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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1909.

PASSING EVENTS

February's second week possessed little of the midwinter dullness which generally characterizes it and the third week gives promise of being more than ordinarily active. The approach of the end of the Roosevelt administration with the desire on the part of the president to dispose of some matters that are pending is accountable for the liveliness in national affairs and in Montana the legislature with its two or three important problems is making as much fuss as if it had more business on hand. In the country at large there is reported an improvement in business conditions and Montana, as a whole, has not fared badly this winter in industrial and commercial matters; the railways report an increasing business and are, in the west, already making their arrangements for the inauguration at an early date of the movement of the throngs of home-seekers. Freight business is good and orders for cars are being placed to an extent that is a sure indication of further business improvement. Locally, the stir of spring is felt in building lines and the sales of real estate indicate a lively year; there is good ground for the expectation that is held for the best season that Missoula has ever known. There is not yet any manifestation of concern about the municipal election, whatever expression of opinion there has been in this matter has been to the effect that the best thing to do is to arrange a non-partisan campaign and election.

THE TUNNEL OPENING—Of surpassing interest in the western Montana field during the week, was the opening of the St. Paul pass tunnel on the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound line. This event, moreover, had more than a local significance; the tunnel has interested engineering circles all over the country for two years and its successful completion was a matter in which there was more than local concern. The completion of the work was so thoroughly successful that the event was without striking incident; the last few feet of the rock was penetrated with almost as little concern as the first yard had been; it was merely the further development of plans that had been carefully made and thoroughly carried out. But to us laymen, the event was more than ordinarily significant; Montana is a record-making state; from its beginning, it has been a state of great achievement and the figures that represent its resources and its contribution to the world's wealth are always at or near the head of the column. On this account, Montanans are proud of the fact that a world record was made in boring the St. Paul tunnel; that it was the Montana crew that broke through the last ground and that this same Montana crew had dug considerably more than half the tunnel. The congratulations which have been extended to the builders of this splendid piece of engineering are merited.

VALE POOLROOM—For a little while it seemed as if the strife between the senate and the house at Helena would result in the defeat of any poolroom bill that might be proposed; but the closing days of the week brought a change in conditions that showed a disposition on the part of the lawmakers to forget politics for a moment in the consideration of the affairs of the state. A new poolroom bill has passed both branches of the legislature and we are assured that Governor Norris will sign the measure Monday and make it a law. Much has been spoken and written upon the subject of the poolroom this winter; practically all of the discussion has been against the continuance in Montana of this evil; it seemed strange that the overwhelming public sentiment in favor of the suppression of the poolroom should be disregarded; it seemed that the legislature is not as thick-skinned as it seemed at first and the poolroom is to go. The lawmakers have done their duty—if their new law stands fire.

A LINCOLN HOLIDAY—Another commendable act of the legislature was the creation of a legal holiday in memory of Lincoln; it was tardy action, perhaps, but it was effective and the state is listed amongst those which pay this tribute to the great president.

The action of the Montana legislature in this matter was coincident with the work of congress along the same line and the proclamation of Governor Norris was simultaneous with that of President Roosevelt which declared a holiday in the territories. We do not have so many holidays in this country that the creation of a Lincoln day will seriously interfere with business and the honor is the least recognition that the country can pay to the man whose name the new holiday bears.

THE RED APPLE—The fruitgrowers had their inning during the week in the most successful session ever held by the horticultural society. The meetings took a practical turn from the start and out of the deliberations of the society came two important suggestions for good. The first of these related to the proper inspection of orchards and fruit; whatever means may be decided upon to bring about proper inspection will be warranted if they bring the result that is sought. In their efforts to secure this thorough inspection, the fruitgrowers deserve the support of the members of the legislature and the latter should be willing to listen to the suggestions of practical men. The second matter of importance was the proposal of a plan to hold a Montana apple show. This will receive earnest support and cordial endorsement.

QUIETING DOWN—It has been gratifying during the week to note that the violence in congressional circles in the attitude of the lawmakers—some of them—towards the president has abated. Possibly it is a lull that presages another stormy outbreak; but there are indications that congress is coming around to see itself as others see it and that the aspect is as displeasing to the congressmen themselves as it is to others. In the noisy contest that was waged between the White House and the capitol for awhile, the president has, seemingly, come off first best. He has irritated congress by his blunt statements, but he has, all along, had the documents to make good his assertions. If the congressmen urge further proof there is little doubt that the president will be able to furnish it. President Roosevelt has rendered his country distinguished service in many directions during his occupancy of the executive chair; he will live in history as one of the really great presidents. The fact that his term has but a few weeks remaining has led some of the disgruntled politicians to attack him; their attacks will be forgotten in a short time; the achievements of Roosevelt will be remembered as long as there is American history. No man of Roosevelt's strength and marked individuality could accomplish what he has without making enemies; when you look over the list of names in the catalogue of those who have assailed him, you understand why it is that he wins. He has won repeatedly and he will win every time men of this stamp attack him.

