

LEGISLATURE OPENS MONDAY

Capital City Is Swarming With Lawmakers from Every Part of Treasure State.

NEW GOVERNOR ON SCENE

Will Give His Message to Legislature Tuesday at Joint Session. Helena Will Royally Welcome the Visiting Montanans.

Helena, Dec. 30.—All is in readiness at the state capitol building for the seventeenth legislative assembly of Montana.

At noon on January 3, Secretary of State C. T. Stewart will swing the gavel and call 108 representatives to order, after which he will give the oath of office and all will qualify before being formally seated. At the same time a member of the supreme court will induct the new senators to office.

To prepare for this session it has been necessary to add 11 more seats in each, the senate and house of representatives. The new seats have been placed in both houses.

Of the 11 new counties which were created during the last two years, seven were created by the last legislature and four by popular vote. Roosevelt county was created early in the session and immediately sent a representative to the house.

The counties created by the legislature are McCone, Garfield, Powder River, Pondera, Glacier, Treasure and Roosevelt. The counties created by popular vote are Liberty, Daniels, Golden Valley and Judith Basin.

Members of the seventeenth legislative assembly are beginning to reach Helena in preparation for the opening session next Monday. Most of the lawmakers have made reservations in advance for apartment for the coming two months.

Among those arriving those most recently are the following:

Senator R. P. Custer county, who is accompanied by Mrs. Heren and their daughter, will live at the Electric block.

Senator James Stewart of Meagher and Mrs. Stewart have rooms at the Templeton.

Senator T. L. Clark of Toole county, Senator John L. Slattery of Valley county and Mrs. Slattery, Representatives E. T. Phelps, K. H. Knudsvig and F. B. Gillette of Valley county.

C. R. Swift, representative from Treasure county.

Representatives Percy F. Dodds of Flathead county and Mrs. Dodds.

Others are arriving hourly and are taking up residence at the different apartments especially arranged for their convenience during the session.

Governor S. V. Stewart and family moved Wednesday afternoon from the executive mansion on Warren street to the home he has purchased here located at 504 Dearborn avenue, in preparing to end his administration of eight years and give way to Governor Joseph M. Dixon and family.

Mansion in Readiness.
The executive mansion was put in readiness for Governor and Mrs. Dixon who arrived in Helena today and went directly to the executive mansion where they will make their home. They are accompanied by Miss Dorothy Dixon, a student at the state university and Misses Betty, Mary Jo and Peggy. Miss Florence Dixon, who is a student at the John Hopkins university, Miss Virginia Dixon, who is a teacher in the Missoula high school, and Horace Worden, a cousin, arrived here on the noon train and went to the executive mansion. The family will remain in the city until after the inaugural ceremonies, after which Miss Florence Dixon will return to John Hopkins and the Misses Virginia and Dorothy Dixon will return to Missoula.

Home is Show Place
The executive mansion was purchased eight years ago on the recommendation of former Governor E. L. Norris. The legislature approved the idea and a committee purchased the former residence of the late Peter Larson. The home is among the show places of the capital, has 15 rooms and is modern throughout with every convenience and facility for the state's executive to rest and also to entertain either informally or on a large scale as the occasion may require.

Governor Dixon will deliver his message to the next legislature on Tuesday. The two houses will combine for the occasion and make it a special order of business.

With the arrival in Helena today of Governor and Mrs. Joseph M. Dixon, plans are rapidly being perfected for one of the biggest social events in the history of the state, to which every one in the state is invited. It is the inaugural reception to be held in the governor's reception room at the state house on January 3.

There will be a 25-piece band on the main floor of the state house for the reception, and a 10-piece orchestra will play dance music in the library for all who desire to dance.

In addition to this function residents of Helena are also preparing for the invitations have been sent to Governor and Mrs. Dixon, all state officers and their wives and all members of the legislature and their wives. Already several hundred tickets have been sold for this function, which will be held in the new Shrine mosque on January 7th.

Governor Dixon will assume office at noon on January 3. He will be sworn into office by Chief Justice Brantly of the supreme court, and with him will take the oath an entire set of state officers, all of them Republican, several being holdovers.

