

CITY AND STATE.

From Monday's Daily.

Fred E. Werner, of Lloyd, is among the visitors in town.

Lost—On lower Main street, a ladies' brooch. Finder will please leave at Power & Bro.'s store.

The temperature took another sudden drop last night, the various thermometers registering a minimum of 15 to 18 below zero.

The ladies of the Catholic church announce that they will give an entertainment at the opera house on Easter Monday, March 28, next.

A declaration of intention to become an American citizen, has been filed in the district court by Ada Wharram, a native of Canada.

The dance given at the opera house New Year's eve by the Eastern Star was attended by one of the largest crowds of the season, and was a great success in every particular.

The county commissioners were in session today, with all members present, to witness the annual settlement between the county treasurer and county clerk. This is a formality required by the Montana statutes.

A number of Odd Fellows from Great Falls were the guests of members of the local lodge of that order New Year's day, when several new members were initiated, and the installation of officers took place.

The past month was the coldest December since 1902, according to the official report of C. W. Ling, observer at the Havre station of the weather bureau. The mean temperature for last month was only 12 degrees, compared with an average of 21 degrees for December, the lowest temperature for the month being 23 below zero.

Advices from Seattle report the death of Charles W. Gray, of Bellevue, an old-time and well known resident of Teton county, who recently removed to the Pacific coast for his health. Mr. Gray was a member of the board of county commissioners of this county in the early nineties, and had a wide acquaintance in this part of northern Montana.

Great Falls Leader: A. W. Kingsbury is in receipt of a letter from Owen Fergus, the well known Arrow creek rancher, who was injured in the wreck at Rugby, N. Dak., a number of weeks ago, and who recently went to Rochester, Minn., for an operation. Mr. Fergus has returned to his ranch and states that the Rochester surgeons stated that an operation was unnecessary, but that he would always feel the effects of his injuries.

An act of malicious mischief, for which the perpetrators deserve the most severe punishment possible, was committed at an early hour this morning, when one of the large plate glass windows in the office of the Chouteau house was broken with a rock thrown by a party unknown. It is believed there was more than one midnight prowler connected with the affair, and it is hoped the offenders will be detected and properly punished.

From Tuesday's Daily.

The Eklund photo studio on Bond street will be open on Sunday, January 9.

G. R. Malone, of Shelby, a well known stockman of the upper Marias, is among the business visitors in town.

The incorporation of a townsite company by residents of that locality, indicates that a new town will be started at Brady, on the Shelby line of the Great Northern.

A plat of the new town of Whitlash, in the Sweet Grass hills, has been filed in the county clerk's office by Alfred C. Strode. The townsite consists of eight blocks divided into about 140 lots.

Declarations of their intention to become American citizens were filed in the district court today by Edmund Boucher, W. P. Cyr and Albert Stafford, the applicants being natives of Canada.

The Montana Experiment station at Bozeman has issued a bulletin, entitled "Fruitgrowing in Montana." It includes 35 pages, and contains 16 main topics discussed in a brief, practical way for the benefit of the Montana fruitgrowers. Prof. R. W. Fisher is editor of the work.

Miss Blackstone, county school superintendent, announces that January 13 and 14, and January 20 and 21 are the dates set for the next eighth grade examinations in Chouteau county. On January 20 and 21 Prof. T. J. Troy will conduct the examinations at Harlem; Prof. E. V. Graybeal at Chinook, and Miss Blackstone at Havre. Miss Blackstone will conduct the examinations at Fort Benton on January 13 and 14.

Chinook Opinion: The quantities that the farms of this section will produce of certain crops and the quality that can be attained in those same crops, will make the land valuable if the markets of the country are shown where they can get those products and if the farmers will grow them. Co-operation among the ranchers will enable them to do a big part in developing the country along those lines.

PIONEER SHOT HIMSELF.

W. S. Stocking Meets Sudden Death At His Teton Ranch.

Word was brought to town Tuesday morning that W. S. Stocking, one of the oldest residents of this part of Montana, met sudden death by shooting himself at his ranch on the Teton. Whether the shooting was an accident or deliberately done with suicidal intent has not yet been determined, the authorities still having the matter under investigation, and a verdict will be rendered in due course.

