

## **“What Happened Today in History”**

**February 8**

**1923**

### ***Two Stills Captured by Federal Men***

Tuesday evening Earl Koehler and Clifford Spear passed thru Townsend enroute to the capital city with two large stills which they had captured and were taking to the authorities in Helena. Both men are in the employ of the Federal Dry Squad. One still was a forty-five gallon capacity and the other one was smaller, both being in good repair with all the up-to-date appliances, one having a condenser. It is not known where the stills were found.

### ***Local News***

The ladies of the Methodist Church will serve a chicken supper at the Legion Hall on Thursday evening at six o'clock, February 15<sup>th</sup>. The public is invited to come as this is just a supper and nothing after. Tonight (Thursday) the Church Night Supper will be served in the usual manner. All are invited to come and participate in the supper and stay for devotionals after.

**1934**

### ***Verdict of Acquittal Rendered in Felony Case District Court***

Lloyd Benson and George Young were cleared of charges brought against them by the State of Montana when a jury in the first judicial district in court at Townsend last Thursday brought a verdict of not guilty after deliberating for six hours. The cases were tried jointly as the first on the court docket and after three days trial were given over to the jury.

The charges of felony, only criminal actions on the present calendar aroused considerable interest as the court room and corridors of the court house were fairly packed with court attenders during the three day trial. The large crowd in the court room caused some uneasiness when it was discovered the floors were sagging and joists pulling away from the ceiling to such an extent that Judge Horsky warned those in attendance that they did so at their own risk, as the building apparently was unsafe.

The information charged that Young and Benson drove from the range in Broadwater County approximately twenty-five head of horses belong to John Rothfus and one mare and colt belonging to John T. Smith, with the intent to steal the same.

The defendants, while admitting that they drove horses from the range, stated that they did so for the purpose of ascertaining if there were any of Al Wright's horses in the band and that as soon as they found that none of Mr. Wright's horses were in the band, they turned the horses so that they might return back to their range. George Young claimed that he was working for Al Wright at the time in gathering of Mr. Wright's horses.

The state contended, however, that the defendants continued to drive the horses and took them on through the Boulder Valley to what is known as the Elkhorn Ranch, and produced many stockmen and farmers of the Boulder Valley who testified to such driving. The State also offered evidence to the effect that one of the defendants stated that the horses were being taken to Elkhorn for sale.

The two defendants, each 27 years of age, have been associated in range riding since last June. George Young was born and raised in Broadwater County and Lloyd Benson for the past seven years has been a resident of Jefferson County.

Some of the witnesses for the state were: John Ruthfus, George Rauser, Gordon Myers, William Dawson, Ed McCauley, C.A. Kanouse, Chas. F. Mahony, Al Wright, Mike Quinn and D.V. Ervin. Some of the witnesses for the defendants were: Wm. Blakely, Mildred Murphy Mrs. Wm. Murphy, Ray Barrows, Al Bullock and Ted Knowles. The defendants also testified in their own behalf.

E.H. Goodman represented the defendant, George Young, and W.D. Rankin represented the defendant, Benson. County Attorney, Fred W. Schmitz, appeared for the State.

Stockmen who attended the trial and others complimented the County Attorney on the manner in which he handled the affairs in defense of the State, who expressed themselves entirely satisfied with his earnest endeavor to uphold right and order on the range and bring prosecution to those charged with unlawful conduct on same. The evidence showed that there wasn't a stone unturned to fetter the accused to the satisfaction of stockmen who strive to have their stock on the range protected from aggressors.

Attorney Wellington D. Rankin, one of Montana's leading lawyers and prominent for his ability as an orator made a very impressive rebuttal, his side of the case being also ably assisted by the services of E.H. Goodman.

## **1945**

### ***WWII Headlines from this Date***

***Harold Bomar Is Killed in Action in Europe Jan. 22***

***Homer Belville Reported Mission in So. Pacific***

## **1951**

### ***Installation of Rebekah Officers for Year Held***

Installation ceremonies were held January 24 by Orpha Rebekah Lodge No. 36. The officers were installed by District Deputy President Mary Myers assisted by Pearl Barraugh, Laura Campbell, Addie Akins and Vada Houston.

