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Business Office 110 Editorial Room

Wasnington Office, Munsey building. Ernest Hazen Pullman, correspondent.
Hamilton Office, Main street, near Second.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 2, 1910

PASSING EVENTS

As with Christmas, so with New Year's, we have two of them this time. This fact may, possibly, add force and lasting qualities to the reslutions of 1910; with two days instead of one in which to make these firm resolutions, there should be greater permanence to their provisions and the annual tour of the water wagon should be longer than usual this year. With two days in which to get firmly seated, one should not be so easily dislodged from the vehicle. Moreover, 1910 should be happier than most years; two days of the concentrated happiness of the opening should permeate the other days so thoroughly that the joyousness should endure for all the twelve months. It is a fine thing to be happy on New Year's, but there is absolutely no reason why a man in Missoula should not be happy every day; there is everything in present conditions to make him happy and there is everything in future prospects to make him happier. But New Year's affords him an opportunity to take a day off and devote it exclusively to the consideration of his happy lot; when there are two of these days, it is all the easier to discover the happiness and its cause.

ANOTHER YEAR—Whatever opportunities we overlooked in 1909 have slipped by; we shall not have another chance to grasp them. But the new years brings new opportunities—plenty of them; the experience of the past year will sharpen our wits to to a better realization of the opportunities that present themselves this year; it will if we apply it right. There are some people who deplore the passing of the years, who are mournful on New Year's because it means to them one year less of life. That is the wrong view. It is better to consider the fact that the day finds us richer by one year's experience and that much better fitted for our work. It is all nonsense to Oslerize a man or a woman; if the man or woman of sixty has got out out of life all there is in it, the years mean that much of preparation for accomplishment. It is wrong to feel that the time for the possibilities of hopes and aspirations ever comes; it is better to be a happy—dreamer, shall we call it?—than to be despondent because another new year finds us something short of where we hoped, a year ago, we would be. There is a lot of good for us in the year ahead if we will but take it. This should be a happy day, not a mournful occasion.

CITY AND COUNTY—Gratifying, indeed, has been the progress made in local affairs during 1909, both in city and county affairs. Within a couple of weeks we have had the calls of the treasurers of city and county for outstanding warrants; these calls have brought the warrant indebtedness of the county down to nothing and of the city down to within reaching distance. The official statement of the financial condition of the county is excellent in its showing; there has been a good deal of money spent but there has been something to show for it. So it is with the city; there have been many extraordinary expenses for Missoula during two years and there has been a call for more than the usual amount of money on this account; but there has been caution in the expenditures and they have brought tangible results; there are visible evidences and there is no question as to the value received. Another year like 1909 and there will be the right sort of balance on the ledgers of both city and county. There is no objection to public expenditures if we get something for them.

RESOLUTIONS—There is this particular advantage in New Year's resolutions over any other sort of resolutions—that there are people who make them who never make any others. Sometimes, as is the case in vaccination, New Year's resolutions take and the patient is made immune; if they don't take, there is no particular disadvantage except that the quarantine does not apply to booze any more than it does to smallpox and in the event of the failure of the preventative almost anything is apt to happen to the man who tries and fails. But it is certainly better to resolve and fail than never to resolve at all. It is good practice and it may lead to a development that will bring about the signing of a resolution that will hold. There are a good many personal resolutions which can be made to good advantage; each man is the best judge of what should be done in his own case. There are, also, a good many general resolutions which we can all make and which affect the general welfare. We can, for instance, agree that we will unite in a movement for the permanent and systematic beautifying of Missoula; we can agree that each man will do his share on his own street; that will insure the accomplishment of the work. We can agree that each of us will lend his aid and influence in the carrying out of the plans for municipal improvement which the city administration has announced, through the mayor. We can join the chamber of commerce and can, in that way, help along the general work of promotion. If these resolutions were not made yesterday, there is yet time; today is the second New Year's; it is not too late.

TIMELY—There was an eminent actor in Missoula last week. At his own request, his name will not be mentioned in this story, although The Missoulian would like to print the name in large type. This eminent actor—who is more eminent as an author and a dancer than as an actor, but concerning whose eminence there is no question—read the story of Mae Durfee while he was here. He became at once interested in the case and asked for some details that had not been given in the printed story. He was furnished with everything he wanted in the way of information; Charlie Harnois was able to tell him parts of the story that added to the awfulness of it all. When he had heard it all, this eminent actor was as angry as every decent man is over the sorrowful tale. He looked at the list of subscriptions which had been made to the fund for a monument to mark the grave of Mae Durfee and then he issued instructions to have a monument made and placed, the bill for it all to be sent to him; the other money raised is to be used for the purchase of a lot in the Missoula cemetery, where will be placed the body of the poor girl who was laid away, years ago, in the potter's field. This, we think, is a good New Year story; we wish the eminent actor had not enjoined secrecy as to the use of his name in the matter; it would be a pleasure to tell it. Perhaps Missoula people will be able to guess who the man is if they look back over their datebooks and see who was here last week. He is entitled to a lot of credit and we hope there will be some folks who will correctly guess his name.

