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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1910.

PASSING EVENTS

Locally, last week was important in several of its events. It brought into pleasant prominence an organization which has been working quietly but effectively along the lines of civic betterment; the Neighborhood club's Tuesday-night dinner was a conspicuous success and introduced the organization to a good many Missoula citizens who had not been aware of the scope and plan of its work. Wednesday night brought the concert of the Philharmonic club at the university; this event was without question a delightful surprise to the lovers of good music. It proved the worth of the club as an asset of the city and it demonstrated the existence of unquestioned musical talent in Missoula. Another interesting event of the week was the discussion at a dinner given by President Duniway Wednesday evening, the topic of which was the needs of the university and the means to be employed to have these needs met when the legislature convenes next month. During the week each of these matters received attention in the news columns of The Missoulian; they are mentioned here at this time as illustrative of the tendency of Missoula men to get together for the promotion of the general welfare; they show the fine spirit of good fellowship which exists in the city; it is a spirit which must bring progress and betterment. It is the best possession which Missoula could have.

DIRECT-PRIMARY LAWS.—There are direct-primary laws and there are other direct-primary laws; each of the states which has adopted the system of direct legislation has introduced some original features. In the discussion of the direct-primary law which is best adapted to the needs of Montana, it is natural that there should be reference to the experience which other states have had with the laws which they have in force. At the meeting of the Neighborhood club, Tuesday night, the question of the direct primary was the topic of discussion. Senator Dixon was among the Missoula citizens called upon; he frankly discussed the question, saying that he was unqualifiedly in favor of a direct-primary law for Montana, and, referring to the prominence which has been given to the Oregon law, stated that he believed the only objection which he had heard from Oregon people in connection with their law was that it obliterated party organization and each candidate ran as an individual; he felt that party organization of some sort is necessary in our political affairs. Another objection, Senator Dixon said, has been urged by some people; it is that, by reason of the fact that it is not easy to get the rural population to the polls, the Oregon primary law throws too much of the power to the congested cities. Messrs. Berry, Woody and O'Hern, who were among the evening's speakers, held to the opinion that the objections cited by Mr. Dixon would not be found serious in Montana. This, in brief, was the course of the evenings' talk. The Butte Miner, seizing upon the fact that Mr. Dixon quoted certain objections to the Oregon law, maintains that he is opposed to that or any other primary law. Nothing could be further from the truth than this assertion by the Miner. Mr. Dixon favors a primary law and has, in all his recent speeches, favored such a law for Montana. He has stated his position so plainly that it is strange that the Miner should misunderstand it. Mr. Dixon has said that he is in favor of the Oregon primary law if the members of the legislature consider that the Oregon law is best for this state. As a citizen of Montana, Mr. Dixon has a right to an opinion; if his opinion is that there are forms of the primary law which are better for Montana than the Oregon law, the Miner should not assume that he is opposed to all primary laws. Which leads to a renewal of the question which The Missoulian advanced the other day—is the Butte Miner in favor of a primary law?

COMMISSION GOVERNMENT.—The idea of the commission form of government is closely identified with direct legislation, in that it brings the administration of municipal affairs close to the people. Frequently during the past few months The Missoulian has presented interesting facts in connection with the operation of the commission form of government in cities where it has had a thorough test. Without exception, the results have been favorable and beneficial. In other Montana cities the topic has been considered. The Missoulian learns that, through the instrumentality of the Butte Business Men's association, Walter M. Bickford—formerly of Missoula—is preparing a bill to be submitted to the legislature when it meets next month, having for its purpose the legalizing of the commission form of government for Montana cities, in case they desire to adopt it. It is believed that the proposed measure will receive very general support if its terms are as outlined. In the light of the experience of those cities in other states which have tried this form of government, it seems certain that Montana municipalities will be greatly benefited by its adoption.

