

THE LIBBY HERALD

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\$2.00 PER YEAR

SEWER BONDS BRING PREMIUM

Chicago Buyer Takes Town Offering, and Work Will Soon Start on Big Sewer Project.

The city council held a special session last Tuesday evening, which was a decidedly important one. The sewer bonds for \$20,000 was sold to C. H. Coffin of Chicago, one of the large bond and mortgage dealers of the country. These bonds brought a premium of \$101, the purchaser also furnishing the printed forms. The money is expected to be here in a few days.

Fifteen thousand dollars of this bond sale goes into the sewer fund and work will start upon the system as soon as the details can be perfected. The plans and specifications of the main outlet sewer, by City Engineer Duthie, have already been passed upon and accepted by the council. This outlet sewer will run from Mineral avenue on First, west to the city limits, then northerly through the Remp ranch into the mouth of Flower creek. The rights-of-way for the sewer were granted and filed yesterday with City Clerk Rice.

The entire system covered by this issue of bonds will constitute the main sewer, the laterals being provided for by special improvement districts. There will probably be three parts to the main sewer line, and the first part will consist of the main outlet sewer, which work will be the first to be undertaken.

The civic improvements already installed, those now being built and this later one provided for and soon to begin, Libby will be one of the likeliest little cities in the state for comfort, convenience and health, proving particularly attractive to prospective home-builders from outside points. These progressive features are already causing inquiries from heads of families who desire to come here and live in a mild climate and surrounded by those civic improvements which all wide-awake cities adopt as a part of their policy.

Other matters acted upon by the council at Tuesday's meeting was the acceptance of Contractor Nash's work in cement walks in Improvement District No. 3, all claims being settled and closed up.

The council also approved the report of the census enumerator and adopted a resolution advancing Libby to the status of a third-class city, and the same was filed with the county clerk and with the secretary of state.

Local News Items From Troy

Raphael Zon, of the forest service, Washington, D. C., in charge of forest studies, accompanied by Supervisor Skeels, visited Troy last week to select the weather and experiment stations for the Troy district. Mr. Zon has decided to divide the apparatus between the Bening and Dennis stations.

The forestry people are repairing the Sylvanite-Troy telephone line, and building an extension of 22 miles up the Yahk from Sylvanite to the Olson ranger station.

Marsh Roberts and Lou Hale have returned from the Pipe creek country.

J. H. Ehlers, accompanied by an engineer from Minneapolis, a few days ago visited the Yahk.

(Continued on last page.)

LIBBY COMMERCIAL CLUB ORGANIZED

Business Men Get Together and Form Organization—Will Have Publicity for Libby Along Modern Lines.

On Tuesday night, at Plummer's hall, was held an enthusiastic and well attended meeting for the purpose of organizing a commercial club, along the lines suggested in the Herald last week.

Mr. Gray acted as chairman and Mr. Skeels as secretary. About fifty men signed the membership roll. A committee consisting of Messrs. Millett, Wall, Plummer, Faust and Maiden was appointed to formulate bylaws and a general scheme of organization, to be reported at a meeting called for next Thursday evening at Plummer's hall. Permanent quarters, a permanent salaried secretary, efficient publicity work, developing and fostering new enterprises are contemplated.

WAS MUCH ALIVE LAST SPRING.

The reported death last year of Herman Hilderbrand in the Death Valley desert of Nevada, seems to have only been a rumor, as "Dock" Redfield, who has just returned from the southern country, saw Herman at Cascade, about twenty miles from Goldfields, Nev., last April. He was then packing up for a trip into the hills. Herman had found nothing in the Nevada country worth while and said he intended gradually working north from there through California and Oregon. We would not be the least surprised to see him back here again on his old stamping grounds. For they all come back.

Lincoln County Assessment

The following is the assessment roll of Lincoln county for the year 1911:

No. acres.....	509,630
Cash val. real estate.....	\$2,080,380
Impr. on same.....	45,860
Assessed to others.....	5,985
Cash value city and town lots.....	97,435
Impr on same.....	89,515
Mortgages, contracts etc. lines.....	12,625
Telegraph and telephone.....	14,920
Depots, shops, etc.....	26,155
Canals and flumes.....	1,100
Water and Electric light.....	750
Household goods, etc.....	9,755
Musical instruments.....	2,660
Libraries, etc.....	915
Wares and merchandise.....	48,608
Saloon and store fixtures.....	10,400
Farming tools and mach.....	37,885
Wagon, harness, etc.....	7,200
Wheat, oats, hay.....	585
Lumber, wood, coal.....	96,340
Horses—	
9 thoroughbreds.....	2,150
494 range.....	15,560
505 work and mules.....	25,560
Cattle—	
15 three-year old.....	\$ 310
272 milch cows.....	8,240
687 stock cattle.....	11,795
222 two-yr. old.....	3,440
296 yearlings.....	2,935
Hogs, 213.....	1,075
Total of all property.....	2,772,489
Railroad property.....	2,432,251
Total	5,204,740

It is reported that the Independence copper property north of Eureka has been sold by Ed. Boyle to eastern parties and that work on that big proposition is to be pushed actively.

