

## An Important Office

Editor, Missoulian:—In this day of strenuous partisanship, when the various political parties are contending most vehemently that their party is the best and represents all that is good, and the various other parties represent all that is bad, I wonder if you will grant me space in your valuable paper to call attention to a few facts that are in my mind of vital importance to the taxpayers of this county. Permit me to say at the outset, that I am, and have always been a democrat, and I am very loyal in my allegiance and fidelity to the democratic party, but upon the particular subject upon which I am writing, I do not believe that partisanship or politics should have any bearing, but I believe that the taxpayers of this county should calmly and dispassionately view and weigh the merits and demerits of each of the candidates for the most important office in the county, that is the office of county commissioner, and that is my purpose in writing this letter.

Three gentlemen have been nominated by the democrat, republican and progressive parties respectively, all of whom are honest men and all

paid? There is not a day but what someone goes to the commissioner, or one of them, and wants information, wants an order for something, or requires some other duty of the commissioner. Mr. Curran is about to retire. His term of office will expire January 1, 1913. Mr. Nelson is a farmer and lives on his farm at Potomac and only comes to Missoula to the regular and call sessions of the board, and must of necessity devote the rest of his time to the affairs of his farm at Potomac. Mr. McQuarrie, a man of equal ability with Mr. Nelson and both of whom I believe are earnestly endeavoring to give the best of service to the county, is a mill man and I understand is about to start his mill again somewhere outside of the city of Missoula, and that will require almost all of his time and I take it that the time he will have to devote to the office of county commissioner, after his mill starts, will be at the regular and special call sessions of the board and not otherwise, because a man of affairs cannot devote all of his time to the county business if he has private business of considerable importance depending upon him for management and control. Thus with Mr. Nelson on his farm and Mr. McQuarrie at his mill, both of them many miles from Missoula, the third member of the board of county commissioners should be a resident of the city of Missoula. He should be a man of business ability, a man of unquestioned honesty and integrity, and a man who has the time from his private affairs, to devote to the affairs of the county.

I believe that George Briggs, who is a candidate on the progressive ticket for the office of county commissioner in Missoula county, possesses all of the advantages mentioned above. I have known him for a quarter of a century. He came to Montana, as we used to say in the early days, "Packing his blankets" and by his own efforts, his own industry and his own economy, he has acquired a competence. He is known as one of the best business men in Missoula and on intricate questions of business, his advice is eagerly sought. I am told that Mr. Briggs did not seek this nomination, and that it is one of the few cases that have come under our observation in Missoula county of the office seeking the man. I am further told that Mr. Briggs has said that it is not his purpose to solicit votes nor to make an active campaign. That if the people of Missoula county see fit to vote for him, and elect him, that he will serve as county commissioner and give his very best endeavors and efforts to conduct the affairs of Missoula county in a thoroughly business-like and economical manner, and as a taxpayer of this county, and an old resident of this county, as one who knows the business ability of all the various candidates for county commissioner, I write this letter to urge the taxpayers of Missoula county to vote for George Briggs, because I believe it will save the county of Missoula many thousands of dollars. I believe it will be the means of placing Missoula county on the best financial basis that it has ever been, and I know that whenever a cent is checked out of the treasury of Missoula county by order of George Briggs, that Missoula county will get the full value thereof, and I know there will be no extravagance in the conduct of the affairs of the county if George Briggs is a member of the board of county commissioners. He has the time to devote to it, and I am satisfied that if elected, that he will devote his whole time to it and it will result in great good to this county. A man who has made good in his private affairs, a man who has shown by his ability to manage his own business affairs that he possesses business qualifications of the highest order, is the man who should be placed in charge of the business affairs of Missoula county, because as I said before, the business affairs of Missoula county in a year amount to a great deal more than do the business affairs of any corporation in the county outside of the railroads, and to successfully conduct the business affairs of such an institution, a man should have some business training and some business experience and knowledge, and for that reason, I write this communication, and urge the qualifications of George Briggs. I want to be understood as doing this in the kindest feeling and without any intent whatsoever to reflect upon the gentlemen nominated on the other tickets, because personally, nothing may be said against them, but I do believe that they have not had the experience, the practical business experience, that is necessary to qualify them to conduct the affairs of the largest business institution in western Montana, and I do know that George Briggs has had that experience, that he has made a success in his own affairs and I know that if he is elected county commissioner of Missoula county, that he will be the means, by his economical and wise administration of the affairs of Missoula county, of making the taxes less than they are now, and I trust that the taxpayers and those directly interested, will give this matter serious consideration before casting their vote at the November election.

