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WESTMORE IS BUSY BURG IN SOCIAL LINES

Last Thursday evening the ladies of the literary society presented the biggest program that has been given. The meeting had been well advertised and the house was well filled. The program began at 8:15 with the singing of "America" by the audience, followed by a review of current events by Mrs. A. C. Long. Next came the first debate that the literary society has ever presented. Resolved, That the U. S. should materially increase her army and navy. The affirmative was supported by Mrs. C. F. McArdeil and Mrs. John Mack, the negative by Miss Marie Falk and Mrs. F. J. Ward. Each speaker was allowed twelve minutes, and five minutes was given the leaders for rebuttal. Both sides were well prepared and the question was pretty well threshed over. The judges, J. W. Zook, Rev. Newsom, and Mrs. Mary Yeager gave the decision to the negative.

Mrs. E. Davidson entertained for the next ten minutes with two songs, accompanying herself on the harp, after which Mrs. Harper read a paper on "Wit and Humor." Ebba and Lillian Chaffee played a pretty mandolin duet, followed by a reading "St. Peter at the Gate" by Grandma Higbe which was much enjoyed. Mrs. Mary Yeager read "The Model Church," and Mrs. F. A. Zook gave a comic recitation, "Hanging a Curtain," after which Belle Bolton read the Local News. Mrs. C. A. Busch and Mrs. Knudsen rendered a beautiful vocal duet, and responded with "Flow Gently Sweet Afton," as an encore. Mrs. N. A. Eggleston concluded the program with a piano solo, and altho the hour was late she was compelled to respond with an encore.

REALESTATE MEN PREDICT A BIG BUILDING-BOOM

Real estate men predict great activity this spring in land movement. The indications now, according to J. Y. Creel seem to point to a transfer of title in a large quantity of Baker dirt. He is planning to build a residence for himself and family in the Morris addition and will doubtless build this year on his down town property tho' he did not admit this latter at the time of this interview.

L. C. Burns, who is very active in placing city and country property on the market is optimistic over the spring business indications as observed by inquiries reaching him. Many who are unable to let go at this time are asking reservations of choice lots and will later come on to see the property themselves.

Workmen will be needed to build these dwellings, all those now here will be busy and when the pay rolls starts there will be at least one and possibly two more groceries start to supply the shopping places for the housewives.

He predicts that at least four new stores will be added to Baker's business circles this year.

With both land men and contractors busy there will be an area of prosperity for the community that will enable all of us to face our monthly statement from the bank with equanimity if not satisfaction.

The Lakeside Ice company reports the ice house full to the plate and that this summer they will endeavor to even excell the service given their patrons last year.

FARMERS MEET IN GREAT FALLS

Great Falls will be host to the farmers of Montana on March 6, 7 and 8. Carpenters' Hall will house the convention. It is a State Farmers' meeting to which every farmer in the State is invited and to which every farm organization is requested to send representatives. All Farm Organizations are merged into one for a three days' discussion of common problems. The first day is "Organization Day" The strong feature of each farm organization will be presented by a representative of the organization. Delegates from the grange, union, alliance federation and equities will be present.

The executive and legislative committees of the Montana Farmers' Federation are called to meet at the same time. The extension department of the Montana Agricultural College has asked the County Agents to be present at this congress.

The marketing, financial, credit, taxation and legislative problems of the farmers of Montana will be fully considered and every farmer given a chance to be heard.

Colorado's attempt on the part of certain State officials to defeat the purpose of the Montana Loan Law; the efforts of the Commissioner of Insurance to intimidate the Women of Woodcraft, and the persistence of this illustrious body in the face of open threats, will be fully aired.

Every farmer should attend this great gathering, and get the information first hand and hear the discussion of his own problems.—Ex.

The Crowbar Ice Co. thus called because of divers and sundry reason which we have not been able to ascertain, will soon be ready to furnish the wherewithall for lemonade cooling this season. The big new ice-house is full and waiting for the warm weather, to disgorge its crystal comforts.

NEW COMPANY AT WESTMORE

The Westmore Home Land company has been organized at Westmore with F. J. Pavelka as manager, and starts its campaign to place the fertile lands of that community on the market with a most unusual and elaborate publicity scheme. Every citizen of the village is interested to some extent in seeing the venture succeed and all are boosting whole heartedly for it.

