

# WAYNE COUNTY BEATS THE WEST

Editor of The Citizen:

**I**n your valued paper of March 14th there appeared an article under this head, "The Last Great Land Opening to Take Place in Montana Soon." I do not know what prompted the writing of this article unless the author is the owner of some railway stock, and thought if he got a whole lot of people here at a given time to draw on some land scheme, the lucky ones would come again, and of course there would be a double haul. Well, we must all boost our own business. It made good reading, too; and that is why you printed it I suppose—business again. The transcontinental roads are the only ones that ever made any money out of land drawings. It is the old spirit of gamble that prevades the human breast that makes us all gamblers, all want to take a chance. Some of us even say we want a "gamble's chance." Some play any game that comes along, the old Louisiana lottery, for instance, which ran until the Government put a stop to it. Those same people who played the lottery took up the game again with the Indian lands, made a gambling feature of it, and the whole country seemed to fall for it. I have been 35 years in the west this month, have seen several drawings, have seen people killed for reservation land when there were thousands of acres right off the reservation just as good.

### A Little Game of The Railroads.

Take the drawing of the Flathead reservation, three years ago. The government required a man in the state of Maine, or any other eastern state, to come here to file on this land, and then told him to go back home and wait until they shook his name in a "goose" from some old discarded Keno game—that the government had put out of use because it was a gambling device—and if he was lucky and his name got out soon enough, he was called back from his Eastern home and allowed to file on the land. See the point? Another haul for the railroad. There were certain conditions under which he could take up this land, too, if he was lucky enough in the drawing. Hundreds of people with whom I talked told me they either knew before they left home that they could not take up a piece of land under the requirements, or found it out after they got here, as Missoula was designated as the place to come to find out. These people when questioned as to why they did it, under the circumstances, said they just wanted to take a chance once and see if they were lucky.

Now it is just as easy to stay at home and send your name in to the land office here, or in Washington, D. C., tell the official you are eligible to take up a homestead, and then if you are lucky you can make your preparations, close up your business and within a certain time come on and settle in your new home. You can see the land on the Flathead reservation just as well from the dome of the capitol at Harrisburg or down in your own front yard as you can see it from Missoula, for this land is twenty miles away and on the other side of a mountain.

### The Truth About Montana Homesteads.

But the real meat of this land nut: There are millions of acres of land in Montana open to settlement now—no drawing; all that is necessary is to have your homestead rights. If you do not know what these are I will tell you. You must be a citizen of the United States, 21 years old, man or woman, black or white. You can come here and get a home cheaper than you could by a drawing. It would be well to correspond with some one familiar with this land and find out just where the kind of land is that you want. If you are coming out get a guide from that locality, when you want to settle. There are plenty of old settlers who will only charge you \$125 or \$150, and you will find the money well spent both as a time saver and for horse hire. This guide you will find on the square, and he can give you more information while out with him than you would learn in a year by yourself. If you are sure you will locate, put your money in the bank nearest to the land you are planning on. Let him draw the actual expenses until you find something that suits you. If you fail there, then try some other place. You can find all this out before putting down any actual money, and when you find your land you can have it without taking any chances.

### Wayne Land and Markets Best in the World.

The land in Wayne county where I visited last year is good enough for anybody. All that is necessary is to study the conditions, learn what the land is best adapted for and what the market is calling for. Wayne county has the best market in the world, and no three thousand-mile haul to dispose of the produce, either.

### Would You Like a La Grande Fruit Farm? Read This, and Think!

Last fall on my return home from the East I made a trip to the Pacific coast, passed through the great fruit belts of Washington, around Yakama and Walla Walla, and back through Oregon and Idaho. At La Grande, Oregon, I went through the Grand "Rund valley, a piece of land perfectly flat, 26 miles long and 18 miles wide. The soil is a volcanic ash, the most fertile on earth. This is one of the oldest settled places in Oregon. I stood one day where from every direction I could look on orchards. Rows and rows of apple trees passed into the dim haze of the distance unbroken. This whole valley was

one grand orchard, and yet, the fruit lay under the trees ungathered—beautiful apples, large and red and smooth and free from infection or insects. The cause? No market. That condition would never happen in Wayne, not if every available foot of ground in the whole country was planted to apples. There was a reason for this stagnation of the apple market here, and as these fellows are a wise set I doubt its happening again.

### Who Should Get Homes in the West.

There are, no doubt, a thousand people in your midst who could take advantage of the homestead laws and get a Montana home and better their condition. To the wage earner I appeal, you who have to get up and go at the clang of a bell or the toot of a whistle, whose ears are trained to catch the foreman's step. You slaves of the twentieth century civilization, you who have never been your own boss, or done your own thinking, to you whom the Declaration of Independence has no real meaning, I say, Come out west and get a home, a real home of your own. It may be lonesome at first. Your children may have to ride horseback to school, your wife may have to take the same conveyance to make an afternoon call on a neighbor or to go to church, yet the bloom of health on their faces, and the fearless expression of their eyes will well repay you, even though your children are not allowed the privilege of mingling with the crowds in the busy marts of the world. They will not be shy like hirlings. Should a stranger come to your gate and ask who owns the land, they will look him straight in the eye, not brazen, but still unabashed, and say "My Dad."

