

The Billings Gazette.

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BILLINGS IS TOO MUCH

For the State Capital Ball Tossers in a Series of Three Games.

WINS TWO GOOD GAMES

By Superior Playing—The Second Game Was a Slugging Match. The Club's Journey.

The predictions of The Gazette that the Billings baseball club would take two games out of the three games with Helena has come to pass. The local team accompanied by about a score of rooters and backers departed on the early Saturday morning train for the state capital, where they proceeded to teach the boys of that place how to play the national game as well as to be. The Helenaites were not of that peaceable mind which usually occupied a place in their craniums and on Saturday they held their wads with a death grip and if any bats were made it was at great odds in favor of Billings. Our boys played the game of their lives and bested their opponents.

The Helena Independent of Sunday morning says of Saturday's game: Nine nubile and capable cowboys whose present post office address is Billings came to town Saturday morning and roped the home players in good style in a ball game. Briefly stated, they outplayed the homers at every point, though not to the extent indicated by the score, which was 14 to 6.

The game opened auspiciously for the Helenaites. They made two runs in the first on an error by Rose and three hits in succession. The side was retired by a neat double by Rose, who gathered McDonough's grounder, touched Ryan and threw to first in time to catch the batter. Billings drew a blank in the first. Casey got a hit but was forced at second a minute later. Scott had previously hit an easy one to Burton and Marshall fanned. It looked like an even thing.

But after the cheerful first, the humers could do nothing much with McNeely's benders. Though they got a total of fifteen hits they were scattered that not more than one run resulted in any one inning. The second, third, fifth and sixth innings were sad and gloomy occasions, the total result being four goose eggs.

Billings broke the ice in the second, getting one oak of it, and they never failed to take at least one when they came up with the willow, sometimes getting several more than one. In the fifth they landed on the sphere for so many hits in a row that the grandstand lost count and runs came around in bunches. In the seventh they came near repeating the performance, getting three, one of them a beautiful drive far over center fence for four bases, a pair of shoes, and several pieces of silver. Zearfross was behind the willow which connected with the ball in such violent fashion. McDonough and Scott lined out triples during the afternoon. Barring the sensational home run by Zearfross, Flannery was the bright particular star of the day with the wagon tongue, for out of five times up he got five hits, two of them being doubles.

There were probably 800 spectators in the grand stand.

Score by innings:
Helena 2 0 0 1 0 0 1 1 1—6
Billings 0 1 2 1 4 2 3 1 1*—14
Earned runs—Billings, 7; Helena, 2.
Two base hits—Flannery (2), P. Ryan (2), Freeman (2), Goodyear. Three base hits—McDonough, Scott. Home run—Zearfross. Stolen bases—Billings, 4; Helena, 3. Double plays—Rose to Zearfross, Marshall to Williams. Bases on balls—Off Ryan, 4. Struck out—By McNeely, 3; Ryan, 4. Passed balls—Freeman, 2. Errors—Billings, 4; Helena, 5. Time of game—2:25. Umpires, Tucker and Mains.

THE SECOND GAME

Was a Fearful Slugging Match in Which Billings Lost.

Monday morning several of the fans returned home with a report of Sunday's game, to the effect that it was a terrible slugging match in which Billings was unable to equal its opponents. The telegraphic report of the score, 29 to 19, on Sunday evening, tended to impress the fans with an idea that something had gone wrong with our boys, but the reports brought by witnesses of the game have dispelled the idea and the supporters are once more feeling good. The day was an extreme day disagreeable one. The wind blew at a great rate and lifted clouds of dust, while the sun shows in all its brilliancy. The lay of the Helena diamond is such that the sun blinds the eyes of the soldiers and the visitors are at a great disadvantage, while the Helena boys, who are used to it, suffer no inconvenience. Harker was in the box for Billings at

the start off, but he was not given decent support. In the first inning Helena had one score with two men out and two men on bases, when Freeman muffed a fly in right permitting the runners and batter to score. In this same inning two more scores were made, one by safe hitting and the other on a home run. In the second inning two runs were made, Harker having two strike-outs to his credit. He was then replaced by Sporer, who only stayed in one inning and a half. He allowed the Helenaites five scores, although he had three strike-outs on them. Marshall, the third baseman, was then placed in the box. From then on it was a slugging match. The boys could not ginger up a little. Marshall had eight strike-outs in his five innings. He had great speed and the Helena boys said that they would just as soon be hit by a cannon ball as by a ball thrown by Marshall.

