

THE WESTERN NEWS

Devoted to the Development of Libby, and of Lincoln County

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Eureka Before The Nation In Colliers Story

Tells of Christmas Tree Business in the Tobacco Valley Territory

RAFE GIBBS WRITES IN ISSUE OF DEC. 4

Lincoln County once again is in the national spotlight, this time brought there by Rafe Gibbs' article, "Christmas Tree Capital" which appears in the December 4 issue of Colliers, and features Eureka, the "Christmas Tree Capital of the World."

The article, which is accompanied by three illustrations reproduced from photographs in Kodochrome by Joe Dearing, is found on Page 26 of the issue and gives a "big town" reporter's version of a profitable business in a rural community. Sentiment in Eureka concerning the story seems to be divided, but it is a story which will attract interest throughout the nation, and every Lincoln County citizen should be interested in reading the article.

Libby Girl Weds on Thanksgiving Day

A lovely wedding which took place at the Log Church on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 25) at 2:00 p. m., was that of Miss Dolores Parkinson, daughter of Mrs. Alma Parkinson of Libby and Steele Young, son of Mrs. Emma Anderson of Royal Oak, Michigan. The Rev. Leon H. Ayers performed the ceremony and Mrs. Leon Ayers played the wedding music.

The bride wore an ankle-length gown of white crepe with a corsage and coronet of Talisman roses. Her maid of honor chose an aqua gown with pink accessories and a corsage of pink roses.

Mrs. Parkinson, mother of the bride wore a dress of navy blue crepe and Mrs. Anderson, the groom's mother chose a green dress. Both had corsages of roses and carnations.

The bride was given away in marriage by her grandfather, Mr. Albert Runsvold. Miss Donna Parkinson, sister of the bride and Miss Rosalie Sullivan, a cousin, were candle lighters.

Glen Collier acted as best man and ushers were Richard Parkinson and Channing Sullivan.

A reception for 75 guests was served in the church basement with a five-tier wedding cake, baked by Mrs. Nelson, centering the table. Immediately following the reception a wedding dinner was served at the home of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Mitchell.

Stearns - Roberts Marriage Nov. 30

Miss Evelyn Stearns of Minot, N. D., and William H. Roberts of Troy were married Tuesday, November 30 at 8:00 p. m. in the candle lighted living room of the Roberts residence in Troy. The marriage ceremony was performed by Justice of the Peace Fred H. Maurer. The attendants were Mrs. L. A. Straight of Minot and John O. Lindholm of Troy.

Following the ceremony a buffet lunch was served to the guests. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts expect to make their home in Troy. Mr. Roberts is a retired Great Northern Railroad man.

The J. Neils sawmill has been down the past two Saturdays during which time needed repairs were made.

Reserve Corps To Meet 7:30 Tonight

Regularly scheduled semi-monthly Organized Reserve Corps training for reservists residing in Libby and vicinity, continues with a training session set for Thursday evening, Dec. 2, 1948, starting at 7:30 o'clock in the Community Room (below the library) at the County Court House in Libby.

Lieut. Robert H. Bloom of Warland, an officer in the local forestry company of engineers, will conduct the second of a series of three conferences on "Maps" and related subjects.

In a recent communication from the Fort Missoula office of Colonel Thomas Burgess, Senior Army Instructor for Montana, reservists in the State were informed of the Sixth Army's authorization for one pay period in the fiscal quarter, October-December, for members of the 626th OR Composite Group who meet the attendance in uniform requirements prescribed by the letter. Further information on this score will be presented at the above meeting.

Reservist of this area are urged to be present and to make a special effort to contact other members in order that the required percentage of 60% or higher attendance is maintained for the quarter to enable the officer members as well as the enlisted men to qualify for available pay.

Interviews for enlistments and officer appointments of prospective members will be conducted concurrently with the meeting by Major Rattermann, unit instructor from Kalispell for those who are physically qualified former service men and desiring to know of the advantages the ORC has to offer.

