

The Billings Gazette

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WOMEN JOIN IN PROTEST.

The women of Billings have added their protest to that of the chamber of commerce, the "25,000 club" and the newspapers against the alleged intention of the Northern Pacific Railroad company to lease the land on Montana avenue, between Twenty-seventh and Twenty-ninth streets, now occupied by a park and the depot, for business purposes—the construction of warehouses and blocks. The Women's club has sent letters to the officials of the road both in St. Paul and Livingston, asking them not to lease the ground, but to permit the city to maintain it as a public park or plaza. The enlistment of the women of Billings in an effort to preserve to the city its only park to a large degree insures the success of the agitation. It will not only have weight with the railroad company, but the business man who might occupy the site could hardly afford to lease it in the face of the combined opposition of the women of the city.

There have now been three protests sent to the railroad company against leasing the ground—one from the chamber of commerce, one from the "25,000 club" and one from the Women's club. But three are not enough. Every church society, every labor organization, every fraternal organization, every man, woman and child with the future welfare of Billings at heart should send a protest to the railroad company urging the officials not to lease the land and permit the destruction of the park. Strong pressure is said to have been brought to bear upon the railroad management to induce the company to lease the ground, and just as strong pressure should be brought to bear by the boosters if we are to succeed in our efforts to preserve the park.

WHY IT IS ALARMED.

The Missoulian seems alarmed at the suggestion of The Gazette that delegates from counties in eastern Montana to future state conventions should get together, caucus and prepare to go into the convention united on every proposition, casting the vote of this section of the state solidly. The leading paper of the western portion of the state says it fears for the harmony of the party if such action is taken.

The Missoulian need have no fear on that score. Such action, as proposed by The Gazette, would cement the counties of eastern Montana closer together and make their action in the future more harmonious. The Missoulian's chief reason for being alarmed probably is because it realizes what a powerful influence the united delegations from eastern Montana would exert in the state conventions. If such an alliance was formulated eastern Montana would be able to procure almost anything she desired at the hands of the republican state convention.

This paper does not claim the honor of making the first suggestion along the lines of united action. It has been the hobby of some of the oldest and best republicans in all the counties along the Yellowstone river for years. There was not a delegate from one of these counties in attendance at the state convention but what favored some such arrangement. Some of the delegates even pledged themselves to work to bring about such a conference as is proposed.

When the smaller counties of this section of the state go to the conventions with their small number of votes as compared with the votes of some other counties they realize of how little importance they are in the final results. But could the small counties unite their votes, then they would be one of the most powerful factors in the convention. It is no wonder that the leading paper of western Montana views with alarm the attempt being made to secure concerted action in the eastern end of the state.

SENATOR HEYBURN OF IDAHO.

Senator Heyburn's threat to talk to the end of the session rather than permit the adoption of the conference report on the bill to provide for an enlarged homestead directed attention for a moment to the senior senator from Idaho, who is undoubtedly one of the most brilliant statesmen in Washington, and recalled to many the memorable speech made by Senator Carter of Montana, who talked to death the rivers and harbors bill at the behest of William McKinley.

Those who know Senator Heyburn best realize the wisdom of the senate in postponing consideration of the report the Idahoan objected to until other business should be transacted. The Idaho senator is a man of few words,

but he seldom speaks without carefully weighing his utterances and undoubtedly he would have attempted to repeat the feat of Montana's senior senator.

The story of Senator Heyburn's rise to a seat in the United States senate shows how any boy, possessing the determination and health, may make a success of life. Senator Heyburn went to the Coeur d'Alene mountains in northern Idaho before any of the remarkable lead and silver mines had been discovered. He worked as a common laborer and after the creation of a mining district, secured work as a surveyor and made the first map of the Coeur d'Alene mining district. To do it he traveled over nearly every peak in Shoshone county. Later he studied law and opened an office in Wallace, becoming one of the best known authorities in the northwest on mining law. The republican state convention endorsed him as a candidate for United States senator and he is now serving his first term. He entered the senate almost unknown and was assigned to the committee on pure foods, which committee had been considered of little importance by the senate. As a member of that committee, in conjunction with Prof. Wiley and some pure food enthusiasts in the house and senate, he assisted in drafting the present pure food law, which passed the United States senate because of his efforts. He has made the committee one of the most important in the senate, and has himself become a power in that body and one of the most prominent statesmen in the United States during less than six years service in the senate. Such a record shows what would have happened had he been called upon to carry out his threat and talk till May 23 to kill the conference report on the bill providing for a larger homestead. The famous speech of Senator Carter probably would have been equaled.