Justice Kluder, as acting coroner, left for the ranch Tuesday morning, accompanied by a jury and County Attorney W. S. Towner, and upon his return about one o'clock announced that the inquest had been continued until late in the afternoon. The evidence so far secured shows that the deceased was shot under the right arm, a shotgun being the weapon used. The only other person in the house at the time was John Stocking, son of the deceased, who was sleeping in the same room, and who has not been examined by the coroner. No motive can be assigned for Mr. Stocking taking his own life, as he was in exceptionally good spirits Monday night, when he spent some time playing chess with Charles Bristol, cook at the ranch.

Winfield S. Stocking was a native of Michigan, and was about 73 years of age. He came west in 1860, attracted by the gold mining excitement in California, and spent two years on the Pacific coast. The mining stampede to Alder Gulch and other Montana camps brought Mr. Stocking to this part of the country, but he soon realized that ranching and stock growing promised to become a lucrative occupation, and in 1866 he came to northern Montana with a view to engaging in those pursuits.

Mr. Stocking located a ranch on the Teton, about four miles from this city, and in 1868 harvested the first grain crop on the Teton. The same ranch is under cultivation at the present time, and is considered one of the best pieces of farm property in this part of Montana. In addition to the raising of grain and forage crops, Mr. Stocking engaged in the cattle and horse industry, and made substantial success in these departments. He was also an extensive owner of city real estate in the early eighties, a comfortable income being derived from these investments. Mr. Stocking was one of the first commissioners of Chouteau county, and was identified with many public enterprises connected with the development of this part of Montana.

The deceased is survived by his wife, a son and a daughter, to whom the sincere sympathy of their neighbors and friends is extended.

Weather Conditions During 1909.

A review of the local meteorological conditions during the year 1909 is given in a press bulletin issued by C. W. Ling, observer of the weather bureau station at Havre, in which the following official data are presented. The mean annual temperature was 41 degrees, which is slightly below the normal. The highest temperature was 98 degrees on August 20, and the lowest 40 below zero on January 6. The total precipitation for the year was 16.60 inches, which is 2.90 inches above normal. The greatest amount in any 24 consecutive hours was 2.11 inches on June 19-20. The wettest period during the year was from June 18 to June 29. Excessive rainfall occurred on July 9, when .79 of an inch fell in 50 minutes. The rainfall for the months of May, June and July was considerably above normal, June heading the list with 3.91 inches. August was the driest month during the year, only 0.18 of an inch of rain fell. The prevailing direction of the wind was east and the highest velocity was 40 miles an hour on August 10. Number of days of clear weather, 151; partly cloudy, 133; cloudy 81.

Rush For Land Continues.

Great Falls Leader. Winter weather appears to cut no figure with land seekers and in spite of the fact that the ground to a great extent was covered with snow and during a portion of the month the temperature registered far below zero the selection of homestead tracts and the attendant rush in the Great Falls land office in December was almost as great as had been experienced during the months of October and November. Land seekers by the hundreds, from all parts of the country and from Canada, flocked into the office or sent their filings in by mail and the month which was expected by the land officials to prove a light one actually showed the business to have been greater than ever experienced in any single year before the commencement of the present grand rush. At the time of the closing of the land office last evening, the last day of the month and also of the year, Register Burlingame ascertained that there had been received during the month the enormous aggregate of 1,025 entries.

Very few of these settlers filed upon tracts of less than 160 acres each and in many instances they filed upon

land under the enlarged homestead act which allows them to take 320 acres. It is estimated that of the total of 1,025 entries at least 25 per cent filed upon the enlarged homestead.

Although the figures are not obtainable it is estimated, figuring upon this basis, that the lands appropriated during the past month will aggregate a grand total of 220,000 acres.

AMONG OUR NEIGHBORS.

A Grist of Items Gathered From Our Northern Montana Exchanges.

