

THE BLACKFOOT OPTIMIST

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BLACKFOOT, BINGHAM COUNTY, IDAHO, THURSDAY, AUGUST, 5 1915

\$2.00 PER YEAR

THE CITY SOLONS INVITED ABROAD

The city council met in regular session last Tuesday night with all present but Councilman A. B. Stephens, who was unavoidable absent.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Peck, and the minutes of the previous meeting were read by Clerk Roy DeKay, and on motion they were approved with several corrections.

Mr. Batway appeared before the council and asked for the sidewalk grade on South University Avenue and the Street and Alley Committee were requested to give the proper grade.

Assessor Malcom appeared before the council and informed them that the Miner's ditch on South Shilling Avenue, in the vicinity of Mr. Early's home, was dangerous for the children in that neighborhood, and asked that it be screened. Referred to proper committee.

P. B. VanBlaricom appeared before the council and wanted to know why his bid of 40c. per hour for street sprinkling was disregarded, and John Hatton's bid of 50c. per hour accepted. The hiring of Mr. Hatton was explained by the mayor and chief of police to the satisfaction of the council and Mr. VanBlaricom, who informed the council the city was not getting a square deal from the present street sprinkler, which resulted in the council making an effort to have the cost of nocturnal street sprinkling reduced if possible.

The following bills were read and approved:

O. J. Jones	\$ 95.90
L. E. Smith	7.50
John Hatton	86.50
Abraham Scott	100.27
Arthur Smith	3.25
Allen Transfer	6.95
W. L. Hawley	8.80
R. L. Sewell	95.00
Blackfoot Water Works	164.00



HON. C. E. HARRIS.

Mr. Harris, one of the best known men in this section of Idaho and one who has always taken an active part in public affairs, much to the benefit of his fellow citizens, is now receiver of the land office at Blackfoot and was recently chosen grand chancellor of the Knights of Pythias of Idaho at the state convention at Lewiston.—Pocatello Chronicle.

P. S. Fisher	5.10
P. B. VanBlaricom	2.20
White Transfer	2.50
Bernat Bros.	21.20
Tom Dixon	6.00
So. Idaho Water & Power Co.	229.07
Wm. Drew	85.00
J. E. Good	25.00
Fred Jonsen	48.00
Mt. States Telephone and Telegraph Co.	1.00
Idaho Lumber Co.	45.65

WATER SHORTAGE WAS EXAGGERATED

Last Friday afternoon, at the city hall, a number of farmers and all the presidents and other officers of the ten or eleven canal companies met with Mr. Wilkie, the assistant state engineer, for the purpose of devising ways and means to provide against the present threatened water shortage doing injury to farmers with a recent water decree. All present seemed eager and willing to have an equal and impartial distribution of water, and a motion unanimously prevailed that canal companies with prior rights ascertain the amount of water they could spare for companies with a later decree.

Saturday afternoon by agreement all the presidents and officers of the canal companies met at the same place with a number of farmers, when it was reported that all the canal companies but one were ready and willing to use a minimum amount of water, and give all they could possibly spare to farmers who have a more recent water decree.

Tuesday afternoon about 2 o'clock James Young, watermaster of district No. 36, received the following telegram:

Boise, Ida., Aug. 2, 1915

"Mr. Jas. Young,
"Watermaster Dist. No. 36,
"State of Idaho.
"Dear Sir:—On account of the shortage of water in your district and under the stress of public necessity, you are hereby authorized and instructed to make a cut in all decrees for water rights in your said district No. 36, amounting to 25 per cent, and until further notice from this office to deliver to all decreed rights an amount of water no in excess of 75 per cent. of their respective decrees.

"And in case it becomes necessary in your judgment to make further reductions in the amounts delivered, make further reductions of five per cent. each at intervals of five days each, until a total reduction of 50 per cent. has been made.

"You will distribute the water thus gained among the several later rights until all are drawing an equal percentage of their decreed amounts, and thenceforth keep all rights on said equality as long as this order remains in force.

"Very truly yours,
"J. H. SMITH, State Engineer.
"By W. A. Wilkie, Deputy."
"P. S.—Get this order to your deputies as quickly as possible.

"WILKIE."
Immediately upon the issuance of the order the river riders set to work lowering the headgates all along the river. Up to Tuesday night most of the canals had quietly submitted to the cut. However, the Progressive Irrigation district took another view of the matter. The board of this district, consisting of Chris. Anderson, Ed. Barnes and George Steele, as soon as the notice was received, held a meeting, and unanimously decided to protect the rights of the district. The board held its meeting in the office of Otto McCutcheon, the attorney of the district, and ordered Hyrum Frew, the water master, to the headgates, to prevent the unlawful interference with the flow of decreed water into the district heads, and to take such action in regard to holding the water as should seem to him necessary.

As soon as the board issued the order Mr. Frew took an automobile and went to the heads and replaced the amount of water in the canals which had been cut out by the river rider. Late in the evening the river rider, Mr. Burdick, came along and arrested Frew, and Frew in turn arrested the river rider. However, the invulnerable watermaster kept the full decree of water running and he remained there

all night to see that it continued to run. In the meantime Attorney McCutcheon was making out the papers for a restraining order and endeavoring to locate a judge. Judge Gwinn is off on a vacation, and Judge Cowan was supposed to be over in the Salmon country.

