

Tom Stout's Weekly Letter

An interesting, instructive and unbiased "Who's Who and Why" of People and Events at The Nation's Capitol

Washington, D. C., Dec. 27.—Norman Hapgood, editor of Harper's Weekly, said that Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, has one of the finest literary senses on exhibition in this country. Having read the annual report of Secretary Lane, the several heads of the great executive departments of the government, being directly interested in the varied activities of the government, I try religiously to read all of these reports. They do certainly contain mines of information such as all citizens should be in possession of and which every member of congress should, as a matter of course be acquainted with. But candor compels me to confess that the perusal of some of those official reports bear a striking resemblance to hard work. They are well written, to be sure, but in a style which, if not actually heavy, is anything but thrillingly entertaining. There are pages of figures all done up in comparative tables and since my first introduction to the multiplication tables, I have never found any great enjoyment in poring over an array of figures, all bunched up with no reading matter in between.

But Lane's report is different. It is an inspiring, graphically written story of the activities, the achievements, the hopes of the greatest of all the executive departments of the government. Lane has not only a fine literary taste but also one of the most robust imaginations in captivity. Moreover, he has the opportunity to give that imagination free play in his annual report. He is the executive guardian of more than six hundred million acres of unappropriated, unreserved government land. He's the overseer of Alaska, that unknown land of virgin resources. He's the real big chief of all the Indians of the country, nearly three hundred thousand of them, and the executor of their combined estates, valued at hundreds of millions. He administers the control over nearly twenty million acres of government coal land, exclusive of that in Alaska, which is worth billions. He manages Uncle Sam's four million acres of proven oil lands the value of which no man can even roughly estimate. He exercises temporary suzerainty, at least, over more than two million acres of land withdrawn as valuable for the generation of electricity. He exercises supervision over the twelve great national playgrounds, our national parks, with combined area of more than four and one-half million acres and which were visited this year by 334,000 tourists. Under his direction are nineteen national monuments, historic and prehistoric structures and other objects of historic and scientific interest, which are owned or controlled by the national government. He is the custodian of our vast reclamation projects, 28 of them, which contemplate the reclamation of more than three million acres of arid and semi-arid lands at a cost of one hundred fifty million dollars, two-thirds of which has already been spent. He is the directing head of a half dozen other great federal enterprises, projected for the general advancement and happiness of our people.

When Lane starts in to tell of these activities of the government, what they mean to the hundred million folks of this country, what their development portends for the future welfare of our country, he turns loose that wonderful imagination of his and the result is a literary achievement. It reads more like a romance than a mere recital of the works of a great

central government. In language which thrills the soul, he casts a horoscope of the expanding future and tells what advantages our children and our children's children will enjoy as a result of the paternalistic enterprises of the present day and generation. As one reads Lane's prophecies of what Alaska holds in store for us when railroads are built, mines of gold and coal opened up and vast stretches of agricultural land made available for public use, the glaciers and ice fields of that far northern possession of ours fade from view, the snow capped peaks reflect the radiance of perpetual summer and the little frontier villages which stretch up to the edge of the arctic stand forth as majestic cities throbbing with enterprise, the centers of culture and industry.

But while the secretary of the interior embellishes his annual reports with considerable literary foliage, it is not lacking in substantiality. It tells actually and truly what is being done and can be done but tells it in a manner which arrests attention and compels perusal to the very end. It requires a mind of some breadth, a far-reaching vision, a grasp of the essentials of our national hopes and aspirations to inform the public of the things which they should know concerning the work of the department which Franklin K. Lane presides over with such ability as to mark him as not only the greatest secretary of the interior that we ever had but also as one of the most constructive statesmen of his day.

CONGRESSMAN TOM STOUT.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Serial No. 019356
Coal—Act 6-22-10
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Dec. 27, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that Samuel J. Boese, of Bloomfield, Mont., who on July 16, 1913, made H. E. No. 019356 for SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Lots 1 and 2, Section 2, Township 20N., Range 53E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Mont., on the 16th day of February, 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: George O. Jacobson, Ben A. Richart, Ada Squares and Albert Kampschor, all of Bloomfield, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First publication Dec. 30, 1915)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Serial No. 014922
Coal—Act 6-22-10
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Dec. 27, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that Judson Trulock of Bloomfield, Mont., who on June 19, 1912, made H. E. No. 014922 for W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Lot 1, 2, 3, Section 2, Township 20N., Range 52E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Mont., on the 17th day of February, 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: Clyde F. Cary, Frank Cary, John L. Jones and Harry J. Bontrager, all of Bloomfield, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First publication Dec. 30, 1915)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Coal—Act 6-22-10
Serial No. 016888
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Dec. 16, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that Burnes C. Roy, of Glendive, Mont., who on Dec. 21, 1912, made H. E. No. 016888 for W $\frac{1}{2}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$, S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Lot 1, 2, 3, Section 2, Township 17N., Range 58E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Mont., on the 1st day of February, 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: Cortez Boren and Roscoe E. Malley, both of Been, Mont.; George L. Pope and Ned Hobbs, both of Glendive, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First Publication Dec. 23, 1915)

An Epitaph.

