

THE RONAN PIONEER

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RONAN, MISSOULA COUNTY, MONTANA, FEBRUARY 23, 1912.

\$2 Per Year

Western Montana Association of Commercial Clubs

Delegates from fourteen towns in Western Montana met at Missoula last Thursday morning at 10 o'clock, in the Missoula Chamber of Commerce and proceeded to organize an association of all the commercial bodies in Western Montana. The meeting was called to order by J. E. Totman of Hamilton, who presided at the meeting held in Hamilton some time before, and A. J. Breitenstein of Missoula was secretary. The first business was the reading of the constitution and by-laws, which were adopted after little discussion.

The next in order was the election of the officers for the ensuing year, and resulted in J. E. Totman of Hamilton being elected president; A. J. Brower of Ronan, 1st vice president; G. A. Morse of Drummond, 2nd vice president; A. L. Stone of Missoula, 3rd vice president; A. J. Breitenstein, secretary-treasurer.

A governing board was elected, consisting of one member from each commercial organization, and the following were selected:

C. F. Rathbone, Ronan; J. C. Eisenman, Thompson; G. E. Whiteman, Dixon; G. A. Morse, Drummond; Frank Boroughs, Stevensville; R. G. Young, Victor; W. A. Bade, Corvallis; J. O. Read, Hamilton; Milton Hammond, Darby; Andrew Beckwith, St. Ignatius; W. H. Lowenstein of the Flathead Farmers' Mutual association; Clifford Rittenour, Plains; S. J. Coffee, Missoula; S. J. Rundell, Philipsburg.

The petition asking congress to pass a law relieving the situation on the Flathead reservation as to assignable receipts for farm unit lands under the homestead law, was presented and after discussion the meeting unanimously approved the same and the secretary instructed to so notify our delegation in congress.

The delegates were invited to attend a noon day luncheon at the Palace hotel as the guests of the Missoula chamber of commerce, and the hour having arrived, all betook themselves there to enjoy the same.

After the luncheon short speeches were made by Dr. Elrod of Missoula, J. E. Totman of Hamilton, W. C. Harlan of Darby, Coker F. Rathbone of Ronan, J. C. Eisenman of Thompson Falls, and Dr. Reed of Victor, who first conceived the idea of federating all the clubs, and the entire number felt that they had accomplished a good work by succeeding in getting together as they had.

The idea of getting together and staying together in all things concerning each and every locality was uppermost in the minds

of the members, and the speakers dwelt upon this phase of the situation and were heartily supported by all present.

At 2 o'clock the governing board met for the transaction of business and several important matters were discussed and disposed of. The first to come before the board was the matter of display booths at the depots in Missoula. The plan was to build booths and display the fruits and other products of the different sections and sell the fruit to travelers direct, thereby giving them a chance to taste as well as see the fruit. This plan was enlarged to comprise the building of booths at all railway stations and there exhibit the fruit, grain, grasses, vegetables, etc., as well as at Missoula, each locality thereby receiving full credit for its production. This plan will be carried out, should the railroad give the necessary permit for the same.

It was decided to issue an attractive advertising booklet, of 25,000 copies, descriptive of Western Montana, each club to take such space therein as desired.

The meeting again discussed the Flathead situation and upon motion a committee of three composed of C. F. Rathbone of Ronan, A. B. Beckwith of St. Ignatius, and Warren D. Harris of the Farmers' Mutual association, were appointed to draft resolutions to be presented at the next meeting, detailing the grievances and if possible suggesting the remedy therefor.

The good work of State Horticulturalist M. L. Dean in combating the fruit pests and the blight on apple trees, was unanimously endorsed.

Those present as delegates from the various organizations were as follows:

Ronan Commercial club—A. J. Brower, Stanley Searce, A. M. Sterling, Coker F. Rathbone.

Dixon Commercial club—G. E. Whiteman, W. D. Campbell and Benjamin Webb.

St. Ignatius Commerce association—A. B. Beckwith, A. J. Dressels, Joseph Buckhouse.

