

LOCAL NEWS ITEMS

Interesting Happenings In And About the Town.

The dance at the Big Hill school house was well attended.

Dwyer Bros. pianos on the installment plan. H. P. Blaine.

Dick Pennington of the "Shaw-kie Buttes" transacted business in town Monday.

Mrs. L. F. Kennedy has been spending a few days in town having dental work done.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Finlayson were visitors in town from Baker the fore part of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Lavall of the Elgin neighborhood transacted business in town Tuesday.

Reynolds, the light man of Camp Crook installed two new street lights in town this week.

Assessor Chas. Hughes was over from Baker Saturday evening and returned home Sunday.

The infant girl of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Shults died Thursday morning at the Thompson house.

Erank Evans returned Sunday from a trip through the southern part of the county and in Wyoming.

Mrs. W. E. Rounds left Wednesday for S. Dak. to attend the funeral of her brother, Dave Barber.

Mr. and Mrs. Strain were in town Monday from the Prairie dale neighborhood loading out with supplies.

The combination sale Saturday bought to town a fair-sized crowd and considerable stuff was sold, although the horse buyers were somewhat scarce.

W. H. Peck returned Tuesday evening from a trip through the western part of the state where he was called on business pertaining to lodge work.

Miss Cecil Markin has returned from Whittier, Calif. and has accepted a position as teacher at the Bradshaw School near the Chalk Buttes the coming summer.

Davis & Jacobson moved in their well drilling outfit the fore part of the week and as soon as some supplies are received will head for the Chalk Buttes section.

Doc Latham, Warren Brewer, Paul Weis and Dr. Sherill were among the Camp Crook people visiting in town the fore part of the week. While here Doc Latham disposed of a new Ford to Al Olsen.

A number from Ekalaka attend-

ed the sale at Jack Pratt's homestead near Willard last week. Everything sold is said to have brought a top price and a large number of buyers were present regardless of the stormy weather.

Special sale at Blaine's. Big bargains. 15c worth of school supplies for 10c.

Swedish Select Oats for sale. Suitable for seed. 5 miles north of Ekalaka. E. N. Ballou.

Johnny McCumsey left Monday morning for his former home at Alzada where he will remain for a month or two to recuperate from his recent illness. Curtis Burger is assuming his job at this office.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Adams and children left Sunday after a short visit with relatives here, for Rochester, Minn. where they will consult the famous Mayo Brothers in regard to the health of their little son.

News of the death of W. R. Barber, a former resident of Ekalaka and Baker was received Tuesday. Mr. Barber passed away on the 28th, from a long siege of tuberculosis at Phoenix, Ariz. where he had been the past four years.

Monday the annual town election will be held. S. A. Holt has no opposition for the position as mayor, therefore considered elected. In Ward One, Wm. Freese and P. M. Dworshak are the candidates for alderman, the latter having filed a petition this week after it was ascertained that Frank Snow who was previously nominated was not eligible to hold office on account of the lack of the necessary two-years residence in town. In Ward Two, where only one alderman is to be elected there are two candidates, J. W. Hatton and O. A. Dahl, the latter filing a petition this week.

A Cradle Roll Department was installed in the Ekalaka Bible School last Sunday. 52 Charter members under four years of age had been enrolled. The platform was artistically decorated. On the front part of it was a tiny cradle trimmed in white and pink and containing 52 Cradle Roll certificates. Mrs. J. W. Ewalt, Superintendent of the Cradle Roll Department gave an excellent address on the value of the Cradle Roll. Mrs. A. L. Shaw had charge of the Primary Department children who took part in the program. All were well pleased with the singing and recitations so well rendered by the children. The entire program was a success from start to finish and marks a Red Letter Day in the Ekalaka Bible School.

SCHOOL ELECTION

District No. 15 Will Elect One Trustee Tomorrow Afternoon.

Tomorrow a school trustee will be selected by the voters of School District No. 15, to serve for a period of three years. Two candidates for the office have filed petitions, Mrs. Clay McLean of Ekalaka and Mr. U. L. McKay, who resides about ten miles west of town.

