

“What Happened Today in History”

March 29

1923

Repairing Street Lighting System

Operations were commenced this week to repair the street lighting system in Townsend which has been partially on the blink for several weeks. The wires which, were enclosed in iron pipes in the cement sidewalks on Main Street, had come in contact with water from the pipes rusting causing shortages and at different times the various blocks of lights would go out. Manager A.E. Davidson of the Montana Power Company fixed overhead wires to carry the current until spring would allow a more complete remedy.

Geo. Stinnett and Jasper Denny are busy digging and laying a new lead pipe and in a short time the system will be in good repair. The damage done to the cities curbs will also be repaired.

Local News

Thunder was heard and a few flashes of lightening were seen on Saturday afternoon - one of the sure signs of spring. Some say that the first few claps of thunder in the spring calls the hibernating animals from their winter quarters.

1934

Taxpayers Favor Building New Court House at This Time

Taxpaying freeholders will have the opportunity of procuring for their county a new court house and jail on April 10th at a special election providing the bond issue carries, which undoubtedly will as there are expressions from all parts of the county favoring the acceptance of this unusual opportunity. This sentiment was evidenced last Saturday, when a large number from all parts of the county met in mass meeting at the court house.

The facts of the proposition for a new court house and jail are as follows: for the issuance of bonds of Broadwater County in the amount of \$9,000 to build a new jail and for the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$33,000 to build a new court house. The bonds will be payable in twenty years and will bear 4 per cent per annum. The government through the Public Works Program will give one-third the cost of the court house and jail and the remainder of the cost will be met at the low rate of interest and annual payment on principal, which, when figured, will mean an annual out-put of but \$2100.

Taxpayers have expressed themselves as favoring the building of a new court house and jail at this time and their reasons are as follows: the county needs a new court house and jail. The opportunity has come and we must take advantage of it. While they do not wish to see taxes raised, they say that because times are hard they cannot afford to be penny wise and look critically at anything that might raise taxes when the best interests of the taxpayer is at stake. The small amount of raise in taxes is being considered and when the proposition has been studied out they find that the small raise would only save them a much larger one in a few years.

Move into New Home

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Green have moved into their new residence, which they recently had constructed just out of the city limits south of town. The small but neat little bungalow faces the center of Spruce Street and is a very comfortable dwelling.

1945

WWII Headlines from this Date

Cpl. Dallas Reported Missing is Released by Russians

Hello Service People Away from Home

Large Crowd Attend Spring Band Concert

A very large number packed into the high school gymnasium last Thursday evening filling galleries and main floor to almost capacity to witness the spring concert of the school band which included both the B and A bands combined, in which personnel were students from all parts of the county now attending the Townsend schools. The concert, under the direction of Jack McGuin, was also stimulated by the presence of Stanley M. Teel, director of bands, Montana State University at Missoula.

Before the first number was played, the band opened the entertainment with a patriotic number as an introduction to members of the American Legion and Auxiliary whose color guards and color bearers stood at attention while L.J. Anders, commander of the Broadwater Post gave a talk on aims and objects of the organization and presented the two beautiful silk flags on standards to the band.

The color guard was Nick Helner, Ralph Mankamyer, P.G. Kinney and Francis Hough. The flag bearers were Nell Sheridan, Betty Kieckbusch, Pat Feldt and Walter Ragen.

The program included a variety of numbers ranging from light lullaby and waltz numbers to the more difficult classical and those who attended were loud in their applause especially showing appreciation to the six or eight selected to give a few sprightly aires in the German band.

The Baton Twirlers exhibition also received a very hearty applause. Those in this number were: Margaret Abel, Edith Hesper, Peggy Weiferich, Betty Jo Peters and Betty Tomcheck.

1951

Townsend Firms Brighten Establishments

The Coffee Shop opened again for business Tuesday after having been closed for a spring cleaning and interior decoration.

The painting and new floor of modern tile adds much to the fine appearance of this popular eating place operated by Bill Huth. Art Olsen did the painting and floor job, which are carried out in ivory and black.

The Geo. Gabisch company store is sporting a new tiled floor which adds much to the appearance of this large store building. The tiles are shades of cream and brown.

Mayor Explains Water Muddy and Streets Rough

Unfortunately the water in the Townsend water mains is muddy. As all know the town gets the water from Deep Creek and conveys it by underground pipe line to the two town reservoirs for settling and clearing. Each spring surface water runs into the creek and carries in

mud and thus clouds the waters to an extent the town's facilities do not and cannot clear the water.

This same situation exists in all small places where the supply is taken from a creek, and where costly filtration plants are beyond the finances of the town, as is the case of Townsend. If the town had a large sum of money, and it would require a large sum of money, a filtration plant or some other system could be constructed and much of the mud removed from the water. Townsend just does not have that kind of money.

The same is true relative to water on the streets. Engineers of the Highway Department have tried to keep Main Street from heaving each spring and are agreed until the town is drained, the heaving will continue.

Due to lack of fall, the town can only be drained by a storm sewer system, and as any sewer system in Townsend requires pumping, to elevate the water to dump it into the river, the cost would be very large, and grave doubt exists as to the chances of pumping sand and dirt at any reasonable maintenance expense.

The above is a plain statement of the facts relative to the water and the streets. Monday, April 2nd, 1951 is Election Day in Townsend. Go to the polls. Vote for who you please, but Please Vote.

There is no sense in staying away from the polls and then complaining of the way things are handled.

Louis Green, Mayor

Rotary Backs Summer Recreation

The ticket sale for the Old Time Hard Time dance this Saturday night is going fine, Dave Langevin reported at the Rotary meeting last Tuesday night at the Mint Café. The dance will be at the high school gym. The Fisher-Daniels orchestra is furnishing the music without cost. Proceeds of the dance to to the summer recreation program, which was such a success last year.

This program includes supervised swimming. Last summer 50 to 250 boys and girls swam every nice day in the Missouri between the hithway and railroad bridges. In the evening as many as 300 people were at the grade school diamonds watching or playing soft ball. The summer recreation director also had the youngsters playing basketball, football, horse shoes, archery, ping pong, badminton and volleyball.

Last but not least, there was enough money left over last fall to sponsor Halloween parties for preschool, grade school and high school students. For the first time in the history of Townsend the mischief done on Halloween night was practically nil.

1962

Crow Creek Will Vote on Bonds for Teacherage

Qualified voters of Crow Creek School District (No. 13) will be asked to approve a bond issue at the annual school election April 6 in the amount of \$15,000.

Purpose of issuing the bonds is to construct a duplex teacherage on the school site. Since building the new school house, there has not been a teacherage available.

Appearing on the ballot will be the following question:

“Shall the board of trustees be authorized to issue and sell bonds of this school district in the amount of \$15,000 bearing interest at a rate not exceeding 6% per annum, payable annually, during a period not exceeding 20 years, for the purpose of construction on the school site a duplex teacherage with adequate plumbing, wiring and heating facilities?”

Birthday Party

Nora Guffey invited several of her friends to her ranch home Thursday afternoon after school to help her celebrate her birthday. Games were played, directed by Beverly Thompson and Mrs. Guffey, assisted by Mrs. Tom Carter, served supper to Candy Whitehead, Patsy Buckingham, Debbie Graham, Patricia Perry, Debra Johnson, Charlene Burtch, Linda McHenry, Jackie Huntsberger, Jill Brammer, Irene Thompson, Jeanie Christie, Carrie Harrigfeld, Connie Ragen, Nancy Vick, Carla Carter, Janet Campbell, Linda Myles and Debra Herbst.