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STOCK RAISING HOMESTEADS.

The passage of the Ferris 640-acre homestead measure by the house of representatives about a month ago, and the consideration of the bill by a senate committee, encourages the belief that congress will amend the homestead law at the present session. There is said to be objection to some features of the Ferris bill, but its general purpose may be accomplished by a few changes in its provisions, says the River Press.

It is provided in this "stock raising homestead" measure that the lands to which it may apply shall be fit only for grazing purposes, and shall be designated as such by the secretary of the interior. This requirement will delay the operation of the law for a considerable time, in the event that congress takes favorable action in the matter in the near future.

The method of acquiring a stock raising homestead under the proposed law is described in these provisions:

That any qualified homestead entryman may make entry under the homestead laws of lands so designated by the secretary of the interior, according to legal subdivisions, in areas not exceeding 640 acres, and in compact form so far as may be subject to the provisions of this act, and secure title thereto by compliance with the terms of the homestead laws; provided that a former homestead entry of land of the character described in section two hereof shall not be a bar to the entry of a tract within the radius of twenty miles from such former entry under the provisions of this act, subject to the requirements of law as to residence and improvements, which, together with the former entry, shall not exceed 640 acres; provided further, that instead of cultivation as required by the homestead laws the entryman shall be required to make permanent improvements upon the land entered before final proof is submitted tending to increase the value of the same for stock-raising purposes, of the value of not less than \$1.25 per acre, and at least one-half of such improvements shall be placed upon the land within three years after the date of the entry thereof.

That any homestead entryman of lands of the character herein described, who has not submitted final proof upon his existing entry, shall

have the right to enter, subject to the provisions of this act, such amount of contiguous lands designated for entry under the provisions of this act as shall not, together with the amount embraced in his original entry, exceed 640 acres, and residence upon the original entry shall be credited on both entries, but improvements must be made on the additional entry equal to \$1.25 for each acre thereof.

That persons who have submitted final proof upon, or received patent for lands of the character herein described under the homestead laws, and who own and reside upon the land so acquired, may, subject to the provisions of this act, make additional entry for and obtain patent to contiguous lands designated for entry under the provisions of this act, which, together with the area theretofore acquired under the homestead law, shall not exceed 640 acres, on proof of the expenditure required by this act on account of permanent improvements upon the additional entry.

MONTANA'S VOTING STRENGTH.

After the election of a year ago last fall the Anaconda Standard called attention to the fact, shown in the election returns, that for the first time the vote of that section of the state usually called eastern Montana, was larger than that cast in the part of the state which has usually been classed as western Montana. Lately some of the eastern Montana newspapers have been commenting on the fact that the supremacy in population has passed to the eastern part of the state, which has been settling rapidly in recent years and comparatively has increased faster than the western section. The Big Timber Pioneer publishes an interesting table of figures showing that the eastern section is now superior in population, in number of school children and in voting strength. In the state department's report of the total number of school children in Montana it appears that 78,061 reside in the eastern part of the state and 57,661 in the western part. Multiplying the number of school children by four and one-fourth, the multiple given by the state department for computing the population of the state, as based on the school census, and the results shows that the population of the eastern portion of the state is 331,755 as against a population of 205,517 in the western section.

These figures emphasize a tendency which was already apparent at the election in the fall of 1914. At that election more votes were cast in the eastern than in the western section of the state for the first time in the state's history. At that election the superior voting strength of the eastern section was very slight, but it will probably be greater at the next election. The counties usually classed as of eastern Montana are Gallatin, Park, Sweet Grass, Stillwater, Carbon, Yellowstone Musselshell, Big Horn, Rosebud, Custer, Fallon, Wibaux, Dawson, Richland, Sheridan, Valley,

NATIONAL TEAM WORK --- BY BART



Fergus, Blaine, Hill, Chouteau, Cascade, Meagher and Prairie. The total vote of these counties on the question of suffrage was 39,513, while the total vote of the state on this question was 78,895, giving the eastern section a slight majority.

While the transfer of supremacy in voting strength to the eastern section of the state is interesting, it is of little importance for, as the years pass, less and less attention is paid to sections and, as the state has grown in population, wealth and importance, the whole state has grown closer together. The people of all parts of the state realize that their interests are identical. Neither in conventions nor in legislative sessions is there now the disposition to work for one section as against other sections that was manifested a number of years ago.—Anaconda Standard.

