

BELT VALLEY TIMES

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"I SEE BY THE PAPERS" COMMENTS FAMOUS JURIST

By Judge Whitney
THAT in "The Nation's Business" issued by the United States Chamber of Commerce, the statement is made that all farms put together do not produce enough in a year to pay the annual bill for lawlessness and the costs of the courts and prisons in this country.

This report is made on the estimate submitted to the National Crime Commission, after reading the articles in Colliers the report of the Crime Commission of Chicago, Washington, D. C. and other large cities, we are led to believe that the report is correct. But the question is, shall the farmers be compelled to raise more produce or shall some of the crimes be abolished? The report says that the only way to stop crime is to have the punishment quick, severe and immediate, and, we might add, abolish some of the Prison Boards, who pay no attention to the decisions of the courts but release any and all as they see fit.

THAT this being near the end of the year, records are being made by the public officials. That of crime is filling all the papers. Last week at Sacramento at the meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association, Rev. J. H. Wilson of the First Christian Church of Sacramento presented the report of the Federation of Churches of America, the same showing that drinking amongst the young is increasing, the use of narcotics and the lack of home life is forging ahead and all of the same is laid at the door of the Eighteenth amendment.

The officials of the American Bankers Association state that the money loss from crime during 1924 exceeded ten billion dollars, exceeding the entire import and export of the United States. The number of prisoners in the United States is 200,000; the criminal element of the United States is in excess of 1,000,000. The aristocrats of crime as defined by the National Crime Commission, referring to murderers, including gunmen and the winsome young girls who have shot their boy friends, exceed 135,000.

The criminals of the country exceed the combined population of Maine and Nevada, and locked in cells are more than twice the people that are in the State of Nevada. According to the report just issued by the State Controller of California, it cost the state last year to fight crime, disease and fire the sum of fifty-three million dollars, of which over twenty million dollars was spent to fight crime.

The Eighteenth Amendment has been accused of most everything, but we cannot believe that it is responsible for the above, but if it is, then it is about time for a change. The main trouble with the amendment is the reformers and the politicians, one wanting more power and the other gathering in the shekels for their personal gain. Everything comes to those who wait, and one of these days there will be an awakening and the people will get what is coming to them, and it will be a cold cold day for reformers and the politicians. In other words, when crooks fall out, honest people will get their just dues.

THAT the headlines of the Chicago papers read: "Judge puts alimony in scrap heap," and then continues that Judge Cook of the Superior Court of Cook county, which take in Chicago, refused alimony to 100 women who were seeking divorces and a guarantee of their future support through the alimony channel. The judge states that in the future no healthy women shall receive alimony through his court, where there are no children involved.

In view of the fact that so many places and countries are advertising the ease with which a divorce can be secured in these localities, the above may be an advertising stunt on the part of Chicago. But alimony hounds should take notice. It may pay them to investigate. The judge further remarks that it is beyond his comprehension why a healthy woman should want alimony. He might also ask why does a cat like milk.

THAT Miriam A. Ferguson (Ma.) the woman Governor of Texas, is up in arms over the operations of the boot leggers of her State, and comes to the front with a reward of \$500 for the arrest and conviction of a bootlegger worth over five thousand dollars, and remarks that the wealthy hoard of their liquor possessions, while the penitentiaries are filled with the poor

devils who possessed a pocket flask, but were without money or influential friends.

She knows what she is talking about, but you can gamble that if Texas is like a great many other states she will not wear out over one fountain pen in signing warrants for the rewards, and she is dead right when she says that when things go on as they now are, justice becomes a mockery and the law a stench in the nostrils of all respectable citizens.

Ballantino—M. F. Traak raises \$8,048.40 worth of Cossack alfalfa seed on 41 acres.

Bryum—\$44,000 to be spent on 15-mile gravel road, to Ponders county line.

White Sulphur Springs—America Legion will salvage old school building, to build memorial hall.

Fairfield—Cole Brothers ranch produced 14 tons beets to the acre.

Montana dairying has increased 1000 per cent in the past three years.

Havre—Security State Bank depositors will receive \$58,000 in December and January.

Another Prize Comes to Belt

Last week our fellow townsman, J. W. Leland received a Christmas gift that was not only acceptable but a source of joy as well. This gift caused the former deputy's face to expand into one broad smile.

The reason for this joy was the notice that he had been presented with a Willys Knight sedan as a result of the activities of the Ad club in Great Falls. The lucky number was 3802 and upon verifying the fact that he held such a ticket J. W. prepared to leave for Great Falls to claim his property.

