

THE CHOTEAU MONTANAN

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Coin Collection Stolen

Great Falls, April 18.—One of the joys of Billy Rance's life has been a wonderful coin collection that has reposed for years on the shelves of a glass case in the Silver Dollar saloon, of which Mr. Rance is proprietor.

For years the case and contents have been the envy of Montana numismatics. Up until this morning it contained coins of many denominations, realms and ages. Today every bit of the gold money is gone, carried off by the ruthless vandal for whom the coins have no other than intrinsic value. Mr. Rance personally closed the saloon at 2.30 o'clock this morning. At 6 o'clock the caretaker found the coin case opened and rifled. A staple holding the padlock had been pried. Near the case were a brace and bit and a carpenter's chisel. These tools had been used to cut a hole around the back door lock large enough for a man's arm to enter.

The collector values the missing coins at \$7,500, \$5,000 representing the market value of the metal and the remaining value being sentimental. One Japanese coin, which was a slab of gold six inches long and two inches wide, was said to contain \$150 in pure metal.

Short Weight Sacks

Helena, April 20.—Inspectors of the weights and measures department are conducting an investigation throughout the state at the present time to determine the extent to which the misbranding of the contents of flour sacks and barrels has been carried. The investigation has been completed in Helena and Miles City and in both cities it was found that sacks branded "net weight 49 pounds," actually contain but 48 pounds, and sacks supposed to contain 98 pounds contains but 96 pounds.

These short weightings are within the three per cent variation permitted by law, but the statute specifies the variations must be as frequently in excess of weight as below. This has not been the case with this flour.

It is reported that in certain instances the mills have not permitted retailers to pay the freight on flour shipments, the supposition being that the manufacturers did not care to have the retailers learn they were not getting the flour for which they paid.

Secretary of State A. M. Alderson says that as soon as all the inspectors report the future policy of the department will be outlined. "We are not going to tolerate any misbranding or short weightings, and if the facts justify it, criminal proceedings will be instituted," he declared.

New Building at Fair

Erection of only one new building is contemplated on the Montana State Fair grounds this year, according to Secretary P. B. Snelson. This is a structure to house the fisheries exhibit, and will cost \$3,000, the money being appropriated out of the fish and game fund by the legislature.

The site for the building was chosen by the directors at their recent meeting. It lies on a line with the poultry house and between the old horticultural building and the agricultural building.

Wm. Cowgill left Wednesday morning for Seattle, Wash., where he expects to remain with his family until after the close of the school term there in June, when they will return to Choteau.

Montana Schools Cost Money

It cost \$61.75 per student to run the public school system of Montana during the year ending August 31, 1914, according to figures compiled in the office of H. A. Davee, state superintendent of public instruction. The total enrollment in Montana's 2,104 school houses was 85,782, the expenditures on salaries, insurance, repairs, books and other overhead charges aggregated \$5,306,935.42.

The average actual number of days taught last year was 163 and the daily attendance averaged 93 per cent of the total enrollment.

Gold Strike in Alaska

Fairbanks, Alaska, April 20.—A placer deposit yielding gold values as high as \$1,635 a pan has been struck on Hammond river in the Koyukak district, 65 miles north of the Arctic circle, according to authoritative reports received here today. The camp is in an almost inaccessible district, 900 miles from Fairbanks. The report, dated March 25, said Nelson and Smith obtained one pan worth \$1,635 and another worth \$1,632 the same day. Average pickups of nuggets made in the bottom of their shaft in six days amounted to \$1,000 a day. Kelly and Grogan, working a claim in the same district, picked up nuggets worth \$4,000 in six days.

To Participate in War

Rome, (via Paris), April 19.—The Giornale D'Italia today publishes an interview with an unnamed neutral diplomat who is quoted as having said:

"That Italy will participate in the war has been decided on. What now is necessary is clearly to agree on the delimitation and distribution of the eastern coast of the Adriatic between Italy and the Slavs. Italy cannot risk a war to drive out Austria from the Adriatic and have Austria replaced, in a military sense, by the Russian advance guards.

"Therefore, Italy must have her strategic points completed by obtaining Avlona, Albania, across the Adriatic.

The diplomat added that he thought that Russia and Great Britain would suffer less from the present war than from the antagonism between the two countries which, he said, would follow it.

