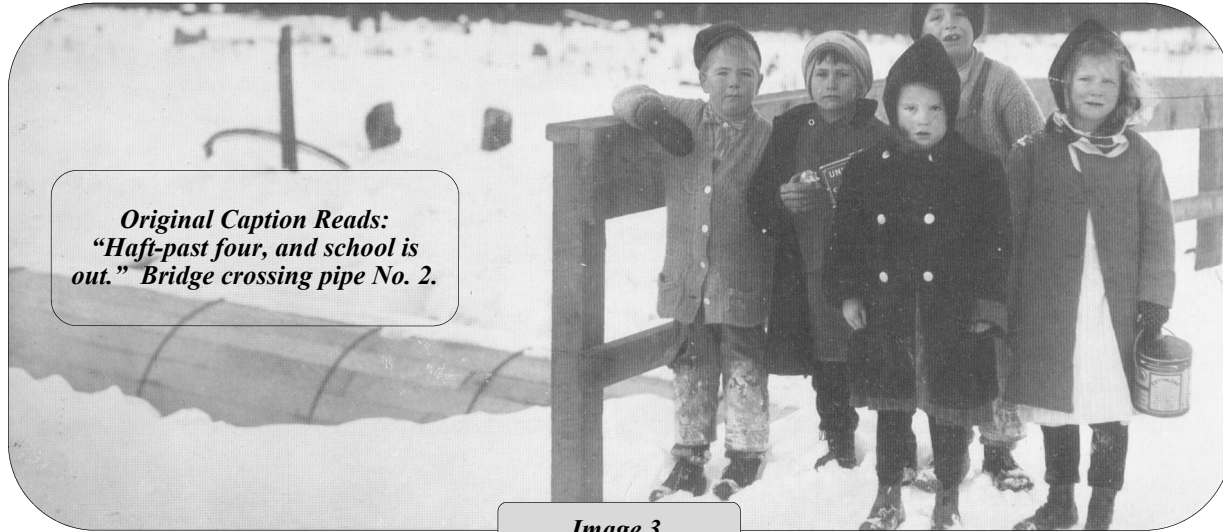
ny itself. One such item recently came into the possession of this writer.

As part of one of its promotional efforts, very early in 1911, possibly February of that year, the Arcadia Orchards Company published a foldout pictorial brochure outlining the improvements undertaken. This brochure was obtained early in 2015 from a gentleman

*Image 2.*

*Original Caption Reads:  
View of sections 36 and 25, one mile northeast of Deer Park. These sections to be planted spring, 1911. Note how level land lies.*





*Original Caption Reads:  
"Haft-past four, and school is out."  
Bridge crossing pipe No. 2.*

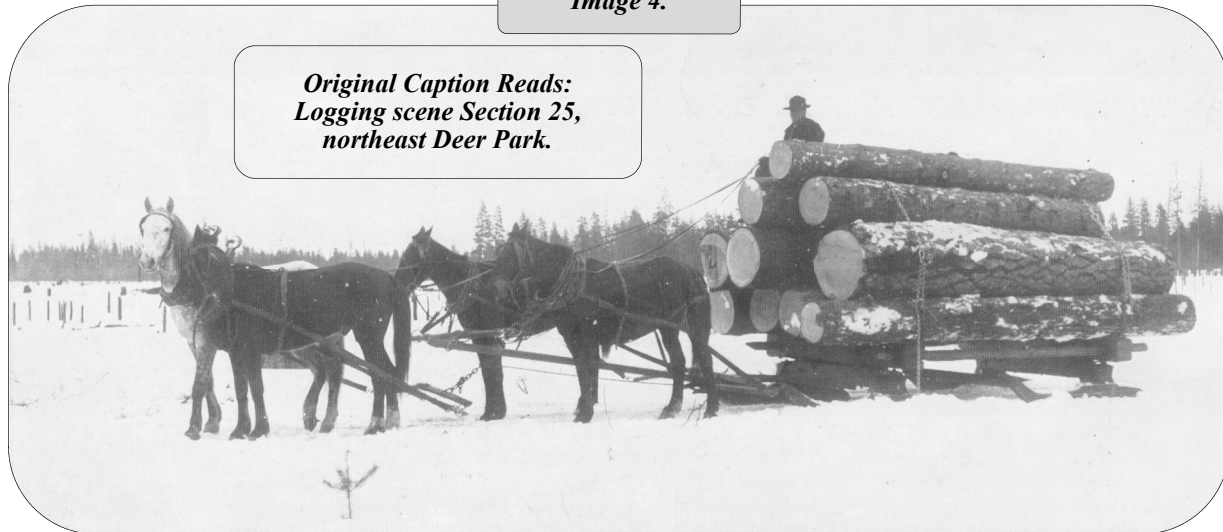
**Image 3.**

residing in Spokane. Said gentleman, Mike Nollette, stated the item was found in a box he purchased at a local estate sale. The box contained numerous artifacts pertaining to the former Spokane law practice of Frank Kinsell (May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1879, to October 6<sup>th</sup>, 1958) — the assumption being that the brochure had at one time been Mr. Kinsell's property.