We slew an awful liar, men,
When we slew Obed Munions,
For one day he denied it when
He had been eating onions.

Ouch!

"That new novel of mine has a punch," bragged the author.
"That's right," agreed the critic. "It put me to sleep."

CONDUCTORS OF GLENDIVE COME FROM MANY CITIES

Among the distinguished visitors in Billings yesterday were August E. Anderson, Oil City; J. D. Donohue, New Richmond, Wis.; M. Graham, Glendive; W. J. Mulligan, Portland, and John L. Hale, Marietta, O. They are all registered at the Grand. D. C. Maxwell of Gas City; J. Edward Nichols of Hysham, and C. W. Johnson of Bismarck are expected to arrive today to stop at the same hotel.

All of these distinguished people, however, vote at Glendive, Montana. M. Graham is the only one who admitted the fact, yesterday though just a few days ago he registered from some out of the way place down east. They make frequent trips to Billings. In fact some of them are here every day for the eight of them are conductors, who have charge of the passenger trains on the Northern Pacific between Billings and Glendive.

For more than a quarter of a century most of them have been in charge of trains on the Northern Pacific railroad. In fact Gus Anderson was working on the road when the first trains crept along the new track across the Montana-Dakota line. Dave Maxwell has been with the company so long that he now has a son night yard master in Billings. John L. Hale is a pioneer of pioneers. He was on the Union Pacific when it first bulled west. He went into Denver when one of the new lines was built there. That was years ago for the stars on his coat show that he has been with the N. P. for more than 25 years. You glance at the stary emblems on the sleeves of the others and you find they, too, are pioneers in the railroad service.

It is said that in point of continuous service the conductors on the N. P. from Billings to Glendive rank up with those on any division of the system. There are men who have been in the service longer, but few cases where all the conductors have been in the service so long. A quarter of a century in the service of one employer is some service. Naturally things get to be a little monotonous. These youthful conductors have to have a little diversion and their diversion is changing their place of residence. They do it nearly every time they come to Billings, though now and then the register shows that they admit Glendive as the place of abode.

Take Conductor John L. Hale for instance. During the past week he has come from Bismarck, Helena and Marietta, O. Conductor Milligan spent considerable time at Helena last winter attending a session of the legislature watching the interests of his fellow workers. Since then he has taboored Helena as a place from which to register.

Dave Maxwell and M. Graham are said to have imbibed the oil and gas fever that hit eastern Montana when a well flowing 3,000,000 feet of gas per day was struck near Glendive. This accounts for the frequent appearance of Oil City and Gas City on the register. Conductor Donohue has been watching the fine stock which graze so close to the N. P. through eastern Montana so long that he registered yesterday from Richmond, Wis., one of the towns in the dairying section.

Hysham is a favorite with Conductor Nichols but last week, after reading about the wreck of a vessel off of Pawtucket Lighthouse, he registered from Pawtucket, R. I. In the more than a quarter of a century that he has been drawing pay checks from the N. P. he has registered from many places, but since Hysham was established he has always favored it.

The fact that it is rather close to Christmas when the home feeling is so strong probably is the reason that Conductor Johnson registered the last time from Glendive.

The conductors all enjoy this little joke of registering from foreign places and so do the people of Glendive. The list of Grand hotel arrivals is popular reading with the Glendive friends of these popular conductors. Where will they come from next? Nobody knows—Billings Gazette.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Coal—Act 6-22-10
Serial No. 014064
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Dec. 16, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that Warren M. Beckina, of Glendive, Mont., who on March 3, 1912, made H. E. No. 014064 for N 1-2 SE 1-4, S 1-2 NE 1-4, NW 1-4 NE 1-4, SE 1-2 NW 1-4, NE 1-4 SW 1-4, M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Mont., on the 1st day of Feb., 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: J. A. Stone, Ernest R. Brown, Mark J. Brown, Cornelius D. Vries, all of Glendive, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First Publication Dec. 23, 1915)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Coal-Election Filed
Serial Nos. 05855-09155
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Dec. 16, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that James E. Beckina, of Glendive, Mont., who on Sept. 11, 1909 and May 28, 1910, made H. E. Nos. 09155 and 05855, for Lots 1, 2, NW 1-4 NE 1-4, SW 1-4 SE 1-4, and Lots 3, 4, NW 1-4 SE 1-4, NE 1-4 SW 1-4, Section 24, Township 18N., Range 55E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make five year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Mont., on the 30th day of Jan., 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: Louis H. Berke, Robert Adams, Hiram Griffith, Arthur Walsh, all of Stipek, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First Publication Dec. 23, 1915)

HOW CONGRESSMAN STOUT GOT HIS START IN LIFE

Representative Tom Stout, of Montana, admits that he got his start in life through a pull. His father was a member of the board of directors of the country school he attended, and through influence and political wire-pulling, he obtained a place on the school pay-roll. Nominally he was the "custodian" of the school house, but he had nothing to do but get up in the morning in time to walk to the school building three miles away by seven o'clock, sweep out, carry in the wood, build the fires, dust the medieval desks, and keep the windows clean. For these simple duties, performed for the term of six months, young Stout was paid the sum of \$1.50 of the taxpayers' money to squander as he saw fit.

