

The Searchlight

OUR MOTTO: "AS GOD GIVES US LIGHT TO SEARCH FOR THE RIGHT, THAT WE WILL PURSUE WITH AGGRESSIVE AND CONSTANT SURVEILLANCE."

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CULBERTSON, VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA, FRIDAY JAN. 1 1909

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RIVERS AND HARBORS

J. Z. Bruegger Gives a Brief Outline of the Work of the Convention at Washington.

WORK OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

Much Preliminary Work to Be Done Before Congress Will Act in the Matter of Making Necessary Appropriations.

Editor Searchlight: At the request of numerous citizens I will give a brief report of the action of the Rivers and Harbors Convention which convened at the nation's Capitol Dec. 9th, 1908.

The delegation present, some 3200, met at 10:30 a. m. at the new Willard hotel on the 10th floor which has a capacity of seating 5,000 people. The hall was elaborately decorated with flags and maps, etc. All but two states were represented in the great assemblage, and later events proved it to be one of the most enthusiastic gatherings ever held in the city of Washington, D. C.

After the President of the convention had called the meeting to order and given an outline of the object of the meeting, prayer was offered, and then Vice President Fairbanks delivered a very enthusiastic speech in which he favored the project. He was followed by President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor who also talked very eloquently about the proposed scheme, and with marked energy espoused the employment of American labor.

Hon. Joseph Cannon, speaker of the House of Representatives was then called upon and he very earnestly urged the undertaking, but gave the convention to understand that there would have to be something definite to work on; that the scheme should include all rivers, and harbors and water courses which would tend to benefit the traffic of the nation. He believed in making it an issue in the next campaign, and that any nominee for a seat in Congress who was not favorable to the improvement of the waterways of the country, should be defeated.

Hon. Champ Clark of Missouri was the next congressman called upon. He stated that for 23 years he has been in favor of the improvement of the waterways, that he knew what it would mean for the people; and he emphasized the fact that any proposed project that ignored the improvement of the Missouri river would not go.

Prominent men from Canada and South America were present and spoke favorably for a feasible plan to bring about the matter. Andrew Carnegie was present and expressed himself in favor of the scheme.

After reviewing the discussions of the various speakers, the sum and substance of the whole matter resolved itself into this: We, as a nation, must work for accomplishment of the proposed project. We must employ the best and most competent engineer in the land to take charge of the preliminary work. He must have competent assistants to help him. The preliminary work will consist of surveying sites for docks, making estimates of probable cost of each and every river, harbor, canal and watercourse in the country. Topographic surveys maps and charts will be required, all of which will cost a great sum of money. Proportion the cost of every proposed improvement

into 10 equal payments thus giving every part of the country a "square deal." Congress would then have something definite to work on.

How to raise this sum for preliminary work without asking Congress for an appropriation was the question. I proposed a plan which seemed to meet with the approval of all who heard it, and it is this: Make up a subscription list and ask every liberal minded person who wishes to see the watercourses of the country made carriers of freight etc, to subscribe to a fund for preliminary work, to agree to pay \$1.00 each year for two years; that trustworthy persons be appointed to receive said money, and that the lists be kept on file at the Capitol of the respective states in which the sums are subscribed; that it would be possible to raise approximately \$1,000,000, per year which would likely be ample to carry on the preliminary work and get things in some kind of definite shape to report to Congress for its approval.

The benefits that would accrue to the whole United States can scarcely be imagined.

Speaker Cannon, in his remarks stated that it might be proposed to issue bonds in a given sum, say five hundred million dollars, at the rate of fifty million dollars a year for ten years and have some of them come due when we are no more. He believed it would not be a very large one to the people. His figures were a matter of surprise. Without the preliminary work it would be hard to even approximate the cost. But let the cost be twice or thrice as much, it will redound to the credit of the nation and to the present generation for the greatest achievement on the American continent if the scheme be brought to a successful termination.

If this or any other plan is accepted by the National committee which was appointed by the convention assembled, let us all put our shoulder to the wheel, so to speak, and help it along.

Being the only representative of Montana, out of the whole delegation appointed by His Excellency Gov. Norris, all of the committee work which should naturally have been divided among Montana's delegation fell upon me. Nevertheless, believing that Hon. F. E. Stranahan of Fort Benton was the logical person, by reason of his being at the head of navigation of the Missouri river, and for other reasons, I considered it a pleasure in having him named as Montana's Vice President of the Rivers and Harbors Convention for the ensuing year. I feel confident that he will be a credit to Montana and will give a good account of himself and render excellent service to the people and state of Montana, well knowing that he has a difficult position to fill. When he sends an appeal to the people of Montana to lend aid in this great project let us all respond with a right good will and—the money as well.

