

THE PRODUCERS NEWS

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Handed Down
From Above

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A PAPER OF THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE

PLENTYWOOD, SHERIDAN COUNTY, MONTANA, FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1931.

Official Paper of the City of Plentywood

Entered as second class matter, October 18, 1912, at the Post-office at Plentywood, Montana, Under the Act of March 3, 1879

MUSSELSHELL SOLON REPLIES TO GOVERNOR

Shows the Chief Executive What
Legislation Can do to Relieve
Distress in Way of Taxing those
Who Dodge Taxes Now—Starvation
Stalks the Land.

Mussellshell, Mont.,
July 30, 1931.
Hon. J. E. Erickson,
Helena, Montana.
Dear Sir:

Your letter of July 24th received and while I am in accord with your suggestion for relief of the suffering, I am convinced the Red Cross and similar voluntary organizations cannot provide relief sufficient to meet the demands of the present situation.

This conviction is strengthened by the reports of crop destruction by grasshoppers in five neighboring states. In these states the Red Cross will be called upon to provide relief for a condition almost as serious as that which exists in Montana. Had it been possible for the organization to meet the demands made upon it by the conditions in Montana, this additional burden would make it impossible.

Your suggestion that each person having a fixed income or salary should contribute fifty cents per week to a relief fund should, and in all probability will, be acted upon. People who are able to do so will probably contribute more, yet in this locality there are about six who will be able to contribute under those conditions while there will be from one to three hundred persons requiring relief. It will be readily seen that any sum thus raised while it will be helpful, will nevertheless be only an infinitesimal portion of the sum actually needed.

Your statements that there is no money to appropriate, that a bond issue could only be made by a general state election, and that the session would be all probability cost \$50,000, are correct. However, in that connection I will say that I do not believe that a bond issue is either necessary or desirable, and that although the expense of a session would be approximately \$50,000 if the assembly can be persuaded to raise the sum raise an amount sufficient to prevent suffering, hunger, or starvation, the expenditure is amply justified.

I am convinced that by a revision of our present inequitable methods of taxation, the state can relieve the farmers of the unjust burden of taxes under which they now stagger, the burden can be distributed among those more able to bear it, some of the tax can be encouraged to increase the number of their employees, and in addition a sum of from one half million to one million dollars can be raised which can be used to mitigate the suffering which is daily increasing.

This sum in itself is not sufficient, but it would greatly augment the sum derived from other sources, and combined with the efforts of relief organizations may prevent loss of life during the winter.

Even though our efforts are insufficient we must nevertheless render this assistance for the reason that common humanity demands it, and for another reason of importance to supporters of our state and national governments.

Agitators do not make anarchists and revolutionaries. The condition with which we are confronted does breed them by thousands. If the people feel that their government has not exhausted every means at its command to relieve the condition, a natural resentment will be aroused which makes for lawlessness, riot and revolution.

The people of Montana are desirous of observing the federal regulations and laws of the state but we must remember that "Hunger knows no law."

Respectfully,
LEVERNE HAMILTON.

RED CROSS FEEDS 'EM ON 1 2 3 CENTS A DAY

Dagmar, Mont.,
Aug. 4, 1931.
Charles E. Taylor,
Editor of the Producers News.
Dear Sir:

Five dollars a month, one and two-thirds cents per day. Yes, Sir! That is what the Red Cross does out to a man that has a wife and two children to feed when said man has one milk cow, 30 chickens and no hogs. Is it really possible that a family can exist on that dole out here during the hard winter months? People are expected to live on that all I will say is that it's high time the farmers join a militant organization of some kind that will demand and if they take what is needed to get over there is anything to get over then be prepared to fight Hoover's militiamen full of buckshot afterward.

A HUNGRY FARMER.

Hundreds Join United Farmers League

THOS. A. EDISON CONVALESCING

West Orange, N. J., Aug. 5.—Thomas A. Edison was sufficiently recovered today from his breakdown to take a 25-mile automobile ride—the first time he had been out of the house since his illness.

The 85-year-old inventor waved aside three chauffeurs who were waiting to help him from his second floor bedroom to the car saying: "It takes no effort to fall down stairs."

Mrs. Edison rode in the back seat with him and his son, Charles. After a trip down the Pompton turnpike the car returned to the Edison estate at Llewellyn park.

The night bulletin issued by Dr. Hubert S. Howe, read:

"This afternoon Mr. Edison felt so much improved that he insisted on taking a short drive. Other than this, the afternoon has occasioned no marked change in his condition. His improvement during the last 48 hours has been so rapid that it will of necessity be slower from now on."

Edison is suffering from diabetes and ulcers of the stomach. He has been bothered with the latter for the past 20 years.

OUTSIDE BANDITS GET \$7,000 IN BANK RAID AT BOWBELLS, N. D.

Bowbells, N. D., Aug. 2.—Bowbells thought the burglar alarm of the First National Bank was being tested Monday when it sounded a warning through the streets.

But it wasn't as four employees and patrons told police 5 minutes later, after getting out of the vault in which they had been imprisoned.

Two bandits fled with about \$7,000 and an unascertained amount of stocks and bonds. By that time the citizenry, which failed to heed the alarm was unable to pick up the robbers' trail.

GUENTHERS LEAVE

Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Guenther, and son Lester, left Tuesday morning for the west—Frank expects to find a location away from the toil, strife, and hard winters of this section of the universe—a little spot to call his own, a place where he can bask in the sunshine and balmy breezes after the day is done, and let the rest of the world roll by. His friends wish him every possible success.

GOVERNOR J. E. ERICKSON VISITS PLENTYWOOD AND N. E. MONTANA

WHEN GOV. ERICKSON arrived in Plentywood Wednesday by car and was met by a delegation called in the court room, the room being crowded to the doors by people expecting our Governor to bring to them some kind of relief message—and he brought none. Practically the only suggestion he had to offer was that appeals for help should be made to Ladd and other charitable organizations.

When asked if he intended to call a special session of the legislature his reply was in the negative—calling an extra session would only be an extra burden on the state and would bring no relief to anybody as the state is practically in the

THE FARM PROBLEM —and— THE ALLOTMENT PLAN

A PLAN THAT WILL BRING RESULTS

OUR STATE LAND Commissioner, former member of the house of representatives, I. M. Brandjord, one of the brightest and most outstanding men among our public figures, sends the Producers News an article on Farm Relief Plan. The well written article is on 15 pages and our space only permits us to print small excerpts from the article.

If you look at it from the standpoint of not disturbing the present system of grain gambling and profit Mr. Brandjord's relief plan is the best we have heard of yet. The plan leaves practically everything as it is, but at the same time it brings to the wheat farmer each year about 30c per bushel extra, based on his average yield. If he has a crop failure he gets his 30c just the same—in that line it beats any plan we have heard of.

Personally I like the plan Hans Rasmussen has printed in the Producers News some time ago better than the plan of letting each wheat farmer sell a fixed amount at a fixed price. That plan would give the small farmer a little advantage over the big farmer and would bring about a back to the farm movement which Mr. Brandjord's plan will not do—his plan will make the big farm still bigger.

Part of Mr. Brandjord's Article "The total annual income through the United States, in normal years, from all sources is estimated and calculated at about 90 billion dollars. Of this total income the farmers receive a cash income of about 10 billion dollars in normal years. Including the value of all farm products consumed on the farm, figured at regular market prices, the total annual, normal farm income is about eleven and three-quarters billion dollars."

In other words, about one fourth of our total population, represented by the farm industry, received only about one-eighth of the total income.

Income for Each Person "As the average farm family contains about five persons, this will mean a total annual income for each person of from about \$100 to \$200. It should be noted that these figures do not apply to the present depression. They represent some of the best years in American agriculture. The year

"SOVIET ONLY GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE" SAYS G. BERNARD SHAW

Was a Communist Before but is a Better Communist Now, Noted Writer Affirms.

Moscow, Aug. 2.—Bernard Shaw the world famous writer on his return from Moscow stated to Polish foreign journalists that he was delighted with the Soviet Union and that he was a Communist before but after his stay in the USSR he became a better communist. Soviet Russia is the greatest actual fact, Shaw said. The five-year plan will be absolutely realized if even belated but this is not important at all in view of the colossal schemes.

