

THE CHOTEAU MONTANAN

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More Choteau Money Spent

Previous to the election of 1912 a movement was started by a number of Choteau boosters (or grafters, perhaps) to bond Teton county in the sum of \$100,000 for improving county roads and the erection of bridges over the streams in this neighborhood. At the election the proposition was favorably considered by the taxpayers and the bonds were voted by a large majority. True, the Choteau boosters (or grafters, perhaps) in their arguments in favor of the bonding proposition pointed out to the voter that not all of the money would be spent in building bridges over Spring creek, in this city, but that a small portion of it would possibly find its way to other portions of the county, and in this way these boosters (or grafters, perhaps) bamboozled the people into pledging the good faith and credit of the county for that sum of money. In due season the bonds were sold and the money received on their sale was turned over to the county treasurer in Choteau. The Choteau boosters (or grafters, perhaps) were now in possession of \$100,000 of the county's money! Just think of it! Choteau had that much money to spend on her roads and bridges! No chance for Conrad or Cut Bank to ever get a cent of it! Not much! The Choteau commissioners would see to that part of it, and the county seat town saw visions of boulevarded highways and immense steel bridges on the flats near town. Were they not entitled to it? Didn't they have the money? Sure they did, and ever a Dillman knows that possession is nine points of the law. If you doubt the correctness of that statement, just ask Dillman; he knows everything that's worth knowing! He's a wise man; there are perhaps some few men in the insane asylum who know as little, but we doubt it. Last week the Choteau commissioners slipped a cog and awarded a contract for building a bridge across Cut Bank to the Minneapolis bridge company. The contract calls for the expenditure of \$8,050.00. This amount, together with the amounts already spent for bridges and road machinery, totals to approximately \$70,000. Choteau could well afford to have that small amount spent in some other portion of the county. Just think of the fun she's had in spending the balance of the \$70,000 and there's \$30,000 left with the treasurer to be spent later. The records of the county show where the Choteau commissioners have wasted the money. Below we publish the list, in the hope that some of the damphools at Conrad and Cut Bank may learn just a little something before the goblins catch them. Here's the list:

Marlins bridge at Sullivan's	27,000 00
One-half Simms bridge	4,500 00
Two bridges in Dry Forks, near Conrad	5,400 00
Janders Coulee bridge at Conrad	2,500 00
Teton bridge at Collins	8,000 00
Contract for Cut Bank bridge	8,050 00
Road engines and graders	14,020 00
	\$69,450 00

Not a cent of this money has been spent on a road or bridge within a radius of 20 miles of the county seat. Not a cent. Yet we are not kicking at the commissioners. The improvements made were needed ones, and should have been made sooner. We are pleased that they are realities, and are not in the least jealous of the good fortune of our neighbors. What we do object to however, and in this we mean to be taken seriously, is for Conrad and Cut Bank, after having had spent in their respective neighborhoods so much of "Choteau's

To Mark Park Roads

Morton B. Dodson of this city has been engaged by the Cascade County Good Roads association to prepare maps of drive stakes for two automobile roads which will be laid out between this city and Glacier Park. Mr. Dodson expects to start out on this path-finding tour as soon as the roads are fit to travel over. One of the proposed roads will make Glacier Park by way of Choteau, Conrad, Valier, and Browning and the other will be via Choteau, Bynum, Dupuyer, The Mission and along Two Medicine river to the Park. Along these routes road stakes will be driven at a distance of five miles apart and later on these stakes will be the support for the signs which have been donated to the association by Louis Hill of the Great Northern railway. The first of these will be driven at the corner of the courthouse block and two or three others will be set at intervals to guide the traveler through the city streets to the bridge.—Great Falls Leader.

Bollerud—Davidson

Ed. Bollerud, one of the old-timers of the Burton bench country, and Miss Clara M. Davidson, also of Farmington, surprised their many friends last week by quietly going to Helena where on Wednesday, June 3rd, they were united in marriage. Mr. Bollerud is one of the successful farmers and merchants of the bench, and his bride is also well-known to our people, having been a resident of this section for a number of years. They will make their home at Farmington. We extend hearty congratulations.

To Beet Growers

The only thing that will restore the beet sugar industry and give it a further lease of life is the repeal of the sugar schedule in the tariff law, which was designed and executed solely for the purpose of crushing the beet sugar business, the latter having become a formidable competitor of the cane refining business on the Atlantic coast.

Every dollar paid for cane sugar in this country is a step to starvation labor in the tropics, and the building up of a big sugar monopoly in foreign countries.

The beet sugar growers who vote will do wisely to vote where their interest lies when they elect congressmen next November.—National Farmer.