Mr. Pavelka the head of the concern and we shrewdly suspect the mainspring of its energies, will devote his entire time to the exploiting of the broad acres of his friends and neighbors.

A booklet embracing the most enticing features of the valuable soil thereabouts is one of the publicity schemes and it will set forth the value of the lands in terms that are wholly true and can be substantiated by visiting the farms described.

County School Superintendent Leonard left the fore part of the week for Glendive, where a number of the eastern Montana School Superintendent will meet with the State Superintendent of schools.

Oscar Keener, brother of the popular Clerk of the District Court Ralph Keener, was in town Monday to get provisions for the coming season. Oscar states that the cattle in his neighborhood have done well considering the severe cold spell.



Photo by American Press Association.
Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the English suffragette, now in America with C. Mijatovitch (on left), former secretary of state of Serbia, to raise funds for that country's relief. M. Petrovitch on right.

COUNTRY LIFE ASSOCIATION HAS ENJOYABLE SESSION IN BAKER HIGH LAST FRIDAY

A meeting of Fallon county teachers opened Friday morning at nine o'clock sharp with a full attendance of teachers and visitors. Miss Leonard and Miss Bachtle presided at the meeting.

The first number was an exercise given by Miss Esther Bailey on Rote Singing and the pupils of Miss Washburn's room sang America, after which followed a talk by the Rev. H. J. Bamford on the "History of Education in Relations to the Christian Church" Miss Hodgson's model class showed a marked progress made by a class of primary pupils in six months time.

The class in geography by Miss Allee showed wide experience on the part of the teacher and care and preparation by the pupils. A request has been made to have the paper prepared and published in full as an indication of live work along the line of study and in the hope that more teachers will introduce supplementary work.

Mr. Goble opened up the subject of "Vocational Education in the High Schools," which was followed by an excellent paper by Mrs. L. Price on the same subject.

Miss Legried told the convention of the school lunch feature that has been established at Plevna. These lunches are a boon to the pupils that live at a distance.

Miss Bachtle undertook to tell of the work the teachers and janitor have done in serving hot soups to the pupils in the Baker school but was interrupted by the gong that summoned the teachers and visitors to the basement where a nice lunch had been prepared by the Baker teachers.

The afternoon session opened at 1:30 p.m. with a full attendance.

Miss Leonard spoke on centralization of schools, the merit of the county unit system and the district system. She is very much in favor of revision of the present code of schools and spoke of unequal division of levies.

Prof. Ward followed Miss Leonard and added that many teachers in the country are handicapped by crude methods of organization.

Mr. Warner states that teachers with normal training are needed in some of our schools.

The Rev. S. W. Pollard then followed with a brief and instructive talk on the "Threefold Nature of Education," which he subdivides into three classes, Physical, mental and moral educations.

Mrs. E. S. Booth read a paper on the "School as a Social Center," urging parental co operation.

"Language as Convergence of thought" by Miss Gladys Henton, was very interesting and clearly illustrated. Greater stress should be laid on teaching the English language in the grades, so that when the pupils reach high school they will not make serious errors in speech.

L. A. Conser took up the subject of "Betterment of the High School," outlining a system for the benefit of a farming community. Mr. Conser is of the opinion that vocational training in the high school is not always practical. He adds that the betterment of school is sometimes handicapped by politics. He urges the citizens to take more interest in the schools.

The last number of the successful program was a Review" by the Mayor of Baker, Horace Sparks. It was indeed a masterly review, giving the full history of our schools, their early struggle and many obstacles up to the present time. He spoke of the appreciation of the school board to the teachers of Baker praising the very good schools in town as well as the rural schools.

Iver Hyland, who is caring for the stock on J. J. Long's place six miles South of town, was in to see us this week and had the Fallonite sent to a friend in Three Forks. He also took one for himself. He expects Mr. Long to return about March 15th.

MANY MEN OUT FOR STATE JOBS

W. B. Rhodes, formerly of Kalspell, but who is now secretary of the Railroad Commission of Montana has announced his name as a congressional candidate to succeed Congressman Tom Stout. Mr. Rhodes was an active member of the lower house of the Montana legislature in 1913, and there is ever reason to believe that he will stir up quite a bit of interest in the coming campaign in the western part of the state where he is well known.

