

State West Society
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THE RONAN PIONEER

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RONAN, MISSOULA COUNTY, MONTANA, AUGUST 25, 1911.

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Fourteen Schools in School District No. 28

The trustees of school district No. 28, composed of Wm. H. Sabin, chairman, Mrs. G. Pendry, John N. Innis, Miss Harriette P. Geiger and James Grant, have been diligently at work and have accomplished wonderful things for the children of the district since they assumed the duties of their position. When they were elected there were only seven schools in all this vast territory, and that was so inefficient as to make it imperative that others must be established. The old board of trustees, who served one short year, started the good work and carried through a measure to vote bonds to erect school buildings in Ronan, St. Ignatius and Ravalli, the places where the necessity for schools was at that time the greatest, and succeeded in having three fine school houses built and five schools in operation therein. This with two schools at Arlee, which had been in operation for some time, made the facilities fairly good for the time being. With the coming of all the people who have taken homesteads here, it was necessary to provide still others, and from every section came requests for schools. Funds with to pay the many teachers was the only question considered, and as soon as this matter was adjusted the trustees got busy and now will have at least fourteen schools in operation the coming year. It may be that there will not be sufficient money to keep them all running the full nine months, but all will run as long as possible.

The trustees, with the exception of Miss Geiger, met here Sunday and went out to J. B. Bear's homestead near the big butte, and met with the people of that section at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, and finally determined upon where they would locate schools in that part of the district. One was placed at or near Julius Rinke's in section 10-20-21, another near the Jay Vaughan place in section 5-20-20, another north of the big butte, at what is called Hillside, and another at Glacier View near Jos. Houle's.

Previous to this time a school had been located near Dr. Resner's in 20-21, south of Crow creek, one at what is known as the Elliott school in 19-20, and one on Post creek south of Ronan. Some of these schools had been provided with teachers, and at the Monday meeting in Ronan other teachers were engaged and now the full roster will be as follows:

At Ronan, Mr. Healey, principal, Miss Kain, primary; St. Ignatius, Miss Tobin, principal, Miss Goodrich, primary; Miss Mollie Scruggs at Fairview; J. D. Cowgill at Glacier View; Mr. Fry at Resner; W. D. Harris at the Elliot; Miss Smith at Post creek, with Hillside still to be supplied. The names of the teachers at Arlee were not learned.

In the matter of the election of a principal or supervisor for the entire district, it was indefinitely postponed at the Monday meeting, this action being taken to ascertain the state of the finances before engaging such an official. The trustees decided to advertise for bids for the furnishing of desks and other school supplies for the new schools.

In regards to the buildings in the rural districts the trustees have made it a condition precedent to the establishment of such schools that the particular locality must provide the building. After this is done the board pays \$10 per month as rent, the locality to furnish the stove and fuel also. This action is taken for the reason that in almost every instance people who do not have children to send to school have helped to build the school houses which are used for other than school purposes, and to even matters up the board rents the buildings. Everything considered, the school facilities in district No. 28 are better than many have hoped to have. It will now be possible for almost all children to attend school this winter and not be compelled to travel any great distance to do so. Mrs. Marshall, the county superintendent, was expected to be here at the Sunday and Monday meetings but was unable to do so, and sent a message regretting her inability to attend. She has been a great help in securing the schools.

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Apparently there is no limit to the range of the big gun on Uncle Sam's ships and coast defenses. A few years ago a gun which could shoot accurately a distance of 10 miles was considered remarkable, but the latest acquisition to Uncle Sam's armament will demolish any battleship or fortification now in existence at a distance of 15 miles. When it is considered that during the civil war only 50 years ago, two miles was the greatest range possible with the guns in use at that time, the range of the new 14-inch death dealers seems phenomenal. These new guns will be mounted on the largest of the new battleships, the Texas and the New York, both of which are of the Delaware type, and it is claimed that the perfection of these guns will make these two ships the most powerful and the most to be dreaded in the world. The new gun is 53 feet 6 1-2 inches long and weighs, stripped 62.6 tons. The diameter at the breech is 47 inches, and at the muzzle 24 inches. Each one will cost \$74,770, and the carriage upon which the gun is mounted will add \$50,000 to this price. At the muzzle the gun has a velocity of 2,600 feet a second and the power behind the projectile will drive the latter at the rate of 8 miles in 25 seconds. The penetrating power of the 14-inch monster is 12 inches of the best face-hardened steel at 8 miles, 11.3 at 10 miles; 10.7 at 12 miles, and nine inches at 15 miles. The projectile weighs 1,400 pounds, is 5 1-2 feet in length and costs \$450. It is loaded with a bursting charge of 45 pounds of "dunnite," the most powerful explosive known. The powder charge used behind the projectile to give it velocity consists of four bags of 90 pounds each of smokeless nitrocellulose. The cost of these guns at first sight appears immense, but when it is considered that, far over the horizon, one shot from one of these monsters would batter and possibly destroy any battleship now afloat, and that a single round from 10 of them at a distance of 15 miles would be sufficient to lay New York in ruins, the primary cost does not appear so great.

