

LIVE POLITICAL TOPICS.

The House Goes Into a Committee of the Whole and Discusses Rules.

The Senators, Tired of Idleness, Are Discussing Rules for the Future.

There is No Change in the Actual Situation - Mr. Wallace Remembered by His Colleagues.

Little was done by the house of representatives yesterday. At the morning session after the routine of opening, on motion of Mr. Hogan, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole for the further consideration of the report of the committee on rules.

Mr. Wallace was well remembered by his friends in the house of representatives. Besides the courtesy of an adjournment yesterday morning he received a beautiful present of solid silverware from his fellow representatives.

Mr. Beach has earned the reputation of being a stickler for dignity and decorum in the house. Yesterday he introduced the following amendment to the rules, "There shall be no smoking allowed upon the floor or in the galleries of the house after it has been called to order by the speaker during the session."

The republican senators met, as usual, yesterday morning, at 10 o'clock. After the roll call and reading of minutes some little business was transacted, though no quorum was present and no organization was attempted.

General Charles S. Warren came over from Butte yesterday to view the political situation. The general, who is never so happy as when stuffing his nose into a newspaper man's ears...

THE RUMP MEETING.

Yesterday afternoon, just before 2 o'clock, the rumpers tramped up stairs to their new quarters in the Granite block and waited for Witter to call them to order, which he did promptly at 2. There was a quorum present.

Thompson, chairman of the committee of the whole, reported to the house the action of the committee on the rules and regulations for the government of the rump house.

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OUR MINERAL LANDS.

The Points Made by Wade, Toole & Wallace in a Recent Case.

We give below the argument of Messrs. Wade, Toole & Wallace upon the question of preserving our mineral lands, which is of great importance to the people of this state and will serve to direct future legislation upon the subject.

There are other considerations necessarily entering into this question, of the gravest importance and fraught with the most serious consequences on account of the disposition which has been made of this case under the state of facts presented by the record.

While we shall assume that the respondent is a claimant in good faith as a grantee of the Northern Pacific Railroad company in this controversy over a few acres of land located by appellant as a mining claim, the decision will, nevertheless, become a precedent in this territory, by which the rights of that company to these mineral lands will hereafter be adjusted.

That portion of the grant to the railroad company, containing the reservation, reads: "Provided further, that all mineral lands, and the same are hereby excluded from the operations of this act, and in lieu thereof a like quantity of unoccupied and unappropriated agricultural lands, in odd numbered sections, nearest to the line of said road, may be selected as above provided, and provided further, that the word 'mineral' when it occurs in this act, shall not be held to include iron or coal."

The policy of so preserving these mineral lands for exploration and development for present and future generations, is too potent to require support in this argument; sufficient to say that it is clearly the object to preserve them for occupancy by the citizens of the United States.

While it is true that additional requirements were made by which it must be shown that the mineral deposits were of such value as to justify the government in reserving them, yet as against the railroad a deposit of any of the precious minerals, except iron and coal, deprives it of any status as a claimant.

Any other rule would fritter away the reservations in the act of 1872, and utterly subvert the policy of the government in dealing out mining claims in small portions by means of which vast contributions will be made to the wealth of the country.

The Drum Cannons, the Granite Mountains, and the Jay Gould lodes that he hidden in these mountain regions, and the Alders, Confederates and Last Chance placers, that remain undiscovered in their innumerable canyons, are not given away to this railroad, but are reserved to reward the services of miners and prospectors yet to come.

The decisions of the supreme court of the United States are uniform in declaring the result of a patent. It is conclusive of the mineral or non-mineral character of the

lands conveyed by it. Hence it is of the utmost importance that the reservations contained in the grant be not extinguished by the sanctity thrown around a title from the government by patent. There is but one way to avoid the effect of such a patent, and that is to incorporate the reservation in the patent so that it will always be left an open question.

Something for the ladies. Chateleine watches are now worn in snake-skin wristlets. On sale only at J. Steinmetz Jewelry Company's.

ELECTRICITY ON A TARE. It Plays Havoc at Two Houses and in the Telephone Exchange.

Recently there was printed in these columns the resolutions of the National Association of Fire Engineers adopted at their national convention held in Denver, recommending and urging legislation to compel electric light wires to be placed underground. These resolutions were prompted by late occurrences where human lives had been lost by the electric light wire and the danger in which firemen were placed when battling the flames.

At the central telephone exchange a young lady operator received quite a scare and shock. Five wires were burned out and it was only a miracle that the entire switch board was not destroyed. Probably when some one loses their life some attention will be paid to the necessity of placing those wires underground.

PERSONAL. Marshal George W. Irwin II., has returned from Butte.

Agent Lewis of the Union Pacific at Butte is in the city. Judge J. J. McHatton, of Butte, is at the Cosmopolitan.

Handkerchiefs: Direct Importations of Japanese Silk Handkerchiefs, Embroidered Initials, Fancy Borders--Choice Goods.

Neckwear: 200 dozen Choice Christmas Ties Just Received, in all the New Styles and Shades.

Suspenders: Elegant Embroidered Brocade Satins and Fancy Silks for the Holidays.

Furs: Of All Kinds for Both Ladies and Gentlemen. Select your goods early. We will lay them away until Christmas.

IT WILL PAY YOU TO VISIT BABCOCK'S. A full line of hair ornaments in the latest novelties just received at The Bee Hive.

Holiday Excursion Rates on the Montana Central Railway. The Montana Central will sell excursion tickets between all points on their line at one and one-fifth fare for the round trip.

Ming's Opera House, JOHN MAGUIRE, Manager. 2 NIGHTS ONLY 2 Monday and Tuesday. Dec. 9 and 10.