The car was viewed upon its arrival in Belt by many admiring and in some cases envious friends. But Jay set up the cigars for all such and in the clouds of smoke of the fragrant leaf all thoughts of envy disappeared leaving only goodwill.

The proprietor is attached to his old Studebaker in which he has given many a booze runner a merry chase and besides it is large enough to carry the whole Leland family, but the paint is not exactly new and the glamour of a new car is no longer there and so, Jay will keep the old car for service but when his wife want to "step out" he will hitch up the Willys Knight and go in style.

RAYNESFORD

Mrs. Chesbro and son Allen went to Great Falls Monday to do some Christmas shopping.

Mrs. H. D. Livix and daughter are visiting relatives and friends in Great Falls this week.

Clem Michels has found work in one of the Belt garages.

The Christmas program held here Friday evening was enjoyed by all and the treat for each youngster was certainly a well filled sack.

Mrs. Erida Ford expects to leave Wednesday for Grass Range where she will spend the Holidays.

Miss Mae Bloom has found employment in Great Falls.

The teachers are now enjoying their holiday vacation Mrs. Earl Watson with her folks at Cascade and Miss Kerns at Augusta.

Word from Mrs. Grosskopf to the effect that she is enjoying herself and likes Portland very much.

Tiemeyers are at Marshfield, Ore. and expect to spend the winter there.

E. A. Stauch is still in St. Paul Minn. and under the doctors care, he thought he would get away this month and arrive in Montana soon.

May and Annie Kolar are spending Christmas with Elizabeth Vaskey in Great Falls.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Cooper have been on the Cooper ranch here trying to cut some oats that were still in the field.

Geo. Grosskopf made a trip to Great Falls last week with a truck load of spuds.

Belt Wins Two

A victory for the high school team was the result of the first basketball game of the season last Saturday night at the auditorium.

The visitors were the Bobcats, an independent team of Great Falls and they went down to defeat by a score of 24 to 8.

The Bobcats were considerably heavier and taller than the local boys but were no match for them in this passing game. They protested vigorously against the holding of the local team and evidently wanted a strict interpretation of this year's rules against bodily contact.

The visitors made one field goal and three gift shots for a total of five.

The Belt High got revenge upon

Centerville for many defeats of the past where their basketball team took the Centerville team into camp by a score of 26 to 15.

Leland and Probat were the main factors in the scoring machine for Belt with all others ready to alight one in if called upon. Nohl retired in the fourth quarter after a mix-up where he was forcibly deprived of his breath, being replaced by Joe Gosack. Harcharick also went in for the last quarter. Snyder was the outstanding player for Centerville.

Note—It would facilitate matters at the newspaper office if the score book could be seen occasionally after a game. Reporters are not mind readers neither are they acquainted with all the players in the state.

SAD DEATH OF MRS. JOHN KREBS, LEAVES YOUNG CHILDREN

Mrs. Cora Krebs, wife of John Krebs of Spring Creek died Monday at the Deaconess hospital following an operation for a ruptured appendix.

Mrs. Krebs had not been feeling well for some days and on Monday morning the pain suddenly became acute and she was hurried to Great Falls where an operation was performed in the vain hope of saving her life but the appendix had burst before the operation and she passed away shortly afterward.

She leaves her husband, three children, her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. B. Davidson of Waltham and a sister Mrs. Sam Krebs of Spring Creek.

Her parents moved to Belt from Colorado some twelve years ago and

have been ranching in this vicinity where they and their daughter are well and favorably known.

Her husband and the motherless children have the deepest sympathy of all their friends in this section.

The funeral was held from George's chapel in Great Falls yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Rev. Totten of the First Presbyterian Church in Great Falls officiated.

It was attended by a large number of the friends and neighbors from Belt and vicinity although the bad weather and roads prevented some from attending. The casket was banked with floral offerings from sorrowing friends. Interment was made in Highland Cemetery.

Lodge Elections

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS

On Monday night the regular election of officers was held in Cascade Lodge No. 39 Knights of Pythias. The roster of officers elected follows:

| | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Roy Servoss | Chancellor |
| W. J. Lowry | Vice Chancellor |
| Arthur Samuelson | Prelate |
| Arthur Winston | K of R & S |
| S. A. Remington | Master of Finance |
| R. S. Heron | Master of Exchequer |
| William Snooks | Master at Arms |
| Lester Brodie | Inner Guard |
| Charles Berg | Outer Guard |

MASONS

On Tuesday evening the Masons held their annual election and the officers for the ensuing year will be:

| | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Dr. J. S. Stewart | W. M. |
| W. P. Pilgeram | S. W. |
| O. H. Johnson | J. W. |
| Wm. Vensel | Treasurer |
| J. R. Culver | Secretary |
| Jude Huber | S. D. |
| J. M. Bratley | S. D. |
| Julius Paulson | S. S. |
| Wm. Marsh | J. S. |
| F. S. Heron | Tyler |
| N. H. Nelson | Marshal |

ODD FELLOWS

Nominations for the executive officers were made at the last regular meeting as follows: William Mearns, Noble Grand, Ernest Seigling, Vice Grand. These nominations will doubtless be confirmed at their next meeting after which the subordinate officers will be appointed.

