

FERGUS COUNTY DEMOCRAT

Published by Democrat-News Co., Inc.

The Official Paper of Fergus County

Tom Stout President, Harry E. Lay Manager, E. G. Ivins Editor



Entered at the postoffice at Lewistown, Montana, as second-class matter.

Subscribers, Notice—In ordering your paper changed to a new address, mention old address also, to insure prompt delivery.

Subscription rates: One year, in advance \$2.00; Six months, in advance 1.25; Three months, in advance .75.

MAKE LEWISTOWN A BETTER PLACE IN WHICH TO LIVE

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1916.

A REMARKABLE NOTE.

Of course the ablest minds in Germany contributed their thought to the framing of the German reply on the submarine business.

It may well be that the unfriendly tone is intended for home consumption, while the concessions that tone conveys are intended for Washington.

The German note has cleared up the situation pretty completely. Long delays in the past while diplomatic exchanges were being made could not, of course, be avoided.

That is the status of affairs and it is perfectly well understood, by Germany, since its own declaration as to the instructions given its commanders leaves it in that situation.

THE MEXICAN AGREEMENT.

All of the news from Mexico indicates that an agreement has been reached between the representatives of the United States and the de facto government under which, it is safe to say, the right of the people of the United States to peace and security will be safeguarded.

Possibly the First Chief regards the agreement as a compromise in which he has accepted something less than he wished; but, on the other hand, the persuasive logic of General Scott may have caused Mexican officials to see that there are two sides to the question over which the differences arose.

Fortunately, the relations of the two governments have remained amicable, and such an impression has been made upon the de facto government that it is not unreasonable to think that effective steps will be taken to prevent a recurrence of such outrages as that which caused the intervention.

BENIGN PURPOSE OF PREPAREDNESS.

The most benign and peaceful thing the United States can do at this hour is to get ready for trouble because if we are good and ready, trouble of this kind cannot come to us, says the Wichita, Kansas Reason.

LUXENBURG'S DEFIANCE.

The smallest and most defenseless of all the nations which have defied the Teutonic military power, little Luxenburg, has been the most successful in her defiance.

High Standards

One reason why this bank has become a large factor in the financial and commercial affairs of Lewistown and Fergus county is:

That it has always maintained a high standard of ideals:

It has confined its business to strictly legitimate channels and has always sought stability before profits;

It has won the confidence of banks and business men;

It welcomes accounts with business men and individuals who recognize the value of high standards in business.

Bank of Fergus County

Lewistown, Montana

CAPITAL and SURPLUS \$500,000.00

The Oldest State Bank in Montana

AS TO PEACE.

The two vague references to Germany's willingness to consider terms for peace, contained in the last Berlin note to Washington, have not attracted any particular attention because it is well understood that they really amount to nothing at this time.

Upon the basis of these possessions Germany would, of course, discuss peace at any time. On the other hand, the allies claim to be absolutely convinced that the German grip is loosening and that the hour draws near when she will be brought to her knees.

GREAT NORTHERN TO BUILD.

Another very welcome bit of news is that brought here by City Attorney Kirkland from Seattle, announcing the plans of the Great Northern for resuming work on the long tunnel a few miles east of Lewistown, the intention of the company being to complete the line to Grass Range by winter, while other information indicates that the Great Northern will, in all probability, continue the line on from Grass Range to Winnett this year.

As matters now stand, we seem thus practically assured of the extension of the Milwaukee from Grass Range to Winnett this year and likewise of the construction of the Great Northern from Lewistown to Grass Range, with a chance that this extension will be carried considerably further on in 1916.

THE TRUE ALLEGIANCE.

There is the right ring to the resolutions unanimously passed by both houses of the legislature of New York. They fitly interpret the common feeling by declaring a purpose to give unqualified support to the president and the congress in any action for the defense of the national interests.

Now that the complete official returns are in, the Democrat can extend congratulations to David Hilger upon his selection as one of the delegates to the democratic national convention.

Only he who knows what it means to hew a home out of the forest; of what is involved in the task of replacing mighty trees with corn; only he who has watched the loghouse rising in the clearing, and has witnessed the devotedness that gathers around the old log schoolhouse, . . . can understand how sobriety, decency, age, devoutness, beauty and power belong to the story of those who began the mighty task of changing the wild west into the heart of a teeming continent.—Jenkin Lloyd Jones.

Germany now admits that her submarine sank the Sussex, and adds that the commander of the sub has been suitably punished. Because of a poor pen and lack of time, the nature of the punishment is not indicated.

