

DAILY INTER MOUNTAIN

Issued Every Evening, Except Sunday. INTER MOUNTAIN PUBLISHING CO.



Address all mail to Inter Mountain Publishing company, 26 West Granite street, Butte, Mont.

Official Paper of Silver Bow County and City of Butte.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Per year, by mail, in advance \$7.50; By carrier, per month 75

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: Editorial Rooms, 428-(3 rings); Business Office, 428-(1 ring)

MONDAY, JUNE 16, 1902.

THE SEMINOLE CLUB.

The attention of the Inter Mountain has been called to a letter from Mr. Maury, president of the Seminole club, who speaks unkindly of this newspaper without provocation. The Inter Mountain has no wish to retaliate, as it entertains no ill will towards the writer of the letter or the club he controls. No one has objected to its organization or leadership. If its purpose is to promote the welfare of the republican party and secure support for the straight republican ticket in the forthcoming campaign, it is this newspaper's best wishes. This is a free country, and any citizen has a right to join any club he pleases whose objects are lawful. If any citizen desires to vote the republican ticket and is ashamed or afraid to proclaim his principles except in a lodge room with oath-bound friends, that is his own business. If he is only a lukewarm republican and needs the encouragement afforded by a club, let him join the Seminoles. It is commonly supposed that the Australian ballot system affords all sufficient privacy for every man while voting if he can mark his own ballot; but if any man needs drilling by all means let him join a club and drill and thus learn to defeat the invisible tyrants who are alleged to be making life such a burden for some insupportable reason. The Inter Mountain cannot understand how membership in a secret society will protect a voter in casting his ballot, as every voter goes alone to the voting booth and marks his ballot as he pleases, but if the Seminole club affords any additional protection from corporate tyranny or the power of the Evil One or if it marks the ballots with invisible ink so that the judges can not tell for whom they were cast, then the Seminole club's thing and a dollar is cheap enough. The Inter Mountain has only good wishes for that organization if its objects are patriotic and its methods honest and its loyalty to the party unimpeachable and if it seeks only a free ballot and a fair count, but why restrict its membership or hold its sessions in secret? Membership should be optional with all, and no man should have a letter written at him because for political, conscientious or financial reasons he declines to join. As to the subjects of licenses, taxes and the organization of the supreme court, which Mr. Maury mentions among other issues which the Seminole club will attempt to regulate, it may be said that they are non-political and will divide the republican strength rather than consolidate it, as republicans are bound to disagree on such subjects, and thus the very object of the society would be defeated. The club will do well enough if it shall merely exhort loyalty to the party and the ticket and warn its members against the machinations of the democracy and fusionists. One of the stated objects of the Seminole club is to increase the membership of the supreme court, on the pretext that it is unable to keep the docket clear. That explanation will not do at all and will beguile no taxpaying citizen. The court has not complained of overwork nor asked for assistance. It is steadily catching up with its business, being not more than eighteen months behind. The great majority of the cases on the docket relate to the litigation between two companies, and if for any reason that should be ended, the state of Montana would be in the ridiculous position of having five supreme court judges and not enough business to employ them more than one month out of twelve. The taxpayers would foot the bill. The Seminole club can not strengthen the republican party by interfering with the machinery of the courts or by investing a democratic governor with the power to appoint two democratic judges until the next succeeding election. This feature of the case may not have presented itself to the Seminole club. Republican clubs as a rule do not exist for the purpose of putting democrats into office nor for interfering with the ends of justice at the public expense for private benefit.

The Houghton Daily Mining Gazette preaches a short but effective sermon in favor of the consolidation of mining properties in its news reports from the Keweenaw county district, the opening of which has lately been considered. There are some good properties in Keweenaw county, and the Gazette reports it to be the judgment of the people interested in these mines that they can be operated at a profit only by their consolidation. The tenor of the Gazette's reports suggests that it leans to this view itself, which is no doubt a correct one.

An effort is being made in Japan to introduce the English language there, with a view to making it ultimately the language of the people. Japan could not have extended a finer compliment to the United States. It is even better than Emperor William would convey in erecting in this country a statue of his illustrious ancestor, Frederick the Great.

MR. DEBS COMING.