Home runs were plentiful in the game. Helena made four and Billings three. Flannery, Marshall and McNeely having the credit for our club. It is thought by those who witnessed the game that had Harker been given a fair show by keeping him in the box the game would have been much different with a possibility of Billings winning out.

Roy Evans, who accompanied the team, returning home yesterday, says that injustice has been done the boys by the report that they were out on a carouse Saturday night. He says the boys conducted themselves very gentlemanly and they lost Sunday's game because they were out of luck.

THE THIRD AND LAST GAME.

Billings Plays Well Again and Defeats Helena.

The third and last game with Helena was played yesterday afternoon. McNeely was again in the box for Billings and as in the first game he proved too much for the Helenaites. It was a hard fought battle as each club had one game to its credit and the last one was to decide the championship. The Billings boys were determined to win it if good ball playing could do so. The reports of the game which reached Billings last night were meagre, but it must have been a splendid exhibition in which our boys again carried off the honors, the score being 12 to 0.

The Gazette received a telegram last night from the editor, who accompanied the team to Helena, in which he stated that our boys out-played Helena at every point.

The passenger train which is to bring the rooters home is about eight hours late and will not arrive here until about 4 o'clock this afternoon.

The ball club will continue its western tour, having left Helena today for Pocatello. They will play one game there tomorrow with the strongest team in the west. Then they go to Ogden and Salt Lake for three games each, returning to Butte for a series with the Boston & Montana's, and playing two more games at Pocatello on the way. The club will arrive home in time for four games during the fair week with Helena and Butte.

One of the great games of the season was played at Butte Sunday between the Pocatello and the Boston and Montana clubs. The score was 2 to 1 in favor of the former. It was a pitcher's battle, but seven safe hits being made during the game, three off the Butte pitcher, and four off the visitors. The errors were six on each side. Pocatello made one score in each the third and sixth innings, while the Boston & Montana's scored in the sixth.

Accounts of each day's game on the trip will be bulletined the evening of each day at The Gazette office and R. L. Nix's Sideboard saloon.

BUTTE IS SORE

Because She Lost Flannery, Who Has Joined the Billings Team.

The Butte fans are disappointed—not in love—in baseball and all because Flannery, their former crack center fielder, has seen fit to accept the offer of the Billings management to become a member of our team. The smoky city contingent is green-eyed to a great extent, judging from the following from last Friday's Standard:

And now Billings has gone and done it and taken from us our Flannery, Flannery the only; Flannery the mighty ball player; Flannery the man with the strong arm. It's real mean. When Butte imports a man from St. Paul, or Omaha, or San Francisco, or elsewhere to play ball in Butte it is all right for Billings to take him away if it can offer him more inducements. But to take Flannery isn't right, and Billings is no gentleman.

For fifteen years there has scarcely been a ball game in Butte in which Flannery has not participated. He was born and brought up here, he was for six or seven years on the fire department and until last May he was chief of the department. And now to think that Flannery has gone and donned the uniform of an enemy and will soon be here playing against his own town and his own old associates! It's vile of Billings to do such a thing. Flannery left Butte Sunday evening after the game with Helena and arrived

in Billings Monday morning. He will play center field for the cowboys. It is understood that he is guaranteed all expenses, \$100 per month and \$25 extra for every game won in which he plays.

Billings has also secured Charlie Reilly of Kansas City to play short. Rose has been elected captain of the team, which will line up as follows: Zearfross, catcher; McNeely, pitcher and first base; Harker, pitcher and first base; Sporer, pitcher; Rose, second base; Marshall, third base; Reilly, shortstop; Scott, left field; Flannery, center field; Freeman, right field.

The team will leave for Helena today and then will visit Butte, Pocatello, Ogden, Salt Lake and Spokane. Three games will be played in Helena.

The Pocatellos have sent word that they will arrive in Butte to play games on Saturday and Sunday. They are a very fast ball club and likely to prove all that Butte can handle.

BUTTE WILL RAISE \$30,000

To Bring the Montana Boys Home from San Francisco.