BOTTOM HAS NOT DROPPED OUT

The latest bulletin issued by the bureau of labor statistics at Washington shows clearly that the high cost of living which the Baltimore platform, adopted in 1912, declared to be "a serious problem in every American home," is as serious now as then, says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The platform on which Mr. Wilson stood and was elected, insisted that the republican party was "attempting to escape from its responsibility for high prices by denying that they are due to a protective tariff. We take issue with them on this subject," it continued, "and charge that the excessive prices result in a large measure from the high tariff laws enacted and maintained by the republican party."

While a great majority of the voters did not think so, and voted against Mr. Wilson, and the theory of his platform, their vote was so divided that he and a democratic majority in both houses of congress were put in office. They immediately proceeded to make as sweeping reductions in tariff duties as if the country had given them a direct mandate. While this work was in progress, people were being assured that the bottoms would drop out when the new tariff law became effective. The bottoms of many things did, in fact, drop out, as was clearly and quickly shown in the heavy declines in railway freight tonnage. But that the bottom has not dropped out of the prices of things which enter into the cost of living, this official bulletin clearly proves.

Taking 100 as the average price in seventeen commodities and forty-five cities during 1914, comparison is made with the average of prices in the same commodities and cities between January and September, 1915. The most damaging admission is found in the statement that "in September, 1915, prices showed a decline

from September, 1914, of 5 per cent, and were the same as for September, 1913." In September, 1913, the country was still under the protective tariff law, and still, according to the Baltimore platform, groaning under the high cost of living entailed by "the high tariff laws enacted and maintained by the republican party."—Helena Record.

"PREPAREDNESS."

If there is one thing that the city is sadly in need of, it is an organized fire department and the equipment necessary to give protection in a city of this size.

Wednesday, W. L. Harnan, inspecting engineer of the board of fire underwriters of the Pacific, was in the city and stated that if nothing was done in this direction, the companies would be forced to raise the insurance rates. He found, however, that concerted action to organize a fire department already been started and stated that he would withhold his recommendation for an advance in rates pending the completion of the organization.

The Commercial club is back of the movement to organize a volunteer fire department and the city council stands ready to give it the necessary backing and it is now up to the citizens to get together and organize. By organizing a volunteer department, and purchasing additional equipment, the insurance rates will be lowered instead of being raised, and the difference in premiums alone in one year would more than offset the expense of getting a department on its feet. It is a question of vital importance to everyone in the city.

Speaking of the fire loss in the United States during the past year, the Anaconda Standard says:

The fire protection movement is meeting with a measure of success at least for the total fire losses in the United States during the past year were less than during any other year in a decade. The total losses in 1915 were \$182,836,200, while the total losses in 1914 were \$235,591,300. This is a gratifying improvement, showing the results of earnest and continuous work.

The movement to reduce fire waste was begun only about five years ago. Since then there has been a persistent campaign in schools and newspapers, and by means of talks, lectures and the circulation of documents and circulars to arouse the people to greater care to prevent fire and to more adequate protection from fire. The legislatures of nearly all states have passed laws for better fire protection and building regulations have been improved so as to lessen the danger of fire. It is gratifying that these efforts have resulted in less fire loss, the success being no less

marked than that which has attended the "safety first" movement. But the loss from fire is still far greater than it should be. The great work of education must still go on. It is estimated that 30 per cent of the fires in the United States each year are due to carelessness and could be prevented by reasonable precaution. It is hoped that there will be a more marked improvement in 1916 than there was in the past year.

With the democratic party in Montana split asunder and the same party in the nation in a schism of great extent, it appears to the bystander to be a case demanding urgent and assiduous application of the political pulmotor.—Helena Record.

Wilson says he is unwilling to enter into a contest for renomination, which position is probably due to the fact that he realizes that he is going to have some real contest before election day—one in which he will come out second best.

Also the Wilson announcement leaves room for a large-sized "if" concerning the somewhat uncertain stand of the Commoner. But probably he will stand back of Wilson—with a knife, says the Record.

Society News

By Our Society Editor

Miss Hazel Burkhart of Nashua was the guest of Miss Rose Lezie Sunday and Monday.

Helping Hand Society

The Helping Hand society will meet at the Baptist church next Thursday, February 24. They will be entertained by Mrs. Pease and Mrs. Horton.

