

Wyo. Historical Society
Historical Library

VOLUME XLVII

'47 Has 21.36 In. Moisture; 33.3 In. Snow

Through the courtesy of the Libby Ranger Station we give the following statistics on the weather during 1947:

The most snow was on January 12 with 18.1 inches on the ground. During any one 24 hour period the most snow was 4.1 inches, January 30.

Highest temperature was 103 July 14. Lowest temperature was minus 19, January 3.

There were 9 days below zero in January and 4 in February. There were six days 100 degrees or more above zero in July.

The totals of snow, precipitation and the normal (moisture measured, part of which is melted snow and part of which is rain) for the months follow:

Month	Snow	Prec.	Norm.
January	13.5"	1.94	2.15
February	3.0"	1.11	1.41
March	4.6"	1.28	1.46
April	0.0"	.43	.97
May	0.0"	.78	1.41
June	0.0"	2.34	1.54
July	0.0"	.23	.83
August	0.0"	2.83	.89
September	0.0"	2.64	1.31
October	0.0"	4.89	1.57
November	3.3"	1.18	2.75
December	8.9"	1.71	2.28

Totals for the year were 33.3 inches snow, 21.36 precipitation with a normal of 18.57. Normal is from records kept for the past 52 years.

The weather report for the past week is as follows:

Date	H	L	Pr.
Dec. 26	38	24	.00
Dec. 29	45	20	.08
Dec. 31	35	20	.00
Dec. 31	17	00	.00

WESTMINSTER FELLOWSHIP MET DECEMBER 28

The Westminister Fellowship of the First Presbyterian Church, met at the Manse at 5 o'clock Sunday, December 28. The meeting was brought to order by Vice-Moderator, Kate Church. The election of officers was then held and the following officers were elected: Moderator, Carol Brennan; Vice-Moderator, Roy Davidson; Sec'y, Barbara Rice; and Treasurer, Virginia Rice.

A very impressive candle light installation service followed the election of officers with Vice-Moderator, Kate Church presiding. At the close of the service Mrs. Davidson served a delicious lunch.

—Barbara Rice, Sec'y

Bowling Scores For Past Week

Monday Night

Team	W	L
American Legion	28	17
Robertson's Feed	26	19
Highlander Beer	25	20
Miller's Clothing	23	22
Flying Service	22	23
Forest Service	21	24
Hotel Libby	20	25
Silver Leaf	16	19

High single game with handicap, Bill Erickson, 272.

High single game, team, with handicap, American Legion 1140.

Wednesday Night

Team	W	L
Bowker Dist.	23	19
L. S. W. Union	21	21
Zonolite Co.	20	22
J & C Garage	20	22
High Single Game - Swimley, 286.		
High Three Game (Ind.), Swimley, 689.		
High Three Game (Team) Bowker Dist. 3246.		

Friday Night

Team	W	L
Ott's Service (Tied 1)	24	17
Kootenai Merc.	24	18
Firemen	24	18
V. F. W. (Tied 1)	23	18
J. Neils Lbr. Co.	23	19
Partlow Elec.	19	23
Libby Motors	18	24
Kootenai Val. Garage	12	30

High single game, with handicap, Bill Baeth 285.

Women's League—Thursday

Team	W	L
V. F. W.	23	19
Brown's Hi-Power	23	19
J. Neils	20	22
Lincoln's Inn	18	24

High single game, Julia Midyett, 199.

High series, Verboncouer, 471.

High single game (team) Lincoln's Inn, 756.

High series (team) Lincoln's Inn, 1988.

High single game (team) with handicap, Lincoln's Inn, 1083.

High series (team) with handicap, V. F. W., 2983.

NOTICE

Members Local 2662 Recapitulation of monthly financial Statement of Montana District Council, Lumber and Sawmill Workers, for fiscal year beginning July 1, 1946, and ending June 30, 1947, is available to each member. Do not fail to ask for your copy.

—ALLEN GOODGAME
Recording Secretary
Local 2662

WILL DRAW JURY MEMBERS MONDAY, JANUARY 12

The Jury Board will meet Monday, January 12 at the Court House to qualify Lincoln County Tax Payers for jury duty. The board which consists of the chairman of the board of county commissioners, the county assessor and the county treasurer meets and qualifies all taxpayers who are between the ages of 21 and 70 years, and are neither deaf, dumb or blind, and are of good mental capacity.

