

The Choteau Montanan

OF MONTANA
Historical Society
HELENA, MONTANA

VOLUME XI

CHOTEAU, TETON COUNTY MONTANA, APRIL 4, 1924

NUMBER 39

METAL TAX BILL TO BE VOTED ON BY THE PEOPLE

BILL WILL GO BEFORE PEOPLE AT THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION

The fight to tax metal mines of Montana upon the gross production basis is to be carried to the people of the state in a measure to be initiated for submission to the voters at the next general election.

The bill as to be submitted to the people, is declared not to increase taxation, but to equalize the burden of providing revenue for the state government among mining, agriculture, business and the various other industries of the Treasure State.

Based upon the production for 1923 the measure will raise approximately \$500,000 from natural resources of Montana which now escape taxation entirely or pay but a small portion in comparison with other industries.

Proceeds of the metals mines tax will be divided equally between the public schools and the state treasury. Direct benefit of the law will be received by every child of school age in the state and other taxes for the school purposes will be reduced to the extent of a quarter of a million dollars, if the figures on 1923's production hold good as a basis for estimate.

HORSE NEARS 51ST YEAR

Viewing the approach of spring with apparent nonchalance, Clover, reputed to be the oldest living horse in the world is nearing his 51st anniversary on the farm of a clergyman of Ottaviano, Penn.

The rigors of winter had no effect on the old horse, for his owner provided him with a special box stall lined with straw, and a double blanket. Regular exercise every day and warm food are said to have helped him weather the dangerous season. Clover still boasts a full mane and all his teeth. His body is without a blemish. Such is his fame that he now enjoys a pension from the Jockey Club of New York.

Until recently, he did active service. At the time of his 20th birthday anniversary, Clover pulled a buggy with two men over an ordinary dirt road for two miles in the time of 4:25. A standing offer of \$1,000 for his hide when he dies is said to exist.

Among Clover's many benefactors is Mrs. Warren G. Harding, widow of the late president, who donated \$100 for the care and comfort of the dean of the equine world.

"TO THE LAST MAN" BIG STORY

One of the foremost screen offerings of the current season is the Paramount picture, "To the Last Man," which is due at the Royal next Sunday. Lois Wilson, Richard Dix, Noah Berry, Robert Edson and Frank Campeau appear in leading roles.

ALL STAR CAST IN

"THE DANGEROUS AGE"
In the selection of the cast for this latest production, "The Dangerous Age," a First National attraction which is coming to the Royal on Monday and Tuesday, John M. Stahl, the noted producer, has more than fulfilled the promise implied by the term "All star." Lewis Stone heads the list as the personification of the title.

The story is an original from the pen of Francis Irene Reels, and treats interestingly of the domestic problems and affairs of an average American family. It contains a near tragedy, several melodramatic thrills and plenty of suspense and humor.

Adults 35c, high school 25c and children 10c.

FOREST SERVICE NEWS NOTES

The local forest office has been advised by the forester that government photographs can now be purchased by the public at a very reasonable cost. Enlargements, lantern slides, transparencies and water color prints may also be purchased and anyone interested may secure further information by calling at the local office.

C. A. Butler, the Ear Mountain ranger, has returned from a three month's detail in the district office at Missoula and will proceed to his station headquarters at Ear Mountain in a few days.

Miss Mary Elizabeth Forrest has resumed work in the local office preparatory to taking the place of Miss Iphi Mills, who is being transferred to Missoula.

G. A. Fredrikson arrived last night from Stark, Montana, where he has been employed during the winter by the A. C. McC. at one of their lumber camps.

C. L. McVey returned to his station at Blackleaf Monday after a six week's detail in the supervisor's office.

Among the projects approved for construction on the Lewis and Clark forest this year is a bridge across the Teton River near the forks of the river.

Feed in Transit Rate Now Assured Forest Permittees

The U. S. forest service has been interested in developing plans for the use of unused sheep range in Western Montana and Northern Idaho, and Supervisor Myrick of the Choteau forest office has just been advised that the Northern Pacific, Great Northern and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway companies now provide a "feed in transit" rate from points in Eastern Montana. The present tariffs now permit grazing in transit going either east or west for a period of one year at points directly intermediate at a charge of \$5.35 per car with special charges where out of line service is involved.

Since there are now many disapprovals for sheep range on forests in Eastern Montana those desiring to ship to markets at Seattle, Tacoma, Portland or California can secure grazing permits on forests in Western Montana taking advantage of the "feed in transit" rates and find it of material advantage.