SNOW—New Year's brought enough fresh snow to western Montana to make the ground white and to give a seasonable tinge to the weather. It was a fine start for the year; there is a good deal of unfinished business, in the line of snow, on the docket of the new year; the first weeks of winter were so mild that there has not been the usual quantity of future water supply piled up in the mountains; however, with the start that was made yesterday, there is hope that 1910 will get busy and maintain the average. East of us and west of us and north of us and south of us there has been winter for weeks; we have been immune but we may expect enough winter during the next eight weeks to make the record good. The New Year's snowfall was heavier in southern California yesterday than it was in Missoula. In Fresno, the press dispatches say, snow fell for the first time in fifteen years and the fruit trees were bent low with its weight. Down there they are worse off than we are; we have not had to go without snow for fifteen years. Reports from everywhere tell us that we are better off than everybody else. Hence this happy New Year.

NOW FOR BUSINESS—The holiday recess over, congress will this week get down to business. Montana's legislature adjourned just in time to keep the record of 1910 clear of local legislation; there is not much prospect of a special session this year. This leaves us free to give to congress our undivided attention and the benefit of all of our advice; it would have been embarrassing to divide our time and energy between two great lawmaking bodies. Also, it would have torn the Butte Miner in twain had it been necessary to burden it with the regulation of a legislature and a congress at the same time. Happily, this dilemma has been avoided. And congress, having enjoyed its holidays variously but, presumably, thoroughly, is now free to take up the consideration of public business. The preliminaries of the session were well disposed of before the recess; the special messages of the president are scheduled for this week; the members of the two branches are strong and refreshed; all conditions are present that make for a business session and for the accomplishment of actual legislation.

FIGHTING BOOZE—There are booze-fighters and there are booze-fighters; the one class seeks to put down booze by pouring it down its throat; the other endeavors to put it down by restricting the traffic. This first of January marks some significant gains by the latter class; there have been several decisive defeats of the straight prohibition movement recently but these have not signified any loss of strength to the movement for the correction of conditions which produce drunkenness; rather they have indicated emphatically the lack of practicability that lies in the plan to prevent the sale of liquor as long as liquor is manufactured. More and more it becomes apparent that strict regulation with high license is the best means of controlling the traffic in whisky. The defeat of the prohibition amendment in Alabama was the result of the failure of the prohibition laws to accomplish the purpose sought; last month the city of Worcester, which has had been the largest no-license city in the United States, voted the other way, several years of no-license having proved the plan to be impracticable. On the other hand, the news from Omaha this morning is that nearly one-fifth of the saloons of that city closed yesterday as a result of the operation of the Nebraska law which requires all saloons to close at 8 o'clock. This law has been in force for six months and has proved disastrous, it is said, to a majority of the saloons in the state. Where high license and strict control have been tried, they have been found more effective than the attempt to prohibit; the learning of this lesson is gradual but this year starts off with some important communities in possession of the knowledge and it may be said that there have been decided gains in the control and regulation of the liquor traffic.

THE NEW LEAF—The turning of the new leaf is radical in some parts of the country; nowhere does it mark a greater change than in New York, where the control of the great city passed yesterday out of the hands of Tammany. The new administration of the metropolis has a great opportunity; at its head is Mayor Gaynor; although elected on a Tammany ticket, his success was rather in spite of Tammany than because of that organization; the new mayor is credited with a desire to give the big city a good administration; his long experience qualifies him for the successful performance of his duties; he will be backed by officers who are avowedly anti-Tammany and the smashing of the ring, as it appears on the surface, is complete. There are great hopes entertained for the success of the new administration; in four years much may be accomplished, even though Tammany has so firmly established her henchmen in whatever places afford revenue. The entire country will watch New York more interestedly than ever now; to see the great city well governed has been a long cherished hope.

Peter Newell, in his new calendar, says of January:
"Resolutions are for sale
In old January's shop;
New or threadbare, fresh or stale,
Or revamped from last year's crop,
Habits, whims and sins galore
May be checked outside the door."

President Taft might accept as official the definition of whisky that goes in the Blackfoot country: "It burns from the lips down and it makes the glad come."

