

# FALLON COUNTY TIMES

VOLUME II

Successor To THE FALLONITE

BAKER, MONTANA, THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1916

Successor To THE FALLONITE

NUMBER 3

## NIGHTWATCHMAN VICTIM OF GAS

The jury, duly empaneled to inquire into the death of William Gilman, after due inquiry find that he came to his death by accidental asphyxiation, and that there are no suspicious circumstances surrounding the case, and that the deceased had been fully warned of the dangers of entering the pit in the absence of assistance.

E. A. MONROE, Foreman, JACK PRATT, JACOB KESLER, A. F. HYTHECKER, O. J. OWENS, GEORGE M. DAUGHERTY.

Will Gilman, nightwatchman at the Montana Petroleum Company's plant, was found asphyxiated by gas, at 10 minutes past seven Wednesday morning.

The gruesome discovery was made when George Laucomer, the foreman and Clarence Faber, the tool dresser, went to work. Gilman's body was found lying prostrate at the bottom of the small pit. Nearby was a wrench, indicating he had entered there to adjust a pipe.

It is supposed that Gilman went into the pit at about five o'clock that being the usual hour for getting up steam, and in the opinion of the doctor life had been extinct only a short time.

The pit or enclosure was considered extremely dangerous, large accumulations of gas being present there at all times.

Supt. Albers was immediately notified by the company's foreman and hurried to the well in an automobile a few minutes after the body was found.

Why Gilman should take the risk which cost him his life is a mystery unexplained and which the coroner's jury will investigate.

I had warned Gilman time and time again, never to go down in that pit alone. Don't go down there even for a minute unless there is a man with you, I told him. And our foreman had also admonished him. Gilman knew the dangerous risk he assumed.

The trap was covered with boards. Gilman pulled one of these up and went down through the opening. The deadly vapor doubtless overcame him in the space of a few minutes. Five million cubic feet of gas are escaping from our well every day.

The inquest was held by Acting Coroner Burns, the witnesses being examined by County Attorney Dousman.

The facts relating to the finding of the body and the probable manner of his death were related substantially as given above.

Clarence Faber, tool sharpener, was the first witness. With Foreman Laucomer he went to the well shortly after seven o'clock. It was he who first discovered that something was wrong; the steam was not up as usual and Gilman was missing. He saw a monkey wrench and piece of chalk lying near the opening into the pit. A board had been removed from this. Peering into the dim light the two men saw Gilman's limp body astride a cross-piece at the bottom, his face set toward the casing from which gas was escaping. His body was cold.

They left the body where it was and hurriedly called a doctor and notified Supt. Albers.

Dr. Hays testified that, from all appearance, Gilman came to his death by asphyxiation. There were no marks of violence.

Frank Hitch testified that Gilman had been repeatedly warned by himself and others not to enter the pit alone.

Foreman George Laucomer gave practically the same testimony as Mr. Faber.

It is the general belief that Gilman went down to remove a clod of earth which obstructed the gas jet. The gas is used for fuel to drive the engine. It was probably at 4:30 this morning the tragedy occurred, that being the usual hour for firing up the engine.

Gilman first came to this county six or seven years ago. He bought a steam plow outfit and was later associated with Jack Pratt in successful business undertakings. At that time he is said to have inherited a large sum of money. He took the position as nightwatchman about three months ago.

