

Items From Neighboring Towns

Sent in by Special Correspondents From Different Parts of the County.

MARTINSDALE

The town of Martinsdale, which was named in honor of Major Martin McGinness, who was formerly in command at Fort McGinness, was first built by R. H. Clendenin directly between the North and South Fork of the Musselshell river in 1880. At that time and for a number of years after Martinsdale commanded all the business in the eastern part of Meagher, Fergus and Sweetgrass Counties. All the goods and provisions came from Fort Benton, which was then the terminus of the Missouri-Navigation Company, and all the wool from this section was hauled by bull teams to that town, and brought back goods as freight.

In those days every thing in the way of merchandise, provisions, etc. was exceedingly high and the sales were enormous. Rauchenmen bought by wholesale, as they lived at such a distance, there being no railroad nearer than Silver Bow, which was the terminus of the Utah & Northern Narrow Gauge. Stages were the only means of transportation until 1883, when the Northern Pacific began building to the coast. A stage line was then run from Martinsdale to Billings and later to Big Timber. There were also stage lines to, White Sulphur Springs, Ubet and Winnecook.

At that time Martinsdale was a busy place. Most of the people who settled in the Judith Basin, Lewistown, Fort McGinness and other points were obliged to pass through Martinsdale as the only route. It was not unusual to see from fifty to eighty tents pitched every day in and about town. Martinsdale was also headquarters and the starting point for cattlemen and cowboys, sometime numbering from eighty to one hundred as they went out on the spring roundup. Riding the mustang was the daily sport in those days.

Martinsdale was one of the best business locations in that part of the State. Mr. R. H. Clendenin opened the first store in Martinsdale, in company with Mr. H. C. Tillinghast of Chicago, and they did an immense business. When these parties retired from their business, the firm of Spencer, Mayn & Heltman of White Sulphur Springs, started in a general store with a large stock, and continued in the business successfully for several years. H. E. Marshall, who then had a store at Castle, came to Martinsdale and built up a splendid business, which he still retains.

On the advent of the Montana railroad, the town of Martinsdale was removed two miles farther west and across the South Fork. Today Martinsdale is one of the best towns on the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound Railroad, taking into consideration its size and population. The town is built on a solid bench foundation, in the center of a splendid farming and stock country. The lines of business now established in Martinsdale, are a first class general store, a State Bank of \$55,000 capital, an up-to-date livery barn, meat market, blacksmith shop, and two saloons.

A number of substantial dwelling houses have been erected; also an Episcopal Church and a school building that would do credit to a much larger town. The most competent teachers are chosen for the school, and it would be an ideal place for families with young children. A substantial town hall building has recently been erected. The extensive stock yards at Martinsdale are also a great convenience. The Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound railroad promises a large depot, modern in every way, to be erected in the early summer. The town also boasts of a first-class hotel, which is headquarters for business men and the traveling public.

Martinsdale is situated on an everlasting stream of pure water, abounding with fish. This stream could be used advantageously for any purpose requiring water power, and still there would be plenty of water remaining for irrigation purposes.

Thousands of bushels of grain are raised, sold and shipped there each season.

Information has recently been received that upward of \$3,000,000 will be expended in the construction of a storage dam and canal in proximity to the town. All ore from the Spring Creek and Delpine mining districts, are hauled and shipped at this point.

Should the Chicago, Milwaukee & Puget Sound railroad build from Martinsdale to Great Falls, as was contemplated, it would, in a short time, be a town of several thousand inhabitants. Its citizens are enterprising, and ready to invest at every opportunity. The stockmen of Martinsdale and vicinity are among the wealthiest and most extensive land

owners in the state, and nearly all stock thoroughbred.

Taking a business view of the splendid resources of Martinsdale and surrounding territory, it is only a matter of a short time until the town will be one of the most important commercial centers in Meagher county.