Officers elected were Adah Horne, Noble Grand; Elsie Gilmore, Vice Grand; Mary Myers, Secretary; Mae Duede, Treasurer.

Appointive Officers were: Evelyn Arndt, Conductor; Amy Fandrich, Chaplain; Vada Houston, Musician; Kate Duede, Color Bearer; Pearl Barraugh, Right Support to Noble Grand; Marguerite Michael, Left Support to Noble Grand; Villa Doig, Right support to Vice Grand; Verna Whitehead, Left Support to Vice Grand; Anne Kirksey, Inside Guardian; Gladys Cook, Outside Guardian.

The outgoing Noble Grand, Sybil Feldt, was presented with her Past Noble Grand pin.

### ***Legion Auxiliary Names Working Committee Leaders***

The American Legion Auxiliary of Broadwater Post No. 42 held its regular meeting in the Legion Hall with President, Mrs. T.F. Duffy, presiding and fifteen members present.

During the business session, Mrs. Alta Olsen was appointed National Security Chairman; Mrs. F.L. Hollaway, Civil Chairman; Mrs. Ronald Kelly, Americanism Chairman. A committee comprised of Mrs. Glenn Kirscher, Chairman, and Mrs. Fred Geisser and Mrs. James Gill was appointed to take care of the packing of candy to be sent to Fort Harrison at Easter and to handle arrangements for the annual birthday party to be given in March.

The prizes for the Americanism essay contest were decided.

A short program on Americanism and flag etiquette was presented, after which lunch was served by the following refreshment committee: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Geisser, Mr. and Mrs. James Gill, Mrs. Harvey Barraugh, Mrs. Harold Rowles, Mrs. Mae Foster and Mrs. Jack Thompson.

### ***Social***

Wesley choir members, under the direction of Mrs. Ted Hunter, enjoyed their monthly party Thursday evening at the church parlors. The Rev. Gordon Patterson showed slides and square dancing was enjoyed. The serving committee was comprised of Elizabeth Darrah, Edward Etwiler, David Doig, Vicky Borg, Beulah Helner. Other members attending were Delores Williams, Gary Cruzon, Gary Arndt, Ronald and Barbara Barraugh, Myrna and Grace Tintinger, Mary Jean Helner, Betty and Margo Fandrich, Marcia and Beverly Glover, Ann Etwiler, Eleanor Townsley, Zola Ross and Sharon Swallow.

### ***Home Movies Entertain Club Women Monday***

The Townsend Woman's Club was entertained Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Glenn Perry when the program was featured by the showing of wild life pictures by Sheriff Jack Thompson. Some of the slides also depicted life in Trieste and some other Italian scenes taken when Mr. Thompson served in the armed forces over there.

When tea time came, guests were served from a table decorated with Valentine motifs and centered with a huge bouquet of red carnation and red tapers. Mrs. M.K. Fuhs and Miss Dolence poured and the hostesses were Mr. A.F. Schwisow, Mrs. F.L. Olsen and Mrs. Perry.

### ***1962***

### ***Radersburg News***

Terry Harris came home from Dillon Friday to spend the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bud Harris and Family.

Johnny Allen of Butte spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. O.J. Allen and brother, Harry. He also visited his sisters, Mrs. George Harris, Mrs. Bud Harris and Mrs. Art Roberts and their families.

Boy Scout Troop 98: Scott Grover, Scoutmaster; Ralph Thompson Assistant Scout Master; Maurice Hunsaker, Institutional Representative; Theron Garrett, Committee Chairman and members Rudy Lundborg, Louie Day, Don Miller and Bill Williams.

Boy Scout Troop 99: Jerry Allen, Scoutmaster; Grant Grover, Institutional Representative; Herb Sprout, Committee Chairman and members: Phil Whaley, Art Schwisow and Gil Clark, Sponsoring Institution is the LDS Church.

Explorer Post 98: Jed Stanfill is Explorer Scout Advisor, with all the other officers the same as for Troop 98 named above.