

enck's fine shop

The old year draws near to a close and the new year approaches, we are reminded of pleasant business relations which have borne the stress and strain of a very hard year.

The pleasure we extend to the Butte public for out-of-town trade the season's greetings and wish their continued happiness and prosperity during 1918.

Richard P. Hoenck

Butte's Furrier Main St. Formerly A. Rauh

BOOBS RUSH ATTACK IN ITALY

(Continued from Page One.)

Attack in the Tyros sector northeast of Verdun successes. These efforts heavy German fire in sectors, Cambrai, Tyros and may be forerunners of attacks.

Plan theater there has military activity along the front. German airplanes added Padoa, much damage to monuments and incendiary bombs. Three were killed and three wounded.

Palestine. Advance along the Nablus front. British forces in Palestine stubborn Turkish resistance progressed three miles north of Beirah, ancient city of the Mediterranean.

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HEARTY WELCOME TO THE NEW YEAR

The War's Horrors Will Fail to Dampen Butte Celebration Tonight.

War's terrors will not dampen Butte's farewell to the old year or its hearty welcome to the infant 1918. With customary ceremonial the dying moments of the year that is passing will be made glad with song and music and revelry and when the tolling bells proclaim the birth of another twelve-month cheer will greet the new-born stranger, and hopes will be expressed that the year may bring success to the nation as well as to individuals.

Hotels report that stocks of wines are not as heavy as in former years when Butte's gaieties vied with the extravagant celebrations of New York and San Francisco.

Wishes of 'Happy New Year' will be dropped tonight," said the hotel man, "in the milder form of domestic wines, in plain beer and the simpler cocktails."

Turkeys are very scarce and the elaborate feasts of the past will be missing. Scarcely a store in Butte had a turkey for sale today. The New Year's dinner promises to be chicken, duck or goose. Local stores were divested of their stock of turkey meat on Saturday.

Favored by the excellent weather there will be more automobile parties tonight than on any previous New Year's eve, it is said. Every roadhouse and pleasure resort within easy access of Butte will provide for unusually large crowds. In fact reservations have been made at most places. This is also true of the city of Butte. Practically every seat at the local hotels has been reserved for the evening. It is understood that all places will close a few minutes after midnight.

The Silver Bow club, the Elks, the Eagles and other clubs and societies will entertain in the usual fashion. Many dances are scheduled. The Engineers dance at Ballmont hall and the Robert Emmet Literary association will make merry at Hibernal hall with the light fantastic. Private dancing parties are being held in many homes.

The celebration may be somewhat subdued but the outlook is that the night will be as merry as ever. Deputy County Attorney Rotering stated today that every proprietor of a cabaret or roadhouse has been notified that no violation of the closing law will be tolerated and that every person found in such places in violation of the law will be arrested and taken to the county jail until bail is furnished.

TO LIMIT PURCHASES OF FLOUR AND SUGAR

(Continued from Page One.)

In Butte we will hold a mass meeting here. The public will be invited and will receive explanations regarding the gravity of the food situation in this country. The public will be asked to co-operate in every way. It means the winning of the war and Butte must do its share. After the mass meeting of citizens, a second meeting will be called for dealers, who will be made to understand that their co-operation is also necessary.

The question of hoarding flour and sugar in the limited quantities specified may be discussed by Mr. Lutey, who said this question will be the present be left to the discretion of the merchants who are supposed to know their customers. "Other arrangements may be made at a later date," said Mr. Lutey, "but it is reported as having failed to comply with the regulations. It should be generally understood that the powers of the local fair price committee are limited. Some people think the committee has the right to fix prices. That is not true. The public is informed as to the wholesale rates and as to what we consider fair retail prices. The government may, however, revoke the license of any dealer who flagrantly violates regulations. In turn, the government may also threaten to revoke the license of the wholesaler who sells to such dealer."

Warning to Merchants.

