

INTEREST MANIFEST IN MEETING

OPPONENTS AND ADVOCATES OF TWO-PHONE SYSTEM HAVE STRONG OPINIONS.

Hamilton, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Considerable interest is being manifested in the mass meeting called for Friday evening at the chamber of commerce building to discuss the dual telephone system in vogue here. Many are of the belief that the two-telephone system works an unnecessary hardship, this fact being responsible for the call for the mass meeting. The matter was first taken up at a recent meeting of the business men's association, the opinion of that organization being adverse to the dual system which requires the maintenance of two telephones in places of business. The pro-

valuing sentiment at this meeting was in favor of an adjustment by the two telephone companies operating here, if such a thing is possible, and if not, a general agreement upon one telephone or the other. This feeling is not universal among the business men of the city. One business man stated this morning that he considered the presence of two companies in Hamilton a guarantee of better service from each of the companies. He expressed himself as an advocate of competition, even if it required a business man to pay for two telephones. Such philosophy does not appeal to some and it is expected that Friday's meeting will bring forth lively arguments both pro and con. Indications are that the meeting will be largely attended.

NEEDY OF HAMILTON ASSISTED BY WOMEN

Hamilton, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Owing to the fact that several of the public-spirited women of the city came to the rescue of the children in certain needy homes of this city on Christmas day many a little tot's heart was filled with the cheer and happiness which results from the true Christmas spirit. Without this effort on the part of Hamilton women these children would have been denied the pleasures which rightfully belong to them. Led by Mrs. R. Lee McCulloch and Mrs. W. M. Noble, and assisted by about 35 raised at the charity smoker held at the Ravalli hotel on Christmas eve, these women were able to place gifts into the hands of about 50 children of the city. Each child received a warm pair of stockings, one stocking being gently tucked into the toes of its mate, and then buried under a shower of nuts, candies and toys. The women at the head of the movement are very grateful to the men who assisted so materially in raising the money necessary to carry out their charitable plans.

A FINE SCHEME.

Hamilton, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—A resident of this city, who is always on the lookout for good bargains, stated this morning that he had a scheme, which, if it materialized, would just about suit his wants. He outlined his plan thus: "I am going to rent that \$2,000 ranch of Newton Tibbitts, with the understanding that John Treece erects that \$2,000 house on the property. The contract will also stipulate that I have the use of O. C. Cooper's new \$5,000 automobile. I will reserve the right to get my hair cut wherever I am when it needs a setback."

TO THE ASYLUM.

Hamilton, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Judge R. Lee McCulloch and Deputy Clerk of the Court Harry South went to Stevensville yesterday afternoon for the examination of James Downing, an aged resident of that town, who was committed to the insane asylum at Warm Springs. William Palmer, an aged resident of Woodville, was examined this morning here before Judge R. Lee McCulloch by Drs. Owens and Buchen and committed to the insane asylum. Mr. Palmer was taken to Warm Springs this afternoon by Sheriff See.

DIXON NOTES

Dixon, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—A Christmas program was rendered at the Union Congregational church Tuesday night by the young people of the church and was well attended. The singing and recitations were excellent and all who attended were greatly pleased. A large Christmas tree, prettily decorated and loaded with nice things for the children, was the main attraction to the smaller ones. The church was crowded with interested on-lookers who had nothing but praise for the children and for the program in general. After the exercises were over, Santa Claus arrived in time to pass the presents out. Joe Marcuro gave a social dance in his hall Christmas eve. The attendance was not large on account of people being too busy with Christmas affairs.

Christmas day was a quiet one in Dixon, outside of the homes, most of which were the scenes of happy gatherings of families and friends. The weather was ideal, and ice was in fine shape for skating, but there was no snow for sleighing. The large warehouse of L. H. Jeannot & Co. is finished and the first carload of flour has been received and stored in it. The flour is the product of the Plains flour mill.

The Dixon concert band is planning to give a ball here on New Year's eve and will render special music for the occasion. Real chimes made by the Frank Holton Music company of Chicago will be used in connection with the band music at midnight. The steamer City of Dixon is under litigation at the present time on account of a lack of money to complete the equipment, but it is hoped that the trouble will be settled in a few days and that she will be doing duty soon. The undertaking has been a large one and fraught with many difficulties, the present one being only one of the many, and like all the others will be settled in due time and the boat freed for action.

HAMILTON BRIEFS

Hamilton, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Commissioner John Treece of Victor arrived in Hamilton this morning to look after business matters.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Rapp left this morning for their home at Sandpoint. They were called here to attend the funeral of Mrs. Rapp's brother, Frank Timmons, which occurred on Tuesday.