In answer to a question of an American journalist on forced labor Shaw said that talk about forced labor was nonsense. "There's no forced labor in Soviet Russia," he replied. "There is forced labor only in the western countries where workers give up the product of their labor to others, while in the Soviet Union the workers personally use the product of their labor."

The greatest successful experiment is being carried out in the USSR, Shaw said. The Soviet government is the only government working in the name of an ideal chosen by the nation and the nation works for its country, while Western rulers chiefly work for filling up their pockets.

TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION MEETS

President Hans Hardersen and Secretary Syverud Resign

Saturday afternoon the T. A. met at the Farmer Labor Temple. The biggest part of the afternoon was taken up by Niels Madson reading and explaining next year's county budget, from which it was learned that our county taxes will be much higher next year than ever before. Last year was election year and tax mills were reduced for political purposes—excuse given was that it was done on account of hard times. The hard times are still with us worse than ever but this year taxes are going up just the same. Hans Rasmussen suggested that the Taxpayers Association go on record recommending the tax levy be raised to the limit. No action was taken. At times Hans has crazy ideas! The way he explained this one was that not over five (5) per cent of the people living in the county will pay their taxes this fall and none of them will pay next spring, practically all the taxes the county will receive next year will be from outsiders such as railroads,

Neighbors Protest Eviction of Family—Given Dose of Police, Tear Gas and Clubs

Minneapolis, Aug. 4.—Nearly 50 policemen and six run squads were called out late today to quell a disturbance by more than 100 neighbors protesting against the eviction of a family from their home in north Minneapolis.

Patrolman Bliss of the municipal court detail was sent to the house to evict the family. He was serving the order when the news of it spread over the neighborhood. In a few minutes a crowd of hooting neighbors had gathered outside.

Patrolman Bliss turned in a riot call. The crowd melted away rapidly before the onslaught of the police who, with drawn clubs and tear gas bombs answered the call.

PARACHUTE JUMP ENTERTAINS THRONG

A fair sized crowd congregated at the local airport last Sunday afternoon to witness the parachute jump. After some preparatory passenger carrying flights during which time the onlookers watched with much interest the folding of the parachute into the case by which the "chute" is attached to the airplane, Pilot Strong took the jumper, Tennesse "Loop" Ren, aboard and soared aloft to the height of approximately 3,000 feet where he hoped out of the plane coming to earth in a pretty decent landing about a mile east of the west boundary of the air port.

He is scheduled to make a parachute jump at Brush Lake next Sunday afternoon at which no doubt there will be a good crowd present to witness the jumping. Mild mannered but very young man risk his life for their amusement.

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR DECLARES MARTIAL LAW IN STATE OIL FIELDS

Governor Murray Confident He can Keep Fields Shut Until Price Booms—Declares Attempt to Block Him Will Bring Question of State Sovereignty.

Okahoma City, Aug. 5.—The attempt of Gov. Wm. H. (Alfalfa) Murray to rescue Oklahoma's petroleum industry by use of arms developed Wednesday into a battle between a self-made lawyer and politician and an aggressive multimillionaire oil executive.

National guardsmen, armed with rifles patrolled the state's richest oil leases to enforce the governor's edict closing all flush wells until the price of crude oil rises to \$1 a barrel. At the same time, attorneys for certain oil companies prepared to go into federal court to contest the unprecedented action.

Harry F. Sinclair, chairman of the board of Sinclair Consolidated Oil companies, would not comment today on Murray's martial law and shutdown order. Oklahoma's fiery

KANSAS FARMS FOREGO WHEAT

Wichita, Kan., Aug. 4.—Wheat farmers of the southwest intend to meet the overproduction problem next year by not planting wheat, a survey today indicated.

Estimates so far—necessarily only estimates, because of the earliness of the season—indicate that acreage of the winter wheat crop will be reduced between 20 and 40 percent.

Thousands of growers intend to let their fields lie fallow for a year, hoping to get bigger crops for a better market in 1933, and thousands of others will let their fields stay idle because they are broke and can't farm even if they should want to.

This year's crop meanwhile is still held on the farms in most cases where the farmers aren't forced to sell.

It is estimated that only 50 per cent of the Kansas wheat is being moved to market. A fourth of the grain is held in storage and another fourth has been stacked but not yet threshed, it is estimated. Harvest is practically over in Kansas with many farmers not even bothering to cut the grain with prices where they are.

Similar conditions prevail in Oklahoma and Texas.

Froid Sets Tax Levy at 29 Mills; Low by Comparison

Froid, Aug. 5.—A total of 29 mills was adopted as the tax levy for Froid by the town council. This is one of the largest levies at Froid in four years. Taxes will be distributed as follows: General fund 15, streets 5, street lights 9. Altogether this is one of the largest tax levies, it is low in comparison with other towns in Roosevelt county.

Will Soon Perfect County Committee

Crowds of Farmers Attend Every Meeting and Join in Movement—Charles E. Taylor, Hans Rasmussen and Rodney Salisbury Organizing—County Organization to be Set Up in the Near Future.

IMPORTANT NOTICE! FARMERS ATTENTION!

Every farmer should get in his application for feed and hay loans for his cattle at once. The time limit for the filing of these applications is August 15th.

- A farmer can borrow money from the federal government under the appropriation and law passed last March to feed 1 head of cattle. He can borrow \$12.75 maximum.
- The blanks can be secured at the office of the county agent the Dagmar store, from the county commissioners and at the banks, for the making of these applications.
- Do not delay, farmers, but attend to this at once if you wish hay to feed your cattle.
- It is reported that nearly every farmer in Divide county has already secured his loan.

DAUGHTER

A new daughter arrived Monday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fosco Popescu. Mother and babe are doing nicely and Dad, well he's uproariously proud.

OKLAHOMA GOVERNOR DECLARES MARTIAL LAW IN STATE OIL FIELDS

This completes the organizations in McIntire, Medicine Lake, Dagmar, McIntire, McIntire and Westby, with Coalinga and Comertown completed by the end of the week. Meetings will be held all next week as per schedule presented below.

At all of the meetings those in need or who will soon be in need, who can qualify, are urged to apply to the Red Cross. Those who cannot qualify for Red Cross aid are instructed to apply at once to the county for aid, and to not delay until they are destitute, in order that the time required to take care of them may be available before starvation. Also all farmers are urged to at once apply for government seed and hay loans for their stock. Ten head can thus be provided for any and every farmer nearly who has a man, a horse, or more—but all he can get is \$123.75. All of these applications must be in not later than August 15th so those who have not yet made application should do so at once.

HAVANA STRIKE INVOLVES 70,000

Havana, Aug. 6.—A general 24-hour strike Tuesday involved some 40,000 workmen in Havana and an estimated 60,000 to 70,000 more throughout the island. Labor leaders said Tuesday night that strong sentiment had developed for a new stoppage of work to begin within the next two days.

The new strike if called would protest the arrest of nearly 40 strikers and other persons Tuesday, they said.

Arrestees persons included Lucia Fuentes, president of the association of commercial employees; Jose Llera, one of the leaders of the Havana Electric railroad company, and Pedro de la Concepcion, one of the directors of the newspaper El Paiz.

Strikers and police exchanged shots several times but so far as could be learned no one was injured.

HUGE NAVY DIRIGIBLE "AKRON" TO BE CHRISTENED ON SATURDAY

Wife of President to. Cut. Silken Cord Which Released Homing Pigeons at Christening Ceremony

Akron, Ohio, Aug. 5.—The nation's first lady of the air, the navy's new dirigible Akron will make her curtsy before the first lady of the land next Saturday.

The program will be broadcast over a nation-wide radio hookup. Resplendent in a silvery coat the big dirigible will make its maiden "flight" when Mrs. Herbert Hoover releases a flock of white pigeons in the formal christening ceremony here.

But it will not be until nearly two weeks later that the Akron will go aloft on the first of five trial flights conducted by its builders to insure fulfillment of all requirements for its acceptance by the government. The longest test flight will be 48 hours, altogether making 75 hours of test flying.

Christening ceremonies at the dirigible hangar will be brief and of greatest simplicity.

Rear Admiral William A. Moffett, chief of the bureau of aeronautics and P. W. Litchfield, president of the Goodyear-Zeppelin corporation, the builders, will speak briefly.

Mrs. Hoover then will christen the ship, releasing the homing pigeons from the forward hatch of the dirigible. The new queen of the skies will be allowed to float upward off its dock for a few feet in its fledgling effort.