It is hoped that Mr. Eugene Debs will be well received in Butte, for his views are attractive if not practicable, and have the merit of being based on a proper respect for the law. If Mr. Debs will study the political history of Montana and recall the events of the last campaign he will learn that it was easy to get the labor party together but impossible to keep it together. Many laboring men refused to abandon their old party affiliations, and thus the so-called labor party was by no means the party of organized labor. It was a labor party in name only, but it held a convention, dug up some grievances, abused the old parties and nominated a ticket. Its candidate for governor swore by all that was holy that no democratic "influence" could induce him to desert the cause of the toilers, and that should he weaken he hoped his neighbors in Missoula would hang him on a sour apple tree. However, he resigned from the ticket and is now holding the office of commissioner of agriculture and labor by appointment of a democratic governor who was elected with the aid of the deserted labor vote. The same fate overtook several other candidates on the labor party ticket, as Mr. Debs can readily ascertain. The pressure was too much for them. How it was exerted plenty of honest labor reformers who were themselves victimized by the farce will explain to our distinguished visitor.

What the future will develop as to the cause of separate political action can not be foretold. Already there are evidences of plans to capture the socialist labor party as soon as it shall be organized, and for attaching it to some sort of a fusion made up of the discontented elements of all other parties and using all for capturing the legislature and packing the supreme court for private ends. The socialist labor party, however, may be made of different stuff than the so-called labor party of 1900. Mr. Debs will doubtless inveigh against the barrel in politics and insist on the nomination of trustworthy men by the rank and file of the new organization.

THE PEOPLE OWN THE RAILROADS.

The general impression that a few people own the railroads of the country and that therefore any legislation calculated to benefit the railroads is legislation for a few, is one of the errors into which the public has fallen. It is not a mere figure of speech to say that the people themselves own the railroads of the United States, but an exhibit of the distribution of the bonds and stocks of various railroad properties shows that the people do actually own them, or so large a percentage of them that the so-called "railroad kings" are hardly to be reckoned.

The New York Times in its financial review recently printed some figures obtained from official sources which constitute an exhibit that is likely to surprise the average reader who has been under the impression that a few "groups" of financiers were the owners of the railroads. These figures cover a period of 11 years, from 1890 to 1900 inclusive. It will not be necessary to burden the reader's mind with all these figures.

At the beginning of this period the railroad companies owned of the bonds the sum of \$413,053,000, while of these bonds the people at large owned \$3,680,869,000. Of the stocks of these companies at that time the roads themselves owned \$963,854,000, and the public owned \$3,445,804,000.

At the end of this 11-year period, bunching the bonds and stocks together for brevity, the railroads owned \$1,943,050,000 and of these classes of securities the public held \$8,803,136,000.

So it will be seen that the so-called railroad magnates cut a small figure alongside of the general public when it comes to a "show down" of actual goods. In opposing railroad interests the agitators, who always assume to represent the people, are in fact opposing the interests of the people themselves. They should bear this in mind, but will probably forget it.

The next tremendous industrial revolution it appears is to be wrought by an electrical engineer of the name of Figueras of the far-off Canary Islands. According to Professor Figueras, he has completed all his plans for extracting electricity from the air without chemicals, dynamos or any motive power or mechanical means of any sort or kind. Atmospheric electricity which comes at the bidding and drops into receptacles for its utilization for lighting, heating and power and all the uses to which electricity may be applied, is decidedly the biggest scientific discovery of the age. If the Canary Islands have not produced another Nicola Tesla, whose wonderful electrical discoveries rarely get beyond the newspaper stage of development, it would seem that all other inventors in this field, including Edison and Marconi, might as well retire on whatever laurels they may now have.

LONDON is a little surprised that the termination of the war has not brought a great boom in "kafirs," and spread a roseate hue over the entire speculative situation. Perhaps this dullness, notwithstanding the fact that the cruel war is over, will have a tendency to show London that it is not wars and other small affairs in Great Britain which affect values so much as it is the condition of affairs in the United States. The controlling influence is here, not in London, or in South Africa. Just now there is a little industrial disturbance in this country, and that has more effect on business conditions than a South African war. The moral of it is that the United States is the center of things generally.

The blind idolatry and superstition which have kept a part of the world in darkness for centuries are vividly illustrated by the arrival of a herd of five so-called sacred cattle at New York the other day. One of them was a pure white bull,