A DEMOCRAT.  
Missoula, Oct. 19, 1912.

Against either of the gentlemen nominated by the republican or democratic parties, I have not one single word to say as far as their personality is concerned. They are both gentlemen and citizens of the highest type and I believe that they are both honest.

The democratic nominee, however, and I have known him almost all of his life, has never had any business experience but has been a farmer and attended entirely to the duties pertaining to agriculture and raising crops, has had no business training and while he is a first-class farmer, I believe that he is not fitted to be at the head of the largest business establishment in western Montana, and I say again, that I do not mean to in any way, reflect upon the personality of the democratic nominee for county commissioner, but I only mean to draw attention to the fact that he has not had the training or experience to qualify him or to fit him to successfully fulfill the duties as managing director of the largest establishment in the county. The republican nominee stands equally high as a citizen, equally high as an honest man, and is known generally as a good fellow, and I hasten to add my endorsement to him for each of the above traits. I believe he is honest, I believe he is industrious, and I know he is a good citizen, but has he the other qualifications necessary to enable him to attend to the affairs of the county commissioner's office, in a way that they should be attended to, and if he has, has he the time to devote to that office, because it requires a very great deal of time and there are many, many duties devolving upon the commissioner of Missoula county, for which he is not



GEORGE BRIGGS.

of whom are good citizens, and without doubt, all of them would do the best he could if he were elected county commissioner of Missoula county, so there can be no question of partiality in this matter as far as the people of Missoula county are concerned, but it ought to be simply a question of the best man, the man best fitted to fulfill the duties of this, the most important office in the county, because there is no question at all but what the office of county commissioner is the most important office in the county of Missoula as far as the taxpayers are concerned. He spends more money, he supervises the collection of all the taxes, he has general supervisory control of the various county offices, and if he is a wise, honest and economical business man, he can save the people of Missoula county many hundreds of dollars in a year.

In weighing the ability of the three men mentioned above, and we must admit that one of the three will be elected, the people of Missoula county should take into consideration, which one of them is the best business man and has the business ability to accomplish the greatest good for the taxpayers of Missoula county, because this man is to be put in office as one of the directors of the affairs of a corporation that does a larger business than the First National bank, the Missoula Mercantile company, the J. J. Donohue company, or any other corporation in the city of Missoula, outside of the two railroads. They have the expending of more money than does the head of any other corporation in the city. They have a larger payroll than any other corporation in the city or county except the Northern Pacific railroad. Therefore, the first question we should ask ourselves is: If Missoula county were a private corporation, and we, the taxpayers, were stockholders and were looking about for a man to put in charge as a manager, and the three gentlemen above named were applicants for that position, which one of them would we select as having the most business ability to manage the affairs of our immense corporation, because that is what the county commissioner has to do.

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**FARMERS' CONGRESS DUE TO MEET TODAY**

Lethbridge, Oct. 20.—The seventh International Dry Farming congress is ready for the opening ceremony by Lieutenant Governor Bulvey of Alberta tomorrow. Delegates from all parts of Canada and the United States are reported with visiting delegates from Brazil, Chile, Persia, Turkey, Russia, Mexico, and, in fact, every part of the world. The popular idea that dry farming is interesting only to semi-arid places is thus refuted. In referring to the matter today, Dr. John A. Wilson, international president, pointed out that dry farming, aiming at the conservation of moisture for crop purposes, was of interest to every country where the agriculturalist holds place.