Proceedings for a divorce from William H. Parsons have been started in the district court by Mattie B. Parsons. The couple was married in Missoula in 1904. The complaint alleges

abuse on the part of the defendant, instances where he used strong language to plaintiff and an attempt to cut her throat with a razor being cited. The plaintiff asks for an absolute divorce and the custody of their eight-year-old son.

Newton Tillman, a member of the county board of commissioners, was a Hamilton visitor today, arriving this morning from his home at Florence.

A marriage license was issued today to William Chamberlain and Leah M. Howard, both of Victor.

A marriage license was issued on Tuesday to Louis A. Brisse of this city and Miss Blanche M. Lockwood of Corvallis. Both young people have many friends in this city.

A marriage license was issued on Tuesday to Carl A. Barrus of Sikeston, Missouri, and Alice Mitchell of this city.

George Spaulding, who is located on a homestead near Roman, is spending the holiday season with relatives in this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reeser expect to leave soon for an extended visit in eastern states. They have planned visits in Chicago, St. Louis and cities in Ohio and Indiana.

A meeting of the stockholders of the Hamilton Fruit association has been called for Saturday afternoon, December 28 at 2 p. m. at the chamber of commerce building.

ELECTRIC RAILROAD TAKES UP OPTIONS

Stevensville, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—About a year ago the city through the chamber of commerce, entered into a contract with the Hamilton-Missoula east side railroad to furnish the right of way through town. This morning the officers of the railroad and their attorney, R. A. O'Hara, met with the executive board of the chamber of commerce and completed the business in connection with the securing of the right-of-way through town. The chamber of commerce has held an option on the entire property of Mrs. Clark, but at this morning's meeting, the railroad company took over this option and has paid Mrs. Clark the full amount. J. B. Parnall is already at work interviewing the business men with a view to having the amounts paid that were pledged for the rest of the right-of-way in the city limits. The right-of-way through the training school property, which is church property, will require more time to secure. However, this matter is being arranged for and no difficulty is anticipated on this account. The officials in charge of the building of the new road have, since their return from Chicago, given out encouraging news about the early construction of the road and, consequently, everybody in Stevensville is gladdened with the good news.

JAMES BALES SELLS STEVENSVILLE PAPER

Stevensville, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—James A. Bales, editor of the Stevensville Register, announced this morning that, beginning with the first of the year he will no longer be the editor and proprietor of the paper. Who will be his successor was not known definitely this morning, although it is known that Bruce Wells is the purchaser of Mr. Bales' interests. On Saturday, Mr. Bales will depart for American Falls, Idaho, to assume the management of the American Falls News. Stevensville people are sorry that "Jimmy" Bales will not be here to play first base with the ball team next summer, but they wish him all kinds of success.

AT VICTOR

Victor, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Clifton are spending their holidays with relatives in Darby.

Miss Helen Fowler, who has been teaching a three-months' term in a school up the West Fork, returned home yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Wood left yesterday for Chicago.

Earl Hare of Wenatchee, Wash., is here as the guest of his sister, Mrs. McClung.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Dougherty, who have been visiting with Mr. and Mrs. McWhinnie, returned yesterday to their home in Grantsdale.

Mrs. Daisy Bond of Hamilton and Mrs. Arthur Herbert of Florence spent Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Bond.

Miss Birdie Averill, who has been spending the past three months in Missoula, returned home Tuesday.

Miss Josie Robb is visiting here with her parents.

The Eastern Star lodge will hold its installation on New Year's night.

Miss Edith Maynard of Polson is here as the guest of her sister, Mrs. John Holst.

PLAINS OBSERVES CHRISTMAS

PROGRAMS AND TREES ARE FEATURES AT NEARLY ALL THE CITY'S CHURCHES.

Plains, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—A most happy Christmas was enjoyed by Plains people this year. The weather was ideal, just enough snow to cause the country to resemble winter. Many dinner parties were given to home and visiting guests. Exercises were held in all the churches where special music was rendered. At the Christian church dinner was served to the children and their parents, after which gifts of candy and nuts were distributed to the young people. The Congregational people prepared appropriate exercises and the tokens were taken from the tree by Santa Claus, I. R. Blaisdell, and given to the children. The Sunday school of the Methodist Episcopal church, instead of receiving gifts, donated towels, soap, handkerchiefs, bed linen, etc., to the Deaconess school at Helena for use of the children in that institution. Each class gave an exercise as their gifts were deposited on a table. This program came as a surprise, as each class prepared their number secretly. Christmas eve Father Casey held midnight mass in the Catholic church. He read the story of the Saviour's birth and followed with a strong sermon.

