

WOULD AMEND CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE

Taxes, Education and Elections Need Revision Says Lewis-town Teacher.

The address of F. L. Cummings, principal of the Fergus county high school at Lewistown, before the Equity state convention at the Grand theater Saturday afternoon...

"On July 4, more than 31 years ago," said Mr. Cummings, "75 men representing 16 counties into which Montana was then divided met in convention at Helena for the purpose of framing a constitution for the state of Montana..."

"A close study of the debates of this convention reveal also the fact that they realized they were unable to build a constitution for all time. Because of this opinion there was inserted in the constitution a provision not only for amendments but also a clause which provided for the calling of a convention to revise the entire constitution if conditions should demand it."

"At that time mining and stock raising were the chief interests. There were a few more than 100,000 people in the state. Two spurs of railroads projected into the state but none extended across it. No man at that time could prophesy the wonderful development that lay ahead of Montana. New other industries have sprung up. Now considerable more than half of the population live on farms and in agriculture is the leading occupation. During the last 10 years homesteads in Montana have averaged nearly 15,000 a year. The production of wheat has grown from 2,000,000 bushels in 1900 to 42,000,000 bushels in 1915. Even the great mining industry has been revolutionized since the adoption of the present constitution and copper has increased above gold and silver production from 13,335,000 to 97,500,000 in 1916. Coal mining has grown to stupendous proportions. Oil and gas production have just begun to loom on the horizon and hydro-electric power will soon outclass all other productions."

Are Now 54 Counties "Instead of 16 counties we now have 54—did I not say when I went to bed. Three transcontinental railroads stretch across the state, with numerous other short lines projecting out to reach the various industries of the state. The concentration of wealth in the form of corporations with their monopolistic tendencies has largely come about since our constitution was made. The labor union also has been developed during the same time. This has brought to us the problems of labor and capital. An entirely new system of taxation is now being planned in most progressive states to meet the new situation, to permit the growth of public utilities and to develop the natural resources. The taxation of public service corporations, such as railroads, telegraph and telephone systems, express companies, luxury taxes, and such natural resources as the forests, minerals and water power, has been perfected until laws just, equitable and economic can be written into the constitution."

Schools Need Money. "During the past decade a wonderful change has taken place in public education. The poorly supported and neglected rural school, with its inexperienced teachers and run down building equipment has now been resurrected. The high schools, both district and county, have increased in attendance by leaps and bounds. This great expansion demands a new system of financing if properly qualified are to be secured and adequate material forces provided."

To meet these conditions Montana needs a constitutional convention first, to revise present methods of taxation, second, to remove education from partisan politics; third, to revise our present elective system, and fourth, to make possible better government for the state and county."

Says Mine Tax Antiquated. "When the constitution was formed

mining interests were uppermost. Consequently it was natural for the mining interests to safeguard this industry. This action might have been expected. The farmers, if they had been in control, would have protected farming interests. As a result mines are taxed on the basis of their net proceeds. Other workers, such as mining companies have paid their employees and allowed their managers large salaries, after they have made their replacement work, then a tax will be paid of what is left.

It is a notable fact that Montana and Utah are practically the only states having antiquated systems of mining taxation, and in Utah the rate of taxation is nearly 200 per cent higher than in Montana. If those who oppose a revision of this part of the constitution are paying more than their share of the taxes then it is wrong, and such an injustice should be corrected. If they are paying as much then they should have no fear. If they are paying less then they should be made to pay their just share.

Elective System Wrong "Our present elective system, with its long, unintelligent ballot is undemocratic and makes ignorant rather than intelligent voting. As Governor Dixon pointed out in his message, there is no more reason why a secretary of state, an attorney general or similar officers should be elected than there is for electing the President's cabinet.

"We need a smaller legislature that will sit more nearly continuously throughout the year, selected from different districts throughout the state. It will be a wiser, more democratic and more intelligent method of law making.

