

THE RONAN PIONEER

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GRASSHOPPER WAR IS PROGRESSING

County Agent C. A. Bush and H. L. Seaman of Flathead county, Prof. R. S. Cooley of the State Agricultural College and J. R. Campbell, county agriculturalist of Missoula county, spent the past week in the valley investigating the grasshopper situation and organizing the farmers to wage the war against the pest.

On their trip they found the infested area larger than was first thought, especially in the northwest part of the valley and extending as far south as the buffalo park and Ravalli. On the west side of the river in the Camas district the hoppers are reported to be worse than in any other section.

Under the direction of Mr. Campbell practically all of the farmers are now familiar with the method of treatment. Word has been received that the government will send two experts to treat all vacant and government lands and the local county agents will devote their time to aiding the farmers in treating their own fields. It has been found that the grasshoppers south of Crow Creek are too young to respond to treatment but they are growing fast and the organizations are preparing to treat all lands as quickly as possible. At the meeting at Horte last Sunday two tons of the poisoned bran were scattered on the vacant lands in that section and the farmers have almost finished treating all the fields.

Mr. Campbell, in speaking of the treatment of fields, said in part, "I wish to impress strongly upon the mind of every farmer the absolute lack of danger of poisoning stock through the treatment of the ground. There is not the least danger. While there have been some losses of stock it cannot be attributed to the poisoned bran. In one instance a man who lost a horse refused to treat his field, fearing the poison, but I am frank and honest in saying that no one need hesitate to treat their lands for this reason. It has been shown conclusively that no danger to stock can result from the use of the mixture. I also want to impress the advisability of treating the lands at the proper time of day. In the early morning which means early—is the best time for treating as the pests are attracted more readily while the mixture is fresh and before evaporation takes place."

Mr. Campbell will spend much of his time in the valley and will give every possible assistance in checking any damage that might result. He is of the opinion that with the treatment the lands have received and are receiving, that the danger is now reduced to a minimum.

BASE BALL DANCE

The committee in charge of the Ronan base ball team has made all arrangements for a dance to be given to help raise funds for the benefit of the team, the dance to be held on Saturday night, June 16th. Good music has been secured and a good time is assured everyone attending. The dance is given for a worthy object and everybody should turn out and help the cause along. Ronan needs a good ball team. Remember the date and come, Saturday night, June 16th.

F. C. Morgan of Dixon spent Tuesday in Ronan.

LLOYD I. WALLACE APPOINTED CITY ATTORNEY

The city council at the regular session of that body held last Monday evening appointed Lloyd I. Wallace to act as city attorney. In view of the contemplated installation of a water system, electric lights, the creation of improvement districts and the possible granting of a franchise by the city, there will be considerable work necessary to be done of an important legal character and hence the retention of an attorney.

Mr. Wallace has been associated with John P. Swee in the practice of law for the past two years at Ronan, is a young man who stands high in professional attainments and is an enthusiastic and diligent worker in all matters pertaining to civic advancement. He was recently chosen to act as secretary to the Ronan Commercial Club and is foremost among Ronan boosters. His appointment as city attorney is gratifying to his many friends.

PATRIOTIC SERVICE

Rev. Swisher, pastor of the M. E. church, announces that the regular service next Sunday evening will be given over to a Patriotic service, which will be participated in by a number of Ronan citizens. The object of the service is to bring home to the people of this community the very serious situation which is now confronting our nation, as we are apt to not fully appreciate the gravity of the crisis the world is now going through.

Stanley Searce, F. J. White, Lloyd I. Wallace, John N. Bailey, John P. Swee and C. F. Rathbone have been asked to aid Rev. Swisher in conducting this service and it is hoped that every man, woman and child in Ronan will be present. The church will be appropriately decorated with flags and bunting and the choir is preparing special patriotic music for the occasion.

DIXON WINS FIRST BALL GAME 12 TO 4

The first ball game of the season for Ronan was played on the Dixon grounds last Sunday and was a fast and exciting game from start to finish, despite the fact that Ronan had no previous practice and the team was hurriedly picked up for the occasion. Archie McDonald pitched his first game and made a wonderful showing and the Ronan boys are of the opinion that with a little practice and a stronger battery the formidable Dixon team can be easily beaten. The lineup for Ronan was as follows:

Wagner, catcher; Archie McDonald, pitcher; Raitor, third; Koupal, Shortstop; Dolvo, second; G. Salebury, first; Richardson, Potvin, Dix and Roberts, field; Walker, catcher.