Judge Roy E. Ayers of Lewistown has also expressed his intentions to "take passage" on Mr. Rhodes' boat, so the last issue of the Fergus County Argus informs the public. Mr. Ayers is at present judge of the district court of Fergus and Meagher counties and he sustains an enviable reputation as a "square man" when it comes to "handling facts." The democratic party of Montana cannot boast of a truer friend than is Judge Ayer, and this fact will go a long way in helping to place his name before the public in future congressional years since State Senator Thomas S. Hogan of Yellowstone county is slated for Mr. Stout's position. He will win at the coming primary, and he will win at the election next November. Mark the prediction.—Billings Times.

WANT MANTLE TO RUN

The Butte Miner and other West-Montana interests seem inclined to induce ex-Senator Lee Mantle of the Copper Camp to "sling his shingle" into the senatorial race, in order that Johnny Edwards chances to "down" Senator Henry L. Myers may be lessened. But the senator says he is too sick to run, while there is nothing to fear from Johnny. He's just running to "keep up the party organization," besides, Uncle Joe Dixon will look after Johnny all right, all right. Senator Myers is in no danger. He'll win out, hands down.—Billings Times

MANY PLAN ON NEW HOUSES

Jack Pratt, contractor, and builder, is expecting some building boom for Baker if half of the buildings he now is planning to construct this spring are built.

There are a dozen dwellings and a half dozen business houses now under consideration for construction when the weather settles. He will begin work on the Baker Hotel company building where the Lloyd Hotel now stands this week. The old frame building will be moved to the rear of the lots and a handsome brick structure erected on the corner.

Mr. Pratt, who by the way is one of the most successful men of this community having been both farmer and workman and made both pay him a profit, will build a shop for his own use at the rear of the Midland's lumber yard if permission can be secured to erect a frame structure on the hillside by the board walk.

Other contractors have stated that work in sight will keep a large force of men busy all spring and way into the summer, if even half of the construction work now being planned does materialize.

Peter Beauchaine, a contractor from Fairview, Mont. is here looking over the field. He may decide to locate here if building operations planned for the spring develop as completely as indications now lead one to expect.

OIL GAME IS SPEEDING UP 'ROUND BAKER

The discovery of oil in northern Wyoming and southern Montana south and West of Baker has served to create a wide spread interest in the oil industry in eastern Montana and northern Wyoming.

It is already furnishing employment to many men and with the opening of spring and the enlargement of oil exploration activities as well as the development of the Baker fields hundreds more will depend upon it for their livelihood.

An unusual interest is therefore being manifested in the story of the development of the oil industry. The facts and figures contained in this article were compiled for the Billings Gazette by men interested in the exploration in both Montana and Wyoming and who drilled oil wells in all sections of the country.

In a little more than a half century since a sturdy pioneer, E. L. Drake, drilling for oil near the site of the present city of Titusville, Pa. brought in the first drilled oil well that gave an inkling of the vast wealth of petroleum.

In the intervening years amazing strides and changes have taken place in the industry. With the completion of the first well, every home on the world over from the palace to the most humble cabin, became the recipient of a great gift, the value of which no one has ever attempted to estimate. Drake found the means of supplying a good artificial light when the spread of common education had begun to demand the development of such a commodity, and the intellectual enlightenment had gone hand in hand with the development of this marvelous business.

The oil business today is on a commercial basis. It has passed entirely through the exciting time of early discoveries, and has become as staple and substantial as any of the great industries of the country. It is expanding at a remarkably rapid date and is now entering upon its greatest period of prosperity and success, and although it has reached enormous proportions, the constant expansion in the development of the resources of this country calls for more and more. Never in the world's history has oil been used more extensively.

Within the past few years Wyoming and Montana have been in the public eyes of the practical oil men throughout the United States. It is conceded by several of the best practical men in the United States, who have been over this country and made a thorough examination of the surface indications from Beaux Island to Medicine Hat, from Havre to the Big Horn country, and from Medicine Hat to Havre, and their opinions are almost all the same, that there is an oil and gas streak running across this state. They have proved it in the northern part of Montana. Havre having four wells completed, and good wells, showing that they have five different strata up to a depth of 1,306 feet, and when wells are drilled deeper in that section of the country they will discover four to five more from the present depth to 3,000 feet.

There has been several wells drilled in Montana at present, but none of them have developed anything to speak of, on account of their shallow depth, as no well now is considered to be a test well under the depth of 4,000 feet. One of the main wells in the California field was opened at a depth of 4,450 feet.