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LEWISTOWN, FERGUS COUNTY, MONTANA, TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1908

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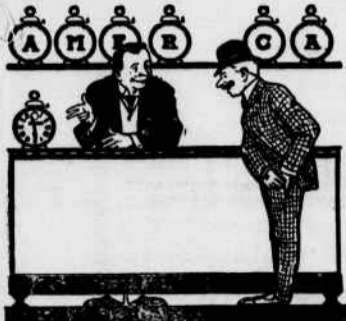
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MORGAN KILLS PFLEGER

Alleged Horse Thief Resists Arrest and Deputy Sheriff Has To Kill Him In Self Defense

---Few Particulars of the Shooting.

While resisting arrest last Sunday evening, John Pfeleger, who lives on Swimming Woman creek, in the southern part of the county, was shot and instantly killed by Deputy Sheriff Al Morgan.

Few Particulars Received.
Few particulars of the shooting have been received in this city up to the time the Democrat goes to press. A man by the name of Taylor telephoned to Sheriff Martin that Morgan had killed Pfeleger and asked that some of the sheriff's force come down at once. As quickly as possible, Sheriff Martin, Deputy Sheriff Biglen and Coroner Creel left for the scene of the shooting in an automobile. It is about fifty miles down there but as the roads are good, they should have arrived there shortly after noon. County Attorney Huntoon and Stenographer Gibson left on the train this morning for Garnett from which place they will drive to the old Whelan ranch, twenty miles away, where the tragedy occurred.

Wanted for Horse Stealing.
A warrant was issued Friday on complaint of S. J. Belcher, of Lavina, for the arrest of Pfeleger for horse stealing. Morgan left early Saturday morning horseback to serve the warrant. Morgan is one of the coolest officials in the business and Sheriff Martin expressed it as his belief that his deputy shot Pfeleger only when it became absolutely necessary in order to capture him or save his own life.

Arrested Several Times.
John Pfeleger came here about 18 years ago and worked for two or three years for the Crawford brothers. He then retired from active work and has since lived in a manner more or less mysterious but generally believed by people residing in the southern country, by the means of horse stealing. He has been arrested two or three times on the charge of stealing horses but always managed to escape punishment.

Mr. Belcher, of Lavina, came in the latter part of the week and reported to the officers that he believed that Pfeleger and some associates had a bunch of horses ready to drive out of the country. The warrant was issued as stated above and Morgan was sent out after him. For the last two years, Pfeleger has been stopping at the old Phelan ranch which now belongs to C. Yegan, of Billings. He was about 35 or 40 years of age and unmarried.

Two Men Arrested.
Sheriff Martin came in Saturday from Lavina having in charge A. Bruce, a young Scotchman who recently came to this country, and Alex Kethum. They are presumed to be mixed up in some manner with Pfeleger, although the friends of young Bruce states that he is absolutely innocent, having gone to Lavina but a few days ago from Garnett where he has a brother working for W. H. Peck.

WORST DISASTER OF THE CENTURY

OVER HUNDRED THOUSAND DIE IN GREAT ITALIAN EARTHQUAKE.

One of the worst disasters ever recorded occurred last Sunday when an immense tidal wave, caused by an earthquake, practically wiped out of existence the towns of Messina, Cecily, Reggio, Italy, and numerous smaller cities and villages along the coast of Messina which separates the main and of Italy from the island province of Cecily.

Two Big Cities Devastated.
Messina was a city of over 100,000 population and of this number, over half are dead. Reggio claimed a population of about 55,000 and of this number, no more than one-fifth survive.

Stories of Unutterable Horror.
The following stories sent out by the associated press, tell of one of the greatest calamities which ever befell the white race:

Rome, Dec. 30.—The immensity of the disaster in Southern Italy and Sicily can be measured only by the fact that it is now estimated that 110,000 people perished in Messina and Reggio alone. A score of other towns have been devastated and thousands of victims in these places must be added to the roll. In the

face of these awful totals, all Italy stands appalled.

