

THE CHOTEAU MONTANAN

VOLUME I

CHOTEAU, TETON COUNTY, MONTANA, SEPTEMBER 5, 1913

NUMBER 10

Historical Society

FARMINGTON

[From our Regular Correspondent.]

Mrs. Ernest Wachmuth and children will leave in a few days for their home in Great Falls, after a pleasant visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Schoppe and her brother and sister.

Rev. Irl Hicks, of St. Louis, considered the best authority on the weather in the United States, says in his magazine for September. "As a general long look ahead we are free to say that we believe the outlook for 1914 is very much better than the several years past have been. We are satisfied that we are passing the crisis of the Jupiter drouth and heat and better and more prosperous conditions will return to all the great agricultural regions in 1914." We hope his predictions are correct and if old Jupiter is the cause of the erratic weather we have had for the past two or three years that he will be relegated to some other regions and not allowed to frown down on us from the limitless space above.

Hubert Hall of the Milwaukee engineering crew, expects to leave in a few days for Three Forks, where he will remain for a few days before departing for South America, where he thinks there are many opportunities for a young man to engage in the engineering business. We hope Mr. Hall's sires will be realized, and return to United States to invest as those Latin countries are never so happy as when destroying property or killing each other off at a rapid rate.

In taking up the Central or consolidated school question we find the first one was organized at Concord, Mass., in 1869, by Prof. Wm. L. Eaton. Now many states have adopted this method of educating the children in the rural districts. In this community nearly every one owns his home therefore has more pride in building up the country on a permanent basis. Education is a part of the standard of living and its tendency is to vary with the wealth and resources of the community. When new buildings are erected they represent the best efforts of a community. In some communities, where they haven't the funds to build a modern school house until special taxes for that purpose have been levied, they move the old buildings to the geographical center and use them until the funds are in the treasury to build the one that is desired. At present we have seventy-six pupils in the four schools, and the teachers are paid four hundred and fifteen dollars per month. Under the consolidated plan three good teachers can do the work. We can pay an efficient principal one hundred dollars per month each, making a total of two hundred and sixty dollars. This is one hundred and fifty-five dollars less than is being paid at present. The general school tax can be decreased and the sinking fund increased. Then too, we are adding more valuable property to our district each year. The railroad alone will be a considerable source of revenue, the city property will add much to our taxable property and soon there will be no empty homes, every farm will have a family and surely those who have had invested in the city property have had visits from the stork. We can, before many years, build a school where the high school branches can be taught, enabling our boys and girls to secure an education at home, can do their allotted work, mornings and evenings, keeping in touch with the

home and the farm remaining within the shelter of the home during the impressionable period of their lives. Is this not far better than sending them to some town away from home where there is no one to look after them? Then again, more of our boys and girls will attend high school if they are given this chance. This is a large, fertile and prosperous community and it is now time to act. The schools are well equipped for books. The encyclopaedia in one of the districts contains everything in that line that will be needed for many years, besides the many volumes of good books. I am sure transportation can be arranged in a very satisfactory manner. The high school should be maintained in our agricultural districts as well as in some distant town. There is no reason why our little town will not grow rapidly and increase in population if we have a good school. It will bring more people to live among us than anything we can do. Let us have sufficient ground for ball, and a good grove for the girls. When we get our new building a big assembly room will be needed. Let every thing be thoroughly up to date with special care as to sanitation. In connection with the schools being moved to Farmington, what is the matter with the churches? Can they be moved? The Norwegian church is a pride and honor to the community. It is a big building and we positively know very little about moving buildings but if such can be done why not? The little German church is neat and would be welcomed to the town. The whole community must work together. Let each one think "what can I do to build up the community?" Think this over and soon we hope to have another "Life line" to throw out, but we think it best to not undertake too many things at a time. In the meantime, we hope the gentlemen we asked to investigate this matter will look into details a little more and if we can help in any way Henry can ring us up, he knows the number.

The gentleman from Augusta had better go post himself before he compares us to mud-turtles and polly-wogs. We have none and don't want any of your forty or eighty acre farms. We have been here for a good many years and are here to stay. It has been fourteen years since there was any vacant land in this country around here. Our farms contain from one hundred sixty acres to several thousand. As for truck farming, we are not anxious to try it, but we do maintain that one hundred and sixty acres properly cultivated will pay better than large farms half cared for. We have plenty of water for alfalfa and timothy. Hog raising and dairying will bring quicker and better returns than grain growing. As to markets, come over Mr. Editor and we'll "show you." The Great Northern and Milwaukee both are at our doors. We don't know who you are or where you came from but we will bet a good spring chicken that you are none of our old friends over there whom we knew "Some twenty years ago."

Ole Wagnald, president of the Farmers' Co-operative Canal company, was over from his farm on the Muddy to attend the directors' meeting last Saturday evening.

Cal Binford and Johnny Gronberg were county seat visitors the latter part of the week.