Flathead Farmers' Mutual association—Benjamin Jacobs, R. W. Newman, M. S. Lowenstein.

Thompson Falls Improvement club—J. C. Eisenman and R. Hoyt.

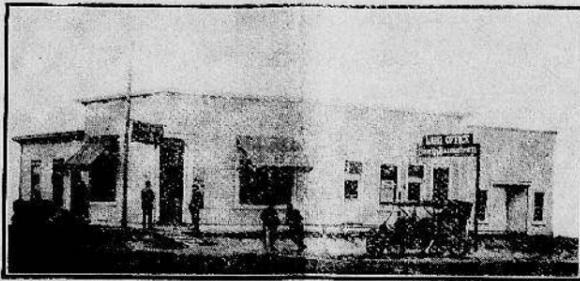
Plains Valley Commercial club—Clifford Rittenour and C. G. Toulmin.

Drummond Commercial club—G. A. Morse and H. A. Thayer.

Darby Commercial club—W. C. Harlan.

Hamilton Chamber of Commerce—J. E. Totman, J. O. Read, W. O. Fisk, W. N. Noble and Irwin Hayden.

Corvallis Commercial club—



RONAN STATE BANK, RONAN, MONTANA

W. A. Bade, R. L. Lewis, B. S. Chaffin and Albert Groff.

Victor Business Men's association—J. W. Read, R. G. Young and H. C. Groff.

Stevensville Chamber of Commerce—O. E. Lewis, John McLaughlin, J. G. Showell and Fred Burroughs.

Philipsburg Chamber of Commerce—S. C. Rundell and G. L. Atwater.

Missoula Chamber of Commerce—S. R. Ineh, Frank Keith, S. J. Coffee, G. F. Peterson and A. J. Breitenstein.

Registration List

The following is a full, complete and true list of all names registered by the registry agent, and remaining on the official register at the close of registration and residing in Missoula election precinct No. 38, Missoula county, Montana:

Brower, Andrew J. Bales, Chas. E. Byrre, John F. Bonner, Rob't M. Brandjord, Iver M. Benedict, Mertas J. Broughton, Geo. E. Berry, Walter W. Bouchard, Joseph Bigelow, Lyman G. Bennett, N. F. Brown, Waldo G. Black, Charles G. Clairmont, Edward Coulter, Casius A. Crawford, Alphonse Carper, Harry N. Crowley, Chas. W. Dennison, Louis H. Durst, Edwin E. Denison, G. Frank Denison, Benj. H. DePheps, M. L. Dupuis, James N. Dix, Alvin A. Edmondson, Jeff D. Engle, William B. Fuhrer, John E. Foster, George F. Farrell, Geo. Thos. Farham, Leroy M. Furst, John C. Glathart, John D. Green, Frank G. Grant, James S. Gillett, Willis M. Grunert, Chas. W. Gehlert, Hugo M. Harris, Schuyler Horn, James E. Hartsorn, Charlie Heimers, Dick Huott, Francis Hull, Daniel D. Luallin, John C. Larson, John D. Larson, Harry R. Lemire, R. E. Lenard, Frank Lester, Fred J. Myers, Frank M. Meilluer, Absolon McMichael, John L. Mason, Dwight N. McPhee, William McKnight, Robt. N. McBride, Patrick McConnell, Edgar L. McGarrath, Wm M. McClung, Joseph I. O'Neil, James P. Orey, John W. Powell, Spencer G. Putney, George H. Parker, James E. Parker, C. H. Rehwald, Fred W. Rogers, John J. Reip, Ira L. Rathbone, Coker F. Roulier, Rudolph Rathbone, John D. Ramsey, Albert Rathbone, Justus H. Rooks, Almer Riddell, Chas. A. Smith, Albert Searce, Stanley Sutherland, Albert Suiter, Marion F. Stansbury, H. E. Sweet, John P. Swinehart, Jesse Stees, Wm. W. Seifert, George Sterling, A. M. Stees, Fred W. Stinger, Andrew Trahan, Wilford Tower, Chas. R. Trahan, Jules Thornburgh, A. M. Van Horn, Lauren Vought, Harry E. Wheeler, Chas. A. Warner, Judson T. Wyman, Arthur Welch, Clifford T. Watson, Robert Wilson, King Washington, Wm E Walker, Chas M.