The legislature, which is to get down to business January 3 for a session limited by law to 60 days, including Sundays, is also Republican, overwhelmingly. It will consist of a senate

(Continued on Page 7)

GLASGOW R. R. ROUTE NO. 1 TO BE CHANGED JANUARY 1.

Postmaster P. L. Herring announces this week that beginning January First Rural Route No. One running out of Glasgow will go one and five-eighths miles east from the point one mile north of the Copeland School, thence north two miles and west one mile; thence on the old route excepting one mile of the north end of the route which heretofore has been doubled, and which will be cut off.

Service on this route will be cut to three times a week, the trips being made on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. This change has been made necessary because of the fact that so many families have moved to other parts for the winter months.

DIXON DISMISSES CABINET JOB TALK

Says He Will Stick to Position to Which He Is Elected, Re- gardless of Offers.

Missoula, Dec. 30.—Governor-elect Joseph M. Dixon, whose name has been mentioned frequently in connection with Harding's cabinet as possible choice for secretary of the interior, when seen by an Associated Press correspondent declared that, having been elected governor of Montana, he could not see his way clear to resign the position, no matter how flattering an offer might come to him. His statement follows:

"You will appreciate the fact that any discussion by me involving the makeup of Mr. Harding's cabinet is a very delicate matter. At the same time, I am free to say that, having been elected by the people of Montana to serve as governor, I can see no possible situation in the immediate future, no matter how flattering it might be, that would tempt me to resign the place to which I have been elected. It would seem like a breach of faith to do otherwise."

"It may be that I take the matter too seriously, but that is my notion of it. Under ordinary circumstances, I would have been glad to serve as secretary of the interior. The position means everything to the west. In many ways it would be a far easier place than the governorship, but as I see it, my duty at this time is right here in Montana."

MASONIC WELFARE BODY WILL MEET AT POPLAR

Masons from Entire Northeastern Part of State Will Gather in Ses- sion January 12th.

The Masonic Welfare Association of the Northeastern Montana division, which is composed of the membership of the lodges located in the towns of Seeley, Redstone, Plentywood, Mondak, Culbertson, Poplar, Wolf Point, Glasgow, Hinsdale, Saco, and Malta, will hold its next quarterly meeting at Poplar on Wednesday, January 12th, 1921.

This meeting looks up as one of the best in the history of the division. A number of special features have been added. Some of the features of the meeting will be a banquet by the Aurora Chapter O. E. S.; a musical program under the direction of Frank N. Mitchell, Superintendent of the Poplar Schools; a number of addresses on Masonic work, with Grand Master R. G. Hathaway of Glendive the principle speaker. Dana M. Easton will act as toastmaster; and the business session will be presided over by J. M. Stewart, acting chairman of the Association.

Arrangements are being made at Poplar for the entertainment of 225 visiting Masons at the meeting.

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STATE'S PRIZES AT INTERNATIONAL SHOW

List of Prizes Show Valley County County Man Gets Recognition on His Alfalfa Seed Exhibit.

Montana was very prominent at the 1920 International Hay and Grain show held in the Coliseum at Chicago. The Glasgow Chamber of Commerce helped in the sending of exhibits to the show from this state and as a reward Montana has won more than its share of the prizes awarded.

The following is a complete list of the prizes given to citizens of Montana:

Corn.
Single ear—First, C. Tilden, Park City; second, Fort Keogh, Miles City; third, E. E. Eiker, Huntley; fourth G. W. Mason, Hathaway.

Yellow dent—First J. J. Shambaugh, Miles City; second, Kenneth McLean, Miles City; third, Jess Freshour, Forsyth; fourth F. M. Kerr, Savage; fifth Fort Keogh, Miles City.

Ten ears, White Dent—First, Mrs. Katherine Erpelding, Forsyth; second, F. A. Spears, Miles City, third, G. W. Mason, Hathaway; fourth, Lee Bennett, Hathaway.