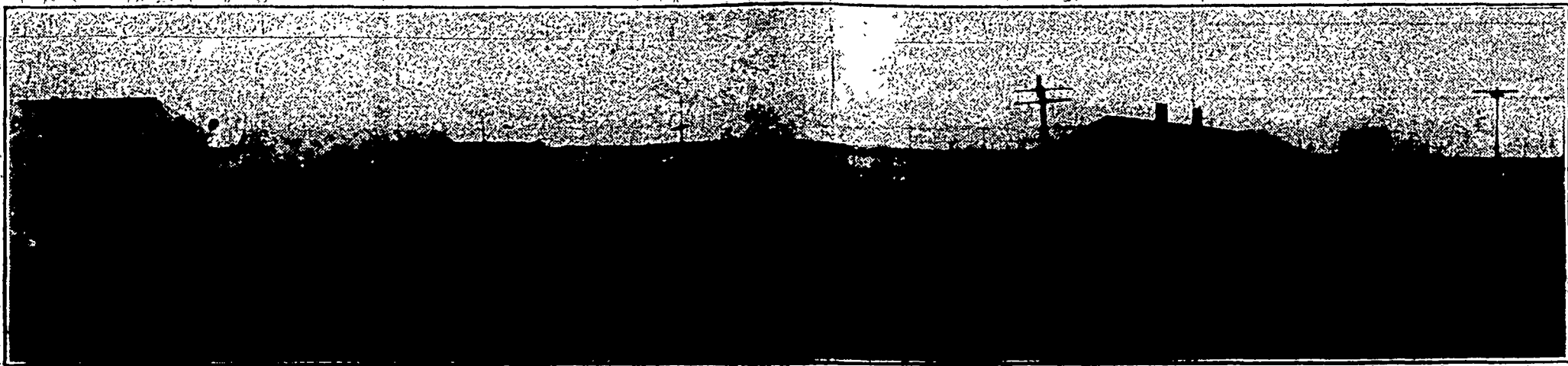
While engaged in a humble occupation, Gilman was held in highest respect by his employers and by the people of this community. He was true blue all the way through; of a kindly disposition, strictly attentive to his own business and of a cheerful temperament.

The unfortunate man was reputed to be worth \$40,000 or \$50,000, but incompatible as that may seem, it is not an unusual occurrence for men of means to seek modest employment.

He was 40 years of age and unmarried.

Mr. Albers had the body embalmed, awaiting instructions from relatives, a brother at Medford, Oregon, and one at Mellette, S. D., to whom he telegraphed.

Later, a brother, Tom, from Mellette, S. D., arrived last night and will make arrangements as to the disposition of the body.



Bidding Farewell to the Soldier Boys, Company L. N. G. M., Command Capt. Goble, Baker, Mont., June 23d. Photo by J. O. Boon.

## ASSESSOR'S ROLL SHOWS INCREASE

Fallon County's assessment roll for 1916, according to figures compiled by Assessor Charles Hughes and his deputies, shows an increase of \$800,671.

The total assessed valuation of all property within the county, both real and personal, for 1916, is \$7,684,369. The grand total for 1915 was \$6,883,698.

These amounts do not include the railroads within the county. That assessment is made by the state board of equalization. The assessed valuation of railway lines within the county in 1915 was \$716,431. It will be increased this year from the fact that a new line has been constructed from Beech to Ollie, about seven miles being within this county.

Northern Pacific mineral reservations are assessed for \$242,561, which is included in the figures given, but the railroad heretofore contested the payment of these taxes and it is not likely the county treasury will be enriched therefrom this fall.

A tabulation of figures in themselves are not interesting reading, but by getting on top of them and looking down we glean facts that make them less prosaic.

Where are the Piggie-Wiggies? Miss Whitney, the deputy, called our attention to the diminishing number of pigs in Fallon County. From 2201 last year, the number has dropped to 1836. Where are the piggie-wiggies? Maybe they burrowed under the straw stack and the assessor's men failed to find them.

Cattle Industry Leads. That the cattle industry still holds an important place in the county is indicated by the assessment. Both in numbers and dollars, cattle are in the lead.

The figures show there are 41,736 cattle with an assessed valuation of \$1,103,966, an increase in number over last year of 10,789 and \$273,065 in value.

More Horses, Too. There are 19,876 horses in the county, the assessed value of which is \$804,525. This is an increase of 337. The valuation increase is \$4391.

Sheep Diminishing. With the fencing of the ranges and the water holes, the large flocks of sheep are being diminished, but the figures show 71,684, valued at \$177,416. This is a decrease of 3268 in number and \$3851 in value.

Household furniture shows an increase of \$4314, the total being \$35,155.

There were \$7540 worth of musical instruments turned in to the assessor.

Merchandise shows a gain of nearly \$46,000, the total this year being \$132,002.

Farming machinery and implements shows a little over \$64,000, while harness and saddles were assessed for \$35,039.

