

The River Press.

Published every Wednesday Morning by the River Press Publishing Company.

A GREAT YEAR FOR MONTANA.

The rapid progress that is being made in the development of the agricultural resources of Montana is well illustrated by the fact that fifty steam and gasoline power plants will be at work this year turning sod in the Judith basin, says the Bozeman Chronicle. Up to a few years ago this portion of the state was devoted almost exclusively to the pasturing of sheep and cattle. Since the construction of railroads released the Judith basin from its isolation and afforded access to outside markets, attention has been given to its advantages as a farming country, and it has made rapid and wonderful strides in the development of its agricultural resources. Big ranches have been sold and divided into small farms, thousands of homesteaders have taken up vacant public land, mills and elevators have been constructed, towns have sprung up almost in a night and an enterprising population has been attracted by the many advantages which this part of Montana offers to settlers.

Population and land values have been doubled in the past few years. Lewistown has taken on the airs of a metropolis, and Moore is strutting around as if it were the cock of the walk of all the agricultural towns in Montana. Fortunately there is good reason for this optimism; and the best word that comes from Fergus county is that the farmers have made good and that permanent homes for thousands of self supporting and happy people have been established on lands heretofore devoted to grazing of sheep. In whole neighborhoods of Fergus county the music of the threshing machine is heard instead of the bleating of the sheep. If in the future there shall be fewer sheep in Fergus county than formerly there will be more children.

A similar development is taking place in other sections of the state and the prospects are this will be a great year for Montana. It has waited long, but it looks as if its day had come at last. Its resources are becoming known. Thousands of settlers are to come into the state this year and build homes. There is room for hundreds of thousands. The waste places are to be peopled at last. The state is beginning to realize its destiny which is to be one of the greatest farming states in the union. Already the products of the soil exceed in value the products of the mine—great as these are. Montana and Texas are the only two states yet having great tracts of land waiting the coming of the tiller of the soil and they are the states which will show the most rapid growth in population and wealth in the next decade. Every county in Montana offers attractions to the homeseeker and to the investor, the equal of which it would be difficult to find elsewhere.

PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS.

The general solicitude for the consumer so manifest in the preliminary tariff making would indicate to the uninformed and to those who give but little heed to the questions involved, that the consumers and producers of the country are distinct classes of citizens; that they are divided into hostile camps by self-interest, and that the consumers are overwhelmingly in the majority, the producers advocating the highest protective measure and the consumers equally anxious for the free admission of imports. This might be true if the producers were not equally consumers, and if the consumers were not compelled to produce that they might be able to consume, says the Washington Post.

The tariff laws of the United States have been framed for two purposes—the raising of revenue and the protection of the industries of this country and those who are engaged in them against cheap labor competition. The desire to raise a sufficient revenue is the justification for duties on certain imports, the products of other countries, which are not and cannot be produced in the United States. The taxation on articles of foreign production falls upon both consumers and producers, for the consumer of today is the producer of yesterday and the producer of today will be the consumer of tomorrow. To take away or decrease the ability of the producer to purchase not only affects his business, but by decreasing his wage or denying him any wage the success or prosperity of every other business which he as a consumer helps to support is affected. The consumers of the country are equally producers, except for the drones, the helpless, and those who are enforced to idleness by want of opportunity.

The depression which has afflicted the country for the past year has come largely from the curtailment of the powers of consumers. They have been partly or entirely unemployed—in other words, they have not been producers, and, consequently, as con-

sumers they could purchase less. Consumers and producers are interdependent, and suffer adversely or enjoy prosperity as a whole.

STATE LOANS ON FARM LANDS.

One of the laws passed by the last legislature and signed by the governor, which is likely to have a far reaching influence on the rate of interest now being paid on farm loans in Montana, is the measure introduced and fathered by Senator McCarthy of Gallatin county.

According to the provisions of this law, the state authorities are permitted to lend the money which accumulates in the trust funds held for the benefit of state educational institutions, on farm lands at six per cent. interest.

At the present time this money is invested in city and county bonds, where the same can be bought at par, but the amount of city and county bonds which can be acquired at this figure are limited and do not furnish sufficient outlet for the investment of all of the money accumulated in these funds. In fact the large proportion of bonds so far bought by the state under this provision, are those of Silver Bow county and the city of Butte, and while these bonds are good and will probably always be good, it is not a proper plan to place too many eggs in one basket.

The McCarthy law will give an almost unlimited field for the investment of these funds and, with the safeguards which have been provided, will furnish security as safe as government bonds.

