

“What Happened Today in History”

November 16

1922

“Candidates Must File Itemized Statement”

Under the provisions of the Corrupt Practice Act, every person who was a candidate at the general election, whether elected or not, must file within fifteen days a complete itemized and sworn statement of all moneys spent. Blanks may be obtained from the County Clerk.

“Broadwater High School Will Have Basket Ball Team”

The members of the Athlete Association of the high school is gaining spirit as the time approaches to meet other outside teams in Basket Ball. We understand the team will be picked this week and practicing will soon begin in earnest.

1933

“Early Day Townsend History Theme Local Civic Club Program”

In connection with the fiftieth anniversary of Townsend, the Woman’s Club featured early day history of the town in their program Monday evening. Mrs. W.S. Thompson, a pioneer matron of the town had gathered some interesting data concerning the first residents and the first buildings. Miss Ruth Ackerly, principal of the high school gave a very fine report on the history of the high school which brought in the early day history of the first Townsend schools as a foundation for the organization of the high school. To make the histories permanent records we herewith print them by consent of the two ladies.

A brief summary appears below.

Mrs. Thompson stated that the town was formed in 1883, just fifty years ago when it was learned the Northern Pacific would build down through this valley making a stop at a new station called Townsend, after an official of the railroad.

The first building erected was a cottage located near the railroad just back of where the Commercial Hotel cottage now stands and which was later moved to the north end of town by Dave Gordon, is now owned by Mrs. Hattie Rollings. This house was built by the three Deadmond brothers, Andy, Earl and James. The next building was the BonTon restaurant which is a two story building and is still standing. It is in fairly good repair and although the roof is not quite as straight as it was when it was first erected, it has stood the wear of the last fifty years remarkably and speaks well for the men who hurriedly built the structure as Townsend’s first restaurant. It was operated by a man by the name of Knowlton. His son was called Townsend Knowlton, born in July 1883.

Residences and business houses and hotels were erected as the early day carpenters could hammer their nails and shortly after the golden spike was driven that set the wheels of the N.P. in motion on September 8th 1883. Mrs. Thompson told of early day stage coach service saying that the Deep Creek Canyon stage road was started in 1883 and in 1884 was opened for travel and that coincident with the progress of the community would be the erection of a paved highway for automobile travel in 1934 to replace the bed of the first road graded by hand and horse fifty years before in the same canyon.

In Miss Ackerly’s report she repeated the ever interesting history of the struggle of the small country school until the present day with the enviable records to the credit of the

community and the long list of instructors who gave their best to the furtherance of education, mentioning especially the work of the late John M. Kay whose last service was the successful completion of the Broadwater high school gymnasium which culminated his efforts as head of this school over a period of sixteen years.

“City Dads Sponsor Airport, Will Be Build Next Week”

An extraordinary meeting of the Town Council was called last evening with a goodly attendance of the members of the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of discussing a proposed Emergency Airport for Townsend. Mr. Nick Mamer, who has been with the Northwest Airways Line for many years, is traveling across country locating emergency landing fields. This Corporation is at present carrying mail from Chicago to Billings and is now extending their lines on to Spokane and the coast. Mr. Mamer presented his side of the picture to those present and pointed out the advantages of locating Townsend on this transcontinental route. Our council graciously donated the use of what is known as the Croak Ranch for such an airport and work will be begun next Monday in construction of runways, placing of markets, etc. These runways will be 300 feet wide and 2600 feet long. One will run north and south, another east and west and the third will bisect the angle in order to take advantage of the wind from any direction.

The Northwest Airways, Inc., is operating planes daily over this route at the present time and are evidencing their belief in the future of Aeronautics by doing the pioneer work necessary in establishing these airports approximately every 50 miles along the way. By Dec. 1st they will put on three new Lockheed Cabin planes of the most modern type with adjustable propellers, wing flaps and radio equipped. Mr. Mamer was piloting a plane in the coast to coast transcontinental races held a short time ago, also in one of the famous refueling endurance contests.

The people of Townsend and Broadwater County should give a word of commendation and vote of thanks to our city council for their progressive action in this matter for we will be on the map and have access to the facilities of an airway company which has flown more than nine million miles without a fatality.