AMERICA ALMOST IMMUNE.

During the recent discussion in the national congress for and against the four battleship program of the president one of the strong arguments advanced by those favoring it was that a large navy was necessary to preserve the peace of the nation.

But it is not battleships or large armies that will preserve the peace of the United States and keep this nation free from foreign wars. It is the natural productiveness of the country. Other nations depend upon the United States to such a great extent for commodities that none of them can afford to make war on Uncle Sam. Figures taken from the Review of Reviews and printed recently in the Spokesman-Review show how important a factor the United States is as a source of supply for the world.

With an area of 3,629,000 square miles of the entire world and a population of 5.2 per cent of the world's people, the United States is producing 78.8 per cent of the entire corn product, 71.3 per cent of the cotton and 20.7 per cent of wheat. Other percentages of United States productivity in proportion to the world's output are: Tobacco 31.1; pig iron, 42.2; petroleum, 63.5; copper, 57.5; gold, 22.1; silver, 35.5; coal, 37.3; phosphate rock, 54.4; railroad mileage, 38.5.

The contrast presented by the difference between the area and population percentages and those of productivity is strikingly significant. Our agricultural supremacy is matched by that in minerals and manufactures. Statistics show, moreover, that the United States is steadily gaining in its proportion of the world's productive interests. At the beginning of this century, less than nine years ago, we were producing 34 per cent of the world's iron, as against 42.2 now; 42.9 per cent of petroleum, as against 63.5 per cent at present; 56.5 per cent of copper, as compared with 57.5 per cent today; less than one-half of 1 per cent of the world's sulphur, as compared with 35.8 per cent now.

CASUALTY LIST OF PEACE.

Peace, as well as war, has an appalling casualty list. The sum total of deaths and injuries from accidents on the traction and transportation lines of the nation is enormous. According to the monthly report of accidents on the traction lines of New York city alone in the month of April there were 4,707 people hurt in accidents, 40 fatally. Considering that the traction system of New York has but a small per cent of the total mileage of traction systems in the nation, the large number who must be injured or killed in accidents on traction or transportation lines in the nation would seem enormous. The street car systems in the metropolis are as well operated as anywhere and there is no reason to believe that a greater number of accidents take place in Gotham in proportion to the population than in other sections of the country.

While the total for April is the largest on record it is only slightly in excess of the total for March. There must be something wrong in the operation of traction lines that there should be so many accidents. Traction lines and transportation systems are supposedly operated for the public benefit and yet in a single month the traction lines of the largest city in the nation kill and injure enough people to rival the casualty list in a good sized battle. Think what the total casualty list in the country for one month must amount to.

It would not seem that the traction systems of the country, showing the casualty list they do, are operated with as much care as should be de-

sired in preservation of the safety of our lives.

FRANNIE-FROMBERG CUT-OFF.

It has been some time since the chamber of commerce and some of the wholesale interests of Billings took up with the Burlington railroad and the state railroad commission the need of immediate construction of the proposed Frannie-Fromberg cut-off. It is said that the state railroad commissioners expressed themselves as being willing to permit the taking up of the expensive line from Toluca over the Pryor mountains if the company would immediately build the proposed cut-off. So far no information has been given out by the railroad company that would indicate that construction of the cut-off is to start in the near future, despite the statements made by men close to the railroad company that the officials of the Burlington were anxious to build the cut-off. There seems to be some sort of hitch in the program.