Nor has the full death list yet been reached. Shiploads of fugitives have arrived at Naples and other ports and the vast majority of these are sorely injured. Other thousands remain near the ruins of their homes or wander half starved, half naked, over the land.

The forces that on Monday overwhelmed the cities also destroyed the means of sustenance. Telegraphic communication has been established with Messina, the apparatus having been set up in a railroad station. Messages that have come over the line, though they have been meager in detail, show that hope is gone.

Nothing remains of the city but a mass of ruins that have been swept by fire. A mere handful of survivors is being cared for by the rescuing forces, but their distress is great, and it has been increased by the recent increasing wind that followed the deluge of rain. Destitution is rife and appalling. There is little food and less water. Of Messina's 90,000 population, it is believed that fully 70,000 perished. Forty thousand perished in Reggio.

King Victor Emmanuel and Queen Helena were in Messina today. The king explored the ruins, regardless of the danger to which he exposed himself. He was often moved to tears at the heartrending scenes he came upon at every turn. The queen spent the day in the wards of improvised hospitals, visiting the wounded, many of whom have lost all that was dear to them. Her majesty did her best to cheer them with womanly words of consolation, often breaking into sobs as she listened to their dreadful

ELECTION IS ORDERED AT ROUNDUP

The members of the board of county commissioners met yesterday to approve the bonds of the new officers and transact some other special business. All of the bonds were duly approved and the new officers, with the exception of the county treasurer, are now at work. Mr. Robinson does not take office until the first of March.

Roundup Would Incorporate.
Attorney Jameson, of Roundup, appeared before the board and presented a copy of the census recently taken in that town. It shows that Roundup now has a population of 866 and they have in a petition for the privilege of incorporating as a city.

It appearing to the commissioners that all of the necessary requirements have been fulfilled by the people of Roundup, a special election was ordered to take place February 27th to

determine whether or not the residents of that place desire to incorporate. It is believed that the proposition will carry although there is some opposition to the move.

Appoint Justice for Straw.
K. C. Spurgeon was appointed justice of the peace at Straw. The matter of the appointment of a justice at Moore is under advisement awaiting an opinion from the attorney general. Two justices were elected for this township at the last election and the commissioners were not certain whether they have the legal right to choose a third. They realize that Moore should have a justice and are desirous of appointing one. In case the opinion of Mr. Galen is favorable, Homer Detrick will be appointed to succeed himself in a position which he has filled to the satisfaction of every one in the town of Moore and vicinity for the last year.

tales of suffering. The king left for Reggio tonight.

Catania, the largest city nearest to the zone of the disaster, is crowded with refugees, and the continuous stream of fugitives coming in, the sight of the wounded, and the repetition of real or imaginary earthquakes, have so alarmed the population that they are becoming uncontrollable. There is no longer any place where the refugees may find shelter. Cardinal Franca Nava di Bontife, archbishop of Catania, has employed all the money in his possession to provide bread for the fugitives, but the people of Catania also are in great need, as the ordinary business pursuits have been entirely interrupted.

The government is finding difficulty in ascertaining the fate of the many foreigners who were in the zone at the time of the catastrophe, inquiries concerning whom are coming from all quarters of the globe. Admiral Admarakhoff, Russian commander of the battleship which arrived with fugitives at Naples today, confirms the report of the American consul at Messina, Arthur S. Cheney and his wife, who were buried in the ruins of the consulate.

The number of Americans in Sicily and Southern Italy is believed to be small, and several of them are reported to have been staying at Taormina, which is on the east coast, about 30 miles southwest of Messina. According to the latest reports, the place suffered no harm from the earthquake.

Military in Control.
The minister of war is dispatching order to the military authorities, who have practically taken over the absolute power throughout the zone of the earthquake, explaining:

"This disaster has resulted in a greater loss of life than any of our wars for independence. Indeed the situation is much worse, as while war is always preceded by a period of poverty, this has happened within 40 seconds. While war only affects the young and strong among the people, the present calamity has mowed down women and children, old men and youths.