In some instances the grazing season is considerably longer and sheep insurance against fire in the Western forests can now be secured for about \$160.50 per annum, based upon a valuation of \$25,000.00 and after the sheep have left the forest a return can be secured, thereby making the cost of insurance for four months, based on this valuation, at about \$40.00 per season.

Additional information regarding ranges available, etc., will be gladly furnished by the forest service.

"On the Banks of the Wabash," the Vitagraph special production which will be shown at the Royal Theatre on Wednesday and Thursday is based on the famous song classic written by Paul Dresser.

The picture, produced by J. Stuart Blackton, deals with Indiana and Indiana folk who live along the banks of the famous river. The story centers about a fine old character, "Cap Hammond," quaint in humor, strong in manhood, who rises to an emergency and provides the thrill of the picture, a climax startling in its immensity.

March, 1924, was not an exceptional month except in the number of cloudy days as compared with 1922 and 1923. The precipitation even though it seemed there was a large amount was only a little more than the last two years. In 1923 the total precipitation came in four days, in 1923 in five days and this year it stormed some on each of seventeen days.

TAX, BONUS BILLS CERTAIN TO PASS SMOOT PREDICTS

EXPECT LEVY REDUCTION MEASURES TO BE REPORTED IN SENATE MONDAY

Washington, April 1.—Assurance that the tax reduction bill would be passed this session and prediction that the soldier bonus bill would be enacted into law before congress adjourns was made today by Chairman Smoot of the senate finance committee, as leaders of both parties and President Coolidge centered attention on the legislative program. Senator Smoot told the senate the tax bill probably would be ready for a report to the floor by Saturday.

A drawn out discussion with Secretary Mellon Tuesday on the tax bill forced over until tomorrow conclusion of the hearing of the treasury secretary before the finance committee. Mr. Mellon was asked particularly to present his views on the estate tax, which was increased by the house and which is opposed by many senators in favor of an inheritance tax.

He read only a small part of a prepared statement on this question, however. President Coolidge took a hand in the senate legislative situation, discussing programs with several senators at individual conferences. He was said to favor immediate action on the revenue bill, passage of which he believes will give an impetus to business if modeled along the lines of the Mellon plan.

Senator Smoot said republicans had pressed disposition of the tax bill with as much speed as was safe. While denying reports that he had told the president the bill could not pass before June 10, he later reiterated a statement made after a recent White House conference that it was unlikely the bill could be passed before the national political conventions and that only a recess could be taken at that time.

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SAY THOUSANDS DUE TO RETURN FROM THE WEST

CLAIM LONG STRING OF FORMER RESIDENTS DUE TO START BACK TO MONTANA

Once upon a time, as all good fairy stories go, the slogan, "California or bust" was on practically every tongue and the westward march to the land of sunshine and oranges has not ceased even today.

But former Montanans who have habituated with the native sons are about to retrace their steps and it is estimated that from 4,000 to 5,000 of them will start on a trek back to the Treasure state this summer.

The figures, estimates of the number that may move this summer, were given out in Great Falls by E. H. Wilde, general passenger agent of the Great Northern railway, who was in that city from St. Paul. Mr. Wilde states that the impending movement of Montanans from California back home has been largely due to vigorous campaigns sponsored by chambers of commerce, commercial bodies and civic bodies in towns of this state. While some Montanans are only coming back during the vacation period, it is reported that many are returning to again make their homes here.

The advertising campaign that has been conducted in leading magazines of the country, exploiting the Pacific northwest, by the Great Northern, Burlington and Northern Pacific railways, is having a great influence over the country. Mr. Wilde stated, and tourist travel from all over the United States to this part of the country is going to be very heavy this summer.

"We expect that the travel to Glacier park alone will increase 25 percent or more this year," he stated. "The travel to Yellowstone park, and in fact, the movement generally toward this part of the country is going to be the heaviest we have had in some years."

"We are going to get this increased travel with improved train service over the Great Northern. Plans have not been worked out yet, but I believe will include additional trains to accommodate tourists."

The joint advertising campaign, which has more than fulfilled the expectations of the three roads which are promoting it, will be carried on indefinitely, Mr. Wilde said.

According to the scheme of a proposed excursion rate for the two parks which will probably be put into effect some time in June, tourists will have a layover of nearly three hours in Great Falls. Plans are already under way to devise some means of entertaining them and acquainting them with the city during their short stay.

STANFORD HELD LEGAL SEAT OF JUDITH BASIN

SUPREME COURT DECISION ENDS FIGHT ON PART OF THE HOBSON CONTENDERS

Helena, April 1.—The Montana supreme court in an opinion handed down Tuesday affirmed the judgment of District Judge W. E. Carroll in the Judith Basin county seat litigation, thereby establishing the permanent seat of the county government at Stanford, where it has been temporarily stationed since the creation of the county.