Choteau's Old Settlers

The annual reunion of Choteau's old settlers was held at the Woodman hall in this city last Friday evening. The attendance was not as large as usual, but those present report having spent a most enjoyable evening. Dancing, card playing and other amusements were indulged in until midnight, at which time a delicious banquet was served at the Beaupre house. Returning to the hall after the banquet the officers for the ensuing year were elected, as follows:

President, Mrs. Nellie R. Brown.

Vice-president, Mrs. G. M. Coffey.

Secretary, Mrs. H. Beaupre.

Treasurer, Mrs. T. O. Larson.

These officials all enter upon their duties with the very best of feelings from the members of the organization, who sincerely hope and believe they will keep the interest up in the annual meetings of the old settlers, so that, as now, the newcomers will always live in pleasant anticipation of the time when they also may be honored members of the society.

GENEVIEVE CLARK TO BE JUNE BRIDE.



Only child of Speaker Champ Clark is to marry James M. Thomson, publisher of the New Orleans News-Item, in June.

We All Know the Answer

Although it seldom leads to any good results, it is frequently interesting to let the mind drift away into the realm of speculative thought which is bounded by the word "suppose."

Collier's weekly, in its current issue, asks a very direct and pithy question along these lines, when it says:

Suppose that just at the moment after the Eitel Fried rich had begun to blow up the William P. Frye, but had not finished it, an American war ship had appeared on the scene. What would the commander of the American vessel have been likely to do?

Please don't trouble to send the answer. We know it. Yes, Collier's knows the answer, and so do we all of us.—Butte Miner.

Perhaps we know the answer, and then again perhaps not. If the commander of the American war ship was not hampered with instructions from Washington to "resent no insult" until after having first communicated with Washington, then the answer to the query would be easy. The career of the Eitel would be speedily ended. Otherwise our incompetent, democratic administration at the seat of government would consume time enough in "writing a note" to the enemy, to give an Eitel sufficient time to sink many another American ship. Our democratic foreign policy is a strange and wonderful thing, but it does not cause the average American to swell up with pride.

The Cut Bank Tribune appeared on Thursday of last week under new management. Some Joke Rigney having retired in favor of Alfred C. Heinze. Under the new management the Tribune promises to appear "under the same good old democratic policy as it has been heretofore," and if you are sufficiently acquainted with "English as she's writ," you probably know what Heinze means. The Tribune also states that it hopes in a short time to reach the stage of standard newspaper publications. We hope so too, but wonder what Rigney will think of a slam like that, coming, as it does, from the house of his supposed friends.

Civil Cases

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

Peter Conrad vs. J. L. Hyatt, appeal. Filed April 15th.

F. A. Hatrick & Co., a corporation, vs. H. Ammann, suit on note. Filed April 17th.

Acme Harvesting Machine Co., of Peoria, Ill., a corporation, vs. W. P. Metz and C. C. Metz, suit on note. Filed April 17th.

A. D. Johnson vs. D. R. Ullom, John Ullom, co-partners as Ullom Brothers, and Anna B. Stiles, abstract of judgment. Filed April 20th.

A. Smith vs. G. C. Madison, abstract of judgment. Filed April 21st.

Flowerree Sheep and Horse Company, a corporation, vs. Marion O. Hankins, suit to quiet title. Filed April 21st.

Flowerree Sheep and Horse Company, a corporation, vs. Ross Porter, administrator of the estate of Daniel C. Gray, deceased, suit to quiet title. Filed April 21st.

Epworth League

It will be of interest to those who have been watching the progress of the league contest to know that the white side won by a score of 218 to 213 points. The reds will entertain with a moonlight picnic on Friday, April 30.

The committees have been appointed to prepare the big, league supper for May 8. This will be a 25c supper given to raise funds for league pledges. Come to the league rooms for your supper that evening if you want a good one. Epworth league 6:45 Sunday. Junior league 3:00 p. m.

Epworth League Supper

The Epworth League of the Choteau M. E. church will give a supper in the league rooms of the church on Saturday, May 8th, commencing at 5.00 o'clock p. m. A sumptuous spread is being planned, and it will pay you to be there. The league expects to feed the entire population of Choteau for less than they can feed themselves. Remember the date, May 8th. Watch for further announcements.

More Democrats in Kansas

Leavenworth, April 19.—A special car carrying Mayor Dunn M. Roberts, and 14 others, convicted in the Terre Haute election conspiracy case, arrived today at the United States prison. The trip to prison began at Indianapolis yesterday afternoon.