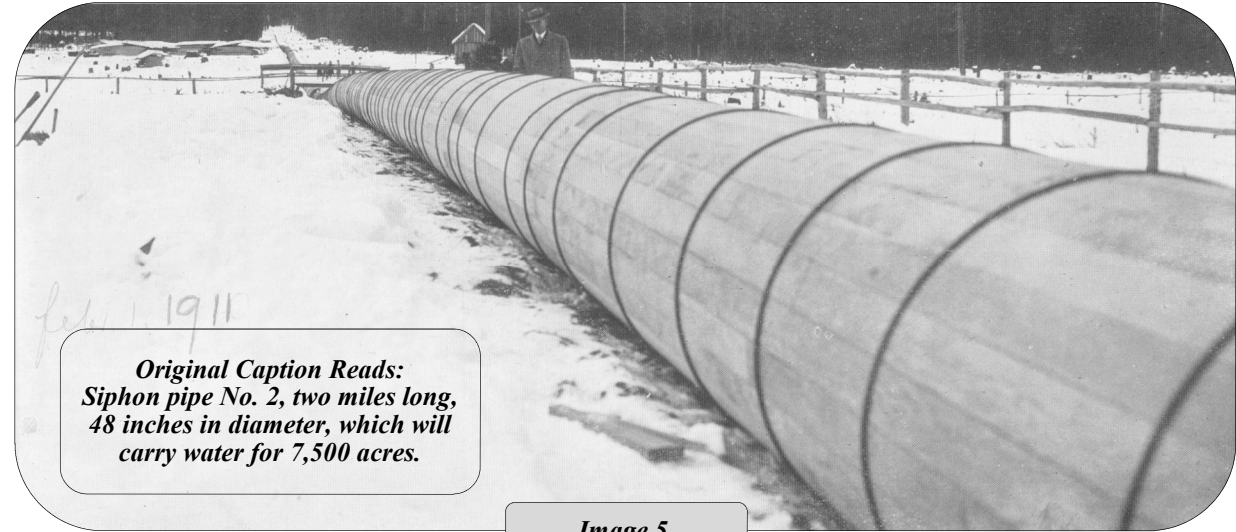
*... regarding Frank Kinsell ...*

As for Attorney Kinsell, the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1905, issue of the *Longmont Ledger* of Boulder County, Colorado, announced Frank Hall Kinsell's graduation from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a Bachelor of

**Image 4.**



*Original Caption Reads:  
Logging scene Section 25,  
northeast Deer Park.*



*Original Caption Reads:  
Siphon pipe No. 2, two miles long,  
48 inches in diameter, which will  
carry water for 7,500 acres.*

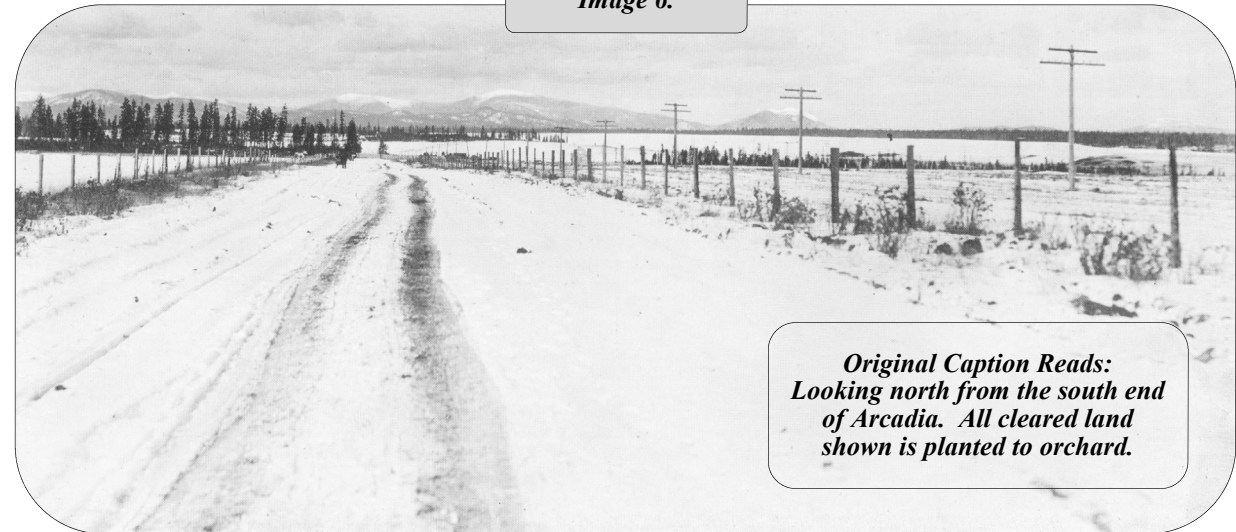
**Image 5.**

Laws degree. Next, an article appearing in the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1908, issue of the *Spokane Chronicle*, under the headline "Kinsell Brings Home a Bride," indicates that the gentleman had married and relocated to Spokane with his bride.