A new bulletin received today warns merchants not to advertise the sale of sugar and flour, the articles so much needed in the war. Notices were sent out this morning to merchants and requests made not to advertise the needed articles. Newspapers are asked by the national food administration not to accept advertisements from merchants who persist in displaying the stuff that is needed in Europe. Montana got a black spring in a federal report issued recently regarding the price of corn meal. Montana prices were the highest in the United States during the two weeks preceding Dec. 8. This has been remedied, however, according to Mr. Lutey, and corn meal is now selling for 65 cents per nine pound sack, as compared with prices ranging from \$3 to \$9 cents when the government report was issued.

SUIT FOR WAGES.

John Lazar and M. J. Ryan brought suits in the district court today against C. W. Shinewood for wages. A suit for a year's services rendered, amounting to \$178.25 each.

DECEMBER SETS UP NEW RECORD

Closing Weather of Old Year Never Been Equalled in Montana.

December of 1917 closes tonight with a record of the most remarkable weather that was ever experienced in the state of Montana since the white man first set foot here. There is less snow on the ground than ever known on the last day of any year. More rain fell in the past 30 days than is recorded for that month, and the continuity of the good weather has never been equaled so late in the last month of the year.

Today the thermometer reached 56 degrees above zero. Never in the history of the state for the entire month of December has the maximum for any day been as high. The minimum for the month was 19 above and not since 1910 has the minimum been so high. Unofficial records of the state for 50 years confirm the statement that the weather for the month which closes today has set a new record.

Table with 2 columns: Year, Max. Min. showing weather records from 1917 to 1902.

While ranchers are plowing and planting for 1918 crops in the vicinity of this city a most unusual proceeding for the last day of the year was taking place on a sand lot in East Butte this afternoon. A bunch of youngsters were playing baseball and a number of young men passing remarking that it was a remarkable start to the playing season on Dec. 31 in Butte took a hand in the game. In a few minutes a regular baseball battle was in progress and the men played half a dozen innings before the teams disbanded.

WINTER OF 1896-7 SIMILAR TO PRESENT

Rev. John Hoskins, Here Since 1884, Recalls the Time.

"The winter of 1896-7 was something like the weather this winter up to the present," said Rev. John Hoskins, pioneer minister of Montana, who has been a resident of the state since 1884. He was in Butte for the past few days and preached at local churches yesterday. He was pastor of Grace M. E. church for three years, Trinity for four years and Methodist M. E. for three years, and during his ten years in Butte officiated at 500 funerals. "I was living in Billings at the time," said Mr. Hoskins. "The weather was much like the present weather until the middle of February. The streets were very dry and dusty. The middle of February to the middle of March we had 30 days of the hardest winter weather I can remember."

A. E. KEAR PERSPIRED IN DECEMBER OF 1890

Street Car Dispatcher Draws a Parallel With the Present.

On Christmas day in 1890 A. E. Kear, chief dispatcher of the street car system, without an overcoat, went for a walk in the afternoon and the weather was so warm that he was not uncomfortable. "I remember the winter well," said Mr. Kear. "It was the first year I spent in Butte. There had been some snow in November, but until the first of February the streets were dry and dusty. The days were warm and the nights pretty cool, but the weather in general was much like the present weather. There was snow on the ground from the first of February to the latter part of March."

GEORGE D. LOUNSBERRY SELLS TO HIS PARTNERS

Well-Known Citizen Has Disposed of Business Interests.

George D. Lounsberry has sold his interest in the firm of Lounsberry, Casey & Lanphier to Thomas F. Casey and Thomas J. Lanphier, the other two partners. He will leave on an extended vacation trip about Feb. 1 with Mrs. Lounsberry, and after a few months will return to Butte and again engage in business. He has not decided what business he will take up on his return.

Mr. Lounsberry and Mr. Casey organized the firm of Lounsberry & Casey 10 years ago. Later Mr. Lanphier was taken into the firm. Mr. Lounsberry received a postal card this morning, announcing the safe arrival of his son, Lowell, in France. Lowell enlisted last March with the Second Montana, and now with the 163rd infantry, machine-gun company, 41st division.