THE UNIVERSITY.—The week brought a discussion of the conditions at the state university with reference to the action by the coming session of the legislature which is needed for the continued development of the work at the state's highest school. There was a friendly talk upon this topic, a talk in which the members of Missoula's legislative delegation participated, together with a number of business and professional men who take an interest in the university's work. There is much that is needed to enable the university to maintain the high standard of work which has been set for it, and there is reason to believe that the understanding of these needs is more general through the state than ever before, as the Montana public has become better acquainted with the university during the past two years than ever before. There is one point which the coming session of the legislature should make clear—that is the matter of the disposition of the revenue from the interest and income fund of the university. At present there are widely-differing views upon this point and for two years the university has been deprived of about $15,000 annually which, it seems to us, the legislature intended it to have. Upon this matter The Missoulian will have more to say later. At this time the suggestion is apt that each citizen of Missoula should constitute himself a committee of one to work wherever he has any influence to secure such legislation as will enable the university to go on with its work, unhampered and fairly well equipped as to revenue. Put in a good word wherever and whenever you can.

CONGRESS MEETS.—Tomorrow morning two sharp raps of the gavel which Speaker Cannon wields will call to order the national house of representatives and in the other wing of the capitol Vice President Sherman will perform the same function in the senate. Briefly, the two branches of congress will enact the prescribed routine for the opening of a regular session and in another day the lawmakers will have settled down to the work of the three months of the short session. By constitutional limitation, this session of congress will end March 4. It will be broken by the holiday recess, which will probably be a fortnight long. There is comparatively little time for extensive business. Three days each week are set aside under special rules—the result of the changes wrought at the last session—and it is the expressed opinion of veteran members of both branches that the residuary time will be little more than sufficient for the careful consideration of the appropriation bills, which will be necessary in view of the administration's demand for economy in expenditures. There is plenty of pending business, however, if congress chooses to take it up. The committees are all organized and are overwhelmed with bills; if they care to report any new measures, there is an abundance of material from which to select. In the senate the unfinished business is the ship-subsidy bill, whose fate depends largely upon the outcome of the investigation in New York into the shipping situation. But the senate calendars, though well filled, are not loaded down as are those of the house. There are 104 bills on the calendar of the committee of the whole, 67 on the "house calendar," 138 on the private calendar and five on the calendar for unanimous consent, while there are about 40 motions pending to discharge committees from consideration of bills not yet reported.

EFFICIENCY ENGINEERS.—One of the interesting developments of the week came in connection with the rate hearing of the interstate commerce commission, when Attorney Brandeis offered to show railroad men how they can save a million dollars a day. On the face of it, this suggestion seems preposterous, but testimony was introduced to show that the Brandeis talk is not the babble of a theorist; there were several witnesses who gave testimony which has attracted even greater attention than the general statement of the lawyer. "Efficiency engineers" these witnesses are called and their opinions are interesting, not only to the railways but to every business man in the country. These men are the experts in scientific and systematic business methods; their efforts are directed toward every line of industry and business; they do not effect economy by reducing wages or by raising rates, but by the introduction of system into the management of business affairs. Interesting incidents of the application of scientific methods to various lines of effort were presented. It was shown that one of these engineers of efficiency had introduced his methods into a big railway's repair shops, with the result that in six years the output of the institution increased from 47,250 units to 57,777, while the expense dropped from $487,171 to $223,541—an immense saving. Similar results were shown to have followed the application of economical methods to bricklaying and to merchandising. The railways are compelled by these disclosures to make an investigation of the claims; if they do not they will forfeit all confidence.

A BIRTHDAY.—The recent birthday of the forest service in Missoula brings up the importance of the institution established here two years ago. The headquarters of district No. 1 means a great deal to Missoula. Its establishment has brought a splendid set of men and women to the city; now they have been here long enough to have become part of Missoula. The fact that thousands upon thousands of acres are administered from this city gives Missoula prestige. The authority that is centered here dictates the administration of forests in Minnesota and Michigan on the east and in Idaho and Washington on the west. The forest service has given Missoula a better rating on the map. Then, looking at the matter from the business man's standpoint, the forest service has brought much money to Missoula. The employes of this branch of government activity are well paid and their salaries are expended here. Great sums of money are disbursed here in time of emergency. Last summer the fire fighters received many thousand dollars, the service spending $700,000 in all. The two years since the forest people came to Missoula have been good to them, also; their work has broadened, has become more important in the eyes of the west, as the natives have come to learn the real motives behind the conservation idea and the sort of men intrusted with them.

