

CITY AND STATE.

From Saturday's Daily.

A very enjoyable dance was given at Odd Fellows hall last evening, at which a large number of young people were in attendance.

J. E. Walker, who is in town today, reports promising crop conditions in that locality. Winter wheat is making a fine growth, and is further advanced than is usual at this time of year.

Chas. H. Boyle, clerk of the district court, is making certified copies of the Chouteau county jury lists, which will be sent to the district court clerks of Hill and Blaine counties. The lists will be used in compiling a record of citizens eligible for jury service in the new counties.

Some novel and spectacular bucking stunts were witnessed here today, a riderless saddle horse being the performer. The animal attempted to ford the Missouri river, but when about half-way across he concluded to change his program and gave an exhibition of aquatic bucking that would make a popular attraction in a circus.

John Goldham, a former resident of Great Falls who has a ranch about twenty miles southeast of town, had an unfortunate experience yesterday, one of his horses dropping dead while hauling a wagon load of supplies to the ranch. The outfit was stalled at a point about midway between town and its destination, and it became necessary to secure help to complete the trip.

From Monday's Daily.

Attorney Wm. Chittick, of Chester, is among the visitors in town.

Miss Flanagan left today for Helena, on a visit with friends in that city.

Attorney Jno. C. Duff, of Chinook, arrived today on district court business.

H. L. Short, of Havre, deputy in the Hill county treasurer's office, arrived today to secure data from the Chouteau county records.

Major T. A. Cummings, who was visiting in St. Paul during the winter months, arrived yesterday from Malta, where he attended the roundup meeting.

Hilmen C. Lyng, of Geysers, who is among the visitors in town, reports a superabundance of moisture in the vicinity of Geysers, spring work on the ranches being delayed by the frequent rains.

The civil suit of J. A. McRae vs. A. J. Caldwell, an appeal case from the justice court at Chester, was given a hearing in the district court today. The suit relates to an alleged indebtedness for coal.

A news item from Havre says Mary Gault, 65 years old, living with her son on a ranch six miles out of Havre, committed suicide by hanging herself in a woodshed. She had been in ill health for some time.

A marriage license has been issued by the clerk of the district court to Emil T. Breault and Alexina M. Paradis, both of this city. The wedding took place today at the Catholic church, Rev. Father Phelan performing the ceremony.

It is rumored that a change in the train schedule on this division of the Great Northern will go into effect about May 5. The time of the east-bound passenger will remain unchanged, but the westbound will arrive about two hours earlier than at present.

Sheriff Bickle left today for Thompson Falls, to appear as a witness in the trial of Roy Whitcomb, a convict who escaped from guard while working on a public road in Sanders county. The fugitive was arrested at Havre about a month after his escape, and returned to the penitentiary. His original term having expired, Whitcomb now faces a charge of escaping from custody.

From Tuesday's Daily.

Jos. A. Baker, of Highwood, is among the business visitors in town.

Ralph Russell left today for Malta, to take a position in the U. S. reclamation service.

E. W. Funk, representing the Montana Life Insurance company, was among the arrivals today.

M. S. Taylor, who is engaged in the lumber business at Carter, is visiting with Fort Benton friends.

C. F. Peterman, of the Northern Montana Abstract Company, left today for Havre, to open an office in that city.

A quantity of nursery stock, consisting of fruit trees, shrubbery and shade trees, for sale at half price, in lots to suit purchaser. Apply to John Muir, Fort Benton.

The case of Lee Kim, a Chinaman charged with assault, was set for trial in the district court today, but at the request of attorney for defense the case was continued. The trial jurors were dismissed this afternoon for the term.

A news item from Havre says a breach of promise suit has been filed in the district court at Hill county by Mrs. Harry L. Hobbs against Lon C. Waid. Mrs. Hobbs asks for \$10,000 damages. Both reside in the Bear Paw mountain district, twenty miles south of Havre, and are well-to-do.

Twenty years in state prison was the sentence pronounced in the district court this afternoon, in the case of Martin Nicholas, who pleaded guilty to the crime of rape committed at Zurich. The defendant, subsequent to entering a plea of guilty, made an application for a new trial, but the request was denied by the court.