LENNEP

Mrs. A. C. Grande and little son left Wednesday for Lethbridge, Alberta, where they will visit for some time with her parents, S. Crest. A. Grande accompanied them as far as Helena, returning Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Grande were unfortunately delayed at Maudlow for twenty four hours on account of the wash-outs in the Sixteen Mile Canyon, and then finally had to make their way to Lombard by means of a hand-car.

The weather recently turned topsyturvy in this region. From the icy blizzard of a fortnight ago it has turned to hot sunshine and genuine spring weather. This community has added considerable to the size of the Musselshell, and Lennep will have to the charge of having furnished water for the wash-outs in the eastern part of the valley. The result is that the snow has disappeared entirely, with the exception of a few snow drifts whose reputation it is to stay till summer is at the door.

It was a sad time for a number of young people in this vicinity during the latter part of the week. Hearts that longed to beat as one could not even communicate with each other by artificial means, for the local and long distance telephone wires had been torn down most mercilessly at Lennep. The high wind seemed to have planned the mischief, for it broke one of the wires directly over the railroad wye at this place. The loose ends, flying at random with the wind, caught in a passing engine smoke stack, and in an instant several posts had been broken and the wire torn off for the greater portion of a mile. Communication was delayed for several days, but has at length been restored.

Last Sunday a large number of people assembled at the school house in the interest of the proposed Debating and Literary Society. If the interest manifested at the meeting is to be considered a harbinger of the future, the organization just formed will be greeted with success of a very high type, indeed. It was decided to have regular meetings every week, and the next meeting was fixed for March 13th. The following were elected officers of the society: J. O. Berg, president; Albert Haugan, Vice president; and Miss Mina Grande, secretary and treasurer.

M. T. Grande left for White Sulphur Springs during the first part of the week.

It is reported by excellent authority that Theodore Kyppen and Albert Haugan saw Halley's comet early Monday morning.

Martin Hereim left for Twodot Sunday afternoon.

Nels Hereim has been suffering with a very painful hand for some days. A splinter having lodged in the hand, swelling set in and it was thought there was danger of blood poisoning. He left for Twodot to consult Dr. Tice, and we hope the danger will be averted.

A crowd of merry-makers were invited to the home of Ed. Thoreson last Thursday to help celebrate the birthday of John Berg. The guests arrived at five o'clock, and after a delicious supper which reminded those present of the ability of Mrs. Nelson as a cook, games and dancing were indulged in till the sun shone bright over the eastern hills again. Breakfast was served at about seven in the morning, after which several sports were indulged in, among them being skeeving and coasting. At nine o'clock the majority of the guests departed for their homes, but the minority, consisting of two persons, remained till the sun was high in the heavens, and then some. Those present hope to have the opportunity of attending many more of John's birthday parties, but some express doubts as to whether he wished to have such an unruly crowd help him celebrate another. It is a compliment to Mr. Berg that they wished to travel ten miles thru snow-drifts and mud-holes rather than miss the event.

IRENE

John Milne is hauling hay from the Yeagen ranch. Mr. Milne said his stock are doing fine, but is afraid of the March weather.

Mrs. Ethel Ferguson and son, Terr, are spending a few weeks with her mother, Mrs. A. P. Brewington.

Howard C. Bushnell, deputy forest ranger, has returned after a pleasant visit with his brother, Ray Bushnell at Roundup.

Samuel Baker was a visitor at Irene Wednesday.

Miss Louie Sanderson is expected home from a visit with friends in Bumper Mill, Tenn. the last of this month.

Mrs. Frank Cameron and daughter, Miss Frances, is expected home the last of this month, where Miss Frances has been attending school this winter.

Mrs. Richard Raw has accepted the position as teacher of the Irene school for this summer.

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

E. R. Teague spent Tuesday in town this week. He reports very little loss among the stockmen in his section.

Mrs. Geo. Keyee returned last week from an extended visit to Lewistown.

The Smith river valley Chamber of Commerce held a special meeting at the office of the Meagher Realty Co. Wednesday evening, over eighty of the members were present.