Nearly \$60,000 is represented by threshing machinery and traction engines. Carriages and wagons, in the aggregate, are assessed for upwards of \$8,000 more than all the automobiles in the county.

The figures show 242 automobiles, valued at \$34,545.

There is one gasoline launch and two motor cycles, according to the assessor's record, and bank stock is assessed for \$54,085.

The total value of all livestock is \$2,095,087, an increase of \$271,776. The total value of all personal property, \$2,591,232, an increase of nearly \$250,000.

Total value of real estate and improvements, \$5,093,137, an increase of nearly \$550,000.

Real estate is represented by 1,092,839 acres of land, about 163,000 acres of which are railroad land. The number of acres of school land is estimated at 134,400.

There are 38 miles of telegraph lines in the county; 305 miles of telephone lines; and only two miles of high power lines.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

I hereby respectfully announce to my friends that I am a candidate for nomination on the Republican ticket for member of the House of Representatives. If elected I shall work for a clean and prosperous Montana and especially for the interests of Fallon County. I am opposed to double-crossing in public and private business. I want strict enforcement of the Corrupt Practices Act, as applied to those who want and expect to hold office.

J. A. WILLIAMS, Baker, Montana.

## INTEREST IN THE "TIMES" CONTEST RAPIDLY INCREASING

Many New Candidates Enter Race—Still Plenty of Time to Enter and Win Grand Prizes—50,000 Extra Votes For Every \$15 in Subscription Money—Start Today and be One of the Winners.

The Times subscription campaign is drawing to a close—just a little over three weeks remain. Those who expect to win should make the best of the remaining days. Every minute should be utilized by calling on your friends and those who have promised you a subscription. Now is the time to get those promises in; at no time during the contest will you receive as many votes as at this time. The big Special Offer of 50,000 Extra Votes closes July 22, and will positively not be repeated.

Chance To Win. Even a young woman who enters the campaign NOW, and puts forth vigorous and earnest efforts during the remaining days of the campaign, has an excellent chance of winning the Ford touring car or one of the other prizes. It is not how much time spent that is going to decide the winners; it is the time that is put to the best use. Many can accomplish in a few hours what it takes others weeks to do, and these eager workers naturally have more time to devote to their work than those whose work is slower. But the campaign has daily increased in importance since its inauguration, and the amount of interest exhibited by the people of Baker, and vicinity in the contestants and the campaign itself naturally makes it a much easier matter to secure the subscriptions NOW, than it was a few weeks ago. One who does real work NOW, receives benefit of this preliminary work done by others and by strict attention to the work of securing subscriptions and votes during these few remaining weeks can easily come in on the top. IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO START and the FIELD WILL NEVER BE RIPER FOR AN EARNEST WORKER. If you value a prize of real worth and earnestly desire to attain the automobile, ENTER AT ONCE, or if you are already in, START WORKING NOW.

Not Transferable. For the benefit of the numerous inquirers and others interested in the Times contest, we wish to state that one candidate will not be permitted to transfer votes to another.

How Votes Are Secured. In all cases where votes are issued subscriptions must be paid for in cash. The full amount of money must be sent or brought to the contest department of The Fallon County Times.

District One		
Miss Mabel Damon	Baker	1000
Mrs. John Heifrin	Baker	7,160
Mrs. Nellie Marggart	Baker	20,640
Mrs. Ben Evers	Baker	17,020
Mrs. L. P. Chuening	Baker	8,000
District Two		
Mrs. A. T. McNab	Ekalaka	1000
Miss Merva Ridgway	Camp Crook	1000
Miss Elsie McDonnell	Camp Crook	1000
Miss Ester Hahn	Westmore	22,040
Miss Ella Houstain	Westmore	1000
Miss Agnes Brice	Sykes	1000
Miss Evelyn Haven	Willard	6,000
Mrs. Agnes Moline	Dennis	1000
Miss Grace Dennis	Dennis	1000
Miss Florence Abrams	Dennis	1000
Miss Almata Wiley	Dennis	1000
Miss Inez Biffle	Plevna	1000
Miss Thelma Jones	Elgin	1000
Miss Lucy Gross	Elgin	1000
Miss Janie Hight	Elgin	1000
Miss Wilma Sandy	Elgin	1000
Miss Inez Cleveland	Ekalaka	1000
Miss Ruby Rennan	Wills Creek	1000
Miss Adolphine Ohlrich	Wills Creek	1000
Maggie Sciold	Boyes	1000
Laura Robinson	Boyes	1000
Mrs. Anna A. Champney	Boyes	1000
Verna Bond	Bisher	1000
Mrs. J. D. Patterson	Bisher	1000
Mrs. P. A. Barber	Bisher	1000