We would resolve not to speak harshly about anybody if one or two fellows would move out of town, but under present circumstances we can't do it.

We wouldn't mind the north wind, as we sit in the firelight's glow, if we could only succeed in forgetting how it makes the coal bill grow.

The office will be closed today, but tomorrow you can join the chamber of commerce if you have not already done so.

Football, modified to the extent desired by some of the reformers, would attract about as much attention as a game of croquet.

Among the noteworthy New Year's calls was the visit of Charles W. Morse with the warden of the Atlanta federal prison.

If every miser left as generous a widow as did Russell Sage, we could easily forgive his parsimony while living.

Comes now the morning after; its dawn is not as gray as if we'd not been granted a double New Year's day.

Oklahoma closed the year in characteristic style, with bank robberies and a street battle as the chief features.

During 1910 there will, however, be no repeal of the law that those who dance must compensate the violinist.

The turning of the new leaf doesn't signify as much as does what you write on it after it is turned!

The advantage in a double-header is that if you didn't swear off yesterday, you can today.

If you're inclined to complain about the chill wind, think how much worse off some people are.

The new Nicaraguan president needs a loan. He'd better call upon Zelaya; he's fat.

Moreover, 1910 has an opportunity to clear up the labor strife on the railways.

As a sensation center, Oklahoma has Kansas backed off the boards.

At last the girl is happy who had furs as a Christmas present.

The tinkle of the ice is the sweet music of the morning after.

We yet hope for a strike settlement as a gift of the new year.

"The Soul Kiss" is coming, so the cold wave can't last long.

The new year brings plenty of snap and tingle in its breezes.

Crack-proof resolutions are in demand this morning.

It's great not to have to get up early this morning.

Snow is welcome; we need it in our business.

But, then, the coal man has to live, hasn't he?

The silence of Zelaya is one of 1910's best gifts.

And the barbers kept on shaving.

Remember the number is 50,000.

Keep it happy all the year.

Montana Is In the First Rank

FIELDS AND ORCHARDS THAT MAKE MONEY.

Spokane, Jan. 1.—Four hundred and four million dollars is the value of the product of 211,000 farms in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana in 1909, a gain of 75 per cent. since 1900. The assets of the farmers are practically double those of 1904, their debts are considerably less, while the surplus is larger than ever before in the history of the country. The number of farms and the wealth production in the four states are approximately as follows:

States—	Farms.	Production.
Montana	30,000	$114,000,000
Washington	66,000	104,000,000
Oregon	75,000	114,000,000
Idaho	40,000	72,000,000
Totals	211,000	$404,000,000

The foregoing figures show there is need for more farmers in the Northwestern states and that millions of acres of land, now idle, could be put under cultivation on a substantial revenue-paying basis. There are many who believe that the days of the bonanza farms are numbered, which means that with smaller holdings there will be more intensive farming, and, as a consequence, larger acre crops.

The farm products of 1909 in the Inland Empire, taking in Eastern Washington and Oregon, north and central Idaho and Western Montana, are valued at $110,000,000. A normal apple crop at present prices, instead of a yield ranging from 35 to 40 per cent., would have placed the figures at approximately $117,000,000, as against about $90,000,000 in 1908.

Wheat, of course, was the big factor, the four states producing more than 75,000,000 bushels, of which 35,780,000 bushels is credited to Washington, 16,377,000 bushels for Oregon, 14,465,000 bushels for Idaho and the rest for Montana. The other farm products entering into the computation are fruit, oats, barley, rye, hay, sugar beets, potatoes, garden products, livestock, dairy products and poultry and eggs.

The foregoing figures become important in the development of the western country when it is known that in many instances the products of the older farming states are not as valuable as those in the quartet mentioned, which, less than a quarter of a century ago, were considered to be largely worthless lands. It means, too, that with the influx of population and outside capital for development purposes there will be more farms and a greater wealth production.

There are 6,741,000 farms, or about 1,000,000 more than in 1899, in the United States today, and the value of the products for 1909 is placed at $9,600,000,000, with farm assets of $35,000,000,000. This shows that fully one-third of the population of the country is engaged in the various forms of agriculture.

It is believed by many that the result of the country life and back-to-the-land movements will be to raise the percentage of farmers to 40 in a few years, thus placing the nation in the position of an exporter and raising the wealth production to the 11-figure notch.

Investigating Graft

At left, Mayor Busse of Chicago; at right, his secretary, Harry A. Smith; below, State's Attorney Wayman.