A circular letter signed by John Oliver, and which was printed by the Baker Sentinel, has been distributed among the voters of the district, endorsing the cause of Mr. McKay. The letter at its commencement asserts that there are 265 children of school age residing within District 15, 83 of these living in Ekalaka and 182 residing outside of the town. Other statistics as to valuation and population are given and the statement made that the district outside of the corporate limits of Ekalaka is not getting a fair deal, that outside residents are being taxed to pay the bonded indebtedness of the district and that the money is all going into the Ekalaka school.

But are there 182 country school children and 83 in the town school? The school records show us that there are enrolled in Ekalaka 124 pupils 80 of whom are from the district outside of the town limits.

And is the money all going toward the support of the town school? We quote from Mr. Oliver's letter:

"There was paid out as shown by these records (county treasurer's) the sum of \$4,912.30 from September 1, 1915, to March 20, 1916, and of this amount \$3,683.35 was paid out for material and services rendered within the limits of the town of Ekalaka, and the sum of \$1,229.50 was paid out for services rendered for the schools outside of the limits of the town."

It would seem then that the country schools are getting more than a third of the apportionment for their support.

As to the matter of the country residents being taxed to pay the bonded indebtedness of the district, which fund was expended for a school building in Ekalaka, any fair-minded man or woman will see that the town had to have a good school building and a force of teachers that could intelligently conduct a standard school. The town school is naturally the head of the district system and there is attached to it more expense of construction and maintenance than to the various country schools. We believe that the people of the country are proud of the Ekalaka school and are proud to do their share in building and operating a high grade, standard school in town, where high school training can be given the children of this district at home.

To bond the district was the only way to build the school and the bonds will be entirely paid for July 1st, 1919, provided the affairs of the board are conducted properly.

The Oliver circular states that there is in the building fund \$1411.06, of which \$1050.00 was paid in taxes by the people outside of town. We assume these figures to be correct. This sum has been allowed to accumulate for the purpose of purchasing a heating plant for the Ekalaka school building. A furnace was installed in the building when it was first built and those voting at the school house tomorrow may see it lying out on the ash heap. We might add that the old furnace was put in under a guarantee and had been accepted by the board while Mr. Oliver was a member. When that gentleman had control of the school affairs in 1910, he appointed his brother as janitor of the school and the furnace never amounted to much thereafter.

As to Mr. McKay's personal qualifications and intentions, if elected a trustee, we have heard very little and have nothing to say, but we should like to point out to the voters of the district that in casting a ballot for U. L. McKay they are practically voting for John Oliver. Mr. Oliver has made the statement in recent public speeches that with Mr. McKay on the board, together with Mrs. Oliver, who holds over as a member, he would have a majority of the board under his control. He has made promises as to what he personally would or would not do, if the personal of the board should be as above stated, proving conclusively that he would expect to take charge of the school affairs of District No. 15.

The laws of the State of Montana wisely provide for a board of trustees consisting of three members and a clerk, two members to constitute a majority. But with U. L. McKay on the board we should have one man, John Oliver, constituting the majority, to do as he saw fit in the employment of teachers, the expenditure of funds and the buying of supplies - and by his past record mayhap to exercise personal grudges and whims.

Is it the wish of the voters of this section to place the control of their school matters in the hands of one man and that one man John Oliver?

Fortunately we have a criterion by which to measure Mr. Oliver's worth as a dictator of school matters. From May 10, 1909, until August 24, 1911, he served as trustee on the school board and during approximately the same period Mrs. Oliver acted as Clerk.

In 1910 Wm. Freese, at that time a member of the board, was called to Europe, and Mr. Oliver assumed controlling charge of board matters. Near the close of that school term the finances of the district were in such shape that the Ekalaka school was compelled to close a month early, the first and only time that this has occurred. The affairs of the school were in such a jumble that at the instance of Miss Mary Lee Wilson, then superintendent of schools, Mr. Oliver resigned from the board, after which the affairs of the district were again placed upon a sound basis.

