

# The Billings Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

VOL. XV.

BILLINGS, YELLOWSTONE COUNTY, MONTANA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1899.

NO. 69

PAUL McGORMICK,  
PRESIDENT.

W. H. McGORMICK,  
TREAS. AND MGR.

## McCormick Mercantile Co.

### COLD WEATHER IS COMING

BUT YOU CAN KEEP WARM  
IF YOU BUY SOME OF THAT  
FINE UNDERWEAR AT

## McGORMICK'S

#### PROFESSIONAL CARDS.

FRANK R. ECKHOLDT,  
ATTORNEY-AT-LAW.  
Special Attention Given to Collections.  
Commercial law a specialty.  
Room 11 Belknap Block. Billings, Montana

JAS. R. GOSS,  
LAWYER.  
Office First National Bank Building.

H. E. ARMSTRONG M. D.,  
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON.  
Belknap Block. Billings, Montana.

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PHYSICIANS and SURGEONS.  
Rooms 6 and 7, First National Bank Building.  
Night calls answered at office.

D. E. P. TOWNSEND,  
PHYSICIAN and SURGEON.  
Office and Residence on Twenty-Ninth Street  
North, two doors north of Cottage Inn. Office  
strictly private. All calls will receive prompt  
attention. Telephone 115.

O. F. GODDARD,  
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W. M. JOHNSTON,  
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P. J. DONOHUE,  
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Bute and Billings, Montana.

CARWILE & HOUTON,  
REAL ESTATE, LIVE STOCK,  
INSURANCE.  
Office in Wardwell Block. Telephone 111.  
Correspondence Solicited.  
BILLINGS, MONTANA.

4593  
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL  
BANK  
OF BILLINGS

CAPITAL, - \$50,000  
SURPLUS, - \$20,000

A. L. BABCOCK, President.  
DAVID FRATT, Vice-Pres.  
G. A. GRIGGS, Cashier.  
E. H. HOLLISTER, Ass't Cash.  
DIRECTORS:  
A. L. BABCOCK, DAVID FRATT,  
G. A. GRIGGS, ED. CARDWELL,  
PETER LARSON.

Regular Banking in all its Branches.  
Safe Deposit Boxes Rented.  
Special Attention Given to Collections.

Dealers in Foreign and Domestic Exchange

The Delmonico  
Restaurant  
VAUGHAN'S OLD STAND

First-Class Restaurant, open at  
all hours.  
Bakery in Connection.

JOS. PARQUE & CO., Prps.

## JOHN D. Losekamp

THE CLOTHIER  
FAMOUS OUTFITTER

MEN'S AND BOYS' Clothing,

Blankets and Bedding,  
Bed Sheets,  
Wagon Covers,  
Hats and Caps.

The Largest Stock of Boots  
and Shoes, comprising Ladies'  
Fine Shoes and Slippers, Children's  
Shoes, all sizes, Men's  
Boots and Shoes, all grades.  
Sole Agent in Billings for the  
Star brand rubber overshoes,  
every pair guaranteed perfect.

Mail Orders  
Promptly Attended to.

JOHN D. LOSEKAMP.

## FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF  
BILLINGS, MONTANA

Paid Up Capital, - \$150,000  
Surplus and Profits, - 10,000

P. B. Moss, President.  
H. W. ROWLEY, Vice-Pres.  
S. F. MORSE, Cashier.  
S. G. REYNOLDS, Asst. Cash.

DIRECTORS:  
Chas. T. Babcock,  
Jos. Zimmerman,  
H. W. Rowley,  
G. W. Woodson,  
P. B. Moss.

Transact a general banking business. Collections promptly  
made and remitted for.

## The California Restaurant

Regular  
Meals, 25c.—the best in the city.  
Short Orders of all kinds.  
Lodging 25c. and 50c.

## THE SHEEP INDUSTRY

It Yielded This State Four and a  
Half Million Dollars  
Last Year.

## THIS COUNTY LEADS

In Price of Wool and Billings Is the  
Second Shipping Point—In-  
teresting Statistics.