The benefits which Billings would derive by the construction of the proposed cut-off have been frequently pointed out by this paper. All the traffic for the rapidly growing Big Horn district in northern Wyoming would pass through Billings and all passengers bound for points in that section of Wyoming would lay over here to make connections. The construction of the line would mean a morning train every day leaving Billings for points in northern Wyoming. Our wholesale merchants would be placed considerably closer to one of the fastest growing sections of the west and a district for which Billings should be the wholesale supply point.

The railroad company realizes the advantage it will gain by the construction of the cut-off, which will shorten the distance and lessen the grade, thus reducing the cost of operating the line into northern Wyoming. The construction of this cut-off would be a business move on the part of the railroad. The people of Billings generally want it, and while the summer is advancing, it is not yet so far advanced that it could not be constructed this summer.

Certainly, every possible effort should be made to persuade the company to build the cut-off as soon as possible. The benefits, which its construction will mean for Billings, are appreciated by every booster, who has investigated it.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE.

"Ain't it funny what a difference just a few years make" in political life? A few years ago two of the most important members of the United States senate, if not the most important, were Thomas C. Platt and Chauncey M. Depew, senators from New York. When any legislation was to be enacted Tom Platt had to be seen. Before any serious steps were taken in national political life Chauncey M. Depew was probably consulted. One was mentioned as vice presidential timber, while the other was spoken of as excellent material to fill the attorney generalship of the nation.

The contrast now is startling. In national political life they have sunk to as near political oblivion as possible and still be United States senators. The press dispatches from Washington, which formerly mentioned them scores of times daily, now seldom speak of them. It required a sensational divorce and blackmail case to get Senator Platt in the time-light gain, and the people had almost forgotten the identity of his colleague in representing the great Empire state in the senate. Not one out of four people could have told that it was the Hon. Chauncey Depew, whose after-dinner speeches were once quoted daily.

The expose of corruption in high places has had the effect of consigning two of the nation's foremost public men to the rear. Their places are held by younger men, statesmen whose names were unheard of in the heyday of the glory of Senators Platt and Depew. "Ain't it funny what a difference just a few years make" in the political life of a nation?

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THE MINER WAS WRONG.

When Congressman Pray introduced a bill in the lower house of congress, providing for the construction of a public building in Billings to cost \$175,000, the esteemed Butte Miner in a lengthy editorial intimated that the bill had been introduced by Congressman Pray for the purpose of making the people of Billings believe that he was doing something for them, when as a matter of fact there was little possibility of its being passed. The Miner has probably been so busy recently mixing political dope for the republicans or worrying about the lack of harmony in the democratic party that it has probably failed to notice that an appropriation of \$175,000 has been authorized by congress for the construction of the proposed public building here. So, the leading democratic daily of the copper camp has not yet editorially admitted that it misjudged Congressman Pray's motives when it intimated that he was four fushings. But now that he has flled to his flush it is up to the Miner to make such an acknowledgment.

The Butte Miner can now take a respite from pitying republicans to producing harmony in democratic ranks. The proceedings of the Deer Lodge county convention and some other county conventions are evidence that its efforts will be needed.

VICE PRESIDENT FAIRBANKS IS SAID TO HAVE FINALLY REALIZED THAT HE WILL BE OUT OF THE RACE IN CHICAGO.

There are some other candidates who do not realize it, but who are out of the race just the same.

Ex-Senator Clark of Montana declares that his Fifth avenue palace is not worth as much as the New York assessor asserts. A good many people intimated as much when the house was built.—Pittsburgh Dispatch.

It is to be regretted that every time a newspaper in eastern Montana suggests some party action to benefit this section of the state the newspapers in the western part of the state about "disruption."

For the benefit of the eastern Montanans, who contemplate attending one of the national conventions, we can assure them that the hotel keepers of Chicago and Denver will see that they have a high old time.

Even the threatened publication of the love letters of a boss could not be more sensational than the testimony in the Wood-Platt divorce trial.

The senator's pull with the New York assessor does not seem to be as strong as it was with certain western assessors a few years ago.

Still, the Platt divorce trial serves to call attention to the almost unknown delegation from New York in the United States senate.

