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PHONE COMPANY MAKES RECORD IN STORM

NINE TIMES MORE THAN USUAL WAS TRAFFIC HANDLED WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.

"We passed the examination all right," was the good report given by Chief C. C. Hill yesterday of the testing strain put upon the equipment of the local exchange of the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph company during the big storm Wednesday.

"There were eight operators, all young women, working at the switchboards," stated Mr. Hill. "They answered at an average of 150 calls a minute in the hours from 1 o'clock to 7 o'clock Wednesday evening, and we have been complimented many times today upon the speed and accuracy with which the calls were handled."

VIEWING THE TOWN WITH HILLMAN FOR GUIDE

MILWAUKEE OFFICERS SEE MISSOULA UNDER GOOD CHAPERONAGE AND LIKE IT.

A. J. Hillman, general agent of the Milwaukee at Butte and formerly local agent at Missoula, spent yesterday in town, introducing to Missoula business men Samuel Wilson, assistant general freight agent of the Puget-Sound lines, and E. P. Thomas, the newly-appointed local freight agent at Missoula.

Mr. Wilson shares with the natives the enthusiasm with which they regard Missoula. "You have a delightful city," said he yesterday, "and I am charmed with it. Your location is ideal and your people have taken advantage of it. Your improvements are substantial. Missoula has a fine reputation everywhere."

Mr. Thomas, who is making the acquaintance of the city which is to be his home, says he likes it. "I am sure I shall be well satisfied here," said he yesterday. "It is a beautiful place now, even in the midst of the storm, and I am sure it must be wonderfully fine in the summer. Your mountains and your streams are attractive. They tell me there is fine fishing here. I am enthusiastic over fly fishing and I shall be anxious to try those streams as soon as the season opens."

WORK IN THE STORM

Acting in connection with the humane society, the city police department caused 30 horses to be stabled which had been left standing in the storm, yesterday morning and Wednesday afternoon. Most of the horses were found tied in alleys.

City Herder Pasley did great service in the storm of Wednesday afternoon, by taking charge of the little children, dismissed from the Willard school, and seeing that they all reached home safely. Mr. Pasley saved a lot of worry on the part of parents and prevented a lot of suffering among the kiddies.

ELRODS HOME. Mrs. M. J. Elrod and daughter, Miss Mary Elrod, returned home last night after having spent several weeks visiting in Minnesota.

SOCIAL DANCE. Every Saturday night at Elite ball. Music by Missoula Club orchestra. Admission free.—Adv.

HURRY-UP POLICY OPEN TO VISITORS ARE COURSES AT VARSITY

CLASSIFICATION AND SURVEY OF AGRICULTURAL LAND IN FORESTS IS BIG PROBLEM.

The simplification of the procedure in the classification and listing for entry of forest homesteads under the act of June 11, 1906, and the rushing of this work in office and field so that the available land may be settled upon without further delay were unanimously approved as the result of the discussion of the forest homestead classification work as taken up by the forest supervisors at their meeting yesterday.

In spite of all the efforts made by the department of agriculture in this matter, there is yet a considerable amount of delay between the time a settler applies for land and the date it is restored to entry. At the present time a detailed survey is required of each forest homestead where the land is unsurveyed before it can be listed for entry.

Examinations in Advance. In addition to examining forest homesteads under individual applications, large areas are examined annually in co-operation with the bureau of soils in advance of these applications. Five of these great land classification projects were outlined during the past year. Two of these are completed and a third is nearly finished and in these there are 17,000 acres which will be listed immediately for entry.

Rutledge Floor Leader. The discussions yesterday were led by Assistant District Forester Rutledge of the office of lands of this district. He called for the attention of many practical suggestions relative to the technical side of the work which were of much importance to the foresters assembled, although of little public interest.

During the afternoon session E. E. Bonner, chief of geography, told of the work of the crews under his charge making the entry surveys for the settlers. Three parties have been maintained in the field on this work all this season and two additional crews will be needed for the work of the coming season.

Today's session will be devoted to silvicultural problems. Donald Bruce, assistant district forester in charge of that office, will act as floor leader today.

DECISION-DAY PROGRAM LAST ENDEAVOR SERVICE

This is Decision day with Missoula Christian Endeavorers and the final program of the week of service will be held this evening at the Christian church. This will be one of the best meetings of the series and everybody is invited. The program, which is to begin at 7:45, is as follows:

Hymn—Union choir and congregation. Prayers—Mr. Robertson, Miss Anna Davis and J. J. Jones. Scripture lesson—T. A. Harkness. Special music. Three-minute talks—(a) "Decision for Generous Giving," Miss McLaughlin; (b) "Decision for Faithful Communion with God, the Quiet Hour," Miss Josie Jones; (c) "Decision for Entire Fidelity to the C. E. Pledge," Harry Schug; (d) "Decision for Temperance," C. E. Burnett; (e) "Decision for Definite C. E. Missionary Work," V. L. Bullis. Address—"A Decision for Christ and His Church," Rev. J. N. Maclean, D. D., Presbyterian church. Hymn and benediction.