the "sacred bull of India." He is about as sacred as a mountain goat or the cayuse of a Cree, but the Hindu attendants upon the sacred bovine show the animal the greatest respect, never leaving him alone, and at intervals dropping on their knees before him and striking their foreheads on the deck of the vessel which brought the divine beast to port. Of course there is no need of a sacred bull in New York, and the destination of these animals is Venezuela.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT is practicing the Japanese art of wrestling, known as the jiu-jitsu method, and has already acquired considerable proficiency. Formerly the art was taught only to the Japanese nobles, but of recent years the police of the cities of Japan have been made familiar with its mysteries because of the absolute advantage it gives them over refractory persons. A man may have the strength of a giant, but if he is not up in the jiu-jitsu, he can easily be handled by a comparatively weak man who is acquainted with the art. Mr. Roosevelt will have much use for this knowledge if he can apply it in a political and legislative way. Perhaps it was the gentle "twist of the wrist," which is the basic principle of the Japanese art that enabled him to bring to their knees enough congressmen to pass the irrigation bill. It is a necessary feature of administrative affairs that a president shall be able to subdue refractory people without absolutely cracking their skulls, and this is one of the strong points of the jiu-jitsu. It is to be hoped that the president will continue practicing in the art until he will have nothing more to learn.

We have sapphire and turquoise mines in Montana of which we have a right to make some boast, but we are not in competition with South Africa in the diamond production. Those South African diamond mines are worth a second look at now that the termination of the war will restore them to activity. The Kimberley mines, about 600 miles from Cape Town, now supply 98 per cent of the diamonds of commerce, although their existence was unknown prior to 1867, and the mines have thus been in operation only 30 years. It is estimated that \$350,000,000 worth of rough diamonds, worth double that sum after cutting, have been produced from the Kimberley mines since their opening in 1868-'69, and this enormous production would have been greatly increased but for the fact that the owners of the various mines there formed an agreement to limit the output so as not to materially exceed the world's annual consumption. The demand for diamonds is tolerably keen just now and it is likely that the pool will be broken and the output of the Kimberley field increased beyond anything it has yet produced.

ORIGINALLY it was the czar of Russia who moved for universal peace by a proposal for the disarmament of nations. The proposition did not have the effect of stopping the building of great navies and the strengthening of armies. Russia herself has done as much in this line as almost any other nation. Since then, among other things in a military way, she has added the fleetest war vessel afloat to her navy, and it was built in an American yard. But the young czar while preparing for war was still dreaming of peace, and will soon join with King Victor Emmanuel of Italy in another proposal for disarmament. This is at least a gain. If he can win over an occasional king or emperor to his side he will be making progress along the fowery paths. He has had an effective object lesson in the Britons and Boers that war is a bad thing even for the victor.

COL. WILLIAM MASTERSON, affectionately called "Bat" by his intimates and the general public, was accused of enticing a Mormon preacher into a "brace" faro game and relieving the eminent divine of \$28,000. But Colonel Masterson came to the front and cleared himself of the charge, and on the face of things the charge that the colonel found a Mormon preacher with \$28,000 in his clothes, to say nothing of relieving him of it, seemed preposterous. It may be that Mormon preachers are more able to accumulate earthly riches than they were in the days when Brigham Young got everything, or next to everything. In this case the pious man may have had the money, but if he had wanted it for other purposes, as his suit to recover would indicate.

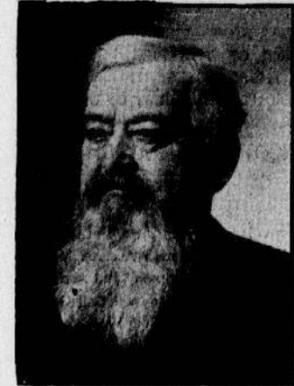
HISTORIANS are still in dispute as to whether the inventor of the gullotine was beheaded by his own invention, but circumstances of that kind sometimes happen. Such an incident has just occurred at Coney Island, where inventor Moritz of Brooklyn was almost instantly killed while witnessing a test of an aerial toboggan slide upon which he spent more than a quarter of a century. However, it would seem that a man who has spent 25 years "and all his savings" in inventing a toboggan slide, and at the end of that time had just developed it to the point of killing people, had contributed to mankind all the good of which he was capable, anyhow.

MONTANA was scheduled to raise \$1,000 to the McKinley memorial fund, but has already more than doubled that sum, having to date contributed \$2,500, with small amounts coming in from loyal citizens of all parties. The fact speaks well for Montana citizenship.

Perry Ford Injured. [SPECIAL TO INTER MOUNTAIN.] Great Falls, June 16.—Perry Ford, an employe of J. Quesnell, and a well known citizen of Cascade county, was the victim of an accident last evening which may cost him his life. He was riding horseback, leading another horse, the lead rope being attached to the saddle. The lead horse reared back suddenly, bringing the horse Ford was riding over backwards upon him, the saddle horn striking him over the heart, and it is feared causing internal injuries. Ford was taken to Columbus hospital in an unconscious condition.

