

# FERGUS COUNTY DEMOCRAT

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LEWISTOWN, FERGUS COUNTY, MONTANA, TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 1905.

## WILLIAM FERGUS PASSED AWAY

Mr. Fergus Died Last Friday Morning After Several Months of Ill Health.

WAS WELL KNOWN AND RESPECTED

By His Attractive and Hospitable Personality He had Gained Many Friends.

William Fergus died at three o'clock last Friday morning at his home on Box Elder after several months' gradual decline of the vital powers brought on by old age. Mr. Fergus was 72 years of age at the time of his death and has been since 1882 identified with the history of Fergus county.

He was the brother of the Hon. James Fergus and is of Scotch descent, being born in Lanarkshire in Scotland, where for many years he made a living by farming leased lands. His parents were Andrew and Christine Fergus, a branch of the Fergus family who were so prominent in Scotch history during the latter end of the sixteenth century.

In 1862 Mr. Fergus married Miss Helen Hamilton in Lanarkshire and she helped him build up his fortunes in Montana by her practical assistance and sympathy until her death in 1892. There are eight children, four sons and four daughters, left to mourn the death of a parent whose kindness of heart was proverbial; they are: Margaret, Mrs. John B. Rauch; Christine H., Mrs. David Hilger; Agnes P., Mrs. L. Landru; Mrs. Nellie Romanstead; William, Robert, James and Andrew.

The children were born in Scotland and it was in 1882 that Mr. Fergus accompanied by his entire family, sailed from Glasgow for the unknown regions of the great western states of America. After a pleasant voyage they journeyed to Bismarck and from thence to Claggett. The latter part of this trip was made on a river boat on the Missouri and on their arrival they were welcomed by James Fergus who had already achieved a good start in the section of the country which now bears his name. The location of the present family residence on Box Elder was secured by purchasing the improvements from one Nelse Strever who relinquished his rights for a nominal sum. The family worked together harmoniously and by dint of hard work and steady application, built up what is today a magnificent property, consisting of, in the neighborhood of 10,000 acres.

The ranch of William Fergus & Sons, on Box Elder, Dog creek and Arnelis is one of the largest stock ranches in the state of Montana. In the neighborhood of 19,000 sheep, 400 head of horses and six hundred head of cattle are run on the many thousands of acres owned by the company and the success which has attended Mr. Fergus from his first arrival in Fergus county is the direct result of his business acumen and vigorous personality.

Mr. Fergus was known to every old-timer in the county and state and his death is deplored by many friends who knew the value of his friendship and personal worth. With true Scotch hospitality his doors were open to his friends and his liberality in personal and church matters is to well known to need comment. Though not actively interested in politics Mr. Fergus always had the interests of the county and state at heart and has lent valuable aid in the building up of the county especially in the section in which he lived.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Fergus were members of the Presbyterian church from early childhood and the funeral services were conducted at the home of the family on Box Elder. The Rev. Quickenden, pastor of the Presbyterian church of Lewistown conducted the services and the mortal remains of Mr. Fergus were interred in the family cemetery.

In the neighborhood of seventy people attended the funeral ceremonies at Box Elder on Sunday afternoon, including all the children of the deceased with the exception of Mrs. Landru who is now in Florida. The entire neighborhood turned out to pay the last respects to William Fergus who was generally beloved by those with whom he came in contact.

The services were conducted by the Rev. Quickenden of Lewistown and the Rev. Kerr of Kendall. The choir of the Presbyterian church of Lewistown rendered several musical selections while a very impressive solo was sung by Mr. Beasley. Those who went from Lewistown to attend the funeral obsequies were: David Hilger and wife accompanied by D. J. Hilger and Miss Maud, Mr. and Mrs. John Rauch, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Phillips, Miss Doherty, Miss Phillips, Mr. Beasley and wife, Mrs. A. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Chris. Wiedeman, Oswald Lehman, Mrs. Darrow.