RAINEY'S FOUNT—The source of the allegations which Mr. Rainey hurled at the executive in connection with his denunciation of the Panama canal deal is, according to the statement of Representative Lovering made in the house Friday, known to those who are prosecuting the case of alleged libel against the New York World and others. Mr. Lovering asserts that Mr. Rainey was loaded from the World's magazine, which in turn was supplied by "ex-convicts." This much information is vouchsafed us prior to the revelation of the findings of the grand juries which are investigating this matter. In the minds of those who have followed the case, there can be no doubt of the unreasonableness and the falsity of the accusations which have been made against Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Taft in the Panama matter. The absurdity of the charges discredited them from the first, but it is good to know that the originators of the calumnies have been ferreted out. That Rainey should have been beguiled into making such statements as he did without better authority is strange. But he is being shown up and for that we are glad.

ALL RIGHT—Now we have Mr. Taft's word for it that conditions are good in the canal work; that the progress is satisfactory and that the big ditch will be completed while Mr. Taft is yet in office. The country will take Mr. Taft's word for it in preference to the statement of any other man who has spoken in relation to canal matters lately. He knows what he is talking about and that is a good deal to start with; Rainey and his associates didn't know what they were talking about; that's certain. But, aside from consideration of this controversy, it is good to know that the canal is in good shape and that the alarmist stories have been unfounded. We shall await Mr. Taft's further statement in this regard with interest.

ELECTED—Mr. Taft got home from Panama just in time to learn of his election to the presidency; the election took place last Wednesday. Vice President Fairbanks having rounded up Charles Warren and the other mavericks amongst the messengers, he was able to pull off the formal balloting on schedule time. The votes of the states were counted and it was found that Taft and Sherman had been splendidly elected. Montana's vote was counted with the others; General Warren finally made good and the lit-

tle joke at his expense was not so heavy a drain upon his purse as he thought at one time it might be. General Warren forgot his credentials, to add to the discomfort of his position, but when the votes were counted he found that, with all his shortcomings, he was in better shape than the Wisconsin messenger who brought his state's vote for the wrong man. It was one on Wisconsin and General Warren was transferred from the booby seat.

PILOTS ON DECK—The two branches of the legislature have named their steering committees and this week the selection of "urgent" bills will begin. The steering committee is a great institution; its members can pilot a bill against the shoals or into deep water where the sailing is good, according to the demands of the state's interests; they can also sidetrack a bill because it seems to be good policy to do it. It is usually the latter motive that guides the action of these pilots. One good feature of the appointment of these committees is that it indicates the approach of the close of the session. If the steering committees do their work well, they can maintain the reputation which this assembly has won—a reputation for doing nothing, much. And, after all, that is a good deal better reputation than some preceding assemblies have made for themselves.

The crowd comes down from Apple town with faces all aglow; they've heard Read's band play music grand where the McIntosh Reds grow. They shout aloud, this happy crowd, as they bestow the crown for the rare good cheer that's without peer outside of Apple town.

ST. VALENTINE'S DAY WHEN CUPID REIGNS SUPREME.



CUPID reigns every day—but on St. Valentine's day he reigns supreme. Of all the holidays in the year, the fourteenth of February is the only one set apart on which to make obeisance to the mischievous, adorable little son of Venus. Not that the troublesome elf needs a day for his very own, or that he appreciates the honor, especially, for he well knows that every day is his own, that his arrows fly just as true and as straight on one day as on the other and that all men and all women of all ages have bowed to him and obeyed—always.

In Our Own Country. The celebration of the day in our own country is so well known that it scarcely needs setting forth. The custom of sending one's valentines anonymously, however, seems to be largely confined to the English-speaking people. And the mushroom growth of the so-called comic valentines, horrible distortions of even the noblest of art, is distinctly American. St. Valentine, if he be the one responsible for the day, could scarcely have countenanced such things as these. Our celebration is more a personal one to the individual than a collective one in which a number can get together and celebrate simultaneously. In fact, the sender of a valentine nowadays does it almost like the proverbial thief in the night.

In the Churchyard. In Derbyshire, England, when a love-lorn lass, who is not afraid of the dark and supernatural, wants to find out what her future lord and master looks like, she goes into the churchyard at midnight of St. Valentine's eve and, as the clock strikes 12, commences running around the church and repeating without intermission: "I saw hemlock, hemlock I saw. He that loves me best Come after me now."

O, carry the knocker away up the gulch and bury him deep in the ground; then cover him over with any old culch, to deaden his pitiful sound.

Mr. Taft has received some good sonnets but never anything better than the commendation of Cardinal Gibbons at New Orleans.

The legislative steering committees will find some fine material for slaughter when they begin to consider pending measures.

The peaceful revolution that is planned for Fort Missoula will be a welcome change.

While the touching little doggerel, she will behold, unless she drops with exhaustion from her rapid-transit, moving picture oratorical stunt, the figure of her lover, dim and ghostly, following her footsteps around the church.

Or picture the hale and hearty English squire coming home nearer sunrise than sunset with the loving spirit of St. Valentine's day—and other spirits—oozing out of his very eyes, if he's in better shape than the man.