Culbertson Searchlight: Papers were filed this week and served in the suit of Dr. H. L. Ennis of Moudak vs. Great Northern railway for the death of his wife, for the sum of \$25,000. Mrs. Ennis died April 20, 1909, after being thrown from a buggy at a crossing near Balville, her team being scared by a dead animal left there by the railroad company.

Valerian: The Dry Fork Coal deposit is daily gaining in value. A 30-foot tunnel is being driven into the hill and with each foot of excavation the quality of the product improves. Persons who claim to know, upon examining the coal, have given their opinion that it will coke. In the event that they are right there is no limit to the value of the mine.

Chester Signal: There is every indication that good towns will spring up at Concord and Galata, 25 and 20 miles west of Chester. A number of filings have been made on land in the country around there and business men have been on the field at different times. We understand that a twenty room hotel will be erected at Galata at once and that early in the spring lumber yards, stores, etc., will be established at both places.

Chinook Opinion: The coming of new families into this place has created an unprecedented demand for dwelling houses and it is almost impossible at this time to secure a house or rooms even. The coming spring months will witness a large influx of people who will desire a residence in town temporarily at least and the prospect is that every house will be occupied and eagerly sought after for several years to come. So great is the demand and so inadequate the supply of houses that already a number of lot owners are making preparations to build comfortable dwelling houses for rental, as soon as the weather permits work to start.

Two Dead in Great Northern Wreck.

GREAT FALLS, Jan. 1.—In a blinding snowstorm which had stalled a Great Northern freight engine and prevented the engineer of an oncoming Burlington east bound passenger train from seeing the warning signal lantern of the flagman one of the worst wrecks ever known on the Billing division occurred late last night near Oxford siding on the Billings line about 30 miles east of Judith Gap.

As a result two men were killed, 10 were injured and the greater portion of the passenger train consumed by fire. Engine No. 1232 of an east-bound freight had left its train at Franklin on account of repairs needed and had started back to Judith Gap with the tender in front and the caboose behind.

At Oxford the engine became stalled in the heavy snow and the engineer and conductor went ahead to flag the oncoming Burlington passenger bound from Seattle to Kansas City. This train was about seven hours late and the engineer was pushing her through the storm to keep from falling further behind.

In the blinding snowstorm he failed to observe the lantern of the flagman and, being unable to observe the lights on the stalled locomotive, dashed headlong into the obstruction. The engine was hurled to one side of the track, instantly killing the fireman and injuring the engineer, who was also scalded by escaping steam. The tender telescoped with the mail car, and Mail Clerk Gibson, the only occupant of the car, was killed. The three cars following the mail car were derailed and the passengers hurled from their seats. The tender of the freight engine was overturned, but the locomotive and caboose remained on the track. The impact of the collision started them down the grade and they traveled for a long distance from the wreck.

Lawyers Sue Davis Estate.

BOSTON, Jan. 3.—Another new feature has been added to the long and hard-fought contest over the estate of the late Andrew J. Davis of Montana, in a bill in equity filed with the supreme judicial court here by two Montana lawyers, who seek to establish a claim of \$10,000 against the \$579,000 to be distributed in Massachusetts. The action is brought by John B. Clayberg and Milton S. Gunn, both of Helena, and they claim that under an instrument dated January 18, 1902, Joseph A. Coram and Henry A. Root, individually and as administrators of the estate of Sarah Maria Cumminge, in Montana, agreed to pay them out of the Massachusetts portion of the Davis estate for services rendered in Montana.

THE DARK OF THE MOON.

A Result That is Produced by the Light From the Earth.

Many people have wondered why the part of the moon that receives no sunlight is often visible to us, the term being the "old moon in the young moon's arms." The dark part is easily seen as a copper colored globe resting in the bright crescent. This that we see is nothing more or less than the earth shine on the moon. We appear the same way to the moon when we are in that phase, and our dark part is where the moonshine appears and the bright part of the sunshine.

The reason the copper color appears is because light has to traverse the atmosphere of the earth three times—once on coming from the sun to the earth, once when reflected to the moon and again on being reflected back to us. Our atmosphere possesses the peculiar property of absorbing the blue rays of this white light and allowing only the red and orange to go through, thus causing the appearance of copper color by the triple absorption.