"In order to correct all these and other weaknesses in Montana's constitution numerous amendments are necessary. Only three can be submitted to the people every two years. Since only two bills a far has been passed it would take a generation at the present rate to bring about the desired reforms and then we would have only a complicated piece of unsatisfactory patchwork. A constitutional convention is the only remedy. The movement for such a convention cannot be initiated. Only by a two-thirds vote of both houses of the legislature can the question of holding a constitutional convention be submitted to the people. Even then it will take nearly four years before the results of such a convention can be put into force."

Adopts Report Calling for All Organizations to Co-operate to Improve Methods. As a definite step toward better marketing of Montana's wheat crop, the Equity state convention on Saturday adopted the report of the marketing committee, which provides for a committee from the Equity to meet with like committees from other farm organizations for a term of years whereby the plan whereby all the wheat of this state may be pooled through one selling agency. B. A. Scollard of Gallatin county, G. G. Wilcox of Stillwater county and H. G. Dyer of Fergus county comprise the committee to represent the Equity in efforts to secure such a federation.

The report of the marketing committee follows: "Although the present farmers organizations throughout the state have been a great improvement over the old line system in the handling of our grain, yet they are limited in their sphere of influence through the lack of co-operation; therefore, we believe these organizations should be consolidated under one head in order to obtain the best results, and should be combined under some form of pooling arrangement secured by a binding contract for a term of years whereby the rights of the grower shall be fully safeguarded and only such powers delegated to the officers of the pool as may be necessary to enable them to dispose of the united product to the best advantage.

"Therefore, we recommend that this convention select a committee of three to work out and carry into operation the details of the plan, with the understanding that they are to co-operate with similar organizations in this and other states, and to work in harmony with the recommendations of the committee of seven to the end that we may ultimately have one great selling agency for the nation."

Adopt Resolution Favoring Westward Grain Shipments. In an effort to secure immediate relief from congested wheat markets in the east, the Equity state convention Saturday adopted resolutions favoring the westward shipment of grain, using the Port of Astoria facilities for loading the grain onto ships. The resolution follows: "Whereas, it appears to us that it would be to the best interest of the producers and shippers of grain within the state of Montana to encourage and develop as fast as possible the western market of such grain and

"Whereas it appears to us that by proper endeavor freight rates for the handling of said grain to western coast points can be materially reduced so as to save to the shippers of grain a portion of the now excessive rate upon eastern shipments, and

"Whereas it appears to this convention that the resolutions outlined can be obtained by proper encouragement, and

"Whereas it appears to us that the facilities at Astoria, Ore. for handling of grain are now in operation and prepared to handle and ship the crop for the year 1921 direct from the producer or shipper to the consumer.

"Now, therefore, be it resolved that this convention assembled recommend to the growers and shippers of grain their consideration to the western or coast markets for such grain, with special reference to elevators and dock facilities now at Astoria, Ore.

Co-operators Rap Attempt to Kill Terminal Elevator. Branding the attempt of the present state legislative assembly to nullify the referendum measure of 1918 by which the people voted for the construction of a terminal elevator in Great Falls as "a vicious assault," a resolution was unanimously adopted at the Co-operators' congress Saturday night opposing any such action of the legislature. Every citizen was urged by the resolution to write representatives and senators stating their objection to "killing" the elevator.

Sharks hunt by sense of smell.

STATE CONTROL OF BANKS PLAN OF A. G. WAITE

Big Sandy Man Declares Government Should Operate Financial Institutions.

Members of the Co-operators' congress were urged to launch a sentiment against our present banking system, by A. G. Waite of Big Sandy. He urged them to make it a state and nation wide demand that the government take over the banking business on a basis of service instead of profit. He stated that the banks do their business on the money of the community but that they control it all. "It is a huge money-lending system," said Mr. Waite, "in banking power, surpassing human comprehension."