The pall bearers were: William, James, Robert and Andrew Fergus four sons of the deceased. A choral service was held in the large parlor and a magnificent funeral oration was rendered by the Rev. Quickenden. The services at the graveside were conducted by the Rev. Kerr. Floral offerings were profuse and plentiful and the deceased was placed in a magnificent state casket furnished by George Creel who assisted in the funeral preparations. The funeral cortege left the house for the private cemetery at 2:30 P. M. This burying ground is situated in an extremely picturesque spot about three hundred yards from the house and is protected by a large grove of quaking asp trees. The funeral throughout was one of the most impressive ceremonies which ever took place in Fergus county and was a fitting sequel to a life which has been a lesson to humanity and a benefit to those who came in contact with the broad and tolerant personality of the late William Fergus.

## FLOUR MILL OF LARGE CAPACITY.

Judith Basin Milling Co. Has Let Contracts to Put Up Larger Plant.

The plans and specifications of the new milling plant to be erected by the Judith Milling Co. shows the new plant to be one with a large capacity and provided with every modern improvement.

The elevator is to have a 50,000 bushel capacity, while the mill is capable of turning out 250 barrels per day. A side track will be run from the main line of the Montana Railroad and will end with a Y and a switchback at the plant. The new plant will occupy a position fronting Main street and to the city side of the present buildings.

The contract for the excavating and foundation has been let to John Laux while Jeff Tubbs secured the contract for the erection of the mill building. Owing to a technicality the elevator contract is not yet let. The milling machinery will be supplied by Barnard & Leas from their large supply works in Moline. The old buildings will be used for storage purposes.

## THE NORMAL SCHOOL BONDS.

Tenders for the Purchase of State Lands Rejected.

Helena, April 6.—Rejecting all bids submitted in response to advertisements for the sale of \$75,000 normal school bonds, the state land board at its meeting today decided to buy the issue in behalf of the state, on a basis that will yield the state four per cent net.

The bonds, which were authorized by the recent legislative assembly in order to erect additional buildings at the Dillion institute, are based upon the land grant made by the national government to the state upon its admission, and are to run for 20 years, but may be redeemed at the end of ten years.

The board also rejected several tenders for purchases of state lands, including offers from Elizabeth J. McDaniels for a half section in Cascade county, that of Thomas Gibson for a quarter section in Gallatin county, that of T. H. Brockey, of Oregon, for three lots in Flathead county; and that of H. E. Hugman for a section adjoining the town of Moore, in Fergus county, the bids being \$10 an acre. The court also rejected two bids for a quarter section in Cascade county, described as the southwest quarter of section 16, township 20 north, range 4 east, and withdrew the land from sale.

## A Daredevil Ride

often ends in a sad accident. To heal accidental injuries, use Bucklin's Arnica Salve. "A deep wound in my foot from an accident," writes Theodore Schuele, of Columbus, O. "caused me great pain. Physicians were helpless, but Bucklin's Arnica Salve quickly healed it." Soothers and heals burns like magic. 25c at Delzell Drug Co. guaranteed.

## FINE FARMS ON SPRING CREEK

Spring Creek Farming District One of the Most Fertile Localities in the County.

ON EAST FORK AND CASTLE CREEK

This Portion of the County is Thickly Settled and Unusually Well Cultivated.

The Big Spring creek farming district stretching to the south east of Lewistown for seven miles has not its equal in the county for farming purposes while on the low lying benches to either side is some of the best grazing land in this section of the state. The land on the creek bottom has been cultivated for many years and consists of a rich black soil which will raise anything which will grow in the northern portion of the continent.

From the town limits to the source of the creek, where the big spring gives forth many gallons of water each minute, the lands are fenced and comfortable farm buildings can be seen at short intervals. The creek is full of magnificent mountain trout, whitefish and other finny denizens of our mountain streams. Many a speckled beauty has been captured in Big Spring creek which would tip the scales at from two to three pounds. A fairly successful effort has been made to breed quail in the brush on the river bottom and though they are not yet plentiful yet they are frequently heard and sometimes seen by the disciples of Isaac Walton while pursuing their peaceful pastime.

Henry Suprenant cultivates a small farm almost within the city which yields bountifully of crops of all kinds while the ranch and farm operated by Frank Day is notoriously one of the best in the district. Jake Harmon and John Borgh own fine farming land further up the creek and both gentlemen own coal mines from which a large part of the coal supply of the city is procured. Mr. Harmon also runs a bunch of cattle which reach marketable shape early in the season as the result of the fine range in that vicinity. Alfalfa and all varieties of fodder are raised in profusion in this fertile district while winter wheat is grown with phenomenal success in this locality. The breaking of the sidehills and the benchlands is very noticeable this spring and almost every farmer in this district is preparing a small patch of land for winter wheat.

