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MEMBER OF MONTANA STATE PRESS ASSOCIATION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 1912.

## PASSING EVENTS

With the tabulation of the official count of the ballots, the country has settled down to business. The settling down is accompanied by a degree of optimism that is pleasing and that indicates the determination of the country to hope for the best and to insist upon getting it, if possible. The final statement of the crop production came along with the official returns and probably had a good deal to do with the creation of the optimistic view which prevails. It is a great report. Likewise it is a great official count. But the excitement over the crops is greater, evidently, than that which attends the votes. The rush of the early crop shipments has had the effect, it is said, of rendering the market sluggish as to demand, but the prices remain at figures which will keep the farmer on Easy street for another year, provided he is able to hold back his output long enough to catch the market when it is right. Locally, despite a complaint that there is no market for farm products, there have been some important sales. The lesson which Montana farmers have to learn now is the lesson of marketing their crops. They have made good progress in methods of production but a good many of them are like children when it comes to selling their stuff. There have been some experiences this year which should teach some farmers that they need some business tact in selling their products; if they have none themselves, they should employ agents who have the faculty of salesmanship. This is what the farmers of this region need more than anything else, right now.

**SELLING APPLES** — The Bitter Root orchard men have had some valuable counsel in the matter of disposing of their fruit. Ninety-seven carloads of apples in bulk have been shipped out of the valley recently. These were apples which would have been a dead loss to the growers had not a practical marketman come their way and bought the fruit. It was not what is classed as "choice" fruit, but it was not shipped to points where the "choice" and "select" grades are in demand; these bulk apples in no way interfered with the market for packed apples; they went to markets where the demand is for bulk apples and where bulk apples from other sections would have been sold had not the Bitter Root product been sent there. The result of this sale of fruit was that a large amount of money was left in the valley that would otherwise not have gone to the orchardists. Yet there are some orchard men who are making a loud noise in the valley about the injury which has been done to the apple market by this transaction. There are, of course, plenty of growers who appreciate the advantages of the new system which has been demonstrated this year. It has, this season, enabled them to dispose of their second-grade fruit at a figure which has pleasantly surprised them. The critics do not seem to grasp the situation at all. But they will learn this lesson, just as they must learn others. There must be a means provided for disposing of culls and byproducts if the orchard business is to be made the success which it should be. It is the lesson which has been learned in other lines. It is what has made the beef-packing industry the tremendous success which it has become. The waste is what must be controlled. If that waste can be made profitable, there will be a gain where there is now too frequently a loss.

**CHECKING WASTE**—In the Bitter Root valley, the growers, the shippers and the business men are seriously taking up the problem of saving the waste. These men are studying carefully and are obtaining scientific advice as to means of working up waste apples. The experiments with canning methods have been encouraging this year and will be carried further next season. The same is true of the evaporation of apples. With an apple cannery perfected, the canning of other local farm products would naturally follow. The making of vinegar and cider; the use of apples in ways which are not now generally followed; the encouragement of the consumption of apples—all these are points which are being taken up and followed out. If they are solved practically, these problems will result to the immense advantage of the valley producers. The entire western-Montana community should lend whatever aid is possible in this matter. The men who have undertaken the consideration of these vexing questions deserve the thanks of us all. It is the working-out of these problems that will add to the revenue of the valleys more than any other factor. The sooner these questions are settled in a practical way, the sooner will the full possibilities of the orchard industry be realized.

**HOME MARKETS**—The local producer, by reason of his long distance from the outside markets and the barrier of freight rates, is dependent to a great extent upon the local consumer. In the main, the Montana buyer is intensely loyal; but there has been a lot of buncombe practiced in this connection. We have in mind one Montana commission concern which has been piling up dollars for years and which has printed upon all of its stationery "Montana products for Montana people." Yet this concern has foisted upon the Montana people a lot of outside produce with a Montana label upon it and the people have bought this produce cheerfully, thinking it was Montana-grown. This is duplicity which should be punished. It is quite as bad as the practice of this same concern in selling short-weight butter packages—and that is bad enough. Take an ounce or two off each package of butter that is sold and the total runs up into a good many million ounces—all of which represents illegal profit to the concern which does it. Montana people are anxious, as a rule, to buy Montana products. The dealer who takes advantage of this loyalty to dispose of his wares under a false label, should be advertised. These serious charges are made against a well-known Montana commission house—which is not in Missoula—and if they can be substantiated, the consumers of the state should come to the rescue of the state growers. With the increase of diversified farming in Montana, there are more and more products of the farm which are home-made and which will receive the support of the home people. But it is injuring the farmer to have these dealers put out foreign-grown fruit or anything else, under a Montana label, just to get a more generous patronage. The home market is for the home producer as long as he is honest and reliable.

