

The River Press

Published every Wednesday Morning by the River Press Publishing Company.

PASSING OF THE RANGE.

It is not so long ago that one of the big annual events in Montana was the meeting of the Montana Stockgrowers' association at Miles City. These conventions brought together the range cattlemen not only from all over Montana, but from Wyoming, North and South Dakota and from across the Canadian line. During the days of the convention there were in the railroad yards at Miles City as many as a dozen private cars belonging to the high officials of the railroads that carried the cattle to market in the fall and which hauled many thousand head to Montana each spring and summer from the southern country.

Gathered in Miles City during the stockgrowers week were men who ran tens of thousands of cattle and whose fortunes aggregated millions in cows and beef cattle on the hoof. There were also scores of cowboys, some coming to town to enjoy the festivities and others looking for jobs with the range men. The livestock commission men and the stockyards of half a dozen cities had their representatives on the ground, and all one heard was "yelling," "two-year-olds," the condition of the range, talk about the prospect for feed during the summer, and what sort of a winter the growers had had.

But times have changed. The annual meeting of the Stockgrowers' association is being held in Miles City today, but men who ran cattle on the range are not by any means the majority of visitors in the old cow town. On another page is printed a story of how the settlers are going into Custer and Dawson counties, the two former great cattle sections in eastern Montana. These settlers are coming in by the train load, and Miles is full of them. They stay a day or two and then with their belongings they go out twenty, fifty, 100 miles into the open, and start to make a home on the lands which were formerly the feeding ground of the range cattle. When they first began to take up the lands the cattlemen said they could not make a living. But they have, and the advance guard has been followed by an army.

Miles City will be an hospitable host to the visiting cattlemen and others who attend the meeting of the Stockgrowers' association this year, but the atmosphere will not be of the range as it was only a few years ago when the cattlemen got together to make trades, tell of experiences and prepare for the season's roundup.—Helela Record.

SENATOR WALSH OBJECTS.

The views of Senator Walsh regarding proposed tariff legislation are given publicity in a Washington dispatch to the Anaconda Standard in which the position of Montana's junior senator is clearly stated. The dispatch, which is of general interest to Montana citizens, is in part to this effect:

"I feel that Montana has been unfairly discriminated against in the preparation of the Underwood tariff bill," declared Senator Walsh today, but he added that he was hopeful that this discrimination would be removed before the tariff becomes a law. It is the senator's personal opinion that after the bill passes the house it will be materially amended by the senate finance committee before being reported to the senate, and, when amended, he believes it will have the support generally of the democrats of the senate. Senator Walsh thinks the senate will not be called upon to accept and pass the house bill without change.

Senator Walsh maintains that the wool and sugar schedule of the present bill are unjustly discriminatory against two of the leading industries of Montana, wool and sugar. In fact these commodities go on the free list while other duties are generally continued, though reduced. In like manner the free meat and free lumber clauses strike at other Montana industries which heretofore have helped to bear the tariff burden.

As to carrying out the platform pledges of the democratic party, Senator Walsh declared he would go as far as the other members of congress, but he does not interpret that platform to promise free wool, free sugar, free meat and free lumber, when other commodities are left on the dutiable list. The Underwood bill, he says, does not make a uniform reduction in all duties, but singles out certain products for the free list, while others continue to yield revenue.

It was suggested to Senator Walsh that the president might insist upon the senate passing the house bill without change. He replied that he thought it unlikely that the senate would yield to any such suggestion; that the senate, a co-ordinate body with the house, has the same right as the house to shape a tariff bill, and as the senate had no hand in framing



the Underwood bill, he believed the senate would not surrender its constitutional right in this instance.

HISTORIC ANNIVERSARIES.

Beginning yesterday, and continuing for several days, St. Augustine, the oldest town in the United States, will celebrate the 400th anniversary of the visit of Ponce de Leon, the Spanish cavalier and adventurer, to Florida. Not only was he the discoverer of Florida, but the story of North America began there and then with his advent in the land of flowers. Columbus visited some of the outlying islands of the hemisphere, but he never saw the mainland.

Florida was the name given not only to the present state of that name, but the whole region northward as far as Spanish coasting vessels went. As used by Spain, the name covered all the Atlantic coast up to the present Canadian. As the original discoverers and explorers of the greater part of the eastern coast of America, the Spaniards had a free hand in giving names to most of it.

