

## A Splendid Race Record

S. M. Wills, our enthusiastic race-horse man, in company with R. D. Skidmore, returned to the city last week from Jamestown where he completed the North Dakota race circuit, which consumed the past six weeks, and has made most excellent showing among the best horses of that state.

Mr. Wills' horse, entered in the Fargo races where he held 4th place in each heat, while at Casselton, Courtney, and Carrington he won first money in every race, which was of the 2:30 class. At Fessenden, however he got but fourth money in the 2:22 class—time 2:18. In Valley City race of the same class—he won 3rd money—time 2:18 1-4—and in the last race at Jamestown he carried off second money—time, 2:24.

We understand Mr. Wills will also take in the Montana race circuit which will soon be pulled off.

## Elks to Hold Convention.

From present indications, the coming Elks' State Convention that is to be held in Miles City on August 3, 4 and 5 will be the biggest event of the kind ever held in the state and the old "cow towns" is making elaborate preparations to take care of a record breaking crowd and provide amusement for the antlered herd.

From nearly every town in the state comes assurances to the executive committee of large visiting delegations and many of these come by their own special trains, and will live aboard the cars. Through systematic work in listening rooms and providing extra sleeping quarters, the committee assures visitors accommodations for all Elks that may come.

One reason the Elks of Montana are taking more interest than usual in the convention this year is because of the unique advertising campaign being carried on. The official poster indicates the nature of a portion of the entertainment which is to be a revival of the early days in an old cattle town. It shows an old prairie schooner traiping over the hill that over-

looks a broad valley, with a town and butte in the distance. "Miles City or Bust" is painted on the wagon top, and "Hit the Trail for Elksville" appears in the body of the picture. The Miles City Elks have also issued thousands of "Elk Money" bills that show a view of Elksville in full swing, bears some cattle brands and other devices of the times and country. Then the "Skookum" Post Cards that have been sent out are good advertising, too.

## Montana Crops Second to None

The first of the week the editor of the Pioneer took an auto ride through the rich grain country southeast of town to view the crops, and to say they looked good would be mildly expressing it. We were not only surprised to note the most excellent condition of the various grains, but could hardly realize the increased acreage now in crop over that of last year.

It has been stated that eastern Montana and western North Dakota are this season producing as good a stand of grains as one would see anywhere, and, as seeing is believing, we can truthfully vouch for such assertions.

In range 60, south of Yates, we saw fields of ~~barley~~ that will probably yield from 20 to 25 bushels per acre, and in fact many fields of other grains equally as good. Among the choicest crops of wheat was ~~one~~ growing on the Ira Parke farm about a mile from town, which was fully two feet in height, and as thick as it could grow without lodging.

There has not been a day in this season when the crops were in need of moisture, in fact, the ground is well soaked now, and with the present cool weather there is every indication of a bumper crop in the Beaver Valley this season.

### 25 1/2 CENT WOOL

Helena, July 20.—In an interview today Dr. Knowles, state veterinarian, predicted, after summarizing reports and personal inquiries, that Montana's wool clip this year would amount to 45,000,000 pounds. The highest price yet obtained so far as he knows is 25 and one-half cents—that of Hunter and Anderson at Miles City.—Butte Miner.

## Entertains Her Young Friends

Tuesday evening a party of about eighteen invited guests gathered at the home of Miss Phoebe Stipek where a party was given in honor of her friend Miss Wall, who recently arrived from Omaha, Nebraska.

The hostess had planned to entertain her friends at a lawn party, and accordingly had beautifully decorated their lawn for the occasion but owing to the sudden change in the weather the guests were received in the cosy apartments of Miss Stipek's home instead.

The evening was spent in playing various games, the main feature on this occasion being the "Auction" in which the participants were enabled to ascertain the character of their future husbands or wives.

Delicious refreshments were served about midnight, and shortly before 2 o'clock the guests departed for their homes voting the occasion an exceedingly pleasant one—and as a royal entertainer Miss Stipek, is unsurpassed.