Samuel Phillips owns a large ranch a short distance up the creek from Lewistown and winters in the neighborhood of 8,000 head of sheep. This is a fine stock ranch and an adequate amount of feed is raised in any kind of a year owing to the facilities for irrigation. The James Sullinger ranch is in the direct vicinity of the big spring and is one of the best places on the creek. It was originally a natural hay meadow and raises fine crops each year.

Charles Wright has purchased considerable land in this vicinity during the past two years and owns many acres of land which he is cultivating to its entire capacity. A short distance from the Wright holdings is the plant of the Citizens Electric Light Co; one of the most up to date lighting plants in existence in the state.

Oats and wheat will average forty bushels to the acre, while alfalfa and timothy run as high as three tons each. On the east fork are a number of fine ranches, among which are the places belonging to Doctor Willard, Perry Heath, E. R. Frame, Phil Lang, Lincoln Lang, Walter Downing and Dorme Jackson. Judd McWilliams is located on Marcott, while Ernest Busch has a fine ranch on the same creek.

Mainly cattle are raised in this section, which is contingent to excellent range and the best of water. The locality is extremely fertile and considerable success has been experienced in the growing of winter wheat. Garden truck of all varieties has been raised with success, while the hay crop is an exceptionally good one. The district is well cultivated and

thickly settled and shows every evidence of a general prosperity.

Toward Castle creek and in the vicinity of Castle butte is some of the prettiest country that can be encountered in Montana. Timber, water and an abundance of rich bottom lands make it an ideal farming and ranching district. The ranches are well improved and cropped to their full capacity every year. Well bred bunches of cattle and horses are scattered over the grazing lands and the farm buildings are of a nature which denotes a continuous prosperity. Heavy crops of grain and thousands of tons of fodder are harvested in this locality each year and the short haul to the timber makes the improvement of the ranches, comparatively speaking, an easy matter.

The root crop throughout this entire section of the county is unusually good and some of the finest potatoes raised in the state are grown on the farms of this portion of Fergus county.

One of the most pleasant drives that can be imagined is from Lewistown to Castle Butte and the scenery along the route cannot be excelled by any of a like nature in the state. The roads have been improved considerably during the past few years and a drive through this rich and beautiful farming district will long be remembered by those who have taken the trip.

## PRAISES OUR NEW TEACHER

Minto Public School Board Regrets to Lose Prof. A. C. Crane Who Will Be Here Next Year.

## SUCCEEDS PROFESSOR SILLOWAY

Excellent Choice of the Board of a Successor to the Present Popular Superintendent.

The following from the Minto, N. D.) Journal, referring to Prof. A. C. Crane, the gentleman selected by the board of trustees of the County High school as the successor of Prof. Silloway as principal of the school, will be of interest to our readers, and, particularly to those who are patrons of the school:

"At the school meeting held Tuesday evening, the school board considered the matter of faculty for the next school year.

The subject has been in the minds of the members of the board for several weeks. The board appreciates the fact that the Minto schools have attained a standard of excellence that has not only been to them a matter of great satisfaction, but we venture to say that not a patron of the schools is there but what has congratulated himself that our city schools as they are now governed and constituted, are the pride of the city and of each individual home. Especially does the board feel a just pride and satisfaction in the splendid success of the schools. During the past three years, under Prof. Crane's management, the record has been constant improvement, and a look ahead to the goal of perfect system of education, until today the schools of our city have attained a position in the first rank among the schools of the state.

To the splendid ability of our superintendent, A. G. Crane, does the board give credit for this achievement and to a man do the patrons of the second opinion. He has done a grand work in education, and has demonstrated a capability that we doubt can be duplicated in this state. Well may he congratulate himself that his fitness is proven beyond peradventure. A wider field, more open to advancement, is presented to him. The district is not financially able to offer inducements that will keep him here for another year. He declines the best offer that the board is able to make and will next year be superintendent of the County High school in Lewistown, Montana.

## Frightful Suffering Relieved.

Suffering frightfully from the virulent poisons of undigested food, C. G. Grayson, of Lula, Miss. took Dr. King's New Life Pills, "with the result," he writes, "that I was cured." All stomach and bowel disorders give way to their tonic, laxative properties. 25c at Delzell Drug Co., guaranteed.

