

# THE RONAN PIONEER

The Oldest Newspaper on the Flathead Indian Reservation

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## MEXICANS KILLED BY TEXAS RANGERS

SEVERAL OUTLAWS REPORTED SLAIN IN FIGHT NEAR NORIAS, TEXAS.

AMERICANS ARE REINFORCED

Special Train Carries United States Soldiers to Aid Ranchmen—300 Mexicans Cross Rio Grande, According to Sheriff.

Harlingen, Tex., Aug. 10.—Five American ranchmen were wounded, two of them seriously and several Mexican outlaws were reported killed in a fight between Texas rangers and American ranchers and a band of Mexican bandits at Norias ranch, ten miles north of Lyford, in Cameron county, according to a phone message received here from Norias. The number of casualties to the Mexicans, it is said, could not be ascertained owing to darkness.

The outlaws estimated between 30 and 50, attacked the Norias ranch house shortly before dark. Fourteen ranchmen barricaded themselves in the house and defended the place until 10 o'clock, when the message said, the Mexicans withdrew temporarily. Shortly after the bandits had withdrawn, 16 Texas rangers and armed civilians arrived.

**Kill Several Mexicans.**  
At 10:30 the report says, the Mexicans returned, unaware that reinforcements had arrived. They again charged the house and were met with a volley of shots from the rangers and several of the Mexicans were killed. The outlaws retreated into the darkness.

A special train left Harlingen shortly before ten o'clock last night carrying 35 U. S. soldiers and 12 armed civilians to reinforce the Americans on the Norias ranch.

**Two Battles in Texas.**  
Brownsville, Tex., Aug. 10.—Mexican outlaws and Texas rangers and county officers were engaged in two battles near Norias, Texas, 60 miles north of Brownsville, according to reports received here.

The clashes occurred at 6:30 and 8:30 at night, it is said.

Results of the fight are not yet known here.

A special train which left here for Norias a day ago with rangers and county officers, returned and ten minutes later started back to Norias. It will stop at Harlingen to take on a detachment of U. S. soldiers.

Norias is located in a rolling sand-hill country, which makes fighting with horses very difficult. It was announced at Fort Brown that four companies of United States infantry are being rushed here from Fort McIntosh, near Laredo.

**Jailer is Wounded.**  
Fritz George, night watchman at the Lyford, Texas, jail, was shot and seriously wounded before daybreak. The act is charged to Mexican outlaws.

A party of farmers near Lyford also was fired on by unknown persons a few hours earlier in the night.

Rumors that six Mexicans were killed in a battle with a posse in a remote section of Hidalgo county could not be confirmed.

**KIDNAPS MAN HIT BY AUTO**  
Driver Stops to Pick up Victim, then Speeds Away—Detectives Search Hospitals.

Minneapolis, Aug. 10.—An old man was struck and apparently seriously injured by an automobile of unknown ownership at Hennepin avenue and Tenth street. He was picked up and tossed into the machine, and the driver sped away. Detectives visited every Minneapolis hospital but were unable to find the injured man.

A dozen persons read the car's number but inadequate automobile records at police headquarters prevented the arrest of the driver at once. Witnesses said the machine was first seen turning rapidly from Tenth street and going south on Hennepin avenue. A passing street car blocked its path and it swung towards a crowd of persons crossing the street.

Several leaped to safety but the man hit did not respond quickly enough to the warning. The automobile then careened and grazed the street car and stopped suddenly. The driver picked up his victim and escaped before witnesses could interfere.

To Reject British Contention.

Washington, Aug. 10.—Urged by American exporters, the state department was quickly completing its tentative draft of an answer to the British refusal to cease interference with American shipments. In brief, it was understood, the British will be told the American Civil war blockade precedents they cited are not in point. At that time, it will be asserted, the United States government held up no European shipment which it did not know was intended, when shipped, for the Confederacy.

## BUMPER YIELDS REPORTED BY ALL THRESHING CREWS

Threshing has now been under way in the country west of Ronan for about ten days, some five or six machines being in operation. The prediction made before harvest that the wheat yields would reach the 30 bushel mark is being more than realized.