W. P. Sherman, the Kalispell undertaker with branches at Libby and Eureka, visited here last Saturday.

KOOTENAI FOREST SELF-SUSTAINING ONE OF THE FEW REVENUE PRODUCERS.

Interesting Statistics as to Road Building and Policy of Department.

A visit to the forestry office this week and an interview with Supervisor Skeels gives some information which is of more than passing local interest.

The Kootenai forest reserve is the second largest in the country, exceeded only by the Blackfoot and by but a few acres, but it is probably the only reserve in the state of Montana that is on a revenue-paying basis. It has been the general opinion that the 25 per cent of the timber-sale receipts is returned to the counties from where the revenue came, to be used for road and school purposes, but this is not the case. If this were the practice, Lincoln county would receive fully twice the yearly sum it now receives. By legislative act it is distributed among the forest reserves according to the acreage of such reserve. A reserve may not turn out fifty dollars in timber sales in a year and yet receive several thousand dollars. It happens that the Kootenai forest is particularly active in the sales department and is likely to be for some time to come for several reasons. The timber stands are heavier than in most reserves and the many logging streams bring it in close touch to transportation lines.

Much has been said about the distribution of the road money; that it should go to the three commissioner districts in proportion to the receipts from each district in timber sales. If this could be followed—to carry out the contention—it would figure about as follows, taking the records for the past two years, during Mr. Skeels' administration: Troy 53 per cent, Libby 45 per cent, Eureka 2 per cent.

Another interesting feature brought out by the records in the forest supervisor office is money expended upon roads by the department. There is no effort made to expend the money for such work on an assessment basis or acreage basis, but the work is done where most needed according to the funds available by congressional appropriation.

Libby is the headquarters for the Kootenai reserve and it is the policy of the supervisor, and it is sound and businesslike, to connect headquarters with the different sections of the reserve by roads, trails and telephone lines, the better to reach these sections more quickly and efficiently govern and control the parts from the central point. This would be the case were the headquarters at any other point in the reserve.

But it so happens, and without it being the intention to do so for the reason stated above, that the expenditures for the past two years

which covers Mr. Skeels' administration, will just about average up with the acreage in the three commissioner districts. The total by items follow:

LIBBY DISTRICT	
McGinnis meadows wagon road.....	\$ 581.40
Libby creek wagon road.....	499.50
Pipe creek trail.....	828.09
Repairs Pipe creek wag rd.....	15.15
Meadow cr trail.....	10.30
Pipe creek trail.....	1006.70
Quartz creek trail.....	1378.15
Total	\$4419.29
EUREKA DISTRICT	
Rexford-Yahk trail.....	\$1247.00
Gateway-Warland trail.....	1425.56
Five-Mile bridge.....	13.81
Repairs E fork Yahk trail.....	121.00
Parsnip creek trail.....	224.54
Total	\$3031.91
TROY DISTRICT	
South Fork Yahk trail.....	\$810.38
Yahk falls bridge.....	960.27
Troy ferry.....	250.00
Repairs Troy Sylvanite road.....	121.00
West Fork Yahk trail.....	105.75
Keeler-Lighting creek trail.....	318.16
O'Brien creek trail.....	341.50
Sylvanite telephone line.....	83.47
Total	\$2990.53

This expenditure of \$10,000 is entirely independent of any county road money, nor has it to do with the 25 per cent road money given to the county by the government. The money is all spent at home and is put where it is needed regardless of population. This is clearly shown by the Rexford-Yahk trail built through a country which has no settlers along its route, but affords an outlet for the upper Yahk basin to the nearest railroad point and is today used entirely by the people of the northern end of our county in reaching the outside world. It is also shown in the Gateway-Warland trail on the west side of the river, which scarcely serves a half dozen settlers along its course, but makes an important link in a through highway up and down the river.

Before concluding this article it would not be complete if we failed to note the difference between the regime under the former supervisor and that now prevailing. Then the administration of the reserve was clothed in much secrecy and the newspaper man with a "nose for news," received scant attention. Under the present reign the work is as open as the day, and publicity is courted in all matters in which the public is interested. Upon our initiative Mr. Skeels placed his records before the Herald man and gave him any further information desired. We want to compliment him upon the broad-minded plan pursued by him in the administration of his office and this praise is given him as freely as was his treatment of the writer.

