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Senator Dixon Makes Plea for Local Settlers

A special despatch from Washington, dated July 12, to the Missoulian, says:

"Senator Dixon has had conferences with both Commissioner Valentine of the Indian office and Secretary of the Interior Fisher, regarding the unfortunate situations that has arisen regarding the suspended entries on unappraised Flathead lands. He presented a petition signed by 200 settlers on the reservation, asking for equitable adjustment of difficulties. The trouble seems to have arisen over the fact that the Indian office, at the time of the opening of the reservation, issued an order reserving the right to re-allot any Indian on the unappraised lands where a mistake had been made in the Indian allotment or where the Indian allottee had been allotted on lands that were unsatisfactory and were not fit for cultivation. The commissioner of the land office at the time of the opening of the land to entry also issued an order to the registers of the land offices at Missoula and Kalispell to accept suspended filings from settlers on unappraised lands. The commissioner of the land office, not being advised of the previous order of the commissioners of Indian affairs, both the commissioner of Indian affairs, and the secretary of the interior are convinced of the equities of settlers who in good faith made improvements on unappraised lands where their entry had been suspended. Commissioner Valentine has submitted the whole situation to the secretary of the interior for an opinion regarding the legal status of the lands. Whatever may be the decision of the interior department regarding the legal status of the entries the Indian office will in good faith try to adjust the application of the Indian allottees for a second choice entry so as not to conflict with the improvements of actual settlers. Senator Dixon expressed confidence in the belief that when the matter is finally adjusted by the secretary of the interior that no settlers who have made bonafide improvements will be disturbed by any Indian allottee."

Farmers' Picnic

The Pend d'Oreille Valley Farmers' association will hold a picnic next Sunday at the junction of Crow and Mud creeks. All farmers and their wives and families are invited to attend and to bring their dinners along. Besides the picnic there will be a business meeting of the association which will be of value to all who attend.

Moise and Dixon.

Nels Marten of Moiese left Dixon Tuesday for Great Falls on business.

Mrs. Ida J. Geiger and daughter, Harriette, spent Saturday at St. Ignatius.

I. E. Stapp returned to Missoula the first of the week after a visit with his family.

Miss Margaret Blackmon and Mrs. James Pritchard spent Monday in Ronan with friends.

Carl Lindberg of Missoula is visiting his father on his claim in the north end of this valley.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rathbun have as their guests, W. C. Howard, wife and children of Stevensville.

Miss Effie Read arrived in Dixon Wednesday from Hamilton

and is the guest of Miss Ivy Solberger.

Ralph Park of Stevensville is spending the summer with his uncle and aunt, Clyde Whitesit in Moiese.

Will H. Shuh returned to Dixon Saturday from Phillipsburg where he spent the week with relatives and friends.

J. H. Drilling of Spokane spent the past week with his friend Robert Sharp on the latter's claim north of Dixon.

Mrs. L. M. Curtis of Des Moines, Iowa, is visiting her daughter, Naida L. Curtis, on her claim west of Dixon.

Harry Lyon who is employed at Victor, Mont., left Dixon Saturday after spending the week with relatives in Moiese valley.

The members of the Moiese Valley Settlers' association met at the club house Monday evening for a regular business meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Sharp left their claim in Moiese valley Saturday and returned for a brief visit to their former home in Spokane.

Mrs. Oliver Herelin and little daughter, of Hamilton, are visiting a few weeks with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Solberger.

Mrs. W. A. Clark who has been visiting friends and relatives the past two weeks at Stevensville returned home Thursday accompanied by her brother, Frank Cook.

Miss Helen Whittaker of Missoula who taught the Moiese school last year, was the guest of Miss Bessie May Kreis for the ladies' dance given at the club house.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Burdick of Missoula arrived in Dixon Saturday and are the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. F. Blackmon at their home "Dew Drop Inn" in Moiese valley.

Thomas Holohan of Couer d'Alene, who is employed on the Newell tunnel near Polson, spent the Fourth of July with Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dols at their home in Moiese valley.