Some states can boast of their sunshine, but it is rain like the Yellowstone valley has been experiencing that makes the grain grow.

Indications are that at the Denver convention Mr. Bryan and his adherents will look upon Governor Johnson as the "Terrible Swede."

Who besides Senator Platt represents New York in the senate? The Hon. Chauncey Depew. How the mighty have fallen.

Let us not forget that due to Mr. Lilly's charges the monopoly in submarine boat construction was removed.

District Attorney Jerome should be thankful to Harry Thaw for detracting attention from the Jerome charges in New York.

And again the Mae Wood case may have been the expiring effort of Platt's press agent to hold onto his job.

Tom Johnson is learning more about the "advantages" of municipal ownership than he ever expected to.

Even should Taft fail to secure the nomination he will have established a record as a long distance traveler.

Among the once popular Methodists, who will not be elected a bishop, most conspicuous is Chancellor Day.

Some of these candidates, who are in the fight to a finish, are apt to be finished in short order.

The streets of Billings are well paved with intentions of macadamizing and mud.

At Bozeman it is apt to be a case of too much Johnson for democratic harmony.

Puget sound will commence today to outdo California's welcome to the fleet.

STATE PRESS COMMENT.

Montana has a republican governor at present. The state will have one for four years after next January.—Fergus County Argus.

The man who didn't seed much land this spring because he thought there wouldn't be any water is learning something.—Missoulian.

Cuba is to be turned over to the Cubans by February, 1909. This ought to be a good time to sell griddlestones in Cuba.—Madison County Monitor.

All visitors agree that Montana's prosperity surpasses them, and that her amazing resources give promise of unbounded good times ahead.—Missoulian.

And then, again, Mosney might hire out to some slight-of-hand expert as the disappearing outlaw. He seems to have the turn down perfect.—Great Falls Leader.

In urging that eastern Montana republicans stand together at coming state conventions the Billings Gazette is assuming a position both logical and intelligent. But what's the use—they won't do it.—Forsyth Journal.

If there is a spark of gratitude in the bosoms of Lewis and Clark democrats they will send to the state convention an instructed delegation for W. G. Conrad.—Helena Record.

The duke of Abruzzi having arranged all the details with his family, it is now time for Papa Blkins to tell the newspaper boys just why the delay.—Helena Record.

A strong argument that could be made in favor of a third nomination

for Mr. Bryan would be the prosperity that has always followed his defeat.—Virginia City Times.

Montana cares not for a financial panic—the rains of the past several days, which have been general all over the state, have insured us against any calamity of a financial nature for this year.—Missoula Herald.

The Methodist general conference having requested all parties to nominate candidates who are total abstainers, Mr. Bryan invites particular attention to the fact that he never had a cocktail record in his life.—Anaconda Standard.

The manufacturers' association is about to organize a business men's political party to take a hand in the approaching campaign. After the battle is over they will have more experience and less money.—Helena Independent.

A feminine writer says "there is no sleep so delicious as that which overwhelms us when we know we ought to be getting up." Quite right; and there is no awakening so disagreeable as that which comes when we are dreaming that we have money in five or six banks.—Yellowstone Monitor.

The latest important contribution to the gayety of the democratic campaign is the announcement made by the Anaconda Standard for the benefit of the Butte Miner that there is nobody in the vicinity of Anaconda who is desirous of "pulling Mr. Conrad's leg." Is this an insinuation?—Helena Record.

The orchards of the bitter root were never so bountifully laden with blossoms and fruit buds, this favored valley having thus far escaped the rigorous embrace of the frost king—that has already created such havoc in the orchards of Utah, Colorado and throughout the eastern states.—Hamilton Western News.

The selection of V. B. McComb of Hardin as one of the delegates from Yellowstone county to the state convention at Butte was a just recognition of the republicans of this precinct. Mr. McComb is a worker and accomplishes things in all of his undertakings, and in the meantime he is a good booster for Hardin and the Big Horn valley.—Hardin Tribune.