### THE OFFER

Besides the regular votes allowed on the various subscription payments, as shown in the voting schedule, we make the contestants the following offer of extra votes for NEW and OLD subscription payments: We will give 50,000 extra votes to every contestant who sends or brings \$15.00 worth of subscriptions to this office on or before Saturday, July 22.

NEW and OLD subscriptions are worth more votes to you during this period than they will be at any future date during this campaign.

This is positively the best offer or inducement that will be made during the campaign. So it is to your interest to secure as many subscription payments as possible during this period. In other words, a bonus of 3,333 votes will be given for every dollar you bring or send on or before 10 P. M. July 22.

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## POLITICAL GAME POTPOURRI SOON

In order to get a clearer understanding of who's who in the political potpourri soon to be enacted, let us read the following story.

Doubtless some of those whose names are mentioned will not permit their names to appear on the ballot at the primaries, but for the most part they have announced their candidacy through the press or verbally to their personal friends.

It will be observed the tabulation shows a preponderance of Republicans on the outside looking in—looking with yearning eyes toward those offices in which staunch Democrats are now firmly entrenched for another term.

It speaks mighty well for the records made by the Democrats now in office that no contests will occur in the primaries for the offices they now hold.

Petitions are being freely circulated throughout the county. These must be filed on or before August 14th, 15 days before the primary nominating convention, August 29th.

Legal forms for these nominating petitions are on sale at the Times stationery department.

For treasurer, E. H. Trandum and R. B. Lowry are out for the nomination on the Democratic ticket. E. F. Lentz, the present incumbent, is not eligible under the law for another term. George Hough has filed for the Republican nomination.

Frank C. Bunn, clerk and recorder will be a candidate to succeed himself. His Democratic opponent has not materialized, but the name of E. F. Lentz has been mentioned in connection with this office.

Ralph Keener will be renominated without opposition for clerk of court on the Republican ticket. No Democrat has been spoken of. It is generally conceded that it will take an exceptionally good man to beat Keener.

There are a number of aspirants for the sheriff's job. Matt Jones, who has made a splendid record, will have so far as we are informed, no opposition in his own party. George Brown and Henry Viles, both of Ekalaka, have announced themselves on the Republican ticket.

L. E. Rushton, a Republican, appointed by the commissioners to fill out the vacancy caused by the resignation of George Grant, Democrat, has filed a petition for nomination as auditor. The Democrats will have a strong man to contest for that office.

J. C. Cory of Ekalaka has filed his nominating petition for county surveyor on the Democratic ticket. For assessor, Charles E. Hughes, generally regarded invincible, will be renominated in the Democratic primaries. Otto Enerson, Sr., of Capitol, is after the Republican nomination.

Miss Carrie Bachtel has announced through the press her candidacy for the Democratic nomination for superintendent of schools. Miss May Stover was also prominently spoken of, but no public announcement of her candidacy has been made. Miss Annette Leonard, Republican, present incumbent, will be renominated.

County Attorney Charles Dousman of course will have the united support of his party. In the Republican primaries is likely to develop a pretty three-cornered fight. Joseph Hodgson, present city attorney, a good campaigner, with a large following of personal friends, has announced himself a candidate, as has P. C. Cornish, one of the wheel-horses of the G. O. P. in Fallon County. A young Ekalaka attorney, Leon Wheeler, is also to be reckoned with.

There are plenty of aspirants from the Republican ranks for the Commissionship jobs. T. A. FitzSimmons, of Calumet, present chairman, may consent to run again. James Pepper, of Plevna, is a hold-over member of the board. Carl Bondell, of Ollie, D. D. Howell, of Albion, in the south district, T. F. Schofield, of Ekalaka, for the six-year term, have been announced. Ed Akers was among the first to announce his candidacy on the Democratic ticket. Mr. Akers is a well-known resident of Webster.