Chicago, Jan. 1.—Chicago is in the throes of the greatest graft investigation of her history. The central figures in the investigation are Mayor Busse and his secretary, Harry A. Smith and State's Attorney Wayman. The grand jury was held over until after Christmas by the state's attorney. The grand jury is investigating at this time what is reputed to be one of the greatest graft mysteries in the history of the city. Coal is said to have been sold to the city at advanced rates and the difference pocketed.

The textile workers of the department of the north, in France, have recently gone on a strike for higher wages, which is said to be practically general.

A WISE LEGACY.

(Layman-Printer.)

The testator of this will, an inmate of the Cook county asylum at Dunning, Ill., was said to be insane, but in reading this posthumous document it will occur to most people that he was violently sane.

I, Charles Lounsburg, being of sound mind and disposing memory, do hereby make and publish this, my last will and testament, in order as justly as may be, to distribute my interest in the world among succeeding men.

That part of my interest which is known in law and recognized in the sheep-bound volumes as my propefty, being inconsiderable and of no account, I make no disposal of in this my will.

My right to live, being but a life-estate, is not at my disposal, but these things excepted all else in the world I now proceed to devise and bequeath:

Item: I give to good fathers and mothers, in trust for their children, all good little words of praise, and encouragement, and all quaint pet names and endearments, and I charge said parents to use them justly and generously, as the needs of their children my require.

Item: I leave to children, inclusively, but only for the term of their childhood, all and every, the flowers of the fields, and the blossoms of the woods, with the right to play among them freely, according to customs of children, warning them at the same time against thistles and thorns. And I devise to children, the banks of the brooks, and the golden sands beneath the waters thereof and the odors of the willows that dip therein, and the white clouds that float high over the giant trees. And I leave the children the long, long days to be merry in, in a thousand ways, and the night and the moon and the train of the milky way to wonder at, but subject, nevertheless, to the rights hereinafter given to lovers.

Item: I devise to boys, jointly, all the useful idle fields and commons where ball may be played; all pleasant waters where one may swim; all snow-clad hills where one may coast and all streams and ponds where one may fish, or where when grim winter comes, one may skate; to have and to hold the same for the period of their boyhood. And all meadows with the clover blossoms and butterflies thereof; the woods and the appurtenances; the squirrels and birds, and echoes and strange noises, and all distant places which may be visited, together with the adventures there found. And I give to said boys each his own place at the fireside at night, with all pictures that may be in the burning wood, to enjoy without let or hinderance and without any incumbrance of care.

Item: To lovers, I devise their imaginary world with whatever they may need; as the stars of the sky; the red roses by the wall; the bloom of the hawthorn; the sweet strains of music and aught else they may desire to figure to each other; the lastingness and beauty of love.

Item: To young men, jointly, I devise and bequeath all boisterous, inspiring sports of rivalry, and I give to them the disdain of weakness and undaunted confidence in their own strength. Though they are rude, I give to them the power to make lasting friendships, and of possessing companions, and to them exclusively I give all merry songs and brave choruses, to sing with lusty voices.

Item: And to those who are no longer children or youths or lovers, I leave memory, and I bequeath to them the volumes of the poems of Burns and Shakespeare and of other poets, if there be others, to the end that they may live over the old days again, freely and fully, without tithe or diminution.

Item: To our loved ones with snowy crowns I bequeath the happiness of old age, the love and gratitude of their children until they fall asleep.

FOOD UNFIT FOR DOGS.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 1—John Dodd, former overseer at the city prison, testifying before the council investigating committee today in addition to corroborating the stories of cruelty to prisoners and of filthy and unsanitary conditions, declared that the food served the prisoners was unfit even for the lowest kind of animals. Prisoners frequently showed bread containing flies, he said, and one man brought him a piece of bread containing a spider. He declared the place was overrun with vermin.

Pearl Bryan, one of the three white women who were hung up by rings while at the stockade, said she was strung up nearly 15 minutes and was only taken down when they saw blood running down her arms.

NO ONE LOST.

St. Louis, Jan. 1.—All of the 150 workmen who were imperiled when the falsework of the McKinley bridge across the Mississippi river collapsed late yesterday, have been accounted for. The falsework was torn away by ice floes.

DAMAGED BY FIRE.

Bellingham, Wash., Jan. 1.—Bayview, on the coast near here, was almost completely destroyed by fire today. The loss is estimated at $75,000.

Missoula Trust and Security
BANK
Capital and Surplus $112,000
ASSETS OVER $600,000
COURTEOUS, PROGRESSIVE, CONSERVATIVE
A GENERAL BANKING BUSINESS TRANSACTED
Savings Department
Frank Cannon, President
John W. Hicklin, Cashier