

The Searchlight

VOL. VIII. NO. 29.

CULBERTSON, VALLEY COUNTY, MONTANA, FRIDAY, NOV. 5, 1909.

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BILLINGS TRIP

President L. W. Hill Entertained About a Hundred Guests on His Special Train.

Through the special invitation of President Louis W. Hill, of the Great Northern Railway, the editor of the Searchlight was enabled to take the trip to Billings in the Hill special train. Mayor J. Z. Bruegger, G. H. Coulter and Walter Mathews of Culbertson were also members of the party as well as some seventy-five business men and press representatives. Some of these were from St. Paul and Minneapolis and other eastern cities, but the great majority were picked up along the line from Culbertson to Great Falls.

The party was royally entertained in the elegant special train of nine coaches, including sleepers, diner and observation car. Mr. Hill, with the assistance of W. P. Kinney, assistant traffic manager, St. Paul, O. W. Seaton, immigration agent, St. Paul, J. G. Mooney traveling passenger agent of Chicago and W. M. Romine, district passenger agent of Des Moines, Iowa, did all in their power to make the trip a pleasant one, and they are the people who know how to entertain, for it is a part of their business.

Frank P. Miller, S. P. Mitchell and Bert Bowers of Culbertson went to Billings on the regular train and arrived there ahead of the special. Upon invitation of Mr. Hill they joined the party at Billings and made the trip home in the special train.

John Lohr of Tampico, a small town west of Glasgow, was a guest on the train. He is one of the most prominent farmers in Valley County and secured three silver cups as prizes at the congress. One was for the best alfalfa seed, and the other two were for best exhibit of flax, offered by different parties.

Minnesota got the big silver cup offered for the largest delegation from any state outside of Montana. The Minnesota delegates brought the cup to the Hill special train filled to the brim with champagne, and it was passed around among the guests.

The special work of the Culbertson delegation was cut out for them and that was in showing Senator Clapp, and others, the monstrous outrage being perpetrated upon Eastern Valley County by the Interior department in the Rocky Boy question, an account of which was given in the last issue of the Searchlight.

President Hill, backed up by Supt. Lohmiller of the Ft. Peck Reservation, held a very interesting interview on the special one evening with Senator Dixon. Mr. Hill showed the Senator how, with the present dilatory practices of the government surveyors and allotting agents that it would take four years longer to get the preliminary work done for opening the reservation to white settlers. Pres. Hill said that if the G. N. railway had the same work to do that it would be done in one year instead of four or five. Senator Dixon promised to do all in his power to hasten the opening date.

Spokane was selected as the meeting place for the congress next year. As for the meeting of the Congress itself, while we attended most of the sessions and listened to the speeches of Senators Carter, Clapp, Dixon, Pres. Hill and many others, there was so much of importance to chronicle and so little space to put it in that we concluded to cut that part of it short.

It was by long odds, however, the most notable gathering that has

ever been held in the state of Montana. The delegates were one and all enthusiastic, all in earnest at the beginning, but the closing hours were marked by the intense attention of the audiences and the fervor of the speakers, not only those from the stage, but also those of the audiences, which filled the Auditorium every minute of the time.

The streets of Billings were most elaborately decorated, with green and white bunting by day and a million green and white electric globes at night. The lights were festooned along the highways arranged in handsome designs at the street corners, and even the trees with their autumnal shaded leaves were made to bear hundreds of the lights till they resembled tropical Christmas trees.

A list of the guests on the Hill Special train was given last week appended to the Rocky Boy petition as every man on the train signed it.

MURDER MOST FOUL

Tom Harding Found Dead Near Culbertson Tuesday Morning by Prof. J. W. Dale.

While Prof. J. W. Dale was out in his pasture Tuesday morning about 6 o'clock, he found a dead man on a high knoll just outside of his pasture fence about two miles northeast of Culbertson.

Prof. Dale immediately notified the authorities at Culbertson and Town Marshall Higgins and Dr. Collinson repaired to the scene and found the man, afterwards partially identified as Tom Harding, a stranger in these parts. The body was very much decomposed, having been dead probably three or four weeks.

Coroner Peterson of Glasgow was at once notified and arrived in Culbertson on the afternoon train about 5 o'clock. A jury was impaneled and went out to view the body. Afterwards the remains were brought to Culbertson and placed in the jail where an autopsy was held by Drs. Collinson and Johnson. They testified that the deceased was a young man about 20 years old, was 5 feet 6 inches in height, and weighed about 150 pounds. The doctors found a wound in the breast which penetrated the heart, but the exact nature of it could not be determined on account of the condition of the body.

From the hole in the shirt made by the instrument of death it is thought he was stabbed with a knife.