LAST FUNERAL RITES FOR COL. W. F. CODY

Last tribute to the memory of Col. William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) was paid Sunday by a vast assemblage when the body of the famous scout was laid to rest in a vault blasted from solid rock on top of Lookout Mountain, 2 miles from Denver. More than 10,000 people went from Denver to witness the services. The ceremony was not elaborate, only the Masonic ritual being used under the direction of the Golden Masonic lodge. When the body was finally consigned to its last resting place a bugler sounded taps and as the last note died out a battery of Colorado national guard artillery fired a salute of 13 guns and then the stars and stripes were broken out from a flag pole at the grave.

NEW COUNCIL OPENS WAY FOR LIGHTS AND WATER

Decision is the word which marks the action taken by the new city administration and the work done at the protracted session of the town council held last Monday evening, June 4th. The much mooted questions of an adequate water system for the town, both for fire protection and domestic purposes, and the granting of a franchise to construct and maintain a system of lines for the distribution of electricity for light, heat, power and other purposes, it was decided to submit to the taxpayers at a special election called for July 16th next.

To secure and construct the water system projected will require an expenditure of \$22,000 odd dollars. The unbonding indebtedness of the town for this purpose, based on the assessed property valuation for 1916, is \$16,800, and the deficit between the cost of the plant and this amount would have to accrue from revenue derived out of specially created improvement districts. A pumping plant it is agreed is the only feasible system, but the nature of the plant and details of construction is a matter for future consideration by the town council.

The question to be submitted to the taxpayers, in disposition of the water problem, will be whether or not the town of Ronan shall be authorized to increase the town's indebtedness over and above the three per cent limit fixed by the constitution of the State of Montana, by issuing bonds in the sum of \$16,800, payable in twenty years and redeemable at such time as shall be prescribed by ordinance hereafter to be adopted directing their issuance, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding six per cent per annum, payable semi-annually, said bonds being for the purpose of procuring a water supply and securing a water plant and system for the said town of Ronan.

The vote at the special election will be by ballot and said ballot will contain the words "Water Bonds—Yes" and "Water Bonds—No," and the taxpayer in voting shall make a cross—thus "X"—opposite the answer he intends to vote for. Voting places will be as follows, namely: For the First ward, Reservation Land and Lumber Co.'s office; Second ward, A. Sutherland's office; Third ward, C. F. Rathbone's office, and the polls will be open from eight o'clock in the morning until six o'clock in the evening, July 16th.

At the same time the application of Walter H. Griffin of Flathead county, for the right to construct and maintain and operate lines for the purpose of transmitting and distributing electricity for light, heat,

power and other purposes in and through the town of Ronan, will be submitted to the resident freeholders of the said town.

The application of Mr. Griffin embodies a proposal to furnish, install and maintain an adequate number of street cluster lights, consisting of 1-60 Watt lamps each at a flat rate of \$4.00 per month per cluster. Such lamps shall be installed at his cost and expense at street intersections indicated by the town council and shall be kept burning from twilight to daylight. Should more or additional lighting facilities be required by the town, the same shall be furnished at a specified rate, provided additional clusters shall be ordered installed for the full term of the franchise agreement and at not to exceed two blocks from the originally installed clusters. Upon the expiration of the franchise agreement the owner is to be permitted to remove all poles, wires and equipment. In addition, it is contemplated with the installation of the lighting system, to provide and make available at once electricity for illumination and power throughout the entire town. The question of electric lights and an appropriate water system is now squarely up to the freeholders of Ronan for their decision on July 16th.

A resolution of intention to create a special improvement district and to grade and pave with macadamized gravel, Main street from the Campbell livery barn to the Searce warehouse, and from the Dupuis livery barn to the Wm. Engle residence on A street at a cost of not to exceed \$6,500, was favorably considered by the city fathers and passed.

Ordinance No. 26, regulating the building and location of sidewalks and the width thereof on certain streets of the town of Ronan, was read for the second time and will be given a final reading and put upon its passage at the next session of the council. The proposed ordinance provides that all sidewalks constructed within the town shall be of cement and gravel or made from two-inch lumber and shall be placed upon a substantial grade or support and shall be built upon authorized grades where the same have been established. The widths of sidewalks to be constructed on Helen avenue on the east side from Cherry street to "C" street and on Burton avenue from "C" street to Cherry street, Glacierview addition, is prescribed as four feet. The ordinance provides that the cost of such sidewalk construction shall be assessed to abutting properties when ordered.

