

The River Press

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WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15, 1911.

AGRICULTURAL MONTANA.

The event of the past week that brought greatest satisfaction and pride to residents of Montana, was the capture of four of the five principal prizes at the big New York land show by Montana agricultural products. In the departments devoted to wheat, oats, barley and alfalfa, Montana exhibits were declared by competent judges to lead the procession. The achievement of this distinction came a few days before the twenty-second anniversary of the admission of Montana as a state, and formed part of an appropriate birthday greeting.

The effect of these awards cannot be estimated. They place Montana at the head of states that produce similar agricultural crops. In an exposition open to farmers in all parts of the United States the displays from Montana were found to excel all others in quality and other features.

The distinction earned by Montana farm products, in competition with exhibits from various parts of the United States, should be an inspiration to all Montana residents who are engaged in agricultural pursuits. They furnish indisputable proof of what can be done along these lines. The producers of these prize-winning grain and forage displays have no monopoly of soil and climatic conditions; similar resources or environment are available to the farming community in all sections of this commonwealth. The adoption of methods that will take full advantage of them is the sure road to success.

Many old-time residents of Montana confess astonishment at the victory won by Montana products at the National Land exposition. Disclaiming any feeling of disloyalty toward their home state, their personal experience under careless and unscientific methods of farming caused them to form an opinion that has since been demonstrated to be incorrect. They have been "shown" the possibilities of the Montana farm, and are now prepared to take part in the general rejoicing over such magnificent achievements.

In all lines of human endeavor the prize-winners are few, compared with the number who attain only a moderate degree of success; and this rule will apply to the Montana farming industry. In some cases there may develop unfavorable circumstances that are beyond the efforts of the settler to control; there may be setbacks that he did not anticipate, but under normal conditions he is promised liberal reward for industrious and proper cultivation of the soil.

The Montana farmer who determines to raise the best grain or forage crop in the state may not reach the goal of his ambition, but if he pursues the right course he will assist in adding to the reputation of Montana as an agricultural state.

AS OTHERS SEE US.

Under the provisions of an act passed by the legislature, before the next general election rolls around, Montana is likely to have two new counties both of which will be cut out of Chouteau.

The lawmakers at their last session concluded that questions of county division should be left to the vote of the people in the territory involved in the creation of counties.

This view of the matter was afterward sustained by the supreme court of the state, which held under the constitution the legislature of the commonwealth had no jurisdiction in the matter of organizing new counties, although those which had been previously created by the lawmakers must stand as legally organized communities.

Between this time and February 20 of next year elections will be held in Chouteau county to see whether the county of Hill shall be created, with Havre as the seat of government. This election takes place very shortly, and it is understood that the proposition is likely to carry.

On February 20 another election will be held for the purpose of seeing whether the county of Blaine shall be created.

There are two aspirants for the honor of being the county seat of Blaine, and they are Harlem and Chinook, and this matter will be settled by popular vote at the time the creation of the new county is submitted to the voters in what is now Chouteau county, except that if Hill county is created first, those residing in that

new county will have no voice in the matter, those citizens having been already segregated from the parent county.

If these counties are created they will each have a senator and a representative in the next legislature, and in spite of the segregation of territory old Chouteau will still have four members of the house, although two new counties will have been organized out of it.

During the last legislative session the committee on apportionment of the house endeavored to amend the senate apportionment bill in such manner as to provide where counties were created out of those already organized the members of the legislature allotted to the old counties should be divided up between the new and old counties, in proportion to population.

The house, very wisely, declined to accept this amendment suggested by its committee on apportionment, with the result that if Chouteau is divided according to present plans it will be left with twice the representation it is entitled to have.

The fact that these new counties are contemplated is another evidence of the rapid manner in which the state is advancing and settling up.—Butte Miner.

THEY MUST BE SHOWN.

Congressman Murdock Declares The People Want Information.

It is the belief of Congressman Victor Murdock, who delivered an interesting lecture at the opera house Tuesday evening, that the majority of the American people will soon become "insurgents." That term is applied to a member of any political party who claims the right to think for himself and who does not feel bound to accept everything that is favored by other members of his party.

