

# THE BINGHAM COUNTY NEWS

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## URNS REINS OVER TO NEW COUNCIL

Both Councils Met Tuesday Evening—Mayor Peck Makes Appointments—Old Council Eulogized.

Both the old and new city councils met Tuesday evening in the city hall. Six members and Mayor Thorstenberg were present of the old council, and all the new council and Mayor Peck were present.

The usual list of bills were read and allowed by the retiring council, the clerk's financial report was read and approved, and then the representative of the Wheelright Construction company made a proposition that in lieu of a surety bond, that company be allowed to deposit \$30,000 cash and \$30,000 worth of Ogden municipal bonds. This being the amount of their bond, the council decided the arrangement was satisfactory. Retiring Mayor Thorstenberg then delivered an address, after which the newly elected officers took their oaths. Mayor Peck next delivered an address, after which various routine matters were attended to.

In line with the present popular idea of retrenchment, the new council have made a slight reduction in the salaries of all the appointive employees of the city.

The addresses of the retiring and the new mayor are printed below:

**Mr. Thorstenberg's Address.**  
To the Members of the City Council of Blackfoot:—

This being our last meeting and the last opportunity that I shall have of delivering a message to you as a council, I want to express my appreciation for the faithful support you have given me during this, our passing administration.

In looking over my first address to the Council, I find that I congratulated myself and the citizens of Blackfoot for the selection of such an able and well qualified group of business men to handle the business affairs of the City of Blackfoot.

I am pleased to say my expectations of this council have been fulfilled in all particulars and I am satisfied the people who elected you are of the same mind. You have always been willing and ready to shoulder any and all responsibility that has come to you, both as councilmen and as members of the various committees to which you have been appointed. You have sacrificed days at a time attending to important city affairs when your own business must necessarily have been neglected. You have sat up nights until 11:30 or 12 o'clock in council discussing matters of great importance and never once did I have a complaint from any one of you. You have all had the city affairs at heart and have done the best for the welfare of your community, for which I certainly thank you one and all.

I have been requested to give a synopsis of the achievements of our administration and I will be as brief as possible.

In taking over the administration two years ago today, we found a current indebtedness of something over \$52,000, with not more than \$13,000 in the treasury to meet the same. This debt I understand accrued by prior failure to levy sufficient taxes to care for the current running expense of the city. Seemingly some of the former councils refrained from shouldering the burden of raising the taxation enough to take care of the actual running expense and the accrued debt of preceding councils.

After discussing the condition at several of our meetings, the finance committee recommended taking the initiative by looking the situation squarely in the face; that is to say, meeting the emergency by paying the bills and recommended the issuance of \$52,000.00 bonds drawing six per cent interest, which were issued and sold to take up the outstanding seven per cent warrants, and after this was settled and disposed of the question then arose.

How were we to run this administration? Should we make the usual levy or tax and let the next administration issue bonds to take up outstanding warrants or should we make levy enough to meet all obligations? It was unanimously decided to incur no obligation without provision for payment, and further than that a levy was made for a sinking fund to take up outstanding bonds. All of these business matters being put in force at one time necessarily raised the taxes, but the City of Blackfoot can congratulate itself now on the fact that it is upon a business basis and we can turn the city affairs over to the incoming council with a clean sheet and with a business system inaugurated.

## ODD FELLOWS ANNUAL MEETING.

Last Thursday evening the Blackfoot Odd Fellows and a good many guests celebrated the 102nd anniversary of the birthday of that organization. The program is given below:

Welcome Address—Guy Stevens.  
Piano Solo—Miss Grace Miltenberger.

Reading—Miss Bessie Williams.  
Solo—Mrs. Mabel Priest, accompanied by Mrs. Collins.

Piano Solo—Miss Gladys Robbins.  
Reading—Miss Ney.

Reading—Miss Ruth Chapman.  
Piano Solo—Miss Margaret Shirley.

Solos—Miss Turman and Miss Buegraf, accompanied by Miss Marie Millick.

Refreshments were served after the program, and a social hour enjoyed.

Besides the numbers given above, Rev. Gillilan gave a most interesting address on the history of Odd Fellowship, beginning at a date 102 years ago, and following its progress and development down to the present time.