## OPENING OF JUDITH CLUB

Popular Institution Opened Last Friday Evening When an Elegant Lunch Was Served.

ROOMS FURNISHED LUXURIOUSLY

Every Appointment of the Club Up-to-date and Extremely Comfortable.

The opening of the Judith Club took place on Friday night on which occasion a first-class lunch was served to about seventy-five of the members who were present and the evening was spent in a pleasant social manner amid the comfortable surroundings of the club.

The membership of the club has run up to 120 and it will probably be double that number before the expiration of the summer. The furnishings and supplies have been purchased and will be paid for out of the membership receipts already in the treasury, there being sufficient to leave a substantial margin.

The Club Rooms were fitted up by the Lewistown Furniture Company and the work in every respect is first-class. The walls of the various rooms are covered with a first quality of landscape wall paper with picture moulding and very picturesque bordering. They are undoubtedly among the best fitted up rooms in the state and will fill a long felt want among the business men of the city who care to have quiet and comfortable place to read the latest news and talk with their friends after business hours.

The rooms are furnished in a manner which gives stability as well as elegance and comfort to the aspect of the establishment. The furniture, which was put in by the Lewistown Furniture Co. is of quarter sawed polished oak with leather upholstery. The floors of the library and private writing room are covered with elegant Wilton rugs furnished by the company while the tables in both rooms are of solid quarter sawed oak with a hard polished finish.

In the billiard room there is a small but up-to-date buffet where liquid refreshments of all kinds can be procured; this department is directly under the management of Chas. Read, formerly of the Montana Club in Helena. A number of elegantly leather upholstered card tables occupy part of the floor space; these and the chairs were furnished by the Lewistown Furniture Company who also procured the Brunswick-Balke-Callender billiard table which has been purchased by the club. The pool table formerly owned by the Lewistown club has been installed and there is no doubt but that these two tables are the best in the city.

The reading room is the acme of comfort and the library table is covered with a profusion of the best magazine literature of the day. The big dailies are in evidence on the table in the writing room and this section of the club would certainly tempt a man to read who is not addicted to spending his evenings in so quiet a manner.

It is proposed at an early date to partition the main room so as to make the billiard room separate from the buffet and the partition has already been ordered through the Lewistown Furniture Co. The hallway is furnished with a settee and an antique umbrella stand, while the floor is covered with a high grade of linoleum especially procured by the Lewistown Furniture Co. for that purpose.

The electric lighting is simply perfect, while a modern lavatory has been installed at the club. A private telephone booth has been put in for the accommodation of the members. The floor of the billiard room will be covered with rubber matting which is being obtained through the Lewistown Furniture Co. The ensemble of the club rooms is excellent and it provides an excellent place to while away an idle hour or to take visitors to the city for an evenings' entertainment.

Remember, the Democrat and the best state map ever published for less than the price of the map, \$3.00.

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William Corley has moved his family to Zortman.

F. L. Wilson returned from Minot, N. D. last week.

Frank Barnes was over from Gilt Edge last Sunday.

Perry Decker from Gilt Edge was here last Sunday.

Ben Dougherty has moved to his ranch east of town.

Hilda Callahan was sick last week, but is now improving.

Mrs. Anna White spent a few days in Lewistown last week.

John Colander is at work on the boiler at the Maginnis mill.

Mrs. Annon has taken charge of the boarding house at Collar gulch.

Robert McMillan has moved into the house vacated by Mr. Corley.

Frank Lackie, who has been in Alberta for the last year, has returned home.

Joe Bellis, manager of the mine at Collar gulch, left for the east last Saturday.

E. D. McKay of Bloomington, Ill., has purchased an interest in the mining property owned by F. L. Wilson and W. W. Lackie. Mr. McKay spent only a few days here but is to return soon. He stated that men will soon be at work on the property.

Johnny Crabtree, one of the infant sons of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Crabtree, died last Sunday evening. The child was apparently getting well, when he took worse Sunday morning and died in the evening. The bereaved parents have the sympathy of the entire community.

Spring millinery will be held at prices which defy all competition during the ten-days' sale at the Power Mercantile Co.