BERTHS.—There is joy among the people who travel when they read that a reduction of the price of Pullman berths is in prospect. The feeling would be ten times stronger were they to learn that the Pullman company intended to lengthen the berths themselves, instead of shortening the price. To the traveler it appears that upper berths are constructed on the principle that an average man is five feet, two inches in length and that he always sleeps with his head tucked between his knees, at that. Any man of average size cannot feel free to straighten out in an upper berth and a tall man should receive pay from the company for occupying one. The construction of a sleeping coach is wonderfully clever, and, perhaps, the genius who designed it could give each and every passenger room to stretch himself, without increasing the length of the car itself. Perhaps the traveling salesmen of the country will have influence enough some day to assure the lengthening of the berths. Already, in many states, they have succeeded in having passed laws regulating the length of sheets and quilts in hotel bedrooms. Formerly, nobody but a short man could sleep with comfort in most hotel beds, because his toes would invariably extend out into the frozen night, provided he desired to sleep as a man usually does and not as a porcupine. The full-length Pullman berth may follow the cover that allows the traveler to keep his feet warm.

MARK TWAIN.—The high honor paid to Mark Twain's memory in New York would seem to show that the world is realizing more and more that the philosophy of laughter is better than the creed of dourness. The man who smiles as he tells the truth is more valuable to the world than the man who weeps. Both may tell the same message, but the optimist has an audience. America loves the memory of Mark Twain; it reveres him as a kindly, whole-souled, tender, old man, with the laugh of a care-free child and the heart of a hero. We love Mark Twain because he did not let misfortune down him and keep him down, because he undertook, at an advanced age, to clear away an indebtedness that should not have been thrust upon him. We love him because he was able to thrust his trouble aside and end his life an independent man. We love him because he did not glory in money, but in his message to his fellow-men. We love him for the clean books he has given us. The words of the men who spoke at Twain's memorial are echoed today in the hearts of all Americans. His philosophy has been accepted; he was a prophet whose country has paid homage gladly.

Perhaps the recommendations of the fire underwriters will have some effect and we shall get the improved fire department that has been recommended for several years by local experts in insurance.

At least, the underwriters didn't tell us anything we didn't know, so we escape the shock which Great Falls experienced when she received her census report.

We are in favor of any good direct-primary law; if the Oregon law is deemed best, we are for that law, but we think there is a better one.

The great advantage of the hobble skirt—its only advantage as far as we know—is that it takes less material to make it.

Auto fire trucks and improved chemical apparatus, with an electric alarm system, will give Missoula what she should have, so let's get them.

Likewise, the underwriters urge the printing of the building ordinances. We would respectfully call attention to the fact that we are in the printing business.

In Texas a railway has been fined $50,000 for having late trains; Montana might reap a golden harvest in this line.

Money is hard enough to get any way, and it is particularly rough to have it pronounced bad when you get it.

If Missoula had more organizations like the Neighborhood club, she would be better off.

Read the advertisements in The Missoulian and lay out your shopping program; then do your shopping.

Remember that it is the home merchant who helps support your city and county; give him your patronage.

Shop as early as you can when you have recovered from the strain of paying your taxes.

Let's get all the satisfaction we can out of the fact that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

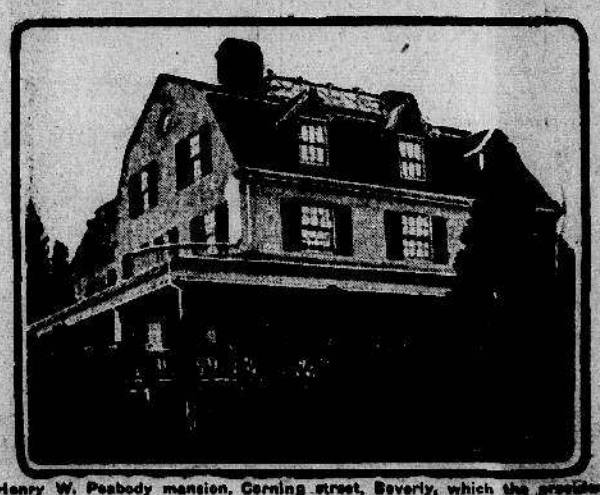
Missoula can have good baseball without supporting an elaborate system of managers.

Natural resources should be conserved for the people, not for the great combinations.

The way to win is to pull together. Missoula people are lining up for the right kind of a pull.