In passing upon this matter, under an appeal from the district court, the supreme court upholds the right of an elector to cast his vote and to have that vote counted, regardless of the failure of a county official or election official to carry out to the fullest extent the administrative duties imposed upon him by the election laws.

It further, in referring to section 727, relating to the procedure in cases of ballots of absent voters, says: "We hold that where, as in this instance, the question of the right of the elector to vote under the circumstances here disclosed is not raised until after election, the provisions of section 727 above will be held to be directory, and that the failure of the county clerk to perform his duty will not operate to disfranchise the electors who were duly qualified and without fault."

The fight between the towns of Hobson and Stanford for the location of the county seat is one which has been waged constantly since the institution of the movement for the creation of the new county.

At the general election in November, 1920, the electors were called upon to express by ballot their choice of a place for permanent county seat. The rival candidates were the towns of Stanford and Hobson, and upon the face of the returns Stanford was successful.

COOLIDGE CHIEFS LINING UP FORCES FOR HIS CAMPAIGN

LEADERS ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON TO PREPARE DETAILS OF CONVENTION EFFORT

Washington, April 3.—Managers of the campaign of President Coolidge for the republican presidential nomination, feeling that by the end of April, enough delegates will have been chosen and instructed to insure his selection, are turning their attention somewhat to convention and after convention activities.

William M. Butler, chief of the Coolidge campaign managers, arrived in Washington Thursday for a series of conferences with the president and Frank W. Sterns James B. Reynolds and others of the campaign staff. Among the matters to be decided soon is the selection of a man to put Mr. Coolidge's name before the Cleveland convention.

The nominating speech for a candidate usually is made by a member of the delegation from the candidate's home state and, if this custom is followed, Senator Lodge, the republican leader of the senate, or speaker Gillett probably will be chosen.

One of those in attendance at the conference declared the president has no intention of writing a platform, if it appears certain when the convention meets that Mr. Coolidge is to be the nominee, his views as to a platform, however, undoubtedly will have considerable weight.

The convention committee on arrangements, headed by David W. Mulvaney, national committeeman from Kansas, and consisting of more than a dozen other national committeemen, will meet in Cleveland April 30 to go over arrangement matters and possibly agree on a recommendation as to temporary chairman and other convention officers.

The members of the Coolidge campaign are known to be turning over in their minds a number of possible temporary chairmen and the list includes Senator Borah of Idaho, Senator Pepper of Pennsylvania, former governor Lowden of Illinois, Governor Groesbeck of Michigan, Governor Hyde of Missouri and former senator Beveridge of Indiana.

FORM A "DAD'S" AUXILIARY

A "Dad's" Auxiliary of the American Legion has been formed by members of the York Post of the World War organization, Legion members who have enlisted their fathers in the new organization declared that it is a success and that they intend to promote a movement for the organization of auxiliaries in other Pennsylvania posts. The auxiliary will apply for a charter from the state.

All kinds of good furniture for sale cheap. Inquire of Mrs. C. D. Yeager.

NEWS NOTES FROM AGAWAM

Nick Gerich was a business valler in Choteau last Friday.

Otto Wagnild is the happy owner of a Ford touring car. A number from Choteau attended the dance here last Saturday evening. Miss Ethel Nyberg and Jos. Lindseth motored to Choteau Saturday afternoon.

Geo. Porter of Porter's bench was hauling grain to town last week.

A. M. Rongstad transacted business in Conrad Friday.

M. Jones and son were in Pendroy the fore part of the week. Mrs. Geo. Wright, who underwent an operation at the Mayo Clinic, is getting along nicely according to the second report received by her husband on Monday.

Mrs. P. J. Reed spent Wednesday and Thursday in Choteau, guest of Mrs. Otto Wagnild.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Doyle entertained Mr. and Mrs. Jim Barnes and family, Mr. and Mrs. Nick Gerich and family, Mr. and Mrs. W. Petri and family and Orville Wright to a delicious dinner last Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Young of Great Falls were attending to business here Wednesday.

Otto Wagnild motored to Choteau Tuesday evening.

WHAT THE LEGION FIGHTS

The Wall Street Journal, which carries at its masthead the motto, "The Truth in its proper Use," recently referred to the service men of the United States in these words:

"To grant these panhandlers their unearned and indefensible dole would settle nothing."

So it is "panhandlers" now. And in 1917 it was "the flower of American youth."

Who has changed, the service man or the flag-waver of 1917? Every self respecting service man knows the answer.