A. Bruckett came in from his ranch Wednesday to attend the meeting.

The Emerald Rebekah Lodge gave an entertainment Wednesday evening at the I. O. O. F. hall.

Arthur Proud of Helena spent several days in town looking after the interests of the Stanford Co.

Daniels & Wear have leased the Springs hotel. They expect to open up in a few days.

Lewis Cameron of Martinsdale was a business visitor in the springs this week.

M. T. Grande and W. L. Starret came in Monday to attend the regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners, which is now in session.

County Attorney Ford returned from a business trip to Helena last week.

TWODOT

F. J. Spach, of White Sulphur Springs arrived in Twodot Sunday and is going to locate here permanently.

N. F. Whitel is back in town to stay and will open up a real estate office and take care of the spring rush of settlers in this vicinity.

There was great activity on the Twodot ball grounds Sunday. The boys have not lost any of their ability. The athletic club will have a fine squad of players to draw from and will start the ball rolling at an early date. Last season was a record breaker for the squad, having lost two and won ten. With the material in view it is the intention of the club to play out of the county, and they would like to book games with all first class amateur teams.

Mrs. G. F. Boyan of Glendive is visiting with her sister, Mrs. N. R. Hutton.

The N. R. Hutton blacksmith and machine shop has changed hands and C. Chinger of this town takes possession March 15th. Mr. Chinger proposes to put in a garage in connection with the machine shop. He is a competent mechanic and is familiar with all type of machines. It is his intention to remodel the old shop, installing a number of new machines and in the course of six weeks, he will have a first-class outfit which will add quite a little to the assets of the town.

LAVINA

The floods caused by the breaking up of ice in the Musselshell, has caused quite a commotion among those living on the river banks the past few days, and although no serious damage has been done, the roads for a short time were covered in places to the depth of three feet.

Mrs. D. W. Slayton and daughter, Lydia, have been spending some time in Bozeman and Billings, detained somewhat by uncertain conditions of travel.

Mrs. W. F. Sagar and two children left on Tuesday for Denver, after a stay of five weeks in Lavina.

D. W. Slayton was in Roundup on Saturday and Sunday, and on Monday left for Lewistown on business.

BIGELK

G. D. Martin has returned to his ranch after spending the winter in Bozeman.

W. S. Ayers has made his home in Bigelk.

McMahon and wife were in town visiting.

Mrs. N. Hutton from Twobot has been visiting in town the past week.

T. A. Grumley is in town visiting

after spending the winter in Mo.

Plowing has been started in this vicinity, and it seems as though spring was her.

Another big dance will be had at Twodot on Friday 11th in the new hall. All the young folks are looking forward to have another big time.

WINNECOOK

J. H. Garrett and C. Mallona accompanied by John Hladik from Iowa were at Winnecook Saturday.

Miss Glendora Clark, who has been spending a week with Mrs. Wellington, returned to her home on the American Fork Sunday.

Geo. L. Clark and Ben R. Britzler were at Winnecook Monday to get some horses lately purchased of the W. L. & L. S. Co.

C. Mallona brought out a party of surveyors the first of the week, who will go to work laying the corner stones, preparatory to surveying the bottom lands into forty acre tracts, which Garrett is selling at \$50 per acre.

Jacob Rewarts of Nihil bought a fine mare of the W. L. & L. S. Co. this week.

C. Mallona and a gentleman from Iowa were at Winnecook Wednesday.

The Misses Julia Scholen and Glendora Clark, who were out driving Saturday afternoon, said they did not care to ford the river again while the water is so high.

RYEGATE

C. E. Hamilton left Thursday for Osakis, Minnesota on business.

Grace Dorsey visited at Lavina last week.

Mr. Ferguson of Elmira, N. Y. is visiting T. B. Gamwell.

M. Galvin of Fargo, N. D. is in town on business.

Lee Groves and J. B. Koehler were passengers Saturday for Helena.