Uncle Sam's Big Guns

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The Difference

New York World: Senator Elihu Root is ever self possessed, calm, constrained and bound within himself. With rare exceptions those approaching him should prepare for a chill. An equipment of overcoat, earmuffs and tubbers is the only safe costume.

Finding that some of his constituents could not be frightened by floating icebergs and biting sleet, Mr. Root took his name from the door of his committee room. The anxious New Yorker who now seeks his senator may wander up and down a dim, cheerless corridor until his shoes wear thin before he finds the proper entrance.

On the doorway of Senator Dixon's room is this inscription, printed in job type with glossy black ink:

SENATOR DIXON
ROOM 429,
COME IN

Senator Root occupies the adjoining suite, 431. There is neither inscription nor invitation on the door.

Big Leaser Gets Results

Wm. Connerly, one of the largest wheat growers on the reservation, who has land leased just north of Ronan, was a caller at the Pioneer office this morning. He reports his new Big Four engine and combine machine doing excellent work and says that he just completed cutting and threshing one 55-acre piece of fall wheat from which he received 1,876 bushels, or a little better than 34 bushels to the acre. He still has 600 acres of fall grain to cut, all of which he says is as good if not better than the 55-acre tract. In addition he has 400 acres of spring wheat which he says is "just fine" and equal to anything he has ever seen in many years of grain farming. "There is no country that beats this valley," said Mr. Connerly.

March Homeward

The four companies of the 14th infantry, stationed at Fort Missoula, which have been camping on Flathead lake for ten days past, marched through Ronan Saturday on their way home. The first day they made from Polson to Post creek, arriving in Ronan about 11 o'clock.

As soon as they reached Ronan each and every one of them filled their canteens with artesian water, being lined up for that purpose, and it was the universal expression of all that it was the first good drink of water they had had since leaving Ronan on the way to the lake.

Col. Kennon expressed himself as being pleased with the practice march, and the other officers said they had a pleasant time while in camp and on the march.

One officer said he intended to buy a farm up this way before the price was beyond his means, as he was satisfied the Mission valley was the best farming region in all the west. That is the sentiment expressed by each and everyone who visits the valley.

New York's Population.

New York has just achieved the distinction of being the first city in the western hemisphere and the second in the world to pass the 5,000,000 mark in population. The margin by which this record was gained was not a wide one since, according to the figures of the board of health the greater city now contains exactly 5,000,407 people. This estimate is based on the official census

taken in April, last year, which gave New York a population of 4,766,833, so that within a period of 15 months there has been an increase of 233,574, equal to the population of a large sized city. Since 1898, when the population of New York was but 3,572,418, there has been an increase of 53 per cent, a striking record in itself. This great concentration of population has not been injurious to the health of New York's citizens, however. On the contrary figures for the last 13 years show a falling off in the death rate. According to the figures of the health department for the past week the death rate was only a fraction over 14 to each 1,000 inhabitants, which is 1 per cent lower than the lowest record of the last 13 years. The infant mortality among children less than 1 year of age was 156 in 1,000, against 235 in the corresponding week for 1910. At the present rate of increase it is figured that New York will outstrip London and become the largest city in the world within the next 25 years.

53 Bushels Per Acre

A. E. Rowley comes to the front this week with the largest yield of wheat so far reported. He threshed 15 acres of fall wheat this week which yielded him an average of 53 bushels per acre, or 795 bushels all told.

This wheat was on well tilled soil, where there had been potatoes and garden last year, and demonstrates what may be expected when the ground is placed in proper condition before seeding.

Mr. Rowley is on the Juel Matte allotment on Mud creek about five miles north and east of Ronan, and is a good farmer, as his crop will bear testimony.

Great Minds Differ.

It is remarkable how great minds can differ so greatly. Democratic leaders in congress express themselves as being very well pleased with the work accomplished and their attempt to accomplish. They point with pride to the many acts passed during the extraordinary session of congress just closed and say had it not been for the attitude of President Taft and his veto of some of the most important of the bills which were passed, that it would have been a history making epoch. On the other hand republican leaders say that the democrats have done nothing to brag about. That they have bluffed all the time and did nothing of value. Progressive republicans are gloating over their being able to put the president in a hole (from which he will extricate himself with difficulty) and their coalition with progressive democrats to pass progressive legislation. It seems from this distance as if it were a dawn battle for the two old parties and that if anyone is entitled to any credit it must be given the progressive element.

Publicity Bill Signed

President Taft on Saturday signed the campaign publicity bill. The bill provides for complete publicity of campaign expenditures of candidates for the house and senate before election. The limit set for expenditures for candidates for the house of representatives is \$5,000, and for candidates for the senate \$10,000.

The 1912 convention of Montana Elks will be held in Kalispell. Missoula was a formidable contestant for the honors but at the last moment withdrew in favor of the lake city.