The Akron is 787 feet long and has a diameter amidships of 135 feet.

Malta Man Killed in Brawl In Southern Illinois Town

Paxton, Illinois, Aug. 5.—Earl D. Frost, 26, Texarkana, Tex., faced charges of murder today following the death of George Yeater, 20, Malta, Montana, from injuries received in a brawl Monday night. Both men were army privates at Chanute air field, Rantoul, Ill. Frost fled after his fight with Yeater but was captured in Cham-paign.

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A Paper of the People, by the People
and for the People

By the Peoples Publishing Company, Publishers

CONTINUING — The Outlook Promoter, The Outlook Optimist, The Dooley Sun, The Antelope Independent, The Sheridan County News, The Pioneer Press and the Sheridan County Farmer.

CHARLES E. TAYLOR, Editor
HANS RASMUSSEN, Manager

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1931.

A CHANGE IN THE ATMOSPHERE

By HANS RASMUSSEN

GOING TO MEETINGS is a kind of habit with me and sometimes I see things in a little different light than others do. To me meetings are getting to be more and more interesting right along—not so much the speakers as the crowd.

At the time the delegates, just returned from a trip to Russia, spoke in the Farmer-Labor Temple there was a big crowd. Some had traveled over a hundred miles to get there and others did not take the trouble of walking a few blocks. The big audience sat there for four hours and listened. They asked questions, wanted to hear more. At that meeting there was not a mainstreamer present! No, why should there be? It was not a commercial club meeting or a P. T. A. meeting and no soft soap was handed out. There was nothing said about selling prunes or about Canada-Mexico trails. It was a meeting in which they were not interested—a meeting where people with brain met and discussed the most burning world question of the day. The question of how people could live in peace with one another on this earth and live without being robbed blind by a few greedy grafters.

Of course a mainstreamer would not be interested in doing away with robbery and graft. They are for Hoover and the system he represents; they can't see that the present system is walking right over them and some day soon when the steam roller has flattened them out there will be left with no place to go and will be wondering how it all happened. If any reforms for the better are going to take place it is not going to be brought about by the people living on main street.

At the farmers' picnic at Brush Lake there was another big crowd. When the speaking started everybody wanted to get to the front—men, women, young people and even the children—all wanted to listen. They were short of seats and hundreds of men stood straight up and down for over three hours—it was a hot day too, but they never moved. The speakers gave it to them straight from the shoulder and they liked it.

What I call the most interesting meeting of the season was held in the Dagmar country in the first part of June. Most interesting from the standpoint of the speakers, the crowd they spoke to, the subjects they spoke on and the place they spoke from.

On June 5th Rev. Højbjerg spoke about Rus-

sia to a packed house at the Brotherhood Hall. Two days later he spoke about Gandhi and India in the church. Rev. Højbjerg is a first class speaker, he has a remarkable memory and knowledge of the subjects on which he is speaking, had read everything available and could refer to dozens and dozens of books. Here was a man, a minister of the church, recognized and looked upon as one of the very brightest of his class—a heavy-weight. A man who has for years been the principal of the Danish Lutheran college of Des Moines, Iowa. This man, who knows what he is talking about, comes out here and tells us that if this world is going to be saved from complete destruction it is the Russian people who are going to show us the way out.

In speaking about the religious situation in Russia, Rev. Højbjerg said something like this: "There was never a time in Russia when the Czar and the church did not work hand in hand for the purpose of exploiting the people and keeping them in misery and ignorance—it is then any wonder that they now hate the church and teach the children not to have anything to do with it—when the church always gave them stones for bread?" And still, Rev. Højbjerg said, "if Christ came to this earth today, it is a question if he would not point to the Russian people and say: These people are my people."

Hans Højbjerg, a son of Rev. Højbjerg, spoke in the Dagmar church in favor of communism and socialism on Sunday afternoon. The church was overcrowded with people. Young Højbjerg is a bright and brilliant young man who has recently graduated from Columbia university. He was well posted on the subjects on which he spoke and spoke well, and the big audience applauded, which is something unusual to do in a church, but the crowd simply could not help themselves. They had to do it!

Speaking in the very church on subjects like Communism and Socialism is something new, and keeping a church-going crowd so interested in the subject so they throw all traditions overboard and sit there and clap to their hearts content is something never heard of before. There is something in the air and most people do not know just what it is.

After sidestepping the question all these years the ailment which afflicts sensitive old Albert B. Fall, former secretary of the interior under President Harding, and now convict number 6691 at the New Mexico state penitentiary, has finally been disclosed, by the prison physician. Fall has a weak heart, arrested tuberculosis, chronic pleurisy, spinal arthritis and arterio sclerosis. In addition to this the physician says that alcohol, which Fall has been taking regularly, will be discontinued, and that he will not be permitted to disturb his fellow prisoners by his nocturnal peregrinations and other objectionable habits but must go to bed and arise with the rest of the men. In addition to this the report says drugs will be given Fall only when the physician prescribes them. In view of the fact that far better physical specimens are given much longer "periods" in order to work them over into fairly acceptable citizens we would imagine that little will be accomplished in the way of rejuvenating this old wreck in the allotted time of "one year and one day."

REPORT OF THE PRINTING AUDIT BY THE TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

By EDGAR I. SYVERUD

Secretary-Treasurer
Sheridan County Taxpayers Assn.

THE REPORT of the county printing audit was received last Friday from the arbitration committee of the Montana State Press Association. It did not give any startling disclosures as we had been led to expect. Their report is very general and as some would be pleased to call a "white-wash." But considering what they had to work on it may be the best to be had especially so in the older claims where the samples and other evidence were not available. No attempt apparently had been made by them at figuring the various amounts, their work being merely checking whether the prices charged were proper. The report in part reads:

"It is impossible for us to figure the claims on any of the items prior to the last contract, as specifications and samples were not furnished. . . . However, it is clear that the time that would be consumed in a study of all claims presented over the last contract, the response involved would make it impossible for this committee to make a detailed examination of all claims presented to the county during the six years under consideration, (1925-1931) and lacking exact specifications, in many cases it would not be possible for the committee to decide as to the correctness of the charges made. . . . In going over the various contracts in the period covered the committee is very much impressed with one outstanding fact, and that is that for some reason that is not entirely clear, Sheridan county has been expending more money under the printing contracts in this six year period, by far, than appears to have been necessary or required by a county of the population and valuation of Sheridan. At this distance we cannot pretend to say who is responsible for this. It might have been a combination of conditions or the lack of a special effort to economize on printing expenditures. But for the future, we feel that the Taxpayers Association as representative of those that provide the public funds should urge the commissioners and other county officials to make special efforts to conduct the necessary business as related to printing so as to bring about a decrease in the volume of the material ordered and thereby reduce what appears to be an excessive expenditure. We would recommend that where supplies are furnished that more exact specifications as to size, etc., should be given so it would be an easier matter to check the charge against the price fixed by the code. . . . In some cases the

printer has merely acted as agent or broker for supplies furnished, having ordered them complete thru some wholesale concern. There are cases where the sum charged the county for this item is out of keeping with the wholesale cost to the printer. . . . Your costs appear excessive, all conditions considered, but this committee does not feel that it can point at any printer or official as responsible for the condition. However, we do feel that if all around on the part of the printers and county officials responsible for ordering supplies and approving payment for the same a real effort at reducing expenditures were made, it would result in lower general costs without in any degree decreasing the benefits that the public has a right to expect."

It may be of interest to quote the amounts of the various contracts. The Producers News for the first six months beginning January 5, 1925 amounted to \$2,212.07, the following two years amounted to \$2,924.49 or a total of \$38,136.56. From this total can be taken \$5,761.40 our figures or \$7,000 the Producers News figures which may be correct, for office equipment and supplies such as a couple of safes, an adding machine, library table and chairs, book case sections, files and filing envelopes, rubber stamps, type-writer ribbons, paper and other supplies that do not come under the head of printing, which are now furnished thru the purchasing agent."

The C. S. Nelson - Plentywood Herald claims amounted to \$12,415.70 for the two years, or really from June 29, 1927 to August 7, '29, and consisted practically all of printed matter, publications and election supplies.

