

WILL BENEFIT MANY SETTLERS

New Bill Introduced to Aid the Homesteaders.

AFFECTS THIS DISTRICT

Hardship Worked on Many Homesteaders Will be Overcome by Bill—May Pass Senate.

A bill, that will be of benefit to many settlers upon the public domain has been introduced by Senator Myers of Montana in the United States senate.

For sometime past many applications for final naturalization papers were turned down by the immigration officers for the reason that the applicants had declared their intention of becoming citizens of the United States, or in other words, had taken out their first citizenship papers in a judicial district other than the one in which they resided.

For instance, many homesteaders filed on land in a different land district than the one where their land is at the present time, and naturally when filing took out their first papers there. In many cases this was in a different judicial district than the district where their homesteads were located, which thus invalidated their declarations, and when these same persons applied for final naturalization papers they were turned down and again required to declare their intention anew, thus precluding many from making final proof upon their homesteads for another two years.

Judge John W. Tattan some time ago called the attention of Senator Myers of this fact.

The bill introduced by Myers has the effect of validating all such declarations made in the counties of Cascade, Chouteau, Teton, Hill, Blaine and Valley. This bill is especially interesting to this community, as there are many homesteaders affected thereby. If this bill is enacted into law, those who took out their first papers in any other judicial district than the seventeenth, or old twelfth, but in the above named counties, will have the right to apply for their final papers if the naturalization laws have been complied with, and the said declarations of intention will have the same force and effect as though in the judicial district in which the applicant resided or had his homestead.

There have been many cases come up within this district where hardship has been worked on many deserving homesteaders, who through an unintentional mistake have been unable to prove up on their homesteads, and if the above bill goes through it will prove a boon to many.

WILL BETTER MAIN LINE.

In connection with the plans of the Great Northern Railway company for the improvement of its line on the western slope of the Rockies, consisting of the elimination or reduction of curvatures and the double tracking of the road, work is just being commenced by the contractors upon another mile of betterments extending west from that strip near Paola which was improved last year.

The contract is in the hands of A. Guthrie and Co. of St. Paul, which concern handled the Paola tunnel and line work last year and whose plant and camp equipment was allowed to remain standing following the completion of last year's work. The company's foremen are now on the ground organizing forces and construction will be in full blast shortly.

This year's work, which will reduce most of the curvature and which will eliminate a couple of 10-degree curves will include the construction of a tunnel 600 feet in length. This will be cut through the mountain with sufficient width to accommodate two tracks, although only one will be maintained for a time until the general scheme of double tracking is carried out. The tunnel will take the place of a smaller single track tunnel 350 feet in length and which was dug with a curvature of 10 degrees. The new tunnel will be bored further back in the hill and will reduce the curve to a minimum.

The rest of the work will consist of some curve reductions and the construction of a grade wide enough to carry two tracks. None of this strip will be double tracked at the present time but it is a part of the scheme for the ultimate double tracking of

the line all the way from Summit down to Columbia Falls.

At the present time that 10-mile stretch of the road between Summit and Java is double tracked, the work having been done several years ago. Last year the grade and tunnels for a mile west of Paola were prepared for double tracking and this year's work will extend that strip about one mile further, practically finishing the work between Paola and Garry. This leaves another 10-mile stretch in between the two pieces to be improved later.

Resident Engineer P. S. Hervin, under whose direction this work is to be carried out, anticipates that the one-mile stretch to be improved this year will be completed by December 1.

WORKING FOR A GRADE CROSSING

Matter Will be Taken Up With Great Northern Officials.

Concerted action on the part of the committees who have been circulating petitions the past week, asking the Great Northern for a grade crossing, has accomplished the desired results, and the delegates to represent the various interests of the city will leave on the first of the week to take the matter up with President L. W. Hill and the officers of the Great Northern.

The fact that the Great Northern is to do a great deal of improvement work here the coming summer, thereby bringing to the city much additional equipment for the work and having a large crew of laborers here, will greatly minimize the cost of putting in the grade crossing.

The city is entering upon an era of unprecedented development and if the crossing is put in this year, it will mean a great saving to the railroad company, as the crossing will become an absolute necessity within the next few years, and the longer it is delayed, the more difficult it will be to put through.

There is no getting away from the many convincing arguments that the city representatives will propound to the Great Northern officials, and the many benefits that both the citizens and the railroad company will derive from a crossing.

Dr. M. D. Hoyt will represent the citizens of Glasgow as a delegate, Alderman W. W. Hurd the city council and R. M. Lewis, the Commercial club, in presenting the petitions to the Great Northern officials and explaining the situation to them.