At a meeting of the citizens of Butte last Thursday night it was decided to emulate the example of several other states in raising money to pay for a special train to bring the soldier boys home from San Francisco. In this instance Butte intends to do the thing, the whole thing and nothing but the whole thing all by itself and since it has started the ball to rolling there is no saying it will not accomplish its purpose. Butte intends to raise \$30,000 among its own citizens, which is to be used in bringing the gallant Montana boys to that city in a special train and then giving them a rousing reception. The list was started by a subscription of \$2,500 from W. A. Clark and \$1,000 from Charles W. Clark.

A handsome sterling silver badge will be given to each of the soldiers, and in places where the ranks are vacant the badge will be turned over to the family of the missing man. The state legislature will be asked to make the appropriation, so that the gift will be from the state, but pending this action Charles W. Clark will pay for them and take his chances with the legislature.

Charles W. Clark's offer was accepted and a handsome solid silver badge with a bronze crossbar was selected. The badge at factory price will cost \$3 apiece, and Lieut. Chalkins was authorized to order 1,085 of them through J. E. Leyson, who represents the manufacturers, Gorham Manufacturing company, of Providence, Rhode Island.

The badge will consist of a silver disc about the size of a dollar, suspended from a bronze crossbar with a red white and blue ribbon. On the face of the disc is a picture of Liberty crowning a soldier with a laurel wreath and the words:

"First to respond to their country's call. Philippos, 1899."

On the reverse side is a picture of Peace represented by the sun rising over mountain peaks and casting its radiance into a valley. On the right is a stream of water. At the foot appears a plow and a spade, and the words, "Ora Plata." Surrounding the picture are the words, "First Montana U. S. Volunteers, Second division, Eighth Army Corps."

The crossbar is surmounted by an eagle and a flag, and on the sides are crossed cannons. Across the face appears the words, "First Montana U. S. Volunteers."

All cities will be invited to send committees to Butte to the reception and accompany their own soldiers to their homes.

The Montana regiment will reach San Francisco about Sept. 17 and will be mustered out two or three weeks later.

FIRE AT COLUMBUS

Destroys Several Buildings, Causing a Loss of Several Thousand Dollars.

CAUSED FROM A STOVE

In a Chinese Restaurant—Losses Covered by Some Insurance. Will Probably Rebuild.

The enterprising little town of Columbus, in this county, was visited by the fire fiend early yesterday morning which destroyed several of the business houses. The fire started in a Chinese restaurant, from a leaking gasoline stove. When discovered it had gained such a headway that nothing could be done to impede its progress, the town's facilities for fire consisting of buckets only. The fire spread to the fine stone livery stable of Cahoun & Adams on the west and this was soon gutted. East of the restaurant the fire had a better chance to spread itself as there were several frame buildings, occupied by the saloons of Chas. Allen and Wm. McCright, the barber shop of Mr. Ferguson and two warehouses used by the Columbus Mercantile company. After the fire had spent its fury on these buildings it found its way blocked by the fine stone store building of the Columbus Mercantile company and here it stopped.

The losses will amount to several thousands of dollars with the following insurance.

Columbus Mercantile company, old store building and stock of stoves, windows, doors, etc., insurance on building \$800, on stock \$1,000.

Chas. Allen, saloon building, insurance \$800.

Wm. McCright, stock liquors; insurance \$500.

Cahoun & Adams, stone livery stable and contents; insurance \$1,000.

The Columbus Mercantile company saved some of its stock as did Chas. Allen, who had no insurance on his stock and fixtures. The others suffered total loss.

The insurance is carried in several companies, which are represented by Geo. H. Simpson.

The buildings will be replaced with more substantial structures.

STILL KICKING.

The State Board of Equalization Wants Other Changes.

The state board of equalization will probably grant hearings to cattle and sheepmen relative to the rate the board has made for cattle and sheep, in the hope of testing the matter of the board's authority to increase or decrease assessments despite the supreme court's famous decision. The board finds that there is lack of uniformity in the amount of the levy made by the county boards for stock indemnity purposes. The law says it shall not exceed one-half of one mill. Some counties, Ferguson included, make the limit. Others are considerably less. The board is sending out requests that it be made one-tenth of a mill, a rate that will afford ample funds. "There is no reason," writes the board, "why a taxpayer in one county should pay more or less than a taxpayer in another county for this purpose."

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