Wheat.
Hard Red Winter—Third, Jim Arnold, Bozeman; fourth, Carl Knutson, Columbus; sixth, W. J. Hartman, Manhattan; seventh, Gordon Sanders, Manson; eighth, Leonard Bopp, Forsyth; ninth, Hayes & Guard, Kolin. Note Colorado won first and second in this class.

Durum Wheat—Fourth, Thornberg Skinner, Simms.

Oats.
Six Rowed Barley.
First—W. J. Hartman, Manhattan; second, James Sanders, Manson.

Alfalfa.
Fourth—W. De Messemaker, Tampico; sixth, R. H. Clarkson, Chinook; ninth, J. K. Gibb, Purewater.

Valley County's Legislative Representation

The county of Valley never delegated a more worthy representation to both of the state houses of legislature, than the four men who this week left for the State Capitol to serve in the Seventeenth Session.

Valley's representation this session is sent, not as merely successful Republican candidates, but men who in the recent emergency proved really sound blooded Americans—men who stood out for the right and the protection of the state against anti-American principles. They were elected at the polls on November 2nd, not from an ancient, purely partisan point of view but more than that, as worthy citizens qualified to present the cause of their constituents in a sane, business-like and efficient manner.

Perhaps there never was in the history of this or any other state a more important session of the state legislature than the Seventeenth Montana Assembly which will open convention on Monday afternoon next. Perhaps never in the history of this great Northwestern Commonwealth did matters of such a vital nature confront the law makers. It is safe to predict that every member of this important body will this coming few weeks be forced to face and judiciously dispose of matters which will, more than ever, have to do with the entire future of the whole state. The opportunity confronting these men of responsibility is equally as great as the emergency. It is their to hold together the unity which alone will spell state success; it is theirs to devise ways and means for the healing of those sores which may have been responsible for the erosion of the past few months. They have been elected, almost all of them, not as members of any party; not as followers of any public doctrine, but as citizens to get forth and bring to pass those things of a constructive nature which will make impossible any dissatisfaction similar to the misunderstandings of the most recent past.

Valley county is indeed fortunate, for her delegation, the citizens to whom she has entrusted the welfare of her interests and her share of the state's interests are most worthy men. Citizens of experience, of sane judgment, they will act only in accordance with the trust that has been placed in them.



SENATOR JOHN L. SLATTERY

Senator John L. Slattery was elected to the upper house in 1918. He has already efficiently served in the Sixteenth Session of 1919 and the 1919 Special Session. He is a long resident of the city of Glasgow and Valley county, an able attorney, member of the firm of Slattery & Klein. The Senator is an able orator, capable of presenting his cause in a most intelligent and comprehensive manner. He has always shown a determination to hold forth for those laws which are of a conservative, constructive, sane and a truly fair nature. He is a student of the economic question and well versed in matters of vital interest to the agriculture sections of the state.

E. T. PHELPS



Representative E. T. Phelps is a practical farmer, of the Baylor community. He is a man of experience at the State Capitol, having served in the session of 1915. He is a most reliable citizen and competent man for the position. His policies are well known to the citizens of the county. His attitude has always been one of keen interest in the development of Northern Montana. Being a practical farmer he is most fitted to deal with interests of the farming section of the state.

The four Valley county representatives left this week for Helena. They will be pleased to bar at any time from any member of their constituency relative to the interests in legislature of this part of the state.



K. H. KNUDSVIG

Representative K. H. Knudsvig is one of the most successful farmers of the county, with his residence in the Larslan community. Mr. Knudsvig is a man of extensive practical experience in both business and farming circles. Before coming to Montana some several years ago he was a farmer in North Dakota, and for some time operated a successful drug store business in that state. He has always figured prominently in matters pertaining to the development of the agricultural and business interests of Valley county and the Northern part of the state.



F. B. GILLETTE

Representative F. B. Gillette goes to the state legislature this session for his first term. Mr. Gillette is a prominent business man of Hinsdale, having real estate and retail lumber businesses at that place. He justly merits the confidence that has been placed in him by the citizens of the county. Being an experienced business man and a live student of the issues of the day, he can be depended upon to serve all interests in an equally just and business like manner.