The annual report of the state board of sheep commissioners for the fiscal year ending Nov. 30, was submitted to Governor Smith last Saturday. It shows the sheep industry to be in a prosperous condition. The industry yielded about \$4,500,000 in the value of the wool and sheep sold, the wool income alone being estimated at \$3,900,000. The report says that March 1 last there were 3,601,188 sheep in the state; during the year 217,550 were shipped into the state. The yield of lambs was 1,092,978 and 368,421 sheep were shipped to other states or slaughtered in the state. The total amount of wool shorn in the state was 23,290,698 pounds, for which the average price of 16.35 cents per pound was received. The highest price was received in Yellowstone county. The largest amount of wool shorn in any one county was in Choteau, 4,587,640 pounds. Fergus county came next, 3,988,049; Custer third, 2,701,640; Meagher fourth, 1,875,000; Teton fifth, 1,658,309; Yellowstone sixth, 1,644,511; Sweet Grass seventh, 1,208,425; Cascade eighth, 1,027,410.

The different counties disposed of 692,707 pelts since March 1 last, at an average price of 8 1/2 cents per pound; Yellowstone county sold 24,887 pounds at from 7 to 10 cents.

The report says that 25,074 sheep were destroyed during the year by wolves and coyotes, the loss in Yellowstone county being placed at 1,600 head. On account of the spring rains the fleeces were light, and although 2 cents per pound better price was realized, the decreased weight making the profit to the sheepmen but little better than the previous year. The report criticizes the action of the state board of equalization in regard to the valuation placed upon sheep of \$1 per head higher than in any other state.

The expenses of the commission for the year were \$9,036, of which nearly \$1,600 was expended for inspection. The receipts were \$3,826, as compared with \$2,896 the previous year, and there is now \$5,880 in the state treasury to the credit of the sheep inspector and indemnity fund. The sheep of Montana were assessed at \$3,803,944, or an average of \$2.60 1/2 per head.

In conclusion the report says: Reliable statistics show that there were 8,000,000 pounds of wool marketed at Great Falls this season, probably 4,000,000 pounds at Billings and 2,500,000 pounds at Big Timber, or more than one-half of the entire clip of the state at these three markets. Estimating the wool product of the state at not far from 20,000,000 pounds, and the average price at 16 cents per pound, would indicate something more than \$3,000,000 received from that source. From the lamb crop and sales of mutton half as much more might be added, making the total yield something near \$4,500,000. Though Montana may be regarded as a healthy country for sheep, no general disease having made its appearance since the introduction in 1870, and no such destructive droughts have been experienced as in Australia, yet with the best care, attention and shelter, with feed for seasons of storm, there is considerable loss occurring. Wolves and coyotes levy continual tribute, many die from eating poisonous weeds and many more in untimely storms and sudden floods and from piling up and smothering in cold storms.

## BILLINGS MEN WIN.

The Old A. E. Ross & Co. Case Settled by the Supreme Court.

At Helena, yesterday, the supreme court settled the A. E. Ross & Co. case, the former Billings druggists, in which Noyes Bros. & Cutler, wholesalers of St. Paul, charged L. H. Fenske and A. E. Ross with having executed a fraudulent mortgage. The latter gentlemen won the case in the district court in this county and now the supreme court affirms the action of the lower court. The question that had to be considered by the higher court was whether there was fraud committed in the execution of a chattel mortgage that permitted the mortgagor to remain in possession, to carry on the business, make purchases and draw out a sufficient sum each month for living expenses. The court says that while it is a very close point whether a mortgage so entered into is valid, it cannot under the circumstances say that this mortgage was made in bad faith and with intent of defrauding the other creditors.

## FOR SLAUGHTERING GAME.

Three Cree Indians Arrested by the Game Warden.

J. W. Collins, the new game warden for Yellowstone county, is going to earn his salary, as an evidence of which he has already arrested three Cree Indians for slaughtering game. It was chiefly on account of the Cree slaughtering game in the northern part of the county that a game warden was appointed and, naturally, Mr. Collins determined to make an example of the Cree. Visiting the camp of seven or eight Cree bucks last Saturday near Antelope springs, about twenty-five miles north of the city, the game warden found the carcasses and heads of forty or fifty deer and antelope, and besides, succeeding in purchasing some venison from the Cree, which in itself, is a misdemeanor.