Will Meet at St. Ignatius

The members of the governing board of the Western Montana Association of Commercial Clubs for the Flathead and from Plains and Thompson Fall, will meet at St. Ignatius on March 9th, to consider matters concerning the towns represented. Each commercial body will be asked to send additional delegates also, that the meeting may be of sufficient number to express the desire of the organizations. All farmers' associations should send delegates, as it will be to their interest to be represented.

This meeting will pass on the resolutions to be drafted this week by the committee appointed at Missoula concerning the securing of assignable titles, and also

the matter of securing the lease or sale of Indian lands.

All homesteaders of farm units are especially interested and anyone who feels his presence or assistance of value should make it a point to be present. The St. Ignatius club will see to it that visiting delegations are cared for and all the courtesies of the sea are extended. They are a live bunch those Mission fellows as has been demonstrated frequently.

Joe Lemire's Birthday.

Last Monday was Joe Lemire's birthday and some of his friends invaded his home that evening to remind him of the fact. Those who took possession of his home were Mr. and Mrs. I. M. Brandjord, Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Broughton and Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Sheen and daughter Alice.

The evening was spent in playing hearts and Norwegian whist, and in devouring a dainty lunch. Both Joe and Mrs. Lemire were very much surprised.

First National Meeting.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of the First National Bank of Ronan, held Monday evening, February 19th, in Ronan, the election of officers for the ensuing year occurred. The directors chosen were Edw. Donlan and John Dahlgren of Missoula, Fred S. Simmons and J. D. Larson of Ronan, and E. M. Ohlert of Drummond. The new officers are: Edw. Donlan, president; John Dahlgren, vice-president; J. D. Larson, cashier.

Pool Hall Burglarized

Sometime during Saturday night Dick Hart's pool hall was entered and \$40 in chicken feed or small change abstracted from the cash register. Entrance was secured over the transom to the back door, but their departure was taken by opening the back door. A party suspected as being the guilty one was arrested at Missoula, but nothing was found on him to warrant his being held on that charge. This is the first case of thievery to be recorded in Ronan, and it would please us all to have it be the last.

Farmers Are Plowing

From all sections of the Flathead comes the intelligence of farmers in their fields plowing and making ready for the sowing of grain crops. In the lower section of the valley, around St. Ignatius, farmers have been plowing for the past ten days, and this in Montana during the middle of February.

To eastern people this may seem like a newspaper story, pure and simple, but it is a fact, nevertheless.

Last week the weather was very cold all over the east, many places the mercury being below zero, while here on the Flathead it was warm and plowing good. At no time during the winter has there been over ten inches of frost in the ground, and no distress whatever from cold weather.

Ronan Votes on Incorporation Monday, Feb. 26

There is no town in Western Montana more talked about than Ronan. Go where you will, you hear the people speak well of the place and comment on its future. It is being advertised by the traveling men, all of whom say it is the best town in Western Montana today, with good prospects to get even better. In the corridors of the hotels you hear men say, "Ronan is the coming town of the reservation," and similar remarks. And the best of it all is that it is true. "There's a reason." There are several reasons. Ronan is situated the most favorably of all the new towns on the reservation; it is surrounded by many natural advantages, such as thousands of acres of rich farming land, timber to the amount of over 14,000,000,000 feet, the finest water that ever flowed from the mountain springs, and a salubrious climate the year around. It has had a steady growth, only keeping pace with the development of the surrounding country, and is being built up and improved by people who have decided to make it their homes. There has been no overdoing of business in any line, and no one has experienced the drawback of hard times. With all these things, is it any wonder people talk and speak favorably of Ronan? As one man said lately, "When the town is incorporated and civil government established, there should be no good reason why the town should not grow even faster than it has in the past."