Tariff Revision Bills Vetoed By President

Congress adjourned Tuesday night and the most strenuous session in recent years has passed into history. The net results of the extra session, in comparison with the ambitious programme adopted at the outset, were not large.

Reciprocity with Canada was brought as near reality as the executive and legislative departments could advance it, statehood was assured for Arizona and New Mexico, campaign publicity legislation was enacted in a form satisfactory to its most earnest advocates, provision was made for an enlarged house of representatives, based on the latest census, and a few other measures of minor importance were passed.

A democratic house, the first since 1895, seized on this session as a vehicle to convey to the country the views of democrats on tariff revision, but executive disapproval rendered futile all efforts to impress those views on the statute books.

Two tariff bills, one materially reducing the duties on wool and woolen goods of all classes and the other placing on the free list articles of machinery and tools used by farmers and amended to include other items, were vetoed by President Taft. A cotton revision bill received a similar fate.

The house, under the leadership of Representative Underwood of Alabama, chairman of the ways and means committee, and Speaker Clark, endeavored to pass the wools and free list bills over the veto, but the necessary two-thirds vote could not be mustered. These failures to overthrow the president's veto were a strong factor in determining the leaders to close the session, and it is not likely that congress will be in session to receive a veto of the cotton measure.

Trust investigations without number were instituted during the session, and some of them, namely those bearing on monopolies in steel and sugar, were prosecuted with vigor.

Constructive legislation to bear on federal regulation of corporations is regarded as certain to come from these inquiries. Plans already have been instituted to revive the anti-trust laws.

Charges were revived that Senator Lorimer of Illinois was elected through bribery, and a second investigation by the senate was put under way. A senate inquiry into the election of Senator Stephenson of Wisconsin was ordered.

General arbitration treaties with Great Britain and France were sent to the senate by President Taft, but they received a frigid welcome, because the upper house contended that one provision of the treaties usurps the senate's constitutional prerogatives.

Presentation of the treaties strained hitherto cordial relations between the foreign relations committee and the state department, and as a result President Taft made it plain that an issue had been raised which he will carry to the house.

Friction in the department of agriculture over the enforcement of the pure food laws was revealed by an investigation when the national issue was raised over whether the activities of Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, the government's pure food expert, has been made ineffective.

Proved Up This Week

Quite a number of homesteaders made final commutation proof this week before Coker F. Rathbone, U. S. Commissioner, in Ronan. On Monday testimony was offered by six claimants, that is Jay H. Vaughan, G. Howard Smith, Onis F. Smith, Frank D. Griffin, Frank O. Adams and H. H. Goble, the latter of St. Ignatius.

In every instance the homesteader had lived on the land faithfully and had made improvements many times more extensive than the law requires in order to perfect a title to the land.

Some few of the commuters will leave the country temporarily, among the number being Jay H. Vaughan who has gone to Marion, Ohio, and G. Howard Smith who left for North Yakima, Wash. Both gentlemen stated, however, that it was with regret they were compelled to leave the Mission valley at this time and that they expected to return in a short time and resume their residence in Montana. Both will be missed by the good people in the west of Ronan neighborhood.

On Tuesday Miss Isabelle Trumbley, Miss Frances Loosmore, Miss Bertha Edmondson, Daniel J. Miller, Theo. Anderson, Julius Rinke of Ronan, and E. E. Flinn submitted their proof. Of these Miss Trumbley may leave soon and Theo. Anderson will again engage in teaching at Minneapolis. Miss Loosmore may also go to Spokane in a week or two.

Yesterday Jas. T. McConnell, H. B. Wright, Joseph Gossett and J. D. Tredway submitted their testimony and will be relieved of further residence on the land, unless they wish to.

Mission Messages.

Mrs. M. Dowd has had her house painted.

John Ramsay has begun work on his new house on the town-site.

Mrs. Richard Kincaid is dangerously ill at her home in St. Ignatius.

Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Moffett of Moiese valley were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Meglassen for the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Buckhouse entertained at five hundred Friday evening, Aug. 18, in honor of Miss Mason of Missoula, a sister of Mrs. Buckhouse.

L. S. De Camps was a Mission visitor this week. Mr. DeCamps is looking for available scenic effects to use in the decoration of the Montana state capital at Helena.

Edward Finley, son of Modeste Finley, met with a bad accident while horseback riding last week. He fell on the pommel of his saddle and sustained serious internal injuries.

J. D. Smith of Chicago was visiting the different towns on the reservation during the week. He is looking over salable tracts preparatory to recommending investments for capital.

A family party made up of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Totman, of Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Beckwith and family of St. Ignatius, and Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Willis Hughes and family of Missoula, left Tuesday for Kalispell enroute to Glacier Park.

The new St. Ignatius opera house is nearing completion and is certainly a fine show house. The hall is 40x60 and the stage 16x20. It is equipped with a commodious gallery for motion pictures, the very newest thing in an advertising drop curtain and two large dressing rooms. Altogether the Mission has reason to be proud of its opera house.