On the ground near where the body was found was a picture postal card torn in fragments. Frank P. Miller pasted the card together and found that it had been prepared for mailing but had never passed through the postoffice. It was addressed to "B. Fabem, Mackinock, N. D.," and written at the side of the address were the words, "If you come, get off at Culbertson," (signed) "Tom Harding." From this it is thought that the writer, Tom Harding, is the dead man.

Judge Mathews wired to the postmaster at Mackinock, and yesterday morning received a wire from James Harding, the father of Tom Harding, that he would come at once to Culbertson and will probably be here before this paper is issued.

The jury brought in a verdict late Wednesday night that the deceased was probably Tom Harding and that he came to his death by a wound in the heart, inflicted by a party or parties unknown.

The murdered man had evidently been stabbed and dragged under the wire fence from the road and placed on this high knoll about Oct. 1, 1909.

Later—Mr. and Mrs. James Harding of Mackinock, N. D., arrived this morning, and fully identified the remains as that of their son, Thomas Harding. The young man was supposed to have between \$50.00 and \$70.00 on his person when murdered. Mr. Harding says his son was steady and industrious and a good son. No one as yet is suspected of the crime.

Honor Roll

The following Searchlight subscribers paid for their papers in advance during the past two weeks.

Wm. Crandall, Joe White Bear, W. B. Houser, Asmus Thomsen, P. H. Miller, H. Jackson, Andrew Casper, Jack McDonald, C. P. Noiby (new), Engbert Peterson, Joe Bauer, Glasgow Public Library, J. W. Wilkinson, Peter Torps, W. W. Clark, Ole Hansen, T. R. Morrow, Gunder Martin, John Norby, W. G. Reiter, Erick Nystrom, G. H. Casper, Nels Paulson, John Salveld, John Martell, Skov Nelson.

INDIAN PAUPERS WILL NOT COME

Rocky Boys Band Will Not Be Allotted Lands in Eastern Valley County.

Last week we published a petition, gotten up by President L. W. Hill on the Great Northern Special train to Billings and signed by every member of the party including Senator Clapp of Minnesota, who is chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs in the United States Senate, asking that the order withdrawing lands here for allotment to Rocky Boys' Band of Paupers be recinded.

The following telegram was received this week and is an answer to the petition.

Our petition has been answered. Rocky Boy withdrawal around Culbertson and Lanark, Mont., all is a thing of the past. Secretary Ballinger has come to the front and saved the day for prospective settlers. Hope the local press will give full credit to Mr. Ballinger for his prompt and favorable action in this matter.

L. W. HILL,
Pres. G. N. Ry.

As the readers are aware this paper commenced pounding for this withdrawal order to be recinded on the same day that it was announced in Culbertson, and at the time that the Senate Irrigation Committee visited this city all the data in regard to the outrage including the Searchlight letter to Secretary Ballinger, was presented Hill and members of the Senate Committee.

Mr. Hill became deeply interested in the question on that visit as the withdrawal order has a great deal to do with the development of the country along the Culbertson-Plentywood branch line now being built, and both he and Senator Carter assured us at the time that the Rocky Boys would never be allotted lands in Eastern Valley County if they could prevent it.

The news restoring the withdrawn lands to settlement has not as yet been officially received by our local United States Commissioners, but it is expected to arrive in a short time. In the mean time any one having a claim in view in the withdrawn section need have any hesitancy in settling upon it and making such improvements as they desire.

PLENTYWOOD

Town Lots in That Thriving Town Sold at Auction on Monday of Last Week.

Last Saturday at 3 p. m. the people of Plentywood received the unexpected information over the wires that the new townsite lots would be sold at 10 o'clock the following Monday. This certainly came upon us as a sudden surprise, being that nearly everybody figured that the lots would not be sold until some time next spring. However, Guy Grove, the townsite man, arrived late Saturday evening and had everything in readiness for the sale by Monday morning. Twenty-nine lots were sold in forty minutes, and thirty-nine have been sold to date, sales amounting to over \$11,000. The lots vary in price from \$400 down. The sale passed off very smoothly, and it seemed as if everybody secured the piece of ground they wanted. N. L. Nelson, Cashier of the Security Bank, was appointed temporary townsite agent. —Plentywood Herald.

Forced into Exile.

Wm. Upchurch of Glen Oak, Okla., was an exile from home. Mountain air, he thought, would cure a frightful lung-racking cough that had defied all remedies for two years. After six months he returned death dogging his steps. "Then I began to use Dr. King's New Discovery," he writes, "and after taking six bottles I am as well as ever." It saves thousands yearly from desperate lung diseases. Infallible for coughs and colds, it dispels hoarseness and sore throat. Cures Grip, Bronchitis, Hemorrhages, Asthma, Croup, Whooping Cough, 50c and \$1.00, trial bottle free, guaranteed by the Valley Drug Co.

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