But the more important phase of the matter is that the new law will have the effect of reducing the rate of interest on long-term gilt edge farm loans. Heretofore the interest on this class of loans has been seven, eight and nine and sometimes as high as ten per cent. The greater portion of the money invested in farm mortgages in Montana at the present time is eastern capital and the high rate of interest paid has been a constant and considerable drain on the resources of the state for the benefit of eastern investors.

The new law will result in replacing some of this eastern capital with money belonging to the state and thus keep the interest at home and also of lowering the rate of interest on all farm loans in the state. This will be a good thing in every way and will not only reduce the burden borne by the farmers who are obliged to carry mortgages on their place, but will give this class of investment a better standing in the financial world. Senator McCarthy's measure is one of the best passed by the recent legislature.—Bozeman Chronicle

Progress of Irrigation.

Five thousand persons recently gathered at the big dam built by the federal government eight miles above Boise, to celebrate the opening of the reclamation works that are to furnish water to 200,000 acres in Ada and Canyon counties. Idaho is now a state well advanced in irrigation, and not alone by reason of national aid and encouragement. In supplying water to sagebrush lands Idaho has been energetically at work on its own account, beginning with the national cession of 1,000,000 acres of arid lands for homesteaders in 1894.

Idaho's land board revenues have increased in four years to nearly \$3,500,000, and the net earnings to \$1,000,000. The irrigation operations are not only self-supporting but have become largely profitable. In theory, all the irrigation projects undertaken by the United States are expected eventually to repay their cost, forming a revolving fund to extend the work. Idaho is showing that it turns out better than the estimates.

From Different Viewpoints.

To illustrate the different viewpoints of manufacturers upon the question of tariff revision, Charles Heber Clark, a writer upon economic subjects, but better known as a humorist under the pen name of "Max Adeler," recently told this story to a gathering of Philadelphia manufacturers:

"There is a farmer neighbor of mine in Montgomery county, who was the owner of a very good Alderney cow. One day a stranger, having admired the cow, met the farmer and asked: 'What will you take for that cow?'"

"My farmer friend scratched his head a minute and then said: 'Look a-hear, be you the tax assessor or has she been killed on the railroad?'"

Would Reimburse States.

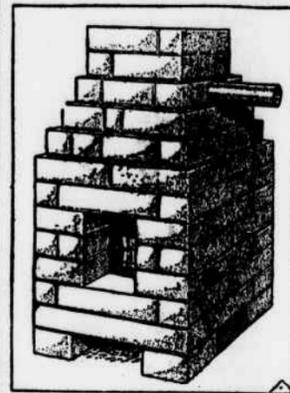
WASHINGTON, April 28.—States or territories of the United States which raised, organized, paid and supplied troops for service in the war with Spain, before or after mustered into service, may be reimbursed for the actual expenses incurred in the work. Senator Guggenheim of Colorado has offered a bill making this provision. A certificate of the governor of a state that the money was expended in good faith for the sole purpose of aiding the United States would be considered sufficient for the payment of the claims, but claims filed after one year from the approval of the act would be barred from settlement.

ECONOMICAL FURNACE.

Constructed of Concrete Blocks and a Heating Stove.

As shown in the illustration, the main portion of the furnace is a large heating stove of the kind known as the "cannon ball" or shop stove, or may be any heating stove of the same design or method of construction. In this grade of stove the sides are from three-quarters to an inch thick, making a stove that for furnace purposes is ideal, says Concrete.

The stove is first set into place in the cellar under the central room of the house on a concrete floor made of sufficient strength to avoid any danger of the concrete jacket settling and



FURNACE MADE OF CONCRETE.

cracking. The jacket is laid up with concrete blocks, as illustrated, a space being left in the bottom course through which the ash pan may be taken out, also for cold air registers on the three other sides of the jacket. The latter should be at least 6 by 8 inches in size and may be laid up with the walls of the jacket and securely fastened in place with the mortar. Above the ash pan a beam of concrete is placed. This should be molded of twice the length of two of the blocks used, so as to bridge the space rightly. In the fourth course of blocks an opening is left sufficient to allow the draft and feed door in the front of the stove to be opened. The space between the stove and the wall of the jacket where this opening is located is filled with cement so as to prevent the heat escaping into the cellar, except such as is thrown out from the feed door.

With the seventh course of blocks another beam is used to bridge the space above the feed door opening and the space between this and the stove cemented together unless it is desired to have a door to close the feed door opening on the outside of the jacket. In this case the space between beam and stove is left open so that the heat may be utilized. With the ninth course of blocks begin to draw in for the arch on all four sides until the inside space is 14 by 20 inches. Then the jacket is laid up until it reaches the floor above, in which a hole is cut and a 14 by 20 inch register is placed.

