

Railroad News

Special Correspondent

Fireman George McLean is on the east skiddoo with Engineer C. C. Smith.

Engineer Grant Conely is back on No. 2 and 3 after a three weeks lay off. Engineer Horace Prentiss was on the run during Conely's absence.

Manager A. L. Thompson was up to Havre last Sunday on a business trip. He bought new stock for the store house and also looked over the base ball players there, with a view of signing up a utility man.

Passenger Engineer J. L. Hyde fired No. 28 for Bill Ratcliff last Monday. Jack says that they sure made some time and with a little practice Bill will be able to beat Ben Davidson's speed record, which is going soon.

The yard office has been moved east of the new ice house and through the efforts of G. Y. M. Hamilton has been painted up and cleaned up good. Several necessary repairs have been made and it is one of the classiest yard offices on the system now.

Engineer Dave Killam was elected to bring Engine 1704 down on No. 28 last Monday. This engine is just out of the shop and would naturally need careful attention so the B. of L. F. & E. elected Dave for the job of breaking her in.

The engineers of the G. N. are still getting a lot of praise for the manner

in which they handle trains. Passengers are pouring in complimentary letters to the different superintendents on the smooth handling of trains on which they rode over the G. N.

The round house has been all cleaned up and painted the past week as usual, John V. Harris being the heavy man. The carpenter gang is here now making several repairs and it is expected to have the round house in good shape for next winter.

The round house base ball team received their suits last week and have their line up completed now. Art Kelly, who played with the Boston Nationals last year, will back stop for the round house and we are assured that no one will steal a base on him as he has been practicing the pegs every night, lately. Lefty Barnes and Jess Pierce, the out law, will do the hurling and as both these men have pitched here before nothing need be said as to their powers. Nick Hahn, the league vet, will play the initial sack. There is quite a scrap over second base between Gene Rogers and Shoes and it is expected to play these men turn about at this base, playing the field at other times. Jerry Kelly has cinched the job of short stop by his classy playing. Ed Pierce has third base while Pinky Summers and Slats will fill up the field. Slats is some hitter keeping the men all busy chasing the balls he slips over the fence. He also bats left handed, which makes four left handed batters on the team. These have been switched in batting order so as to have a right handed man up first and then a left hander, and by this method Captain

Hahn expects to keep the opposing pitchers guessing. On account of the rainy and windy weather the round house team have been unable to practice any last week, but will be out in uniform the first warm day.

State Topics

Automobiles will be admitted to Yellowstone National Park commencing August first.

The state sold 10,300 acres of land at Fort Benton recently at \$14.67 per acre.

The estimated winter wheat crop for the present year is 619,000,000 bushels.

The worst famines of modern times were the famine in Ireland in 1646-47, in which 1,000,000 people perished; the Indian famine in 1866, which claimed 1,450,000 victims; the Indian famine in 1877, in which 500,000 people perished, and the great famine of China in 1878 in which 9,500,000 died.

There was a balance in the national treasury April, 1913, of \$73,000,000 which has been changed in two years to a deficit of \$68,000,000. That gives something of an idea of how we keep going behind in spite of the income tax and so-called war tax.

Sidney Miller, register of state lands, conducted a sale of state land in Chouteau county last week, with a rather small number of purchasers in attendance. About 4,000 acres were sold to the various applicants, most of the bids being made by Geo. W. Morrow, as agent.

While the audience watched the show, two masked bandits entered the box office of the Empress theater in Butte at 10 o'clock Sunday night, held up Manager Swarts and got away with \$500. An exciting chase through one of Butte's streets followed, the theater manager following close on to the heels of the robbers. Nelson Alexander unarmed, chased the two men for three blocks, despite threats by one of the men to shoot.

Starting from an unknown cause and rapidly spreading through the main business section of the city, fire destroyed \$100,000 worth of property at Polson Friday. The fire started in the Bell Hotel on Third street, the principal street of the reservation city and spread in all directions. The efforts of the fire department were useless, due to the fact that most of the buildings in the city are frame.

According to a report of the census bureau, Montana is among a number of states which show white mortality rates from tuberculosis lower than the average for the entire registration area. The rate for Montana in 1913 was 79.9 deaths per 100,000 people from consumption.

The state board of examiners has authorized the payment of bounty claims filed last January. The claims amounted to \$9,975, the interest being \$99.75. The money for the payment of this indebtedness came from the tax on livestock. With the liquidation of this indebtedness, all bounties with the exception of those filed in February, March and April of this year, have been settled for.

Horrors of War

The Irish guards were holding a position at Ypres, and flying bullets were the order of the day. The Germans endeavored to break through, and after a particularly brisk volley Private Flynn was heard to shout:

"Murder of wars, I'm done now, altogether."

"Why have you been hit?" shouted Capt. P.