The names are turned to the clerk of the court, who, with the sheriff make a capsule drawing from which the jury is selected.

Tom Qualifies for The Famous Club

Thirty years ago when I was a lineman for the Montana Power Co. over in the high mountains of the Coeur d'Alene country one spring while patrolling the high line I killed an old bear that had two cubs. I took the cubs down the mountain into camp and in the natural course of events they grew up. When they got to be about a year old I had a set-to with one of them, and he came out dead. When it was reduced to just one bear, he was a good deal more tractable, and better to get along with. As a consequence we had but little trouble with him, and when he got to be a two-year-old, he was a great, big, finely-developed silver-tip. I could ride him, and he was of inestimable value in hunting bear. He could find bear where they weren't any.

One day while patrolling the power line as I was coming over the ridge of the mountain, and there being just a little skiff of snow on the ground in the fall of the year, I saw by the actions of my bear that he was uneasy and I knew that there were bear in the vicinity. I slipped down off him, and he took right around the hill. He went out of sight behind a little fringe of timber at the top of the hill. I followed as fast as I could, and when I got there my bear was fore-gathering with a couple of big silvertips out on a flat covered by second growth of dwarf timber. I killed two of these bears and skinned them out as fast as I possibly could, but it was getting late and I wanted to get to the camp before it got too dark. But it is no small job to skin a bear and by the time I had these two skinned it was quite late. I went to get my pet to put the hides on him to take them to camp, but he was absolutely unmanageable. We went round and round. Finally, I got hold of him and by dint of much persuasion this time, so had another set-to, and of going into camp, I was completely worn out. Some time prior to this event, when I milked the cow morning and evenings my bear had a habit of sitting on his hind quarters while I squirted warm milk into his mouth, and one evening when the Mrs. and I were contemplating going to a dance and something in a hurry, I didn't bother to squirt milk into his mouth, for which he got real peaved, and in the process of teaching him some manners, I picked up the milking stool which was a one-legged affair, and knocked off a part of one of his tusks.

Well, after supper on the day I shot the two bears I got to wondering why Old Bruin had become so mean all of a sudden, and why he didn't want to enter the camp. A thought struck me, so I went out and walked up to him and raised his upper lip. Lo and behold, he had just a fine set of tusks as any bear you ever saw in your life. I had killed my pet bear and rode one of the wild ones back to camp.

—Tom Brindley

Award Prizes For Holiday Decorations

"It was hard to choose the best from among so many beautifully decorated homes and lawns this holiday season" stated W. J. Harris, chairman of the Lions Decoration Committee for the 1947 holidays. Mr. Harris went on to say that in pre-war days holiday decoration contests had been sponsored by the club each year until the custom gained universal favor throughout the city, many beautiful displays being worked out each year. During the war years the club did not sponsor the contests, but will doubtless continue to do so in the future.

Many outstanding displays are found throughout the town with perhaps the most being seen on Louisiana and California streets. One or two blocks on Louisiana are especially brilliant, and if any of our citizens have not made the rounds they should hasten to do so before the lights are taken down for another year.

The judges who assisted Mr. Harris by making the rounds of the decorated homes included Mrs. Gladys Boggess, W. J. Dorrington and Mrs. W. J. Harris. First award for the best decorated home was made to Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Nelson living on California in the 800 block. The award for the best decorated yard went to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cloutier whose residence is in the 10 hundred block on South Louisiana. Mr. and Mrs. Bernhard Schlumm were awarded first prize for the best religious motif. Their home is on the highway at the corner of Ninth and Utah.

The following cash prizes were awarded: Best decorated home, \$4.00; the best decorated yard, \$4.00; and the best religious motif, \$2.00.

The following attractive decorations received "honorable" mention: Geo. C. Earle, Paul K. Church, Wm. Hiatt, Ole Rolseth, Mrs. Stella Reid, Raymond Bleich, O. A. Anderson, F. J. Carlson, Eric Erickson, Walter Neils, George Neils, and E. M. Davidson. "Honorable Mention" for religious motif decorations goes to W. C. Zollars and W. C. Stearns.