McKee Rankin, SUPPORTED BY Miss Mabel Bert. An Exceptionally Strong Company of Players, in

The Runaway Wife, A Beautiful Domestic Story! A Poem of Every Day Life!

Ball's Cabinets \$3 Per Dozen. Cabinet photos \$3 per dozen at Ball's gallery, Helena avenue, corner Warren, on car line.

Ladies should call at Fred Gamers and get a pair of slippers, as he is selling them at a very low figure.

JOTTINGS ABOUT TOWN.

A marriage license was granted yesterday to Thomas Taylor and Virginia Mosby, of Helena.

The body of Geo. N. Whitley was shipped to Philadelphia yesterday via the Northern Pacific express.

A full and complete line of McLaughlin's Christmas goods, consisting of games, books and children's books just opened at The Bee Hive.

HELENA IN BRIEF. G. W. Jackson, music dealer. Dinner from 12 to 5 at the Bon Ton.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION. REASONABLE REWARD WILL BE PAID for the return to the Motor Co. a office of a conductor's belt punch, which was lost a few days ago.

BABCOCK'S Xmas Goods that are Handsome and Very Useful. PRESENTS! For Ladies and Gentlemen.

Smoking Jackets, House Coats, Bath Robes, Silk Vests, Embroidered Vests, Full Dress Vests, Traveling Cases, Leather Cases, Manicure Sets, Collar & Cuff Boxes, Umbrellas & Canes, Valises, HANDKERCHIEFS:

NECKWEAR. 200 dozen Choice Christmas Ties Just Received, in all the New Styles and Shades.

SUSPENDERS. Elegant Embroidered Brocade Satins and Fancy Silks for the Holidays.

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WHOLESALE PRICES FOR THE BALANCE OF OUR STOCK! WE ARE CLOSING OUT OUR BUSINESS AND HAVE SOME GREAT BARGAINS.

W. H. BAKER & CO., "THE FAIR." THE GREAT Bankrupt Sale of WATCHES, Jewelry and Diamonds

SALE EVERY DAY AT 2 TO 7 P. M. GRAND OPENING! THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, COOPER'S, 111 N. Main Street, Helena.

THE FINEST DISPLAY OF DIAMONDS, Watches and Jewelry IN MONTANA. SEE OUR \$2,000 DIAMOND NECKLACE

Our Assortment of Holiday Goods is now Complete and Consists of the Most Unique Designs, Carefully Selected as to Quality and Workmanship, which is the VERY BEST.

C. A. COOPER, - Pittsburg Block. (FORMERLY 5 UNION SQUARE, NEW YORK.) MISSOULA Real Estate.

The Most Desirable Property in this Growing City is now Offered to those Desiring Quick Returns on Money Invested.

100 PER CENT within Ninety Days. JNO. S. M. NEILL, ROOMS 6 AND 7, ASHBY BLOCK, HELENA, MONT.

OVERCOATS! OVERCOATS! This being the season when OVERCOATS are in demand We would call Your Attention to the fact that the

PLYMOUTH CLOTHING HOUSE is throwing out Greater Inducements than any other house in the city; not only in Overcoats, but also in Clothing and Gents' Furnishing Goods.

Space does not permit our mentioning all our Bargains. Call and see us. LEVY & ELIAS, MAIN STREET.

OUR CHRISTMAS STOCK IS NOW COMPLETE

Call Before the Assortment is Broken. FOWLES' CASH STORE!

The Leading Millinery and Fancy Goods House in Montana.

THE LEADING SHOE HOUSE of the City is Located next door to the First National Bank. J. P. WOOLMAN & CO.,

Who handle all the Latest Novelties in FASHIONABLE FINE FOOTWEAR, the Finest assortment of Slippers and Ties ever shown in the west, are also agents for JOHNSTON & MURPHY'S FINE FOOTWEAR.

NEXT TO FIRST NATIONAL BANK. SPECIAL SALE -OF- NEW HOUSE.

The Best opportunity ever Offered in Helena to Purchase a Fine, Well-Built, Warm CONVENIENT SIX-ROOM DWELLING Within Ten Minutes Walk of Main Street, only \$3,000.

\$100 Cash, and \$40 Per Month Until Paid For. A Small Family could live on lower floor and rent the upper floor. The house is so built that parties living on upper floor would have separate front and rear entrances, and separate sheds and outhouses. The offer open for TEN DAYS ONLY. Enquire of R. A. DAY, Room 7, First National Bank Building.

GANS & KLEIN. EXTRA LARGE MEN, EXTRA TALL MEN, EXTRA SHORT MEN, EXTRA FAT MEN, EXTRA LEAN MEN

Can all suit themselves with Stylish, Well-Fitting Clothes of Good Material at Reasonable Prices, from our Ready-Made Clothing Department. MAKING A POINT:

We Make a Point of Insisting Upon the Distinction Between CHEAP CLOTHING AND CLOTHING CHEAP!

We have Correct Clothing for all Men, Boys and Children, suitable for all occasions and occupations. Our New Stock is all Right, Clean and Fresh, and at Prices you Cannot Resist. GANS & KLEIN, HELENA, MONTANA.

POPE & O'CONNOR, Wholesale and Retail Druggists, Have Removed to the

BAILEY BLOCK! ATTENTION! EVERYBODY!

Now is the Time for Great Bargains! I am Closing out the stock of the I. X. L. BAZAR at figures much BELOW COST.

A Rare Opportunity is Now Offered to purchase Dry Goods, Rubber Clothing, Gents' Furnishing Goods; Boots, Shoes, etc., at figures never before offered in Helena. Improve this Golden Opportunity. Don't forget the old stand on MAIN STREET. H. BARNETT.