"Not entirely hit, sor," shouted Flynn, "but I've been waitin' this 10 minutes for a smoke from Murtagh's poipe, and be the powers they've just shot it out iv his mouth."

A TOUGH OLD CUSS

My husband, William Stikes, left my bed and board, just before election day without just cause or provocation. All persons are warned against boarding or trusting him on my account. I will not be responsible for the results as he is a loafer, a drunkard, a liar and a Bull Mooser.—Advertisement in Springfield (Mo.) Exchange.

Youthful Inspiration

Little Bobby—Say, sister, is mamma looking?

Little Sister—No; what are you going to do?

Little Bobby—Take out the goldfish an' let 'em play with the cat.

Light Humor

Ancient Mariner (reading window placard)—"Rooms for light house-keeping! Sufferin' whales! what fool 'd want to keep a light house in his room."

The Claimant

By EUNICE BLAKE

On the estate of Lucien Marivaud, in France, lived a poor man named Soubise and his wife, Marie, the couple having a little son, Francois. M. Marivaud had extensive vineyards, from the product of which he manufactured wine. Soubise had charge of the grape growing, and Marivaud not only valued his services highly, but was very fond of him. Soubise's wife died, and he soon followed her, leaving little Francois without a home.

M. Marivaud had a son, Victor, about Francois' age. When the latter was left an orphan he was taken to the chateau and became a playmate of Victor. There was a brother of Victor, Louis, much younger than either of these two boys.

When Victor was eighteen he entered the military school and became an army officer. Upon graduating he was ordered to join his regiment in Tonkin. Francois was anxious to see service and, enlisting in the same regiment, went out with Victor, who agreed to interest himself in his promotion that he might become an officer.

A year later after a fight Lieutenant Marivaud was reported missing. This meant that he had fallen into the hands of the Chinese, in which case it was quite likely that he had been murdered. When nothing was heard from him for several years he was given up by his family, and when his brother, Louis, came of age he inherited the family patrimony, his father having died without a will. M. Marivaud had purposely omitted to make one because he never ceased to hope that his son would one day turn out to be among the living.

Ten years after the departure of Victor Marivaud, when there was no member of the family living, Louis, who had for some time possessed and managed the wine business, became engaged to Hortense Villaret, the daughter of a neighbor. Mlle. Villaret belonged to an aristocratic family, but the estate had been confiscated during one of the many changes in the sovereignty of France, and she was very poor. She and Louis were much in love with each other, and her father favored the match because Louis was wealthy and could enable Hortense to return to the style of living to which the family had formerly been accustomed.

All went happily for the lovers till a few weeks before the day set for the wedding. Then one day a man appeared at the chateau claiming to be Victor Marivaud. Louis was but twelve years old when his brother left home, and, granting that this man was Victor, he would not have remembered him. There was no other person at hand who had been familiar with Victor to identify him.

But the claimant was able to tell of many incidents that had happened on the estate, which went far to prove that he was what he claimed to be. He explained his long absence in this wise: During the fight in which he was reported missing he was knocked on the head by the butt of a musket in the hands of a Chinaman and stunned. When he came to himself he remembered nothing of the past, not even his name. The dead were lying about him; the wounded had been removed. He arose and walked till he came to a city, where he eventually entered the service of a French merchant. After passing through various vicissitudes he was taken suddenly ill and was removed to a hospital. After having been delirious on returning to his former condition he had exclaimed, "You rascally Chinaman, take that for yours!" But seeing a nurse before him instead of a Chinaman he appeared much surprised. He had returned to a normal state, remembering that he was Victor Marivaud.

His appearance was a terrible blow to the lovers, for, according to the French law of inheritance, Victor Marivaud was the owner of the estate, including the wine business. He told Louis so many things that had occurred during the latter's childhood that Louis became convinced that the stranger was his brother. Nevertheless it was not to be expected that he would be pleased to see a brother of whom he had no remembrance and who would dispossess him of his property. But the severest blow was that M. Villaret immediately withdrew his consent to his daughter's marriage unless it could be proved that the claimant was an impostor.

There was an old blind woman living on the place, who, on hearing of the claimant, desired that he be brought to her. She asked him a few questions, which seemed to trouble him, though he answered them correctly. Then the old woman directed that he be uncovered to the waist. This was done, and her hand was guided to his chest. She slid her hand around to his side under his right arm, and it rested on a small lump the size of a pea.

"This is Francois Soubise," she said "I lived with his mother when he was a little boy and often dressed and undressed him. I know him by this lump."

That ended the pretense. Louis Marivaud after this attempt to impose on him went to Tonkin and made a search for his brother, Victor. But, although he spent much time on the matter, he failed to obtain any information whatever. Victor never returned.

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Take advantage of these special fares to visit California's Expositions. Call on or write your local Agent for descriptive literature and full information regarding the "GREAT NORTHERN WAY" to the "Panama-Pacific" and "Panama-California" Expositions.



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