"While in the war the armies are followed by the most complete camp hospitals, the numberless wounded in Calabria and Eastern Sicily have been left, in many cases, 48 hours without assistance. Even when rescued it is impossible to house them everything has been felled by the shock. The lack of care and starvation will complete the work that the forces of nature have left undone."

Warmest sympathy and deepest condolence has been extended by the nations of the world. The message of France was especially warm, and she is dispatching five warships from Toulon to Messina.

This is hailed as a token of love from a sister race.
The minister of marine tonight received word that the steamships Taormina and Campania, laden with 45,000 beds and a large supply of provisions, had left Genoa bound for Messina. Other steamers, also bound fully stocked, are on their way to the stricken city, from various ports.

Water and Food Scarce.
The rescue parties, military, naval and civil of different nationalities, are performing prodigies, but the task before them is almost hopeless. Added to the difficulty of obtaining food and water, there are no drugs or surgical appliances. Temporary hospitals are being rigged up, but comparatively only the men can be relieved.

The survivors of the earthquake are suffering cruel extremities, and in Messina they may be seen everywhere vainly searching in the dust and debris for morsels of food.
Late dispatches state that the only city of Palmi contains 1,500 dead and twice as many injured. Two-thirds of the town was laid waste. All the villages adjacent are damaged severely.

The king has telegraphed Premier Geollette informing him that Reggio is in the same awful condition as Messina and announcing that a Russian steamer with 500 injured will arrive at Naples tomorrow. His majesty asks that all preparations be made for their reception at the hospitals, and requests that the ship be sent back with all the doctors that can be mustered.

Dispatches from Catania describe Messina as appearing like huge incandescent furnaces. The fire has spread to the buildings that had not yet fallen, completing the work of destruction. The strait of Messina is now covered with corpses of men and animals. At the present time there are 12 warships at Messina, four Italian, four British and four Russian, as well as a number of destroyers and steamers. The injured are being carried aboard the steamers and will be removed to Naples.

The second act of the drama, "Mercedes," by Thomas Bailey Aldrich, given by Mrs. Wilson next Friday night, is one of the strongest dramatic sketches in modern fiction.

LEGISLATURE IN SESSION

W. W. McDowell of Silver Bow County Chosen Speaker of the House By the Democrats

---Norris Delivers Message.

Special to the Democrat.

Helena, Jan. 5.—The Tenth Montana legislature was organized here today and many of the preliminaries to the real business of the session disposed of. There were no contests for places to speak of, all of these matters having been disposed of at the caucuses held last Saturday night by the two branches of the general assembly.

McDowell Chosen Speaker.
W. W. McDowell, of Silver Bow county, was unanimously chosen speaker of the house, having been agreed upon at the caucus of democrats which was held Saturday night. Ed Burke, of Deer Lodge county, was chosen speaker pro tem and C. Z. Bond, of Gallatin county, chief clerk.

There was a large number of applicants for the score or more positions to be given out by the house and senate but those with the best pull got the plums. Almost every county in the state is represented among the employes of the two houses.

Republicans Organize Senate.
The republicans organized the senate with Tom Everett, of Choteau county, president pro tem; Nate Godfrey, chief clerk and O. Bittle, of Rosebud county, sergeant-at-arms.
Governor Norris sent his message to the two houses and the reading was begun at 3 o'clock.

Big Inaugural Ball.

The social event of the season was the inaugural ball given last night at the big auditorium. The immense hall was crowded by the hundreds who were fortunate enough to receive invitations, every part of the state being represented. All of the state officials were present and the uniformed officers from Fort Harrison helped to make the scene a most brilliant one.

Week of Prayer.

Union prayer services will be held in Lewistown from the 11th to the 18th, inclusive, by the M. E., Presbyterian and Baptist churches. On Monday evening, the services will be held at the Presbyterian church, the subject will be "Civic Righteousness," and the leader will be the Rev. T. A. Stancliffe, of Kendall. Tuesday evening, the Rev. Thos. L. Huxley will lead the services at the Methodist church and the subject will be, "Young People." The Rev. J. A. Dimmick will lead Wednesday evening at the Baptist church and the subject, "The Allied Churches Abroad." Thursday night the services will be held at the Presbyterian church with the Rev. J. L. Lemmon, of Moore, leader, and the subject, "Aggressive Upbuilding." The final services will be held Friday evening at the M. E. church by the Rev. E. W. Wright, whose subject will be "Our Lewistown Churches."