The Northern Pacific railroad has ordered intoxicating liquor and the Helena Record barred from its trains, probably on the proposition of saving passengers from undue excitement. Now if the N. P. will only turn back several million acres of "non-minerals" subsidy land to the state, run its trains on time, reduce freight rates the good faith of its goodness will stand out beyond question.—Great Falls Leader.

The Billings Gazette says the morals of that place and also of the county are improving and to prove the assertion further states that both the city and county jails contain a less number of prisoners than they have for a good many months, and there are fewer criminal cases on the docket of the district court, made so because the officials make the town and county too hot for offenders and they soon give the place a wide berth.—Missoula Herald.

The snow presents a magnificent sight hanging to the leaf-loaded limbs, and people are planning to secure some beautiful pictures when the sun comes out. Old inhabitants state this is the worst storm since 1831, when there was just about such a snow at this time of the year. In order to make a record of the unusual event the boys in the county clerk's office drew up a regular legal document and swore to it.—Miles City Independent.

INTERESTING FACTS.

In 1870 the population of Manitoba was 17,000; today it is 400,000.

Englishmen of Mid-Devon have organized to wage a war on wood pigeons.

Germany sends 29,000,000 feathers a year to England for millinery purposes.

Among flowers the chrysanthemum is said to live the longest after being cut.

The ashhook cactus is the compass of the desert, for it always points to the south.

Louisiana has 7,000,000 acres of swamp land, which are at present totally useless.

With an income of \$71,000 a day Mr. Carnegie can still give away a few libraries.

Every father of seven or more children is practically exempt from taxation in France.

The Lusitania has 43 clocks on board, all controlled by a master clock in the chartroom.

It is computed that the dew falling in England is equal to five inches of rain each year.

Old and worn typewriter ribbons can be used to good advantage by making writing ink from them.

There are 17,000,000 children in Russia between the ages of 6 and 14 receiving absolutely no education.

The ninth international geographical congress will be held at Geneva from July 27 to August 6.

After seeing a theatrical performance the Kaiser often goes behind the scenes and chats with the players.

The Clyde shipbuilding yards produced 500 vessels during 1907, as compared with 372 the previous year.

A \$20,000,000 terminal station has been planned for the steam, electric and subway lines of San Francisco.

Freeze Quick is the name of the democratic candidate for probate judge in Columbiana county, Ohio.

The cotton mills of Switzerland have remained almost stationary for the last 10 years, owing to foreign competition and tariffs.

The match monopoly produced a net revenue of \$5,475,000 to France last year, the tobacco monopoly \$75,390,000.

The value of agricultural machines and implements annually imported by Siberia amounts to about 10,000,000 rubles (\$5,150,000).

Germany's colonies are five times as big as herself, those of France 18 times, and Britain's 97 times bigger than herself.

Germany's population is increasing much more rapidly than that of Britain or France. This is a nation's greatest source of strength.

The total income of the London bar is put at £780,000 a year. As there are about 2,500 practicing members the average income is £315.

Valparaiso is only about 5,000 miles from New York, but it requires from 70 to 80 days to get a reply to a business letter.

A Montreal grain merchant recently sent an inquiry to London by the wireless and received an answer in less than two hours.

Students who have graduated in Germany are being engaged for the Hanyang (China) iron works and arsenal to improve the quality of the arms being turned out there.

The American Society of Naturalists will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of Charles Darwin, in cooperation with the American Association for the Advancement of Science, on the occasion of their meetings in Baltimore.

In Texas the state imposes a tax of 50 per cent on the gross proceeds of the sale of firearms. None is, therefore, for sale. They are "rented" for 50 years at the regular sale price.

Owing to the spreading by rats of trichinosis among swine the German imperial chancellor has issued a recipe for the extermination of the rat in any district where trichinosis occurs.

Saxony is the most densely populated of the German states, having had at the time of the last census (1905) a population of 100.7 a square kilometer. The average for the whole empire is 112 a square kilometer.

In certain towns in Germany householders are compelled by law to sort out their house dust. They have to provide three receptacles—one for ashes and sweepings, one for cooking refuse and one for rags and paper. The rubbish is utilized by the town authorities.

VANDERBILT CASE IS NEARING END.