One threshing crew reports that out of several jobs the lowest yield was 30 bushels per acre, while the highest reached 40 bushels. The average for this crew, in a ten days run, has been 35 bushels per acre. The yields from the fields threshed by the other machines is running about the same, from 30 to 40 bushels per acre. Practically all of the grain threshed up to this time has been volunteer crops and when the fields sown last fall are reached it is predicted that even greater yields will be reported.

One field in particular will be watched with interest. In a test run made last Monday, of fourteen shocks from the field of James Grant, just south of Ronan, 15 bushels of wheat were threshed. Mr. Grant has roughly estimated the 40 acres and says there is an average of sixty shocks to the acre, and all as good as the fourteen shocks threshed. This forecasts a yield of at least sixty bushels to the acre and will probably give Mr. Grant first place for the largest yield of fall wheat.

Early sown spring wheat will probably be as good as the fall grain and with the enormous acreage raised the production in this valley will be many times larger than any previous year. The problem of marketing this immense crop is a serious one and the farmers of the valley are wondering how much longer they will be left without transportation facilities.

## BAD ELECTRICAL STORM PASSES OVER VALLEY

What old timers pronounce the worst electrical storm they ever witnessed in this country, passed over the valley last Friday night. Lightning flashed in all directions, followed by clap after clap of thunder. Some rain and considerable wind accompanied the storm and considerable damage resulted from lightning.

One bolt struck a stack of headed wheat on the Sloan place just west of Ronan belonging to Jesse Winn. Fire started at once and before Mr. Winn, with assistants, reached the scene it had spread to an adjoining stack and both went up in smoke. He estimates that he lost about 500 bushels.

Andrew Eck, living northwest of Ronan, also lost by the storm, one bolt of lightning killing two extra good milk cows. Holman & Nash lost a good horse and a cow was killed on the stage road south of Ronan.

At one time there were half a dozen fires going on the mountain side east of Ronan, all caused by lightning. All except one soon burned out, but one just north of Crow creek canyon burned for several days.

## Badly Mixed

Judging from the list of lands advertised for sale on the reservation, the Indian department is going to get everybody all balled up again in that sale. They have advertised in that list lands which have been proved up on by homesteaders who received patents to the same long ago. There are two instances of this kind in this township, not three miles from Dayton. One tract is the NW 1/4 SW 1/4 of Sec. 8, township 24, range 21, and the other is the SW 1/4 SE 1/4 of section 9, same township and range. How many other homesteads are included in the list is hard to tell. Such carelessness is unpardonable.—Dayton Leader.

## Pipe This

Your house can have running water at small cost. Let Big Store give you estimate on gas power and equipment.

## GERMANS MENACE WARSAW RAILWAY

TROOPS ARE NOW WITHIN RANGE OF LAST EXIT OF RETREATING SLAVS.

## BIG GAP IN RUSSIAN ARMIES

Defeat Near Lubartow Makes Possible Enveloping Movement Which May Mean Destruction or Capture for Forces on Southern Line.

Petrograd, Aug. 10.—Unofficial reports have just reached here that the Russians have driven the Germans back in the Courland and have recaptured Mitau. The war office had no information to make public.

**Near Warsaw Railroad.**  
Berlin, Aug. 10.—Blasting his way through the Russian defenses with terrific gun fire, General von Gallwitz, with 300,000 German troops, has reached a position less than ten miles from the vital Warsaw-Petrograd railway, one of the last two avenues of escape for the Slavs in the Warsaw triangle.

Praga, the suburb of Warsaw on the eastern bank of the Vistula, was occupied according to the official announcement of the German war office. Defeat at the hands of the Teutonic Allies on the line between Lubartow and Miechow left the Russian armies split in two, with a gap of miles between, through which the victorious commanders may drive their men in an enveloping movement that will mean destruction or capture for the Russians on the southern line of the salient.

**Breach May Prove Dangerous.**  
It is impossible at this moment to determine how serious a danger for the Russians this breach may prove, but probably they are amply protected against dangerous inroads upon their line of retreat by troops withdrawing from Ivanogorod along the highway running parallel with the north bank of the Viejprz to Radzyn.

In resisting the Austrian advance the Russians made a desperate attack at Miechow. The retreat of their left wing over the Viejprz at Lessekwicze was a rout of pronounced character. It is known that the number of prisoners considerably exceeds the 6,000 mentioned in the official report.