The Lions Club has asked The Western News to thank the judges for their help, and to also thank each and every citizen who decorated his home, either house or yard, thereby helping to make Libby beautiful and the contest a success.

HOLD JOINT INSTALLATION SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

Cabinet Lodge No. 68, I. O. O. F. and Medora Rebekah Lodge No. 53 will hold a joint installation Saturday evening at the lodge hall in Libby. All local members and visiting members are cordially invited to attend.



Study Christmas Tree Production

Missoula—(UP)—As result of research into production practices in Montana, your Christmas tree of the future may be made, not born. Furthermore, you may be able to "try on for size," confident that when you find one of the right height it will be full-bodied and bushy all the way around.

Research now is underway by Thomas A. Walbridge, instructor in the Montana State University School of Forestry, aimed at helping Montana tree farmers to get a sustained yield of high quality trees from their land. The Christmas tree industry is basic to some communities of the state, and to others means the difference between a marginal farm and a well-paying property, Walbridge said.

Walbridge is in the middle of a study of types of land best suited to Christmas tree growing, the highest yields to be expected from different forest lands and the production practices producing the best trees for Santa Claus purposes. He hopes to establish the necessary scientific data and then make it available to the people who produce many of the nation's Christmas trees.

Forest Service statistics indicate that the amount of private land bearing Christmas trees is not increasing significantly. Walbridge said, and proper cutting practices and management appear to be the answer to an adequate supply for future Yule seasons.

Local Trio Steal Lincoln and Buick

A not so merry feature of the Christmas holiday was experienced by Lloyd Corbett and Harry E. Davis Friday morning following the theft of their cars.

According to reports from the Sheriff's office, Mr. Corbett's Lincoln Zephyr, which was parked at the rear of their home in the Neils apartments, was stolen about 3 a. m. Friday. Mrs. Corbett noticed the absence of the car about 5 o'clock and the theft was reported to the Sheriff's office about 10.

The car was found Friday morning by Harry E. Davis in the Fisher River country about 23 miles from town when he had started out on Highway No. 2 to look for his 1942 Buick, which was missing. He discovered the Zephyr a short distance from his home, abandoned because of a blown-out tire caused from hitting a rock.

Mr. Davis figured they had driven his Buick back to transfer the luggage from the Lincoln Zephyr.

The guilty party consists of two local men and a woman, whose names the Sheriff's office is holding from publication at this time. They were identified first by a Fisher River resident and later by a Kalispell service station attendant where they had bought \$5.00 worth of gasoline.

From Kalispell the party dropped from sight. The FBI is cooperating in the search with officers throughout the country.

BOGOTA STUDENT SEES FIRST SNOW

Billy Hafferman, who is home from Montana State College at Bozeman to spend the holidays, brought with him as his guest Bill Bastida, also a freshman at the college, whose home is in Bogota, Colombia, S. A.

Bill said that the vice-consul at Bogota, who had attended both Montana State at Bozeman and the University at Missoula, had sold him on Montana. He really likes it here. It is the first time in his life that he has seen snow.

Mr. Bastida is a student in architectural engineering.

INSTALL NEW LIGHTING FIXTURES AT LIBRARY

The staff members, patrons and friends of the Lincoln County Free Library are enjoying the new light fixtures installed in the library quarters of the courthouse. The old-type fixtures which were installed when the building was built in 1936 gave an insufficient amount of light. In a number of places in the library a light meter barely registered. The new "Slim-line" fluorescent type fixtures gave a bright light that makes the work much easier for the staff and gives pleasure to the reading patrons. The Board of County Commissioners is to be congratulated on this beneficial modernizing of the lighting system.

TERRIERS WIN FROM BONNERS; AND LOSE TO CRESTON, B. C.

The LHS basketball team lost to the Creston, B. C. "quint" 55 to 45 Friday evening of last week. The Terriers then traveled to Bonners Ferry, where in a game with the Idaho team, the Libby quintet put up a hard fight, winning in the final quarter with a score of 21 to 18.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to take this means of expressing our appreciation to our friends for their kindness during the illness and after the death of our beloved mother. Your many kind acts of assistance at that time, and the sympathy expressed in words and writing mean much to us. We would also thank all those who made the beautiful floral contributions.