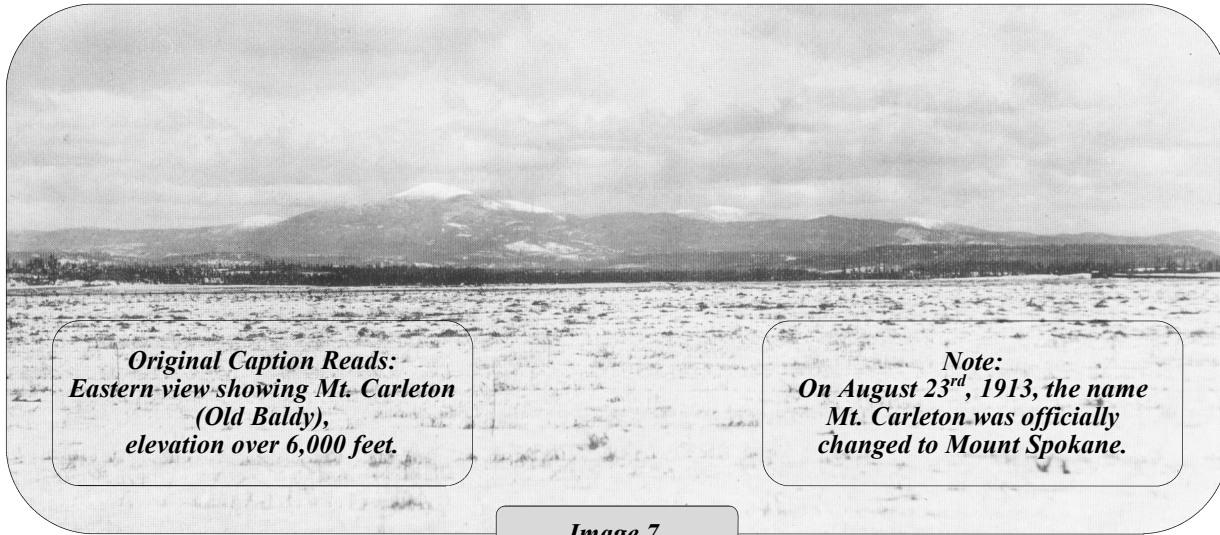
The article stated, "Friends of Mr. F. H. Kinsell, one of Spokane's young attorneys,

have had a suspicion that he went somewhere away from Spokane, and became a Benedict. Mr. Kinsell has returned and confirms the report. He was married on April 16 at Boulder, Col., to Miss Mary C. Horn. The young lady held a responsible position as cashier of the Wellington Investment Company of the Colorado city.

**Image 6.**



*Original Caption Reads:  
Looking north from the south end  
of Arcadia. All cleared land  
shown is planted to orchard.*



**Original Caption Reads:**  
Eastern view showing Mt. Carleton  
(Old Baldy),  
elevation over 6,000 feet.

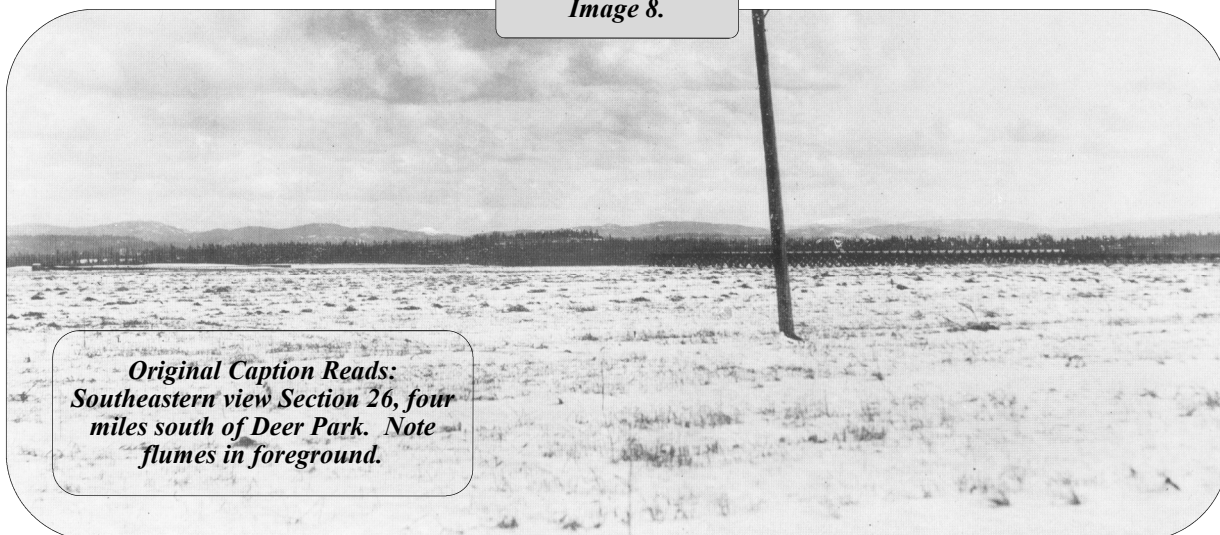
**Note:**  
On August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1913, the name  
Mt. Carleton was officially  
changed to Mount Spokane.

**Image 7.**

“Mr. Kinsell has offices at 503-4 Rookery. He is just completing a six-room modern house at S1202 Walnut Street, which is nearly ready for occupancy.”