\$1,000,000 FOR CUT-OFF.

Approximately \$1,000,000 will be spent by the Great Northern railway this year on its New Rockford-Lewistown cut-off across North Dakota and Montana. This is the biggest link in a second transcontinental line for the Great Northern, and it is possible, if conditions remain good, the improvement program may be extended further.

In North Dakota the gap in the new cut-off extends from New Rockford to Arnegard, whence the line runs west to Newton, Mont. Here there is another gap extending to Lewistown. According to plans, work will be started on a line east from Arnegard and west from Newton along a route already surveyed. Between twenty-five and thirty miles of new track are included in the program.

Official announcement of the precise mileage and the places where work will be done will be deferred until the return from California of President Louis W. Hill.

INFORMAL LUNCHEON

Friday night, tonight, at 7 o'clock, the members of the Glasgow Commercial club will give an informal luncheon in the Coleman hotel dining room at which Mr. I. D. O'Donnell, Supervisor of Irrigation of Government Project and Mr. W. W. Schlecht, Milk River Project Manager will be the guests of the club.

Mr. O'Donnell and Mr. Schlecht will each make short talks upon the subject of irrigation. Every member and his wife should be present and bring a friend.

Mr. O'Donnell has made a success of farming near Billings, in the Yellowstone Valley, and he will give us valuable advice worth hearing.

All those who intend to be present are requested to telephone to the Commercial club office their intention to be present.

RIVER NEARING FLOOD STAGE

High Waters Now Cover Low Places in Valley.

DANGER LESSENERED HERE

Freeze Last Night of Great Benefit—Cherry Creek Still Within Its Banks—May Build Dike.

With the steady rise of the waters of the Milk River and the tributary creeks during the past week, Glasgow has been in danger of experiencing one of the worst floods in its history.

The warm weather and daily rainfall has caused the river to run bank full and Thursday night it was over 26 feet above normal. It has still a few feet to go before it will reach the outskirts of the residence district, but if it continues to rise at the rate it has the last few days, the flood cannot be averted.

Not much danger is looked for from the south or east sides of the city, but Cherry creek is the chief cause of worry of those in the flood district. This creek has not been running much water, but the warm weather has started it and with the back water from the Milk River, it is liable to overflow its banks, and if this occurs, a flood may be expected.

Thursday afternoon Cherry creek had several feet to go before it would get above its banks and there has been some talk of building a dike to prevent any of the overflow from reaching the city.

Shortly after sundown last (Thursday) night, the sleet which had been falling all day turned into fine snow and a general freeze-up resulted, which will greatly lessen the danger of a flood for a few days at least.

Water has filled the slough in the south part of town but it has still three or four feet to go before it reaches the furthestmost houses. The Milk river is reported to have overflowed its banks in several of the low places in the west end of town, but there is no immediate danger from this source.

The ice has practically all gone out of the river and the danger of an ice jam has been overcome. Tuesday dynamite was used to break up some of the small jams in the river with good effect.

Wednesday morning numerous residents found that water had come into their basements, having leaked up through the sewer, and pumps and water buckets were in great demand for awhile. There are several feet of water in the basement of the new Rundle building which backed up through the sewer and several other business places have been forced to carry goods out of their basements to escape the water which was seeping in.

The water in the river at Malta has gone down several feet and they are all out of danger there but Saco seems to be in great danger of becoming flooded again. It was reported here yesterday afternoon that Hinsdale was under water but this was dispelled last night when several residents of that city who came down on the skidoo, stated that while the river was running bank full it had not yet entered the town. There are several places on the flats above Hinsdale that are under water caused by ice jams, but Hinsdale is in no immediate danger.

It is believed by those familiar with conditions, that if the Missouri does not jam and the night freezes continue, that the surplus water will be carried off and the danger greatly lessened. Cherry creek is the chief cause of worry and every effort will be made to keep that within its banks.

HOMESEEEKERS COMING.

The annual influx of settlers into Montana has already started, and every west bound train brings its quota of homeseekers.

Homeseekers' rates are now in effect on all railroads, and as a result many are now arriving in this and other parts of the state in search of lands.

While Montana does not get all the homeseeking immigrants, more stop in this state than in any other two in the west. The wonderful resources of Montana, both agricultural and other lines, have been widely advertised in the state exhibits at the California exhibitions and in the campaigns carried on by local chambers of commerce. As a result, Montana

is a household word for opportunity throughout the east. One reason for this is because so many people have come to the Treasure state and found wealth and happiness, and have written to their relatives and friends in the east telling about it.

Railroad officials say that more people have arrived in Montana this year, so far, than any previous year for the same period. If they keep coming at the same rate, the year 1916 will be a record breaker for the number of new voters added to Montana's population.