Mr. and Mrs. Gleason Pilcher and family.

Rev. and Mrs. Howard B. Pilcher and family.

Col. and Mrs. Donald F. Hall and family.

DRIVERS LICENSE EXAMS TO BE HELD JANUARY 2-3

Patrolman R. W. Riddle informs The Western News that examinations for drivers' licenses will be given January 2 and 3 at the Community Room in Libby.

All drivers who do not have a 1947 license and all commercial drivers are required to take examinations.

Fire is the leading cause of all disasters and catastrophes in the United States. The American Red Cross reports that fire is responsible for more disaster relief calls than all other causes combined.

DOLEZAL DISAPPOINTED IN LACK OF SNOW HERE

Ray Dolezal, who is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Dolezal, was somewhat disappointed in not finding any snow upon his arrival here from San Diego. He says he is glad to be in Libby but cannot conceal his disappointment and will be glad to get back to California after visiting with his brothers and friends as well as his folks.

Herman, a brother, and Mr. and Mrs. Dolezal will take Ray to Kalispell early New Year's morning so that Ray can make San Diego by January 3. Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Dolezal will visit with Ed and Joe Motichka while they are in Kalispell.

JOHNNY CORBETT TAKES FIRST PLACE

Johnny Corbett took first place in the spot landing contest held at the Libby airport Sunday when six planes from Kalispell were here, entered in competition. There were no other places awarded.

Next Sunday five planes from Libby will pay a return visit to the Kalispell flyers.

Libby Ski Hill to Have New Ski Tow

Sunday afternoon was a red-letter day for ski enthusiasts in this locality. At 1:30 a large truck drove up to the ski hill and from it was unloaded the motor and other parts of the ski tow. It was drawn up the hill and set on the place prepared for it. After some wiring is completed and the lower part anchored it will be ready for operation. A complete description and rules for the use of it will be published in the near future. Members of the Libby Ski Club have been working very hard on this project and the story of its completion will be a real thrill. After that it will be all up to the weather man!

Draws \$200 Fine Plus 30 Days

Pleading guilty before Police Magistrate J. T. Brindley, to drunken driving, John S. Stierna was fined in the sum of \$200 and given a 30 day jail sentence.

Stierna, who drove a borrowed car down town Saturday afternoon, drove into the Chris Ramble car in front of the Postoffice, hitting it so hard that it was knocked into the DeRosia car. Driving on north for the "U"-turn, Stierna struck the Walter Kammeyer car which was parked in the street in front of The Maytag Shop.

Judge Brindley also reports a \$50 fine and suspended jail sentence imposed on Eugene Fletcher for intoxication and disorderly conduct Saturday, December 20.

LOCAL RED CROSS CHAPTER TO MEET JANUARY 12

The South Lincoln County Chapter of the American Red Cross will hold its annual meeting on the second Monday of January, the 12th, for the purpose of electing an executive committee for the consideration of report and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting, which will be held in the Community Hall, at 7:30 p. m.

HOSPITAL NOTES

The last of the babies to enter the world in Libby during 1947 were a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Walter Katary, Dec. 27; a son to Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Challinor, Dec. 31; and a son to Mr. and Mrs. William Shows, Dec. 27.

Joe Corbett was admitted for surgery December 31.

Mrs. John Boothman was admitted Dec. 27 and released Dec. 30 as a medical patient.

GAERTNER PLEADS NOT GUILTY

John Gaertner pled not guilty to a charge of murder of Fred Marvel when arraigned before Judge Dean King last Thursday night. He was released on \$10,000 bond.

State Agencies to Purchase Airplanes

The Montana State Board of Examiners has authorized the purchase of airplanes by the Montana Aeronautics Commission and the State Fish and Game Department.

The board approved the purchase of a four-passenger Stinson by the Aeronautics commission and a Piper Cub by the Fish and Game commission.

The two state agencies will use the planes for transporting employees and officials in addition to other work.