THE MURDER OF GEO. CRAWFORD

ALL THE FACTS BROUGHT OUT AT INQUEST HELD THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

VERDICT RETURNED BY THE JURY

Coroner George R. Creel Thursday conducted an inquest upon the body of George Crawford, the homesteader who was shot and killed last Sunday afternoon in the Forest Grove section by Pat Berger, a half breed.

The investigation was a lengthy and thorough one, the facts established being exactly as stated in the Democrat last week.

Summarizing the evidence, it seems that last Sunday Max Longevin, a brother-in-law of Pat Berger, left the Berger place Sunday morning to reload a lot of furniture that had been displaced and scattered in a runaway while he was taken to his house, which is only a few feet from Crawford's cabin.

Immediately following, and in response to questions by Mrs. Longevin, sister of Pat, she stated that she had killed the man for her, as Crawford was going to kill her last summer. He also stated to his brother-in-law, Mr. Longevin that he had killed Crawford for Longevin.

Max Longevin, whose wife is Berger's sister, testified at length as to the reloading of the furniture and the incident of Crawford's coming up the road while they were engaged in the work. After Crawford left, Pat slipped away and went to the Berger home.

She testified that Pat was undoubtedly under the influence of liquor, Mrs. Longevin, a sister of Pat, who also saw him pass her house Sunday afternoon, watched him and saw him fire the two shots. She rushed out and asked him what he had done. Pat replied: "I've finished him. Go and see him. I did this for you. He was going to kill you last summer but wouldn't let him do it again."

John Berger, Teddy Berger and Joe Berger, brothers of Pat, testified to the statement of the prisoner when he reached home, immediately after the tragedy, to the effect that he had killed Crawford and was prepared to take the consequences.

Mabel Smith, who was also at the Longevin's place when the shooting occurred, related the circumstances as related by Mrs. Longevin and Mrs. Lavadure.

Lincoln Walker, William Everett, William Woods and Ed Rosenhall all testified to circumstances following the tragedy, chiefly as related to their efforts to keep Berger under guard until the officers arrived.

The rest of the evidence was unimportant. Mrs. Crawford, widow of the murdered man, arrived yesterday morning from Alberta, Canada, only six miles over the line from Montana and listened to the testimony. She states that Mr. Crawford was 55 years of age. They have two children.

CRAWFORD FUNERAL.

The funeral of the late George Crawford, the homesteader who was shot and killed at his place in the Forest Grove district last Sunday by Pat Berger, was held Saturday morning from Creel's chapel, the service being conducted by Rev. C. M. Donaldson, who referred to the tragic death of the decedent as resulting from the use of strong drink by the slayer, the sad affair illustrating the necessity for banishing the evil from the state.

NEW SCHEDULE NOW IN EFFECT

CHANGE IN TIME ON THE MILWAUKEE KEEPS EVERYBODY VERY BUSY.

The Milwaukee passenger station was a busy place Monday, employees, passengers and others concerned being under adjustment to the new schedule, and further apparent by additional equipment assigned to local trains which was in evidence.

The Great Northern announces a special train service from St. Paul to New York for the National Educational association, which will be in session in the latter city.

A. B. C. HERE.

Chain Agent Andrew Bullwinkel of the Milwaukee is here on official business.

HALF BILLION BUSHELS OF WINTER WHEAT FORECAST FOR YEAR 1916

WASHINGTON, May 8.—Almost half a billion bushels is the winter wheat harvest forecast for this year by the department of agriculture in its May crop report.

The heaviest abandonment occurred, the department reported, "in the important group of winter wheat extending from Ohio through Indiana to Illinois, where it reached its maximum intensity and through Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri, ranging from 18 per cent in Ohio and Iowa to 33 per cent in Illinois.

The activity of the green bug during the winter in Texas, with a severe winter drought, caused an abandonment of 33 per cent of the sown acreage in that state. In Montana and Washington, conditions similar to those in the central states caused a loss of 25 and 20 per cent, respectively, of 20 per cent.

Present conditions of growth are poorest in the central group of states, where winter killing was most severe, the conditions ranging from 23 per cent below the 10-year average condition at this season in Illinois, down to 10 per cent below in Iowa. In Montana and Washington the condition is 11 per cent below the 10-year average. Elsewhere abandonment is slightly greater and conditions poorer than usual, except that in Nebraska and Kansas and a few other important wheat states, it is a trifle better than usual.

"The Atlantic coast crop is generally fair to good. The increase over the condition figure of 78.3 per cent last month is due partly to the elimination of the abandoned acreage from consideration in determining the present condition.

"Hessian fly reported as active in many sections last fall is not seemingly so much in evidence, although reported from scattered localities, particularly in central Kansas.