PEOPLE WE MEET.

S. H. Almon, the well-known G. A. was a prisoner of war from July 22, 1894, to September 27, 1894, and R. man this afternoon. "I shall never forget that imprisonment for I came very near to stretching the hangman's noose. I was taken from Macon, Georgia, to Charleston, S. C., and was under fire in that place when Gilmore was bombarding the town. From Charleston I was taken to Augusta, Ga., and it was there that I had the narrow escape from hanging. "I was suspected of being Captain Bill Allmon, a spy for the Union forces, and a



MAJOR S. H. ALMON.

man who had made himself particularly obnoxious to all lovers of the cause of the South. When they took me out to hang me I was recognized by Post Provo Marshal McLaws, or rather McLaws knew the spy and he saw instantly that they had hold of the wrong man.

General Wright signed orders for my pardon as an accused spy. They told me that I not answered the description of the spy wanted, but that our names were the same except that the spy's name was spelled with two 'L's' while mine is spelled with one.

They finally took me to Atlanta, where I was exchanged and shortly after was mustered out."

"DID YOU ever notice what a looking body of policemen Butte has?" remarked R. D. Connolly, a police officer of Spokane, who is in the city for several days.

"It seems that all your representative men are large and Butte seems a robust. When your Healthy Place baseball team went to the coast the members

impressed everybody who saw them as being physical giants. I always heard that the snaky atmosphere of Butte was unhealthy, but the appearance of the men and women of Butte refutes this theory.

"I have been connected with different police forces for the last 15 years and I state without fear of contradiction that the Butte force is about the finest looking set of peace guardians in the country. Most of the men are stalwart, clear complected, well built officers and they certainly make a good showing when they get into line ready to march on duty.

"In some of the cities of the East they pick men for police duty solely on account of their large proportions. In doing this they too often let the weak mental qualities of the man go by. I understand that size in Butte is not the criterion of an acceptable officer but that intelligent men with good physiques are generally chosen.

"That is the only way to make up a good force. There should be a good combination of brains and brawn. There seems to be no trouble in Butte getting able bodied men to act as policemen and the department is fortunate that most of these men are clear minded and intelligent."

OUR FREE PARLIAMENT.

Letters From the People on Topics of General Interest.

ABOUT BASEBALL.

To the Editor of the Inter Mountain: It is with much pleasure that I notice in your paper a refreshing desire to be fair and to permit all sides a hearing. Now, I am a great lover of baseball and have had much to do with that and other sport, and purely in the interest of the game I take the liberty to ask a little space in Butte's great afternoon daily to explain a few things to the public and at the same time work in a kick on my own account.

My own kick is that in order to see a game I am compelled to pay about \$1.50. In addition to that am compelled either to sit in ignorance of the names of the players and the number of runs made or invest 25 cents more for a score card, the largest part of which is covered with the names of people who do not know how or when to advertise.

There are many people in Butte who love the National game and who would be glad to financially assist the local team, but who refuse to be parted from their small change by the nicker-in-the-slot methods now pursued at the ball ground by "Honest" John.

I am told that no one in the management of the Butte team ever had anything to do with baseball in any of the larger leagues in any such capacity as they have now assumed and that I should not blame them for their ignorance, but rather give them an opportunity to do better. This I would gladly do, even to paying for a score card, paid for 20 times over already by advertisers, doing without the usual blackboard for the score by innings, being frequently urged to buy a Connecticut wrapper stuffed with smartweed and paying 12 1/2 cents therefor and paying for grand stand privileges while being compelled to rest on the bleachers, but for the fact that the Inter Mountain and all the other papers land them to the skies as Nestors of baseball wisdom.

Now the public is interested in another phase of the game, and that is what is known among baseball enthusiasts as "dirty" ball. Our players have spikes on their shoes and it seems that they found other uses for them than making quick moves toward the homeplate.

There is yet another phase of this Pacific Northwest league that the public ought to know about and I would dearly like to tell you readers about it, but I presume I have already trespassed too much. WISE MIKE. Butte, June 14.