The Fish and Game commission will use the light plane extensively in connection with game inspection, observation and photography. For heavier work the Fish and Game Department will continue to hire larger ships.

Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Morton had Christmas dinner with Mr. Morton's aunts, Carrie Hula Huquet and Mrs. Pearl Stoakhouse in Sandpoint before going on to Coeur d'Alene to spend the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Swanson.

Mrs. Blackford Answers Last Call Sunday

Death took Mrs. James M. Blackford Sunday, a citizen who has lived in the community for many years. During her life here Mrs. Blackford won and held the love and respect of all who knew her.

Maude Estelyn Lindsey, only daughter of Moses Chapman Lindsey and Sara Shinn Lindsey, was born near the village of Nebo, Pike County, Illinois.

She grew to womanhood at her parents' country home, going to the village school, later attending the High School at Pittsfield, the county seat.

Living as she did in one of the most beautiful sections of the country, the Mississippi Valley region of hardwood forests, she grew to be a deep Nature lover, and learned by name all the trees and plants that grew near her home.

At 19 she entered Eureka College, studying Art, Music and English. Finishing the course there she matriculated in the Department of Art at Washington University, St. Louis. In 1898 she came to Montana to teach Art, Drawing and English in the Lewistown schools.

Here she met and married James M. Blackford, a young attorney who had come from Grayville, Illinois, to form a law partnership with his brother. Two sons, James and John, were born to this union. The Blackfords came to Libby in 1911, where they have since made their home.

Mrs. Blackford was a devoted communicant of the Episcopal Church, and the longest-time member of St. Luke's Guild in Libby, having been a member since 1912. She was always a student of English, literature, and of the Bible. She possessed a great love of beauty, and made her home in the country a delightful place, working with Nature to keep its surrounding as Nature made them. She was deeply devoted to her family; and her home always remained her principal interest and joy.

Ever a true and devoted wife and a loving mother, Mrs. Blackford passed away on the 28th day of December 1947. Episcopal services were conducted Wednesday by the Rev. Mr. George Masuda, Rector of St. Luke's, Libby.

Ski Club Holds Annual Party

Members of the Libby Ski Club gathered at their cabin last Saturday night for their annual Christmas-New Year's party which is always a much anticipated event. Upon their arrival everyone was given a piece of red or green crepe paper and told to make a hat to wear during the evening. There were many clever ones but Wm. Guernsey won the prize for his exotic creation. The reds and greens then contested for honors in three games and the winning side won a bag of candy.

Following the contests the dancing began with a circle two-step called by Carl Rawlings. Peppy music was furnished by Fred Vigliani with his accordion and Demmon Parker and his guitar and the old and new fashioned dances of the evening were enthusiastically enjoyed.

Shortly after midnight a buffet lunch was served after which dancing resumed until shortly after two. The friendliness and congeniality of the group added to the pleasure of the party.

Committees for the affair were: Decoration, Pete and Chris Ramlo; Entertainment, Mrs. James Harris, Jr., Mrs. Max Sturm, Inez Ratekin, Norris Adams, and Pete Ramlo; Refreshments, Mrs. Raymond Bleich, Mrs. Gladys Boggess, Mrs. Thomas Robertson, Mrs. Joe Fennessy, Jr., Carl Rawlings, Almer Fjeseeth, Punch Committee, James Harris, James Christie and John Myers.

A short business session of the club was called by President Chris Ramlo during the evening and election of officers for the new year was held. John Finland, John Ronning, and Mrs. Pete Ramlo were the nomination committee and they reported the following names which were elected by acclamation: President, Inez Ratekin; Vice-President, Thomas Robertson; Sec'y-Treas., Mrs. Max Sturm.

It was voted to assess each member of the Club five dollars to help finance the ski tow and a committee was appointed to draw up plans for the use of the tow and secure the necessary U. S. Forest Service permit. John Myers, Joe Fennessy, Jr., Mrs. E. M. Davidson, Mrs. John Finland, and Inez Ratekin are on this committee.

A short discussion of club projects concluded the business meeting and notice was given of a meeting to be held at the cabin on January 9th.

The more we know, the better we forgive; Who'er feels deeply, feels for all who live.—Mme. De-Stael.