An odd thing connected with this phenomenon, though having nothing to do with it, is this: That part of the moon which appears dark to us is the same part of the earth that appears light to the moon at any specified time, and that part of the moon which appears bright to us corresponds to the portion of the earth appearing dark to the moon.

Of course it is well known that the moon gives out no light whatever itself, the moonshine being merely the light of the sun on the moon reflected to us. The same applies with the earth in its shine on the moon, save that we do give out glows, no doubt, around great cities at night, on account of the enormous number of lights. One thing, however, in which moonshine excels the earth shine is its constant character. Where the earth possesses varying clouds the old moon never has any at all.—St. Louis Republic.

A PUNJAB CIRCUS.

Program, in "Punch and Jab" English, as Good as the Show.

The sun never sets on the English language. This overdose of sunshine sometimes warps it out of shape. In the Malays it becomes "pigeon," in the south seas it is either "sandalwood" or "beche de mer," and among the erudite along the water front at Yokohama it is "banzai." Here is a sample of a brand sometimes called "punch and jab" English. It was captured alive by a Calcutta exchange editor armed with his scissors in the jungle of advertising literature that threw its shadow ahead of a native Punjab circus:

PROGRAMME.

Under patronage of Royal Duke of Knighth, K. C. B., &c. N. B.—This Circus is the very better, therefore he comes to see that. The performance preparation will commence at 8 p. m. sharp.

PART I.

1. Some horse will make very good tricks.
2. The clown will come and talk with that horse, therefore audience will laugh itself very much.
3. The lady will walk on horses back and horse is jumping very much also.
4. The clown will make a joking words and lady will become to angry therefore clown will himself away.
5. One boy will fall a ball from top side, then he can catch that ball before that ball can fall.
6. This is the very better jumping trick. Refreshments 10 minutes.

PART II.

1. One man will make so tricks of trapes. Audience will fraid himself very much.
2. Dogs will jump and roll in the mud.
3. One lady will make himself so bend, then everybody he will think, that he is the rubber lady.
4. This is the very grand display.
5. This is the very better Gymnastics.
6. One man will walk on wire tight, he is doing very nicely because he is a professor of that.

PART III.

Then will come the very good Dramatic. NOTICE. No sticks will be allowed in the spectator, and he shall not smoke also. Charges for Entrance.

1st class Rs. 2
2nd class Rs. 1
3rd class annas 8
There is no any 4th class.
—New York Tribune.

Lost Temper.

"Lost temper does great harm," said a politician. "I once knew a man who held thirteen trumps at whist, and on account of his partner's temper he took only one trick with that ideal hand." "Impossible!" sneered a reporter who conducted a weekly bridge column. "Impossible? Not at all," was the politician's reply. "You see, as soon as this man trumped his partner's ace on the first play his partner in a rage jumped up and kicked him out of the room."

Accounting For Patrick Henry.

It is related that Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase on stopping at the birthplace of Patrick Henry in Virginia exclaimed: "What an atmosphere! What a view! What glorious mountains! No wonder that Patrick Henry grew here!" Whereupon an honest native dryly remarked that the atmosphere, the view and the mountains had been there for ages, but that only one Patrick Henry had been produced.—Macon Telegraph.

Pretty Blunt.

Elderly Lady—Doctor, I am troubled with a hallucination that I am being followed by a man. What sort of cure would you suggest? Honest Physician—A mirror.—Cleveland Leader.

If we cannot live so as to be happy we can at least live so as to deserve it.—Fichte.

Smokeless

Until science discovered a way to construct the Automatic Smokeless Device, and make it completely dependable, all oil heaters had one common great fault—smoke.

With the advent of the Automatic Smokeless Device, and its practical application to the



PERFECTION Oil Heater

(Equipped with Smokeless Device)

the smoke problem was successfully solved.

The Perfection Oil Heater is the only heater equipped with this

Automatic Smokeless Device

which insures a steady, full-glowing heat, with the wick turned up as high as it will go, without a shred of smoke. Reverse the motion, turn the wick down—there's no odor.