Crown Hi-Jinx Queen Fri. Eve

The latest returns on the annual Libby High School Hi-Jinx Queen contest show that the Freshman candidate, Joan Edstrom, is in the lead followed closely by the Junior class candidate, Pat Olsen. The Sophomore candidate, Marilyn Olson, is in third place with the Senior candidate, Thelma Rolseth, close behind. Todate the seniors have not shown much strength but if the class follows true to form they will show their greatest strength in the home stretch. As an added attraction for the purchase of queen contest tickets three very attractive prizes will be awarded at the coronation to the three persons whose names will be drawn from the queen ticket boxes. An electric mixer, a combination waffle iron-sandwich toaster, and a toaster are the three prizes to be awarded. All queen contest tickets must be placed in the ballot boxes by 10:30 p. m. Friday evening to be counted in the voting or to be eligible for the drawing. No tickets will be accepted after the ballot boxes close at 10:30. Winners of the prizes need not be present at the drawing to receive the awards. The high light of the Queen contest will be the coronation at 11:30 p. m. followed by the drawing. A dance will then conclude the evening festivities. The building will be open to the public at 7:30 p. m. with the concessions to open at 7:45 and the first stage show to begin at 8:00 p. m. With each admission ticket to the building the holder is entitled to chances on three prizes for the adults and one for the children.

An electric roaster, a pressure cooker and a clock, the three awards for the adults and a pair of skis with ski poles for the children.

The stage show is really an all-school cast. About two-thirds of the student body is engaged in the production which features a variety of acts bringing songs and dances from many parts of the world. Many hours of hard work have gone into making this show one of the features of the carnival. All members of the production crew from stage hand to director deserve a lot of credit for their efforts. Do not miss this show. It is worth seeing.

The concessions in the gym have many games to offer in which patrons can try their luck in various games of skill, basketball throw, dart throw, African dodger, wet sponge throw, cane toss and others. There are many prizes to be won by those who have the skill or luck. Come to the Hi-Jinx Carnival at the High School on Friday evening, December 3 prepared for an evening full of fun and entertainment.

A special showing of the stage show will be presented on Thursday evening, December 2, to accommodate those people who shall be unable to attend on Friday evening. If you can not get to the carnival on Friday plan to see the stage show on Thursday evening. It is the same show as will be given on Friday evening. The Thursday show will begin at 8:00 p. m. and the Friday evening shows will start at 8:00 and 9:15 p. m.

PARKING NOTICE TO ALL LIBBY CAR OWNERS

During the winter months cars cannot remain parked overnight on the streets inside the City Limits of Libby. Difficulty from parked cars while the street force is removing the snow makes this ruling necessary.—By Order CITY COUNCIL.

WOULDST THOU A CAROLLING GO BEFORE YE MERRIE CHRISTMAS?

Within a very few short weeks you, your families, friends and all of us in these United States will again celebrate that most blessed season of the year known so well to us, the Christmas season.

Needless to say, through the passing years and generations it has become traditional in scores of villages, towns and cities throughout our land to commemorate this joyous event by the inhabitants uniting together in a single body and singing Christmas Carols.

In an effort to strengthen further the bonds of friendship and Christian fellowship, and radiate afar the Christmas spirit among all of us in Libby and the adjoining country-sides, let us also, in a kindred spirit, join together to spread the Glad Tidings, Peace on Earth, Goodwill Toward All Men, and sing our praises, those beautiful and inspiring Christmas Carols so familiar to all of us.

This program is planned with the intention of not interfering or conflicting with any other activities or programs that may be planned, and it is earnestly hoped that men, women and children, the schools, organizations, clubs and various bodies, one and all alike, will join in the Carolling at this civic gathering. It is planned that all participants, form in a body at the city hall Christmas tree on Tuesday, evening, December 21st at 6:30 p. m. The carollers, with lanterns provided, will lead the procession with the band following, and will sing as they proceed through the streets of Libby. All are urged to practice and learn the Carols beforehand in their homes or in their respective groups. Song sheets will be furnished those who do not know the Carols or have not a hymn book. Whether or not you can carry a tune makes no difference. We want only your heart. We sincerely hope you will come and unite with us on this glad occasion. May we count on YOU?—Carolling Committee.

To Shut Down The Somers Saw Mill

Announcement has been made by F. J. Gavin of the Great Northern Railway that the Somers Lumber Co. mill at Somers will be closed indefinitely before Jan. 1, 1949. The tie treating plant will continue operations. The company will establish a huge 75,000 acre "tree farm" on its holding in the Flathead section.

E. N. McDevitt, general manager of the lumber company, will continue the direction of the tie plant and tree farm operations. The company will continue to buy ties from private operators in this section of the state.