### Neighbors Getting Close. Safety in Montana.

The country is settling up. Neighbors are getting closer. There are people living within one mile of each other in Montana now. Still, you do not have to lock your granary door at night, or your house door, either. You do not have to send a bodyguard with your wife and daughter if they have to make a long trip either in the day time or at night.

### Bright Prospects for Montana Surveyors.

"The last grand opening to take place in Montana soon!" Why, all the land in Montana will not be surveyed for ten years to come. Montana is the third largest state in the Union with a population of 375,053 in 1910, a little more than half that of Rhode Island, with an area as large as Rhode Island, Delaware, Connecticut, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maryland, West Virginia, and South Carolina combined. The state is rich enough to provide for the millions of people who inhabit those states. The fastest train crossing the state, coming into the eastern boundary at 3:00 p. m. does not leave it until 7:00 p. m. the following day, and will travel 780 miles. For 25 years three transcontinental roads, the Union Pacific, the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern sold tickets to tourists and home seekers in a vain attempt to fill up the state of Washington. During all that time and until the Chicago, Milwaukee and Puget Sound came in the state stop-over privileges could not be obtained. The railroads wanted to settle the long haul first.

### Pullman Tourists Can't Give Much Information.

You need not be afraid that the land will be all gobbled up in Montana this year. But, you are getting older each year and if you ever intend to come west, now is the time. Find out where this vacant land is. Don't ask some one who has crossed the state in a Pullman car. You can see by the figures he was part of the time in a berth asleep, or if awake it was too dark for him to see anything. Then again, the roadbed follows the streams to get the grade, so the tourist sees a long stretch of mountains and timber. When he has crossed the State he will probably ask where the hundreds of thousands of Buffalo found grass and pasture before the white man came. This grew on the great plains of the west you read about in your youth. The Indians did not cut off grass, nor cut down trees and plant alfalfa for these Buffalo to winter on. Then after the Buffalo there were millions of sheep, and hundreds of thousands of horses and cattle that ranged over the state. These had to be fed, and the feed grew on these same plains. These wild ranges are now being surveyed into 160-acre parcels to be given away to boni fide citizens of this great Republic. What kind of land do you want—some timber and some open—or some of the rich bottom land? flat? or hilly? with, or without rocks? Would you like it underlain with coal, with a top soil of one to 1.05 per cent. lime, with one-tenth of one per cent. nitrogen, where you can raise the biggest wheat crops grown in the world, or any other kind of grain for that matter, with a rich sub-soil of clay so the moisture can not leak out; or, would you like the other extreme, a decomposed granite, warm earth where fruits of all kinds grow at their best? Now is the time to decide, and Montana is the place to decide on. If scenic beauty is desired, there is the Yellowstone and Glacier Parks. If you are a hunter and aspire to big game, the Rocky mountains have an abundance of bear, deer, elk and mountain sheep roaming through them. If you are a scatter-gun artist there is the Milk River valley where millions of ducks are hatched every year, or the rolling bald hills of the upper Blackfoot country where there are thousands of lakes and ponds. Here these ducks are found in abundance.

### The state is a hunter's paradise. Who Should Remain East. Who Should Go West.

Conditions are good in the East, and if you are satisfied to be a wage earner the factories are there. We make no shoes, no fabrics, no machinery here. We produce the raw materials. Every year sees thousands more people added to our side, but every time we get a recruit it calls for one more in the East to make up the stuff he wants. We want some of all the necessities of life, and nearly all of the luxuries. As long as some of you stay in the East to use our beef, wheat, pork, etc., and work up our wools and hides, we will be satisfied. We don't want all of you to come, as I said before, but we could use a lot of you to fill up this big, rich State. Once here you will soon adopt the cow-boys song as your own—"Let me live in old Montana where there's lots of room and air, Cotton-woods and pine trees, Bitter Root and Prickley Pear."

A. M. STEVENS.

### SCALE SPRAYING DEMONSTRATIONS TO END.

The demonstrations for spraying dormant trees for San Jose scale, Blister Mite, Peach-Leaf Curl, and other pests that would be reached during this dormant season will come to a close in the Northeastern portion of Pennsylvania this week. The earlier demonstrations were arranged for the Southern or lower portions of the State, and were given before the buds burst. Those which are now scheduled and announced are in that portion of the State where the spring is slow in advancing, and the dormant spraying can yet be done successfully.

These demonstrations have been unusually successful, having been attended by over 30,000 persons, who are intensely interested. By this means State Zoologist H. A. Surface has succeeded in carrying to the horticultural citizens of this Commonwealth the very latest and the best information upon the first essential steps in securing good fruit. Thousands of persons have seen the work done, and after understanding the methods they have returned to their own premises to undertake it in the same manner and insure such good results this year as in years past where this work has been thoroughly and properly done.