The claims of the Medicine Lake Wave from July 5, 1929 to July 3, 1931 amounted to \$15,814.47 and also consisted practically all of printed matter. These were the first ones we copied and sent in for auditing and the questionable items supported with samples of the work upon which the above committee reported. There were several instances of overcharges and a few undercharges with a balance overcharge of some \$400 which will be carefully checked and submitted to the Wave who, we understand, is ready to reimburse the county for any overcharge.

In order to make an exact audit of all the older claims, which are now outlawed anyway, it would take too much time and expense, as the above committee states, and might not be justified, and as samples of the work done is not now available, it would be almost impossible to check except for mechanical errors which we have

done to a certain extent so far, as well as making comparisons wherever possible. Urthfer study and checking will be done as time permits us to do. We have, however, noted several errors in the older claims amounting to \$43 in the Producers News and \$33 in the C. S. Nelson claims.

Our impressions are similar to those expressed by the above committee, and the blame for these large amounts of expenditures is hard to place. There is room for economy and it has been observed lately that the various offices are making an increasing use of the mimeograph machine in the making of forms and notices thereby utilizing their own office forces.

Our copies of the claims will be preserved for future reference and are open for inspection and verification at any time. The investigations have been made in a spirit of fairness to all concerned and it is hoped what information we have been able to find will be of value.

The Letter Box

The Bankers' Program and How Things have Changed

Editor Producers News: Well our county banks have been going broke one by one. It is really hard to stand behind the bankers' political and financial program. Many have lost hope, but others have stood in vain rather than be classed as a producers only to be a lamb of sacrifice to the money power.

At the present time and at this critical moment these followers, believers, entrusters and depositors have got another promise that if they can stand the strain five more years they will then have money in the bank.

The banks have turned the depositor's money into a five year saving plan, where the depositors cannot spend their money foolishly to live years and perhaps longer.

A man cannot say he is broke when he has got lots of money in the bank, even though he can't get it for five years.

Things got so meek and lowly a worded Medicine Lake that Brother Bill had to come from Bainville to explain, as some of our county of-

Item for Serious Consideration

By HARLOW G. FRANK,

Wolf Point, Montana

When the year of 1930 was growing old and the youngster, 1931, just starting out, we heard on all sides and thru the radio: "Here comes prosperity," and "Prosperity is just around the corner," yet six months of 1931 have passed and nothing has come of this "Relief of unemployment."

Where have gone all those promises that were advanced before the election for the bonding of Montana for the good roads and numerous other activities.

As we watch the freight trains going east and west we can see hundreds of men traveling both ways in hopes that some place they will be able to secure employment with chances that when they arrive at their destination, the job will be around still another corner, and they will be shunted off to the foot of the next rainbow.

We are apt to place all the blame for these conditions on the financial heads of this country, yet a lot of the blame for these wandering men can be traced right down to the small town or city in which they have passed a good part of their lives and paid their taxes and started their homes. Because many of these men have homes and families for whose welfare they are responsible.

If we would only look around or inquire we would find that a number of men have left Wolf Point because they could not find employment here and also a large number of men idle here because the only reason they did not leave was because they could not find the money to finance themselves until they could get work. Yet, on the other hand one can easily see men holding down two or three jobs, not because they are smarter, stronger or better men than their fellows, but because they have been fortunate in having a "pull," politically, financially or fraternally which put them on the inside track and they are determined on holding onto this position in order to save up for some luxury or to tide over a growing bank account—floating the evidence of good fortune in the face of men to whom a pay day is only a memory.

It is a thing for a nation to be proud of, when the members are all thrifty and the family, where the husband and wife and children all work together to build up a solid foundation of financial independence, and under certain economic conditions, it has been found to be necessary for the wife to leave the home and go out and work with her men folks to achieve a certain program that the leaders have mapped out, and also children of tender years and boys of school age, taking their places in the markets of the world. But under the labor conditions as we find them today, if people who eventually pay for his living and keep his paper going.

We now have the work on our great road in progress and as this was to relieve unemployment, what are our commissioners going to do about it?

Are we going to be employed going back and forth asking for work or are the outsiders to be laid off and the local men, who eventually will pay for this road, given a chance to earn part of that money now?

was not available the proud parents wondered in vain until the father solved the problem. The father immediately jumped out of bed, grabbed Ed Powers and said, "This baby, it's just as good; hush up and go to sleep."

Also this is going to be our bank program but it's a long five year sleep.

A RESERVE FARMER.

of the two turns he makes depends a great deal on how society has acted toward him.

One writer in a recent article said that a person who turned to lawlessness or crime lacked something in his moral nature, even tho in this crime he saw the means of securing the necessities of life for himself and family. Yet there is far more lacking in the moral nature of the man or family who, secure in one position, reaches out and grasps other sources of income, knowing that there are lots of other families to whom this would be a God-send. It may mean some luxury to them but to the other it means the difference between paying ones own way like a man, even tho it is only a small way, or having to rely on charity.

In a few more months winter will be here. We know that it is sure to come and on reentry commissionaires will be called upon to assist a large number of families to secure food that they might live and they will wonder among themselves "what the devil has that guy been doing all summer." Yet they never trouble to look around to see if they have several of one family on the county payroll and young men doing work that married men should be doing but have not the pull to get hold of. True it is not the fault of the young man that the other has a family to support, yet it is the family man who directly or indirectly pays the taxes and should have the first consideration.

It has been shown in the history of great nations of the past that the common people will stand to be starved only so long and then they throw all law and order to the winds and take what they want with consequent large amount of bloodshed. Whether this country comes to that pass or not depends upon the attitude that the leaders with money, power, pull, graft or whatever you wish to call it, display before another winter comes around.

If there is to be any work done in this section on county or state improvements, why not handle it in a business like way? Have the idle men all register and insist that the contractors give them the first chance to go to work. If there are not enough married men to do the work then it is time that the single men get their chance and the outsiders to come in after that. Insist that where more than one position is held in a family, that one of these positions be given up to some one equally efficient, especially should this be so where county, state, city and school funds are used.

This article was sent to the Wolf Point Herald four weeks ago Wednesday and so far the editor has considered it not worth printing. The space in his paper must indeed be valuable when he cannot print an article which takes into consideration the welfare of the people who eventually pay for his living and keep his paper going.

Are we going to be employed going back and forth asking for work or are the outsiders to be laid off and the local men, who eventually will pay for this road, given a chance to earn part of that money now?

Did he not know at that time what he was going to do? Did he not tell large depositors several days before Saturday, or the day he refused to pay checks, or state his financial condition, that he could not at this time give them their money. Then on Saturday in the language of our text as how things have changed he threw up his hands and said: "Wait for me for five year without any interest and without my individual security, as we bank organizations do not sign notes, especially where there is no use."

The use of money to the starving farmers is worth 2% at the present time if it ever was. So taking this interest into consideration, by its omission it means that the bank will steal 50% or one-half of the depositors money in a period of five years, if the banks pay full value at the end of five years for the bank will pay nothing for this money and collect 10% for its use.

Scripture says, one half belongs to the Lord and as the bankers claim to be His chosen sons, we must agree they are right and just.

We think this good five year plan originated in Medicine Lake where a lot of unwritten law is written and made law. Now farmers and friends, when you make your settlement with the business man this fall use this law and state: "Wait for me for five years without any interest and without any security." Do as Ed Powers did! You want be compelled to sign your name. All will be benefited and the business man will have lots of money five years from this fall.

This deal reminds me of the money bank of 1907. All money was held up in the banks. No person regardless of his standing received any money. Checks were the only medium of exchange. So one night a nice fat hunter baby woke up crying for milk. As milk

was not available the proud parents wondered in vain until the father solved the problem. The father immediately jumped out of bed, grabbed Ed Powers and said, "This baby, it's just as good; hush up and go to sleep."

Also this is going to be our bank program but it's a long five year sleep.