The above suggests that Mr. Kinsell arrived in Spokane during the latter portion of Floyd Lorenzo Daggett’s two year term as the city’s mayor — 1905 through 1907. As noted

in N. W. Durham’s 1912 classic *History of the City of Spokane and Spokane County*, “He (Mr. Daggett) was one the original promoters and incorporators of the Arcadia Orchards Company and for three years acted as its president.” Since the orchards project was incorporated in 1906, it’s unlikely that Mr. Kinsell would have been unacquainted with Mayor



**Original Caption Reads:**  
Southeastern view Section 26, four  
miles south of Deer Park. Note  
flumes in foreground.

**Image 8.**



Photo courtesy of Donna Ryan.

**Frank & Mary Kinsell — date of photo unknown.**

Daggett or the mayor’s orchards project.

Researching the background related to the brochure’s survival, a photo of Frank and Mary Kinsell was located online. A letter was sent to the individual posting the photo — Donna Ryan, a relative of the Kinsell’s — asking permission to use the image in the *Mortarboard*. Permission was granted.

As a promotional effort, the brochure was likely effective. But like similar brochures throughout history, the accompanying text, while not clearly deceptive, may have been something less than factual.

... headline “Ideal Location” ...

Under the heading “Ideal Location,” the text appearing beneath **Image #5** states, “The valley of Arcadia is located 22 miles north of Spokane, in Spokane and Stevens Counties, Washington. Evergreen mountains with snowcapped summits in winter surround this beautiful valley.

“The average winter temperature is

34 degrees. Snow remains upon the ground about two months in the year. The sudden changes prevalent in the eastern and middle states are not experienced; the temperature is uniform. The elevation about sea level is 2100 feet, and the air is pure and exhilarating.”

“The great development work, by which this beautiful valley is converted from the virgin forest into orchard tracts, continues winter and summer. The pipe line shown herein has all been constructed since December 15<sup>th</sup>, 1910, and the entire irrigation system, of which it is a part, will be completed by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1911.”

... headline “Wonderful Development” ...

Associated with **Image #6**, the text declares, “The Horticultural Department is now engaged in grafting 300,000 trees for planting during fall and spring, 1911 and 1912. Our last fall’s planting continued up until December 10<sup>th</sup>. (Penciled in after December 10<sup>th</sup> was “1910.”)



Canal of the Arcadia Orchards Company Near Spokane, Washington.

I Can Make a Fortune for You in

## ARCADIA

Only 22 miles from Spokane, Wash.  
**TRUE APPLE LAND**  
Water Free—No Maintenance Fee

**\$225.00 Cash—\$25.00 Monthly**  
Secures Ten Acres

**\$112.50 Cash—\$12.50 Monthly**  
Secures Five Acres

SEND FOR ILLUSTRATED BOOKLET

## ARCADIA ORCHARDS COMPANY

HYDE BLOCK, SPOKANE, WASH.

F. E. GOODALL, General Sales Agent, 184-A South Clark Street, CHICAGO, ILL.

You are invited to visit our Free Exhibit of Apples at 184-A South Clark Street

Advertisement from the November, 1910, issue of  
"The Irrigation Age" magazine.

"The standing timber has been removed from many hundreds of acres and taken to the large sawmills to be converted into lumber, and land 'slashed' by removing the brush and remaining small timber, leaving it in condition for the stump pullers, which, early in spring, will remove all stumps, leaving the land then ready for cultivation and planting to orchard.

"Trips from Spokane to Arcadia have been made by automobile constantly throughout the entire winter. The road is macadamized one-third of this distance, and the state is now considering extending the macadamized road through Arcadia to the Stevens County line on the north."

... headline "Unsurpassed Soil" ...

Beneath Image #7, the text reads, "As an IDEAL (all caps in original text) fruit district, Arcadia is attracting attention throughout the entire country. Its most excellent soil, ranging in depth from five to thirty feet, free from rocks, gravel and alkali; its gravity irrigation with no charge for water to contract holders; its most delightful climate, winter and summer; its nearness to Spokane, and its excellent transportation facilities are combined advantages not enjoyed by any locality in the entire country.

"Eighteen hundred acres will be planted to winter apples during the spring of 1911, and a quarter of a million dollars will be extended in development during this year. Splendid apples are raised at Arcadia, without irrigation. Only a small amount of water is required to enable the production of a finely

flavored long-keeping apple which commands the highest price in the markets of the world."

... headline "Scientific Horticulture" ...

The text associated with Image #8 reads, "At Arcadia is found the largest area planted to winter apples in the entire West. Every acre is planted under the direction of skilled horticulturists employed by the company. No raw land is sold, and the company cultivates, irrigates, prunes, sprays and takes entire charge of the orchard for four years from and after the date of planting trees. Under this system, the most scientific methods are assured, and all possibility of diseased trees is eliminated.

"A splendid income may be realized from five acres. The most reasonable terms are offered, enabling the small, as well as the large investor to take advantage of the opportunity offered.

"Further information and FREE (all cap, as in the original text) booklet upon request."

Under this block of text was the company's address, "Arcadia Orchards Co., Hyde Block, Spokane, Washington."

... the average winter temperature ...

Reading the Arcadia Orchards Company's claims regarding the suitability of the "Valley of the Arcadia" for orchards, of particular note is the statement that the "average winter temperature is 34 degrees" Fahrenheit, and that "The sudden changes prevalent in the eastern and middle states are not experienced; the temperature is uniform." Without a clear definition of exactly how the company is defining winter, it's difficult to judge whether this is an accurate claim. Is it being defined as from the first day of winter to the first day of spring? Is it something more arbitrary such as from the first killing frost to the last killing frost, or from the first snow till the last trace of winter accumulation has melted away in the spring thaw? To determine which we'd have

to see the original data the "average" was drawn from. Everything considered, there should be an intuitive skepticism regarding claims being made within a promotional brochure designed to sell not just land, but an easier lifestyle as well.