Then Mr. Collins arrested three of the bucks and brought them to Billings and lodged them in jail. Whether he will be able to convict them or not is another matter, as it will be hard to prove just who killed the game, but the Indians can be fined for selling venison, just the same. And, if convicted of illegally killing game, and it is known that a few weeks ago they slaughtered an entire band of antelope, they can and no doubt will, be sent to the penitentiary. The Indians will be arraigned before a justice of the peace in a day or two for a preliminary hearing and, if it is possible to do so, a case will be made out against them.

## A BILLINGS "CHUMP."

He Was Rolloed in Lincoln, Neb., Last Week of \$165.

Lincoln, (Neb.) Journal, Dec. 15: "James Donald of Billings, Mont., was robbed of \$165 in Lincoln last night. The robbery occurred at 11:30, but was not reported to the police for some time afterward. Donald says he met a colored woman on Eleventh, between O and N streets, who asked him to accompany her through the alley. He did so. He soon left her company and later found that he was \$180 short. He went back through the alley and found \$15 in bills on the ground where she had dropped them when she took his pocketbook out. He was still \$165 shy. He reported the matter to the police and the case was taken up at once. The book contained one \$100 bill and one \$50 bill."

It is not known here who James Donald is, but the gentleman is evidently a "chump" of the first water. If he does not know better than to frequent alleys in a strange city with colored women, he deserves to be robbed. He likely gave an assumed name to the Lincoln police, but deserves to have his right name given to the public.

## THE CHARITY MARTIN

Grand Opera Recital and Ellis Brooks Musical Spectacle.

This is, without doubt, one of the very best musical entertainments before the public, and will be seen in Billings Christmas evening. Note what some of the principal papers say of the artists connected with this organization.

Her voice is wonderful.—Chicago Journal.

She is queenly and beautiful, and has a pure and well trained voice.—Times-Herald, Chicago.

Remarkable voice of great sweetness and volume. She strikes her highest notes full and clear.—Chicago Tribune.

Beautiful and charming, and certainly one of the best singers ever heard.—Peoria Transcript.

A voice of great range, marvelously melodious and entrancing to an audience.—Boston Herald.

The pride of America. No voice like it.—Louisville Journal.

She captivated everyone from the start; no artist ever received such enthusiastic, round upon round of applause.—Toronto Globe.

There is but one Patti; and there is but one Charity Martin. A marvelous voice. America bows to her.—Philadelphia Press.

## WITH BEACH & BOWERS.

A Company That Keeps Its Promises and Does More—It's All Right.

This great minstrel organization, which will appear in Billings next Saturday evening, is thus spoken of by the Quincy (Ill.) Daily Herald:

There is at least one minstrel company in the world that fulfills all promises and goes its audiences several better. It is the Beach & Bowers aggregation. It is no "100-count 'em—100" company, but it has twenty-seven and everyone has something to do and does it well. It has a tenor singer with almost a soprano voice and sweet withal; it has John Francis Biers, the human cel; it has Otis Bowers, one of the funniest burnt-cork comedians on the stage; it has a good eccentric musical duo, and two good kook-about teams, one in pantomime, the other in song and tragedy; it has a pig that drinks milk from the bottle, and a kennel of educated dogs, and many other features. Beach & Bowers give two solid hours of fun and that's as much as other minstrel companies do for four times the money. They played to a packed house last evening at the Empire, and will have another big house tonight.

## HE PRAISES BILLINGS

State Superintendent Carleton  
Writes About the Special  
School Tax.

## PROUD OF OUR TOWN

It Appreciates Its Schools and Has  
Set an Example for Other  
Cities.