George Farwell, of Sykes, present Democratic member, we understand will consent to a renomination. The name of Horace W. Sparks, of Baker, has also been prominently mentioned. F. E. McFarland has also filed for the Republican nomination.

R. E. Morris, one of the best known Democrats, and a highly respected pioneer of Fallon county, has announced his candidacy on the Democratic ticket for representative. The Republicans have quietly made a little medicine with the result that Eddie Booth and Judge J. A. Williams are both spoken of for the nomination in the Republican primaries.

Both gentlemen understand the political game from A to Z and should they enter the contest as it seems likely they will, it is sure to be a case of Greek meeting Greek.

Other candidates will doubtless come out into the open within the next thirty days. It is generally supposed that the candidate who openly announces himself to the electors early in the game has a distinct advantage.

## BAKER MEN GET JAIL CONTRACT

At an adjourned meeting of the board of county commissioners, July 6th, at which all members were present, the contract for the new jail was awarded to H. F. Griesy, the well-known local contractor.

The contract for the heating and plumbing was let to A. C. Jaspersen, of Baker, his bid being for 150 feet additional radiation in the court house.

The Pauly Jail Building Co., St. Louis, Mo., were awarded the contract for the steel work, which includes the jail cells. Their bid, the only one received, was \$4220.

Griesy's bid for erecting and completing the jail, except plumbing and heating and steel work, was for a two-story building, \$5620; for a one-story building, \$3841.20.

There were numerous other bids, most of them considerably higher, all of which were rejected because they were not received at the time specified by the board.

Jaspersen's bid for the heating and plumbing including 150 feet additional radiation in the court house, was \$3642 for one story and \$3904 for a two-story building.

The St. Louis company will furnish four tool-proof cells, according to plans and specifications of Link & Haire, the architects of Billings, and agree to have the same fully completed on or before September 1st.

Two sets of plans were submitted to bidders, one for a one-story building and one for a two-story building. The commissioners have concluded to erect a two-story building.

Under the law they are limited to an expenditure of \$10,000, or less, for a building of this character.

## MINNEAPOLIS MINISTER WILL PERMANENTLY LOCATE HERE

Rev. H. L. Anderson, of Minneapolis, arrived here yesterday, and Saturday will be installed as pastor of the German Lutheran church in this city. Sunday he will be inducted into the pastorate at Willard.

Rev. J. O. Wanberg, of Bowman, will conduct the ceremonies, which will be held at the Congregational church at Baker.

The new minister is a graduate of St. Olaf college, also of the U. C. Theological seminary, St. Paul, Minn.

Later dates will be announced for Carlyle and Ollie.

## CONFERENCE OF NON-PARTISAN "DRY" ADVOCATES AT EKALAKA

At Ekalaka on July 22, 1916, a conference will be held for the purpose of organizing a Fallon County Dry Montana League.

The program outlined is here given: 2 P. M. Address by Temporary Chairman, Judge J. A. Williams.

2:30 P. M. ORGANIZATION: "FALLON COUNTY DRY MONTANA" Campaign.

3:30 P. M. "Young Campaigners in Training," Led by Katherine Taylor.

3:50 P. M. Short addresses. Led by Rev. Landis of Carlyle. EVENING

8 o'clock—Exercises by "Young Campaigners." Addresses by Rev. W. S. Bowdon, Briley Douglas, Mrs. Clay McLean, Mrs. J. W. Ewalt, Prof. A. L. Shaw and others.

## HON. MILES ROMNEY HONORS BAKER WITH A BRIEF VISIT

Baker was honored one day this week by a visit from Hon. Miles Romney, of Hamilton, one of the best known men in the state, and candidate for the gubernatorial nomination on the Democratic ticket.

Mr. Romney is making a tour of the principal cities of the state in the interest of his candidacy. His friends here endeavored to have him remain over a day and make a speech, but being behind schedule in his itinerary, he was unable to do so.

Mr. Romney is a veteran newspaper man and has been identified with public affairs for many years. He is regarded a strong man politically.