The next public demonstrations by the Division of Zoology of the State Department of Agriculture will be for the Codling Moth and other pests and plant diseases, just after the blossoms fall. It must be remembered that the expert demonstrator will be present rain or shine, and the public meeting will be held at one o'clock on the afternoon of the date announced. The schedule for the last week of demonstrations on dormant trees is as follows:

- Carbon county—Monday, April 7, S. W. Gangwer, Rockport.
- Elk county—Monday, April 7, Jos. Lanzel, Mt. Marys.
- Fayette county—Monday, April 7, Geo. J. Denny, East Millsboro.
- Forest county—Wednesday, April 9, Miss Mary M. Mays, Hotelville.
- McKean county—Monday, April 7, R. J. Gates, Mt. Alto.
- Pike county—Thursday, April 10, W. F. Simons, Greentown.
- Wayne county—Tuesday, April 8, F. W. Osgood, Ariel.

### RAILWAYS SCORE VICTORY.

Washington, April 7.—The Interstate Commerce Commission on Monday handed down a decision which is a notable victory for the railroads on Transcontinental rates to the Pacific. Advanced rates which were suspended some time ago have been allowed by the commission.

Commissioner Clements, in the interests of shipper and carrier, prevailed upon the carriers to meet with the shippers in informal conference at the close of the hearings in an endeavor to amicably adjust at least a part of their differences.

As a result of these conferences, first between the parties themselves and later with Commissioner Clements, most of the disputed items were in that way adjusted satisfactorily to the shippers, who withdrew their protests. This decision condemns certain of the proposed advances, and the few remaining ones are permitted to become effective.

It is to be hoped that the manner in which this inquiry was conducted may serve as a valued precedent in the procedure of the Commission.

### THE PHILADELPHIA RECORD

is promoting an attractive and valuable book proposition for six consecutive coupons clipped from the Daily and Sunday Record, and a small cash payment. It will send to any one a copy of the New Modern English Dictionary, as follows:

The \$4.00 volume, of full limp leather, flexible, stamped in gold on back and sides, printed on Bible paper, with red edges and corners rounded, beautiful, strong and durable, for 6 coupons and \$1.20, including postage. Besides the general contents, there are maps and over 600 subjects beautifully illustrated by three-color plates, numerous subjects by monotonies, 16 pages of educational charts and the latest United States Census.

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### MASTER'S SALE

of Valuable Heavily Timbered REAL ESTATE

In Partition.

The undersigned, a Master appointed by the Court of Common Pleas of Susquehanna county to make sale of the real estate in partition proceedings between William Main et al. plaintiffs, and Robert H. Rose et al. defendants, will expose to public sale and vendue at the Court House in Montrose, Pa., on

Thursday, the 15th day of May, 1913

at two o'clock p. m., the following described real estate:

**FIRST PIECE:**—Comprising 284 1-4 acres, more or less.

This piece is covered with heavy timber chiefly hemlock, original growth and also a portion of the waters and ground thereunder of "Silver Lake," one of the most beautiful fresh water lakes in northeastern Pennsylvania, and shore line thereof about three-quarters of a mile, making a very attractive spot for cottagers, fishing and boating; in the center of the hill country of Pennsylvania about 1800 feet above sea level.

**SECOND PIECE:**—Comprising 805 3-4 acres more or less.

This piece consists almost entirely of very heavy virgin hemlock interspersed with some pine and hardwood; one of the most valuable timber tracts of its size in the state of Pennsylvania. Within easy reach of railroad and shipping facilities, being within ten miles of D., L. & W. R. R. and L. V. R. R.

Any further information desired concerning either tract will be furnished by the Master, together with map of the tract.

**JOHN S. COURTRIGHT, Master.**  
Montrose, Susq'a Co., Pa.

**A. B. SMITH, Attorney.**  
Montrose, Pa.

### NOTICE OF ADMINISTRATION.

Estate of W. Francis Decker, D. D., or William Francis Decker, Jr., Deceased.

All persons indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment to the undersigned; and those having claims against said estate are notified to present them, duly attested, for settlement.

**LAURA M. DECKER, Admin'x.**  
Newfoundland, Wayne county, Pa.  
Or to her attorney, Furman Sheppard Phillips, 707 Betz Bldg., Philadelphia.

### EXECUTOR'S NOTICE.

Estate of **MARIA P. KESLER,** Late of Honesdale.

All persons indebted to said estate are notified to make immediate payment to the undersigned; and those having claims against the said estate are notified to present them duly attested, for settlement.

**FRANK E. SHERWOOD,**  
**MILLARD F. SHERWOOD,**  
**ALONZO T. SEARLE,** Executors.  
Honesdale, Pa., March 24, 1913.

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