MUCH PROPERTY IS DESTROYED BY FIRE

GEORGE A. PARROTT AND L. P. SLATER SUFFER A VERY HEAVY LOSS.

The most disastrous fire which has occurred in this city for several years destroyed over twelve thousand dollars worth of property last Wednesday night.

Parrott and Slater Lose.
G. A. Parrott lost a big furniture warehouse, a lot of furniture and a small dwelling house, the total amount of his loss being about \$10,000. L. P. Slater lost his barn, a fine team of horses and a lot of hay and grain, the total value of which was over \$1,000. Mr. Parrott had but \$1,000 insurance and Slater but \$300.

Fire Starts in Barn.
The fire was discovered about 10 o'clock in the Slater barn. It evidently started in the hayloft and it is believed that a cigarette or pipe originated the blaze. Mrs. Slater discovered the fire and telephoned the fire department, and also to her husband. Len jumped on one of his hacks and drove home in the hope of saving his little sorrel team which he knew to be in the barn but by the time he arrived at the place, the flames had made such headway that Mr. Slater could not get to his horses and the poor beasts perished.

The fire department turned out promptly but met with a mishap which delayed operations for half an hour. They found the water hydrant frozen and their wrenches would not open it. After two wrenches had been broken, Street Commission Elison produced a wrench large enough to open it.

Before the fire boys were able to get water on the flames, the fire had destroyed the barn and had practically eaten up the big furniture warehouse a few feet away. A dwelling belonging to Mr. Parrott was also caught and destroyed.

Other Houses Saved.
Only by the best efforts of the firemen were the residences of L. P. Slater and Bart Noble saved. Blankets were soaked in water and spread over the roofs and exposed sides of the buildings and a bucket brigade assisted in keeping the flames away from the houses nearby.

The fire was a hot one, the flames shooting high into the air and illuminating that entire portion of the city. Despite cold weather, a large crowd gathered to watch the efforts of the firemen.

The difficulty in opening the hydrant was due to the fact that the city sprinkling cart had been filled there a day or two previous and it is supposed the hydrant was not entirely closed up. Chief Bebb has frequently cautioned the city authorities against just such an occurrence, claiming that the sprinkler should always be filled from a stand pipe.
Messrs. Parrott and Slater have the sympathy of the community in their losses which fall heavily on both of them.

NEWS OF INTEREST FROM KENDALL

Kendall, Jan. 4.—It has been reported that the numerous cases of typhoid fever have arisen from drinking the water from the spring in Mulligan gulch. A bacteriological analysis of the water has been made by Emil Starz, of Helena, the state bacteriologist, and he reports that the water does not show the presence of bacillus typhosus, the germ causing the disease, but recommends that under existing conditions in Kendall that the water be previously boiled before using for drinking purposes and so prevent any risk from contracting this dread complaint.

It would be well for people to get rid of all collections of empty cans that usually accumulate in the rear of their houses and which afford a good harbor for disease germs of every description, also to see that sanitary arrangements are as perfect as possible by using plenty of disin-

fectants, such as chloride of lime, formalin, sulphate of iron solution and others too numerous to mention.

Too much cannot be said in appreciation of the public-spiritedness of James Whittaker, who had this water tested at his own personal expense. Mr. Whittaker has the care of this spring for the North Moccasin Gold Mining Co. and has made every effort in the months past to see that people should use clean buckets in dipping water from the spring. The spring will now be cleaned out and a pump put in and the spring house locked.

The causes for the typhoid epidemic must now be found elsewhere. The county health official has visited Kendall and recommends a general clean-up, but no steps were taken to enforce any such action. From the frequent

(Continued on page 4.)