The Foreign Missionary society of the M. E. church held their monthly meeting at the parsonage Wednesday afternoon. The study of China was taken up and it proved to be a very interesting program.

Mrs. Pierce Entertains

Mrs. Thomas Pierce was hostess at a delightful three course dinner that was held at her home Monday evening. The guests were Rev. Brittain, Mr. and Mrs. Pease, Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. White, and Misses Ethel and Ella Pease.

Young Mother's Club

The Young Mother's club were entertained last Saturday at the home of Mrs. Clarence Hall. There were seven members and three guests present and all report an interesting and pleasant afternoon. As the next meeting of the club has been postponed, notice of the first meeting will be published in the papers.

Art Club

The Sunflower Art club met at the beautiful new home of Mrs. Rugg last Friday afternoon. Mrs. Rugg read a very interesting paper on "The Women of the Bible," and the remainder of the afternoon was spent socially. At the close of the meeting a dainty three course luncheon was served. Next week the club will be entertained by Mrs. George Rapp at the home of Mrs. Walter Hurd.

Tuesday Bridge Club

The Tuesday Bridge club was entertained by Mrs. Wm. Stafford Tuesday afternoon. The rooms were prettily decorated in keeping with St. Valentine's day. Mrs. Ruder, Mrs. Jameson and Mrs. Harvey Booth were outside guests who substituted for absent members during the afternoons play. Mrs. J. E. Arnot won the prize for high score. An appropriate two course St. Valentine's luncheon was served at the close of the meeting.

M. E. Ladies' Aid.

The Ladies Aid society of the Methodist church was entertained at the home of Mrs. John Willis, by Mrs. Arnot and Mrs. Willis Wednesday afternoon. A large amount of business was transacted and plans were gone over for the coming year. At the conclusion of the meeting a splendid luncheon was served. The next meeting will be held on March 1, when the society will be entertained by Mrs. Glen Liskum and Mrs. C. O. Tegnell.

Needlework Guild

In view of the stand being taken on the subject of "Preparedness" throughout the United States, and in order to prevent the members of the Needlework guild from enrolling with

new societies organized for this purpose, we beg to state that the Glasgow branch is already prepared for immediate action in collecting new garments and surgical supplies in case of any emergency of calamity in this country, and that it will gladly welcome new members for this cause.

Information may be had by addressing the president.
GLADYS TWITCHELL
Glasgow, Montana.

RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.

Whereas, Our Heavenly Father in His divine wisdom has permitted the angel of death to enter our commandery and remove from among us Sir Knight William McLellan,

Resolved, While we bow in submission to Him, who doeth all things well, we extend to the mourning wife our heartfelt sympathy in this hour of her bereavement; we realize in his death our commandery has lost a true and faithful sir knight.

May the bereaved wife find comfort and consolation in these lines:

"Goodbye till morning comes again;
The shade of death bring thought of pain,
But could we know how short the night
That falls and hides them from our sight,
Our hearts would sing the glad refrain,
Goodbye till morning comes again."

T. M. PATTEN,
C. R. ST. CLAIR,
R. M. YOUNG,
Committee.

Dated this fourteenth day of February, 1916.

CARD OF THANKS.

To the many kind friends who so nobly aided and sympathized with us in our recent bereavement of husband and father, we extend our heartfelt thanks.

Mrs. William Jeffers and Children.

WALLIS GANG SENTENCED.

Wyatt Willis and John McDonald, who were members of the gang of four which had taken part in several holdups along the line of the Great Northern, culminating with the shooting of a freight brakeman at Big Sandy and the subsequent killing of Richard Wallis, one of the gang, by Deputy Dennis of Great Falls, were given stiff sentences at the Electric City this week. Each was sentenced to serve a prison term of not less than three nor more than five years.

Mr.
Farmer
I Want
Your
Spring
Business

Buy where you
get the most
for your
money

Glen Maris
Cash Hardware
Burke Building
Glasgow, Mont.

On another page of this paper you will find an article about the School Savings System, just adopted by the Board of Education and the three local banks. "The First National" has shown itself especially interested in Savings Accounts for children in the past and now wish to urge the parents again to let this bank take care of the children's savings. They will find an especial welcome at the Savings window, set apart for this class of accounts. Make "The First National" your child's bank as well as your own.

First National Bank
of Glasgow