RONAN ORGANIZES A BASEBALL CLUB

Everyone interested in the organization of a base ball team in Ronan this season is requested to report for practice every evening. Next Sunday, June 10, there will be a special practice game on the Ronan grounds.

Stanley Searce has donated the grounds for the diamond and a committee composed of F. C. Ford, F. J. White and Frank A. Brown has been appointed to look after the grading of the grounds and other necessary matters connected with the organization.

Last year Ronan had an unusually good ball team and it is hoped that an equally good team can be organized again this summer. While many of the best players of last season are not available, there are some very promising players at hand and with very little effort on the part of the players we could have a team that would be a dangerous rival to the neighboring towns of the reservation.

At a meeting held Wednesday night it was decided to move the grandstand from its present location to the new grounds donated by Stanley Searce. Already there has been sub-

WASHINGTON "BONE DRY" LAW IS NOW SUSPENDED

E. M. Williams of Seattle on June 4th, filed with the secretary of state petitions for a referendum on the bone dry prohibition law passed by the 1917 legislature. The petition bore 21,209 names, 23,657 being required.

The "bone-dry" law, which was due to have become effective at midnight between June 6 and 7, is now automatically suspended, permitting a continuance permit system which has existed since Jan. 1, 1915. On July 1 the Reed amendment passed by congress is expected to make the state bone dry.

scribed by the business men the sum of \$200 which will be used to put the new diamond in shape and to defray any other expenses. A return game with Dixon has been arranged for Sunday, June 17, and it is important that the Ronan boys get as much practice as possible in the meantime.

H. O. Adams left last Friday via Kallispell for Spokane where he expects to spend a month with relatives after which time he will go to Seattle and other coast cities.

2,752 MEN REGISTERED IN MISSOULA COUNTY

A total of 2,752 men between the ages of 21 and 31 registered in Missoula county Tuesday, according to the count completed by County Clerk Babington and his deputies. Of these 1,479 registered in the 12 precincts within the city of Missoula, while the remaining 1,273 registrations were made in the 29 country precincts.

About 84 percent of the young men who registered were citizens, there being a total of 452 aliens included in the list. Of these only 23 were alien enemies. The others were of various nationalities, though Italians, Bulgarians and Finns predominated. Only five colored men registered in the entire county, but two of them from the city of Missoula.

Exemption from draft was claimed by 1,125 of the registrars, the majority of them basing their claims on having relatives depending solely upon them for support. No less than 1,015 assigned this as the reason for wishing to be excused from military service.

Sixty claimed exemption on account of physical disability, such as the loss of an arm, eye or leg, while 47 claimed exemption on account of their occupations. Only four asked exemption on account of being legislative or judicial officers.

Practically all of the Indians on the Flathead reservation registered according to reports received at the agency in Dixon. A few Indians at St. Ignatius advised not to register, skipped to the hills, it is said, and there were some slackers at Ronan. Almost all of the eligibles were enrolled, however, and nowhere was there trouble.

The complete figures for the reservation precincts in the county, as announced by County Clerk Babington, follow:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Precinct No. 35, Arlee..... | 82 |
| Precinct No. 36, Ravalli..... | 14 |
| Precinct No. 37, St. Ignatius..... | 185 |
| Precinct No. 38, Ronan..... | 189 |
| Precinct No. 39, Moiese..... | 39 |
| Precinct No. 40, Horte..... | 72 |
| Precinct No. 41, D'Aste..... | 41 |

Helena, June 8—Late returns indicate that fully 75,000 men have registered for war draft in Montana. The government's estimate was 73,364. Silver Bow, of which Butte is the county seat and where the only trouble recorded in the state Tuesday occurred, exceeded its estimate by 2,760, turning in 11,496 men.

RISLEY URGES EARLY HARVEST

D. Risley, representative of the Ravalli Cereal and Flouring Mills, spent yesterday in Ronan giving attention to the business interests of his firm in this locality. The plant of the company at Hamilton was recently destroyed by fire and the firm has purchased and will hereafter operate the plant and business formerly conducted by the Clark interests at Missoula. Mr. Risley, in discussing the prospects for his company's business in this territory the coming season, was most earnest in his comments on the prevailing practice among Flathead farmers in delaying too long the harvesting of their hard wheat varieties.