**HOME MERCHANTS** — Which recalls a letter which came the other day to the editorial desk of The Missoulian, in support of the home merchant. The writer of the letter says she is "just a woman who wants a bigger and better Missoula." She calls attention to a system of house-to-house canvassing which she says is going on among the residents of the south side in the interest of an out-of-town firm. The agents who are making this canvass seek to form a club, the women who become members paying each a small amount and one of them getting a great deal for nothing. The chance of getting something for nothing always appeals and our correspondent declares it is catching a good many flies in its web this month in this city. The letter concludes: "At our home they were told we had fine stores of every description—that we traded at home and, further, belonged to the chamber of commerce and that we wanted the home merchants to prosper—so we bought of them." Just at this time of year, the temptation to send money away to mail-order dealers is made the greater by the number of attractive catalogues which are deluged upon us. Just at this time of year, then, is when loyalty to the home merchant should be most persistently preached and practiced by every buyer. The home merchant deserves all of the home patronage. He is here all the time; he pays his share of our taxes; he helps us in all of our enterprises for the good of the city; we call upon him whenever we want something. We should, by the same token, call upon him when we have a little money to spend. And, above all, we should give him our Christmas patronage. It will make his holiday season better and our own much happier.

**GOOD WORK**—The week brought pleasant and encouraging recognition of Missoula's efforts in the line of publicity work. In a letter which was quoted during the week, Chairman Louis W. Hill of the Great Northern executive board, commended the display from western Montana at the Minneapolis land show which is in charge of the Missoula Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Hill was particularly complimentary in his reference to the good advertising effect of the western-Montana exhibit and of the executive ability of Secretary Breitenstein, who is in personal charge of the work. This commendation is valuable and the pleasant form of its expression makes it all the more encouraging. It is not always the number of blue ribbons which counts most in publicity work. Frequently these prizes are awarded upon a basis which is so technical that it excludes worthy exhibits. The western-Montana display at Minneapolis was arranged primarily for its effect as a means of publicity. It is shown for the purpose of attracting attention to the resources which we have here. If it does this, it has attained its purpose and it appears that it is getting the results which we want. We are glad the display at Minneapolis is attracting notice of the right sort. It will encourage renewed effort in this same direction and it will tend to make next year's display more convincing even than that which we make this year.

**A COUNTY FAIR**—The voters of Missoula, by a considerable majority, have given their approval to the plan for a Missoula-county fair. They have authorized the commissioners to spend a considerable sum for the purchase of ground and the erection of buildings necessary for a fair. Whatever may have been our views regarding this proposition before election, we must now be of one mind in the matter—if we are to spend this amount of money for fairgrounds, let us all work together for the establishment of a fair which shall be worthy of the county. Let us be vigilant in seeing that we have a real county fair with a race program as a side issue. Let us guard against the possibility of a race meeting with a pumpkin show as an auxiliary. The establishment of a genuine county fair and the co-operation of all citizens in making it a success will bring returns from the large investment which the county is putting into the plan. And right now is none too early to make the start.

## CHURCH AND NEWSPAPER

There has been, for a year or more, a discussion in some of the religious and semi-religious magazines which is interesting. It deals with the question of church attendance as an indicator of the religious sentiment of the people of this country. The affirmative writers maintain that the falling-off in attendance at the American churches is to be accepted as demonstrating a decline in the religious sentiment of the people. The writers for the negative hold to the beleif that this is not so; they say that Americans are more religious in sentiment now than they ever were; the modern religious thought finds expression in what are termed the more practical channels of Christian activity.

We are not taking sides, this morning, in this discussion. There is much being written on both sides which is worth reading and worth considering carefully. We would not argue against church attendance, however, any more than we would belittle the deeds of charity and the efforts in uplift work which are performed by some men who are not regular in church attendance. We believe that attendance at church helps every man who goes to church in the right spirit, but we believe, also, that it is a mighty poor sort of Christianity which finds its only expression in church attendance.

These comments are prompted, mainly, by two facts. One is that several of the writers in this case place upon the newspapers the responsibility for the alleged falling-off in church attendance. The other is that some clergymen, wiser than their generation, are making practical use of the newspapers to increase the attendance at their churches. While others are arguing that the newspapers take up the Sunday-morning hours of a good many men who would otherwise go to church, there are some preachers who are using the newspapers to direct attention to their church work in such a manner as to increase very materially the number of people who sit in their pews.