Civil Cases

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

Arthur D. Johnson vs. Frank Comings, transcript of judgment, Filed June 9th.

J. I. Case Threshing Machine Co., a corporation, vs. Henry Orr and H. K. Ferris, suit on note. Filed June 10th.

John Edward Kane vs. Inez Edna Kane, divorce. Filed June 10th.

James Edward Boothe vs. Maud Dess Boothe, divorce. Filed June 10th.

money," whining, kicking and bellyaching because they get nothing in the way of road and bridge money, claiming the Choteau ring gets it all, when as a matter of fact the reverse is the true state of things. The damned mutts probably should have guardians appointed to look after them. They know so little its pitiable to see them trying to be company for grown men!

"DROPPING THE PINT."



OUR COUNTY EXCHANGES

Henry Loesch, who lives four miles southeast of town, struck a fine well at a depth of twenty-two feet, this week. The well was struck in a coulee and the indications are that there is plenty of water. It is probable that a number of the neighbors in that community will test for water upon hearing of Mr. Loesch's good luck.—Brady Whetstone.

Jimmie DeMars, erstwhile pitcher for the Choteau ball team, arrived in Bynum this morning and will remain here permanently as a member of our club.—Bynum News.

Mrs. Geo. W. Seebeck and two young sons are planning to leave Conrad next Sunday and after a short visit in Great Falls they will proceed to Redwood Falls, Minnesota, where they will spend the summer. It is understood that on or about the 14th inst., when Mr. Seebeck's time as postmaster expires, he will accept a position as traveling salesman out of Great Falls.—Conrad Observer.

Dr. and Mrs. H. B. Nixon of Kalispell, were here Tuesday of this week, stopping off on their return from a trip to Bynum. After looking over the Bynum field carefully, Dr. Nixon has decided to locate there for the practise of his profession, and will open his office in that place in the near future.—Conrad Independent.

Sam Dunbar reports that the order had been given to open the water gates of the Two Medicine project, which will irrigate the grasses on the big plains west of Cut Bank. Sam ventures the opinion that when the water is turned on and flows over this section it will mean more rainfall down this way, as it will induce more evaporation.—Pioneer Press

Editor Shipman of the Sweet Grass Advocate is in town with the Sweet Grass baseball fans. He reported to the Tribune that crops are not looking as well as they might. Mr. Shipman also says that there is an oil rush on in all the Sweet Grass country; in fact as far north as Calgary. Oil has been struck at Calgary and several good samples have been brought in from near Sweet Grass especially from the Roscoe

well, 25 miles east of Sweet Grass line. One by the name of Seager and a couple of New York men are promoting the venture.

For 20 miles about Sweet Grass the country is staked out into claims. A number of Sweet Grass men have formed an association and are busy. A half dozen drilling outfits are being rushed to the field and excitement is in a high pitch says Mr. Shipman.—Cut Bank Tribune.

The big Swift Dam which has been under construction the past two years will be rushed to completion this summer. We were informed by Mr. Swift that there is now forty men employed at the site and the work is progressing nicely.—The Valerian.

To Be Tested in Courts

Helena, June 6.—The initiative and referendum amendment will be tested in the courts within the next 30 days, according to information obtained by M. McCusker, secretary of the People's Power league, who left here this afternoon to attend a meeting of the executive committee in Butte tonight, when arrangements for the defense of the constitutionality of the amendment under which the primary law, and the corrupt practices act were placed on the statutes under which it is hoped to place several other measures on the books this fall, will be considered. No matter what is done or not done, the motives of no persons involved will be impugned, stated Mr. McCusker.

While here Mr. McCusker and Governor S. V. Stewart, Attorney General D. M. Kelly and Secretary of State A. M. Alderson held an informal conference at the capitol building. The situation was discussed but no conclusions were reached, it is reported.

Episcopal Church Notes

Sunday, June 14th, Rev. Haley will hold services in the church, morning and evening. The morning subject will be, "The Best Thing in the World," the text will be, "What shall it profit if he to gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" Sunday night the topic will be, "My Yoke is Easy, My Burden is Light." Everybody welcome.

Rev. Haley, Pastor.

Prohibition Question Up

Washington, June 9.—Nation-wide prohibition, through a n amendment to the federal constitution, will be considered tomorrow at a special meeting of the house rules committee.

