

FLORISTS WILL AID THE WORK

City Federation Elects Officers and Talks of Gardens—Mrs. McBurney President.

At the annual meeting of the City Federation of Women's clubs held last evening in the reading room of the new Y. W. C. A. building officers for the coming year were elected and a number of matters of interest taken up for discussion.

Mrs. Birum and H. L. Birum, two of the Great Falls florists attended the meeting to discuss with the ladies the garden question for the coming spring and summer.

The name plan as was carried out last year will be used again this season and the vacant lots will be in charge of the women's club and the back yard gardens for the children, under the supervision of the schools.

Following the discussion given by the florists the members of the club were issued an invitation by the musical instructors of the schools to visit the schools and to determine the nature of the instruction given in the public school music department.

Mrs. Hugh Cameron sang "Will o' the Wisp," but the talk to have been given by Mrs. Vivian Cameron was postponed to a later date because of Mrs. Cameron's illness of a severe cold.

At the business meeting the members unanimously voted to support the government for re-arming and the swank introduced in the senate by Franklin K. Lane.

The matter of taking up the matter of procuring a grove with trees planted in memory of the soldiers and sailors of the county was discussed and the club will take up the question with the home service division of the Red Cross.

The officers elected at the meeting are as follows: Mrs. Leroy McBurney, president; Mrs. J. A. Gooch, first vice president; Mrs. C. F. Coulter, second vice president; Miss M. Hanson, secretary; Mrs. I. Walker, corresponding secretary and Mrs. E. M. Stablein, treasurer.

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The following attended: E. L. Witherspoon and W. A. McNaught, of the Autman-Taylor company; A. A. Montgomery and Martin Grinde, of the Montgomery Machine company; J. W. Brownfield, of the J. I. Case T. M. company; E. W. Reed and H. Rootstad, of the Black Eagle Carriage company; George L. Spelin and T. J. Kromen, of the Great Falls Welding company; Fred M. Viles, E. T. Lyons and Ralph M. Ward, of the Hart Parr company; S. T. Vells, of the Emerson-Brantingham company; V. L. Niels and O. J. Nielsen, of Niels & Olson; W. A. Dodge, of the Minneapolis Machinery company; R. R. Hutchinson, of the George G. Hill company; H. D. Sheppard, of the Ionarch Tractor company; Adam Stimpert and W. H. Stimpert, of the Stimpert Implement company.

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BOB BLEE DEAD, AGED 64 YEARS

Popular and Picturesque Character of Local Police Department Answers Final Roll.

Robert J. Blee, "the grand old man of the Great Falls police department," is dead. He died yesterday afternoon at 1, succumbing to a heart attack following influenza, and with his passing the department loses one of its oldest as well as one of its most picturesque and popular members. He served continuously for slightly less than 14 years in a number of capacities and with entire satisfaction to the city and his superiors.



Robert J. Blee. Picture from photograph taken some years ago.

It had been his intention to continue as night jailer until May 5 next, which date will be the fourteenth anniversary of his first employment with the department, but the attack that terminated in his passing prevented him from realizing his ambition to round his period of service in even years.

"Bob" Blee was first appointed patrolman in 1905, during the Ewing administration, and served in that capacity and as city detective under former Chief Robert Pontet and Chief Marcus Anderson until a short time ago. His last position was that of night jailer, being transferred to this duty when it became necessary to place a man in charge of the police records. He was of towering build and made an imposing figure in his uniform, commanding the respect of the citizenry and his associates by his straightforward manner and his disposition to be fair in his dealings and the discharge of his duties. By other members of the force he was commonly referred to as a "square-shooter" and there have been few officers in Great Falls who numbered among his acquaintances a greater number of personal friends.

Prior to entering the service, Mr. Blee followed the railroad business. Twenty-nine years ago he was a trainman at Tacoma, Wash., and was at that time an acquaintance of Jailer Otto Bjornstad, with whom he was associated all the time he was with the local department. The two men were warm friends, Jailer Bjornstad yesterday referring feelingly to the attachment that existed between himself and the veteran officer.

Only two men now with the department were in the service of the city when Jailer Blee first donned a uniform. These are Marcus Anderson, present chief, and Blee's best friend, Jailer Bjornstad. All other members have joined the force since Mr. Blee was appointed in 1905.

Jailer Blee habitually was unemotional, but it was only a short time before his death that those who knew him best observed how his indisposition to be demonstrative yielded before his grief over the death of his son, Robert J. Blee, Jr., in France. The son was killed in action last August, his father learning of the fact some months later, and those who were most intimate with the old gentleman for the first time saw him give way to his feelings as he read the message. He is survived by two sisters residing in New York; by one daughter by a former marriage, who is now living in Cleveland, Ohio; the widow and six younger children, the latter all of this city. He was in his 64th year and was a native of Ohio.

Deceased could probably have qualified as the wealthiest police officer in Montana. During his residence here he accumulated considerable property, becoming owner of a number of houses on the south side. One of his sisters is the widow of a millionaire sulphur mine operator and remembered the jailer's birthday by sending him a check for \$5,000.

No funeral arrangements were announced yesterday, but at the police station plans were laid for department members to attend the services in uniform and act as an escort to the body.

Skating on Gibson lake is good now, even tho the skaters must see to it that they are more abundantly clad than previously this year. The ice surface is in perfect shape, especially the ice within the confines of the hockey rink. Members of the Great Falls Hockey club expect to pull off a fast game Sunday afternoon should the weather continue cold, altho it is hoped the weather will warm up just a little Sunday to enable the fans to enjoy watching the contest.