Dr. W. J. Butler, state veterinarian, has received a report showing that 1,386 emigrant cars have passed through the Minnesota transfer so far this year. Seventy-five per cent of them were headed for this state.

BIG LAND TRACT WILL BE LEASED

Opportunities Offered for Renting State Land at Low Figure.

Register of State Land Sidney Miller has just issued a booklet which he is sending broadcast over the state, calling attention to the excellent opportunities that farmers and stockmen have in northeastern Montana to lease large tracts of state land at an exceptionally low figure.

Mr. Miller calls attention to the fact that there are thousands of acres of good agricultural and leasing land in Valley and Sheridan counties which may be leased for a song, and which will net a neat profit to the farmer or stockman who gets them. In the booklet is set forth in detail the amounts of land and the townships in which they are located.

The grazing land, the booklet sets forth, will be rented in tracts of from a quarter section to a full section. For quarter sections the state receives from \$6 up to \$50 and \$100 per year, according to the quality of the land. Half sections lease from \$12 up, and full sections rent from \$50 to \$100 per year.

For agricultural purposes a quarter section may be rented for from \$20 upward, according to the location and quality of the land, while full sections are listed at from \$150 up to as high as over \$250 per year.

A part of the land included in the lease may be for grazing and a part for agricultural purposes, or all may be for one purpose. A grazing lease may be changed in whole or in part to an agricultural lease by the lessee paying the additional charge for such use and obtaining permission from the register of state lands. Rentals and fees are payable in advance.

Leases may be issued for periods of from one to five years. No more than 640 acres of state land may be issued to one person or corporation. Lessees are protected in such improvements as are allowed to be made on state lands and described in the lease, provided the land is leased or sold to another person. Improvements shall include only the buildings, fencing, a well of water and cultivation. A lessee under the law is entitled to only 75 per cent of the actual value of cultivation and on other improvements to the actual value.

Should any person apply to lease state land upon which there are improvements, placed there by a former lessee, before the lease shall issue the applicant shall file a receipt showing that the price of said improvements has been paid. In case of disagreement of such price the state land agent fixes the price.

Application to lease state land should be made to State Land Register Miller. Any person who shall use or occupy state land without first securing a lease from the state will be regarded as a trespasser, and upon conviction may be fined from \$25 to \$100 for each offense, and each day constitutes a separate offense.

BIRTHS.

The following births have been reported to recorder of vital statistics, C. E. Peterson, the past week:

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Terry, boy, born on March 17; Mr. and Mrs. Horace O. Gamas, girl, born on March 20; Mr. and Mrs. Howard J. Shiell of Pretty Valley, Sask.; girl, born on March 10; Mr. and Mrs. Anton B. Paulson, girl, born on March 13; Mr. and Mrs. Plas Price, girl, born on March 15; Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Perkins, boy, born on March 14; Mr. and Mrs. Ashton Moore, boy, born on March 11.

FLOUR MILL WILL BE BUILT

Minot Milling Company Plan Erection of Big Mill Here.

200 BARREL CAPACITY

Commercial Club Will Donate Site—Machinery Has Been Ordered and Work Will be Rushed.

Before the harvesting of the 1915 crop, Glasgow will have a flour mill. This was the gist of the information imparted to Secretary Moore of the Commercial club by Frank L. Sherman of the Minot Milling company, who was in the city on Tuesday, making arrangements for the erection of the mill here.

Mr. Sherman stated that his organization was ready to start building the 200-barrel mill whenever the Commercial club gave them a site. He stated that Mr. Dunnell, vice president and manager of the Minot Milling company, has already placed the order for the machinery and this will be shipped as soon as the site is available.

The Commercial club is now attending to the details relative of obtaining the title to the property which will be tendered the company for locating the mill and this is the site that Mr. Dunnell inspected while here a few weeks ago and approved of.

The fact that the erection of the mill is a certainty assures Glasgow of a mill with an initial capacity of 200 barrels per day, and which may be increased to 500 barrels daily capacity. There will be elevator and warehouse facilities and the total investment will amount to \$40,000.

This is another indication that the Glasgow Commercial club is bringing new interests and investments into the city and is sufficient showing that money expended for the maintenance of the Commercial club is more than returned to those who support it.

It is anticipated that work will be started on the mill within the next thirty days and it is the plan of Mr. Dunnell to have the mill ready to operate by the time the 1916 harvest season begins.

The Glasgow mill will be operated independently of the Minot mill and will no doubt be known as the Glasgow Milling company, although no definite decision has been made as yet as to what the name of the company will be.