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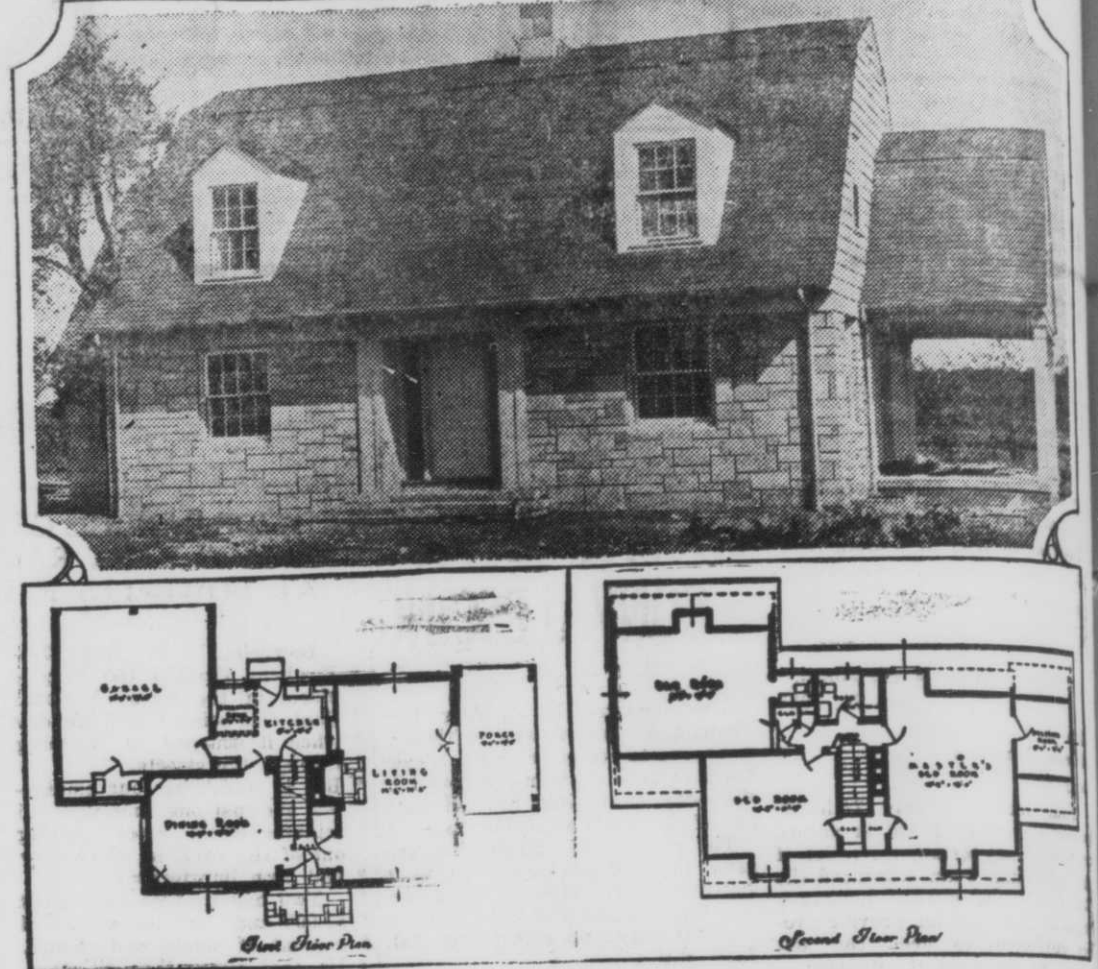
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SMALL STONE HOMES AT LOW COST



Stone houses are no longer beyond the realm of the small home builder. In other days, only the palatial residence was built of stone. Today, quantity production methods developed by the Indiana Limestone company, have made Ico Ripstone facings available at moderate cost. This cozy limestone home, Dutch Colonial type of architecture, has charm, comfort, compactness and is economical to build. On the first floor is a pleasant arrangement of living room, dining room, kitchen, breakfast room and garage. Three large bedrooms, with dressing room of the master chamber, and bathroom comprise the second floor. As an indication of how inexpensively a stone house of distinction and permanence may be obtained, enough stone to build the house illustrated was shipped from the limestone quarries at Bedford, Ind., to its destination, about 375 miles, at total cost of only \$252. This modest investment, together with a minimum upkeep cost, makes a house of such character attractive from an economical as well as beauty standpoint. This and similar types of small homes are becoming more and more popular throughout the country according to the Home Builders and Ice Bureau, Bedford, Ind., where designs may be obtained free of charge.

woke up yet. If that time ever comes a joint T. A. might work successfully. As it is there is not room for the exploiters and exploited in the same political organization.

Criticism probably had something to do with the two officers resigning but anybody stepping out in the limelight nearly always gets it. Some get so used to it they rather like it. What little criticism the Producers News has offered from time to time was not offered with the intention of hurting anybody's personal feelings and we hope it has not been taken that way.

Our objections have been that the T. A. did not get to the bottom of things—tried to be nice to everybody and just hated to step on anybody's toes, when the toes belonged to someone in office. Let's illustrate that with an example:

In his report the state examiner accused the county commissioners of cancelling Peter Maron's taxes and recommended a suit be started against the commissioners for recovery of that money. The T. A. investigated and was told by the commissioners and Niels Madsen that the examiner was an old fool and Dan Olson was made the goat. He was the one who had given Peter Maron the tax receipt years ago. In the Producers News Hans Rasmussen wrote an article and signed his name to it in which he said that Dan Olson never gave the receipt to Peter Maron but that Niels Madsen did, by the order of the commissioners after they had passed the resolution which Victor Anker introduced. In this case somebody lied, but the T. A. never told us who it was.

We do not blame the two officers for resigning. They tried to do their best. But what can you do when half of the members are there to expose and the other half to cover up. What co-operation do you call it when they meet in behalf of the taxpayers and ask the commissioners to give the county printing to the lowest bidder and the commissioners tell them to go home and stop the hogs, or something to that effect.

One little thing happened at the Saturday meeting which would almost make anybody resign. Everybody is hollering about cutting down expenses—that's about all you hear. Then comes along Miss Hallie Wheeler with a letter in which she offers to keep the library open afternoons and evenings for \$75 per month and asking that the T. A. recommend her for the job. The present librarian and her assistant got \$135.50 last month. Miss Wheeler has run the library for a couple of years and no one ever heard a complaint about her work. Here was a case where the taxpayers could get just as good service for about half the price and a motion was made that the application be recommended.

Then the sheriff got up and told those present that they must be fair and must investigate. This is, they should find out what the commissioners and the library board thought about it before a motion was taken. The motion was carried by a small majority, anybody ever presents the recommendation to the commission he is very likely to be told to go home and stop the hogs.

The operation performed on the T. A. Saturday left it in a condition where some blood transfusion will be needed in order to keep it alive. Our honorable senator, Lars Angvik, will take step in as the doctor. He sat at the meeting that letters from the T. A. and Commercial Club had been a great help to his law making activities at Helena so we understand the Taxpayers Association and the Commercial Clubs are looked upon as twin brothers.

The joke of it is: How can there be a TAXPAYERS association when nobody pays taxes?

--- Smoke ---

MONTANA SPORT, RIALTO, VAN LOO

MONTANA-MADE CIGARS

and give work to

MONTANA CIGARMAKERS

ODD but TRUE

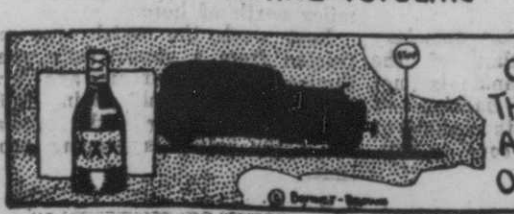
WHEN A KANGAROO STARTS ON A RUN THE FIRST HOP DETERMINES THE LENGTH OF THOSE THAT FOLLOW -- IF IT JUMPS TWELVE FEET THE FIRST TIME EVERY JUMP OF THAT RUN WILL BE EXACTLY TWELVE FEET LONG --



AN AMERICAN CONFECTIONER IS NOW MAKING ICE-CREAM FLAVORED WITH VEGETABLES --AND IT'S PROVING POPULAR--



CALIFORNIA BEE KEEPERS ARE RENTING OUT THEIR SWARMS TO THE FRUIT GROWERS --THEY ARE USED TO DISTRIBUTE THE POLLEN AMONG THE TREES--



OF EVERY 100 ARRESTS MADE IN THE UNITED STATES OVER 65 ARE FOR VIOLATION OF TRAFFIC OR LIQUOR LAWS --

McELROY CITIZENS PETITION FOR INVESTIGATION OF HAY AND FEED BY THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

To the Board of County Commissioners, the Plentywood Herald, and The Producers News:

At a meeting of the Farmers Union at McElroy on August 1st, 1931 a resolution was passed resolving that a committee of three be appointed to work with the County Commissioners and County Agent to investigate the purchase of feed and hay required in this division of the county; to ascertain the amount of hay and feed grain required by each farmer for the maintenance of our foundation and work stock during the coming winter months.