The residents of the eastern part of Valley county have completed a petition and filed the document with the Valley county authorities, requesting that an election be called to vote upon the question of creating a new county to be called Sheridan county. The proposition covers all that part of Valley county east of a line running north and south a little west of Wolf Point. A hearing of the matter has been set for May 13, by the Valley county commissioners.

STOCKMEN MEET AT MALTA

North Montana Roundup Association in Annual Session.

The annual meeting of northern Montana stockmen, which was held Friday and Saturday at Malta, was one of those enjoyable occasions that will be remembered by the participants. The people of Malta extended a royal welcome to their visitors, and entertained them with true western hospitality.

The meeting was addressed by Mayor Casselberg, of Malta, and John Survant, who assured the stockmen that the people of Malta were delighted to meet them and would do their best to make the visit a pleasant occasion. Addresses were also made by D. W. Raymond, secretary of the Montana board of stock commissioners, Wallace D. Coburn, and several representatives of eastern stockyard firms and railways. The speakers included W. Magivny, president of the South St. Paul Stockyards company; Chas. O. Robinson and Ed. Williams, of Chicago; Jerome Magivny, and Mr. Felt, of the Sioux City stockyards; Pat Scanlan, of the Milwaukee railroad, and others.

A committee consisting of David G. Browne, W. P. Davidson and L. E. Kaufman, reported resolutions of respect in memory of the late Charles M. Williams, David Pratt, W. R. Logan, W. L. Treacy and George W. Brewster, members of the association who have died during the past year.

An executive committee for the ensuing year was chosen as follows: David G. Browne, Thos. O'Hanlon, M. E. Milner, W. P. Davidson, Jas. Townsend, A. W. Kingsbury, Norval Wallace, Thos. Couch, Jr., John Harris, G. W. Fields, John Survant, M. Morrow, T. A. Cummings, Chas. H. Green, L. E. Kaufman, Geo. L. Overfield, Simon Pepin, J. O. Patterson, L. V. Bozy, J. V. Carroll, John Betz, John Archer, E. T. Broadwater.

The committee on nominations reported the following selection of officers of the association for the ensuing year:

President—Chas. H. Green, of Fort Benton.

Vice President—W. P. Davidson, of Chinook.

Secretary and treasurer—Thomas A. Cummings.

On behalf of the citizens of Fort Benton, an invitation to hold the next annual meeting of the association in this city was extended by Charles H. Green, who indicated to the stockmen that a warm welcome would await them. The invitation was accepted, with the understanding that the association meeting of next year will be held a few days after the Miles City meeting.

The Soil's Water-Holding Power.

Other things being equal, the finer the grains in a soil the greater is its water-holding power.

The organic matter in a soil and especially the humus, acts as a sponge would act. Its relative capacity for holding water is considerably greater than that of the mineral matter, as you may have observed. Hence the importance of returning to our soils, especially to our loams, clays and sandy soils as much of the roughage of the farm as possible, and hence, also the importance of following a careful rotation which shall result in part in abundance of root material in the subsoils.

Good applications of barnyard manure increase the water holding power of soils.

In a productive virgin soil will be found material mellowness, which still exist for a time after the soil is brought under cultivation. To this mellowness is due in no small degree the large crops which such a soil yields.

On the contrary a soil that is continuously cropped and carelessly handled for some time will be lacking in this mellowness. Consequently it can no longer produce good yields, not only because it lacks mellowness, but also because in this condition it is unable to gather and retain the moisture needed for crop production.

The River Press.

Subscribe now for the WEEKLY RIVER PRESS. Send it to "the old folks at home."

TELLS TEACHER'S TROUBLES

Former Resident of Chouteau County Relates Varied Experiences.