Wednesday night the Odd Fellows gave their dinner. It was one of the events of the season, the dancers remaining until a late hour enjoying the music and splendid floors.

Miss Zola Clark, a trained nurse of Spokane, is here for a two-weeks' visit and to be present at the marriage of her sister, Miss Rae Clark, which takes place next week.

MISS GENEVA CHAFFIN WEDS OTIS FLETCHER

Stevensville, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—At noon yesterday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Louis May, took place the wedding of Miss Geneva Chaffin and Otis Fletcher. Rev. Charles D. Crouch performed the ceremony. After the service, the guests sat down to an elaborate dinner and passed the time merrily until late in the afternoon. Mrs. Fletcher is the daughter of E. S. Chaffin of Corvallis and is a native of the Bitter Root valley. She is also a niece of Mrs. Louis May. Many gifts were showered on the young people.

The following guests were present: Mr. and Mrs. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs. Simmons, Miss Blanche Whitney, Mrs. Eva Chaffin and Mrs. Bert Gleason, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Rinehart, Ervill Rinehart, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Geelson, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Paulds and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Yandt, Max and Verda Yandt, Mr. and Mrs. George May, Mr. and Mrs. Amos Buck, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Buck, Rev. Charles D. Crouch, and Mr. and Mrs. Louis May and family.

DARBY NOTES

Darby, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—The Christmas tree given by the Ladies' Aid society and the public schools Monday evening at L. O. O. F. hall was a great success. Presents were given to all the children and there was a very large attendance to listen to the program given by the children.

Chris Ridinger is up from Hamilton visiting friends.

Dayton Donica was down from West Fork for Christmas.

Dan McGinnis, the building contractor, enjoyed his Christmas in Darby.

A Christmas eve dance was given at Miles' hall Tuesday evening, when a pleasant time was enjoyed by all.

George Satterlee and wife were in town Tuesday purchasing Christmas presents.

Ernest Hilsky, Warner Laird and Ben Kerles came down from their building which they are erecting at Connor. They enjoyed their Christmas at home in the city.

Darby has about six inches of snow and the roads being very smooth before it fell, the people are having the very finest sleighing possible and ideal weather in which to enjoy it.

Alex Chaffin went up to Boss' Hole to buy beef cattle for Percy Edwards meat market in Hamilton.

The sad news of the death of Dr. Monroe in Missoula last week was keenly felt here. The doctor was located here for some time and was respected and liked. He was a man of kindly nature and sterling character, ever ready to help those who were suffering or in distress.

Kert Ray is in the city visiting during the holidays.

SECOND BATTALION WILL MOVE

COLONEL WILSON RECEIVES FURTHER WORD THAT ORDERS ARE ON THE WAY.

Helena, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—Colonel R. H. Wilson, commanding the Fourteenth infantry, said today he has been advised that orders are now in the mail transferring the Second battalion of his regiment from Fort William Henry Harrison to Fort Lawton, Washington. Telegraphic orders last night directed him to send a detachment of 25 men to Fort Lawton immediately to look after government property there upon the departure of the Twenty-fifth for Hawaii. The detachment, under Captain McNab, will leave tomorrow.

Colonel Wilson said he has had no advice of any transfers of the First battalion at Fort Lincoln, N. D., or of the Third battalion at Fort Missoula.

This transfer of the soldiers from Fort Harrison is supposed to be the first step toward its abandonment.

CHRISTMAS WEDDING HELD IN CORVALLIS

Corvallis, Dec. 26.—(Special.)—In the presence of a few relatives and intimate friends, Miss Blanche M. Lockwood yesterday became the wife of Louis A. Brisse. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Robert Lee Lewis of the Presbyterian church. Mrs. Brisse is a lovely girl, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Lockwood, who were among the earliest settlers of the valley, and the groom is a young man, who numbers his friends by the hundreds. Among those who witnessed the ceremony were Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. O. S. Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Chaffin, Alva Randolph and Mrs. W. H. Grimes.

A PERJURER.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Members of the investigating body which recently concluded hearing evidence of alleged political activity against Postmaster Daniel A. Campbell, declared today they intended to refer to the United States attorney general with a view to criminal prosecution, the confession of William E. Todd, negro investigator for the Civil Service Reform association, that he had perjured himself. Todd testified that Campbell had paid money to political workers in his home ward on a recent election, but later confessed the charges were untrue.

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Program for Tonight and Saturday

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This Kalem production is well worth investigating. A clever tale of how a mayor effected a needed reform.

Buck's Romance

A western comedy showing that a bet is a bet with an Indian. See what happens when a sportive cowboy backs his pony against anything on the reservation for speed.

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