We further petition that you, our county commissioners, do contribute to a fund to our treasurer, appointed to defray their actual expenses incurred. The committee to be as follows: Alfred Overgaard, Ole Hjelm, and J. G. Noon.

We the committee elect as our chairman, Ole Hjelm, and as treasurer, Alfred Overgaard.

We the following signers are all taxpaying residents of Sheridan county:

Myron Taylor,
O. M. Luites,
Peter Luites,
J. G. Noon,
Anna Luites, McElroy.
Richard Clementson,
Oscar Olson,
Simon Hanson, Comertown.
Louie Dixon,
E. B. Foss,
Ernest Dixon,
Ole Olegaard,
Carl Hammer,
M. A. Carlson,
Ed. Hass,
Robert M. Mangel,
Edwin M. Wiser,
Palmer Rogstad,
Leon Mayhew,
Victor Yaroslaski,
Clara Solberg,
Dena Overgaard,
Ericka Hjelm,
Ted Landell,
Irwin Petersen,
Nels Danielson,
John Shoal,
Alfred Overgaard,
Martin Nereson,
Ole Hjelm,
Walter Erickson,
Peter Solberg,
Brick Egger, Westby.

LIVESTOCK FEED LOAN

By County Agent Ferguson

On July 3, 1931 the department of agriculture released regulations governing a loan to farmers in the drouth area for the purchase of feed for livestock.

The regulations provide that a farmer may borrow \$4.25 per head per month for five head of dairy cows; \$4.00 per head per month for five head of beef cattle and 25c per head per month for 25 sheep for a period of three months. In other words a farmer may borrow \$123.75 on ten head of cattle.

As the funds that are being used for this loan is a balance that was authorized by the 1st session of congress, in which they specified that the loans were to come due October 31, 1931, the emergency feed loan now in effect also comes due October 31, 1931. There is every indication that the loan will be renewed after October 31 as department officials realize the distressed financial condition of this drouth area.

At the meeting Wednesday evening with Gov. Erickson and Director J. C. Taylor, it was suggested that all farmers who will be in need of funds for the purchase of feed for their stock, to file an application immediately for the present loan. One hundred and twenty-three dollars will not be sufficient to carry the stock through the winter but it will be of considerable help and even though the department later on changes the regulations and makes a different loan the present loan will in no way effect future loans.

Out of twenty-six applications sent in from this county last week, 25 were passed by the seed loan office and the farmers have now received their checks. Application blanks have been distributed throughout the county and the machinery is set up to handle at least 1,000 applications from Sheridan county within the next ten days.

Blanks may be secured at the following places: Westby Drug Store; Jacob Tweet, Comertown; H. N. Stenseth, Dooley; Frank Koester, Outlook; John Albers, at Redstone; Coalridge Store; Dag-

mar Store; Medicine Lake Bank; Reserve Bank; Strom Hardware, Antelope; County Agent's office at Plentywood.

A complete list of community committees who will assist in handling the feed loan is as follows: Westby—A. M. Dimarson, C. N. Rostad and Peter Miller. Comertown—Jacob Tweet, E. Strand, Peter Bruvold. Dooley—H. N. Stenseth, Walter Scott.

Outlook—Frank Koester, Henry Walder, N. J. Nelson. Redstone—John Albers, F. C. Lacy, C. D'Elvyn. Antelope—Chas. McLaughlin, O. B. Hoven.

Reserve—George Lund, Carl Holje, Mr. Riley. Medicine Lake—Ed. Powers, S. C. Faaborg, N. K. Mkruson. Dagmar—Walter Therkildsen, P. Thuesen, Sven Petersen. Coalridge—Buckwell, Mr. Lobb.

LINDBERGH'S

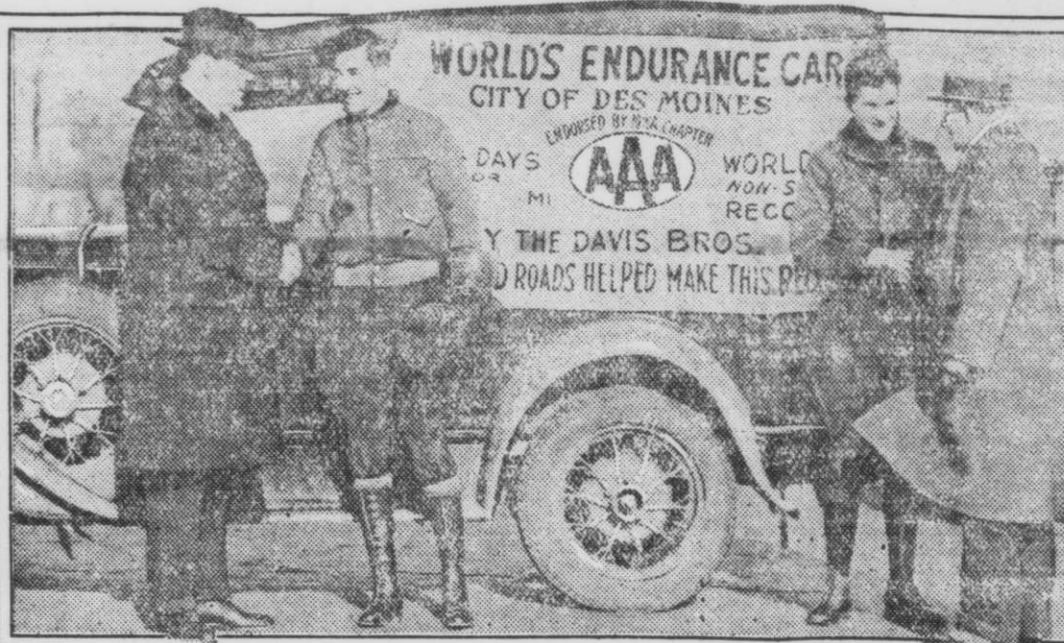
(Continued from front page)

an hour on this most dangerous job so far as aerial vacation, Lindbergh, with his wife manning the radio circled this arctic outpost twice and set his pontoon-equipped Lockheed-Sirius plane on the river in a perfect landing to the chorus of howling Eskimo dogs and cheers of the entire population.

Royal Mounted police rowed out to the Lindbergh plane and helped the fliers bring the low winged monoplane to the bank where it was moored. The travelers both smiling at the array of Indian trappers and a handful of white persons who live in this far northern outpost, went to the Presbyterian manse to rest up after their all night flight, only two hours of which were dark on account of the long arctic days this time of year.

Carrying emergency rations, a rubber boat and pistols the Lindberghs are flying with the same

Iowa Brothers Set New World's Record in Ford



Governor John Hammill of Iowa (left) and Walter Ferrell, executive secretary of the Iowa chapter of the American Automobile Association (extreme right), congratulating the Davis brothers on the establishment of a new world's non-motor, non-wheel stop automobile endurance record.

IOWA state officials and civic leaders witnessed the establishment of a new world's non-motor, non-wheel stop automobile endurance record recently, when Ralph and Roland Davis, brothers, brought their Model A Ford to a halt at the east entrance of the state capital in Des Moines after 2,775 hours and 46 minutes of continuous driving.

When Governor Hammill, standing with Walter Ferrell of the American Automobile Association, gave the signal to stop, the Ford had traveled a total of 47,133 miles over all sorts of roads in all sorts of weather and had exceeded by 33,630 miles and more

than 2,335 hours the American non-stop endurance record which, theretofore officially recognized, was made by a much heavier car under almost ideal conditions on the Indianapolis speedway. In the course of the endurance run, the car, known as "The City of Des Moines," covered practically the entire state of Iowa. Engineers who examined the Ford at the conclusion of the run asserted that neither engine nor chassis showed evidence of the grueling strains to which they were subjected during the 116 days of continuous driving. Both apparently, according to the engineers, would have been good for another 50,000 miles or more.

confidence with which Lindbergh has always started out on any of his journeys.

First news of their take off yesterday from Baker Lake cracked from the radio key in the hands of Mrs. Lindbergh.

Far down in the United States on the northwest side of Chicago, R. H. Johnson, chief operator of the United Press in Chicago listened in at his powerful radio set. Tuned in on the 20 meter band Johnson strained his ears for the Lindbergh signal.