Billings has made a name for herself as the friend of education. While other cities of the state will be compelled to close their schools by reason of the supreme court having recently decided that all special school taxes levied under the present law are illegal, the Billings schools will remain open nine months in the year. As announced in The Gazette a week or so ago, only four taxpayers in this city declined to pay the special tax, while in Carbon county very few of the taxpayers made it; in Gallatin, no attempt was made to collect it; in Deer Lodge, Anaconda is taking up a collection to keep the schools open; the Helena schools are embarrassed, and so it goes all over the state. But Billings stood loyally by her schools, which State Superintendent E. A. Carleton acknowledges in a letter to Judge J. R. Goss, president of the school board, as follows:

Helena, Mont., Dec. 16, 1899.—Judge J. R. Goss, Billings, Mont.: Dear Sir—I was very much gratified to learn that the taxpayers of District No. 2, in which is the city of Billings, had paid, as special school tax, the sum of \$5,400, leaving only \$100 unpaid. The voluntary payment by your citizens of \$5,400 of taxes for the support of schools, which, strictly speaking, was a donation or contribution, since the tax was wholly illegal, is a record of which any city in this country might well be proud, and shows an appreciation of and a unanimity for public schools that I have never seen before. I doubt if this record has been surpassed in the United States. The large amount of money collected is not the most remarkable feature, although that is itself remarkable, but the fact that all of this illegal tax, with the exception of \$100 only, was paid by your patriotic people.

Billings has set the example for other districts affected by the special tax decision. I am gratified to see that the Northern Pacific Railway company paid its special tax the same as the citizens. I trust this public spirited policy of the Northern Pacific, which all friends of public education keenly appreciate in this emergency, will be adopted by the other railway companies doing business in the state. Railroads would do little business in Montana if only a few lived in the state, and few will remain unless we have reasonable terms of school. I congratulate you most heartily upon making a magnificent showing. Your people have placed themselves in the van. I do not wonder that a city made up of such citizens is prosperous and is growing rapidly.

On behalf of all good friends of public schools throughout the state, I desire to thank your people for this signal manifestation of their belief in and devotion to the cause of public education. Very sincerely,  
E. A. Carleton,  
Superintendent Public Instruction.

## CHRISTMAS RHETORICALS.

Interesting Exercises at the Billings Public Schools, Next Friday.

The pupils of Miss Crawford's room will give their programme at 2:40 p. m. at their room. The exercises consist chiefly of recitations and songs about Santa Claus and the Christmas time.

Miss Edwards' first grade pupils will join with those of Miss Carns in the latter room. Friends of both rooms are most cordially invited to attend.

Miss Pilcher's room, at the Third ward school, will give their Christmas programme, assisted by Miss Hood's pupils, whose guests they were at Thanksgiving time.

Miss Gordon sends her full programme, which cannot be printed on account of our limited space. This significant note is appended: "At the close of the exercises the children will prepare 'something' as a surprise for mamma; 'something' that is their own work."

Miss Lawrence's pupils have added to the usual songs, speaking, drills, etc., a Dewey exercise by the boys in which "D." the Filipino, is Admiral Dewey.

In the high school, exercises are given by the Irving Rhetorical society. The programme is not especially prepared for Christmas, but visitors, they hope, will be pleased to attend, nevertheless.

Are you not interested in these exercises? Can you not spare your children and the schools this small portion of your attention?

## Christmas Dinner...

## What You Should Have

Turkey,  
Celery,  
Cranberries,  
Oysters,  
Plum Pudding,  
Nuts,  
Raisins,  
Currants,  
Candied Peel,

—AT—  
Donovan  
&  
Spear's  
Cash Store

Remember, that about the middle of January the Irving and Longfellow societies will give their mid-year rhetorical at the opera house.

## MORE RAILROAD TALK.

Burlington Surveyors on the Stinking-water—The Montana Railroad.

The Chance correspondent to the Carbon County Democrat has the following to say concerning a probable B. & M. survey:

A man supposed to be connected with the B. & M. railroad has been looking over the Elk basin coal district on Silver Tip lately with a view, it is presumed, of ascertaining the feasibility of constructing a railroad to the mines. We also understand that the B. & M. surveyors, who have been surveying down Sage creek, have been re-called and are surveying a route up the big Stinkingwater bench, close to these coal mines. The coal in these mines has been thoroughly tested and found to be the best yet found in the west, and is attracting much attention, so who knows but what we will have a big mining town to the east of us and hear the B. & M. train whistle in the near future.

Anaconda Standard: It is reported that the Montana railroad company's line will soon become a part of the Northern Pacific system, either by lease or purchase, and it is further stated that the road is to be extended by the way of Winniwook and Shawmut to Billings.