EASTERN STAR

At the annual election of officers of Alma Chapter O. E. S. the following executives were chosen:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| N. H. Nelson | Patron |
| Clara Culver | Worthy Matron |
| Persis Johnson | Associate Matron |
| Anna Remington | Conductress |
| Selma Sharrard | Associate conductress |
| Minnie Browning | Secretary |
| Inez Graybeal | Treasurer |

REBEKAHS

The election in Olive Branch Rebekah Lodge resulted in the selection of the following officers. The appointive officers will not be named until after the installation of those elected.

| | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Eva Simonis | Noble Grand |
| Sarah Bodkins | Vice Grand |
| Lillie Johnson | Recording Secretary |
| Villa Browning | Financial Secretary |
| Helen Millard | Treasurer |

PYTHIAN SISTERS

The newly elected officers of Opal Temple No. 8 Pythian Sisters are:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Edith Snook | P. C. |
| Lillie Johnson | M. E. C. |
| Lulu Randall | E. S. |
| Bertha Johnson | E. J. |
| May Servoss | M. |
| Helen Jones | P. |
| Mary Brodie | G. |
| Minnie Browning | M. of P. |
| Kether Johnson | M. of R. & C. |
| Martha Leland | L. O. |
| Trustees—Elizabeth Brodie, Laura Haron and Minnie Browning. | |
| Martha Leland | Representative |
| Minnie Browning | Press Correr |

FAMOUS OLD NOVEL, "ROMOLA" AT LAST APPEARS ON SCREEN

Every student of literature has read "Romola" fascinating story of love and intrigue which George Eliot wrote a half century ago. Now "Romola" has emerged from the printed page and has come to life in Florence, Italy the ancient city in which the story is laid.

Lillian Gish and her director, Henry King took a company to Italy to make a screen version of the famous novel, and the result may be seen at the Pythian theatre when this production comes on 27th and 28th. Dorothy Gish appears again with her sister in this picture, and others in the cast include Ronald Colman, who played opposite the star in "The White Sister," William H. Powell, Charles Lane, and Herbert Grimwood. "Romola" is an inspiration picture released by Metro Goldwyn.

ARMINGTON

Mrs. Arthur Crane and daughters, Melva and Dorothy were visitors in town Sunday.

Mrs. R. A. Millard and daughter Bernice and Miss Myrtle Childerhose are visiting their parents over Christmas.

Joseph Nordquist is home from Bozeman to visit his parents over Christmas.

Roy Servoss is installing a radio in his home.

Thomas O. Musson of Stanford was in town on business matters Monday. (Con. on last page)

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST SMALL SCHOOLS STOPPED BY ST. BOARD

METHODIST CHURCH NOTES

Harry T. Stong, Pastor

Christmas program this evening, Thursday, at 7:30. Tree and treat for the children.

Choir rehearsal Saturday evening: Divine worship Sunday at 11 a. m. Sermon by the pastor, Subject, Last Things.

Christmas Cantata, "The New Born King" will be given Sunday evening by a choir of twenty voices. This is a new production published only this year. The text was arranged and the music composed by Chas. H. Gabriel. Lovers of music will greatly enjoy hearing the Christmas story in song.

Sunday school at 10 o'clock.

Epworth League at 6:30.

It is pleasing to note the increased happiness and good cheer that prevails at this season of the year. The church helps to promote and maintain the true Christmas spirit through all the days of the year. We invite you to our services, and ask that you become a helper in this worthy task.

Echo of Wreck of a Ford

Judgment of \$2,500 for alleged actual and exemplary damages resulting from an automobile collision in Belt is requested in a suit filed in the district court Monday by O. M. Olson against R. L. Igel and Meta B. Igel.

The plaintiff alleges that on December 15, Igel, driving a sedan belonging to Meta B. Igel, carelessly and maliciously drove the car at an excessive speed of 25 miles an hour without slowing down on Lewis street in Belt, where his view was obscured by a stone barn and a Christmas tree. Igel is then claimed to have turned to the left around Lewis street onto Bridge street so as to run over the sidewalk and to collide with a new sedan of the plaintiff. In the collision, it is alleged, the right fender, running board and windshield was torn off the Ford car.