REPERE'S REPORT IS FILED IN SUPREME COURT.

New York, May 21.—The report of the referee in the suit of Mrs. Elsie French Vanderbilt for divorce from Alfred G. Vanderbilt, head of the Cornelius Vanderbilt branch of the family, was handed to Justice O'Gorman in the supreme court today. All the papers in the case were at once sealed and filed.

An intimation that the report of the referee was favorable to Mrs. Vanderbilt was given when the attorneys made a motion that the report be confirmed. The motion was taken under advisement.

MANN GOES TO RED LODGE.

Judge Mann left yesterday morning for Red Lodge, where he has been subpoenaed as a witness in the Harrison murder trial. The judge took his justice court docket with him, in which there is a record of two cases against a woman who is mixed up in the case.

YOUNG FULLERTON RELEASED ON WRIT

TAKEN INTO CUSTODY ON SECOND WARRANT.

San Francisco, May 21.—Robert W. Fullerton, son of a St. Louis millionaire, who was taken from Seattle last week by eastern detectives on a requisition from Governor Hughes of New York and detained here by habeas corpus proceedings, was released today by Judge Sewall, who found the warrant insufficient. He was immediately rearrested on a fugitive warrant issued by Judge Shortall. He was taken to the city prison and shortly afterward released on \$5,000 bail furnished by his attorneys.

LENGTHY STRIKE IS DECLARED OFF

NO FURTHER SUPPLIES TO BE GIVEN KENTUCKY MINERS.

Nashville, Tenn., May 21.—The strike of union miners in the non-union Kentucky counties of Hopkins, Union, Webster and Christiansburg, which was called on June 1, was today declared off and the announcement was made that no further supplies would be given the idle miners and their families. The men were offered union cards for the purpose of seeking work in fields that are unemployed.

PEACE MOVEMENT BETWEEN NATIONS

CONFERENCE FOR INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION MEETS.

Lake Mohonk, N. Y., May 21.—That friends of the movement in favor of international peace have found much to encourage them during the past year, was the opinion expressed in letters, addresses and reports read at today's session of the Lake Mohonk conference for international arbitration.

James Bryce, the British ambassador to America, in a letter expressing regret at his inability to attend the conference, called attention to the several arbitration treaties signed by the United States during the past year.

Professor Kirchwey, dean of the law school of Columbia college, said he believed the development of international law will exert a strong moral force in maintaining peace and good will among nations.

WIDOW KILLED HERSELF.

Dependency Over Family Troubles the Cause.

Newton, Wis., May 21.—It now appears from circumstances which have come to light since the finding of the body of Mrs. Carrie Shaw in the mill pond at Hortonville yesterday that the young woman committed suicide. Dependency over family troubles is given as the cause. The body was not mutilated, as at first reported.

Mrs. E. E. Veltum and son have gone to Seattle, where they will witness the appearance of the warships at that city May 24.

No. (A. 107).

Report of the Condition OF THE

First National Bank,

AT BILLINGS.

In the State of Montana, at the close of business May 14, 1908.

RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	\$1,000,000.00
Overdrafts secured and unsecured	15,747.31
U. S. bonds to secure circulation	87,000.00
Stocks, securities, etc.	151,328.88
Banking-house, furniture and fixtures	55,300.00
Other real estate owned	87,578.21
Due from National Banks (not reserve agents)	21,528.01
Due from State Banks and others	54,488.59
Due from approved reserve agents	15,354.72
Checks and other claims	18,770.05
Exchanges for clearing houses	2,500.00
Notes of other National Banks	2,400.00
Fractional paper currency, notes and coins	75.00
LAUREL BANK RESERVE	
Specie	\$80,087.10
Legal tender notes	81,299.10
U. S. certificates for gold deposited	1,875.00
Total	\$1,551,192.96

LIABILITIES.

Capital stock paid in	\$150,000.00
Surplus fund	11,588.00
National Bank notes outstanding	47,000.00
Due to other National Banks	\$10,156.29
Due to State Banks and others	77,007.18
Individual deposits subject to check	4