We are willing to accept—if only for the sake of argument—the assertion that the newspaper is not closely enough in touch with the work of the churches. But we maintain that the average churchman knows so little about the newspaper that he is not qualified to express an opinion as to the attitude of the men who make the newspaper. There are several of the ministers of Missoula who are frequent visitors in The Missoulian office—there are two or three who are almost regular visitors. They are always welcome and we hope we will not seem to be egotistic if we say that they seem to enjoy their visits. We believe that these preachers who have gained a personal acquaintance with at least this one newspaper office will give it as their opinion that the newspaper is not in antagonism with the work of the church.

In fact, one of these almost-regular clerical visitors said, Friday night, in the office of The Missoulian: "I advertised my service last week in The Missoulian and the little advertisement filled my church to overflowing at the evening service. It was effective."

The newspaper is for all the people. Some of the news which it gives may not suit everybody, but it all suits somebody. We know of no newspaper which is not ready and willing to do whatever it can to assist the clergymen of its field in their work. The fact that some clergymen have discovered this fact and are making use of it, proves, we think, that this is not a partisan opinion entirely.

As men go, we believe the fellows in the newspaper offices size up pretty well with the men in other lines of activity. The men who make the morning newspaper, by reason of their hours of labor, do not find it an easy matter to attend church regularly. Hence, it is natural that they should oppose the proposition that non-attendance at church condemns a man as lacking in religious sentiment. But this is not a personal appeal for exemption. What we mean is that the mere fact that a man is not a regular attendant at church does not necessarily signify that he is an ungodly man. There are other attributes which must be taken into consideration

The preacher carries about with him a great many personal confidences, intrusted to him by sufferers from heartache and discouragement. So does the newspaper man—and the latter guards these confidences as carefully as does the former. There are a good many discouragements in being a preacher, but we believe it takes more courage to be optimistic in a newspaper office than in a pulpit. We all have our trials and if we are wise we keep them to ourselves.

In our own case, we readily attribute much of our success to the friendship of our preacher acquaintances. We don't think there is any preacher who knows anything about a newspaper office—a real newspaper office, let us say—who will blame the newspaper for any retrogression in the matter of church attendance. But it is to protest against the claim of those who do not know but who yet talk, that these lines are written.

The church and the newspaper should work in conjunction. Each has its part in the work for the betterment of conditions. Greater results can be secured by good team work than by pulling apart. Our view of the case is that any lack of team work which there may be, is not the fault of the newspaper entirely.

## Southerners to Dominate Congress

Top, left to right, Senator O'Gorman, Oscar W. Underwood and Senator James; bottom, Champ Clark and Senator Kern.

Washington, Nov. 16.—(Special)—Democracy's victory on November 5 means among other things that during the next two years at least the states below the Mason and Dixon line will have a larger share in the government of this country than has been the case before in many years—in fact, since the first half of President Cleveland's second term.

In both houses of congress southern democrats by reason of their superior numbers have very generally been able in the past to control the democratic representations. This has availed them little as the republicans have been in power. Now the tables are turned. Though in the next congress there will be more democrats from the north than from the south, the latter will probably dominate by reason of their greater legislative experience. Men new to Washington have small place in party councils.

Thus the democratic house floor leader in the next congress will be a southerner—Oscar W. Underwood of Alabama. The speaker of the house, too, will be from the south. Nobody doubts that Champ Clark will be reelected to the position which he now holds. Important committee chairmanships, which generally go to men who have served longest, will be scattered generously among southern members.

In the senate Ollie James of Kentucky will be a commanding figure. So also will be Senator Bacon of Georgia, and Senator Culberson of Texas.

In the senate, however, will be found a larger proportion of northern democrats among the leaders than will be the case in the house. Senator Kern of Indiana is now counted as one of the democratic leaders. So also is Senator O'Gorman of New York. Senators Gardner of Maine and Martine of New Jersey will also have a good deal to say when it comes to directing the course of legislation in the upper house during the next two years.

The first business of the new administration will be a revision of the existing tariff. Governor Wilson has denounced the present tariff so roundly that he will call a special session next spring.

The tariff is the greatest of all trouble makers. It was the McKinley tariff of 1890 that brought about republican defeat in 1892. It was the Wilson tariff of 1893 which more than anything else overthrew the last Cleveland administration. Although the republicans got by with the Dingley tariff of 1897, the Payne-Aldrich tariff played havoc with the party in 1910.

Montana voters, having discovered their independence of the legislature in the matter of lawmaking, will not be so fearful of results. They have the power and have learned how to use it.