The smokeless device automatically locks and prevents the upward movement of the wick beyond the proper exposure. That is the secret. This splendid result gives leadership to the Perfection.

You may now have all the heat you want—when you want it—and where you want it—without the annoyance of smoke or odor. Brass font holds 4 quarts of oil, which permits a glowing heat for 9 hours. Brass wick tube—damper top—cool handle. Cleaned in a minute. The Perfection is beautifully finished in Nickel or Japan.

Every Dealer Everywhere. If Not At Yours, Write for Descriptive Circular to the Nearest Agency of the

CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY (Incorporated)

MAY CLOSE BUTTE MINES.

Switchmen's Strike Affects Thousands of Other Workers.

BUTTE, Jan. 3.—The situation here in regard to the switchmen's strike is more critical than any day since its inception, the situation becoming such that orders were this morning issued to close every mine of the Amalgamated company, the order being later rescinded on account of the Great Falls smeltermen.

The Butte Miners' union last night overwhelmingly voted down the resolutions presented by the conference committee which has been in session in Butte for the past week, and which are being voted upon at Great Falls by the Great Falls smeltermen today. As to what influence this vote of the Miners' union may have had upon the orders issued by Superintendent Gillie this morning that every Amalgamated property, mine and smelter, close at 4:30 this afternoon, is not known, but Mr. Gillie this morning gave out an interview in which he stated that the company did not propose to have their plants running by piecemeal, and that if the men could not get together and settle the matter the company would simply close until such time as they could.

One hour following the order to close the order was rescinded, and it was announced that the rescinding was upon request of the Great Falls smeltermen, who are today voting upon the question of adopting the conference committee resolutions on a referendum vote, the same having been endorsed practically unanimously at last evening's meeting by a rising vote.

The request of the Great Falls smeltermen to rescind the closing order, and which was temporarily complied with, is understood here to have been made in hope that some solution of the trouble may yet be arrived at, and to the end that further negotiations may be entered into before final action.

Railroad Presidents Appeal to Taft.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—President Taft had an extended conference today with the presidents of six of the big railroads of the country who had requested a hearing with him before the special message, dealing with interstate commerce law amendments should be sent to congress. The railroad men came to present their views regarding various phases of the proposed recommendations as they have gleaned them from the speeches Mr. Taft has made from time to time.

It is said they sought to convince the president that further legislation at this time would upset conditions in the railway and industrial world, which generally have been righting themselves in the last two years. The railroad men seemed rather dejected when they left the white house and it was inferred that their mission so far as holding up the president's special message was concerned was a failure. President Taft said in the conference that he still expected to have his interstate commerce message ready for congress Wednesday noon.

President Taft listened attentively to all the presidents had to say, but did not commit himself in any way. The president told the visitors he would give their statements due attention in anything he might do.

Have Promoter: Many of the homesteaders on the bench lands west of Havre have been surprisingly fortunate in procuring good water at depths varying from ten to fifty feet. There is no question in the minds

of those who have had experience in other sections of the west as to the possibilities of securing water on the uplands in this section.

HILMEN LYG

Real Estate & Live Stock

Wanted: 50 head of steers
125 head mixed cattle

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BUYERS and SELLERS OF LIVE STOCK

WE HAVE FOR SALE
500 head grade Hereford stock cattle
2,500 head mixed sheep

FORT BENTON, Mont.

NOTICE!

We have recently purchased all the furniture and furnishings of every description that were in the Park hotel. We bought these goods right and we will sell them right. There were 106 complete bedroom outfits besides sufficient odd articles to stock a store. As fast as we can move them all these goods will be on sale at our Exchange store just across the avenue from our big store. While your credit is good, just remember that "cash talks," and if there is anything you want, whether for one room or thirty rooms, just go and ask the man. If you have the cash around your clothes, don't forget to tell the man about it and you will see the talking power of the coin of the realm.

"THE EXCHANGE" is the place.
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The WEEKLY RIVER PRESS is a good newspaper to send away to your friends in the east. It will save you the trouble of writing letters