Hard pressed on three sides, the Russian armies are still fighting hard and hour by hour approaching the time when the great bulk of the army will be on the prepared line of defense, safe from the savage thrusts of the Kaiser's men who have been struggling so desperately to encircle the whole Russian field force.

A violent battle has been begun at the Bug river, south of Vyskov, where von Gawitz is attempting to force a crossing. The Russians are making a stand behind the fortified bridge head on the southern bank of the stream.

**Teuton Batteries Cover Actions.**  
The German batteries are covering actions both north and south of the Viejprz river crossing, where pontoons are being thrown across the river.

Thirteen miles to the southwest the army of General Heltz, after occupying Sorock, is moving south along the highway to attempt a second crossing of the Bug west of its junction with the Rzdza river. The Russians apparently are not offering serious resistance, but are falling back on the river.

Meanwhile the Germans who crossed the Vistula south of Warsaw are pressing closer to the left flank of the Slavs in the Warsaw-Novo Georgiewsk salient and the Warsaw-Stedlee railway, the last of the two railways by which the Slavs may make a successful retreatment.

## PREUS ON HIBBING DECISION

State Auditor Considers Request of Mayor to Close Mines Which Paid No Taxes.

St. Paul, Aug. 10.—J. A. O. Preus, state auditor, says he expects to decide shortly whether to seek an injunction which would shut down ore mines at Hibbing. Mr. Preus has just returned from Northern Minnesota and is not familiar with the statute to which Mayor Victor L. Power of Hibbing called his attention in a telegram asking the auditor to close all mines on which taxes have not been paid.

Mr. Preus expects to decide on a course of action at once, and has so notified Mayor Power.

The mining companies are not taking the request of Mayor Power seriously. Frank D. Adams, attorney for the Oliver Iron Mining company, said he had been familiar all along with the statutes on which Mayor Power asks Mr. Preus to take action.

Total Abstinence Union.

Pittsburgh, Aug. 10.—The forty-fifth annual convention of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America has opened here.

A solemn pontifical mass was celebrated in St. Paul's cathedral by Bishop Regis Canevin, of Pittsburgh, assisted by Rev. J. P. O'Callahan, of Chicago, president of the union, and Rev. M. A. Hehir, president of Duquesne university, Pittsburgh, and later a mass meeting was held in a downtown theater, which was attended by 2,000 persons.

## OFFER OF PEACE BY GERMANY

PROPOSAL TO RUSSIA IS DISMISSED BY DUMA.

Representative of Slav Foreign Office Denies There Is Remotest Possibility of Peace.

London, Aug. 10.—Reiter's correspondent at Petrograd transmits the following:

"The Bourse Gazette learns from an unimpeachable source that the German Emperor made an offer of peace to Russia last week, through the King of Denmark. The answer sent to the king stated that the question of peace negotiations could not be raised at the present time."

**Russian Duma Discusses Proposal.**

Petrograd, via London, Aug. 10.—The report that Germany had made peace proposals to Russia became known in official circles several days ago, and was freely discussed in the lobbies of the Duma, according to the Vechernie Vremya.

"We learn on good authority," says the newspaper, "that Germany through Denmark proposed to Russia a separate peace, Russia to receive Galicia while Germany would retain the western district of Poland. A representative of the foreign office categorically denied that there was the remotest possibility of any peace negotiations. In the lobbies of the Duma the proposal was dismissed as unworthy of serious consideration."

## RESCUES DAUGHTER; DROWNS

Bemidji Merchant Loses Life in Lake Marquette After Saving Three-Year-Old Child

Bemidji, Aug. 10.—John Ziegler, 38 years old, well known Bemidji merchant, was drowned in Lake Marquette after rescuing his three-year-old daughter who fell from a motor boat in which Mr. and Mrs. Ziegler planned to pass the afternoon.

The father leaped into the water in answer to the child's cries. He jumped in and after long effort succeeded in securing her. W. Stitch, an employe in the Ziegler store, was unable to come to their assistance for 10 minutes, when he managed to get the boat within reach. Ziegler, exhausted by his struggle, handed the child to Stitch and then disappeared from view. Stitch's efforts to recover the body of his employer were futile.