LECTURE POSTPONED. The lecture, which was announced to be given by Herbert Inch this evening at the Methodist church, has been postponed on account of the storm. A later date will be chosen and the public will be invited to hear the travelogue which will be given by the very young speaker and illustrated by views collected by the young man during his travels.

LICENSED. A marriage license was issued yesterday afternoon to Frank A. Curtis and Nannie E. Callahan, both of Warm Springs. Bride and groom are attaches at the state asylum.

GOOD SKATING. Funds to the amount of \$100, and then some are needed by the management of the south side skating rink. The clear snapping cold that will follow naturally after the storm of Wednesday will make the finest kind of skating, if only the rink can be given proper attention.

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"BICK" BUCKS SNOW UNTIL ALL CARS ARE MOVING

STREET RAILWAY SYSTEM, INCLUDING BONNER AND FORT LINES, ARE OPENED.

After a 30-hour shift of hard work and exposure to the cold and storm, Superintendent Bickenbach of the Missoula Street Railway company went home and to bed at 9 o'clock last night with the satisfaction of knowing that every branch of his street-car system was open and that cars were being operated as usual on schedule time.

Mr. Bickenbach and his crew worked all afternoon and until midnight Wednesday in an attempt to keep the tracks open to the car barns so all of the cars could be taken to their stalls. The wind died down about 2 o'clock yesterday morning and as soon as this was evident the attack on the snow was commenced in earnest. The big rotary sweeper was coupled ahead of the heavy work car and the combined force and weight of this train, with the brooms throwing the snow out of the way as it was loosened, was found sufficient to negotiate most of the drifts and the university line was opened about 6 o'clock. A couple of hours were wasted when the sweeper climbed a big drift out on the flat, but this was the only time the car left the rails.

Hard Fight. "It was a hard fight," said Mr. Bickenbach last night. "The boys who stayed on the job with me are all pretty well tired out, but they did splendid work and deserve the thanks of our patrons. I am pleased especially over the Bonner line because it looked last night as though nothing short of a shovel crew could open it up. But the combination train which we rigged up did the business. We all had a new experience. Our little system don't seem very extensive, yet in a storm such as yesterday's to keep open our 14 miles of line was found to be impossible. "The cars will all be running on regular schedule tomorrow. Me for the hay. Good night." —L. E. W.

ESTIMATE IS MADE OF MUCH MONEY FOR SCHOOL

MANY THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WILL BUY EXPERT TEACHING FOR KIDDIES.

An estimate of the money to be appropriated by school district No. 1 for various uses from February 1 to November 30 has been made recently by the committee of the city school board. It is interesting to note that while the amount is \$700 less for 1914 than it was for the same months in 1913, there is nearly \$5,500 increase in the appropriation for teachers' salaries this year.

Last Year. The items of expense for 1913 were: Buildings and grounds, \$3,547.89; fuel, \$3,482.52; water, \$582.10; light, \$146.35; teachers' salaries, \$52,489.99; janitors, \$5,417.50; library, \$269.56; general expenses, \$2,323.37; clerk, \$1,000; insurance, \$2,501.01; furniture and equipment, \$654.07; supplies, \$2,387.49; text books, \$1,925.57; total, \$76,926.64.

This Year. The items of estimated expense for 1914 are: Buildings and grounds, \$2,500; fuel, \$3,000; water, \$600; light, \$150; teachers' salaries, \$57,000; janitors, \$5,500; library, \$275; general expenses, \$2,500; clerk, \$1,000; insurance, \$280; furniture and equipment, \$400; supplies, \$2,500; text books, \$500; total, \$76,325. The school district is in good shape this year. The cash resources for the months from February 1 to November 30, 1914, are \$80,000. The bonded indebtedness is \$147,000, including the \$25,000 bond issue recently voted. The assessed valuation of the district is over \$1,000,000, and an assessment of 3 per cent is allowed by law. —M. K. H.

PROFESSOR C. M. NEFF HAS HARD FIGHT IN STORM.

Professor C. M. Neff of the university had an experience in Wednesday's storm that nearly started him from his home on East Front street to the university by way of the Van Buren street bridge. When about opposite the ball park, in the full sweep of the wind from the mouth of the canyon, he lost the trail, and before he regained it was so exhausted that he determined to turn back. He reached home "all in," and was several hours recovering from the effects of his fight. His ears and fingers were frosted, and Mr. Neff could offer undisputed testimony yesterday to the fury of the storm.

Missoula Theater Wednesday, Feb. 11

WILLIAM MORRIS PRESENTS THE BLINDNESS OF VIRTUE

By Cosimo Hamilton

A great play, unfolding a Great Truth. Everybody should see it.

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