"We want to use Flathead wheat," asserted Mr. Risley, "but what we must have is grade or quality. It is not necessarily the full, rounded berry which is the most desirable, but the grain high in gluten value. Cutting early not only assures a high gluten content but likewise renders the straw more nutritious and profitable as feed. It also eliminates possible damage to the grain by frost and does away with the loss incident to shelling out of grain when it has been allowed to ripen too long in the field. It is a mistake for the farmer to consider added weight of the berry and protract harvesting, when the loss from shelling will more than offset this possible advantage, and furthermore the loss in grade means more than ten cents per bushel.

"We can use ourselves a considerable portion of the hard wheat grown in this valley but only that of high quality and for that we can afford to pay the premium price. With us, however, quality is preeminent. It is also just as important in fixing price wherever the grain may be marketed. I cannot urge the importance in dollars and cents too strongly upon Flathead ranchers in the matter of cutting wheat just as soon as it is turning yellow."

SCHOOL FESTIVAL DRAWS BIG CROWD

The annual school festival of district No. 28 was held at St. Ignatius last Friday. The program as previously announced was carried out and all those participating are to be congratulated, not only individually, but by demonstrating that the efficiency and standard of our schools are keeping pace with the older established schools of the county.

Following are the results of the inter-scholastic contests carried on during the school year just passed:

The district series of debates was won by St. Ignatius, Frances Magee, Marie Cady and John L. Connors constituting the team.

The district contests for declamation resulted in first place for St. Ignatius, won by John L. Connors; second for Ronan, won by Alice Sheen and third by Post Creek, won by Jessie Kerns, in the Senior division. In the Junior division first was won by Dorothy Laflor from Round Butte, second for Post Creek by Nellie Marcy and third for Ronan by Marie B. Richard.

In track Post Creek proved her overwhelming superiority in athletics. Ronan took second, and St. Ignatius third. The most brilliant feature of the meet was the achievement of Archie McDonald in hurling the javelin 102 feet farther than the state record.

In the time honored spelling contests, honors went in the following order: Senior division, Belle Caswell of Ravalli, first; Joe Orchard of Round Butte, second; Nellie Marcy of Post Creek, third. Junior division, Bruce Hall of North Moiese, first; Esther Peon of St. Ignatius, second; Margaret Morin of Big Rock, third.

The Exhibit contest between the schools of the district gave St. Ignatius first place, Post Creek second, and Round Butte third place, in the class of consolidated schools. In the one-room class Ravalli secured first, North Moiese second, and South Moiese third.

The total results show Post Creek to be the grand winner, St. Ignatius second, and Ronan third. Post Creek thus wins the grand championship twice in succession, with narrow margin over St. Ignatius this year.

It is impossible to publish the list of those who furnished free transportation, owing to the fact that no lists were turned in by the schools. However, if it were available it would be a long one. For several years Stanley Searce has furnished his large truck to transport children without expense. Private auto owners were most generous, and the number of children enabled to mobilize was greater than that of any previous gathering in our history. Andrew Beckwith donated a beautiful silver cup as a trophy to be awarded temporarily to the winning school in declamation, and to pass permanently to the school which wins three times. Joseph Grenier, Jr., acted as host to more than four hundred children, who grew happier with every ice cream cone. Such generosity certainly made the day a real Children's Day, with happiness in the hearts of all, both young and old.

A four course banquet was served in the Masonic hall at 6:30 in honor of the teachers and the twelve graduates of 1917, and proved to be a most enjoyable affair. Covers were laid for more than two hundred. The tables were decorated with rustic baskets of lilies and the dainty viands served by the high school girls. Dr. A. K. Resner acted as toastmaster and following is the program concluding the banquet:

The Flag Dr. A. K. Resner
Response F. J. White
Genesis, District 28
. Dr. John Heidelman
Revelations Supt. Mabel Lindstadt
School Patriotism, Local and General Mrs. H. G. D. Hall
Observations Prof. Robert Clark
America.

A dance at the St. Ignatius opera house after the banquet was thoroughly enjoyed by the immense crowd in attendance.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Edmondson of Ravalli, are the parents of a son born last week in the Mission hospital.