Ponce de Leon was not the first white man who trod the shores of North America. The Cabots, sailing in an English vessel, touched on the Canadian coast fifteen years earlier than the date of the discovery of Florida, and the Northmen are said to have been in New England several centuries earlier. Neither the Cabots nor their forerunners, however, left a trace of their visit. Ponce de Leon's visit to Florida, however, made that region known to the world, and many Spanish adventurers landed there and explored it within the next few years.

In the later half of 1513 Balboa explored the Isthmus of Panama, across which the United States is building its canal, and in 1519 Cortez subjugated Mexico, and added it to the domain of Charles V. It may be said, therefore, that from the time of Ponce de Leon's call near the site of the present St. Augustine, something has been doing continuously in North America, and for the earlier part of the time the Spaniards were doing it.

For Americans these days are rather prolific in great anniversaries. In 1913 we are marking the half century of many important civil war battles—Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Vicksburg, Chattanooga and others. This year also sees the hundredth anniversary of Perry's victory over the British on Lake Erie, Harrison's defeat by the British and their Indian allies under Tecumseh at the Thames, and other important operations of the war of 1812-15. A few months hence we will be observing the 400th anniversary of Balboa's glimpse of the South sea from his "peak in Darien." All these are great landmarks in history. They tell our people that America and Americans have contributed some thrilling chapters to the world's story.—Globe Democrat.

One Cause of Railroad Wrecks.

The writer of an article in the American Magazine, entitled "Why Railroad Wrecks Increase," says:

"Excessive speed has always been the underlying cause of the railroad business. Employees do not consider it professional to be careful. Their one aim is to make up time. The whole theory of railroad operation is based on getting more speed than the conditions warrant. The moment an engineman reports for duty he is hurried. With watch and timecard in hand he waits impatiently to get started. He is officially instructed to be careful and get no excessive speeds, but owing to the innumerable delays and small happenings it is practically impossible for him to make his schedule without speeding."

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.

AFFECTS FARM PRODUCTS

Agricultural Schedule of New Tariff Law Endorsed By Caucus.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Slow progress in consideration of the new tariff bill by the democratic house caucus has upset the early prediction of democratic leaders that the bill would be ready for the senate by May 1. After a week of deliberation the caucus is less than half way through the proposed measure with several of the important schedules yet to be disposed of, notably wool and cotton. The income tax also is certain to require considerable time in discussion as members desire to have it thoroughly explained.

Today the caucus resumed consideration of the agricultural schedule, wheat being taken up first. North-western representatives opposed the free listing of flour, declaring it inconsistent with a proposed duty of 10 cents a bushel on wheat. Citrus fruits also were the target for the opposition as well as the free listing of potatoes.

Representative Levy of New York, moved to place wheat on the free list. Representative Fowler of Illinois offered an amendment to increase the proposed duty on wheat from 10 cents to 15 cents a bushel.

The caucus rejected both amendments and left the wheat rates as fixed by Mr. Underwood and his colleagues. An attempt to raise the proposed rates on barley made by the democrats from Wisconsin and Minnesota also was unsuccessful. Mr. Burke of Wisconsin offered an amendment restoring the rates of the Payne law under which barley pays a duty of 30 cents a bushel. The Underwood bill would cut that in two.

Will Not Remove Postmasters.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Postmaster General Burleson announced today that it is the administration's policy to continue all republican postmasters now in office to the end of their terms provided no charges are sustained against their efficiency. The policy applies to all classes of postmasters.

Mr. Burleson said the decision had been reached after conferences with President Wilson, who favors the merit system. At present a plan is being worked out for securing efficiency under the civil service, fourth-class postmasters having been placed under that jurisdiction on an executive order by Mr. Taft.

Evans Favors Wool Duty

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Upon being interviewed on the question of the tariff bill, Congressman John M. Evans, of Montana said: "I am for the bill as written as far as sugar is concerned. On the question of wool it is my personal conviction that there should be a duty of from 15 to 25 per cent left on raw wool, if not permanently at least for a period sufficiently long to permit the woolgrowers of the country to adjust themselves to the new conditions."

Claims Amount to Millions

NEW YORK, April 15.—The first anniversary of the sinking of the steamer Titanic has been set as the last day on which claims against the White Star Steamship company can be filed in the United States district court for the loss of life and property. Damages in excess of \$10,000,000 already have been demanded.

The last day for filing claims was originally set for Feb. 11, but the time was extended. Up to that time a total of \$8,000,000 in alleged damages had been asked of the company. The amount in which the White Star company is liable will be announced in a decision to be handed down by the United States district court.