It is said there were almost 200 members and friends present.

which, if followed out, will insure the city against further deficit or further refunding bond issues.

It has been said this administration has been extravagant. I am satisfied such rumors are utterly unfounded and must have been circulated without an investigation of our financial condition. Our books are clear and we have property to show for all expenditures made and all such expenditures were made as in our judgment and mind were expedient and profitable to the City of Blackfoot.

We will admit our taxes have been higher than heretofore, but our financial standing is about \$42,000.00 better today than two years ago. We have paid off all the bonds on the City Hall amounting to \$10,500.00, together with accrued interest. We have paid \$1000.00 sewer bonds. We have paid for the flusher, road grader and fresno, amounting to over \$7000.00. We have paid about \$4,100.00 on the fire engine and have about \$19,000.00 cash on hand in the treasury, which has come in from taxes and not from the sale of bonds.

In looking over our minutes, I find we have met in regular session including adjourned and special meetings, 106 times, averaging more than one meeting a week during the entire term. This does not include numerous committee meetings or the several meetings the council and committees had with the business men in the matter of purchasing the City Water Works.

During this administration the Chief of Police reports 142 Police Court Cases, and have explained and read Ordinances to 489. During the last 6 months he has furnished 127 beds for vagabonds. Amount collected by the Chief during his administration, \$1,797.00 for licenses and \$767.50 for various fines, of which the City get one-half and the other half goes to the School fund.

During this administration the Fire Chief reports of having had 27 fires, two of which were still alarms, put out by engineers. No. of feet hose laid, 9,000 feet; No. of hours in actual service, 29; No. of times chemicals used, 11; No. of times engine used, 9; amount of insurance carried on property, \$337,000.00; insurance paid by actual loss, \$3,600.

During this administration, we have voted bonds for paving two districts, which pavement is now being laid and no doubt will be completed within the next ten weeks. We have voted bonds to buy the old Water Works and to extend the same into an adequate system. These bonds have been issued and sold and the contract for construction let. The Water Works are now under construction and when completed will be the best water system in the State of Idaho, the revenue from which should make it sustaining after the first year, and not a burden to the tax payer.

We have passed many ordinances for the public welfare including an ordinance compelling owners to cut and destroy old and dilapidated trees, trim up those left standing and to clear their lots and free the same from rubbish, grass, etc., from the center of the street to the center of the alley, and I might state that the enforcement of this ordinance has had a good effect and should be rigidly enforced in the future.

An ordinance on electric wiring, requiring a fire-proof method of wiring houses and other buildings. An ordinance regulating restaurants and rooming houses, requiring them to secure a license and to conduct their places of business in an orderly manner. An ordinance regulating Sunday picture shows, and an ordinance regulating peddling within the city of

(Continued on page five)

## RECLAMATION CONVENTION IN MAY

Pocatello Meeting Will Have in Attendance Representatives From All Sections of Southern Idaho.

Boise, Idaho, May 4.—What is expected to be the largest reclamation gathering in the northwest up to date, the most representative and the most productive of direct results is scheduled for Pocatello the latter part of May, to be held under the auspices of the Idaho Reclamation association, the child of the late Major Fred R. Reed.

President S. E. Brady, of the association, was in Boise from Pocatello the other day and held a conference with directors in this part of the state. In view of the pendency of national reclamation legislation of vital importance it was decided that it was necessary to adopt some plan to secure the views of the people of irrigable Idaho, supplemented as it would be by individual official expression.

**Want Popular Expression.**  
"We want to know what the people want." That is the message coming from Washington. This does not imply that information carried there is insufficient or that it does not in the main represent the general and wet conditions, but that there is a growing desire for a more popular expression.

It is felt that it is only through state reclamation organizations that such expressions can be secured and voiced effectively. At the Pocatello meeting the message will be direct to those in charge of reclamation matters. Efforts are being made to induce Secretary of the Interior Fall to be present and it is known that others high in departments bearing on reclamation will be there.

**Broad Representation.**  
It is planned to have every section of the southern part of the state represented at the Pocatello gathering, the date of which will be fixed so soon as harmonizing arrangements can be made as to attendance from Washington, D. C.