Leaving the special car, the convicted men shook hands with the guards who had made the trip with them, and walked to the office of the captain of the day watch. The men appeared cheerful. When their valuables had been taken from them, the men went to the office of the prison physician, where each submitted to a physical examination.

After the photographing and "dressing in" process had been completed, Mayor Roberts and his associates entered the dining room where, with thirteen hundred and eight other prisoners, they partook of their first meal in prison.

Warden Morgan said it had not been determined what tasks would be assigned the men.

He Stopped His Paper.

Not long ago a man came into this office and stopped his paper because he said it was always printing a lot of things about the same people and he said he was sick of it. Now when something goes wrong with the country the government appoints a commission to investigate and find out what is the matter, and the first thing a commission investigates is the man who made the holler to see if it was a reasonable holler. So we appointed a commission consisting of ourselves to investigate this man. We just followed the man's career ever since he was born.

The first thing that happened to that man was that he was born, but he had nothing to do with it. However, we mentioned him although his parents were entitled to the credit. When he was in his early twenties he got married. We mentioned that, including the name of the bride, the preacher, etc. in fact we mentioned everything but the preacher's fee, which was not worth mentioning. We never mentioned the fact that he won any premiums at the county fair, because he never exhibited anything. We never mentioned his name in the list of committees, because he never attended anything. We never mentioned his name in the list of donors, because he never donated as much as a doughnut. We certainly have been treating this man shamefully, but we will agree to run a nice obituary when the time comes.—Ex.

\$50.00 Reward

The above reward will be paid by the sheriff of Teton county, Montana, for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the party or parties that broke into the Drake Drug Co., of Valier, Montana, on the night of the 17th of April, 1915, and stole the following articles:

2 meerscham pipes
12 pearl handled knives
3 gents gold watches
4 ladies gold watches
4 kodaks
2 dozen watch chains
50 to 75 finger rings.
8 bracelets and a lot of stick pins.

Any information leading to the arrest and conviction of these parties will be held confidential if desired.

Address all communications to the sheriff's office, Choteau, Montana. Wm. Miller, Sheriff.

Back in G. O. P. Ranks

Spokane, April 19.—The lone progressive in the United States senate, Miles Poindexter of Washington, announced here Saturday that he would seek reelection on the republican ticket. He took his seat in the senate as a progressive April 17, 1911, and his term will expire March 31, 1917.

Senator Poindexter arrived at his home here Saturday, and after a day's consultation with friends, issued a statement which reads in part:

"I will be a candidate for the republican nomination for senator. As nomination is to be by primary, the people will have full opportunity to decide all questions connected with my candidacy. There is ample opportunity for discussion and full consideration.

"At the proper time I will make a careful and complete canvass of the state and there will be without much delay, a quiet but well connected organization of forces and friends throughout the state. The record of the legislature is a lively reminder that if we are to hold and consolidate the ground gained in recent years, the cause of the progressive must cease. When united the party is progressive, both in this state and in the nation. Neither the Aberdeen convention in this state in 1912, nor the Chicago convention of that year represented the republican party. Both perpetrated political platforms on the same lines."

Decision Against Medicine Lake

Glasgow, April 20.—Judge F. N. Utter after hearing arguments of counsel here today in the case of Poe against the officials of Sheridan county in effect decided against Medicine Lake citizens, who are contending that their town should be the county seat. The demurrer to the complaint was sustained by the court quite unequivocally.

Horses Wanted

Buyers will be at Choteau, Saturday, May 1st, to buy horses for English, French and Italian armies. Horses from 15 to 16 hands high, from 4 to 10 years old. Will buy young horses unbroke, but will pay more for halter broke horses. The better the horse the bigger the price. All colors.

Choteau Feed Store, headquarters

Hon. J. G. Bair to Speak

In the Boy Scouts' program at the high school Saturday night, Mr. Bair will make an address on Law and Order in the State for the benefit of the boys of Choteau. This entertainment is free to all, and nothing extra will be charged for reserved seats. Songs will be sung by the boys led by Miss Clark, and other events of the program will be carried out.

Episcopal Church Notes

Rev. Haley will be in Conrad Sunday so that the only services here will be Sunday school at 11.30.

Mrs. D. D. Cole has as her guest this week, her daughter, Mrs. C. E. Cunningham, of Livingston. Mrs. Cunningham is a former resident of Choteau, when her husband, Rev. Cunningham was pastor of the First Methodist church, and has a number of friends here who are pleased to meet her again.