

# THE LIBBY HERALD

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## LAND CONTEST CASE HEARD

**Government Seeks to Upset Two Claims Near Troy, but Case Seems Weak.**

A land contest case was heard in U. S. Commissioner Posten's court yesterday, involving a tract of land on Star creek, below Troy. This land was proved up on by Jeremiah and John D. Downey under the homestead commutation law, and was later purchased by the Bonners Ferry Lumber company. The government sought to cancel rights of claimants to land and introduced four witnesses, two of whom were from the forest service. The forestry witnesses testified that they had recommended that the government suit be dismissed and the two others gave testimony rather favoring the defense. So weak was the case considered by the defense that they decided not to put on any witnesses, although they had a number present.

This case seems like if the land had been sold to an individual instead of to a lumber company, it would have scarcely received passing notice. Some sleuths of the government probably feel they have to make a showing with the department and the results of their activity in many cases seem more like persecution than a desire to prevent land frauds.

## NEW PUBLICITY AGENT FOR KALISPELL C. C.

**Bernard of Eureka Elected and Returns to First Love to Assume New Duties.**

P. N. Bernard, late editor of the Eureka Journal, has been selected as secretary of the Kalispel chamber of commerce, and will at once remove to that city and commence his new duties. Perley is energetic and enthusiastic, and we may expect to see some clever publicity stunts pulled off by him in promoting the advantages of Kalispel and the Flathead, with which sections he has grown up. His removal from the local field of politics will make it seem like something is missing from the next county campaign.

## BOES TAKE BUILDING AND WON'T VACATE

W. W. Wilder came to Libby yesterday to invoke the assistance of the sheriff's office to dislodge about 50 hoboes from one of the buildings owned by the lumber company, they having taken possession and refusing to vacate. The sheriff will visit the scene with the idea of having the men move on, as the city policeman would say.

## Soon Start on 2-Story Brick The Early Closing Movement

The news given in this paper last week that J. M. Blackford would erect a new brick business block on the corner of Mineral avenue and Fourth street, was confirmed on Monday last when the transfer of the property, owned by the Presbyterian church, was made. The two lots and small frame house, used for church purposes, brought \$2,800. Mr. Blackford is already having plans drawn for the new building, which will be a two-story brick 25x100, and work will start on it as soon as weather conditions will permit. The church people, who this fall built a manse on their property on the boulevard, will build a handsome church building next spring.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS AND FINANCES.

The county superintendent of schools has prepared the following statistical and financial report of Lincoln county schools for the year ending August 31, 1911, compared with 1910:

Number of census scholars in county in 1910, 823; in 1911, 867.  
Number of schools in the county, 1910, 19; in 1911, 24.  
Number of teachers employed, 1910, 32; in 1911, 34.  
Number of children enrolled, 1910, 646; in 1911, 735.  
Per cent of attendance, 1910, 89 per cent; in 1911, 88 per cent.  
Amount paid teachers, 1910, \$18,353; in 1911, \$24,413.  
Average monthly salary paid, 1910, \$70; in 1911, \$78.  
Value of libraries, 1910, \$1,400; 1911, \$2,000.  
Money remaining to credit of all districts, August 31st, 1910, \$18,473; in 1911, \$25,327.  
Raised by special tax, 1910, \$18,580; in 1911, \$14,543.  
Apportioned during 1910, \$21,453; in 1911, \$30,019.  
Value of school houses, 1910, \$51,720; in 1911, \$60,150.

## Will Bring All-Star Aggregation.

Kalispel Journal: The Libby Athletic association has written to Capt. Perry of the Hay's Cafe team in regard to arranging games between the Libby and Kalispel basketball teams. It is expected a team will be picked from the six teams of the league to represent Kalispel in such a contest and an all-star aggregation can in that way be gotten together. The dates which Libby has open are the first and second weeks of January and February. The match will no doubt be clinched in a few days. It is reported that Libby will have a fast team this year.

## NO MORE "PICKETING" BY UNIONS.

On Monday last the supreme court of Montana handed down a decision affecting labor unions, which is the most important yet given in regard to such organizations in this state. The decision declares unlawful the stationing of men before a place and interfering in any way with its patrons, a system commonly known as "picketing." The case was taken up from Great Falls, and was based on what is known in union circles as "the Billings case."

Sheriff Baney went to Deer Lodge Saturday with Tom Coppens, the holdup man.