1939

“First Jury Term in Six Years is State Record”

A jury will be paneled on Monday when District Judges, A.J. Horsky and Geo. W. Padbury Jr., will draw from the jury box No. 1 the necessary names and set the trial calendar for a jury term of court, according to Clerk of the Court H.M. Sperry. The term will probably be set for the first week in December.

This is the first jury term in six years for Broadwater County and makes a record in the state, according to Judge Padbury. Thirteen criminal cases are on the docket and 14 civil cases.

Jury women just escaped having to serve as the law created at the last legislature setting up jury service for women in the state will not go into effect until January 1st of next year.

“Mayor Casts Deciding Vote on Tractor Buy”

On Mayor Anders decision rested the answer to the problem of whether or not the town of Townsend should purchase the tractor from the Conelly Machine Company at a meeting of the council last night. The six councilmen tied on the question and Mayor Anders voted with the nays which vote meant that the tractor would not be purchased.

Some protests from businessmen of the town partly influenced the mayor's decision, although he had expressed himself against the purchase previously. Those voting to purchase the machine were Henry Schreiner, Roy Brisbin, Ben Foster; Against the purchase were: A.G. McCormick, Joe Sterrett and Fred W. Weed. Inability to finance the purchase was given by the opposers for making their decision.

The council also officially closed the alley behind the Broadwater Hospital acting on a petition presented and signed by property owners in the block. The ground will be used by the hospital for building on a new addition.

The street shaling program will go forward under the WPA and the town authorized the rental of one or two trucks to be used in the work.

Much favorable comment has been given this week on the very fine work done in cleaning out the gutters in the side streets. The WPA also burned weeds on the ice rink preparatory to flooding later on.

1950

“Four More Called to Colors”

The following men have been ordered to report for Physical Examination on December 13, 1950, according to Mrs. Mary Ann Lots, Local Selective Service Clerk.

William L. Walling, Damon C. Lavender, Marvin L. Meyer, Ralph E. Cook.

“Dr. Bayles Sells Interest in Townsend Clinic”

A change in ownership of the Broadwater Clinic and Hospital at Townsend took place yesterday when a business deal transpired whereby Dr. Frank P. Nash and Dr. Wm. McElwee purchased the interests of Dr. R.G. Bayles.

The Broadwater Hospital was founded and opened in 1938 by Dr. Nash and Dr. Bayles. Several years ago Dr. Bayles purchased the Bozeman Hotel, one of Montana's earliest hostelries and since has devoted much time and interest in remodeling and improving this popular hotel. One improvement made was the addition of rooms on the very top of the building with picture windows looking out on the Bridger and Bozeman ranges of mountains.

It was his desire to change his residence so that he could give personal supervision to his new undertaking and at the same time carry on the practice of medicine.

Dr. Nash and Dr. McElwee have added to their staff of doctors, Dr. Witzell, who will be permanently located in White Sulphur Springs and Dr. Bertagnolli in Three Forks.

1961

“Local News”

Saturday night, November 18, Miss Sydney Sherwood was hostess at a pizza party for a group of her friends to celebrate her 16th birthday. Following dinner, Sydney opened her gifts and the group played “Password”. Guests were: Vicki Jones, Merrilee Miller, Gloria Fryhling, Connie Sprout, Beverly Thompson, Sharon Rains and Kathleen Iverson.

Valerie Waling entertained a number of friends last Sunday in celebration of her 8th birthday. Games were played and refreshments were served by her mother, Mrs. Loren Waling to Vickie Trarbach, Judy Harvey, Leslie Sherwood, Judy Lavell, Susan Schneider, Ann Meyer, Antonette Pike, Susie Geisser, Patty Ragen and Kathryn Mullany.

“Mrs. H.M. Sperry Honored by Methodist Church”

Members and friends of the Townsend Methodist Church were overjoyed Sunday, Nov. 12, 1961, when, at the close of the worship service a copy, of the New English Bible was presented to Mrs. H.M. Sperry as a token of appreciation for the many years she was a teacher in the Church School. Rev. Eugene Rushing made the presentation and invited friends to give their words of gratitude and joy to Mrs. Sperry at a coffee which was held in the church parlor immediately following the dismissal of the worship service.

It was in September of this year that Mrs. Sperry asked Mrs. Keith Valentine, who is church school superintendent, to find a replacement for her as a teacher of the second and third grade class. And so, at the close of the church school hour on Sunday, Sept. 24, 1961, Mrs. Sperry ended her 34th year as a teacher in the Church School.