When the opening for a mill at Glasgow was brought to Mr. Dunnell's attention some time ago, it was thoroughly investigated by him and after looking over the entire northern section of Montana, he selected Glasgow as the most desirable site, as it is known that the best milling wheat grown in Montana comes from the northeastern section and Valley county wheat stands in the front rank as making the best bread making flour in the state.

CONCERNING REGISTRATION

In answer to an inquiry from County Attorney George W. Ruffcorn relative to registration by Notaries, Attorney General J. B. Poindexter voices his opinion that it is undoubtedly the intent and meaning of the law that notaries public should act within the precinct of their residence only. If, however, a Notary should register someone residing outside of his precinct, and send the papers to the county clerk, and the county clerk should accept the same, and no contest or exception should ever be taken to it by anyone, it would probably be effective, but it is irregular, and being irregular, it is impossible to predict what the result would be in case of a contest made upon such registration. If the law is followed strictly there can be no grounds for contesting the registration. If it is now followed, an irregularity exists which may or may not cause trouble according to whether it is contested or not.

SETTLERS MAY LEAVE LAND.

Allowing leave of absence to settlers on unsurveyed land the same as permitted those on surveyed land, the national house last week passed house resolution 9691.

This bill provides that settlers on unsurveyed lands may get permission from the local land office to leave the land for not more than five months a year. In making application, however, the approximate location of the land must be given together with a statement that the in-

terior boundary is designated in some manner.

This will be considerable satisfaction to the homesteaders who have stayed on their land during the winter months, not venturing to leave in fear that someone would jump their claim in the spring. The bill now goes to the senate where early action is anticipated.

WHITE FOUND GUILTY.

T. R. White, formerly postmaster of Whitetail, Montana, pleaded guilty this week to the charge of stealing in the federal court in Great Falls \$2,500 from the Whitetail postoffice. He pleaded not guilty to the second charge of embezzlement of funds which amounted to \$2,800. This charge was dismissed. White was sentenced to 20 months at hard labor in the federal prison at Leavenworth on the first charge.

BEGIN CITY PARKS CHRISTLER'S PLEA

Prominent Clergyman Here Wednesday—Urges Tree Planting.

Rev. Leonard J. Christler, the missionary of the western end of the Milk river valley mission field, with headquarters at Havre, while enroute stopped off for a visit with his many friends in this city on Wednesday. Mr. Christler has a warm place in the hearts of Valley county people as is always evidenced by the cordial reception accorded him whenever he appears on our streets, and he never fails to give our city a good boost whenever he can get in a vigorous lick for her.

Mr. Christler's name, like "Brother Van's," the pioneer Methodist missionary in this county, is known in every household, for no clergyman has baptized more children, married and buried more people, or ministered to more homes of trouble and sorrow than Mr. Christler. That he never lets up, but always retains an infectious interest in the welfare and vision of the people of all northern Montana is demonstrated by the fruit-bearing work of the system he is now proposing to towns and cities of all sizes and stages in northern Montana for the immediate development of city parks.

Along with his missionary work Mr. Christler is appearing before commercial bodies in a lecture, "Real and False Value of the Heathen Dollar," and by it pleading for the planting of trees, future park development, and the all-out-of-doors development that tends to beautify streets, homes, lawns, gardens, and with these the mind and soul.

"Begin a city park right now, no matter what your assets. If you haven't sufficient funds, or lack the patriot to give you land and a start, then issue bonds to accomplish it, for in the long run the park and its blessings to the inhabitants of the city will be your greatest asset. Don't wait for years before you think of a park, while in the meantime the old 'Heathen Dollar' is making a heathen out of every one of you, in that you rob it of its real value by wasting or hoarding it in channels where it ceases to enrich, bless and uplift mankind, and thereby has accorded it a value that is quite false."

Judging from the press reports Mr. Christler's talks along this line to the commercial clubs is doing a lot of good for the playground and public park improvement.

NEW MALTA POSTMISTRESS.

It has been officially announced from Washington that Miss Nathalie Patton has received the appointment from President Wilson to the office of postmistress for Malta. The retiring postmaster, F. W. St. Hill, was an appointee of the republican administration, but has held over until the present time. Miss Patton is cashier in the J. F. Kilduff department store and one of the best qualified persons in the city to receive the appointment. Just when the change will be made, but Mr. St. Hill is of the impression it will be April 4, as that is the time his commission was dated.

LONGERGAN GUILTY.

Michael Lonergan, charged with the first degree murder of James C. Duffy, deputy game warden, in Phillipsburg, January 8, was found guilty of murder in the second degree. The punishment was left to be determined by the court.