Coal Men Happy. Of course the coal dealers in this city are not grumbling about the weather. The coal man has had to put up with the fine weather up to now and at present he is no doubt entitled to what he can get in the line of business, according to most people. The coal wagons are being filled and unloaded rapidly this week and if the cold temperature does not let up the coal dealers are slated to make up for lost time, or rather, lost weather.

So on the whole, while the weather may be too cold to please most folks entirely, it at least does some good to someone and it again upholds the truth of that old proverb, "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good."

Will Return Faucett. A representative of the sheriff's office will leave this morning for Butte to return with Dudley Faucett, alias Carey, alias Doyle, alias McDonald, who is wanted locally as a suspected burglar in connection of the robbery of the home of Frank McLean last week. Faucett was arrested in Butte under the name of Doyle and was picked up after he had allegedly attempted to sell a ring stolen from the McLean house.

Held as Witness. Mrs. Kaufman, aged 22, was arrested last night by the police on advice of the office of the United States marshal and will be held as a witness in the case of the government against S. Carp, who was taken up Saturday as a suspected vendor of prohibited drugs. An effort was being made at midnight to obtain from Mrs. Kaufman, but no information was obtained showing that she had gained her freedom. She was found at the same hotel from which Carp was taken Saturday.

Preparedness. Prepare for next wash day by taking home Red Cross Ball Blue. Ask any good grocer. Red Cross Ball Blue imparts a clear white; makes you smile when you see the beautiful, snowy white basket of clothes. Red Cross, the blue that's true blue.—Adv.

FOLKS SHIVERING WITH SEVERE COLD

Weather Man in "Huffy" and Mercury Drops to 5 Below.

The weather man is "huffy". As a result Great Falls people are walking to their daily work while wearing earlaps and some perhaps with the "ole fashun'd" extra pair of woolen socks to keep their toes from "kicking" against the cold. It feels kind of good for a change at that. It'sy cheeks and tingling finger tips are the rule these days and none seems to take it otherwise than good natured, because the weather man has been so kind to Montana folks this year that they figure they can stand a little of it now.

The Tribune weather recorder's thermometer registered 5 degrees below zero up to 10 o'clock last night. This had been the lowest for the day, altho any number of people could be found who would willingly say it seemed just a bit nippier than that.

On Monday at 6 p. m. the mercury sank to 8 below and this is the coldest temperature recorded since the chilly spell took hold of the city. The maximum Monday was 19 above and yesterday the mercury was below zero all day long. It hovered around 4 below the greater part of the day.

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FAMOUS FRENCH BAND TO VISIT

Contract Backed by Commercial Club and Manager Steege Brings Big Attraction.

Great Falls people are to hear the famous French army band that is touring America. The band will come to the Grand opera house for just one performance, on Thursday evening, March 20. That was assured yesterday, when M. Armitage, authorized representative of the French-American Association for Musical Art, of New York city, signed a contract with William Steege, manager of the Grand, after the Great Falls Commercial club had agreed to get behind the proposition and make it a success. It takes a guarantee of \$2,500 to get the band for one engagement, and that has been provided. It is not traveling as a money-making proposition, but to raise funds for French charities, and no theater managers are making any money out of the appearance of the band. It is secured at the various points chiefly by guarantees provided, as in this city, by the business interests.

The band is composed of musicians of rare talent, and every one of them has gained a war decoration by service at the front.

Thru a deal closed yesterday, the Thauhouser bar and cabaret, which had been owned by the railroad business. Twenty-nine years ago he was a trainman at Tacoma, Wash., and was at that time an acquaintance of Jailer Otto Bjornstad, with whom he was associated all the time he was with the local department. The two men were warm friends, Jailer Bjornstad yesterday referring feelingly to the attachment that existed between himself and the veteran officer.

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If you EVER HAVE, you KNOW and can speak in STRONG TERMS of the WANT AD PLAN.

The WANT goes out of the WINDOW when the want ad comes in at the DOOR.

An ounce of EXPERIENCE in the use of THE TRIBUNE want columns is worth a ton of THEORY! Use them once, and you'll never go back to the old way.

Boys' Striped Percal Blouses, Special at 39c Ea.

Light and dark patterns; well made blouses that regularly sell for 69c each. All sizes.

Special Values in Shoes at \$5.00 a Pair

Regularly sold at \$6.00 and \$6.50 per pair. Black gun metal dress shoes, brown and smoke heavy work shoes. All sizes in the lot.

\$6.45 and \$6.75 Bed Spreads \$4.95

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CASH AND ONE PRICE ONLY Berger's Hinds' Honey and Almond Cream, Special 39c at Djer Kiss Talcum Powder 39c

Advance Showing Spring Fashions Coats and Suits That Will Win Your Admiration Here you will find the best of the season's earliest styles, carefully selected to suit the tastes of our patrons, from the smartest and most distinctive fashions in women's wear of assured newest styles. And last, but not least, you'll find that fashionable apparel need not be expensive—it isn't at Berger's.

SALE OF SILK and ALL-WOOL DRESSES A special most advantageous purchase enables us to make this offering. Dresses ordinarily selling for \$22.50 to \$24.50 on sale this morning at \$16.75

Twenty-Five Dozen New, Fine Bungalow Aprons Special Sale each \$1.45 Special Sale each

More New Georgette and Crepe de Chine Waists Have arrived this week to replenish our stock from last week's heavy selling and many new models among these new arrivals. Striped crepe de chine, all the smartest colors. Specially priced \$4.95

\$1.95 Petticoats on sale at \$1.49 Made of fine quality lustrous sateen in a variety of fancy figured patterns in different styles and lengths, fitted top. An extraordinary offering at this low price.