During the meeting of the board a number of land owners under the district were present and expressed their approval of the actions of the board in holding for their rights. The opinion prevailed that the matter was of greater importance than appeared on the face; that the submitting of this cut might lead to future repetitions which might prove dangerous to the old established right for which the district had paid a considerable sum in having adjudicated, and anyway that if a deputy engineer could peremptorily come and take their water, he might just as well take their land.

The first part of last week President John Empey of the Protective Irrigation association called a meeting to discuss the water proposition and at that time it was decided that a committee headed by Mr. Empey should endeavor to persuade the older companies to divide up their water for a short time with those canals which were cut down, and a meeting of all canal companies was called for yesterday to try and perfect this arrangement. In the meantime Mr. Empey had secured a promise from Mr. Weymouth of the Reclamation Service that the service would loan to this section for the period of ten days a second section of stored water, providing this section afterward would return the same amount of water for the government tract below. However, the butting in of Mr. Wilkie with the assumed power of a czar and with no knowledge of the eternal fitness of things and ordering a cut of all the old right canals has messed matters and no man can now tell the outcome.—Idaho Falls Times.

Yesterday afternoon quite a number of our citizens who are interested in irrigation, attended a meeting of water users at Idaho Falls in the court house, where about 200 water users were present. Those present were all willing to share their decrees with their neighbors who were threatened with a shortage of water, but not on the demand of the state engineer who they claimed had no right to order them to divide their water which is their private property. But they were opposed to their water being used on the government project at Minidoka, as the government has plenty of water of its own and should turn it loose, at least during the present dry period.

Most of the canals have plenty of water and they are all willing to share it with the canal companies that are short, such as the American Falls and Peoples' canals in this immediate vicinity. The present water scare is deemed by many to be greatly exaggerated. It is true that a scarcity of snow in the mountains have reduced the water sources, but with proper management, economy and rotation, the present diminished water supply is sufficient for all necessary purposes.

There was another meeting of water users at Idaho Falls to-day to complete the arrangements made yesterday.

With a great majority of the canals overflowing, the roads flooded, and the garden lawns and streets inundated with waste water, a water famine seems impossible. With a reduced snow fall the Snake river has been lower than usual, which gave the State's water gaugers a theoretical hunch that the farmer's crops would be endangered.

portion of their grounds for the city to build and maintain a skating pond next winter, which it will most likely do.

Congressman McCracken Here

Congressman McCracken of Boise, arrived in Blackfoot last Monday to spend two weeks with his father-in-law, Judge Ezell before going to Washington. He was accompanied by his wife who will accompany him to Washington, D. C.

New Dentist Arrives.

Dr. B. H. Hudson, a graduate of the Chicago College of Dental Surgery, has arrived in Blackfoot and is arranging his office in the building formerly occupied by Dr. Gee on Main street, where he has installed an up-to-date equipment and will be ready to do business about August 10th.

Speaks Well of St. Anthony.

Mr. Alex Younie returned Tuesday from a visit to St. Anthony, where he visited the damsite of the Ashton-St. Anthony Power Co. He says the site has a capacity of 50,000 horse power, and the dam which will be fed partly by warm spring water, will never freeze. This power company has been refused a certificate to sell its juice in surrounding cities, where the Public Utility Commission contends there is no demand for it in opposition to the company already operating there, so the power will be used for the purpose of irrigating the Mud Flat project, in which Mr. Younie and a number of citizens are interested in. Mr. Younie says there was never more water or better crops in that part of the State than there is this year.

HOTEL CHANGES HANDS

Cottage Hotel Under New Management

The most important of last week's transfers, was the leasing of the Cottage Hotel by Mr. C. G. Haynes. Mr. Haynes is a man of very wide experience in the hotel business, and it is his intention to give Blackfoot just such a hotel, and hotel service that she deserves. Mr. Haynes came to Blackfoot recommended as a "Thorough Bred Live Wire" and from personal knowledge of him we can vouch for that being the truth. Mr. Haynes is a creditable addition to the business circles of this city and we bespeak for him the utmost success. In talking with Mr. Haynes he has this to say:

"It is my intention to make the Cottage Hotel the most popular hostelry on the Montana division. The service in every department will be the best. At present I am making plans for some radical changes for the accommodation of visiting guests, and the special feature for Blackfoot folks, will be my Sunday evening dinners from 6 to 7:30. I am going to make a speciality of this meal, and invite the public to try it. The charge will be equal to any \$1.00 dinner in the State. I want to make the Cottage hotel so popular that whenever you think hotel, or eat, you will think 'Cottage.'"

Return to Home and Health.

Mrs. Fred Christ and family returned home Tuesday after an absence of several months, most of the time being spent with her parents in Colfax, Wash. Six weeks of her absence was passed in a Portland hospital, where she successfully submitted to a serious surgical operation.