Residents of this vicinity who remember Basil C. D'Easum, a young man who taught school in some of the country districts in the early nineties, will be interested in a recital of his experiences which appeared recently in the Spokesman-Review. Mr. D'Easum tells a story of some thrilling incidents in his career as a Montana school teacher, the names of the localities being thinly disguised in the narrative, but the scene of the following may be readily identified:

My next school was at Pinewood creek, in the Pinewood mountains. Pinewood had the reputation of being a hard school to handle. One of the trustees had a red-headed son, who had routed several teachers in succession. My predecessor, a mild mannered, spectacled gentleman, had been ducked in the waters of Pinewood creek. Of course I had heard of the "tough outfit" at Pinewood school, and, at a meeting of the school board, before I took up my duties, the trustees frankly told me that I might expect trouble from the gang, but that the trustees would back me up if I "knocked the stuffing out of Tim." Tim's father was loud in expressions of his hope that I would give his promising son a good licking.

The first day of school at Pinewood opened with a full attendance. That is generally the case when a new teacher has charge. That first day is usually the crucial time for the new teacher. Each and every boy and girl is "sizing up" the new teacher with diabolical accuracy. Looking over the rows of staring young faces, I noticed in the back seat the flaming head of the redoubtable Tim. He was a husky-looking youth of 18, broad-shouldered and horny-handed.

Everything went along smoothly for the greater part of the morning, but toward noon the novelty began to wear off. Tim made two or three tentative efforts to find out what the new teacher would "stand for." He soon found out. Seeing that hostilities were inevitable, I was just as anxious as he to precipitate matters. I called him up to my desk and, in an undertone, told him he would have to obey orders or get out. Loudly and profanely he declared that he would do as he pleased, whereupon I jumped at him, seized him by the throat, hustled and shoved him out of the open school-room door, giving him a flat shake which caused him to lose his balance and roll down the three or four steps. He was a badly surprised youth, and it was only the complete unexpectedness of my attack that enabled me to put him outside.

Enraged at the laughter of the other pupils, he arose to his feet, with a rock in each hand, and dared me to come outside. It was a few moments from noon, so I tapped the bell and dismissed school. Then, inwardly quaking, somewhat, I stepped outside, first telling the boys and girls to keep away. As soon as Tim caught sight of me he threw both rocks, but missed. Then followed some very lively and crowded moments. It was not an edifying sight for my pupils, especially when Tim knocked me flat with a left-hander in my right eye, then jumped on me and started to chew my ear. This unsportsmanlike way of fighting provoked me considerably and when I finally got on top, I fear I was rather rough with him until he owned that he had had enough. Quite in accordance with the rule we were firm friends after that day, and his father handed me a rope-yarn cigar on the occasion of our next meeting.

Asylum Property Appraised. A proposition looking to the purchase of the insane asylum at Warm Springs will be submitted to the voters of Montana at the next general election. The purchase was contemplated in legislation enacted by the Twelfth assembly, which provided that the property be first appraised by a commission, which has just reported its findings to Governor Norris. Appended to the report were detailed inventories of all the kinds and classes of property the commission felt would be needed for the proper operation of the institution.

Property necessary for the proper operation and maintenance of the Warm Springs asylum, in the event the state decides to purchase, is worth \$561,400, but will be sold to the state for \$533,000, according to the findings of the appraisal commission. The law under which the commission was appointed by Governor Norris provided that "if it be found that said commission and the copartnership are able to agree as to the reasonable value of said property, it shall report its findings and recommendations to the state board of examiners, and said board shall thereupon enter into contract in the name of the state of Montana for the purchase of said property in accordance with the recommendations of the joint committee hereinbefore referred to, and the report and recommendations of said commission."

While the state board of examiners

will enter into a contract, before the contract becomes effective it must be ratified by a majority vote of the electors.

MONTANA NEWS BRIEFLETS

A Budget of Readable Short Items From Various Parts of the State.

HELENA, April 24.—J. S. M. Neil, proprietor of the Independent left an estate valued at approximately \$75,000, according to the estimate by George G. E. Neill and Margaret Neill in an application to the district court for letters of administration. The estate consists of stocks and bonds, real estate, cash and insurance policies.

BILLINGS, April 24.—Encouraged by the fact that potatoes are higher in price than they have been for about ten years, also that the supply is not in keeping with the demand, farmers in this locality are arranging to give over an increased area to the cultivation of this crop during the ensuing season, and it is apparent that the autumn harvest will break all records. At the present time potatoes are being disposed of at wholesale for \$3 to \$3.50 per hundred.