Chambers of Commerce, county commissioners, irrigation organizations and others will be invited to send delegates.

## PROGRAM OF ECONOMY.

The tax payers of Bingham county will hereafter have to read the commissioners' proceedings in six point type, instead of eight point, as it has heretofore been printed, as the county fathers decided Tuesday they can thus save the tax payers a considerable sum of money in a year. The printers are paid by the inch, and as the six point type requires a less number of inches in the newspapers, they made this change as a part of the program of economy they deem necessary. It is rather hard on the printers, but at the same time we cannot help but commend the idea which prompted the county commissioners to make this alteration.

The commissioners' proceedings have been set in eight point type in Bingham county ever since time immemorial, and while the six point type is smaller, and may require the use of your spectacles, yet the average tax payer will be willing to get down his glasses to read the minutes of the commissioners, if he knows they have reduced the size of the type to save him money.

## CENSUS CORRECTION.

In the pamphlet issued by the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Census, Washington, D. C., giving the population of Idaho, by counties, cities, etc., the city of Blackfoot is given a population of 3337, which must be a typographical error, as the figures given in the former list issued, giving the population of all the cities of the United States, gave Blackfoot a population of 1000 more than that, and also stated that the increase in the past ten years had been 119 per cent. An increase of 119 per cent over the 2,202 which the Idaho pamphlet gives us for 1910, makes the population 4,822 in 1920, which would seem to prove that the figures given in the Idaho pamphlet are at fault. And if the population has increased in like proportion since the last federal census was taken, then it must be considerably over 5,000 at the present time.

J. F. LaTourrette, of Fort Hall, district farmer for the Blackfoot district, was transacting business and shaking hands with friends in this city yesterday.

## USE ECONOMY IN BUILDING ROADS

Eight Men, With Two Engines and Five Graders, Build Roads From Blackfoot to Shelley.

Last week a crew of seven men besides W. C. Thompson, overseer, went out on the road between Blackfoot and Shelley with two engines and five graders, acting under the direction of the county commissioners, but without any salaries of any kind, and put this road in very good condition. This work cost the county absolutely not one cent, not even for gasoline or cats for the workmen, whose names we would like to publish but have not the information at hand.

Blackfoot business men furnished the gasoline to go as far as Firth, Firth fed the men and gave them a supply of gasoline sufficient to put them to Shelley; Shelley fed them and started them back with a fresh supply of gasoline, etc., etc., until the road was put in very good condition for traveling.

Last year the county had eleven paid men on the road all the time, while this year, as a part of the economy program of the county commissioners, no paid men are kept, but they are accepting the services gratis of qualified road builders, when such services are offered.

During these times of temporary depression, when business corporations are retrenching in every manner possible, public boards all over the country are more or less following the same policy, which will have a tendency to make the taxes lighter, and lessen the burdens of everyone.

## A LIVELY TIME.

By all odds the liveliest bunch this correspondent has run across for a long time was an aggregation of young people who met together at the Methodist church Tuesday evening with the members of the Blackfoot Epworth League, who were happy hosts of the occasion. They came in dusty trains of autos from Aberdeen, Shelley, Idaho Falls and Pocatello. The reason for such a successful but noisy demonstration was the Rally of the Leagues in this part of the country.

The first number of the meaty program was a dinner served by the members of Mrs. J. H. Miller's Sunday school class—a feast of good things to which sat down something like a hundred and a dozen or so. To see them stow away that provender an onlooker would think they thought Blackfoot the best feed trough in the country.

Stunts, pageants, songs, readings and other rib-ticking items preceded timely and worth-while addresses by Miss Officer, Dr. J. W. Miller of Gooding, and Superintendent Baker, the address of the evening being made by Dr. Dewey of Chicago.

Plans are laid for the annual institute of the Leagues of the Pocatello district, which includes all eastern Idaho and the south as far west and Bliss. This year the institute will be held somewhere on Wood River.

Able supported by the members of her cabinet, Miss Grace Holt managed and presided admirably and proudly.

The team went from here to Shelley for Wednesday evening, and many of the Blackfooters returned the call of their neighbors.

## Lutheran Church, Blackfoot.

Sunday School at 10 a. m. Services at 11 a. m.