It needs some more sidewalks to accommodate the people living here, and those who visit us, and a grade should be established so that a uniformity of the business houses could be maintained. In time the town will demand a system of water supply for domestic use and to combat fires, but such things will come only as circumstances demand and the revenues permit. There should be no haste in such matters, and at this time none is contemplated. As a child must first creep before it walks, so must a town be able to sustain such municipal improvements before it undertakes to build them. Expenses must be kept to the minimum, while not being niggardly, in doing the things which should be done. With such a policy, there should not be a dissenting vote next Monday on the question of incorporating the town. So far there has been little heard of an unfavorable nature, only a few expressing themselves as opposed to incorporation. The men who will naturally be called upon to pay the bulk of the taxes are almost unanimous in favor of the measure. Then the question is

why should those who will not pay much taxes oppose it? It will furnish employment to some, where they would otherwise be idle, and one day's extra work would more than pay their increase in taxes. No laboring man should be opposed to anything which increases the number of days he may find employment. One of the best reasons, too, why we should vote "yes" is that it will not sound very good to the outside to have the press announce that "Ronan is opposed to local self government and local improvements."

A Progressive Party

There is considerable discussion going on as to whether or not the two elements of the republican party will get together and support the ticket nominated at Chicago. Some of the wise ones say no, emphatically. They say that the differences are so great as not to be susceptible of adjudication. That being the case, how about the differences in the democratic party? Will it be possible to secure the endorsement of the progressive wing of the democrats should Harmon or some other equally radical man be nominated? It is not very probable that Col. Bryan will assent to supporting any one who would be termed a "reactionary" any more than it is possible for Taft to say he likes it, should LaFollette be the nominee.

As matters now stand, the chances are more than good that Taft will be the republican candidate and that the democrats will make an equally big mistake in their selection, so far as the interests of the common people are concerned, and that being the case, why not organize a purely progressive party composed of the progressive republicans and progressive democrats and sweep the country. It could be done.

Letter From Polson.

A Polson friend writes the Pioneer as follows:

"It is understood now that the Hodge Navigation Co. is going to build a railroad across the lake from Polson to Somers.

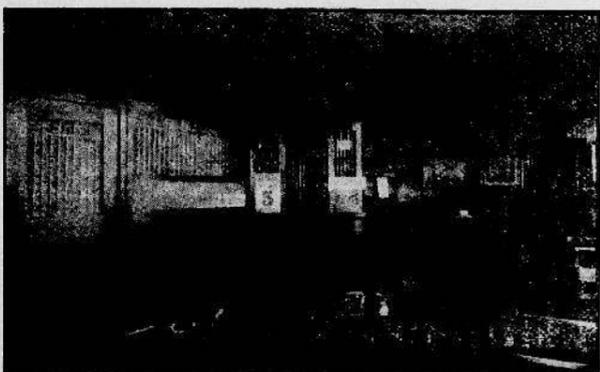
"Mrs. W. M. Bell is getting along nicely after an operation for appendicitis, performed by local surgeons.

"The democratic club is getting along fine, having elected one senator, one commissioner and one president.

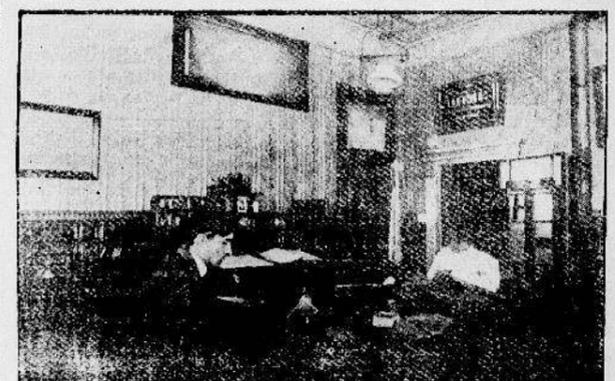
"The Sons of Erin are going to hold a grand ball on St. Patrick's day, Marcy 16th. It will be the first and last big ball of the season.

For Sale or Trade.

House and three lots in Ronan, Good location. Bargain if taken soon. 43-44 JULES TRAHAN.



LOBBY RONAN STATE BANK



BANKING ROOM RONAN STATE BANK