Mr. Gavin said that the decision to cease operations was a reluctant one, but was dictated by the necessity of conserving the remaining stands of timber for future production of ties and lumber. It was also found difficult to secure timber other than on the Somers company holdings. The Somers company has operated for 47 years, which is considered an unusually long time for a large mill in any one location. It is generally felt that the mill is out of the picture for many years to come unless there should be some drastic change in conditions. The timber from the "tree farm" is expected to reach the productive stage in from 30 to 40 years. Plans for the farm were worked out by the forest engineering service and the Western Pine Association.

For nearly 50 years the Somers mill has produced the major part of the tie and other timber requirements of the Great Northern from lands owned by the company, though ties in large quantities have been bought from private producers—a policy that will be continued.

This new "tree farm" will bring to about 800,000 acres, the Montana forest land devoted to scientific tree production.

Closing of the mill will make a major difference in the employment picture in the Somers section. The Somers mill has been a big factor in the Flathead economically for many years. There was a rumor more than a year ago that the mill would soon suspend operations.—The Flathead (Polson) Courier.

BRING CASSIUS DUNCAN BACK TO LINCOLN CO.

Sheriff J. Roy Livengood returned last Monday from Idaho Falls, Ida., with Cassius T. Duncan, who has been wanted for several months in Lincoln County for participation in the theft of an automobile.

Duncan was arrested in Idaho Falls, November 24, by the sheriff of that county. He waived extradition proceedings when Sheriff Livengood arrived in the Idaho city.

THE WEATHER REPORT FOR THE PAST WEEK

Following is the weekly weather report as furnished through the courtesy of the Libby Ranger Station:

Date	H	L	Pr.
Nov. 24	43	31	.37
Nov. 25	43	20	.23
Nov. 26	40	10	.50
Nov. 30	32	24	.11
Dec. 1	36	26	.03

The Rev. W. C. Stearns, Mrs. Minnie Walker and Mrs. Ernest Peterson were in Kalispell Tuesday to consult an eye specialist.

ELK HUNTING STILL PERMITTED IN SEVERAL RESTRICTED AREAS

Though hunting of deer, duck and pheasants has a ban of the past for 1948, the Montana Fish and Game Department permitted hunters that several areas remain open for elk.

The department listed these areas as open to elk of either sex: Lower middle fork, south of Glacier park in Flathead county, closes Dec. 31; Sun river, south of north fork in Lewis and Clark county, closes Jan. 15; Dearborn, north of Lyons creek in Lewis and Clark county, closes Feb. 28; Gardiner-Jardine, in Park county, closes Jan. 31; Fishtail, in Stillwater county, closes Feb. 28; Gallatin, in Madison and Gallatin counties, closes Dec. 1; east side Madison river, in Madison county, closes Feb. 15; Big Hole, in Silver Bow county, closes Dec. 31.

Areas open to antlered bulls: Judith river in Little Belt mountains, in Judith Basin county, closes Feb. 28; Fleece mountain, in Beaverhead, Deer Lodge and Silver Bow counties, closes Dec. 31; Big Hole, extended season, in Silver Bow county, closes Feb. 28; Stony creek, Granite county, closes Dec. 31.

Branch antlered bulls may be hunted in these areas: North fork Musselshell, extended season, in Meagher county, closes Feb. 28; west side Madison river, in Madison county, closes Dec. 31; Grasshopper creek, extended season, in Beaverhead county, closes Feb. 28.

In several of these areas, the departments said, maximum kills have been set, and "when this figure is approached, the season may be closed on two days' notice."

Because the areas are restricted in size, hunters are cautioned to be sure of the boundaries. The department added:

"Special permit hunting for elk now under way in the Highwood mountains and in Beaverhead county is not open for hunters without special permits."

Change Design of Hungry Horse Dam

Boise, Ida.—A change in the design of the multiple-purpose Hungry Horse Dam in Northwestern Montana to provide for greater flood control was announced today by R. J. Newell, Regional Director of the Bureau of Reclamation. He said an additional discharge outlet would be installed.

In view of last spring's flood water disaster wastes in the Hungry Horse Reservoir, has assumed far greater value than anyone had counted on previously, Mr. Newell said. In the face of this fact the Corps of Engineers, which agency has major responsibility for flood control, felt that greater discharge capacity was needed for quickly evacuating the 3,500,000 acre-foot reservoir in times of impending floods.