DEEP BREATHING. Air free if you put it in yourself. Sign in Montclair, N. J., garage.



DOUG' FAIRBANKS

REACHING FOR THE MOON A 100 per cent. Fairbanks Funfest. It's his latest Aircraft release, and Doug' rips her wide open.

TODAY AND UNTIL THURSDAY TODAY



ALLIES URGED U. S. TO TAKE FRENCH GUNS

(Continued From Page One.)

able was a prime factor. General Crozier said, in the artillery loans from France. Correspondence was produced in which M. Tardieu of the French high commission asked the war department to order French artillery and that French deliveries exceeded the number promised.

Promises From Abroad.

Conferences between the heads of the British, French and American governments abroad regarding furnishing of artillery to America's forces were recited by General Crozier. He produced a letter from General Bliss, chief of staff, stating that British and French munition heads had formally assured him that their artillery and ammunition production had so increased that they would be able to completely equip all American forces arriving abroad in 1918.

"I am not attempting to excuse the situation that requires us to depend on our friends for heavy artillery," said General Crozier, "but the responsibility rests on the whole country."

How he had, during previous years, often asked congress for larger appropriations for artillery, and that he and other army heads had many times called the country's attention to the need for more artillery, was related by the general.

Inadequate Appropriations.

"This is a plain statement of the case," said General Crozier, citing one instance before the war in which a "modest program" of artillery appropriations calling for \$1,200,000 was cut in half under direction of the secretary of war and then further reduced by congress to \$310,000. No considerable appropriation, he said, was made for heavy artillery until 1916. Appropriations in preceding years, he said, were "absolutely inadequate."

Test of the Lewis Gun.

The first offer, to his knowledge, was received May 2, 1912, when the Automatic Arms company asked for a special test. The correspondence showed the ordnance board offered a regular test with ammunition furnished by the government. No test followed, but on March 5, 1912, another Lewis gun was offered for a test, which was held at the Springfield arsenal. The Vickers was adopted, however, because the board's

report showed the Lewis gun jammed 206 times, had 35 broken parts and 15 parts required replacement, while the Vickers gun jammed only 23 times and had no parts broken. The board held the Lewis gun inferior to the Vickers or Bennett-Mercier. In the tests of April, 1916, General Crozier said, the manufacturers withdrew the guns because it was said they were not in condition. The board in April, 1916, found the Lewis gun had many desirable features and offered to again test it when perfected.

Bought Some Lewis Guns.

In the summer of 1916, General Crozier said, on his own initiative and without funds having been appropriated, he bought 350 Lewis guns for use with British ammunition on the Mexican border. Letters from officers having charge of the guns, criticizing the Lewis guns adversely, were produced and General Crozier said that in the border service the Lewis gun was generally proven inferior to the Bennett-Mercier and Vickers.

A report last January from the army school of musketry stating that the Lewis "as at present developed is not a satisfactory arm" also was produced by General Crozier.

Congressional appropriations for machine guns prior to 1916, when \$12,000,000 was authorized, General Crozier said, "had been very meagre." Because of machine gun development and the large 1916 appropriation, General Crozier said, Secretary Baker decided to appoint a special board organized in September, 1916, and which arranged for the tests of May, 1917.

In the meantime, General Crozier said, the board ordered 4,500 Vickers guns, suspended the order at the request of the Lewis people, but later took 4,000 Vickers guns in September, 1916. The Vickers gun at that time, General Crozier said, had been proved the best for American ammunition. It was evident, he said, that good Lewis guns were made in England for use with British ammunition and poor Lewis guns were being made in this country.

When war with Germany became imminent, General Crozier said, he asked for 5,000 Lewis guns. On April 12, he said, 1,300 Lewis guns were ordered, 4,400 more on June 12 and 2,000 more June 24.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE POST

To Our Country To Her Allies and To You

A Happier New Year HOWARD MUSIC CO.

A. T. MORGAN, President. J. D. SLEMONS, Vice-President. A. P. BOWIE, Treasurer and Gen. Mgr.

January 1, 1918.