## MANY ACRES OF UNSURVEYED LAND

**Lincoln County Has Over 1,000,000, of Which 300,000 Belong to Northern Pacific, All Untaxed.**

There are in Lincoln county approximately 1,000,000 acres of unsurveyed land. Of this amount about 400,000 acres are in the forty mile limit of the Northern Pacific land grants—in the proximity of the same amount in the 10-mile indemnity strip. In round numbers there are 300,000 acres of unsurveyed land which is railroad land. This land is not taxed until after it is surveyed.

It would seem that the people of Lincoln county should awake to the situation and endeavor to have these lands surveyed. It would work a two-fold benefit. First and foremost, it would add \$1,000,000 to our taxable wealth and compel the railroad company to bear its proportionate burden of taxation; second, it would enable bona fide settlers to secure title to their lands.

There is no reason that can be urged which will justify the large amount of land being untaxed. The railroad company claims the land and it should be surveyed and placed on the roll. The Northern Pacific has by evasion and under-valuation of lands defeated the purpose of the land grant as long as it should be permitted to do so. The state of Washington is now

moving actively to secure the survey of all its public domain, so that the tax-dodging of the land grant strip shall be put an end to.

Is it not about time that Montana and especially Lincoln and Flathead counties join in the movement that will result in justice to the settlers? We recognize the right of the Northern Pacific to the lands included in the grant, but we deny the right of the Northern Pacific to either dodge taxes or to withhold the lands from bona fide settlers.

The Herald opposes useless agitation of the business interests of the country, but favors the discussion of every question that will bring practical relief to the people. Granting every concession to the railroad's land holdings that is fair, the people are entitled to demand of the Northern Pacific equal and just dealings.

The land grant is increasing in value every year at the public expense and to the ever-increasing burdens of the actual settlers. Shall we continue to remain silent and see injustice prevail? or shall the people demand that to which they are entitled? The Herald proposes to do its part. Will the people and the press aid in the work?

## SIXTEEN YEARS AGO THIS WEEK.

(Items Culled from Old Troy Times.)

Of the \$86,000 upon the tax books, \$78,000 had been paid. This was in what is now Flathead and Lincoln counties. They were chuckling over the fact that so close a collection had been made.

H. J. Jory, located a water right for the Keystone people in the Yahk.

Preston and Moore were building an 8,000 foot ditch to the Pine Tree and Blackbird placer mines at Troy.

T. B. Bickers, one of the rioting men at Kalispel during the A. R. U. strike, was found guilty of destroying railroad property and sentenced to six months in jail. Roy Goodwin's trial was in progress.

The eastbound G. N. passenger train had a bad wreck on its Idaho line. The engine and baggage car fell down a 30-foot embankment and Engineer Jock Smith and Fireman Geo. McDonald were frightened.

fully scalded. Both were sent to the hospital at Spokane.

A sensation was on at Kalispel because of the arrest of Rupert Jordan, under instructions from Kentucky authorities for a murder committed ten years ago. He was charged with killing Morgan in cold blood over a trivial matter. After Jordan fled and settled near Kalispel he called himself Rupert Jordan, instead of Faulkner Jordan. Jordan's brother-in-law betrayed him to the officers.

There is much speculation as to the prospective presidential candidates. Among republicans, McKinley, Harrison and Reed are the most prominent. As for the democrats, aside from Cleveland, who was considered as dead as Taft is today, the editor expressed his opinion in the old plantation proverb: "Blessed is de man wot spect nuthin', for he ain't agoin' ter be disappointed."

## SUGGESTIONS FOR COUNTRY LIFE

At the National Congress held in Spokane to consider the problems of country life, suggestions were received from the many visitors. The most important suggestions received, which are well worth consideration, were:

"Tax unused land heavily so that it must be sold to the man who wants to cultivate it and make a home."

"Cut up the big farms into smaller ones with families on every 80 acres."

"Make the farms smaller."

"The farmer will have to practice diversified farming and cultivate all the necessities for his home and table."

"Have model farms in every township, close to the social center."

"Put the producer into one great corporation society, eliminating the middleman and his profits."

"Give the boys and girls a financial interest in the farm."

"Secure better schools and more social life in the community."

"Have hot and cold water in the barn. Make chums of your children; improve the farm library and subscribe for farm papers. Let us use the brains as well as muscles."

These suggestions may not all be possible at once, but are worthy of serious thought in the development of country life.

## GETS 60 DAYS FOR VIOLATING THE GAME LAW

**Ralston Brings Rock Down from Jennings. Pleads Guilty to No License Charge.**

Deputy Game Warden Ralston brought Frank Rock down from Jennings Tuesday charged with violating the state game laws. The warden had gathered evidence covering three separate offenses—exceeding the limit allowed by law, bringing deer meat to Libby for sale and hunting without a license. Only the last named was pressed at this time, it coming within the jurisdiction of the local court. Rock pleaded guilty and Justice Hoffman imposed a fine of \$125 or the alternative of 60 days in jail. He went to jail.

