

“What Happened Today in History”

December 21

1933

Commissioners Act on Important Issues at Meeting Friday”

Three members to act on the Broadwater High School board were named at the meeting of the County Commissioners last Friday when they met to transact some special business. Dan Filson was named in place of C.A. Dallas of Winston, Leslie Smith in place of George Zimmerman of Townsend and W.H. Vennekolt was renamed. Following the appointment of Mr. Smith, a question arose as to his eligibility because of the nepotism law, which point will be fully determined before any action is taken to appoint in his place.

J.S. Connors was given the contract for burial of the poor for the coming year at the meeting. Appointment of the supervisor for the Poor Farm will be made at the meeting on the last of the month.

Action was also taken to change the precincts of the county by consolidating the precincts of Ray Creek, Glenwood and Lombard and dividing the East Townsend precinct.

Appointment of Dr. R.G. Bayles as County Physician and County Health Officer was also made.

“Townsend Granted \$1300 to Build Airport, Work Will Be Given Unemployed”

Word was received here this week by the City authorities that Townsend had been given a grant of \$1300 by the Federal Aeronautical Department with which to build an airport. The money is a gift.

Preliminary work on the port had already been done a few weeks ago when the Townsend Chamber of Commerce prevailed upon the city to donate its land on the bench above town for a municipal airport. The Northwest Airways Association, anxious to complete a route this way to the coast, assisted in making the selection of location. The port was plotted and the Northwest Airways installed some valuable markers. Plans were made to construct runways and to make it an up-to-date port in every feature. Work was held up for a few weeks, awaiting word from the Federal department.

Now that the grant has been made, it is the intention to, not only, make the runways, but to level the entire field, fix the fence and mark the corners.

H.S. Garber of the federal department was in Townsend Monday and looked over the field. He was satisfied in every particular with the location and plans for construction and stated that the port, when finished, would be one of the best along the airway's route. J. Howard Firebaugh, assistant state airport supervisor under Fred Sherriff, state supervisor, was in Townsend Wednesday going over the field thoroughly with the purpose of making necessary suggestions for its proper construction. Mr. Firebaugh was also highly pleased with the possibilities of the fine port.

The credit of this grant and the work of causing this port to be constructed can be given entirely to the men of the Townsend Chamber of Commerce.

1939

“Rex Theatre and Legion Join for Kiddies’ Treat”

The Broadwater Post No. 42 and the ladies of the Auxiliary and the Rex Theater will again treat the children of the community at the Rex Theater on Saturday afternoon. This, an annual party, will commence at 2 o’clock when “Shorty” Sautter will show a picture “Sons of the Legion” free of charge after which the legion will pass out Christmas treats. This show and treat will be open to all grade school and pre-school aged children.

On Friday afternoon Mr. Sautter will throw his theater open to the high school students for a free show. The show will also be “Sons of the Legion”, and will be accompanied by two shorts one of which will be the reproduction of the “Signing of Independence” in technicolor. This alone would be a big treat.

Parents of students have expressed their gratitude to Mr. Sautter for his generous gift and the theater will be well patronized on the two afternoons.

“Wizard of Oz” Coming Xmas”

“The Wizard of Oz”, one of the big screen plays of the year has been billed for Townsend for Christmas Eve and Christmas day. Manager, Ben Sautter, of the Rex Theater is going to run three shows on Christmas day to take care of the large crowd as well as to accommodate the children of the community who will want to attend an early show. Likewise this very popular play will be shown in Townsend on Sunday at the usual hours 7 and 9 o’clock and on Christmas day, Monday ,three shows, the first one at 5 in the afternoon.

This play is one of Metro-Goldwyn Mayer’s prize pictures of the year. It is reproduced from the book and has many fine song hits and beautiful technicolor scenes. In connection with this fine picture, Mr. Sautter says he is showing two especially interesting short features.

1950

“Rotary Club Makes Ready for Skating Weather”

The warm-up house at the skating rink now has a floor in it, Bob Branton, chairman of the Rotary community service committee announced at the regular meeting last Tuesday evening. Carpenters Frank Hargrove and Al Hadcock donated their labor while the Rotary members rustled up the materials.

The warm-up shack was built last winter by Rotary with the Frank Hargrove crew doing the free carpenter work. Painter, Art Olsen, furnished the paint and painted it.

Mandy McDonnell was the only guest at the meeting. President Hubert White adjourned the meeting early so the boys could take in the high school basketball game.

Next week the program will be a debate “Can Business Get too Big?”

“Six Called for Physical in January”

The following men have been ordered to report for physical examination on January 3, 1951: Damon C. Lavender, Albert Neilson Shindoll, Raymond Norman Johnson, Kenneth Philip Clark, John Joseph Pennington, and George David Rauser.

Also the following men have been ordered to report for induction on January 11, 1951: James Bernard Burtch, James Allen Healy, Lawrence Loran Shearer.

“Larger Crowd Reported Here Fun Fest Day”

The annual Fun Fest Day brought out the largest crowd since the day was instituted in Townsend four years ago. The weather had a lot to do with the attendance and in every store; patrons had an opportunity of taking care of their purchases while the store managements showed their good will in providing refreshments and giving out merchandise tickets.

Many beautiful prizes from dressed turkeys to wool blankets were given in a drawing in late afternoon. At the time live chickens and turkeys were turned loose from the top of the Legion Hall and some lucky person was rewarded for having attended.

Perhaps the most interesting feature of the day's program, although not recognized in the streets, was the broadcast going on at the W.A. White Brokerage Company's plant. KFDW officials came down from Helena and made a state-wide hookup, the broadcast coming from the plant, and not only put in a plug for the potato industry of Broadwater County, but gave a story of all the fun going on in Townsend that day.

The final part of the annual Fun Fest Day came with the annual dinner meeting of the Broadwater County Chamber of Commerce which was held in the Masonic Temple dining room and where about 150 heard an especially timely talk from the Hon. Hugh Adair, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Montana. James Cusick acted as toast master and Frank T. Hooks introduced the speaker. Chas. Tomcheck, president of the Chamber of Commerce gave a short talk.

The Rev. Fred Tracy and the Rev. Wm. Davidson also took part in the program. Dr. Wm. McElwee led the assembly singing.

1961

"Bulldogs Whip White Sulphur and Wilsall"

-By Jim Braley

The Townsend Bulldogs moved into sole possession of second place in District 8 by defeating White Sulphur and Wilsall last weekend. The Dogs got by White Sulphur 55 - 43 Friday night and Saturday night they walloped Wilsall 61 - 37.

Friday the Bulldogs were not able to hit the basket consistently, but excellent rebounding by Bob Lundborg and good scoring from Jim Lots and Lanny White proved to be the deciding factor in the game. The Bulldogs made 13 out of 20 free throws for 65% and made 21 out of 58 field goals for 36%.

Saturday the Bulldogs had trouble with Wilsall for the first quarter, but gradually pulled ahead in the second quarter to wallop them 61 - 37. Coach Keltz put in his second string during the second half and they also held the Wilsall five to a minimum number of points. The Bulldogs had a well balanced scoring attack with Bob Lundborg leading the scoring with 11 points.

The Townsend "B" squad was also victorious in both of their games over the weekend. Friday they edged White Sulphur 46 - 44. Saturday they raced by Wilsall 47 - 26.