First came a carrier wave. Mrs. Lindbergh was warming up her generator as her husband piloted across the barren land. That lasted ten minutes.

Then crackled across 2,000 miles into Johnson's ear phones the call: "WOA, WOA, WOA."

Those are the call letters of the Pan-American airways in New York Mrs. Lindbergh was trying to contact.

Next came: "DE-KH-CAL," radio language that meant the message was coming from the Lindbergh plane, KH-CAL being its call letters.

Slowly, but with a sure touch, this message crackled out of the north into Johnson's station, W9-ABD.

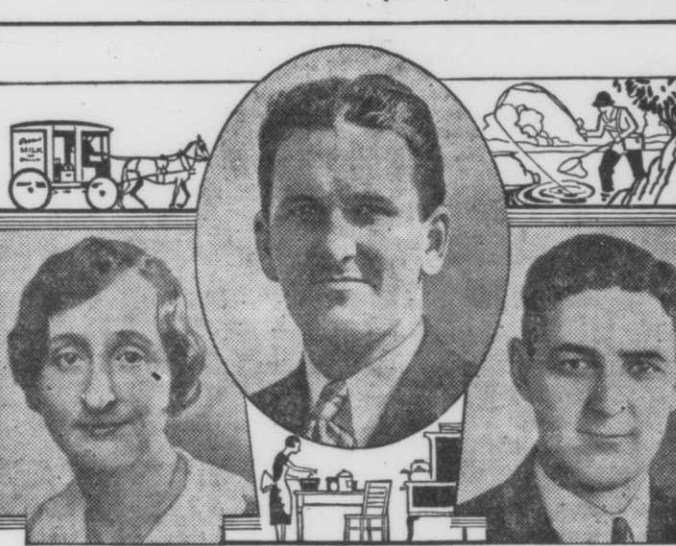
"Took off from Baker Lake 1235 GCT."

The signature was one word—"Lindbergh." The message 1235 GCT means 12:35 Greenwich central time or 6:35 eastern standard time.

205 Tons of Hopper Poison Was Put Out This Season

Bozeman, Aug. 2.—That Montana farmers are "on their toes" in stopping threatened rodent infestation is evidenced by their distributing 205 tons of poisoned grain during the current season. This poison was used on 18,750 farms of the state, according to O. E. Stephel, state rodent control leader.

Milkman, Housewife, Sportsman, Winners in \$50,000 Contest



Top, James Thomas Sharkey, first prize winner; lower left, Mrs. Walter Sweet, winner of second prize; lower right, Julius M. Nolte, winner of third prize.

Pictures show the three major prize winners in the Camel cigarette contest. James Thomas Sharkey, 32, a milkman in Boston, was awarded first prize of \$25,000; Mrs. Walter Sweet, mother of three children and wife of a Marine Corps captain stationed at the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Navy Yard, won second prize of \$10,000, and Julius M. Nolte, real estate dealer, and former secretary of the Duluth Commercial Club, received the third prize of \$5,000. In addition, five prizes of \$1,000 each, five prizes of \$500 each and twenty-five prizes of \$100 each were awarded.

The three fortunate prize winners will go to Winston-Salem, N. C., where Camel cigarettes are manufactured, to receive their checks.

Here's Looking at You, Governor



PONCE DE LEON (Ira Parks) cuts up a bit at a pageant of "Health, Beauty and Youth" at the Florida Orange Festival in Winter Haven (January 27-31). Here we see him clicking glasses with Bertha Knight, of Bartow, the festival queen, in a toast to President Hoover and our Governors. From the cream of Florida's citrus crop

as displayed at the festival, Governor Doyle Carlton sent prize boxes of oranges and grapefruit to his fellow Governors and to the President. The bathing beauties, left to right, are: Andra Kingale, Tampa; Isabel Guthrie ("Miss Kansas"), Topeka; Elaine Reynolds, Baton Rouge, and Winton Whidden, Providence, Rhode Island.

OKLAHOMA

(Continued from front page)

his executive offices for the reported purpose of evading service of a federal court injunction which he had anticipated to be the oil man's answer.

Sinclair went about his Tulsa headquarters today apparently little concerned with the governor's sensational charges. It was reliably reported, however, his answer would come today by federal court order issued at Guthrie which would be designed to restrain the governor from carrying out the martial law rule.

"Just let them try to pull that old federal court injunction stuff on me," Gov. Murray said when asked his reaction to a restraining order. "One reason I did this thing was to see whether an inferior federal court could place a corporation above the rights of a sovereign state and its citizens."

"Again I say, it will be like a jackrabbit trying to tree a wild cat," Murray said, striding up and down behind his desk, pausing to give the desk a rap.

Sinclair's past activities, however, indicate the impending battle will be a momentous one even if he has been dubbed a "jackrabbit." Sinclair, educated as a druggist at the University of Kansas, today stands at the head of one of the most powerful independent oil companies in the world. His path to financial power is dotted with battles and adversity as well as success.

McCone Residents to Discuss their Hunger Problem

Vida, August 5.—To plan a solution of problems confronting McCone county by reason of the drouth a countywide invitation has been sent to attend a mass meeting at Vida Saturday. County commissioners and Senators T. J. Walsh and B. K. Wheeler have been invited.

RAILROADS GIVE REDUCED RATES

By County Agent Ferguson

OWING TO THE Emergency existing in western North Dakota and eastern Montana resulting from the continued drouth, railroad carriers serving that territory have decided to assist in meeting the emergency by authorizing reduced rates on livestock feeds shipped into the drouth area. The reduced rates went into effect July 28 and will be in effect until April 30, 1932.

The rate of one-half local rate on carload shipments has been granted on hay and straw. The rate of two-thirds the local rate has been granted on the shipments of concentrates such as oats, corn, barley, cottonseed cake, etc. The tariff governing the reduced rates on shipments of livestock feed provide that anyone desiring to move designated commodities into the drouth area must first obtain a permit from the county extension agent of the county in which the feed is to be delivered. This permit is to be delivered to the agent at the delivering point who will in turn notify the agent at the point of origin of the shipment to grant the reduced rate.

In applying to the county agent for a permit to take advantage of the reduced rates, it is necessary to supply him with the number of cars and the kind of feed that is to be ordered, also the name of the shipper and the station from which the car is to be shipped, also the party to whom the feed is consigned and the station at which it is to be delivered. Anyone desiring to make shipments at the reduced rates should supply the local county agent, E. G. Ferguson, with the above information and the permit will be granted at once.

U. F. L. PICNIC AT BONETRAIL SUN.

Over six hundred attended the United Farmers League picnic at Bonetrail, North Dakota last Sunday, August 2, at Ole Menger's grove. It was the largest picnic held in this section of the north-west North Dakota since the height of the Nonpartisan League movement in 1917, and even then there were none larger, and the sentiment was never so unified in favor of any organization.

The day was delightful and the countryside turned out en masse to hear the speakers who were Mother Bloor, Andrew Ohlolt, George Make, Comrade Mattingly of Williston and Charles E. Taylor of Plentywood.

After the meeting many farmers joined the United Farmers League. A list of literature was sold and nine farmers voluntarily subscribed for the Producers News, which they said was the only real farmers paper published in the west.

The speakers discussed the problems of the farmers and workers, the collapse of capitalism, the impending world revolution and the necessity for the proper organization to meet the situation. The speakers received enthusiastic receptions.

FARM PROBLEM

(Continued from front page)

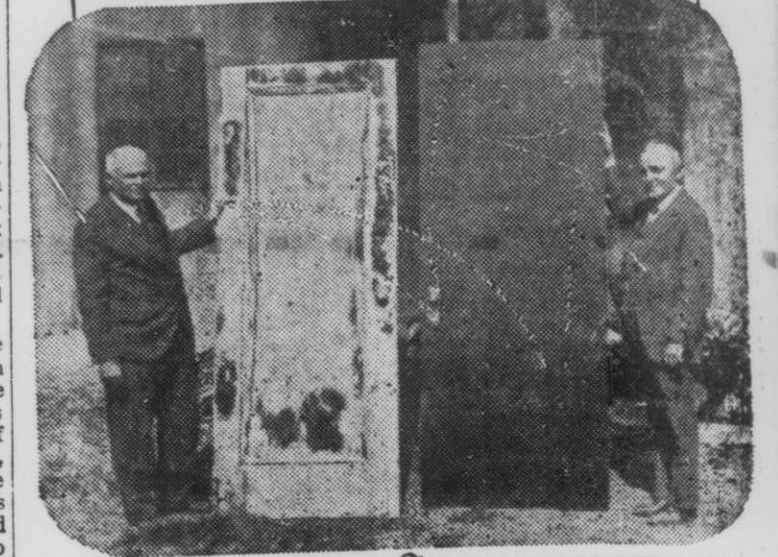
ers, it is next to useless to preach concerted reduction in acreage. Based on the reduction made by others, a good many would increase their acreage to reap the benefits. It is true, of course, that the present ruinous prices will starve out multitudes of these farmers; but the question is if that is desirable.