G. L. Jackson of Seventynine passed through town Tuesday enroute to Harlowton.

D. W. Smith left for Miles City Tuesday.

Conductor G. F. Cobb departed Tuesday for Miles City to resume work.

Little Bert Sherman of Pleasant Ridge visited Ryegate Wednesday.

W. H. Glendinning arrived Monday from Idaho and will locate in the livery business at this place.

Foreman Algil was quite seriously hurt Tuesday while blasting an ice gorge east of town. Reported he is doing as well as could be expected.

CASTLE

The Castle people are experiencing quite a spell of sunshine and warmer weather, which is causing the snow banks to vanish slowly. We will all be glad to see bare ground again.

Miss Bertha M. Short went to Butte Monday to have her eyes treated, caused by her hard study. We trust that Bertha's weak eyes may be improved and may she have a pleasant trip.

Randall B. West returned to Castle last Saturday for a few days visit in his old home. We all are glad to see Randall's smiling face again on our streets.

Dan Jackson and his sister, Mildred, came home last evening after an absence of a few weeks. They have been out on Shields River visiting Mrs. Bruckert.

DORSEY

J. C. Lipton made a short visit in town Tuesday.

John Lucas was in town Tuesday on business.

D. D. Patter has sold his property to N. D. parties. Mr. Hampton of Sixteen will manage the ranch.

Herman Petzold went over to White Sulphur the first of the week.

W. Potter was a visitor the first of the week. He says that things are very favorable for an early spring.

Charles Laymen is visiting at the Stewart ranch at Sixteen.

H. Hellige and J. Plumb left Sunday for Bozeman.

Forester Venton was in town the fore part of the week.

Andrew Erickson was in town Tuesday, and he says that he has his saw mill running full blast now.

Geo. Hall has a crew of men working on his new building site.

W. Patterson was in town Tuesday. He is expecting a shipment of seed potatoes.

Land seekers are beginning to come to Dorsey and the demand is greater than the supply.

David Winter came in from his

ranch Tuesday.

D. F. Rawland of the Foster ranch is having considerable trouble locating his horses which have been ranging on Sixteen Mile Creek.

N. R. Glaws reports an over supply of water on his ranch, and that he had to move into the second story of his house.

The Milwaukee railroad has taken all the available men to Maudlow to repair the track washed out by the water.

E. E. Earhart was in town Tuesday.

L. H. Michener has been at Leader the past week awaiting instructions as to where the Milwaukee will locate him.

NO IOSH.

Easter Eggs, \$1.00 per dozen at the Novelty Works.

FOR SALE - at a bargain, Shares in the Doyles Consolidated Mines of Colorado. A safe and money making proposition. For further information address, Postoffice Box No. 311, Harlowton, Montana.

W. S. SMITH

THE Lewistown Furniture Dealer, handles a High Grade Piano at a moderate price. His line consists of the Baldwin, Hamilton, Ellington, Valley Geg, S. W. Miller and Chickering Bros. as well as player pianos.

SEWING Machines at one half the prices that agents charge for them. All kinds of Sewing Machine Repairs and Needles.

Headquarters for School Desks. The Minneapolis Desk. The Best.

LEWISTOWN, - - MONT.

Harlowton Meat Market

JOS LABRIE, PROP.

Wholesale & Retail Dealers in
Beef, Mutton, Veal and Pork

Headquarters for
Fish, Poultry, Oysters and
Produce

Harlowton, Montana



ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES

You should keep a bank account. Money in the bank talks - It's a nice conversation to listen to. A man might make a brilliant speech in a forest reserve - it would be out of place, it wouldn't be heard. It's the same way with money - you can't hear it very well, until it gets into place, which is in circulation.

STATE BANK OF MARTINSDALE

LAND FOR SALE

See us before you buy; we have a large number of fine farms and stock ranches for sale, both large and small tracts, well improved and at prices that cannot be beaten. Send for our lists.

Meagher Realty Company
White Sulphur Springs, - - Mont.