

# THE WESTERN NEWS

Devoted to the Development of Libby, and of Lincoln County

VOLUME XLIX

Libby, Lincoln County, Montana Thursday, December 29, 1949

Number 33

## Past Week Has Added 19 In. To Snow Fall

Temperature "Lows" From Four Above to 23 Above; "Highs" to 34 Degrees

1948 TO MINUS 21  
SUN., DECEMBER 26

Snow and more snow has been the verdict of the weatherman in Libby during the past week. However he has been kind enough to send moderating weather with the 16 inches of snow which fell over the weekend, so Libbyites and all Lincoln County citizens have occasion to feel well satisfied with local weather conditions.

Total inches of recorded snow in Libby during December until the reading of the 28th amounts to 29½ inches, there being a record of 10½ inches from December 5 to 20, inclusive. Friday's snow of three inches in addition to the 16 inch fall over the weekend making up the total. There have been several extremely light snows in Libby during October and November which raised the total to a bit over 30 inches for the season to date.

Rain yesterday melted much of the snow, especially on streets and heavily traveled highways. There were no readings made Dec. 24, 25 nor 26 but the reading of Dec. 27 showed a precipitation of .90 of an inch, which in addition to that of Friday's reading, gives the week a total recorded precipitation of 1.10 inches.

In comparison with last year's weather at this time, the files of The Western News show that on Sunday, Dec. 26, 1948, the mercury dropped down to a minus 21 degrees! The entire last week of December, with the exception of the 29th which had a low reading of five above, had "lows" below zero, two nights falling to minus 8, the balance running from 16 to 21 below. Snowfall by December 30, 1948, totalled a trifle over 41 inches. The present winter season is yet young, but there are few if any who care to experience another winter with cold equaling the records of the last week in December of '48, and the months of January and February of '49.

Following is the past week's readings as given through courtesy of the Libby Ranger Station:

Date	H	L	Pr.
Dec. 21	21	25	.07
Dec. 22	32	4	.00
Dec. 23	34	23	.21
Dec. 27	34	12	.90

## Farm Woman's Club Holds Annual Party

The Libby Farm Woman's Club held their annual Christmas party at the beautiful new farm home of Mrs. Art Sheldon on Dec. 14. The house was gaily decorated with greens, a huge lighted tree, and a pipe organ and angels made of gold and silver paper which were placed on the mantel over the fireplace.

At one o'clock the ladies found their places at the long table. Before they were seated the hostess asked Mrs. Lloyd Maize to ask the blessing. The delicious turkey dinner was served by Mrs. Sheldon, assisted by Mrs. Ray Beebe and Mrs. Ellsworth Rice, to twenty-four members of the club. The only member absent was Mrs. A. Courtwright, who is a teacher in the city schools.

The entertainment committee had prepared a delicious program. Carols were sung with Mrs. Hugh Slau-son at the piano. Mrs. Louis Oher-lich then presented her "Dolls on Parade," the dolls were Mrs. Dick Smith, Mrs. George Beasley, Mrs. Babe McCallum, and Mrs. Merton Ward. There were also "toasts" to be given and a lively game of "scat." The entertainment committee was Mrs. Louis Oherlich, Mrs. Floyd Bowen and Mrs. Nan Smith.

The last thing was the exchange of gifts, and after comparing them and an hour visiting the ladies left but not before thanking Mrs. Sheldon for her hospitality and congratulating her on her lovely home.

## Christmas Lights Add Holiday Beauty

Many Christmas lights have made the streets of Libby attractive and gay during the past week. Most of these have been in the residential districts though several business houses have also decorated with lights.

For a number of years house and yard decoration contests were sponsored in town, and many beautiful effects were produced, making the residential section attractive to many who enjoyed driving about the streets during the evenings and viewing the decorations, many of them outstanding.

During the past few years this contest has not been maintained but there are many who are hoping that this stimulus for a "city beautiful" at the holiday times will be renewed, which with appropriately decorated business streets will add much to the attraction of an already attractive little city.

## Ring In The New

Silver Bells

...What a world

of merriment their

melody foretells.