The Plan in Brief
The fundamental idea of the plan is to make the tariff on wheat, or a part of this tariff, effective on that part which is utilized or consumed at home, about three-fourths of the entire production. It does not attempt to boost the price on exported wheat. The export trade will act as a spillway for the surplus. The present tariff on wheat is 42c per bushel; but we could not make it effective up to the full limit of 42 cents as that would result in importation. We probably could make it effective up to nine-tenths of the full amount without inviting importation. How can this be done?

"It can be done without asking one single dollar from the national treasury to boost the price. Assuming the necessary legislation, the first step would be for departments of the national government, probably the department of agriculture and the department of commerce, to determine how much of the 42 cent tariff could be safely and justly made effective without bringing about wheat importation, and without doing injustice to the consumer. The quantity of wheat produced in the various states is pretty well known through accumulated statistics; so also the quantity of wheat utilized and consumed in this country. Upon the basis of these facts let the departments of the government compute the total money allotment for the entire country and then apportion to each one of the wheat producing states its exact share of this allotment. The total apportionment for the United States as a whole would be that part of the tariff that could be made effective, computed upon the total home consumption in flour, feed and other products. Being calculated in advance of collections it would have to be conservatively made. The share of each state should be calculated upon the average annual production of the state during the last five years or so. Each state would then carry this apportionment to the individual counties of the state; and each county would carry this apportionment to the individual farms.

"Let it be understood that this apportionment should not be

Chemically Treated Wood Proves Best Safeguard Against Flames



SUPERIORITY OF WOOD AS FIRE RESISTANT EXHIBITED BY HENRY KLEIN (AT RIGHT)

NEW YORK—Every forty-five minutes of the day and night, a human being is burned to death in the United States, according to a bulletin issued here by the Henry Klein Research Laboratory.

"Every four minutes a home is swept by flames somewhere in this country," the bulletin sets forth "while every day, on an average five churches, ten public buildings, 114 farms, three wood-working plants, five metal working establishments, seven clothing factories, and six food and food products plants suffer destructive fires.

"The subject of fire prevention is one which is engaging interesting

study by experts in laboratories and science has come to the aid of home owners and business men by perfecting a process for rendering wood flame proof and fire resistant. Treated under this new flame proof process, wood is more effective in resisting fire, smoke, and poison gases than any other building material."

In the photograph above, Henry Klein (at the right) exhibits a flame proofed wooden door after it had withstood flames and smoke for 60 minutes. The other door,—of a type heretofore considered the safest which could be made,—was badly damaged long before the 60 minutes were up and it had failed to hold back the flames and smoke.

spread over all the wheat producing lands, but only on sufficient lands to produce the required amount of wheat for home use and consumption under approved farming methods in the average crop season. This is fundamentally important. The lands best suited for wheat production should of course be selected for the apportionment.

Where Shall We Get the Money

"The amount of money required is accurately measured by the tariff rate made effective and quantity of flour and other wheat products consumed at home. Let congress lay an excise tax, equal to that part of the tariff that is to be made effective, on all wheat ground into flour or feed or otherwise processed for use as food; such excise tax to be paid in monthly installments by all millers and other manufacturers of wheat products. The tax on flour and other wheat products exported would have to be refunded. Irrespective of the amount of the surplus, entirely independent thereof, this tax would be effective. It should be paid into the treasury of the United States and apportioned to the various states, counties and individual farms according to the plan above described.

Would It Raise the Price of Wheat
"Many people would draw the conclusion that an increase of 35c or 40c per bushel in the price of wheat would mean a material advance in the price of bread. The

cost of the wheat is only a very small part of the cost of a loaf of bread. On the average it takes a shade less than one pound of wheat for the flour in a one-pound loaf of bread; one bushel of wheat will produce about sixty-two pounds of bread and in addition thereto leave about twenty pounds of mill feed. The resulting increase in the cost of bread would scarcely be noticeable.

"In a world where millions upon millions are starving, this new gospel of riches through scarcity is not one of universal appeal. It is a resort to very primitive methods and not the employment of statesmanship of the highest order.

"As this allotment would be based on the land itself and not on the crop it would equalize the returns from wheat farming between the good years and the poor. It would be available even in a year of total crop failure and serve as a sort of insurance against crop loss.

"The plan may have its defects and even its unsound spots like price raising through a protective tariff; but it is workable; it would bring results—lasting results, by placing wheat farming somewhat on the same basis as other industries. The present method of farm relief of loaning government money for investment in a losing business is a pathetic confession and conspicuous exhibition of utter and complete helplessness."

HELP

Create a Local Market for the Produce of Montana farms by PURCHASING THE FOLLOWING BRANDS OF

HAMS — BACON — LARD

— and —

MEAT PRODUCTS:

Placer Silver Bow DaCo. Rainbow

BY SO DOING YOU WILL HELP TO SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF THE FARM AND GIVE JOBS TO HOME WORKERS

New Steamer Lines From Norfolk, Va., to Europe Will Give South Centrally Located Embarkation Port

NORFOLK, VA.—Southern people who have been obliged to make a long rail trip to Northern ports before embarking for Europe, will find their railroad fares and time considerably reduced when they are able, in the summer of 1931, to take their steamer direct from Baltimore and Norfolk to ports along the eastern coast of England, London, Hull, Leith, and Dundee, and also to French and German ports.

Four fast steamers of approximately 8000 tons displacement will furnish excellent passenger accommodations in weekly sailings, at a moderate rate, not yet determined but in the neighborhood of \$100.

To many the advent of these new passenger ships sailing for Europe from a port as far South as Norfolk heralds a new day for the South. Eltherto Southerners bound for Europe have been obliged to go as far North as New York and even Montreal to catch their ships. This not only has added to the time required to go to and from Europe but also to the expense, and it is expected that this new service will lead the way to further direct passenger connections between the Southern ports and Europe.

The new service was made possible when the Southgate-Nelson Corporation, who formerly operated the line under a lease from the U. S. Government with a government subsidy of \$7,200, per voyage, bought the line outright from the U. S. Shipping Board.

Under its independent status the subsidy is withdrawn by the government, but in all probability the line will be given a mail contract paying \$8,750, with each voyage.

A fifth vessel, the steamer Brush, at present inactive at New Orleans is to be added to the fleet which will then have a grand total of about 40,000 tons.

Last August an announcement was made public that the U. S. Shipping Board had authorized loans to the Baltimore and Norfolk Steamship Company for \$6,500,000, to be used in reconstruction of five vessels purchased from the board for operation between Norfolk and Baltimore, and the ports of Bremen and Hamburg, in Germany and also the French Atlantic and Channel ports. This new passenger



service will be inaugurated early in 1931 and will be aided by a U. S. government mail contract awarded to the Roosevelt Steamship Company of New York.

The route over which this line will operate has been reviewed by both the Shipping Board and the Postmaster General, and certified to be an essential trade and mail route.

The Board feels that both of the new lines constitute the fulfilling of a primary need of the southern section of this country and that under competent management will play an outstanding part in the industrial and commercial development of the South.

The forthcoming establishment of European passenger service from Norfolk was not unsuspected by those

who have kept track of the marvelous port development of the Hampton Roads area. The Port of Hampton Roads which acts as a cohesive port unit embracing the three ports of Norfolk, Portsmouth, and Newport News, is the third largest seaport in the United States and the second outstanding gateway of commerce on the Atlantic coast being exceeded in total volume of cargo tonnage handled by New York alone. It is the terminus of eight railroads serving practically all the territory east of the Mississippi and its midway location on the Atlantic seaboard between the North and the South that make it a logical shipping point for the vast territory south of the Mason-Dixon Line and east of the Mississippi River.