"Acreage abandonment in the east central states would have been probably somewhat greater except that weather conditions interfered with spring field work, and the hay seed in winter wheat ground is showing so favorable a stand that many farmers prefer to accept an unprofitable wheat crop rather than lost the good catch of hay."

WASHINGTON, May 8.—The winter wheat crop this year promises to yield 499,280,000 bushels, the department of agriculture announced today, basing its forecast on the condition of the crop of May 1. The output will probably be above or below these figures according to the change in conditions from now until time of harvest.

Today's forecast harvested last year, the greatest winter wheat crop ever gathered in this country and with a forecast of 540,000,000 bushels made last December before the crop entered the rather poor condition, showing a decline of 9.4 points compare with the 10-year average decline of 3.5 points.

On the crop's condition April 1, a forecast of 495,000,000 bushels was made by the bureau of crop estimation of acreage and average influences on the crop of harvesting time.

Sixty Years the Standard



BAKING POWDER Made from cream of tartar derived from grapes. NO ALUM

crease of 4,756,000 acres from the record area of the 1915 crop and compares with a yearly average of 32,088,000 acres in the preceding five years.

The condition of winter wheat on May 1, was 83.4 per cent of a normal as compared with 78.3 on April 1, last, 92.9 on May 1 last year and 87.5, the 10-year May 1 average. That condition is indicative of a yield of 15.1 bushels an acre, compared with 16.2 bushels harvested last year, and 19.0 bushels in 1914.

The largest reduction in average sown last fall was attributed partly to unfavorable weather for seeding, tangled condition of much corn land which otherwise would have been sown to wheat, some fear of the Hessian fly and to large supplies of wheat on hand.

A wet, cold fall, causing poor seed beds and poor start for wintering resulted in a low condition this spring. Much of the crop was sown late and the Hessian fly was reported present and active in many sections of the southern part of the winter wheat belt. Climatic conditions were harder on late sown, the winter covering was lighter than usual, and the injury from freezing and thawing was greater than in previous years.

Other details of the May report show: Rye—Condition, 88.7 per cent of a normal, compared with 87.8 on April 1, last, 93.3 on May 1 last year, and 30.6 the 10-year May 1 average.

Oats—Condition, 82.4 per cent of a normal, compared with 89.8 on May 1 last year and 88.3 as the 10-year May 1 average.

Hay—Stocks of hay on farms May 1, estimated at 1,049,000 tons, or 15.08 per cent of last year's crop, as against 8,468,000 tons, or 12.1 per cent on May 1 last year, and 8,190,000 tons, or 12.1 per cent the 5-year May 1 average.

Pastures: Condition 85.2 per cent of a normal, against 87.2 on May 1 last year, and 85.9, the 10-year May 1 average.

Spring Plowing: Was 70.4 per cent completed up to May 1, compared with 78.2 on May 1 last year, and 68.8, the 10-year May 1 average.

Spring Planting: Was 50.7 per cent completed up to May 1, compared with 67.3 on May 1 last year, and 55.9 the 10-year May 1 average.

BUILDING NEW HOUSE.

John Larson, the contractor, is building a five-room modern home in Park addition for Charles Stephens, and expects to soon be erecting another five room house for Frank Lane, in the same locality.

WILL SHIP ORE.

Vincent Gies is getting ready to ship a carload of ore from his silver-gold claims near Gilt Edge. He has a vein of ore that runs high in these metals and which will pay handsomely for shipment.

Mr. and Mrs. G. McFarland, Mrs. P. J. Moore, M. A. Moore and G. F. Moore, all well known residents of Two Dot, are in the city.

Business Cards

- AXEL REFER Civil Engineer and Surveyor, U. S. Mineral Surveyor, Phone 138; room 402, Bank Electric Building. DRS. STRYKER & TAYLOR Osteopathic Physicians, Room 202, Wise block; phone 295. Graduates American School, under A. T. Still, founder of osteopathy. EDGAR G. WORDEN Attorney-at-Law, First National Bank Building, Practice in All Courts and U. S. Land Office. J. G. SMITH Baggage and Transfer Office, phone 538, Residence phone 300, Call us for quick service. MISS RUTH P. COOK Teacher of Piano and Harmony, Pupil of Theodore Bohlmann, Phone No. 92. DR. L. H. TOOLEY Dentist, Rooms 4 and 5, Commercial Building, Telephone 32.

McChesney Bros. Engineering Co.

Lewistown, Mont. Engineers and Machinery Specialists Tractors, Plows, Threshing Machinery, Gasoline and Oil Engines, Farm Electric Light Plants, Farm Machinery, Feed Mills, etc. See us before you buy. Near Gt. N. Depot.