Original specifications for the dam called for two outlet pipes, each eight feet in diameter and each having a discharge capacity of 4,000 cubic feet per second. The pipes will be 460 feet long and pass through the dam at a downward incline from an upstream elevation of approximately 100 feet above bedrock. The third unit to be added will be of similar size and capacity. In addition, a "glory hole" spillway, having a maximum discharge capacity of 35,000 feet per second, will be constructed.

From the standpoint of repaying the Federal Government for the cost of the Hungry Horse Project, the additional outlet will be of considerable significance, Mr. Newell declared. It will permit an operation schedule under which the Corps of Engineers could recommend a much greater allocation of construction costs to flood control, with resultant reduction in costs to be repaid from the sale of power.

The outlet works will be utilized each year primarily between late March and early May when runoff forecasts indicate the evacuation of additional capacity for flood control is necessary. The installation and use of the additional outlet will have no effect on the power generating capacity of the Hungry Horse power plant, rated at 300,000 kilowatts, or on prospective irrigation in the Kalispell area.

Ed Nicholas Wins 4-H Fat Hog Nov. 24

The fat hog which was given away by the South Lincoln Co. 4-H Council on November 24 was won by Ed Nicholas who operates the Oval E Quick Service Station across from the postoffice.

The drawing was held in Parker's Studio at 3:00 p. m. before a small gathering. Mrs. Floyd Bowen drew the lucky number.

Basketball League Calls Practice

According to Norman E. Darsow, the Libby City Basketball League is well under way in plans for the coming season.

Four teams will participate in the league. These teams include the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Local Union 2581, a Lumberman's team, and the Independents. The first two teams are sponsored as indicated by their names, the third by Walter Neils.

The first practice is called for next Tuesday evening, December 7, at which time the Union and Independent teams are scheduled to practice the first shift from 8:15 to 9:15 o'clock, and the Lumbermen and VFW teams from 9:15 to 10:15. Managers, stated Darsow, are requested to have their teams together for this practice.

Games with Troy, Eureka and other teams will be scheduled by invitation. Town team basketball holds a high pace in all community sports events, and a schedule of games with outside teams, should attract good turnouts in Libby.

LINCOLN COUNTY POMONA MEETS DECEMBER 18

Lincoln County Pomona No. 5 will meet in Libby Saturday, December 18, at the Moose Hall, in evening session. Tobacco Valley Grange will put on the beautiful Fifth Degree work in full form to all candidates. Kootenai Valley and Cabinet Granges will furnish lunch.

Let's have a record turnout from all Subordinate Granges and start a successful and enjoyable year. Many will just be back from the State Convention at Missoula, and will have considerable material to pass onto us for use throughout the year. It seems possible that a record number of candidates will be present.—Dorothy Perkins, Pomona Lecturer.

Death Comes to H. W. Turner

Howard William Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Turner of Libby, was born August 1, 1887 at Niles, Ohio, and passed away in Libby at 8:00 p. m., Sunday, November 28, aged 61 years, three months and 27 days.

He was married to Bernadine Huffman at Libby in 1930. One son, Raymond was born to this union.

Mr. Turner operated a cafe in 1936 where the VFW Club is now located in Libby. He then went to Spokane where he was employed as a chef until two years ago when he became ill and returned to Libby, making his home with his father and mother.

He is survived by his aged parents of Libby, and his son, Raymond of Spokane.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 o'clock this (Thursday) afternoon from the Libby Funeral Home with Rev. James Davidson, pastor of the Libby Presbyterian Church officiating. Interment was made in Libby cemetery.

To Pour at Libby Sunday, December 7

It will pour all day in Libby, Sunday, December 7—at least that is the news from the Libby Rifle Club.

The club is busy building its new indoor range just north of the Vet's Club, and last Sunday finished roofing the new dug out structure. There is still much work to be done, say the members, and next Sunday all who are interested in the project either now while it is being built, or after it is completed and ready for use, are urged to turn out and assist in pouring the cement floor.

The club got off to a start last year, and made a good showing in its first competitive shoot which was a postal match held with the fine team from Eureka. With last year's experience behind the local shooters and the additional stimulus of the new range, the club will be able to make better showings this season, it is believed, and the fact that a VFW sponsored Junior Rifle Club will be active, will add interest to the project.

Left South In Covered Van Returns by Air

Mrs. George Pike of Libby First Flight in 87 Years; Visits Birmingham, Ala.