## Heart Failure Causes Death

As stated in the last issue of the Pioneer we were, at that time, unable to learn any facts concerning the death of William Pickering which occurred at Helena on last Friday morning, but on Monday morning it was learned through Albert Pickering, a brother of the deceased, who had just returned from Helena in charge of the remains that death was due directly to heart failure—although the victim of death had suffered a fracture of the arm, about 24 hours previous to his death, which was sustained through a fall, and was taken to the St. John's hospital in that city where he breathed his last at 3:30 o'clock Friday morning.

Mr. Pickering had purchased a ticket for Seattle on Tuesday evening from Glendive and boarded the same train, on which Messrs. Baker and Seeley were passengers for the same point. The boys provided stopovers on their transportation for different cities en route to the coast, and had stopped off for a days visit in Helena where Mr. Pickering had the misfortune to fall on the cement walk and fracture his right arm. He was immediately taken to the hospital for treatment.

Messrs. Seeley and Baker—naturally thinking nothing serious would result—soon departed for Missoula where they had important business, leaving with the hospital authorities their Missoula address in case the unfortunate man should need their assistance.

We understand he was unconscious for several hours previous to his death and that he had passed away before any of his friends or relatives could be notified.

The body was embalmed and prepared for shipment on Sunday evening, and was laid to rest in the Wibaux cemetery, from the Episcopal church, at 2:45 Monday afternoon. The deceased was in his 27th year, and leaves his

mother, three sisters, one brother and many friends to mourn his untimely demise. The bereaved family have the heartfelt sympathy of the entire community in their affliction.

### CARD OF THANKS.

We, the undersigned, desire to extend our heartfelt thanks to our many friends who so kindly assisted us during our late bereavement. Mr. and Mrs. H. Eggert and Family.

## Are Bound to Come Westward

Few people realize how great the impetus our agricultural development is receiving from the extremely favorable weather conditions of the present spring and summer in eastern Montana. An examination of the entries for homesteads at the United States Land Office in this city shows that the settlers are taking up the lands in practically a solid line from the borders of the states of North and South Dakota and running westward. This shows that the settlement is not due to the booming of any particular section, but comes because of the army of homeseekers pushing westward. The plentiful and timely rains of the present season have produced the best possible conditions for a successful crop year and the newcomers are not to be disappointed and discouraged during the critical first season. It means that those who came to experiment will remain and establish themselves on a permanent basis. It does not settle the question, but it is a big lift in the right direction.—Messenger.

### LAND SEEKERS ARE HERE FROM OMAHA

T. H. Matters of Omaha, arrived in the city on Thursday morning with a large party of land seekers. Mr. Black, one of the gentlemen in the party, informed the writer that they expected to look over the W Bar tract, northeast of town, with a view of buying. He seemed very enthusiastic over the fast developing resources of the country surrounding Wibaux and, from an agricultural standpoint, believed it was becoming one of the greatest sections on the globe. The party left for W Bar ranch this afternoon.

## To Exhibit at D. F. Congress

Billings, Montana, July 22.—(Special).—Alfalfa two and one-half feet high for the first cutting and giving promise of a record breaking second cutting has been raised by dry farming methods in a district near here which has been dubbed "Poverty Flats," but which is becoming noted for its crops. The alfalfa is said to be equal to any raised in this vicinity by irrigation. In this district wheat, oats, corn and other grains are ripening handsomely and the dry farmers are preparing to reap record breaking harvests. Several of the farmers in the Poverty Flats section are preparing to exhibit their crops at the International Exposition of Dry Farm Products at Billings, Montana, October 25-29, 1909, and to tell about their successes at the Dry Farming Congress which will be held at the same place October 26-28.

## Can do Better Right at Home

Judge James W. Witten, superintendent of the sale and opening of the government lands in the Flathead, Spokane and Coeur d'Alene reservations, warns all who intend taking a chance at the drawing of these lands beginning July 15, that the chances are about 1 in 100 of their getting a claim. Some of these claims are doubtless very desirable, but the great bulk of them are no better than can be taken by homestead entry in almost any section of Custer county or eastern Montana. The general conditions of soil, climate, markets, etc., are just as good here. Besides the extra price paid for the reservation lands, those who succeed in drawing claims must comply with the usual homestead requirements. Better use your homestead right here at home.—Messenger.

Miss Anna Manning, formerly of New York, was a visitor in Wibaux the first of the week, from the farm. She was recently hired as teacher in our school, in Miss Scotts' place, for the following term.

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