**Killed Demonstrating Auto.**

Minneapolis, Aug. 10.—A bad spot in the road on the Ramsey-Washington county line at Birchwood, White Bear lake, said to have been responsible for several automobile accidents in the past year, was the scene of another accident in which J. L. McGuire of South Park, a suburb of St. Paul, was killed.

McGuire was an automobile salesman with offices at 124 West Fourth street, St. Paul. He was demonstrating a car to R. J. Molitor, of St. Paul, a prospective purchaser. It is reported that Molitor had never driven before and was driving the car when the accident occurred.

When rounding a turn in the road at Birchwood, where there is a fill, the car went off the embankment and turned over, crushing McGuire. He died in a few minutes. Molitor was only slightly injured.

## Rails Ordered by Russia.

Baltimore, Aug. 10.—It is announced that the Maryland Steel company has received an order from the Russian government for 100,000 tons of steel rails.

## Meeting of Pan-Americans.

Washington, Aug. 10.—The Pan-American conference initiated here last week to devise a plan for restoring government in Mexico probably will be resumed in New York city next Wednesday. Secretary Lansing made this announcement upon his return from New York, where he conferred with Secretary McAdoo early in the day.

Mexican affairs and the co-operative effort of the United States and Latin American republics to end the factional strife were discussed generally.

## Feed Grinders

Let your gas engine grind your own feed. See Big Store adv.

Soldiers Arrest Gamblers.

New Orleans, Aug. 10.—Failure of officials of Jefferson Parish to enforce the state laws caused Governor Hall to order a battalion of the Louisiana National Guard to raid a gambling house in South Port, a suburb of New Orleans, according to a statement issued by the governor. Nearly 150 persons were arrested, including Joseph Hyland, the proprietor. The patrons were paroled. Governor Hall declared that the Parish officials had failed to take any action against the lawless element.

## IMMENSE FREIGHT TONNAGE BUT NO TRANSPORTATION

"Yesterday," says Wednesday's Missoulian, "President Hannaford and General Manager Slade of the Northern Pacific returned from a tour of inspection of the Bitter Root valley and its big crops, big orchards and bigger possibilities."

The Bitter Root valley branch is probably the most productive in freight and passenger receipts of any similar length branch road on the entire Northern Pacific system.

The president and general manager of the Northern Pacific have not seen and therefore must not know that an agricultural crop nearly as great in magnitude is being produced this year in the great fertile valley lying between the main line of their railroad and the foot of Flathead lake.

They may not know that the tonnage of the Flathead valley would be quadrupled if the people living there had any transportation facilities for marketing their crops. As the situation now stands, at least one-quarter of the value of their farm products is taken from the producers on account of lack of transportation.

Just 35 miles of steel rails laid across a flat prairie country, from Dixon to Polson, would give this valley an outlet and a market that would work a miracle in the development of the most fertile undeveloped region in the entire northwest.

People who know, feel sure that 1,000,000 bushels of grain will be harvested in the lower Flathead valley this month. The people living there are discouraged from attempting greater things on account of being penalized in their endeavors by lack of transportation.

Last week the United States government sold \$130,000 worth of villa sites along beautiful Flathead lake to prospective summer home builders. If it were possible for the people living in Missoula, Butte, Anaconda, Helena and eastern Montana to reach Flathead lake by rail, the entire lake front would be covered with summer homes within a year or two.

Just why the Northern Pacific management allows this great country to be undeveloped is one of the things that has puzzled the ordinary person in western Montana. The railroads want tonnage. The Flathead valley stands ready to give it by the train load. The railroads want passenger traffic. It now takes a train of automobiles, stage coaches and mule teams, each day, to accommodate the travel flowing across the Flathead valley.

If a Montana farmer had an 80-acre field alongside his big red barn, growing up to weeds, and was complaining about his farm not paying interest, we would have a mental reservation that the fault lay with the farmer himself. With railroads a different rule of economics may obtain."

## Big Store Picnic

Employees of the Big Store, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Secaree, arranged a picnic for last Sunday in the timber southeast of Ronan. Big Store autos carried the picnickers and supplies and an early start put them on the ground long before the noon hour.