Tennis by Mrs. John Brown

A tennis tournament was given Sunday afternoon at the Asylum tennis court by Mrs. John Brown. The players were, Stewart Hoover, Port Arthur, Lowell Holbrook, Morgan Johnston, Harold Anderson, Mr. Ellinson, Phyllis Hoover, Rhoda Johnston, Margaret Early, Grace Peck, Elizabeth Dubois, and Agnes Hart. The prizes were awarded to Phyllis Hoover and Port Arthur. Miss Hoover received a cup, and Mr. Arthur a cane.

Justifiable Assault.

The case of John Cotton, who is charged with an assault with a deadly weapon on the person of Sidney Osborn, on the 17th of last June, was heard in the probate court Tuesday, when Judge Douc concluded that the assault was necessary and justifiable for the self-protection of the defendant, and dismissed the case against him.

Mud Lake Canal Progress

The board of directors of the Mud Lake Canal Co. met last Monday night and passed on the estimates of the engineer, Fred Kiefer. Contractor Jack Curd was present, driving over yesterday afternoon from the work. A meeting of the directors has been arranged for on the ground where the work is being done for Sunday, the 25th. Former State Immigration Commissioner Sam Rich, who visited the land and made an inspection of the work, recently made the statement that in his opinion there is no better land in the state of Idaho than that within the Mud Lake segregation. The canal work is progressing rapidly with a large force of men at work.—Idaho Falls Register.

Mr. Travey of the Brown-Hart Co., returned home from Boise, last Friday, after a week's visit.

ENTERTAIN WITH MUSICAL TEA

Mesdames W. H. Boyd, W. D. Vincent, J. A. Dygert, R. G. Boyd, and Miss Boyd entertained 136 guests last Thursday afternoon from 2 to 6 o'clock, at a musical tea, at the home of Mrs. W. H. Boyd on South Shilling Avenue. The guests were ushered to twenty tables placed throughout the house and porch. The porch and living room were aglow with nasturtiums and Shasta daisies. The dining room and den were banked with sweet peas. Each guest was presented with a hand painted program.

Program

(a) "Rustling of Spring"	Binding
(b) Waltz E Minor	Chopin
Miss Millick	
"Maytime"	Cowdell
Mrs. Dygert	
"Somewhere a Voice is Calling"	Tate
Mrs. Wilson	
"Formality at Siwash"	Fitch
Miss Capps	
"Bereuse (from Jocelyn)"	Godard
Violin Obligato	
Mrs. Dustin, Mr. Robbins	
"Slumber Song"	Franz
Mrs. DeKay	
"Liebestraum"	Liszt
Mr. Clive	
(a) "Cavatina"	Raff
(b) "Minuet"	Beethoven
Mr. Robbins	
"Absence"	Caro Roma
(from the Wandering One)	
Mrs. White	
"Sextette from Lucia"	Donizetti
(Left hand).....	Leschetizky
Mr. Clive	

Misses Hart, Vincent, Hoover, Peck, Rogers, Dunn, Sample, Davis, Quantrell, Dubois, Millick, and Tavey, assisted. Mrs. Vincent and Miss Pauline Vincent, of Washington, Kan., were out of town guests.

The Ball of the Season

The ball given last Monday night in the K. of P. hall, by the Misses Marie and Genevieve Millick, the charming and accomplished daughters of J. C. Millick, who recently returned from Salt Lake City, where they have been at college, was one of the most fashionable and happy events of its kind ever witnessed in Blackfoot. The hall was beautifully decorated and the 100 invited participants present, all dressed in their best ball room costumes, was a striking exhibition of the beauty and grace of Blackfoot's dancing ladies and gentlemen. Mesdames John Millick, Blanche Eldridge, H. B. Curtis, E. R. Aldrich and John Brown who acted as patronesses, were beautifully and appropriately dressed and spared no pains to make all the dancers as happy as possible.

Auction Bridge Party

Last Friday afternoon, an auction bridge party was given by Mrs. W. E. Patrie, at her home on Asylum Avenue. The decorations were of sweet peas in the living and dining rooms, while the porch was decorated in yellow. There were seven tables, and Mrs. James Ryan won first prize, and Mrs. Robert Boyd won second. Those assisting were Mrs. John G. Brown, Mrs. B. Eldredge, Mrs. Charles Hart, Mrs. J. H. Early, and Mrs. L. B. Aldrich.

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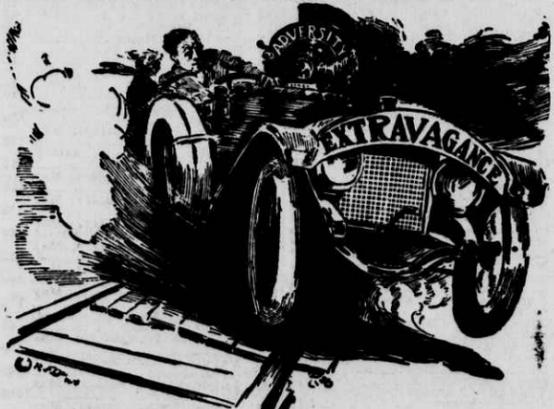
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