BALL GAME SUNDAY NOT VERY SWIFT OR EXCITING

The ball game between the Libby Reds and the Rexford team last Sunday was very much of a jughanded affair—in fact, the upriver visitors were so completely outclassed that the home nine were scarcely afforded a good practice game. In the 2nd inning the Reds

SUIT STARTED OVER PLACERS

Valuable Ground the Bone of Contention.—Every Active Mining Camp has its Litigation, and Libby is Getting in Fashion.

One of the evidences of a prosperous mining camp is mining litigation. An important piece of litigation involving some valuable placer properties on Libby creek, and damages to the amount of some seven thousand dollars was started on August 16th by F. N. Campbell, and his associates representing some St. Joseph Mo., capitalists, against John H. Town and Wm. Criderman.

The trouble seems to have arisen over the title of about 160 acres of placer ground on Libby creek, which Town and Criderman claimed and had contracted to sell to Campbell.

It now transpires that the Libby Placer company claims the grounds and doubtless the real ownership of this valuable placer will be adjudicated in connection with the pending damage suit.

The values lately shown to prevail through this placer field, are more than flattering, all along Libby creek, for a distance of several miles both ways from Old Town. And while big developments and flattering production are being made by the Libby Placer Co. and the Comet Placer and several others working along the creek; still bigger things are promised in the near future.

Another year will doubtless see two or three more hydraulic and dredging plants installed in this placer field, in addition to the three big hydraulic plants now operating.

Strike on the Hidden Treasure

Geo. Hathaway has just returned to town from his Hidden Treasure claim at the head of Libby creek, where he has been doing some development work.

The news he brings with him is of the most encouraging nature. At a depth of 200 feet he has broken into an ore body which bids fair to mean much for the camp. The vein shows six feet of ore and neither wall has been touched, the ore carrying gold, silver, copper and some lead. Free gold can be seen in many pieces shot down from the face of the lead.

The recent work done has been but twenty feet when the ore body was broken into, and this strike came by reason of the fact that before this last work was undertaken the tunnel was cut to the west and the ore body was encountered.

How far the 200-foot tunnel has been paralleling this ore shoot is, of course, not known until a series of crosscuts have been made.

We may look for some further important developments on this property at any time, as it is the intention to follow up the strike just made with further work.

W. J. Sprague of Warland was in Libby Monday on school business. A movement is on foot to take a part of the Jennings district and annex it to Warland and establish an additional school to accommodate a number of children who are now very much inconvenienced in their school facilities.

Under the new registration law notaries public are allowed 25 cents for each voter registered, but the official is required to wait until after election before being paid and then receives only the fee for each registered person who votes.

TROY TO HAVE SHIPPING MINE

Building Roads and Bridges, at Big Eight.—Great Bodies of Ore Exposed and Property is Ready to Go to Market.

County Commissioner Pratt visited Troy last Thursday and Friday, on road business.

Manager McCaffery of the Big Eight is building about a mile and a half of road to connect the mine with the county road leading to Troy and the county will put in two bridges on the road, one across Hale creek and the other across Gordon. Both will be good substantial bridges, each about 100 feet long. This road is being opened up so that the Big Eight may begin shipping ore and the same road will serve the B. & B. an adjoining property.

Mr. Pratt during the trip, took occasion to visit the Big Eight property and examine the work going on. Over 100 tons of shipping ore are now on hand and great bodies of clean ore are exposed in various parts of the workings. A crosscut tunnel cuts the vein and this has been drifted in both ways from the crosscut probably 500 feet. At one point five feet of solid zinc ore is exposed. In the face of each drift the vein is between five and six feet in width, of which nearly three feet is clean shipping ore and the balance concentrating.

The property has all the earmarks of a big thing in mining, in the opinion of Mr. Pratt, who is one of the best mining engineers of the state. An immense amount of ore has been exposed and the vein shows up strong for several hundred feet without reaching the end of the shoot.

Troy will be the shipping point and is about eight miles from the mine. When the property is equipped with machinery and working at its capacity it will afford a big payroll for the town and community, and be a decided stimulus in encouraging the development of other properties in the same vicinity.

Jos. Felton of Spokane this week visited the Bunker Hill group on Leigh creek, in which property he is interested with other Spokane men. During his visit he let a contract to Geo. McKay to extend the tunnel 50 feet further. The property is looking exceptionally well, and this contract is the first of a total of 500 feet to be run this winter.

Items from West Fisher Camp

We are indebted to Ed Bowman for some West Fisher news.

The company now having the Blacktail group is repairing the stamp mill and fixing up three settling tanks for cyaniding.

John Fredericks will resume work on his claim above the Blacktail, next week. Some of the finest specimens of the camp have come from the Fredrick claim.

Wm. Williams and Jos. Allen are doing development work on Great Northern mountain.

Active work is going on on the Anna claim, under the direction of J. J. Hibbard. This is one of the most promising properties of the camp. A tunnel is in on the lead 70 feet, the vein carrying from 18 inches to two feet of rich free-milling ore. It is the intention to

(Continued on last page.)