Lars Nasset and son Lawrence, went to Choteau last Saturday.

C. A. Goodnow, assistant president of the Milwaukee railway company, and A. G. Baker, chief engineer, were on the bench last Tuesday on a tour of inspection.

England's King and Queen May Visit the United States



THIS is the latest and best "official" picture of the king and queen of England. It was taken this summer. It is of especial interest just at this time because of the report that King George and Queen Mary may visit the United States before the year is over. According to this rumor, it was said the royal couple would visit Canada first and then, being across the United States, would cross the border and visit New York and Washington. The visit would have great significance just now when the difficulty over the Panama canal tolls with Great Britain is still unsettled.

They visited the townsite of Farmington.

The streets of Farmington and Agawam will be graded soon.

Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Lindseth and daughter, Miss Amanda, were county seat visitors one day last week. Miss Amanda will leave soon for Great Falls, where she will devote her time to the study of music.

We wish to make a correction—In last week's issue we said, John and Frank Moore were here getting signers for some gentlemen to start a saloon at Agawam which should have said posting notices for some man unknown to us, to start a saloon—No harm done I hope and ask you to accept apologies.

Mrs. J. C. Ferris entertained a party of young people complimentary to her guests last Saturday evening.

Blanche and Albert Peterson, Mary, Ruth and Juel Lindseth attended the dance at Brady Saturday night. Everett Price took them over in his car.

Mrs. Austad and Paul Anderson left Monday for Oregon, where they will reside.

Henry Hanson has gone to Rushford, Minn., where he will attend high school.

Rev. Ronsberg of Conrad christened the infant son, Arthur Daniel, of Mr. and Mrs. Christ Lindseth and Emil, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Youngblood of Fairfield last Sunday.

Little Nina Hanson, youngest daughter of Mrs. Theodore Hanson is recovering from a serious illness.

Rev. and Mrs. Ronsberg have been guests of the Jay Peterson family since Thursday.

Ed Bollerud went to Power last Monday on business.

The Misses Clara and Bertha Davidson and Miss Alice Sater,

our efficient school teachers, left Monday for Great Falls, where they will attend the joint institute.

Miss Annie Zuidema will leave next week for Dillon, where she will attend the state normal this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay Peterson, who went to Black Hill, South Dakota, some four weeks ago, for treatment, write they are both feeling much better. This will be good news to their many friends in Teton county.

Mary Ord and Dorothy Longmuir and little Bina Eyraud will leave next Friday for Great Falls, where they will again be students at the Ursuline Academy.

Dan Lindseth went to Choteau on business last Monday.

The Misses Sater entertained the Aid society in a very enjoyable manner last Saturday. Their ability as cake makers and all around cooks was well sustained, while the coffee,—well, take dinner with the girls some day and see for yourself.

Lauris J. Otness commenced threshing Monday. Lauris is rushing his work through before the rains get here, then too, he will be ready to thresh his neighbors' crop.

Died, August 29, 1913, John Garrett, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Guthrie, at the family residence in Choteau. Little John was a sweet and lovable child. Born into a home of love, welcomed by every member of the family, his short stay among us, just seventeen months, made many hearts lighter and the entire community extend kindest sympathy to the parents and two little brothers, Bertram and Charles.

What we consider a compliment to our stationery department is the demand we are having for nice writing papers. The Choteau Drug Co., leads the town in tasty box papers.

Choteau Young Folks are Good Actors

A large and enthusiastic audience gathered at the High School auditorium last Friday night to see "A Rival By Request" put on by the young people of our town. To say the play met with the public's approval puts it mildly. One sitting in the hall would hardly know he was twenty-five miles off the railroad, and witnessing a local talent performance, so well did the folks acquit themselves. There was a little stiffness in some of the parts as is always the case with most plays, but every part was acted intelligently, and the person in it showed himself well adopted to his particular work. To Mrs. J. I. Cain should be given unlimited praise for her untiring efforts in making the participants feel at home behind the foot lights. No better work has been seen here for some time. The audience indicated by their frequent applause they were pleased with the play.

Al Powers gave his friends to understand that he has been doing something else this summer besides fishing and making trips to Helena. He has a pleasing manner, and never showed a better presence than in his impersonation of Walter Pierson, as a young bachelor who was engaged to two girls, and at times kept the people guessing which one he would finally marry. Retired farmers are most generally popular when they prove themselves to be good mixers with the boys. W. L. Stuckey, as old man Briggs, carried out his part to almost perfection in the various stunts he was called upon to perform. He crawled under the table as easily as a school boy, and made his friends forget he is a married man, and a school professor. The part of Mrs. Briggs, the farmer's wife, was splendidly carried out by Miss Mabel Shannon. To her should be given the brightest star of the evening, as her part was exceedingly difficult, and was taken with grace and skill that entitles her to much praise. The audience were only too glad to give her to give her and Mr. Stuckey applause at frequent intervals.