Of the 316 claims, the largest is for \$510,000, asked for the death of Clar-

ence Moore, a broker of Washington, D. C.

Morgan Inheritance Tax

ALBANY, N. Y., April 15.—New York state will receive between \$3,000,000 and \$4,000,000 inheritance tax from the estate of the late J. P. Morgan, according to the preliminary estimates made by attaches of the state comptroller's office today.

The estimate is based on a report that the total estate will be about \$100,000,000. The tax is expected to be one of the largest ever paid. A reduction of 5 per cent is allowed if the tax is paid within six months after the estate is appraised.

Dedicate Titanic Memorial

NEW YORK, April 15.—Today, the anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic, persons prominent in church, business and shipping circles assembled at the Seaman's church institute on the lower water front to dedicate the Titanic memorial lighthouse tower, erected to the memory of the men and women who went down with the ship. It will have a range of 12 miles, will be chartered by the government and a ball will drop on the flagstaff at noon daily for the convenience of masters in adjusting ships' chronometers.

Weather Chief Is Fired.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—Willis L. Moore, chief of the weather bureau, whose resignation has been in President Wilson's hands to become effective July 31, was summarily removed from office today, charged with serious irregularities.

Prof. Moore declared today that secret charges had been preferred against him and that they had been secretly investigated. He had not been shown a copy of these charges, he said, and had not been given an opportunity to examine the witnesses testified against him. No opportunity had been given him to defend himself, he declared.

Funds For Montana Indians.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—Senator Walsh today wrote the commissioner of Indian affairs for a statement showing the full amounts now in the treasury or deposited by him in various banks to the credit of Montana Indian tribes. The senator has been advised that several hundred thousand dollars, rightfully belonging to the Crows, Flathead and other Montana tribes, is stowed away, drawing interest, and that the Indians are deriving no benefit whatever from it.

In view of the destitute condition of some tribes in need of financial aid for farming and cattle raising, Senator Walsh wants to find out just how much money is available for these Indians, and when this is ascertained he intends taking steps to see that this money is expended for the benefit of the tribes to whom it belongs.

Against Alien Ownership.

SACRAMENTO, April 15.—An anti-alien ownership bill, designed primarily to prevent Japanese from acquiring title to real property within the state, but so worded as to prohibit any alien owning land more than one year except upon a declaration of his intention to become a citizen, was passed today by the lower house of the legislature by a vote of 69 to 15. The measure was drafted by a subcommittee of the judiciary committee as a substitute for another bill, all of which specially provide that "aliens ineligible to citizenship" should not hold lands.

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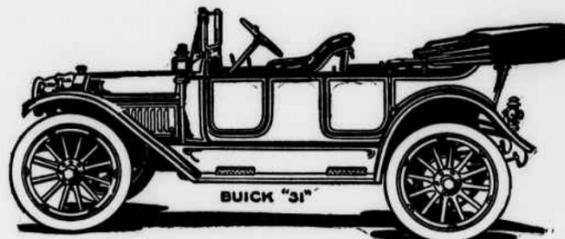


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EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY

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There will be sold at public auction town lots in the following new towns located on the Roy, the Dog Creek, the Great Falls and the Choteau extensions of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway in Montana which are now under construction.

The towns, dates and places of sales are as follows:

TOWNS	LOCATED ON THE	Dates and Places of Sale
Denton, Montana	Great Falls Line	April 5 Lewistown, Montana
Warwick "	" " Line	" 5 " "
Arrow Creek "	" " Line	" 19 " "
Square Butte "	" " Line	" 19 " "
Armells "	Roy Line	May 10 " "
Geraldine "	Great Falls Line	" 10 " "
Christina "	Dog Creek Line	" 24 " "
Suffolk "	" " Line	" 24 " "
Highwood "	Great Falls Line	June 7 Great Falls, Montana
Shonkin "	" " Line	" 7 " "
Agawam "	Choteau Line	" 21 " "
Montague "	Great Falls Line	" 21 " "
Farmington "	Choteau Line	July 5 " "
Bigsag "	Great Falls Line	" 5 " "

The towns each serve a rich tributary country and afford splendid opportunities for the establishment of various kinds of business enterprises. The extensions on which they are located, it is expected, will be completed and in operation by midsummer of this year.

Further particulars about the towns and the sales can be secured by addressing the

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