Proper music, indeed, for the

New  
Year

1950

## Edwin C. Scott Dies Dec. 25

Troy (Special)—Edwin C. Scott was born November 14, 1887 at Steubenville, Ohio. He passed away in the Libby hospital, December 25, 1949, at the age of 62 years, 1 month, and eleven days.

He was married September 1, 1889 to Clara E. Moore at Helena, Montana. He came to Troy in 1915 where he was connected with the Snowstorm Mine for a number of years. For twenty years he operated a dairy here, but has been retired for several years.

He is survived by his wife who resides in Troy; by one son, Eugene W. Scott of Milton, Wash.; and by four daughters, Edith B. Mason of Troy, Jessie McKay of Lewiston, Idaho; Grace Hosfeld of Somers, Mont.; and Edna Wallace of Troy. Two of his seven children preceded him in death, one passing away as an infant; another son died at the age of 19 in 1918. He is also survived by three brothers, Ray Scott and W. D. Scott, both of Helena, and Roscoe Scott of Mullan, Idaho. One sister, Mrs. A. J. Coty lives at Deer Lodge. There are thirteen grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Dec. 30, at 2:00 p. m. at the Troy Methodist Church under the auspices of Troy Lodge A. F. & A. M. No. 126.

## PARKING NOTICE ON STREETS OF LIBBY

No parking will be allowed on the streets of Libby from midnight until 8:00 o'clock in the morning. Cars parked before midnight must use parking lights.

By Order of Mayor and City Council.

George Bryant, Chief of Police

Mr. and Mrs. Clive Roark visited Christmas day with relatives at Stevensville, returning home Monday.

## Allen Campbell To Lease Tinker Station

Lee Tinker and son, Myron, have leased their service station in Libby to Allen Campbell, who will take possession January 1. The Tinkers will retain the possession and management of their tourist motel.

Lee Tinker built the station in 1937, he and his son having operated it since that time. During this time the Tinkers have built up a good business, and during the past several years added the drive-in cafe and tourist apartments. They plan in the future to devote their time to this latter business.

Allen Campbell, the new operator, came here from Ohio during the CCC days. He married Miss Dorothy Becker of this city in 1941 and they have two children, Sharon, age six years, and Bruce, age four. Following his service in the merchant marines during the war, the Campbells went back to Ohio, but returned to Libby about three years ago. He has been in the oil business since that time, being employed by Andrew Sauer, local California Oil Co. dealer. He is a member of Libby lodge No. 85 A. F. & A. M. and Cabinet lodge No. 68, I. O. O. F. The family have many friends who unite in extending congratulations and best wishes. An advertisement appears in this issue announcing the change of management at the service station.

## HOSPITAL NEWS

Admitted: Dec. 27—Topper Wood, son of Ernest Wood, tonsils and adenoids; Sharille Hayden, daughter of Clifford Hayden, tonsils and adenoids; Mary Frost, daughter of Mrs. Elsie Frost, Eureka, tonsils and adenoids; Don Cook of Troy, medical. Dec. 28: Howard Orr, son of Edward Orr, surgery; Jack Reed, surgery.

Born: to Mr. and Mrs. Willard Ernesti, Dec. 21, a girl; Mr. and Mrs. Robert McAllister, Dec. 22, a boy.

Released: Pete Samicuk, Troy, Dec. 26; Mrs. Edward Hall and baby Dec. 27; Mrs. W. Ernesti and baby, Dec. 28.

Mr. and Mrs. Rod Peterson spent the holidays in Kalispell with relatives and friends.

Tuesday night in Judge Brindley's police court, Alvin Croucher was fined in the sum of \$15 for speeding on the streets of Libby.

Mr. and Mrs. Boss Baeth and girls, Marie and Lois, of Martin City, were Christmas visitors at the homes of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Coffman of Troy and Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Baeth of Libby.

W. O. T. M. to sponsor Card Party January 7 at Moose Hall at 8:00 o'clock. Both Pinochle and Canasta will be played. The public is cordially invited. Committee. 33-2c.

Mrs. Ed Driear received a call Tuesday morning from a cousin in Sacramento, Calif., stating that she had lost two uncles and an aunt by natural deaths during the holidays. One uncle lived in Portland, one in Greeley, Colo., and the aunt Mrs. Siedle lived in Sacramento.