We currently don't have any 'official' Deer Park weather records for the winter of 1910 or earlier. The best we can do is look at the records for the winter of 1911, for which we have a complete stream of daily high and low temperatures beginning in late May of the prior summer and continuing into subsequent years. This stream, available through an online site titled the 'Weather Source' (see footnote, page 1430, for the web address), seems to have been drawn from data preserved by the Weather Bureau division of the United States Department of Agriculture. A distillation of that data appears in a series of bulletins published by the USDA under the title "Monthly Weather Review."

The Review divided the country into reporting districts — Washington State being part of District #12. With the Review's May, 1911, edition, District #12 began listing reports from a Spokane County weather station located at "Deer Park." Of particular interest is a column of said report marked "Length of record, years." In the above noted May edition, the City of Spokane is listed as having supplied thirty years of records, Colville eleven, and Newport one. The space for Deer Park is blank — suggesting there hadn't been an official government weather station there at any time prior to the late spring of 1911.

As for how the Department of Agriculture and the United States Weather Bureau became linked, it seems the governmental function of collecting and keeping weather records was first given to the Army Signal Service segment of the Department of War in 1870. In 1891 that job was transferred to the Department of Agriculture. The U. S. Weather Bureau continued as an agency within the USDA until 1940 — at which time oversight of the Weather Bureau was transferred to the Department of Commerce.

As a government agency, the Weather Bureau would have had published standards regarding equipment and procedures that each official weather station would have been required to adhere to. That considered, the data produced by these weather stations could reasonably be expected to have been a consistently reliable source of data.

The *Monthly Weather Review* identifies the person collecting these early Deer Park reports as one James Mills. Regarding this, society member Ken Westby wrote, “*In the 1910 U. S. Census there is a James Mills residing in the Dennison Township. His age is listed as 63. Mr. Mills, born in England around 1847, immigrated to the United States at age three. He’s listed as a single male, working as a ‘powder man clearing land.’*”

Ken goes on to note, “*Whether this is the same man who was taking weather observations during the winter of 1911 isn’t apparent.*” He wasn’t listed in the area’s next census, 1920’s, nor are there any local burial records bearing his name. However, Ken found it significant that there were eleven individuals on that particular page of the 1910 census engaged in “*clearing land,*” their specific occupations being listed as “*laborer,*” “*teamster,*” “*foreman,*” and Mr. Mill’s “*powder man.*” There’s a high likelihood most were employed in their recorded professions by the Arcadia Orchards.

As for the specifics of the data James Mills was collecting for the Department of Agriculture, this article from the January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1912, edition of the *Deer Park Union*, suggests it was very inclusive.

“*Mr. Mills has just sent in his weather report for Deer Park and vicinity for November and December, which contain some interesting figures. The maximum for December was 42 degrees on the second, the lowest 8 degrees below zero on the 26<sup>th</sup>. The mean maximum for Dec. was 32.3, the mean minimum 19.9, and the greatest daily range 28 degrees. The precipitation was 2.34 inches, and that for Nov. was 2.32. The snowfall for Dec. was 27.4, and for Nov. was 22.2, making*

*a total snowfall for the two months 49.6 inches. There is at present 12 inches of snow on the ground.*”

The maximum and minimum temperatures stated in the *Union* article match those found on the referenced ‘*Weather Source*’ site, again confirming that the daily high and low temperatures posted on that site are indeed drawn from the data originally submitted by Deer Park’s weather station.

We currently don’t know the standard specifications for a USDA weather station, circa 1911. Doubtless the equipment would have been housed in an elevated box, shielded from radiant heat from either above or below, but allowing the free flow of outside air throughout. The box would have contained at least two graduated glass thermometers, one to record the maximum high temperature and one to record the maximum low. There would have been a rain gauge in the vicinity. (*There might have been a recording barograph in use, though that’s not clear from the available data.*) The readings would have been taken at the same time each day, and the devices then reset by hand. The general atmospheric conditions — clear, cloudy, raining — would have been recorded, as well as the direction of the prevailing wind. Beyond that, speculation would be hazardous.

... *working with what we have ...*

The online ‘*Weather Source*’ data from late 1911 and early 1912, indicates the first dip below freezing — just barely at 31° Fahrenheit — occurred on September 7<sup>th</sup>. But the first clearly killing cold was a three day snap beginning on the 23<sup>th</sup> of September — the first day of autumn. Those lows were 23°, 27°, and then once again 23°. From that point on the chill, with just a scant scattering of above freezing lows to break its wearying bite, continued on for the rest of the year — with the deepest low for late 1911, 8° below zero, occurring the day after Christmas.

For the entire winter, the first spate of days in which the daily high temperatures did-

n’t rise above freezing began on November 10<sup>th</sup>, with 19°. Minus 28° was recoded on January 8 — that being the lowest for the season. And the high, 49 degrees, was documented on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January, and again on March 11<sup>th</sup>.