### FIGHTING NOT HOT ON WAR'S SCENE

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sition south of Bujano Raiz, some miles below Vranja. An official report from the general staff at Nish says the Servians have taken all the trenches in the Turkish territory around Vranja and the Turks have been driven across Morava valley. Details have been received of a treacherous act by Albanians on the Servian posts near Prepalata, 40 miles south of Nish, on Thursday. Albanian irregulars, who constituted the attacking party, were repulsed and hoisted a white flag. A Servian captain, with a white flag, approached and the Albanians opened fire, killing 12 men and wounding 30. The Servian artillery immediately shelled the enemy, killing 200.

**Pluva Captured.**  
Cettinje, Montenegro, Oct. 20.—It is officially announced that the Montenegrin forces captured the town of Pluva yesterday. The battle had lasted two days.

**Landing Troops.**  
Constantinople, Oct. 20.—It is reported from Janina that six Greek warships and three transports have appeared off the coast of Epirus. Their apparent object is the landing of troops.

**A Blockade, Maybe.**  
Washington, Oct. 20.—An investment of the Turkish littoral from the entrance to the Gulf of Arta to Port Goumenica has been proclaimed by the Greek government, according to advices received today by the state department from Minister Schurmann at Athens. The action apparently was taken by the commander of the

### CRANK OF COLOMBIA WOULD SEE .T.R.

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note written on a postal card. It read: "Colonel Roosevelt: I sincerely desire your complete recovery. Now that you are lying on a bed of pain, remember the Almighty God and how easy it is to disappear from the earth. After this remember your greatest offense in your official career—the robbery of Panama from Colombia. Try to remedy this iniquity and God will protect you." The detectives said Molina was not armed. Molina said he came from New Orleans especially to see Roosevelt as soon as he heard of the shooting. He said he followed him in the west during his last speaking tour from Texas to California. His letter to Roosevelt follows:

**FIGHT FATAL.**  
Moore, Mont., Oct. 20.—As a result of a fight between three Americans and a foreign section crew, Neils Burke was shot and killed and Walter Busse was seriously wounded here this afternoon. The third American, Walter Hoover, escaped unhurt and none of the section crew received worse than a few blows. Eleven of the foreigners are in jail. The fight took place in the restricted district. Burke came to Moore from Spokane about a month ago.

### TYPHOON IN ISLANDS FATAL TO THOUSAND

Manila, Oct. 20.—The typhoon that swept several of the Philippine islands on October 16, resulted in the death of more than a thousand persons. Four unidentified Americans, three men and a little girl, were among those killed. The coasting steamer Tayabas of Escalante was wrecked. The bodies of 15 Filipinos and Spaniards came ashore. The typhoon virtually wiped out the towns of Bogo, Danao, Toledo, Maasin and Escalante.

**SEIDEL IN FRISCO.**  
San Francisco, Oct. 20.—Emil Seidel, former mayor of Milwaukee, now candidate for vice president on the socialist ticket, addressed a large audience here today. His speech was devoted in part to the advocacy of a sliding scale of hours of work, so regulated that all unemployed men would be allowed to work.

### JUSTICE HARLAN once told this story of a boy and a house hunter:

A man got off a train at a suburban station and asked a boy how far to Mr. Smith's new block of semi-detached houses. The boy said, "About twenty minutes' walk." "Twenty minutes!" cried the house hunter. "Nonsense! The advertisement said five." "Well," said the boy, "you can believe me or you can believe the advertisement; but I ain't tryin' to sell you nothin'."

### NOW

---honestly, do you believe you can get genuinely good clothes at a cut price right at the beginning of the season?  
**The Fall Clothes YOU Want** are suits and overcoats that measure up to what they were intended to be!  
Take our WoolWorth suits and overcoats at \$15. They are the best suits and overcoats you can buy anywhere in Missoula at that price--because that's what we intended they should be!  
We've aimed this season to give better clothing values than ever before---and that's "going some." How well we've succeeded only a comparison of M. M. Co. clothing with others will reveal.  
We court comparison!  
You owe it to yourself to make comparisons!



Premier Suits, \$25.00 to \$35.00  
Hart, Schaffner & Marx Suits, \$20.00 to \$30.00  
WoolWorth Suits, \$15.00 to \$22.50  
Young Men's Suits, \$12.50 to \$30.00  
Overcoats, \$13.50 to \$50.00

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