SOUVENIR DAYS Tuesday and Wednesday, June 17th and 18th Each person purchasing \$1 worth of goods at our store on above dates can have their choice between a SILVER PLATED, GOLD LINED, SATIN FINISH, HAND-CARVED MUG and a SILVER PLATED NUT SET, consisting of TWO NUT PICKS AND NUT CRACKER. If you are lucky, you will find enclosed with your SOUVENIR a card calling for one of the following handsome prizes. Carving Set Pearl Handled in plush lined box; valued at \$18.00. Rustic Clock Beautiful new design; perfect timekeeper; valued at \$15.00. Urn 19 inches high; hand decorated; trimmed with French gold; valued at \$10.00. Chatelaine Watch Red and Gold-inlaid with Pearls; valued at \$25.00. Manicure Set Genuine Pearl; leather case, plush lined; valued at \$8.50. Souvenirs Displayed in our South Window NEWBRO DRUG CO. 109 North Main Street Largest Drug House in the State

The News From All Over Montana The Afternoon Paper Of the Great Northwest The Butte Daily Inter Mountain Established Twenty-One Years, Gives to Advertisers Most For the Money Funeral of Mrs. Bieber. [SPECIAL TO INTER MOUNTAIN.] Helena, June 16.—A large number of persons were present at the German Lutheran church yesterday in attendance at the funeral of Mrs. Elizabeth Bieber, who died Thursday night at the home of her son, John Bieber, 822 Twelfth avenue. Mrs. Bieber was an old resident of Helena and had many friends who esteemed her highly. Many Attend Church. [SPECIAL TO INTER MOUNTAIN.] Missoula, June 16.—The services at the Episcopal church yesterday were largely attended. The edifice was crowded at both the morning and evening services, and at the afternoon meeting another interesting service was conducted, principally for the clergy. In the morning the consecration service was conducted by the Right Rev. L. B. Brewer, bishop of Montana. He was assisted by the local vestrymen and a splendid choir. Big Water Case On. [SPECIAL TO INTER MOUNTAIN.] Missoula, June 16.—The Bitter Root train last evening contained almost every member of the Missoula Bar association. They were en route to Stevensville, that pretty little village on the banks of the Burnt Fork, which was called "Scatter" creek by the Indians in the early days. The attorneys are to be present at what is believed to be one of the biggest water right suits in the state of Montana, and perhaps in the Northwest. Suit Over Placer Ground. [SPECIAL TO INTER MOUNTAIN.] Virginia City, June 16.—After a trial that continued during most of one day a jury decided that William J. McDougall is the rightful owner of valuable placer ground in Bevin's gulch, for possession of which he was sued by Ateck McKay. The jury also awarded damages in the sum of \$17,122. This case was sent back to the district court by the supreme court, which held that a previous verdict, which was the same except that the damages amounted to \$1,800, was improper. Death Was Accidental. [SPECIAL TO INTER MOUNTAIN.] Great Falls, June 16.—A verdict of accidental death was rendered Saturday afternoon at Fort Benton by the coroner's jury which held an inquest over the body of Samuel Ronald, the brakeman killed near Fort Benton in a wreck on the Great Northern. Ronald was 25 years old and had been employed for some time on the Great Northern, for a time being engaged as fireman on a switch engine in the local yards. J. P. Thompson Drowned. [SPECIAL TO INTER MOUNTAIN.] Great Falls, June 16.—J. P. Thompson of the Blackfoot cedar strip was drowned several days ago. Thompson was endeavoring to cross the river in a box attached to a small rope raft. When about half way across the stream the cable broke and Thompson and his companion, the son of a ranchman named Henkle, were thrown into the water, which at the time was a raging torrent owing to the heavy rains. The boy succeeded in gaining the shore, and, turning, saw Thompson disappear in the darkness, clinging to the box. Did Not Break Game Law. [SPECIAL TO INTER MOUNTAIN.] Bozeman, June 16.—The case in which State Game Warden Scott procured the arrest of August Gottschalk for selling mountain sheep heads, horns and scalps resulted in an acquittal. On the preliminary examination several weeks ago the defendant proved that the heads had been bought previous to the time the game law went into effect, which was March 8, 1897. Justice McPherson rendered a decision Saturday in which he stated that inasmuch as the scalps, heads and horns were in the possession of Mr. Gottschalk prior to the time the game law went into effect, he had a vested right in them and therefore could dispose of them in any manner he saw fit. Expensive and Impossible. Washington, June 16.—President Palma of Cuba has indicated to President Roosevelt his conviction that the rebate proposition relative to Cuban sugar would be not only very objectionable in itself, but would be extensively expensive and almost impossible to carry out in the distribution.

Burlington Route Low Rates East... July 4, 5 and 6 One Fare Plus \$2 For round trip, Helena and Butte to Omaha, St. Joseph and Kansas City. Quickest time via Billings and the Burlington route. H. F. RUCKER, Agent, 35 East Broadway, Butte, Mont. H. B. SEIGUR, General Agent, Billings, Mont.

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