Members of the committee were reticent tonight, but it is understood they will pass upon a revised resolution proposed today by Representative Hobson of Alabama, to meet opposition to the amendments submitted some time ago on the ground that it violates state rights. As revised, the proposed new article in the constitution reads:

"The sale, manufacture for sale, transportation for sale, importation for sale, of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes in the United States and all territories subject to the jurisdiction thereof, and the exportation for sale thereof, are forever prohibited: the congress or the states within their respective jurisdictions shall have power to enforce this article by all needful legislation."

Prospects of votes on prohibition, at this session have been the subject of general discussion, and majority leader Underwood's expressed willingness to have the question put before the house for a test. Mr. Underwood and other democratic leaders believe that while the Hobson resolution ought to command a majority, it could not receive the two-thirds vote necessary for passing.

Marriage Licenses

Since our last report marriage licenses have been issued by James Gibson, clerk of the district court, as follows.

Severt A. Ringham, 30, Blackleaf, and Melrud Ackerman, 26, of Fowler.

Clarence E. Frisbee, 31, and Hazel Sherburne, 27, both of Browning.

Addison D. Wheeler, 50, and Sarah Satterlee, 45, both of Cut Bank.

Naturalization Papers

The following have made application before Clerk of the Court Gibson for citizenship papers: Julius Myhre, a subject of Norway residing at Valier.

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

Charles Wilson, a subject of Sweden, residing at Choteau.

Gilbert Rowland Gay, a subject of England, residing at Dupuyer.

The Envelope Trick

Special agents of the railroads have sent warning to Montana merchants to look out for the envelope trick, which has been worked in several cities of this state. The crook who practices this trick enters a store or bank and asks the cashier for a five or ten dollar bill, as the case may be, in exchange for silver. The pretense is that he wishes to send the bill away in an unsealed but directed envelope which he holds in his hand. When the cashier hands him the bill he pretends to put it in the envelope and count out the silver. Then he finds he is twenty-five cents short, passes the envelope supposed to contain the bill to the cashier and tells him to hold it until he gets the other two-bits from a friend. He then makes his getaway with both the bill and the silver, and usually works several business houses before the alarm is given.

State News

Lewistown, June 5.—The attendance at the final day of the Montana Federation of Woman's clubs was the best of all, and all the proceedings were of great interest. The delegates were thoroughly pleased with the success of the convention, and entered upon their work with zest. Boulder Hot Springs was chosen as the place for the next meeting, and at the opening session the following officers were elected:

Mrs. Theo. Brantley, of Helena, vice president at large; Mrs. R. von Tobel, Lewistown, vice president, central district; Mrs. Robert Ziedeltz of Billings, vice president for southern district; Mrs. George Stratton of Glasgow, recording secretary; Mrs. George W. Spear, of Butte, auditor.

Helena, June 8.—Advance figures from the annual report of State Fire Marshal J. F. McCormick show that 501 fires, occurring between January 1, 1913, and March 31, 1914, caused a property loss of \$1,059,603. The destroyed property was insured for \$4,247,191.

A bill to pay \$5,000 to H. Frank Adkins, of Helena, a letter carrier, who was permanently disabled last December while on duty, has been introduced in the senate by Senator Walsh.

Dillon, June 8.—R. E. O'Brien, the man who was arrested a week ago Sunday upon a charge of grand larceny, and who pleaded guilty before Justice Kennison and was held to the district court, was brought up before Judge J. B. Poindexter in the district court. O'Brien was charged with posing as a government official and with passing worthless checks. He signed the checks himself without funds in the banks to draw on. Judge Poindexter sentenced him to five years at labor in the state prison, which sentence he took without a murmur.

Billings, June 8.—According to police officials the social evil problem in Billings has been solved, so far as the public aspects are concerned. At the time the segregated district was abolished last February 75 women were under the ban. Six of these have married and are leading respectable lives, one has engaged in business and all the others have left the city. Half-hearted efforts by certain business men to re-open the district have been abandoned and it is not believed they will be renewed.

Helena, June 8.—Notice has been received here of the lifting of the federal quarantine that has prevailed on account of scabies against the counties of Valley, Blaine, Hill, Choteau, Teton, Cascade, Musselshell and Yellowstone counties.

Thomas was Right

When the Underwood tariff bill was passed, Thomas R. Marshall declared that it was more like the Walker tariff of 1846 than anything that had ever been passed.

It begins to look as if Tom was right. Under the Walker tariff law of 1846 American industries languished to such an extent that in the winter of 1855, for instance, 60,000 men, 50,000 women and 10,000 children, ordinarily employed, were out of work, and it was costing public charity \$20,000 a day to feed them, according to the New York Tribune of that period.

This is about the same proportion of idleness reported from New York City under the Underwood tariff law—357,000 men being jobless.—Munsie (Ind.) State Journal.