M. E. Schoonover left Dixon Monday for Granite county. He will make the trip on horseback as he is in search of a team which strayed from his ranch in Moiese valley about two months ago.

Miss Pearl Brown and brother of Moiese left for Camas last Saturday and will bring their mother, Mrs. L. C. Brown and Miss Byrl Brown home in a few days. Mrs. Brown has been at the springs the past two months on account of poor health.

Last Friday evening the Moiese Valley club held its regular monthly business meeting and after the transaction of all business an informal dance was enjoyed by the club members. A dance will be given at the club house next Friday evening, July 14th, under the management of a committee consisting of H. E. Fullerton, chairman; I. H. Clark, Mrs. Fred H. Gross, Misses Margaret Blackmon and Ivy Solberger.

A special meeting of the school board of No. 28 was held at St. Ignatius last Saturday with all members present, viz: Harriette P. Geiger, Moiese; Mrs. G. Pendray, Ravalli; John S. Innes, Arlee; James Grant, Ronan; W. H. Sabin, St. Ignatius; and B. G. Shead, Arlee. Mrs. Pearl T. Marshall, county superintendent, met with the board and brought out with her from Missoula Miss Clara Goodrich who is to be the primary teacher at St. Ignatius school the ensuing year. Several petitions for schools in thickly populated portions of the district were read and representatives with each of these petitions met with the trustees. The board adjourned until next Saturday, July 15th, when it will hold its regular meeting at the Ravalli school house and complete all unfinished business.

Camping Party

Quite a number of homesteaders and others have been enjoying a camping out trip at McDonald lake during the past and present week. Among those in the party are Misses Myrtle Irwin and Elizabeth Pfeiffer, Mrs. Ella McDonald, G. Howard Zmith and wife, John Pfeiffer, F. O. Adams, Spencer Sterling, E. M. Weber, J. J. Corrigan and Arthur Grenier.

They have a full camp outfit and plenty of eatables to supply themselves and friends who may happen to drop in for a meal. Those who have been down report having had a fine time.

U. S. R. S. 7 Polson 8

The U. S. R. S. boys went up to Polson last Sunday and played the Polson team. It was a bad day for playing as the wind blew a gale, as is usually the case at that boat landing, and a cold, raw wind it was. One needed an overcoat to keep comfortable. The dust was blowing something fierce, too, and the score might have been different but for the elements.

Up to the commencement of the eighth inning things looked pretty bad for the visitors, but they connected with the Parsons brand of delivery in that inning and chalked up two scores to their credit, and things looked brighter. The Polson aggregation made three in the first inning, after two were out, and an error in the field gave them all these runs. They annexed three more before the ninth inning and the score at the commencement of this inning stood 6 to 2 in favor of Polson. Then came the ninth. The U. S. R. S. boys just simply fell onto Parsons and before he could stop their advance they scored five runs and were ahead. This should have won them the game but another error on the part of the reclamation gave Polson two more in the last half of the ninth, and the game.

The visitors did not play in their usual form, and it was no such a game as the Ronan-Missoula game on the 4th. To add to the disagreeable weather, the umpire was simply rotten. He gave the U. S. R. S. the worst of it all the way through. He called one of the reclamation boys out at home plate when the manager of the Polson team himself said that the man was safe by ten feet, and made his umps reverse himself. He called a ball on one of the Polson batters when the batter had struck at the ball as viciously as possible. In fact, whenever a close play came up Polson got the better of it every time. The U. S. R. S. boys were called off the field once by their manager and were gathering up their bats to leave when their contention was granted, but to win a game with such a handicap is impossible. They couldn't have won with 20 men.

Four New Schools

At a meeting of the school board last Saturday at St. Ignatius, it was decided to establish four additional schools in the district. One of these to be located in section 22-21-20, one in section 19-19-20, one on Post creek between Ronan and St. Ignatius and the other west of Ronan near section 36-21-21. All these places must furnish their own school rooms and in two of the

localities the buildings are already built or are building.