What is notable (though apparently not remarkable) is the number of days (74 in all between the first day of winter, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, and the first day of spring, March 20<sup>th</sup>) in which the day’s high rose to or above freezing. Most highs fell in the 30s and low 40s, and most of these days were clustered from mid-January on.

In the spring of 1912, the last day the temperature fell below freezing was June 3<sup>rd</sup>. The low for that date was 31°. Considering that the daytime high was 71°, likely resulting in elevated soil temperatures, it’s probable no harm was done.

Assuming the daily high and low temperatures recorded for the winter of 1911 were typical of those of the prior decade — it’s difficult to understand the Arcadia’s promoters claim that winter temperatures in the “*Valley of the Arcadia*” were “*uniform.*”

... *a problem with averages ...*

Assuming the winter temperatures experienced in any given area will, more often than not, fall within a range predicted by averaging the temperatures recorded for all prior winters in that area, the author decided to gather Deer Park’s daily high and low temperatures for the first winter official Department of Agriculture records are available, and, using simple arithmetic, see how close those averages come to the “*average winter temperature*” of 34° Fahrenheit stated in the Arcadia brochure.

What the USDA’s data for the winter of 1911 suggests is that if one takes all the maximum daily temperatures for the 89 days from the first day of the winter solstice to the eve of the spring equinox, add them together, then divide by the noted number of days, you come within a reasonable degree of the Arca-

dia’s number. In other words, if you leave out all the minimum daily temperatures for the winter, you’ll come up with something close to the Arcadia’s average (my average for the winter of 1911, using only the daily high temperatures, was 34.8°). The daily lows average out to 17.5 degrees — meaning the average low temperature hovers about 15 degrees below freezing. Adding and then dividing both high and low temperature together gives a rough estimate of an average winter temperature of a little over 26 degrees — a significant drop from the Arcadia’s advertised “*average winter temperature.*”

Looking at the weather in such simple terms can be misleading. On the other hand, one fact everyone living in cold climes quickly draws from experience is that it’s usually coldest at night, and winter nights in the northern states last a long, long time. And that’s the one extra thing the people being invited to dwell in Deer Park’s Arcadian paradise should have been made aware of. Gauged by skims of ice and layers of snow, the winters in and around the community were significantly more than three months long. And it should also have been explained how bone-chillingly dreary things could get — especially for those expected to spend a good part of their work day outside.

This reality considered, it would appear the Arcadia’s promoters were very selective in the numbers they chose when making temperature calculations. As for why such selectivity, an average winter temperature a few degrees above freezing seems much more attractive than one clearly below that mark.

... *a business model ...*

A good number of the questions surrounding the Arcadia Orchards Company can be illuminated once we begin to understand their business model. And the fact is that their business model mimics any number of other irrigated orchards projects from that era.

In 1913, the Bureau of Soils, United States Department of Agriculture, conducted a

*“Soil Survey of Stevens County, Washington.”* In the portion of the subsequent (1915) report specifically devoted to orchards, the bureau noted, *“As a commercial undertaking, the (orchards) industry has developed within the last 10 years until at present it is specialized in many districts...”* They then went on to caution, *“Many of these later orchards show care and judgment in the selection of the site and the soil, while in the case of others, especially some of those platted by irrigation companies, less attention was given to these important details.”*

Within this is the hint that any forensic study of the Arcadia’s demise need to consider — the possibility of a lack of consideration regarding the all-inclusive suitability of the area for commercial apple production.

One possible reason for the early appeal of the Arcadia was outlined in a fruit tree survey completed in 1949 by the *“Washington Crop and Livestock Reporting Service.”* The government bulletin stated, *“The first rail shipment of apples from the state was reported from Spokane in the 1890s.”* The report also observed that in 1900, Spokane County was first in the state for the *“number of apple trees of bearing age.”* Being classified as first was likely to leave most area residents assuming that Spokane was destined to become the state’s center of commercial apple production. The truth was, Spokane County’s share of the state’s output was about to be overwhelmed, and remain that way. The reason for this upset, again according to the above noted *“Washington Crop and Livestock Reporting Service,”* had to do with access to railroads and the bulk-transportation of agricultural produce they provided. At the turn of the century tracks were being extended into regions of the state heretofore without such. And some of these new areas were much more suitable for the production of apples on a commercial scale than Spokane County.

Possibly in light of Spokane County’s early dominance in apple production — and the availability of land at fairly low cost — in the first decade of the twentieth century nu-



*Photo and caption from the November, 1910, edition of ‘The Irrigation Age’ magazine reads, ‘Two four-year olds of the Arcadia Valley.’*

merous irrigated orchards schemes were brought forward in Washington State’s north-eastern region. Some involved gravity irrigation by drawing from higher water sources such as lakes, others involved gravity irrigation from water impounded behind dams, a handful pumped from wells, while a few used a combination of methods. A good number of the underlying business models appear to have based their company’s potential for return on buying tracts of relatively dry acreage, leveraging the value of these holdings through irrigation, then selling that land to farmers and would-be farmers at a significant profit. Once the land was sold, the majority of each company’s expected returns were likely to have been realized. At that point it was easy enough in