With an abundant supply of everything good to eat and drink, with the cool waters of Crow creek at their feet, and magnificent pines to break the sun rays, the party enjoyed the day immensely. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Secaree and children, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Warner, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. McConnell and children, Mr. and Mrs. Farnham and children, Mr. and Mrs. Riddle, the Misses Louise Bouchard, Winnifred, Thorna and Thelma Brown, Caska Allen, Cecil Peltier, Henry Joendel, F. M. Wilson, Henry Groestene and Don Rathbone, Mrs. Putney, Mose Delaware and wife, and Harvey Cox were the only employees not present.

## Power Washers

Cut out the back-breaking tub and washboard, let gas do the work. For prices see Big Store adv.

## CAPERTON SEIZES HAITIEN CUSTOMS

AMERICAN ADMIRAL TAKES OVER OFFICES AT CAPE HAITIEN —CONDITIONS QUIET.

## POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTION

Choosing of President of Republic to Succeed General Guillaume, Who Was Shot by Mob, Is Delayed —Disorders Repressed.

Washington, Aug. 10.—Rear Admiral Caperton, commanding the American naval forces in Haiti, reports that he has taken over the administration of the customs office at Cape Haitien, and has placed Paymaster Charles Morris, of the Cruiser Washington, temporarily in charge. No mention was made of the reported seizure of the customs office at Port au Prince.

Business conditions in Cape Haitien, the dispatch said, were improving, and there was an apparent disposition among the natives to support the city government being reorganized by Admiral Caperton.

Arrival of the Haitian gunboat Nord Alexis at Port au Prince with 800 disarmed Haitian soldiers was reported. The soldiers came from outlying districts to be escorted by American marines to their homes after pledging themselves to keep the peace.

Except slight disturbances at Miragoane, conditions throughout the island were reported quiet.

## Presidential Election Postponed.

Port au Prince, Aug. 10.—The election of a president of the republic to take the place of General Vilbrun Guillaume, who was removed from the French legation by a mob of Haitians July 28 and shot to death, was postponed.

The election was to have taken place soon.

The American naval forces at Croix-des-Bouquets, near Port au Prince, repressed some disorder on the part of a band of brigands. The chief of the band was taken prisoner and placed on board the United States cruiser Washington.

Other disorders are reported to have occurred at St. March and Aux Cayes. Details concerning them are lacking.

## NOAH, CAUSE OF MAN'S FALL

Builder of Ark, Not Adam and Eve, Brought Curse, Says Translation of Tablet.

Philadelphia, Aug. 10.—It was not Adam and Eve who brought about the fall of man but Noah, according to a translation of a tablet now in the University of Pennsylvania museum. An announcement to this effect was made by a representative of the museum. According to the Sumerian theology found on the tablet, which is said to have been written before the days of Abraham, and translated by Dr. Steven Langdon, professor of Assyriology in Oxford university, England, Noah, was ordered not to eat of the cassia tree in the garden of paradise and when he disobeyed the curse fell upon him.

The curse was that he should have ill-health and an early death instead of living to be 50,000 years old like his ancestors.

## Work to Raise Eastland.

Chicago, Aug. 10.—A huge steel crane which was towed from Cleveland arrived alongside the steamer Eastland and at once prepared to aid the tug Favorite in raising the vessel which turned over two weeks ago.

The new crane and the Favorite have a combined power of 6,000 tons, according to Captain J. L. Ackerson, naval construction expert from Washington.

The Eastland weighs 1,200 tons and has about 3,000 tons of water in her hull, the captain said.

## Dives 80 Feet; Will Die.

Dubuque, Iowa, Aug. 10.—R. V. Wells was fatally hurt at McGregor near here as the result of a high dive into the Mississippi river. Wells climbed the flag pole surmounting a bridge across the river, a distance of 80 feet from the water, and dived into the river. He struck the water at full length and was taken out by swimming companions in an unconscious condition.

Physicians failed to restore him to consciousness and said he could not recover.

## Allege Mexicans Destroyed Bridge.

Sau Antonio, Tex., Aug. 10.—Destruction of a Southern Pacific railroad bridge near Watkins was reported here and Mexican soldiers are blamed for setting it afire. While a section gang was repairing the bridge, it was said, two Mexican soldiers in uniform raided the section commissary.