## NOT AN EARTHQUAKE BUT A LANDSLIDE

Alexander, good government and citizens' candidate, defeated Harriman, socialist nominee and former counsel for McNamara brothers, for mayor of Los Angeles Tuesday by about 50,000 majority. Four weeks ago Harriman led in the primaries, Alexander with 3,000 votes less. Tuesday's landslide is attributed by all parties to the McNamara pleas of guilty made but four days before.

## Is Moving to New Location

W. J. Wells, manager of the Libby Commercial company, will remove the Bergdahl stock of goods he recently purchased to the Blackford building, corner of Mineral and 4th, and has a large variety of new goods for gents on the way. A new front will be put in the building and other improvements made. This building will be used until the new brick can be built, when Libby will have the largest and handsomest store of its kind in Lincoln county. Mr. Wells has had many years experience in the business in Fergus county, and later in Flathead, and ample capital is behind him.

## 'DUFFY' WAS THERE WITH THE GOODS.

Whitefish Pilot: When Burlington train No. 44 left Spokane one day last week without a diner, Conductor B. S. Robertson wired to "Duffy" Doonan, proprietor of the Windsor at Troy, asking if he could serve meals to the crews and passengers of that train during a 20 minute stop-over, and Duffy replied that he could serve them with all they could eat in 20 minutes very easily, and he did as he claimed, according to the statements of the passengers as well as the crew, who were all loud in their praises.

## SUDDEN DEATH OF YAHK MILLMAN.

O. T. Walker, the sawmill proprietor at Sylvanite, dropped dead of heart failure in the mess house Tuesday noon. He was about 65 years old and two grown sons were with him at the mill, which is sawing lumber for the power plant at Yahk falls. The body is being brought out to Troy for shipment to eastern Washington, his former home.

Mrs. Geo. Rich, one of the oldest settlers of the Tobacco Plains, visited in Libby Monday.

## MONTANA S. T. ASSOCIATION

**To Be Held During Holiday Week at Great Falls. Reduced Railroad Rates.**

The next meeting of the Montana State Teachers' association will be held in Great Falls, December 27, 28 and 29, 1911. A number of the leading educators of Montana will be on the program, and in addition to these the executive committee has been very fortunate in securing the services of Dr. O. W. Thompson, president of State University of Ohio, Dr. D. Starr Jordan, president of Leland Stanford Jr. University, Miss Jessie Field, superintendent of Page county, Iowa, and Miss Clara S. Baldwin, of the Minnesota Library commission. The members of the committee are assured that all of these speakers will be present, and some of them will address the association several times during the meeting.

All the railroads of the state have promised a rate of a fare and a third on the certificate plan.

A successful association means not only money, but a large attendance. The teachers of Montana owe to themselves, to the schools they represent, and to the cause of education, to make the Montana State Teachers' association one of the best in the United States.

## Advertising Montana in N. Y.

Of the recent land show held in New York City, a western representative writes:

"Special attention was called to our exhibits owing to the remarkable fact that, in competition with all other states of the Union, together with the various provinces of Canada, we succeeded in capturing four of the ten big prizes for the best products of the soil—those for oats, barley, winter wheat and alfalfa.

"It is needless to say that the east marveled at the productiveness of our soil and the quality of our grains. The tremendous yields astonished the credulous. But we were there with the goods, and I am satisfied more attention was given to Montana by prospective settlers than to any other section of the country exhibiting there.

"The big crowds started in Tuesday—election day in New York—and, continuously until Saturday night, the big hall was jammed. Thirty-eight thousand people passed through the gates on Thursday. Friday and Saturday the crowds were so great the doors were closed by the police several times. By Friday all literature pertaining to Montana, given away by the Northern Pacific and Great Northern and Milwaukee, was completely exhausted, so much interest was shown in the state. We who were demonstrating were all day besieged by crowds eagerly seeking information of the wonderful resources of the Treasure state."

## PREPARING FOR EXTENSIVE LOGGING.

Jas. Stonesteth returned Monday from a trip to the Yahk river, where with Frank Bening he has taken a logging contract. A camp site was selected and is being prepared for active work in the immediate future. About ten million feet will be logged off for the Bonners Ferry Lumber company. Mr. Stonesteth went to Spokane yesterday to buy horses for the winter's operations.