"The national banks were established in 1863 and in 1890 the banking power amounted to \$5,150,000,000. On June 30, 1919, they had increased to \$45,263,000,000 or more than 900 per cent. The increase between 1918 and 1919 was \$6,673,500,000, greater than in 100 years of national history.

Says Congress Too Big "We should have the commission-manager form of government with not more than 18 representatives who are always in session and a law should be passed until it has been under discussion for three months so that everyone would be able to become familiar with it.

"Upon the circulation of commerce depends the life blood and welfare of every living body. Every dollar of capital stock in the great banking system is drawing interest on \$15, and every dollar of capital and surplus is drawing interest on \$7. Interest bearing paper in the United States of all kinds is in excess of one hundred billion dollars. Our per capita debt is practically \$1,000, and producers pay to the money lending system annually not less than six billions.

Bank Methods Questioned "The banker is the only man who draws interest on the debt he owes. He draws interest on the capital stock on loans when there hasn't been a dollar taken out of the system. The system is interlocking, paying this interest to the bank while the bank is doing business on the money of the consumers.

"The issuing of money is a function of the government. It is an exercise of sovereign power. That power should be exercised only in behalf of all the people. It should never be exercised as a special privilege to any.

"The government places its stamp on a piece of metal or paper and denominates it, a medium of exchange. What makes money? The credit of all the people. As the credit of all the people guarantees the creations of the government, it follows that all the creations of the government belong to all the people.

"Money is primarily a medium of exchange. Its issue being the exercise of a function of government, its dis-

SHERIFF IMMERSSED IN ICE WATER POOL

Moonshine Still Found in Operation in Old Mine; Two Men Arrested.

Acting on information obtained when he was campaigning the country precincts prior to the general election, Sheriff Bob Gordon Friday at midnight explored the old Carlisle coal mine, 85 miles south of Great Falls, found a moonshine still in operation, se'ed a barrel of corn mash and a gallon and a half of whisky and placed Charles Weeks and George Atott under arrest. Search for the still led up a mountain side, over deadfalls and brush and through a creek, but the first stage of the hunt was rewarded at the mouth of the mine by the discovery of one of the suspects. Atott was on watch at the end of the tunnel and was picked up before he could shout a warning.

Hoping to come up on the other man unawares, the sheriff and Deputy Dennis started to creep into the tunnel without lights, and Sheriff Gordon suddenly disappeared. He fell into a pool of ice water up to his neck and was clinging to the timbers of the wall

when Deputy Dennis became curious about the absence of his chief. "Hey, Bob," he stage whispered, "are you there?" "I ken I'm hereabouts," came the answer. "Be ye comin' w' me, or will ye bide where ye be 't the night?" Deputy Dennis reckoned he go along and after that it didn't matter whether they had lights or not; the chattering of their teeth sent echoes crashing into the most distant reaches of the tunnel.

Weeks was standing by the bubbling still when they located the plant, 300 feet from the entrance. Both men, it is alleged, admitted operating the still and are quoted as saying their output was worth \$20 per gallon. They were brought to the county jail on charges of manufacturing liquor.

Parley Christenson Taken Ill at Butte, Doesn't Reach Here

Parley P. Christenson of Sale Lake City, Farmer Labor candidate for president of the United States at the last election, who was to have addressed the Co-operators' congress in Great Falls Saturday night, was taken ill on the train, en route and after reaching Butte was advised by physicians to return immediately to his home in Salt Lake City.

Fertilizer Plant at Anaconda Starts in Spring, Report

Special to The Tribune. Butte, Feb. 12.—From Soda Springs phosphate deposits in eastern Idaho, owned by the Anaconda Copper Mining company is the report that the eight-mile spur of the Oregon Short Line has been completed, but that regular ore shipments will not be started until spring.