A Young People's Bible Class will be started on Sunday.

Ladies Aid meets Wednesday, May 11th, at the church parlors. Mrs. Peterson will be hostess.

Cooked food sale Saturday afternoon at Bybee's store.

## METHODIST CHURCH.

Sunday next is Mother's Day all through the nation. Everywhere mothers are to wear white carnations, or other white flower, while every mother's son is requested to wear a flower in her honor, white if she has departed, red if still living. Appropriate music will accompany the address by the pastor at the morning hour.

The booming Sunday school meets at 10, the Epworth League at 7 p. m., and at 8 the pastor preaches. The young folks of the church furnish the music for the service at this hour.

E. C. Stultz is in Couer d'Alene, attending the Woodmen convention.

## JUNIORS WIN CLASS TRACK MEET

The first track event of the year took place at the fair grounds Thursday afternoon, April 28th, when the various classes of the Blackfoot High School held their track meet. The day was an ideal one for track events and, considering the unsatisfactory training season, the records made in this meet were very satisfactory. Considerable rivalry developed between the various classes of the high school in this meet. The greatest difficulty was in getting the Freshmen to participate, although the class contains in its members a good many boys who, by a little training, would be able to distinguish themselves in several of the events.

If the weather permits, training will begin in earnest with a meet in view for Friday, May 13th. On this date, a field meet will be held in Blackfoot at the fair grounds between the high schools representing Idaho Falls, Pocatello, Blackfoot, Shelley and Aberdeen, and any other schools in the immediate vicinity of Blackfoot who do high school work, if they feel that they have any boys they would like to enter.

The records made in the Blackfoot home meet compare very favorably with those made in the Idaho Falls home meet. It is hoped that next year we will be able to hold a track meet in Blackfoot in which all of Southeastern Idaho will be invited to participate. If we are able to hold such meets, it will bring to Blackfoot in the neighborhood of a hundred to a hundred twenty-five high school athletes for this event.

Several prospective stars for Blackfoot in athletics appeared in the horizon in our home meet last Thursday, among them being, O. Packham, Hickenlooper, Fisher, Cowden, E. Johnson, Roberts, G. Hammond. All of these being boys who have not previously to this time participated in athletics, thus a new field is being developed athletically.

## Summary of Meet.

Fifty-yard dash—1st, Stultz, Senior; 2nd, Hickenlooper, Sophomore; 3rd, O. Packham, Junior, Junior, Time, 6 1-5.

One hundred-yard dash—1st, O. Packham, Junior; second, Hickenlooper, Sophomore; 3rd, Stultz, Senior, Time, 11 1-5.

220-yard dash—1st, O. Packham, Junior; 2nd, Hickenlooper, Sophomore; 3rd, Stultz, Senior, Time 25 2-5.

440-yard dash—1st, O. Packham, Junior; 2nd, Cowden, Senior; 3rd, Johnson, Sophomore, Time 63.

1-2 mile—1st, Roberts, Sophomore; 2nd, Reay, Senior; 3rd, Clark, Freshman, Time 2:29 4-5.

1 mile run—1st, Hickenlooper, Sophomore; 2nd, Reay, Senior; 3rd, Roberts, Sophomore.

Running broad jump—1st, Anderson, Junior; 2nd, Cowden, Senior; 3rd, Johnson, Sophomore, Distance, 17-3.

Running high jump—1st, Anderson, Junior; 2nd, Johnson, Sophomore; 3rd, Parkinson, Junior, and Hammond, Junior (tied), Height, 5-2 1-2.

Pole Vault—1st, Anderson, Junior; 2nd, Hammond, Junior; 3rd, Johnson, Sophomore, and M. Hammond, Freshman, (tied), Height, 8-1.

Shot put—1st, Stevens, Junior; 2nd, Anderson, Junior; 3rd, Stultz, Senior, Distance, 35-10 1-2.

Discus throw—1st, Stultz, Senior; 2nd, Stevens, Junior; 3rd, Robertson, Senior, Distance, 83-10 1-2.

Javelin throw—1st, Fisher, Freshman; 2nd, Stevens, Junior; 3rd, Parkinson, Junior, Distance 113-8.

Half mile relay—1st, Junior; 2nd, Senior; 3rd, Sophomore.