Olson declares that he was not traveling more than 12 miles an hour when the collision occurred and that the accident was entirely due to the extreme negligence of the defendant. Actual damages of \$500, specified as \$300 for depreciation and \$200 for repairs, and punitive and exemplary damages of \$2000, in addition to the costs of action, are requested. (Great Falls Tribune)

NEIHART

O. A. Bailey was a Great Falls business visitor the past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Earle McCarty and son Kenneth have left for Spokane, after a visit of two weeks with Mrs. McCarthy's grandmother, Mrs. Chas. Elliot.

Mr. Smolden was in Neihart Monday on business.

Chet Smith returned home Wednesday from a several weeks visit at different points.

Mrs. Williams and baby of Dover arrived Saturday to join Mr. Williams who has been employed here for some time.

Roy Chapin was brought hurriedly to the Neihart hospital last Tuesday, from up near King's hill, where he was working in company with his father, as he had cut his instep, severing an artery and cutting some small bones. Dr. Weld was soon in attendance and has been attending the young man since.

Ray R. Porter is again in Neihart, looking after business interests.

Paul Lamas required the services of Dr. Weld Monday to get his shoulder back in place.

Mrs. B. Sturman was a Great Falls visitor Monday.

Timber cutting has been practically completed in the Kings hill vicinity. A crew is engaged in the Carpenter creek area now, and the hauling will be done to the new loading platform at Jericho.

New Opheim—Several firms start construction of new buildings here.

The last meeting of the State Board of Education was one which would put a politician in a whole nettle bed. It is doubtful whether the State Superintendent enjoyed it and others would have preferred to have been home in the bosoms of their families.

A difference of opinion as to who was running the Orphans Home was one of the topics which agitated the Board and left Mr. George the Superintendent in charge of the field after the Board had fought it out. Not a triangular fight but a polygonal one occurred over the division of the remnants of the \$5,000,000 building fund.

Still another ariel bomb dropped into the camp just as they were getting their lost breath after the last scrap when Dr. Hoff, representing the parochial schools inquired why their pupils were required to pass state eighth grade examinations when the other pupils in Butte, Helena, Great Falls and Anaconda were not required to do the same thing.

Immediately the members of the Board again donned their armor and grabbed their weapons but the alignment of forces left Miss Trumper and Supt. John Dietrich alone one side and they were routed, while the decision of the Board was that all eighth grade students must pass the state examination before being admitted to High School.

People in the smaller places throughout the state enjoyed reading of the meeting exceedingly and that part of the proceedings dealing with the discomfiture of the big schools was hailed with delight.

When W. E. Harmon was Supt. of Public Instruction the examinations were first instituted because they were a necessity in the development of Montana schools. At the first examination the casualty list was extremely high being especially heavy in some of the largest cities of the state, Great Falls excepted for there Supt. Largent still believed in the importance of the three R's.

A howl went up but Harmon had lived to long in Montana to be frightened by a howl. City superintendents throughout the state feverishly reorganized their grade systems. Drawing, home economics, music, art, elocution and a general good time were suddenly sidetracked for grammar, spelling, history and arithmetic and many a superintendent cursed Harmon for disturbing his comfortable siesta. Later a ruling was made by the state Board of Education that cities where a superintendent was employed for full time and could have continual supervision of grade work, should be exempted from the examinations.

The smaller towns writhed under the discrimination, especially since they felt that the real reason for the desire of the larger cities to escape was the inability of their pupils to pass the severe tests.

Cascade, Stockett-Sand Coulee, Neihart, Monarch and Belt in this county have always looked forward to these examinations. This has been an incentive which has always stimulated the pupils to extra effort. Great Falls took the examinations for some years with excellent success. They are always excepted in the above remarks.

But the smaller towns have always recognized the injustice of the rule which required them to send their pupils up for examination when in some larger place where the superintendent would not recognize half his teachers if he met them on the street the pupils were exempted.

The small town rejoices in the ruling of the State Board that all must take the Eighth Grade State Examinations. It will cost a few more dollars but what do dollars count when the small town eighth grader knows that the big city eighth grader will have to hump himself and burn a little midnight oil to prepare himself for that awful day. What do a few dollars count with the satisfaction of the rural teachers of eighth grade pupils when she knows that the city teacher will have to cut out a few bridge parties in order to have time to prepare her pupils for the day of reckoning.

Long live the State Board and may their shadows never grow less.

Great Falls—Turkey will bring Montana growers approximately \$600,000 this year.