Missoula carnations take place in the front rank along with Bitter Root apples.

New Summer Capital



Henry W. Peabody mansion, Corning street, Beverly, which the president has leased for the next two years

Newest Naval Scout

Aviator Ely leaving the U. S. S. Birmingham on his five-mile trip to shore. Ely made the trip in a Curtiss biplane and is the first man ever to fly in a heavier-than-air machine from the deck of a ship to shore. The significance of the feat lies in the possibilities of the airship as a naval scout during times of war in the future. Ely maintains it would have been entirely possible to have returned to the Birmingham after scouting the sea for miles around.

Meeting of Congress

IV—The House Employes.

By Frederic J. Haskin.

While the duty of legislating in the house, as in the senate, falls upon the shoulders of its members, a remarkable proportion of the detail work falls to the officials and employes of that body and the house would be lost in legislative wildernesses without its staff of aids. Scarcely a wheel of the legislative machinery could turn without them. In the main the employes of the house hold their jobs during the ascendency of the party controlling it. Of course the majority of the attaches of committees remain as long as the chairman who appoint them are in power. Likewise, many of the subordinate positions are held during the service of the member on whose recommendation the appointment was made. But as soon as that member drops out of congress, the employe, unless he has ingratiated himself with some other member, is seen no more.

There are a few men in the house whose work has been so valuable and so essential to the deliberations of that body that no sort of political vicissitude will take their places from them. The most striking instance of this is the case of James C. Courts, clerk to the committee on appropriations. The committee clerkships are nearly always the prerogative of the chairman, and he usually has a score of political lieutenants entitled to an appointment as a spoil of war. But here is the clerkship of the most powerful committee of the house in the hands of a dyed-in-the-wool democrat. This position, however, cannot be filled satisfactorily by a newcomer. To make up the annual budget of a billion dollars and to have information ready at hand concerning every penny of the proposed expenditure requires an acquaintance with things that can be acquired only through years of exacting work. Mr. Courts possesses such an acquaintance, and speakerships, chairmanships, and parties may come and go, but "Jim" Courts still holds his job, rendering faithful service and efficient aid to financial legislation. Mr. Courts is training his staff of co-workers in the same way, and the elevation of his former lieutenant, Kennedy Rea, to the clerkship of the senate committee on appropriations, is a testimonial to his success. Rea is also a democrat.

Another employe of the house who stays through party changes is Col. Charles H. Mann, the superintendent of the house press gallery. Like Superintendent Preston of the senate press gallery, Charlie Mann has succeeded in making himself indespensable to the men who give to the world its review of affairs in Washington. Keeping track of all committee meetings, saving the newspaper men a thousand steps, and watching like a hawk at all times to see that the profane feet of the outsider never invades the sacred precincts of the press gallery, Colonel Mann has so endeared himself to the newspaper gatherers that politics is not worth a bill of beans in determining whether he shall stay or go with the change in house control.

There is a position in which the democrats will have a chance to reciprocate when the house organizes next year. The chaplain of the house, Reverend Henry N. Coudon, is blind. In the past the democrats, although in the minority, always have brought out their candidate against him, but many of their number now believe they could do a particularly gracious act by re-electing Rev. Coudon although he is a straight-out republican. Dr. Coudon is a sweet-voiced, kindly minister, and has endeared himself to all the members with whom he has come in contact.

Another employe who has made himself so useful that he has removed his position from the pale of party favor, is W. A. Smith, known to everybody around the Capitol as "Andy" Smith. He is an employe of the government printing office, and has charge of the Congressional Record office in the Capitol, but holds his position at the pleasure of the senate and house. He knows more about the Congressional Record than the man who makes it and no employe of the entire Capitol is more popular.

The official reporters of debates in the house, are not, like those of the senate, paid under contract, but are on the regular salary rolls of the house. Although prior to the recent increase of Congressional salaries, they were paid as much as a member of the senate or house, their positions have never been deemed a spoil of political warfare. A man must be an expert stenographer to command one of these positions, or that of official stenographer to a house committee.