LOCAL YOUNG MAN MAKING RAPID PROGRESS WITH RADIO

Oliver Kent spent a couple of days this week at Wolf Point inspecting the R. J. Moore Radio Station at the Sherman Hotel.

Oliver is leading the young men of the city in radio work. His interest and his success with the local radio station work is worthy of especial comment. His messages are heard all through the west. A few days ago he talked direct to Sioux Falls, So. Dak. He has also heard the operation of stations at Chicago and in the Twin Cities.

Radio is indeed fascinating and holds a promising future to the young man who adapts himself to its work.

MOTHER MAY DIE BY GAS OF COAL STOVE

Tragedy Occurs in Malta as the Re- sult of Turned Damper and Closed Windows.

Malta, Dec. 30.—Two claypool children are dead and the mother is in a most critical condition as the result of breathing coal gas at their home in this city. Mrs. Claypool and her children were found unconscious Friday afternoon by two of her sons who had spent the night previous on their ranch near Malta. One of the children at home, a boy of 16 never regained consciousness and died that evening, while the other child, a girl aged 12, died the following Tuesday night after three days of suffering.

Mrs. Claypool who is in a dangerous condition, said that she and the children were awakened in the night by the sense that something was wrong. She endeavored to obtain relief but in leaving his bedroom fell twice, the second time his head striking a chair. He was rendered unconscious by the blow. Neither the mother nor the daughter were able to go for aid. It appears that the damper in the stove from which the gas escaped had been closed, while the lower draft had been left open, forcing the poisonous gas out through two small holes in the mica. As some of the windows in the house were open, the rooms soon filled.

FORMER GLASGOW MAN DIES IN NEW MEXICO

James L. Conlogue Passes Away at Silver City, Lived in Valley County for Several Years.

Friends of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Conlogue were saddened last week by the news of the death of Mr. Conlogue at Silver City, New Mexico.

James L. Conlogue was born in Minnesota in 1889, and died at his New Mexico home on December 20th, 1920. He came to Glasgow in 1914, and was married soon after to Miss Nora Casey of Darwin, Minn. A son and a daughter were born to them; the daughter passing away about one year ago.

While in this city the deceased was in the employ of the firm of Christenson and Hill and for a short time at the Glasgow Post Office. He left the employ of the Post office to take up residence on his homestead near Avondale, with the hope that the change might prove beneficial to his health. About a year later he entered the Farmers State Bank at Glentana and was soon promoted to the office of Assistant Cashier.

He left Valley county for Silver City some time ago with a view to bettering his health conditions.

The family had a host of friends and acquaintances here.

Besides his wife and four year old son, he leaves relatives in Minnesota. Interment was made at his old home near Clontarf, Minn.

COUNTY SEED LOANS ARE LOST TO BLAINE

Failure to File Lists With Grain Buy- ers Subjects County to Heavy Losses.

Harlem, Dec. 26.—Owing to the fact that there was no systematic collection of seed liens by the county this fall it stands in a position to lose thousands of dollars of the money appropriated last spring to buy seed wheat for the needy farmers.

It seems that all banks and individuals who had crop liens of any kind served the various elevators with a list of the names of these creditors and when these farmers brought in their grain it was promptly collected. The county failed to put out such a list until a week or so ago. In the meantime it appears that the banks and individuals got their money, but the county got nothing even in cases where the county had a prior right. In many events farmers who got seed grain from the county sold their whole crop, got their money and moved out of the county and now the county must hold the sack.

The fore part of the week all the elevator managers of Harlem were called to appear before the commissioners who had crop liens of any kind served the various elevators with a list of the names of these creditors and when these farmers brought in their grain it was promptly collected. The county failed to put out such a list until a week or so ago. In the meantime it appears that the banks and individuals got their money, but the county got nothing even in cases where the county had a prior right. In many events farmers who got seed grain from the county sold their whole crop, got their money and moved out of the county and now the county must hold the sack.

It is said that the county can hold the elevators responsible for buying this mortgaged grain and can collect from them. What the commissioners plan to do in this matter had not yet been determined.