Has the time arrived when a man who fought in the World War must apologize for having done his duty? Will the Wall Street Journal succeed in establishing the tradition that service in the World War was disgraceful? Can it place the brand of beggar upon those it once hailed as heroes and get away with it?

Vilification of this type—a type happily in such boorish bad taste that its own phrasing condemns it worse than any argument—serves the Legion admirably. It proves to the eligible non-member that the road to justice lies through the ranks of organized veteranhood. Alone, the veteran is powerless in the face of such cheap attacks. United with his fellows, he can laugh at them, for then the attacks are powerless to prevail.

Joseph G. Young and Miss Ruth Minerva Baker of Gilman were married Tuesday in the office of the clerk of the court, the ceremony being performed by Justice of the Peace J. E. DeFaus. Miss Dorothy Longmuir and W. N. Streeter were the witnesses.

Miss Elizabeth Kraber, daughter of Mrs. Lewis Thompson, returned Tuesday evening from Dillon, where she is taking the teachers course. Miss Kraber will take the next quarter's work by correspondence, being one of the honor students of that institution.

Attorney Bert I. Packer returned last week from Seattle and other coast points.

County Attorney Stanley R. Foot has resumed his duties at the court house after a couple of week's spent on the coast country.

HARLAN F. STONE IS CHOSEN FOR DAUGHERTY'S JOB

FORMER DEAN OF COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL IS TO BE NATION'S LEGAL CHIEF

Washington, April 2.—Harlan Fiske Stone of New York has been selected by President Coolidge at attorney general.

Mr. Stone, a native of New Hampshire, and 51 years old, has served since 1910 as dean of Columbia university law school, and recently designed to become an active member of the New York law firm of Satterlee, Canfield and Stone. He received his law education at Amherst and Columbia, and was admitted to the New York bar in 1898. He is a director of the Atlanta and Charlotte Air Line Railway company, and other corporations, and is a republican, although he never has taken a leading part in politics.

Summoned to Washington yesterday, Mr. Stone had a breakfast conference today with President Coolidge and was presented by the president to a number of his callers, including the republican leaders of the senate.

In selecting Mr. Stone, White House officials said the president believed he has been able to accomplish the purpose he announced yesterday of finding a \$75,000 of \$100,000 man to serve in a \$12,000 job.

The prospective attorney general is not a stranger to the president, the two having been friends since college days at Amherst. Mr. Coolidge received his bachelor's degree one year ahead of Mr. Stone.

The names of Mr. Stone and Chief Justice Arthur H. Rugg of Massachusetts supreme judicial court have been the two most prominently considered by the president from the time of the retirement of Harry M. Daugherty, and final decision was made on Mr. Stone because of the executive's feeling that Massachusetts had more than her share of high federal officers.

Mr. Stone has been on leave of absence from Columbia for the past year and his resignation as head of the law school is effective at the close of the scholastic year in June. The resignation will now be made effective immediately upon his confirmation by the senate, however, his nomination was sent to the capitol today. Selection of Mr. Stone doubles the representatives of New York in the cabinet, as Secretary Hughes is accredited to that state.

NEW INDUSTRY FOR CHOTEAU

Choteau has a new industry this week. The Mozer Shoe Shop has equipped itself to manufacture auto tops of all kinds. It will be able to make a top for any make of car, or will make one of any style or design that is wanted by the customer. The definite arrangements have not as yet been made, but the intentions of the proprietor is to do all kinds of auto top work. Most of the material is on hand now, and with that on the road, the Mozer Shoe Shop will be able to make you a better top for your "Hiver" or other make of car than can be purchased from the companies.

It is reported that William Reigum has announced his candidacy on the republican ticket for the office of heriff of this county on a platform of a "continuance of an earnest effort to reduce the expenses connected with the operation of the office." With mileage bills running up to the hundreds of dollars, do you think that he is quite honest in his platform?

Statement of Condition of

FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF CHOTEAU

At Close of Business December 31, 1923

RESOURCES	LIABILITIES
Cash in vault and in other banks.....128,753.57	Deposits.....292,793.31
U. S. Liberty Loan Bonds 30,360.53	Surplus and undivided profits.....10,854.29
County warrants, real estate, etc.....25,433.17	Capital stock.....50,000.00
Loans and discounts.....169,100.33	
353,647.60	353,647.60



A Noble Ambition

The ambition of this institution is to justify the confidence of its customers, to be trusted because of its good judgment, its faithful observance of duty and its financial responsibility.

Conferences with the officers of this bank are cheerfully given to those who desire seasoned and well-reasoned advice.



Citizens State Bank
CHOTEAU, MONTANA

Capital, Surplus and Profits over \$65,000.00