Place a heavy elbow on the opening for the stovepipe and use a heavy pipe to carry the burned gases outside the jacket in one course of the blocks. The opening around the pipe is easily filled with mortar so as to be air tight. This furnace has ample radiation for heating a ten room dwelling or a store or factory of the same floor space.

Aerial Torpedo Latest War Engine.

A patent has been applied for at the German patent office for an "aerial torpedo" which is being built at the Krupp works. The torpedo consists of a hollow body, containing a thin cylindrical reservoir, one end of which is attached to the point of the projectile and the other end to a thin plate screwed into the hollow body. The reservoir is filled with liquid oxygen and also contains an explosive charge fitted into a cylindrical tube. In the point of the torpedo a hole is bored, widening toward its front, and a pill of platinum sponge is inserted in the hole. The platinum is ignited by the escape of hydrogen when the point of the torpedo has pierced the covering or envelope of a balloon or airship and in its turn sets fire to the explosive charge.

A Floating Compass Needle.

When a thoroughly dry and clean sewing needle is carefully placed on the surface of water the needle will float even if the density of steel is seven or eight times that of water. A sewing needle thus floating upon water may be used as a compass if it has previously been magnetized. The needle will then point north and south and will maintain this position if the containing vessel is moved about. If the needle is displaced by force it will return to its position along the magnetic meridian as soon as the restraint is removed.

Science Notes.

For some unexplained reason sixty inch searchlights have proved unsatisfactory in the navy, and they have been abandoned in favor of the thirty and thirty-six inch ones.

A French chemist has figured it out that the oceans of the world carry 20,000 tons of radium in solution, while 1,000,000 tons are contained in the sediment on the floors of the seven seas.

The greatest road builders of the world are the red ants of South America, which line the roads leading to and the galleries and passages within their nests with clay, packed perfectly smooth.

A preliminary estimate by the geological survey puts the country's petroleum production for 1908 at between 175,000,000 and 180,000,000 barrels as against 160,000,000 barrels in 1907.

FAVORS INCOME TAX.

Democratic Senator Urges New Method of Raising Revenue.

WASHINGTON, April 26.—Senator Bailey today presented his views on the tariff bill with especial reference to the desirability of an amendment providing for an income tax. Mr. Bailey first took up the position to turn over to a tariff commission the consideration of the schedules of the tariff bill, commenting on which, he declared he did not believe in "turning over to political eunuchs" the consideration of such a great question, even though they were so impartial as to entertain no aversion for what is bad, or preference for what is good.

The question of taxation, he said, should closely engage the attention of statesmen, and he did not believe in withdrawing it from the people to place it in the hands of a commission. He would not, he said, at this time discuss free trade, which he declared was impossible in this country. "I do not hesitate to say," he added, "that I believe in taxing wealth instead of consumption, and if it were in my power I would compel every man to contribute toward the support of this great government according to what he has, and not according to what he wants."

Speaking of the principle of the protective tariff, Mr. Bailey said: "If your law ended when it gave your fellow citizens an advantage over the citizens of another country, I would be one of its most ardent supporters. But it does not end there, because its inevitable effect is to give a few of our fellow citizens an enormous advantage over others of our countrymen." The particular effect, he said, was to give a bounty to the favored members.

Threatened By Blackmailers.

SALT LAKE, April 26.—A carnival of horrors has been promised to the people of several Utah county towns, according to advices received by the Herald from Spanish Fork. Letters demanding money and threatening destruction of property, kidnapping and death have been received by wealthy citizens of Spanish Fork, Payson, Springfield and Salem for three months past. One woman has been frightened to death by these missives, fully a dozen farmers and business men are mentioned and the communities are terror-stricken.

The letters demand from \$250 to \$1,200 and are signed "Six Desperate Men" and "The Dreaded Six." William Taylor of Salem, 80 years old, has been warned that his little son will be blown into bits with dynamite and his home wrecked if he fails to pay \$600.

End of Famous Smoke Case.

BUTTE, April 26.—Judge Hunt in the federal court today dismissed the bill in the action brought in the name of P. J. Bliss against the Anaconda and Washoe companies to close down the great smelting plant at Anaconda. Each side will pay its own costs, which are said to aggregate about half a million dollars. This order disposes of the "smoke case," begun three years ago by the farmers of the Deer Lodge valley, who claimed they were being damaged by the fumes from the smelter, and who demanded an injunction closing down the works. The main issue was decided last February, when Judge Hunt denied the injunction.