BILLINGS, April 27.—A fraction more than \$100 for one wagon load of potatoes is what was received this week by one grower who marketed that portion of this crop locally. The load consisted of 41 sacks which was the residue of last season's crop. The value of spuds is shown by the fact that one man cultivated four acres near this city sold his crop at a net profit of \$400 per acre. Local prices at present range from \$1.50 to \$3.50 per hundred and the demand is strong, and encouraged by this fact more farmers are going into the business this season so that the acreage promises to be the greatest on record.

GREAT FALLS, April 24.—Before leaving Great Falls today John D. Ryan made the further announcement that orders have been issued for the complete reconstruction of the Boston & Montana smelter at an estimated cost of \$2,500,000 and the transformation of the present plant into what he termed one of the model smelters of the world. He stated that plans and specifications had already been prepared and accepted and the beginning of work only remains for the delivery of structural steel by the big eastern mills. Delivery of this material will commence in between three and four months and a large force of men will be employed. It is expected that the new plant will be completed in about a year.

REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE

Benton State Bank,

AT FORT BENTON, In the State of Montana, at the close of business April 18, 1912.

RESOURCES

Table with 2 columns: Resource, Amount. Includes Loans and discounts, Overdrafts, Bonds and warrants, Banking house, furniture and fixtures, Cash reserve in bank, Specie, Currency, Due from banks and bankers, Checks and other cash items.

LIABILITIES

Table with 2 columns: Liability, Amount. Includes Capital stock paid in, Surplus fund, Undivided profits, Individual deposits subject to check, Demand certificates of deposit, Time certificates of deposit, Cashier's checks outstanding, Due to banks and bankers.

Total resources \$871,985 30. Total liabilities \$871,985 30.

State of Montana, county of Chouteau, ss. I, F. A. Flanagan, cashier of the above named bank, do solemnly swear that the above statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

F. A. FLANAGAN, Cashier.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 27th day of April, 1912.

JOHN F. SULLIVAN, Notary Public for the state of Montana, residing at Fort Benton, Montana. My commission expires September 9, 1913.

Correct—Attest: LOUIS D. SHARP, GEO. L. OVERFIELD, Directors. D. G. LOCKWOOD

Notice of Contest.

United States Land Office at Lewistown, Montana, April 15, 1912.

To Fred A. Hart, of Fort Benton, Montana, contestant.

You are hereby notified that FRANK GERLAUGH, Jr., who gives Stockert, Montana, as his postoffice address, did on March 15, 1912, file in this office his duly corroborated application to contest and secure the cancellation of your homestead entry serial No. 69972, made April 21, 1910, for lots 5, 3, 4, SW 1/4 NE 1/4, and SW 1/4 NE 1/4 section 2, and lot 1 and SW 1/4 NE 1/4 section 3, township 21 north, range 1 east, Teton meridian, and as grounds for his contest he alleges that residence has never been established upon the said land; that no portion of the said land has been cultivated or improved; that the land is still in its native wild and unimproved state; and that said entry has been abandoned for more than six months last past.

You are, therefore, further notified that the said allegations will be taken by this office as having been confessed by you, and your said entry will be canceled thereunder without your further right to be heard therein, either before this office or on appeal, if you fail to file in this office within twenty days after the FOURTH publication of this notice, as shown below, your answer, under oath, specifically meeting and responding to these allegations of contest, or if you fail within that time to file in this office due proof that you have served a copy of your answer on the said contestant either in person or by registered mail. If this service is made by the delivery of a copy of your answer to the contestant in person, proof of such service must be either the said contestant's written acknowledgment of his receipt of the copy, showing the date of its receipt, or the affidavit of the person by whom the delivery was made stating when and where the copy was delivered; if made by registered mail, proof of such service must consist of the affidavit of the person by whom the copy was mailed stating when and the postoffice to which it was mailed, and this affidavit must be accompanied by the postmaster's receipt for the letter. You should state in your answer the name of the postoffice to which you desire future notices to be sent to you.

C. E. McKOIN, Register.

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INTEREST PAID ON TIME DEPOSITS.



Scene at New York Horse Show—showing three new Style Stetson hats.

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