## Vows Unite Local Couple Dec. 24

In a candlelight ceremony, Miss Dolores Estella Hunt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Corrado Fantozzi, Libby, and Roger Hardy, Libby, were united in marriage, December 24 at 7:00 p. m. in a single ring ceremony. The Rev. Leon H. Ayers officiated. The service was held in the bride's home.

Miss Hunt chose a winter-white dress with gold sequins and a long peplum for her marriage. Her corsage was of pink rosebuds.

The bridesmaid was her sister, Mrs. Marvin Nellis. She wore a gray and blue suit with a corsage of French carnations.

The bridegroom was attended by Harvey Noble.

The living room was beautifully decorated with cedar boughs and baskets of chrysanthemums, small mums, and a basket of azaleas.

The bride's mother wore a black crepe dress with a corsage of red carnations.

A reception was held immediately after the ceremony. Ice cream and a two-tiered cake, decorated with a bride and groom, was served to all the friends and relatives present.

About thirty guests were present. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cada of Ural, the bride's grandparents, were the only out-of-town guests.

The couple left the next day, after a Christmas dinner at the home of the bride's parents, on a wedding trip to eastern Montana to be with his folks for New Years.

They will return January 2. For her going-away costume, Mrs. Hardy chose a silk satin light blue dress with sequin roses. Her corsage was of pink rosebuds.

Mrs. Hardy is well known in Libby while Mr. Hardy came here only last summer from eastern Montana. He is employed by the Zonolite Company.

The happy couple plan to make their home in Libby.

Pete Vanderwood returned to Spokane to the Sacred Heart Hospital last week to have his injured arm reset.

Miss Audrey Bitterman and Miss Marion Bakke of Spokane were Christmas week end guests at the E. H. Bitterman home.

Mr. and Mrs. Tad Riddle of Lake Ronan Lodge and Mr. and Mrs. Red Liddell were Thursday and Friday visitors at the home of Bob Riddle.

Mr. and Mrs. George Driear and family of Kalispell, and Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Brown and family of Libby, were Christmas holiday guests at the home of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Driear.

Roy A. Livengood, of Taft, Ore., Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Emmert and daughter Cheryl of Kalispell, and Mr. and Mrs. Bud Beagle and children of Missoula all spent Christmas at the home of their parents, Sheriff and Mrs. Roy Livengood.

Mrs. Chas. Olson, because of ill health, has gone to Sidney, to stay with her daughter, Mrs. Gusie Olbergfell. The two children, Celia and Chuck will attend school there.

## W. T. Homann Passes Dec. 24

Walter Theodore Homann was born at Waverly, Iowa, October 5, 1903. He passed away at his home in Mill Row at Libby, Montana, on Saturday, December 24, 1949, at about 12:50 p. m., aged 46 years, 2 months, and 19 days. He was united in marriage October 5, 1928, to Myrtle Carmen of Spooner, Wis., at Ironwood, Michigan.

Besides his widow he is survived by two sons, Gene and Jack; one daughter, Norma, all of Libby. His father, August W. Homann, of Waterloo, Iowa; two brothers, Theodore of Kalispell, and Leonard of Libby, and one sister, Mrs. Conrad Badt of Libby. His mother preceded him in death in 1946, while here at the home of the daughter, Mrs. Badt.

Mr. Homann had been employed by the J. Neils Lumber Company as a pipe fitter for about the past seven years. He had previously worked for the company some years ago when first coming to Libby. Mr. Homann had been ill for quite some time prior to his passing.

The funeral was held today, Thursday, Dec. 29, at 2 p. m. from the Gompf Funeral Home, with the Rev. A. O. Werfelmann, pastor of the St. John's Lutheran Church officiating. Interment was in the Libby Cemetery.

Those from out-of-town attending the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Homann of Kalispell; August W. Homann of Waterloo, Iowa; Mrs. Cora Carmen and Mrs. Joe Judd of Ironwood, Michigan; Mr. Herbert Carmen of Spooner, Wisconsin.

## EMPLOYMENT OFFICE ANNOUNCEMENT

D. O. Mount announces that Monday being New Year's Day, the employment office will be closed.

Clay Parker spent Christmas in Kalispell visiting relatives.