It might also be of interest to know that immediately after the forced resignation of Mr. Oliver, the wages of the

town teachers were lowered and the country teachers in the district were allowed a substantial increase in salary; five tons of coal were furnished each country school and their condition otherwise improved. Why should Mr. Oliver's attitude be changed squarely around from what it was last year, when Mrs. Oliver was a candidate, and in years previous? Why has he so unexpectedly become the champion of the country school?

John Oliver has made the statement that if he again gains control of the school board he will make a general "cleaning" from janitor to clerk. And this is one promise that we believe he would keep.

Do we want to see Oliver pick a man to run the new \$1600 heating plant that the voters are paying for now, when, had it not been for one of his "mistakes", this \$1600 would have been spent for improvements in the country schools?

Do we want a repetition of the turbulent and unharmonious times that prevailed when Honest John was on the job before? Do we want to see Oliver supplant the well-ordered and satisfactory school system of this district with a chaotic one-man regime? Do we want to see Billy Freese ousted from his position as clerk of the board when he has served wisely and well, as trustee or clerk, for sixteen years?

We do not believe that the highly-colored pre-election promises made by Mr. Oliver are going to influence the calm judgment of the voters to any great extent. We have at hand a letter which was sent out over Mrs. Oliver's name last year, when she was a candidate for school trustee, in which the voters in the district outside of town were promised: "The schools conducted in the outside sections will be given the same careful attention as the town school and I believe they should have just as much school as should the town."

It is learned that the country terms last spring, after Mrs. Oliver assumed the chairmanship of the board, were a month shorter than the year before even, Mrs. Oliver being in favor of the curtailment.

We do not doubt but that Mrs. McLean would gladly sign a published statement promising the country portion of the district a square deal in every way possible. In fact she has made such a statement verbally, as has also Board Member R. H. Ferguson.

But we have based our argument more upon future possibilities as they are forecasted by past events, rather than upon the doubtful ground of pre-election promises.

--COMMITTEE.

Movies to Start.

The movie show at the Play House will open Sunday night with a five reel feature entitled "The Jewel". Miss Ella Hall, the noted juvenile star, appears in the leading roll supported by a cast of artists. For this opening bill popular prices will prevail, being 25c for children up to twelve years of age and 35c for all others. Considering that this program is first class, recently released feature, these prices are extremely low. Doors open at 7:30; show starts at 8:15.

Funkenbusch-Moore

The people of this community were surprised on Saturday March 25, to learn of a quiet wedding that occurred at the homestead of Miss Norma Maye Moore, on that day. The contracting parties being Miss Norma Maye Moore, and Prof. F. J. Funkenbusch of this town. Only the immediate friends and

relatives of the family were present, and the ceremony was performed by the Rev. John Oliver, in his usual happy manner. Both the groom and bridegroom are well and favorably known in this community having resided here for some time, the bride having held the office of Assistant Post Mistress for nearly a year, while the groom has filled the position of principal of the Ekalaka High School for several terms, and during his vacations has been improving his homestead located near the new town of Pinto, Custer county, where he is engaged in stock raising and farming. Prof. Funkenbusch is also at the present time serving the local lodge of Odd Fellows in the capacity of Vice Grand for the present term. The whole community joins us in wishing the newly weds, a long and prosperous life, and trust that they will long reside in our midst. --W.H.P.

Apples at \$2.25 per box at H. P. Blaine Co.

SEE US FOR THESE ARTICLES

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Condensed Smoke
For your meats | Formaldehyde
For your grain |
| Poison
For prairie dogs | Kill-em-Quick
For gophers |
| Stock Dip
For cattle and sheep | Tonics
For your poultry |
| Parke-Davis Blacklegoids
The sure preventative
We can save you money on paints and brushes. | Louse Killer
For all animals |

The Reliable Drug Store
S. A. HOLT, Proprietor

"Knowledge Is Power"

And the Timely Knowledge is: This Store Should Enjoy Your Patronage.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| Rexall Remedies | Rexall Stationery |
| Nyal Remedies | Eastman kodaks |
| San-Tox Remedies | Eastman films |

The Ekalaka Drug Co.

THE REXALL STORE

Our PRESCRIPTION DEPARTMENT is and always will be under supervision of a registered pharmacist.