Counsel for Bliss had an opportunity on April 19 to combat the evidence submitted February 15, but offered no proof. Instead they submitted an offer to arbitrate, provided that the defendant would be bound to include all the farmers who had contributed to the prosecution in the case, Bliss alone being the complainant of the record.

Judge Hunt today declared the offer to arbitrate wholly irrelevant. He held that the decision in the Highland Boy case in Utah, on which Bliss relied, was not applicable; and that the defendants were doing all that science could suggest to abate the smoke trouble. The decision is entirely in favor of the defendants, and the only relief to which the complainant is entitled, if entitled to any, is through action for damages or other proper suit.

Funds For Capitol Building.

HELENA, April 26.—The state today purchased from the state the bond issue of \$500,000 authorized by the last legislature for the purpose of constructing wings on the present capitol building, and on Wednesday the board of examiners will confer with the members of the advisory board to determine upon the supervising architect, the plans, material and other details so that work may be started as quickly as possible.

It was generally known to bond buyers that the state contemplated taking the bonds, and for this reason there were no other bids submitted. The bonds run for twenty years and bear five per cent interest. The sum of \$50,000 becomes available immediately from the funds of the various state educational institutions, and the balance will be available as

necessities arise during the course of construction work.

Members of the board assert that a great advantage accrues to the state from its purchasing the bonds. The bonds may be retired as soon as funds are available from the state capitol building land grant, and it will be unnecessary to issue the bonds until the money is actually needed. In this way the saving of the interest is very considerable.

Milwaukee Plans Branch Line.

HELENA, April 27.—There was filed yesterday with Secretary of State Yoder a copy of a resolution adopted by the board of directors of the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound Railway company, at a meeting in Chicago, April 9, authorizing the construction of that company's first Montana branch line, and which incident confirms the desire of both the Great Northern and Milwaukee to secure a certain route in Flathead county.

The Milwaukee resolution calls for a line extending north from Bonner, through Missoula, Powell and Flathead counties to the international boundary line, a distance of approximately 200 miles. This is known as the Swan river route, and will connect the Northern Pacific and Milwaukee on the south with the Great Northern in Flathead county, as well as tapping the rich coal and mineral fields of southern Canada. The Milwaukee resolution is signed by President H. R. Williams and Secretary E. W. Cook.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION

OF THE

Stockmen's National BANK,

AT FORT BENTON,

In the State of Montana, at the close of business, April 28, 1909.

RESOURCES.	
Loans and discounts	\$1,307,660 18
Overdrafts, secured and unsecured	20,317 36
U. S. Bonds to secure circulation	200,000 00
Premiums on U. S. bonds	6,000 00
Bonds, securities, etc.	2,308 40
Banking house, furniture, and fixtures	16,000 00
Cash Resources.	
Due from national banks (not reserve agents)	\$13,972 06
Due from state banks and bankers	4,248 83
Due from approved reserve agents	79,362 80
Checks and other cash items	61 00
Notes of other national banks	19,065 00
Fractional paper currency, nickels and cents	422 45
Useful Money Reserve in Bank, viz:	
Specie	98,335 05
Legal tender notes	640 00
Redemption fund with U. S. Treasurer (5 per cent. of circulation)	10,000 00
Due from U. S. treasurer	5 00
Total	\$1,779,422 69
LIABILITIES.	
Capital stock paid in	\$300,000 00
Surplus fund	200,000 00
Undivided profits, less expenses and taxes paid	\$4,607 50
National bank notes outstanding	200,000 00
Deposits.	
Due to other national banks	\$ 7,152 49
Due state and private banks and bankers	1,155 56
Individual deposits subject to check	411,141 11
Demand certificates of deposit	4,280 91
Time certificates of deposit	619,662 03
Cashier's checks outstanding	1,323 00
Bills payable, including certificates of deposit for money borrowed	100,000 00
Total	\$1,779,422 69

State of Montana, county of Chouteau—SS. I, David G. Browne, president of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. DAVID G. BROWNE, President.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 29th day of April, 1909. JOHN V. CARROLL, Jr., Notary Public. Correct—Attest: CHAS. E. DUEB, JOHN V. CARROLL, JOHN HARRIS, Directors.

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The Latest Magazines or Novels,

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DAVID G. BROWNE, Pres. J. V. CARROLL, Vice-Prest. F. A. FLANAGAN, Asst. Cashier.

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