## CONTROL THE BOBCATS SAYS DEPUTY WARDEN

Deputy Game Warden Vernon Friend states that there is a \$200 bounty on bobcats and urges ranchmen, sportsmen and all who have opportunity to trap and hunt these predators which he states, are very numerous this winter.

Bobcats, Friend remarked, are the worst enemies our native grouse have and if Lincoln county is to enjoy good grouse hunting, the cats must be kept under control. They also prey on rabbits and many other kinds of small game as well as being arch enemies to barnyard fowl. Don't forget, the deputy concluded, that the mink season closes December 31.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Waters visited relatives and friends in Kalispell over the holidays, returning to Libby Monday evening.

## The New Libby Phone Office Ready By Jan.

Negotiations Under Way To Acquire Forest Line For Kalispell Service

## EQUIPMENT ADEQUATE FOR FUTURE DEMANDS

Geo. B. Amas, Eastern District Manager of the Interstate Telephone Company, in an interview today said, "The new switchboard and central office equipment is now all in place in our new building at Libby and will be cut into service about January 2nd or 3rd. There are now 3 sections of new switchboard in place, with proper allowance having been made for the future growth of Libby and the inevitable demands for extension of our service to new subscribers. The new switchboard is a major step in making the service available. This new manual equipment is of the latest design. A feature of our plans for betterment of toll service includes the re-routing and complete replacement of the toll line from Troy to the Yaak River, most of which has already been done, and the installation of added toll circuits between Libby and Spokane. Another section of toll line to be re-routed, with wire and poles to be replaced, lies between Troy and Libby. This item is included in our budget for 1950. This work will be pushed as rapidly as possible when weather conditions permit.

"Negotiations with the Forest Service for early acquisition of about 25 miles of line east of Libby to eventually establish direct toll service, Libby to Kalispell, appear likely to produce very favorable results. It is understood that surveys are being made from Kalispell tending toward a like result from that end.

"In another portion of this paper the proposed new rates for local service at Troy and Libby appear.

These rates have been filed with the regulatory body at Helena. There will no doubt be a date set by this body for a hearing in the near future. An increase has already been granted by the Department of Public Utilities of Washington and proposed rate increases are now pending with the Idaho Commission.

"It should be understood at this time that rates charged for local service are designed to meet actual operating costs and that local or exchange revenues cannot be used for extensions of plant. Extensions must be financed through the sale of securities and from borrowed capital.

"Libby has become an increasingly important point in our operations, having increased from about 400 stations to well over 900 stations in a ten year period. It is believed that the forepart of 1950 will see over 1,000 stations connected.

"Equipment has been ordered and will be installed in a new building at Troy and at the proper time, probably during the forepart of 1950, this exchange will be converted to dial operation. Troy subscribers will then dial "operator" at Libby for long distance service.

"It has been promised that toll service will be improved materially between Libby and Spokane and the work necessary to do this is being rushed as fast as humanly possible."

## LIBBY BOYS TAKE LONG HIKE IN SNOW

On Tuesday of this week, Raymond Remp and Bob Conn delivered much needed supplies up to Andrew McNair at the mouth of Blue Creek. This is a distance of about 14 miles which the boys covered, going by truck as far as the roads permitted, then going on skis for a distance of three or four miles until they were within about a mile of the cabin, when they had to continue without skis on account of thawing snow. Each boy carried a pack of 30 pounds of provisions.

They found McNair was well although about out of supplies, he having only a few days supplies left. He expressed his deep appreciation to the boys for their consideration.

## Terriers Defeat Bonners Ferry

Libby won their opening game Thursday, Dec. 22, from Bonners Ferry in the new gym by a convincing score of 35-26. The Terriers jumped to an early eight point lead and never gave it up. Smart and Walsh controlled both backboards and also scored 21 points between them. Gompf added 9 to the total. The Libby reserves played in the 4th quarter and showed definite promise of giving support to the first five.

This Friday night at 8:00 the Terriers meet Sandpoint on the local floor. Sandpoint dropped Libby Tuesday night at Sandpoint 31-23. The game Friday should prove very close as both teams are of about equal strength. A preliminary between the Libby Junior Varsity and Troy's Frosh and Sophs will start at 7:00 p. m. The present seating is capable of accommodating 500 people with good seats.