As he views the increasing number of applications from patriots who are burning with desire to serve their country, Dr. Wilson wishes his vote had not been so big.

Missoula might establish a rockpile for agents who seek to induce people to trade away from home—and another for the people who yield to the temptation.

Missoula has added to her laurels by becoming known as a city whose people trade at home. If this sentiment could be made unanimous, it would be great.

We rise to indorse the platform of the society which proposes to abolish the system of "giving Christmas presents among those who can ill afford it."

Will Aiken is to continue as governor's secretary through another term. Which shows that some poets receive the honor which is their due.

The official count in Montana will fix definitely the location of the corporation precincts; it will be easy then to draw Montana's political map.

The anxiety which preceded election is nothing compared with the uncertainty which attends the securing of a turkey for Thanksgiving.

If you are not an applicant for a deputyship at the courthouse, you can get your picture in the paper as a remarkable citizen.

One way to help make Missoula better is to back up the police department in its efforts to make the lodging houses decent.

However, when we consider all the worries which beset Dr. Wilson, we should not complain at our own trivial vexations.

Mr. Wilson evidently is determined to have it over as soon as possible. He will call the new congress together right away.

The Shop-at-Home society should incorporate a shop-early plank in its platform.

Champ Clark has his wish. The extra session is to be called and his will be practically a continuous performance.

## The Smoke Nuisance

(Continued From Page One).

from one central plant much more cheaply than it could from a half dozen plants. The steam is conveyed through asbestos-lined pipes and there is little loss from radiation and condensation. The same principle has worked elsewhere, and some think the engineering practice of the future will go that way.

But more effective than this is the producer gas engine. It can use the lowest grade of coal, even down almost to mine refuse, and extract about double the power from it that can be extracted from anthracite through steam engine practice. It is asserted by those who have tried the producer gas engine that it is fully as reliable and from 200 to 300 per cent more efficient than the steam engine, and that the next generation will see it almost universally adopted. The United States government has made extensive tests of coal, utilizing 13 different kinds from 11 different states, and the average results for them all show the producer gas engine gets 2.6 times as much power out of a pound of coal as the steam engine. It is estimated that the people of the United States spend one and a half billion dollars for heat, light and power. Four-fifths of this is used outside of the homes. With producer gas engines replacing steam engines a saving of $400,000,000 a year would be effected.

There are still others who believe that the eventual solution of the smoke problem lies in the suggestion of Sir William Ramsay that we will simply set coal on fire down into the earth, pumping down the necessary quantities of air to control the combustion, and thus get unlimited quantities of producer gas at negligible cost. This would be used to generate electricity for the adjacent cities. Pittsburg, Chicago, St. Louis, and innumerable other cities are situated sufficiently near to low grade coal deposits to make this idea feasible from a transmission standpoint. When we consider that the man who owns a coal mine usually gets ten cents a ton for his coal unmined, and that the other two, three, four, five, six, or even seven dollars a ton represents the cost and profits of mining, transportation and selling, the advantage of the Ramsay idea will readily appear.

There is a remarkable unanimity of opinion among experts as to the cost of the smoke nuisance to the inhabitants of big cities. The estimated damage from soot and smoke for the country at large is around half a billion dollars per year. For the important cities it has been placed at $17 per capita. Cincinnati's chief smoke inspector estimated the damage there at $100 per family, and the Cleveland smoke committee estimated the damage for that city at $12 per capita, while Dr. Holdsworth placed Pittsburgh's loss at $20 per capita.

In nearly all the big manufacturing cities where careful estimates of the injury done by smoke and soot have been made, the figures place the money damages at a higher per capita than the city taxes. The department of nuisances of the American Civic association has been very active in fostering a national sentiment upon the subject. In addition to this there is an International association for the prevention of smoke which seeks to unite the world-wide efforts to put an end to the clouds of smoke which deplete the coal supply, carry dividends out of smokestacks, increase the cost of living, deface the nation's urban architecture, injure its vegetation, increase its laundry bills, promote the spread of disease, and in general serve to inflict tremendous direct and immediate losses upon the people.

But foot by foot the fight against the smoking chimney progresses, and the major portion of the new installations of furnaces that are being made in important centers are anti-smoking and in many instances old installations are being remodelled for the principal purposes of overcoming smoke. The indications that the age of central power plants, producer gas engines, and mine-gas power stations is approaching tends somewhat to check the remodeling of plants.

## THE GUNMEN

At top, Jack Sullivan, with "Dago Frank" Cirofici and "Whitey" Lewis. These men are alleged to have done the actual shooting of the gambler, Rosenthal.