J. Z. BRUEGGER,
Delegate from Montana.

OPERA HALL OPENED

With a Grand Ball on Christmas Night at Culbertson.

The Tanner & Best Opera Hall was opened on Christmas night by a grand ball, given under the auspices of the Opera Hall Company, of which Mack Thomas is President and C. S. Stafford, Secretary. About 80 couples were present and all enjoyed the occasion to the utmost. Many of the ladies wore new and charming dresses made specially for the occasion. The scene was a beautiful one when they were all whirling in the dreamy waltz or stepping more lively in the two-step dances.

Only one square dance was played up to midnight as the quadrille has about gone out of style in Culbertson.

Those present all pronounced the ball as a fine one and a credit to the town. The scene on the stage was set for a drawing room and looked very nice.

The floor of the hall is of hard maple and presents an ideal dancing surface. The hall is 50x75 feet including the stage which leaves a seating capacity of about 50x45 ft.

The stage is not a fancy one but is fitted with all the necessary impediments for putting on plays of every description.

The New Years dance occurs tonight as we go to press one day early this week, and another lovely time is expected.

On Monday night, Jan. 4. The Crows open a three nights engagement as advertised elsewhere in this issue. The Company is very highly spoken of and all they ask is that the citizens turn out the first night and let them do the rest.

Thelma.

Thelma, or the Romance of the Land of the Midnight Sun. One of the most beautiful stories of the Northland ever written, is Marie Corelli's popular novel under the above title. The scenes are laid at the home of Olat Guldmar, the last of the Vikings, believed to be a descendent of the Gods on the banks of Aiten Fjord and at the palatial home of Sir Phillip Errington in London. The theme is a story of the Englishman's visit to the Land of the Midnight Sun where he meets, woos and wins the beautiful Thelma, daughter of the Viking king, and takes her to London where her beauty and modest simplicity makes her a queen of society. She becomes the victim of a designing woman who poisons her mind against her husband and thinking she stands in the way or his happiness she deserts home and husband and returns to her father in dread winter with a heart like the season—dark as Eternal Night. She is followed by her faithful husband when everything is explained and they are reunited. The story is full of heart felt interest and faithfully portrays the sweet character of a pure minded daughter of the North and deals with the Norse superstitions and Mythical Legends. The last act shows "The Arch of Death." The warning of Thor and Odin to the last of the Vikings, to join his father in Valhalla, and the realistic tableau, the Burning of the Valkyrie, the funeral pyre of Olat Guldmar, the last of the Vikings. Remember the date. Opera House, Jan. 4 5 and 6

It Does The Business.

Mr. E. Chamberlain, of Clinton, Maine, says of Backlin's Anker Salve: "It does the business. I have used it for piles and it cured them. Used it for chapped hands and it cured them. Applied it to an old sore and it healed it without leaving a scar behind." 25c. at Valley Drug Co.

Notice of Annual Meeting of Stockholders of the Montana Star Telephone Company.

Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the stockholders of the Montana Star Telephone Company, a corporation, will be held on Tuesday, the 12th day of January, 1909, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at the office of said corporation in Stephens' Hall in Culbertson, Valley County, State of Montana, for the following purposes:

First.—To hear and act upon the reports and statements of the officers and Board of Directors.

Second.—To elect a board of nine directors for the ensuing year.

Third.—To transact such other business as may properly and legally come before such meeting.

Dated at Culbertson, Valley County, Montana, December 19, 1908.

I. L. Brooks,
President of said corporation
W. Matthews,
Secretary.
(Corporate Seal) 3743

When you need a loan on your farm see R. O. Lunke. 341f

The Pure Food Law.

Secretary Wilson says: "One of the objects of the law is to inform the consumer of the presence of certain harmful drugs in medicine." The law requires that the amount of chloroform, opium, morphine, and other habit forming drugs be stated on the label of each bottle. The manufacturers of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy have always claimed that their remedy did not contain any of these drugs, and the truth of this claim is now fully proven, as no mention of them is made on the label. This remedy is not only one of the safest, but one of the best in use for coughs and colds. Its value has been proven beyond question during the many years it has been in general use. For sale by Valley Drug Co.

\$5.00 Reward.

For one sorrel gelding, with white face, weight about 900 pounds, branded H L on left front leg. Has been lost since Oct. 1, 1908. Has two other brands, one like C on right hind leg and an indefinite brand on right front leg. Five dollars reward will be given for information leading to his recovery. Address: NELS K. SORENSON, Dagmar, Mont. 37P3

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