**WASHINGTON  
IRRIGATED ORCHARDS.**

Arcadia, the land of sunshine; twenty-two miles north of Spokane; excellent transportation; ideal climate; no dust storms, no winds; soil especially adapted to winter apples; will yield yearly \$500 per acre; irrigation by gravity; open ditch; no pumping plants; telephones rural mail delivery; excellent schools; we plant your orchard and scientifically bring it to bearing; no water tax. \$100 first payment will secure five acres; \$200 ten acres. Send for literature. It’s free

**ARCADIA ORCHARDS COMPANY.**

Hyde Block, Spokane, Wash.  
A. L. CROCKER, Minneapolis Agt., Railway Bldg

*The above ad, copied from the October 23, 1909, edition of the ‘Commercial West’ magazine, makes a set of claims that need to be carefully read.*

the legal climate of the times to dissolve the company, leaving the responsibility of maintaining the irrigation systems and so forth to the new owners.

In these short-term business models, the availability of divertible water — or at least the appearance of such availability — would have been more important to the orchard companies than the suitability of the land the water was being diverted to. And one of the critical issues when it came to suitability would have been climate.

In 1921, a USDA bulletin — this one subtitled *“Soil Survey of Spokane County, Washington”* — printed a set of maps suggesting the dates certain areas might expect the earliest and latest killing frost (killing frost general being defined as a temperature of 28° Fahrenheit or lower). According to these maps, composed of data gathered prior to 1917, the Spokane Valley area could expect its last killing frost before the 1<sup>st</sup> of May. The northern area of Spokane County could expect the last killing frost to occur between May 1<sup>st</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup>. And a small segment of the northwest corner of the county might have had

to wait until sometime in June for all chances of a killing frost to have passed.

Those familiar with the climate around Deer Park before global warming began to muddle our expectations might recall that our area was quicker to freeze in the fall and slower to thaw in the spring than the Spokane area. That would suggest that the assumption that the Deer Park area could produce bloom dependent orchard crops as reliably as the area around and to the east of the City of Spokane was either an error drawn out of a misjudgment regarding the area’s actual climate, or the willful acceptance of a more convenient set of weather related assumptions.

The *“Irrigation Age”* ad reproduced on page 1428 quotes the longtime president of Spokane’s Chamber of Commerce, F. D. Goodall, as boasting, *“I can make a fortune for you in Arcadia.”* The *“Commercial West”* advertisement printed on page 1433 mirrors that sentiment when it states that each acre of orchard land *“will yield yearly \$500.”* What do these statements mean when framed within the economic realities of 1910?

In his book, *Wages in the United States: 1908-1910*, economist Scott Nearing wrote, *“it appears that half the (white) adult males in the United States are earning less than \$500 a year; that three-quarters of them are earning less than \$600 annually; that nine-tenths are receiving less than \$800 a year; while less than ten percent receive more than that figure.”*

The Arcadia’s inviting advertisements imply that a family owning five acres of orchards could expect a yield of \$2,500 a year, and those owning ten acres twice that. The cautious buyer might ask the promoters how much of the stated revenue was likely to be lost to routine orchard expenses, to purchasing outside labor, to extremes of weather, or insects, or orchard diseases, or to the to-be-expected fluctuations in agricultural economics. It would be interesting to know how the Arcadia’s salesmen would have answered.

———— end ————

## Minutes of the Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society — January 14, 2017 —

In attendance: Bill Sebright, Pat Parker, Wally Parker, Don Ball, Sue Rehms, Mark Wagner, Roxanne Camp, Marie Morrill, Peter Coffin, Judy Coffin, Mike Reiter, Roberta Reiter, Lorraine Nord, and Buzz Hildebrand.

Society President Bill Sebright called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. He reported that: 1) Agnes Schaff Forsberg gave Mark Wagner an old Grange Manual. Agnes and Stan Forsberg lived at the southwest corner of Price and Williams Valley Roads for many years. Bill scanned the manual and will make copies if anyone is interested. There are pages missing in the 100 year old book. Lynn Wells suggested and Mark agreed that donating it to the State Grange Historian would be for the best. 2) He received a phone call from Melissa Sylvio with the Valley Historical Society. They are looking into moving the old Valley School. Bill gave them Kylene and Travis Grub's contact information. They are the couple who moved the Williams Valley School a

couple of years ago. 3) He received a phone call and email from Buzz Hildebrand. Buzz sent a picture of a 3 gallon crock made by Spokane Pottery Company of Clayton. Buzz was in attendance and showed his crock and lid to all. Buzz said his wife got the crock over 20 years ago. The inside is a dark brown. See attached picture.

Society Treasurer Mark Wagner reported the main checking account ended the month at \$7,062.08. There were deposits of \$105.00. One check for \$25.00 was written to the Rotary for a sign, and one for the Heritage Network's dues of \$40.00. The web hosting account ended the month at \$788.55, with a withdrawal of \$10.95 and \$21.99 for web hosting. I will be filing our incorporation papers with the State this month.

Society Vice President Pete Coffin reported: 1) I composed a 5 page history of the Deer Park Motors garage (Sculley's Garage) and gave it to Jeremy Sculley. 2) I traced the family history of Stan and Agnes Staff

### Spokane Pottery Company — Further Reading Plus Photos

#### "In Search of Clayton's Spokane Pottery Company."

by Wally Lee Parker

Mortarboard #4, August, 2008 — page 39 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 1.