Hugh Simonton of Malta visited at the home of his sister, Mrs. Robbins and family New Years Day.

"LONG GEORGE" FRANCIS DEAD

Famous Cow Puncher of North Country Meets Tragic End on Prairie North of Havre.

CUTS THROAT TO END PAIN

Fate, Riding in Auto Takes Queer Hand in Career of Convicted Man —His Nerve Battle Against Heavy Odds is Lost When Strength Wanes.

Going out on Christmas eve to carry gifts to a woman friend, a school teacher near the Canadian border, "Long" George Francis of Havre, who was to report Tuesday to start serving a prison term for horse stealing, cut his throat to avoid freezing to death, after his automobile was wrecked and his leg broken. His body was found late Sunday by ranchers and has been brought to Havre. Candy, apples and other presents he was carrying were scattered on the ice of the Milk River 24 miles north of Havre, near the wrecked car. From the auto he had fashioned a splint and after binding up his leg with pieces of overalls, crawled a mile in attempting to reach the nearest farm, three miles north on.

The Francis Case.
Francis, one of Montana's most famous cowboys, was convicted in March 1918 of stealing a horse belonging to Phil Clark of Havre. Following his conviction he made a sensational escape and was in hiding in the Bear River mountains for seventeen months. He suddenly decided to surrender and on July 1919 he walked into the district court room in Havre and was sentenced by the district judge. He was remanded to the custody of the sheriff and was placed in jail. His attorneys, however, gave notice of an appeal to the state supreme court. The court fixed the bond at \$5,000 and several of Havre's most prominent business men became sureties for Francis. The state supreme court decided his appeal against him 15 days ago and it was reported by the county attorney of Hill county, who was in Helena when the decision was rendered, that a bench warrant had been issued for Francis and that the sheriff's deputies were unable to locate him. It was feared by the county attorney that Francis would not serve his term in prison because of the alleged boasts by him and several of his friends that he would never go to prison. Later, Francis read in the newspapers of the report that he was planning to leave the country and he wrote a letter to the Great Falls Tribune saying that he would be in the sheriff's hands on the 15th day following the decision of the supreme court.

A Wild West Performer.
George Francis was an early day cowboy. His headquarters have been at Havre for 25 years. He is said to have been a close friend and pal of Kid Curry, the famous outlaw, and up to the time of his death carried the revolver formerly used by Kid Curry. He was the owner of a cow horse which was known throughout the country as the trick horse. With his horse some years ago Francis toured the entire United States and Canada, taking part in all of the largest wild west shows and winning many thousands of dollars in prizes. In fact, it is reported that one year Francis was the leading prize winner at all of the larger wild west shows of the country. At times he worked with a partner in his wild west performances and was the leading character in the Havre Stampede which was staged for several years. Francis has accumulated something of a fortune prior to his conviction of the horse stealing charge, but this is said to have been spent in his defense and living since the charge was filed against him.

Had Many Friends.
Despite any criminal inclinations George Francis may have had he had hundreds of warm friends in Montana. Almost everyone in the city of Havre and northern Montana knew George Francis personally and many were his very close friends who stood ready to go the limit for "Long George." This was evidenced at the time of his return from hiding in the Bear River mountains. More than 15 business men and bankers of Havre were present in the court room upon his return and asked the privilege of going his bond.

Was Unlucky in Love.
Francis was said to have been disappointed in love in his early career. When he first started out in Montana he formed a partnership with a man who is now a prominent and rich cattleman of the northern end of the state. Both Francis and his partner were in love with the same girl. "Long George" was in favor with the young lady, but, as the story goes among George's friends, the parents of the girl preferred his partner as the husband of their daughter. "Long George" was an adventurer and his partner was thrifty and soon had a good amount of this world's goods. His first sweetheart, therefore, was guided by her parents to accept the most prosperous of the two lovers. The partners then became bitter enemies and have remained so until the last of "Long George." It is told in Havre by many of the old timers of how Francis and his former friend and partner would meet on the street of the Hill county seat and engage in a fist fight the equal of which is seldom seen. They are said to have fought until they both became exhausted and after a rest would resume fighting.