Mr. Murdock declared that the spirit animating the American people today is simply a desire for information upon governmental matters; they want closer relations with their public affairs, and will surely get it. They have the right to know everything pertaining to the public business, and to determine the methods under which it shall be conducted.

The speaker was introduced by Attorney C. R. Stranahan, and after a few remarks complimentary to Fort Benton and its citizens, announced that "insurgency" would be the subjects of his lecture. "I belong to a clan," said Mr. Murdock as he entered upon the discussion of insurgency, "which doesn't propose there shall be peace at the expense of personal liberty."

"Insurgency is not partisan," declared the speaker. He said the standpatter is not to be blamed altogether; he is a standpatter because he takes too much for granted. The insurgents are stationed beneath the chamber windows of the standpatters and are waking them up. And they are waking up, he said, proceeding to show how it is little things which are waking them—little things like the frauds of the sugar trust.

In the course of his lecture Mr. Murdock told an interesting story of graft in connection with the railway mail service, the payment received by the railroads being based on the average daily amount of mail transported. By using an old and obsolete method of computation, the payments were about 15 per cent higher than the amount to which the railroads were entitled, and when Mr. Murdock endeavored to secure a proper adjustment of the matter, he was turned down by the department and by congress. He appealed to President Roosevelt, however, and an executive order soon remedied the injustice.

The remedy for conditions attending the present political situation, Mr. Murdock said, is simple. It consists in driving out the privileges. This can be done by the direct primary, by the initiative and referendum and by the recall. There must also be a constitutional amendment, providing for the direct election of senators.

Witness Questions Attorney.

A noted attorney was questioning a witness and he insisted that the witness reply to his question by saying either "Yes" or "No."

The witness protested that because of the manner in which the question had been put to him by the attorney that he could not answer it intelligently with a "Yes" or "No."

"There is no question but can be answered intelligently by 'Yes' or 'No,'" said the attorney.

"I can ask you one question that you cannot answer intelligently with either 'Yes' or 'No,'" said the witness.

"Put your question," said the attorney.

"Have you stopped beating your wife yet?" asked the witness.

HELENA, Nov. 11.—The coldest of any place in the United States or Canada, where official weather observations are taken, last night was at the Chessman reservoir, 20 miles west of Helena, where a minimum temperature of 27 below zero was recorded. The station is perched on the crest of the main range, at an altitude of over 8,000 feet.

AMONG OUR NEIGHBORS.

A Grist of Items Gathered From Our Northern Montana Exchanges.

Lewistown Democrat: Victor Murdock said that the Judith Basin is the most wonderful agricultural country he had ever seen. That is one subject on which the noted Kansas insurgent agrees with every standpatter that ever visited this wonderful section of the Treasure state.

Culbertson Republican: The people in the west end of Valley county have organized for the purpose of creating a new county out of the west end of Valley and east end of Chouteau county. From what we learn of the affair they are going after the matter in the right way and stand a good show to get their division measure through.

Conrad Independent: Persons who filed on lands in the Brady district, which were opened up in July, have been receiving their white receipts this week, notifying them of the allowance of their claims. The customary notice is attached relative to the establishment of residence, in which it is stated that failure to make bona fide residence within six months will subject the claim to forfeiture.

Shelby News: Mike Connelly, the old-time stock man, loaded 400 head of cattle for Chicago on Monday. The curtailment of the range forces him to adopt the "white man" ways, so he has bought a big traction outfit which plows a swath a rod wide and is breaking up 1,200 acres of the finest land along the Marias river which will be cropped for two or three years and then seeded to hay.

Glasgow Independent: At the meeting of the county commissioners Tuesday an appropriation of \$1,000 was made for the purpose of defraying the expense of Valley county's exhibits at the Northwestern Land Products Show in St. Paul, Minnesota, in December and S. J. Runkle of this place, Dan McKay of Malta and A. S. Chapman of Plentywood, were appointed to take charge of the exhibit and see that it is properly displayed.