([http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter\\_04\\_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_04_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf))

#### "Letters, Email, & Chatter."

by Wally Lee Parker

Mortarboard #13, May, 2009 — page 172 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 4.

([http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter\\_13\\_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/newsletter_13_downsinglesizepageweb.pdf))

#### "Letters, Email, Bouquets & Brickbats."

by Wally Lee Parker

Mortarboard #98, June, 2016 — page 1294 — Collected Newsletters, Volume 27.

([http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/mortarboard\\_issue\\_98\\_doublepage\\_web.pdf](http://www.cdphs.org/uploads/3/4/2/0/34204235/mortarboard_issue_98_doublepage_web.pdf))



**Above & Above Right:**  
Buzz Hildebrand's photos of his three gallon crock stamped with a mark stating Spokane Pottery Company. This item is of particular interest since it's the first known example of a triangular shaped stamp from the historic Clayton company.

**Right:**  
For comparison, the stamp from the side of a two gallon crock in the C/DPHS's collection.

Forsberg to go with the Grange Manual Agnes is donating to the Society.

Print editor Wally Parker reported: 1) One hundred and ten copies of the January *Mortarboard* (#105) have been printed for distribution, and the online version submitted for posting. This sixteen page edition begins with a piece by your editor titled "Living Deer Frozen to Loon Lake Ice - 1935." Based on three photos from the Art Stelling collection, and several articles from the *Deer Park Union*, it's a hopefully interesting look at a long ago

winter. The society's vice-president, Pete Coffin, submitted an article titled "A Hole in the Bottom of Deer Lake." It reveals the recollections of area residents regarding an incident occurring in the lake around the midpoint of the last century. It's hoped the article will draw further comment, and some answers. The Letters/Brickbats segment covers a number of topics, such as statistics related to the society's website, and an ongoing search for



vintage phone numbers. 2) While printing the January issue, it became apparent that the print drum on the society's laser printer was failing. Laser printers work by directing a laser beam across an electrostatically charged rotating drum that is then dusted with toner and pressed against a moving sheet of paper. Under use the static retentive coating on the drum eventually wears away. Replacing the drum cost \$115.92. That done — and barring other problems — our printer should be good for several more years.

Webmaster Marie Morrill reported that there was a mix-up with Wally and she didn't receive *Mortarboard* (#105). When she gets it, she'll put it online.

January is CDPHS dues month. We've received dues from 3 out of state members since the last meeting.

Penny Hutten reported by email that on January 19<sup>th</sup>, The Westerners will present John Langlot, who will speak about "*The Rusty Dusty: The Wenatchee to Oroville branch of the Great Northern Railway.*" Mr. Langlot, the son of a Great Northern trainman, grew up in Hillyard, Washington. John worked as a trainman, brakeman, and conduc-

tor from 1960 through 2004 for the Great Northern, Union Pacific, and Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroads. After his retirement he served as a Director and Vice President of the Great Northern Railway Historical Society. Please join us at the Airport Holiday Inn, 1616 S. Windsor Drive Spokane, Washington 99224. Contact Pat Holien by January 16<sup>th</sup>, for reservations. Pat's email is patholien@comcast.net, and phone number is 509-951-2090.

Mike Reiter brought in a box of pictures from Mary Jo Reiter, for most of which the persons and locations are not known. The box also had an original pencil sketch of a scene in Venice. Mike will take the box back to Mary Jo and try to get names and locations on as many of the pictures as possible. Pete Coffin took the envelope of Mary Jo's school class pictures to scan.

Next meeting: Saturday, February 11, 2017, at 9 AM at the Clayton Drive-In.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 AM.

The Society meeting minutes submitted by Mark Wagner, acting Secretary.

— end —

Volunteer proofreaders for this issue: Pete Coffin, Betty Deuber, Bill Sebright, and Linda Swain.

### Society Contacts

We encourage anyone with observations, concerns, corrections, or divergent opinions regarding the contents of these newsletters to write the society or contact one or more of the individuals listed below. Resultant conversations can remain confidential if so desired.

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— C/DPHS —

From "The Coast" magazine,  
April, 1907



### See Yourself in Print.

*The Clayton/Deer Park Historical Society's department of Print Publications is always looking for original writings, classic photos, properly aged documents and the like that may be of interest to our readers. These materials should be rooted within, though not limited to, northern Spokane County, southeastern Stevens County, and southern Pend Oreille County. As for types of materials, family or personal remembrances are always considered. Articles of general historical interest — including pieces on natural history, archeology, geology and such — are likely to prove useful. In other words, we are always searching for things that will increase our readers' understanding and appreciation of this region's past. As for historical perspective; to us history begins whenever the past is dusty enough to have become noteworthy — which is always open to interpretation. From there it extends back as deep as we can see, can research, or even speculate upon.*

*Copyright considerations for any materials submitted are stated in the "Editorial and Copyright Policy" dialog box found on page 1,436 of this issue. For any clarifications regarding said policy, or any discussions of possible story ideas or the appropriateness of certain types of material and so on, please contact the editor via the email address supplied on the same page.*

— the editor —

*A print copy of this issue of the Mortarboard is or soon will be available in booklet format.*

*Ask about "Collected Newsletters: Volume Thirty."*