Girls' 50-yard dash—1st, Miltenberger, Sophomore; 2nd, Parkinson, Senior; 3rd, Ketchum, Sophomore.

Girls' basket ball throw—1st, Rotta Van Orden, Sophomore; 2nd, Hazel Hansen, Sophomore; 3rd, Gertrude Owen, Sophomore.

Girls' 440-yard relay—1st, Senior; 2nd, Sophomore; 3rd, Junior.

Points—Juniors, 55; Sophomores, 44 1-2; Seniors, 37; Freshmen, 7 1-2.

## WORKING ON PAVEMENT.

Work is progressing rapidly on the paving east of the railroad track, and if the present rate is continued by the McGuire Construction company, the entire job will be finished before people are aware the work has been started.

Some difficulty has been encountered the past few days by the ground being too soft at places, and as a consequence the paving bulges up and has to be dug out with a pick and replaced. This difficulty only applies to a limited area, however.

## EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Services on Sunday next, May 8th, at 8 p. m.

All are earnestly invited to attend.

W. R. R. SIMMONS.

## PREPARING FOR TEACHERS' MEET

Commercial Club Discusses Subjects of Importance.—Small Attendance of Members.

The regular meeting of the Commercial Club on Thursday evening of last week, was not very largely attended, there only being about fourteen members present, but nevertheless it was an interesting session, and those present got much good out of it. The Odd Fellows anniversary meeting on the same evening took a great many of the business men from the Commercial Club.

The president and vice president both being absent, Otto Maas was chosen by acclamation to fill the chair, and Orin Bills to act as secretary.

The principal subject discussed was the Southeastern Idaho Teachers' Institute to be held in Blackfoot next October, and the principal speaker was Prof. Bloom, superintendent of the Blackfoot schools. Prof. Bloom said that while it is a fact that the coming to this city of 800 teachers to stay a week means a great deal to Blackfoot in revenue and advertising, it also means that Blackfoot has shouldered a pretty big responsibility, and that if we fall down in taking care of the educators while here, it will give Blackfoot the wrong kind of advertising; that the profits in a monetary way must be entirely lost sight of—we must make it a point to serve them as nearly at cost as can be, and that as a host, every citizen of the city must in some way do something to make their visit a little more pleasant. He said that some of the best educators of the nation will be here to lecture, and an effort is being made to get Pason Smith, of Massachusetts, who is considered the second greatest educator of the land, as one of them.

Mr. Maas said that the Eccles hotel will make a special effort to serve the visitors, at the lowest possible price, and it seemed to be the consensus of opinion that a uniform price for rooms and board in private families should be established in advance, so that no teacher would be "held up" as to prices. Every home in the city with a vacant room will have to be turned over to the committee, so that every teacher when she arrives will be provided immediately with a room and boarding place.

The county superintendents' committee who have charge of the affair are gradually working out the program and line of work, and the local committee who has charge of entertaining the visitors will soon have to get busy, too. The subject will again be discussed on Thursday night, May 12th, when County Superintendent Faulconer will be present.

A vote of appreciation to the retiring city mayor and council was passed, assuring them that they had worked hard and succeeded in doing much for the city's benefit.

A committee was appointed to survey the streets and alleys of the city as to cleanliness, and report at the next meeting. It is highly necessary that everything should be "spic and span" at the time of the teachers' institute in October.

The committee that was appointed to search for an airplane landing reported five locations, and explained the merits of each. Their report was approved, and will be mailed to the proper federal authorities, and later an inspector will come and make further recommendations.

The base ball committee reported that the county fair board had given them permission to use the usual ball park during the coming season, and the committee was thereupon fired in good standing.

## LEANS WIN GAME.

Last Sunday's ball game between the fats and leans of Blackfoot, which was thrilling from start to finish, resulted in a victory for the leans, by a score of 19 to 20. The inning which decided the victory was the last inning, it being uncertain all through the game which side would carry off the laurels. There was considerable base ball talent shown on both sides, and in fact some of the players are almost professionals. There was much cheering from the grand stand, and everybody perhaps had a better time and enjoyed the performance more than he would if it had been a league game.

We need your old rags and will pay cash for them.