A PIONEER ALL HER LIFE; HERE 29 YEARS

A well known pioneer resident of Libby, Mrs. George Pike crashed the front page of the Birmingham (Ala.) Post with her picture, taken as she was leaving the airplane upon arrival at the Municipal airport in Birmingham, completing her first plane ride which started at Boise, Ida., November 18 with stops at Denver, Colo., and Dallas, Tex.

Mrs. Pike left the South in a wagon on train 68 years ago and has made her home in Libby for the past 29 years. She remarked in a letter to local friends, that she has received bouquets, corsages and many honors but hopes they wont make her head swell.

A reprint from The Post follows: Times have changed . . . at least for Mrs. Martha Ellen Pike. Mrs. Pike, who left Jonesboro, Tenn., in a wagon train for the West some 68 years ago, climbed down the ramp of a DC-6 at Municipal Airport last night after her first plane ride.

She came from Libby, Mont., to visit her cousin, Mrs. Charles Sims, of 2731 Eighth-av. "It took me three and a half years to get to Montana," she said, "and only 18 hours to get back." Mrs. Sims said the 87-year-old woman refused to make the trip by train. "Too slow," she wrote.

Ahead of Storm Mrs. Pike arrived in Birmingham just before a severe electrical storm struck near the Airport. "I think I'd rather ride a mule train than fly," she laughed. "When we hit the fringe of that storm I think all the passengers said a little prayer."

The bumps of the plane ride were nothing compared to the difficulties of the covered wagon trek to the West, however. "We made the trip from Texas to New Mexico right through hostile Indian country," she said, "and what made it worse, I had to walk most of the way." "That's why I wanted to fly back," she laughed. "No Indians."

Girls Scarce Mrs. Pike said she met her first husband, John Fox, a gold miner, at a settlement near Demming, N. M. "The girls were scarce and the boys were looking," she said, still smiling, "so he found me at a dance."

She and Mr. Fox went north to Montana, where their first child was born during a heavy snowfall aboard a wagon train. She said Mr. Fox died in 1916 and she married George Pike, a florist, in 1923.

"He died two years ago," she added. Mrs. Pike plans to remain in Birmingham at least until next summer, according to Mrs. Sims.—The Birmingham Post.

STATE TO CONSIDER ROAD BIDS IN DECEMBER

Bids on four primary and five secondary highway and bridge construction projects will be opened by the State Highway Department on December 17th.

Meeting on December 15, 16 and 17, the highway department will devote the first two days to administrative matters which require consideration. The bids will be opened on the third day.

The primary projects include the paving of 1.3 miles of Higgins Avenue in Missoula, the paving of three-thirds of a mile of street in Kalispell, the surfacing and oiling of 7.3 miles of the Loma South Highway in Chouteau county, and culvert and bank protection work on 3.3 miles of U. S. Highway No. 94 south of Craig.

Secondary projects are grading surfacing 17.2 miles south of Manhattan in Gallatin county, grading and surfacing 1.6 miles of bridge approaches near Emigrant, grading and surfacing and oiling of six miles of highway north of Cut Bank in Glacier county, surfacing and oiling of five miles of Poplin north road in Liberty county, and bank protection along 1.3 miles of highway south of Great Falls, Cascade county.

Barksdale AFB—Sgt. Richard G. DeRosia of the 1927th AACS (Airways and Air Communications Service) Squadron, USAF, is undergoing CW Code training at Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana. Sgt. DeRosia holds a vital job in the Air Force, that of a Control Tower operator. The job consists of directing the arrival and departure of all transient and local aircraft at Barksdale, and a knowledge of the Morse Code is essential in this work. Sgt. DeRosia's home is at 610 Utah Ave. in Libby.

W. H. Kennedy leaves tonight for Spokane to attend the furniture show in that city.

TO ELECT ACA COMMITTEE MEMBERS DECEMBER 4

The Lincoln County ACS announce the election of committee members at Libby on December 4 in the Community Room at the Courthouse. All eligible to vote are urged to attend this election which must be held at that time before the county convention which will be held Tuesday, November 7.—Lloyd P. Maize.

HOSPITAL NOTES

Births:—Nov. 24—to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Agather, twin boys; Nov. 25—to Mr. and Mrs. Leo Cloutier, a boy. Admitted:—Nov. 29—Mrs. Clarence White, surgical. Released:—Nov. 30—Mrs. Frank Magera.