Who had to tell his cobby to ask his better half to pick him up from the carriage and put him out from the rest of the good fellows aboard it—but he's sufficiently three-sheets-in-the-wind to make it advisable for

The biggest valentine, however, does not necessarily signify the warmest love.

Life has become a problem to the poolroom men, instead of a sure thing.

When you present a valentine, don't and a lemon with it.

Missoula has a big bunch of valentines this year.

Just why this purf should be considered worth crawling out of a warm bed at 3 in the morning and stapping around in the dark with a clap-net for an owl not "on his to his job," while the ray from the loft of the barn sifted down into one's nostrils, the chronicler fails to relate. Perhaps the young men of those days considered such a stunt a regular heluva time. Or, perhaps, it was simply a case of seizing an opportunity of getting on the outside of a lot of purf in free-lunch fashion. At all events, according to the chronicler, they went after the birds with the same patience the modern "bugologist" expends in chasing butterflies over a new-plowed field, and received their reward with applause and admiration similar to that the present-day head of a family receives if he can get out of bed on to the cold floor in the morning and turn on the steam without a murmur. Though scarcely necessary to say so, it is incumbent upon the writer to relate that he has not been able to discover a survival of this custom in any form in the modern

What's in the Package. Or picture the hale and hearty English squire coming home nearer sunrise than sunset with the loving spirit of St. Valentine's day—and other spirits—oozing out of his very eyes, if he's in better shape than the man.

Why They Did It. Just why this purf should be considered worth crawling out of a warm bed at 3 in the morning and stapping around in the dark with a clap-net for an owl not "on his to his job," while the ray from the loft of the barn sifted down into one's nostrils, the chronicler fails to relate. Perhaps the young men of those days considered such a stunt a regular heluva time. Or, perhaps, it was simply a case of seizing an opportunity of getting on the outside of a lot of purf in free-lunch fashion. At all events, according to the chronicler, they went after the birds with the same patience the modern "bugologist" expends in chasing butterflies over a new-plowed field, and received their reward with applause and admiration similar to that the present-day head of a family receives if he can get out of bed on to the cold floor in the morning and turn on the steam without a murmur. Though scarcely necessary to say so, it is incumbent upon the writer to relate that he has not been able to discover a survival of this custom in any form in the modern

Can It Be Possible! Apopros of the same elucidating subject, the chronicler states further that:

Get the habit of reading The Missoulian's ads; it will save you money.

The development of water power means prosperity for Missoula.

When you present a valentine, don't and a lemon with it.

Missoula has a big bunch of valentines this year.



American celebration of St. Valentine's day. In many of the European countries the St. Valentine day kiss was exchanged between young people as a token of good will. The exact nature of such an osculatory performance is somewhat vague. Though the same conscientious chronicler does not mention the relationship, it suggested that this St. Valentine day kiss is a third cousin, at least, deceased, of the famous "soul" kiss. There is some doubt on this point, however, for in no way can an excess of the word "affinity" lead the investigator back to that time. On the other hand, the fact that this custom is now in vogue universally—not only on St. Valentine's day, but on other days, and far into the night as well—is significant. The only difference is that the so-called St. Valentine day kiss of the present is a token of good will—and other things.

By holding out to tire each other down. The absolute whole-heartedness of the dance and the fierceness of these tests of endurance must be seen to be appreciated. Though the occasion is one of the utmost jollity and good will, the contestants are in dead earnest in their endeavors to win.

By the simplicity of Venus' does. By that which kindleth souls and prospers loves. In England the schoolgirls of a half a century ago plucked at the buttons on their gowns and uttered in a singsong monotone on St. Valentine's day the verse:

"Tinker, tailor, Soldier, sailor, Apothecary, Ploughboy, thief."

If, after sing-songing these words for a stated number of times they should first meet other than the one on whom of all mentioned in their roundelay their hearts were set they scattered in great fright.

The earliest and most popular St. Valentine's day jingle that has been handed down to the present time is:

"The rose is red, The violet blue, Sugar is sweet, And so are you."

The gentle Dean Swift, in writing to a friend, describes his first reception of a comic valentine:

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Is Like Trying to Get Rid of Dandruff Without Herpicide. Did you ever see any one trying to wash themselves without soap or water? If you did what would you say of him? It is every bit as foolish to try to get rid of dandruff and to prevent baldness by feeding the germs which cause it, with Cantharides, Vaseline, Glycerine and similar substances which form the principal ingredients of most so-called Hair Growers.



Newbro's Herpicide is successful because it attacks and kills the parasitic germ which feeds on the hair roots. It is the original and only genuine scalp germicide manufactured. Sold by leading druggists. Send 10c in stamps for sample to The Herpicide Co., Detroit, Mich. Two sizes, 50c and \$1.00. Missoula Drug Co., special agents.

MAKING INQUIRIES. New York, Feb. 13.—The Investigating committee that is investigating the affairs of the different stock exchanges, today inquired into the dealings of the New York Consolidated exchange. The sessions will be resumed Tuesday.