"A remembrance of my emotions," remarks he, "when I got my first warrant, duly signed by the president and clerk of the school board, has served to make me assume an attitude of hauteur and contempt toward modern great fortunes and latter-day financiers."

"I also made a great deal of money in those days raising hogs," he says. "Every spring my father would make me a present of a runt pig. I would carefully attend to it, feed it and caress its brow until I worked it up into a right respectable porker. Then when the hogs were driven to market in the fall, my hog invariably got mixed in with the bunch in such a manner that my returns were represented by a single cipher. That, perhaps, had something to do with my general lack of interest in agricultural pursuits as a permanent calling in life."—Fred C. Kelly in The Sunday Magazine.

Bert Hockens, the well known local auctioneer, left last Wednesday to spend the holidays with his parents at Walker, Iowa. He expects to return without fail by January 20th, as he has several important sales to cry before the end of that month.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Coal—Act 6-22-10
Serial No. 027438
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Dec. 4, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that William Bauer of Glendive, Mont., who on Oct. 18, 1915 made H. E. No. 027438, for NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 20, Township 14N., Range 54E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Montana, on the 17th day of Jan., 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: Albert Windel, John Trell, Fred Hohensee and Erwin Babcock all of Glendive, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First Publication Dec. 9)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Coal—Act 6-22-10
Serial No. 011479
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Dec. 4, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that John Boyd Case, of Glendive, Montana, who on Feb. 8, 1911, made H. E. No. 011479, for NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 14, Township 16N., Range 54E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Mont., on the 19th day of Jan., 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: Walter F. Nye, Geo. W. Waterhouse, Frank W. Kinser and Frank J. Hasty, all of Glendive, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First Publication Dec. 9)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Serial No. 014424
Coal—Act 6-22-10
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Nov. 27, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that Asbjorn Hansen of Stipek, Mont., who on April 25, 1912, made H. E. No. 014424, for W $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, E $\frac{1}{2}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 22, Township 18N., Range 55E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Mont., on the 12th day of Jan., 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: E. L. Kalberg, Ole Svensen, Hiram Griffith and Andrew Anderson, all of Stipek, Montana.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First Publication Dec. 2)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Non-coal
Serial No. 011400
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Nov. 27, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that Albert L. Halverson of Allard, Montana, who on Sept. 17, 1914, made H. E. No. 011400, for North half, Section 24, Township 15N., Range 54E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make five year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Montana, on the 12th day of January, 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: Valentine W. Fitch, of Glendive, Montana, and Forest Gertson, Ralph H. Foss, Andrew S. Foss, all of Allard, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First publication Dec. 2)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Coal—Act 6-22-10
Serial Nos. 08868 and 025360
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Nov. 29, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that William L. Haney, of Union, Montana, who on May 9, 1910 and May 18, 1915, made H. E. Nos. 08868 and 025360, for W 1-2 NE 1-4, SE 1-4 NE 1-4, NE 1-4 SW 1-4, NE 1-4 NE 1-4, NE 1-4 SE 1-4, Section 24, Township 17N., Range 49E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make five year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Montana, on the 11th day of January, 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: August Hamelau, Herman Meeves, Andy Miller, Martin Heron all of Union, Montana.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First publication Dec. 2)

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Coal—Act 6-22-10
Serial Nos. 014467 and 021193
Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at Miles City, Mont., Nov. 29, 1915.
Notice is hereby given that Anna A. Manning, of Intake, Montana, who on April 30, 1912 and Feb. 24, 1914, made H. E. Nos. 014467 and 021193, for S 1-2 NW 1-4, NE 1-4, SW 1-4, SE 1-4, NE 1-4, NE 1-4 SE 1-4, Section 26, Township 18N., Range 57E., M. P. Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make three year proof to establish claim to the land above described, before T. Cato, U. S. Commissioner, at Glendive, Mont., on the 12th day of January, 1916.
Claimant names as witnesses: Arthur Hamelau, Herman Meeves, Andy Miller, Temple and Peter Jonas of Intake, Mont., Dee Dobbin of Hodges, Mont., and Walter Vanderhoof of Intake, Mont.
G. W. MYERS, Register.
(First publication Dec. 2)

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Call and let us explain the economy of this arrangement.

Let us show you how to save your walls from the smoke of oil stoves, how you may cook meals in a cool clean kitchen.

Silks and satins, no longer put out the kitchen fire. That ancient proverb lost its meaning when the HUGHES ELECTRIC RANGE was put before the World.

No soot, no ashes, no smoke, no smell, and cost of operation a minimum.

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