Chester Signal: Herman Klabunda, a dry land farmer living near Concord, had a very close call from instant death Monday afternoon. Mr. Klabunda endeavored to cross the railroad track ahead of the skidoo, which he failed to see approaching, and the wagon was struck and demolished. Mr. Klabunda jumped over the horses and saved himself, and the horses in some manner, were thrown to the side of the track and escaped unharmed.

Malta Enterprise: Mr. Nicholas Schmitz, stockman and farmer residing southwest of town, is preparing quite an area of land on which he will plant onion seed this fall. Mr. Schmitz states that in Germany onion seed is always planted in the autumn and that many advantages result therefrom. The ground by being finely pulverized retains much more moisture than it would otherwise do, the seed comes up when the grass starts in the spring, getting three or four weeks start of that planted in the spring.

Lewistown Democrat: Another name, famous in the old stockgrowing days of this section of Montana, will be perpetuated when lots in the recently platted town of Oka are placed on the market in the near future, probably before the end of the present week. Engineer Otto Wasmandorf, of this city, has completed the platting of the town, which is located on the Milwaukee, about seven miles southwest of Judith Gap and approximately fifteen miles from Harlowton.

Chinook Opinion: C. F. Morris came down from Havre Tuesday morning to conduct the trustee's sale of 11,000 head of sheep of the A. Beckstead estate. There was a large number of outside buyers present at the sale which was held at the O'Hanlon shearing plant. Most of the sheep were purchased by outside buyers for shipment. Messrs. Toomey of Deer Lodge, Shoemaker of Big Timber, and Roth of Helena, were the principal buyers.

GREAT FALLS, Nov. 11.—A suit involving a land deal for which the consideration was \$64,000 was instituted today by David D. Lambie against the Box Elder Livestock company and J. B. Long, president of the company. The suit is a result of a deal made some months ago. Mr. Lambie is a widely known hotel man formerly engaged in the real estate business, and Mr. Long is one of the large land holders of this section, whose home is in Sycamore, Ill.

Creating an Impression. "Is he really a great scientist?" "I have my doubts," replied Miss Cayenne. "I suspect he is one of the scientists who get their reputations by sitting down to a dinner table and saying chloride of sodium instead of salt."—Washington Star.

Her Choice. "I believe there's good people in all denominations," Mrs. Lapsing said, "but as for myself I always go to one of the orchard or churches."—Chicago Tribune.

A sharp tongue is the only edged tool that grows keener with constant use.—Irving.

This is a Good Time

TO BEGIN PREPARING FOR THE FAST APPROACHING WINTER

As you know, when winter comes it comes all at once. A nice warm Fur Coat, a heavy Woolen Shirt, and a suit of Woolen Underwear are good things to have to protect you from the cold fall and winter winds. These can be obtained NOW

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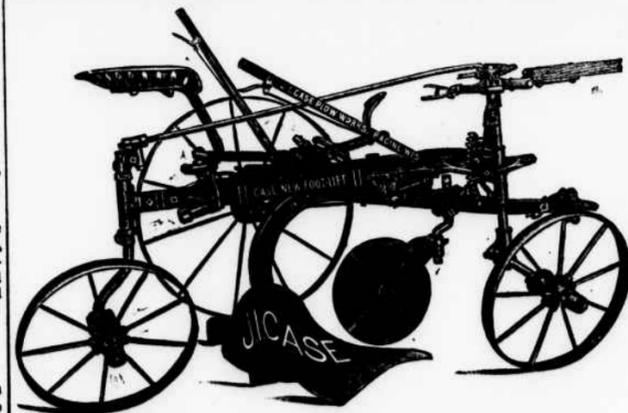
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Every day brings to our Dry Goods Department, direct from the New York market, the latest styles in Ladies' Ready to Wear, Millinery, Ladies' Shoes, Novelties, Etc. The ladies of Fort Benton and vicinity now have an opportunity to secure the latest New York styles right here in Fort Benton. A visit from you is all we ask. We are sure your wants will be supplied.

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JOS. SULLIVAN, Fort Benton, Mont.