Teachers will be employed at a meeting of the board to be held next Saturday at Ravalli, and the teachers for all the other schools not already employed will be selected.

The entire membership of the board were present, and also Mrs. Pearl T. Marshall the county superintendent. Mrs. Marshall attended to assist the board in any of the matters with which they were not entirely familiar and her presence was appreciated by all the board.

The action of the school board at the meeting last Saturday in providing for the four additional schools will be heartily commended. There are so many children of school age within the limits of the district who would have been entirely prevented from attending school had not some favorable action been taken and that would have been a deplorable condition. In the localities where schools have been provided there are over 150 pupils who could not have attended but for this action. The district is a large one, and with people living in all parts of the territory many of their children are miles from the towns, and it is these who are now to be provided with schools. New countries are always short of the funds to give such schools as are really necessary, and the board is to be commended in doing what it has. With school houses dotting the land in every direction, with facilities partially ample, one of the most serious drawbacks heretofore experienced has been removed. The future will remedy all that is still lacking in this respect and the people should, and probably will, patiently await the time when many more schools can be provided.

Many Settlers for Montana

Eastern railroad offices report that colonist movement to the west will be greater this year than last, which was considered a record. Of the immigration, Montana will receive a larger proportion than even last year, judging by the inquiries.

While the movement to this state has been steady during the past few months, when homeseekers' tickets were on sale, the second Tuesday of the month, the real influx can be expected after Sept. 15, when colonists' rates will commence and remain effective for one month. The transcontinental lines have found that the real colonist movement is delayed until the farmers of the middle west have harvested their crops.

Local railroad men say eastern offices report that one contributing factor to the unusually heavy movement is the drouth experienced in the middle west and the settlers are bound for the country that offers most in the way of climate and rainfall.

During the winter the Northern Pacific line has had a Montana exhibition car enroute over the east and many inquiries can be traced to it.

Does Advertising Pay?

Ask the man who lost his glasses on the Fourth; ask the man who had a motorcycle to sell; ask the merchant who systematically tells the buyer. All these facts will convince the most skeptical of the true value of letting people know what you have lost, have for sale or want to buy. The Pioneer reaches virtually all the people of the valley and is a valuable medium through which to reach the people.

Drouth Has Been Playing Big Havoc

"Hot, dry weather—drouth—has played something akin to havoc with the crop condition during last month," was the statement made by Prof. N. C. Murray, acting chief of the crop reporting board of the department of agriculture Washington, D. C., after the announcement of the July report on grain and produce.

"The report," said Professor Murray, "reflects the serious effects of the drouth in June, most of the important crops showing a condition with yields below last year and below recent average yields.

"Foodstuff, oats and hay, seems to have been hard hit, less than two-thirds of a normal crop of hay is expected and the oats crop probably will be all of 25 per cent. less than last year's crop, and about 12 per cent. less than the averages for the last five years.

"The corn average is the largest ever recorded, but the conditions of the crop is about 7 per cent. below the average. That indicates a production of approximately 5 per cent. less than last year's record crop, but 5 per cent. more than the average production in the last five years. The condition of the corn crop on July 1, however, was critical.

"The potato crop promises to be unusually short. The acreage has fallen off, probably on account of unsatisfactory prices last year, and the condition of the crop now is lower than any time on July 1, in the last 22 year. Almost a sensational advance in the price of potatoes has been made during the last month. The average price on July 1 was 96.3 cents a bushel.

"Owing to the difficulty in setting out tobacco plants, the acreage has been reduced 28 per cent. from that last year. The low condition together with the shortage, have combined to reduce the indication to a total production of 63.3 per cent. of last year's crop, or 77.3 per cent. of the acreage for the last five years.

"On general crop conditions, the section of the country which appears to have been hit the hardest by the hot weather and the drouth is the tier of states comprising South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Oklahoma."

Mission Messages.

(Fourth of July report too late for last week.)