With but four days of liberty left him and knowing that he might never see her again, Long George on Friday bought his candy and apples and other

(Continued on Last Page)

RECLAMATION ORDER TEMPORARILY HELD UP

Meeting of Water Users of Milk River Project Results in Much Heated Discussion.

A lively session of the water users of the Milk River Project with Reclamation Project Manager George E. Stratton present, convened at the Orpheum Theatre in Glasgow yesterday afternoon.

As announced in the last issue of the Courier, the meeting was called by Mr. Stratton for the express purpose of hearing discussion relative to the fencing notices recently issued from the project managers office.

It seems that this order requested that farmers along the main government ditch and the government laterals remove all fences across such and other fences and obstacles so as to make it possible for the government employees of the project to operate at convenience. Mr. Stratton claims in his report that there are 29 of such fences between Tampico and Brazil Creek, the territory covered by the reclamation.

After much discussion, Mr. Stratton agreed to temporarily hold up the order, and farmers are thus relieved from such compliance until they receive further notice from the manager's office.

There were more than fifty of the eighty interested water users in attendance, and County Agent Murray E. Stebbins opened the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Seefeldt shipped their household goods to Minot Tuesday of this week. Mr. Seefeldt has been traveling for Stone, Ordean, Wells & Co. out of Glasgow for some time but has now been transferred to the Minot office of the same company.

DIPHTHERIA PREVENTS MEETING OF FARMERS

Harlem, Dec. 29.—Owing to the fact that a ban had been placed on public gatherings the potato meeting which was scheduled to have been held here last week has been postponed until a later date. A meeting of the haygrowers was also to have been held this week, but this meeting has also been held off until some time after the first of the year.

EASTERN WOMAN WOULD LOCATE RELATIVE HERE

Sends Enquiry Seeking Whereabouts of Clarence Cook. Formerly Re- sided Here.

To those residents of Valley county who lived here back in 1898, the letter of enquiry received this week by the Courier may prove of interest. Mrs. Ethel Hannah, who was formerly Miss Ethel Cook, who resided with her parents in this city up until 1898, and the daughter of a railroader who at that time worked out of this division point, writes seeking information regarding the whereabouts of Mr. Clarence Cook, who is said to have lived in Glasgow with his wife and two daughters.

In her letter, Mrs. Hannah mentions the names of some of the pioneer residents of the city who are still living here. She states that her mother died here in 1898, and that she was but six years of age that year when the family moved from this point east.

Mrs. Hannah resides at 506 Oakwood Street, Pittsburg, Pa., and would appreciate any information available relative to the location of her relative.

DEPOSITORS NOT TO LOSE A CENT SAYS BEISECKER

President of Plentywood Bank Prom- ises to Make Good the Al- leged Shortage.

Helena, Dec. 28.—Every depositor of the Sheridan County State bank of Plentywood, will receive his money, is the promise of T. L. Beisecker, president and owner of that and 13 other banks in Montana and North Dakota, according to H. S. Magraw, state bank examiner.

Appointment of a receiver to handle the affairs of the bank while its debts are being liquidated will be made in a few days, Mr. Magraw said on his return to this city after investigating the bank which was closed last week. Mr. Magraw said the alleged shortage of Chester J. Beisecker are nearly \$200,000, according to the check which had been made when Mr. McGraw left Plentywood for Helena.

Mr. Magraw will return to Plentywood on Tuesday to arrange for appointment of a receiver. In speaking of the bank, which he closed last week, with the arrest of Chester J. Beisecker, cashier, on charge of making a false return to the state department, Mr. Magraw said:

"I have the promise of President T. L. Beisecker, to do all in his power to pay back every cent to the depositors. Chester J. Beisecker was engaged in farming on an extensive scale as well as banking."

Mrs. C. W. Kampfer has accepted a position as teacher of English in the High School at Webster, South Dakota. She will leave January 1 and will spend Sunday with her folks at Fargo, N. D. before going to Webster.