Florence Lepper, as Mrs. Chatterton, housekeeper of the "Cosmopolitan," Clara Pinger, as Mrs. Briggs' daughter; Lucille Anderson in the hard part of Margaret, the English lady, daughter of Mrs. Burnett, and Maisie Crawford in Mrs. Burnett, all performed with ease. Their work would be a credit to any stage. Mr. Bishop, as Winthrop Smythe, proved to his friends he could do something else besides running a newspaper, and with Roger Burrill as Bob Burnett, Roy Carson, as Lord McMullin, and Joe Harris in Muggins, made the play of fascinating interest from beginning to end.

Miss Lepper and the chorus filled in the first specialty with good grace, and were called back for an encore. Mr. Johnson and Sam Crawford proved themselves popular favorites with the audience in the whistling act. This was one of the big hits of the evening. Al Powers brought the chorus out to sing: "Here's to Love" which ended the performance, and sent people away pleased and satisfied with the evening's work.

Naturalization Papers

The following have made application before Clerk of the Court Gibson for citizenship papers:

Robert Gordon, a native of Scotland, residing at Power.

Charles Murphy, a native of Scotland, residing at Shelby.

Declarations to become citizens of the United States have been filed by the following:

John Benson, a native of Sweden, residing at Midvale.

FAIRFIELD

The dance given at the Grange hall Saturday was an enjoyable affair. A large crowd was present and all reported a good time. Music was furnished by the Fairfield orchestra.

Andrew T. Austad made a trip to Power for lumber for his granary.

Joseph Thorud has finished threshing. Crops are not running as high as was predicted this summer.

Bill Harris pulled through here to the west of the bench with his new threshing machine. There are five machines here this year and all seem to have pretty good runs, which goes to show the Freezeout bench is picking up but when we get the water, threshing machines ought to be as thick as the hair on a dog's back.

Elmer Zimmerman of Spokane is spending a week with his uncle, John Zimmerman and family.

Jack O'Farrel expects to leave for the eastern part of the state within a few days.

Bennie Dorrington is spending the last few days of his vacation here.

Geo. Frev, Jr., is getting pretty busy around the house lately. If our suspicions are confirmed there will be one less bachelor on the bench.

B. & M. Team Beaten

It was "some baseball" we had on the local diamond last Sunday afternoon when in twelve innings the Choteau nine defeated the fast B. & M. team of Great Falls by a score of five to four. DeForest and McRae of Great Falls were pitted against DeMars and Crawford for Choteau, and the score shows the superior work of the local boys. DeMars struck out 14 men; DeForest 9. Only six hits were made off DeMars delivery, while Choteau touched up the Great Falls pitcher for eleven. The game was well played, was exciting and interesting from start to finish, but when "Pug" Connor tied the score in the ninth inning, making the extra innings necessary, the crowd went wild with joy. It meant a victory for the local nine.

Following is the score of the game.

B. & M.—	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Samuelson, rf.....	5	1	0	1	1	0
Stratton, ss.....	5	0	0	3	2	1
Broughton 3b.....	5	0	2	1	2	0
McRae, c.....	5	0	0	11	1	0
Ferry, cf.....	5	1	1	1	1	0
Jardine, 2b.....	4	0	1	3	4	1
Hanson, lf.....	3	3	2	1	0	0
Thill, 1b.....	5	0	1	11	0	0
De Forest, p.....	5	0	0	1	2	0
Total.....	41	4	6	94	13	2
One out when winning run was scored.						
CHOTEAU—	AB	R	H	PO	A	E
Cullin, 3b.....	6	2	1	2	0	0
McGregor 2b.....	5	1	3	3	2	2
Bowen, cf.....	5	0	3	3	0	0
Powers, lf.....	5	0	0	2	0	0
Burke, ss.....	4	0	1	2	0	0
Crawford, c.....	5	0	1	14	2	0
Connor, 1b.....	5	2	0	10	0	0
McDermott, rf.....	5	0	1	1	0	0
DeMars, p.....	5	0	0	1	4	0
Total.....	45	5	11	36	10	3
Score by inning:						
B. & M.....	1	1	0	0	0	0
Choteau.....	2	0	0	1	0	0
Summary: Two-base hit—Bowen. Three-base hits—McGregor. Sacrifice hits—Bowen, Stratton. Double plays—Stratton to Jardine, Pass balls—McRae, 1; Crawford, 1. Base on balls—O'Farrel, 3; O' DeMars, 5. Struck out—By DeForest: 9; by DeMars, 14. Umpire—O'Neil.						

Civil Cases

The following civil cases have been filed in the office of the clerk of the district court since our last report:

W. L. Barger vs. A. W. Wright, appeal. Filed August 29.

LeRoy Southmayd vs. Franklin Pierce, debt. Filed Sept. 3.

In the estate of Sigrid Ostensoe, deceased, letters of administration have been issued to Ole C. Ostensoe.