Here comes St. Ignatius to claim the prize for the safest, sanest Fourth of July on record. Does that mean that her citizens had a dull time or that her neighbors forgot to come in and help celebrate? Not at all. At the close of the day everybody and his wife declared that they had had the time of their lives. There was something doing every minute of the time, and people were kept so breathlessly interested that no one thought to make any of the racket which has hitherto been considered necessary to the proper celebration of our great American holiday.

There were base ball games and races; races for fat men, races for lean men, races for women, races for girls, for boys, three legged races, one legged races—in fact, races of all kinds and descriptions, and it is worth noting that all the events came off on schedule time.

The features of the day, indeed of the whole week, were the gorgeous and historic dances given by the descendants of the first Americans. Those which interested the visitors most were the parade of the heroes, the scalp dance and war dance of the women.

In this parade the Flatheads, Kootenai's and Nez Perces joined. All the Indians wore their most gorgeous costumes; the chiefs and head men were dressed in a regalia which told the story of their brave deeds. They marched from Mission creek to the dancing pavilion where at intervals during the dance each stepped forward and told his life history, filled with stirring deeds. In the scalp dance, the victorious warriors returned with the scalps of their victims and are welcomed by shouts and cries of acclamation from those who have remained at home. The heroes are brought in on their blood bespattered steeds and they recount the story of victorious battle fields. In the women's war dance, the heroes bring the scalps to the women, and the women don the fine war caps of the braves and all dance together in triumph.

Kiola, chief of the Nez Perces, and Kustata, chief of the Kootenai's, wore exceptionally beautiful costumes. Chief Duncan McDonald did much to make the dance a success. His costume was of buckskin trimmed with porcupine quills and weasel skins like the primitive Indian costume before they added ornaments made by the palefaces.

Much credit is due Messrs. G. H. Beckwith, V. A. McCormack and P. C. Thompson, the committee who worked unceasingly to make the program a success.

P. X. Salsman was a St. Ignatius visitor this week.

Miss Frances Tobin is visiting friends in Missoula this week.

Dr. W. P. Mills and wife motored out from Missoula to the Indian dances.

Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Fugit are entertaining Mrs. Fugit's mother of Washington, D. C.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and Frank Matt and family of Ronan were St. Ignatius guests this week.

Mrs. Dunham and little son, Joseph, of Missoula, were guests of Mrs. Laura Johnson during the week.

Frank Beckwith and wife and W. M. Wade and wife came up from Missoula for the Indian dances.

Joe Houle and wife of Ronan visited the Mission during the Indian dances.

Dr. Stewart of the University of Iowa is conducting a summer school at the Ursuline convent for the Ursuline sisters.

Major F. C. Morgan and Dr. Wm. Heidelman were Mission visitors during the week of the Fourth of July celebration.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Meranger, Mr. and Mrs. Antoine Morigeau and John Decker and family of Ronan were visitors at the Mission.

Mrs. W. W. McCrackin, Mrs. Webb and Miss Holmes of Hamilton, were the guests of Miss Helen McCrackin during the week of the celebration.

Mr. Hall of Missoula, accompanied by his wife and daughter and their guest, Miss Ringgold of Kentucky, were visitors at the Mission last week to take in the Indian dances.

C. W. Donnelly and Joel Cushing entertained a number of guests at Lemon Inn during the Indian dances. Their guests were Mrs. Cushing and daughter Marie, of Missoula, Miss Helen Whittaker of Missoula, Miss Austin of Moiese and Miss Harriet Huot of Dixon.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Beckwith entertained a large house party over the Fourth. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. C. H. McLeod, Miss Helen McLeod, Walter McLeod, Mrs. J. M. Keith, Mrs. Geo. Briggs, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Russell and C. V. Beckwith; all of Missoula; Miss Harriet Fenwick of Eureka, Calif., Miss Delia White, Mrs. Alward and Mrs. Rounds of Sussex, New Brunswick.

A big wrestling match is scheduled to take place at the Mission Saturday, July 20th, between the

Continued on second page.