It is reported that Washoe smelter at Anaconda will handle 1,000 tons daily of the phosphate ore, which will be treated with sulphuric acid, a by-product from the company's treatment of sulphide ores. Crude phosphate rock will be shipped to other smelters than those of the Anaconda company. It is said that this phosphate property is sufficiently extensive to maintain shipments as at present contemplated for at least 10 years. There is an immense deposit of phosphate in that section. It extends over parts of Idaho, Utah and Wyoming. In the last few years some of the operating companies have been sending their products to the orient, principally Japan.

ANNUAL DANCE L. S. BROTHERHOOD LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN and ENGINEMEN Monday, February 14, 1921. Odeon Hall Pierse's Orchestra

Use Your Business Judgment This is what you do when making other investments, why not in Oil investments. The Watana Petroleum Company offers you a clean cut business investment, because dividends are sure and great profit will result not only from oil that will be found on our lease, but from our holding in the West Dome Oil Company.

Holdings of the West Dome Oil Company The Value of Our 80-Acre Lease in 17-15-30 is becoming more valuable with every passing day. Three wells have been brought in during the last ten days. Three companies are putting their drilling equipment on their drilling sites adjoining our property on the south and east, less than a thousand feet from Watana's drilling site. It will be but a short time until these wells will be in, then our units will be worth many times their present value. Read below the list of producers, all located in the Cat Creek field, together with a string of wells now being drilled near our holdings.

PRODUCING WELLS CAT CREEK

Table with 3 columns: Name, Location, and Production. Lists wells such as Frantz No. 1, West Dome, etc.

WELLS BEING DRILLED Company and Well No. Location

Table with 3 columns: Company and Well No., Location, and Production. Lists wells being drilled by various companies.

WATANA UNITS \$100 WATANA PETROLEUM CO. A Common Law Trust Capital \$150,000 15 Dunn Block—Great Falls, Montana

APPLICATION FOR UNITS Watana Petroleum Co., 15 Dunn Block, Great Falls, Montana. Enclosed find \$..... in full payment for..... units of the capital of the WATANA PETROLEUM COMPANY. All units fully paid and non-assessable. Issue certificates to:

Name Address

Owners OTTO MAURER, Highwood; A. B. M'VAY, Great Falls. J. L. Walcutt, Auctioneer; F. V. Milner and J. R. Sartain, Assistants.

Great Falls, Wednesday, Feb. 16 Montana Livestock Sale Pavilion We are offering 60 head registered girls and brood sows, of the best blood lines in America, at your own price. They are the prolific, easy-keeping, early-maturing sort. Our guarantee goes with them that they are bred and right.

MISS LOU ELLIOTT, CHARMING YOUNG COMEDienne AT GEM TODAY

Miss Elliott was the hit of the show at the first performance of the new four-act Hippodrome Road Show at the popular Gem Theater last night. Every seat on the bill was up to a high standard but Miss Elliott topped them all by a fraction. Four performances of the hip show will be given today: These being at 2:30-4:30 and 7:30-9:30 tonight.



Spring Hats So Smart and So Much Out of the Ordinary That They Are Assured of Your Instant Approval. Never were early assortments more delightful. Hats bearing the labels of famous millinery houses. Styles to suit every purse and appropriate for every social occasion. Discriminating women will welcome this chance to look over the season's new models.

Southside Millinery 115 Fourth Street South Between 1st and 2nd Ave. So.

PURE ICE IS ESSENTIAL! The purity of our ice is your security in using it. Made from pure, filtered water without a speck or flaw. Its use will give you better satisfaction than any ice you have ever used. Call us up and place your order. Phone 6323

CRYSTAL ICE AND STORAGE CO.

Water Is Secured by Watana Company

Arrangements have been made by the Watana Petroleum Co., formed by Great Falls and Lewistown men, to drill for oil in the Mosby field, for water and oil for its work, according to officers of the company. J. I. Eakin, president of the company is expected back soon from Spokane, where he has established a branch office and completed a sales organization. Literature written more than 1,000 years ago mentions two breeds of poultry still being raised in China, while incubators now used are the same in principle as those used in Egypt 4,000 years ago.

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