With the above exceptions the employes of the house go the way of politics. The officers manage to hold their positions throughout the ascendency of their party, since a party caucus almost uniformly re-selects the old officers as long as it is in the majority. The principal positions, like that of clerk of the house, doorkeeper, and postmaster, are desirable berths, since each carries with it a list of underappointees. The clerk is acting Speaker whenever there is a vacancy in that office. When democrats take control of the house next year, their first presiding officer will be Alexander McDowell, clerk of the present house. The rules set forth that the clerk shall preside over the deliberations of the house until a speaker is chosen. But no other business is in order until such a choice is made. There have been times when the clerk was an important factor in a situation from which he was to be eliminated the moment a speaker was chosen.

There is considerable speculation as to what the attitude of the democratic house will be toward John J. Boobar, the republican librarian of the house. Boobar is another example of the fellow who does more than he need. He was not librarian long before he discovered there was sad need of an index to speeches delivered in congress. The regular index to the Congressional Record, though satisfactory in the matter of locating the history of legislation, has been a zero quantity so far as finding what was said, or when it was said, on any given subject. Boobar set to work and mapped out a card index system that would unlock the treasure house of congressional speeches to the world. This index is much used by members and is an invaluable aid to legislation. A single example will show its advantages. A few weeks ago the Railways Security Commission wanted to get a list of every speech delivered in the senate and house on the physical valuation of railroads. The Congressional Record index was gone through, the resources of the Library of Congress were exhausted, and then the clerk, in desperation, called on a newspaper friend to aid him. The newspaper man cited him to Boobar's card index of congress, and what otherwise would have been a labor of weeks become a task of a few hours.

The minority party in the house always is accorded a few places by the majority. There are certain employes whose especial duty is to look after the minority members, and the minority caucus is given the privilege of choosing these. There are nearly five hundred employes on the house staff, and only about a dozen of these positions go to the minority. This dozen will likely be chosen out of the present majority appointees. One who is sure to be retained is John C. Clancy, whose name has been on the house rolls for many years. He is known as a special employe, and looks after the comfort of republican members while they are on the floor. Clancy is a living encyclopedia concerning the things that were done in the house as far back as the Civil war. He is the person of longest service on the house staff by many years.

In proportion to the work done, the employes of the senate and house are the best paid individuals in the government service. They receive relatively higher salaries than other government clerks, and during the vacations of congress, for the most part, have little to do. Many of them often get nearly half a year off, and every one of them is given a full month's extra salary every year. This annual present amounts to various sums from $50 to $416, according to the salary of the individual. In addition to this some of them get extra pay for special services. The annual extra month for the house employes costs Uncle Sam $60,000. Extra services cost him about $10,000 a year.

Sometimes clerks are sent out with funeral parties or on other special missions, and while, as a rule, they turn in reasonable expense accounts, at other times these acounts are most surprising. In a great many instances on such occasions the expenses of the employe are greater than those of the member of the house with whom he is traveling.

In addition to the approximately $600,000 required for the payment of the salaries and wages of the house staff of employes, it requires as much more to pay the clerk hire of the members of the house. There are other expenses which bring the total to approximately $1,500,000. Add to this the salaries of the members of the house, and it will be found that the total cost, exclusive of overhead charges, of the house end of the annual legislative product is not far from $5,000,000.

(Tomorrow—Meeting of Congress. V—Process of Legislation.)

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE

LORD ALVERSTONE.

London, Dec. 3.—Particular significance attaches to the English court system in view of the clear-cut decision in the Crippen case occupying only a fraction of the time like cases consume in America.

Lord Alverstone, who has been lord chief justice of England for the last 10 years, is one of the strongest as well as one of the ablest of those who have filled the high position. He was born in December, 1842. Educated at King's college school at Chesterhouse and at Trinity college, Cambridge, he was "called" in 1868. Ten years later he became a Q. C. From 1885 to 1888, and from 1886 to 1892, and from 1895 to 1900 he was attorney general. Amongst other positions he has held those of tubman and postman of the court of exchequer. In 1900 he became master of the rolls, and in the same year lord chief justice. He was M. P. for Launceston in 1885 and M. P. for the Isle of Wright from 1885 to 1900. In 1872 he married Louisa only daughter of William Calthop of Withern, Lincolnshire. He has been a widower since 1877.

Waiting Patiently.

He—Concerning love, everything possible has been said and thought.
She—(coyly)—But not to me.