

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

**July 12**

**1923**

### **“Better Service Wanted”**

A petition circulated by W.D. Lasby was signed by every business house in Townsend, asking the Montana Power Co. to install a transformer and connect us to the high power line which passes through our city, that we may have better electrical service. As it is at present, we receive our power by the way of Boulder and Radersburg, and whenever the wind blows hard or a thunder storm comes up, we are without power – sometimes for hours.

Being without power is very inconvenient at times. We have seen several four and six horse teams standing for hours, waiting to have their loads of wheat taken care of at the elevator. Sometimes the farmers were compelled to stay overnight before power could be had to turn the machinery at the elevators.

Aside from the inconvenient to farmers as mentioned, the printing office, mill, creamery, garages, shops, residences, where cooking is done, all suffer when the power is off.

We are informed the petition has been presented to the Public Service Commission at Helena, and it is hoped some relief will be forthcoming. Townsend does not wish to be unreasonable, but our citizens are entitled to relief, especially when the big power line from Great Falls to Josephine passes within “a stone’s throw” of the city limits.

**1934**

### **“Big Mining Boom Starts Lively Activities in Famous Old Indian Creek Canyon”**

Initial payments to local mine owners and lease holders of the famous old Diamond Hill, Blacksmith, Little Giant and W.A Clark claims near Hassel, this week, cinched the deal whereby eastern capitalists will again develop these gold mines and start things a humming in the Indian Creek Canyon. An electric power line will be built to the properties and a large mill erected to start active operations at once. Milling the Clark property tailings will be the first steps where some 60,000 tons of tailings await treatment.

A few weeks ago Major Putman representing eastern capitalists and his metallurgist L.M. Lamie looked over these properties and after thorough tests made arrangements to take options and leases on the claims, which were officially accepted the first of this week and several thousand dollars paid over to those who held the leases or owned the claims, local holders being L.E. Griffith, the Diamond Hill mine; L.D. Carver the Blacksmith, owned by the Tom Carter Estate; Little Giant by Frank Whitehead and associates and the W.A. Clark claims by Dr. R.G. Bayles. With Major Putman, O.C. Reicket of Mexico, E.B. Hubbard of Livingston and John H. McFarlane of Big Timber, were instrumental in putting the deal through.

Surveying the line to bring electric power over the Montana Power Company’s line from Radersburg was commenced the first of the week. Hubbard Engineering Company has taken the contract to erect a 300 ton mill, the initial mill of fifty ton capacity will be in working order by November 1<sup>st</sup>, according to information given “The Star”. Drafting the mill, erecting the power line, building the bunk houses and cook house, will occupy attention of the

management at present. It is expected more than one hundred men will be engaged in this development work soon.

Those who were conversant with the Diamond Hill Mine when it was operating here about thirty-five years ago, have held their curiosity over the intervening years, wondering just how rich the ores would be developed providing the mine could continue. At the time it closed a 120 stamp mill, the largest in the world, at that time, in operation. It was owned by a foreign syndicate and misappropriation by the management of returns caused the syndicate to close the mine, the mill since being dismantled and taken away.

With the operation of this new project, the new dredging activities by Hansen Associates, Inc., in the lower part of the canyon and new activities on the opposite side of the range of mountains from Townsend in the famous old Confederate Creek vicinity, Radersburg, Winston and other mining districts of the county, mining has taken a big boom in Broadwater County.

**1945**

### **WWII Headlines**

**“Pfc. Ray Sherlock Writes from Belgium”**

**“Townsend Sergeant Decorated in Italy”**

### **“20 Local Service Men in Civilian Clothes”**

Approximately 20 Broadwater County servicemen have been discharged, according to Mrs. Alice Pennington, Clerk of the Selective Service Board. Although all of them have not reported to their local draft board following their honorable discharge at the expiration of their service, Mrs. Pennington has added the names of those who have filed with the Clerk and Recorder or the names of those she has been informed unofficially have been mustered out.

When a man is mustered out of the different branches of the service, he is told to report to his local draft board, said Mrs. Pennington. This is important to the ex-servicemen and eventually all will probably report following their discharges.

At present the following have reported to the local board:

S. Sgt. Robert D. Wheeler, discharged from the U.S. Army Air Corps May 21, 1945. Now living in Plant City, Florida.

Robert Alba Patterson, Carpenters Mate 2c of the U.S. Navy. Discharged June 1, 1945.

James F. Real, Tec. 4 of the U.S. Army Inf., Discharged June 14, 1945.

Fred C. Lemon, U.S. Army Discharged May 31, 1945. Resides in Salt Lake City, Utah.

John C. Schlomer, T. Sgt. Army Air Force, received discharge on June 20, 1945. Formerly of Glenham, S.D.

Louie Schaaf of U.S. Army was discharged June 18, 1945, formerly of Glen Ullen, S.D.

Charles Lester Schreckengost, Tec. 5, received discharge June 16, 1945. Formerly of Rising City, Neb.

Donald Matthews of the U.S. Army, Sgt., received discharge on June 27, 1945.

Ross L. Babcock, Tec. 5, U.S. Army, received discharge on June 27, 1945.

Robert Peters received honorable discharge from Army June 27, 1945 at Fort Douglas, Utah, now residing in Dillon, Montana.

Audrey Lee Brandon, served in Calvary Unit in Burma theater, received discharge in July 1945. Formerly employed by Rankin and now residing in White Sulphur Springs.

Others known to have been discharged, but not filed with the local draft board are: Ray Wallace, Tom Gabisch, Alexander McLean, Bill Ridgeway, Elmer White, Elmer Gill, Geo. Yarrow, and John Barthule.

Effective July 1, 1945 the Selective Service System will operate on a 44 hour work week. The work week for all offices will consist of five eight hour days, Monday through Friday, and four hours on Saturday by order of President Truman.

### **“Buildings Reach Final Stages in Construction”**

Locals are watching with interest the construction of two new business buildings for Townsend. The Gabisch-Tomcheck garage joining the Gabisch Hardware store is reaching the roofing stage, the concrete walls having been run last week and the forms are now removed. Large steel girders to hold the roof are in place and the roofing operations will be the next phase of construction, according to Geo. Jacoby of Helena, the contractor.

When finished this edifice will greatly add to the business blocks of the town.

Work on the Ness building, also being watched with more than casual interest, is in the interior finishing stage of construction, with Carl Hovland, the contractor in charge. This building replaces one burned over a year ago.

The front of red glass has caused much favorable comment as has the interior finish of imitation knotty pine and the elongated octagonal shaped windows.

### **1951**

#### **“Radersburg News”**

Mrs. Gladys Johnson of Toston and Mrs. Bill Anderson (Ruth Connor) who, with her baby son, came from California to visit her sisters, Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Art Sitton, were Radersburg visitors a week ago Friday. Mrs. Anderson remained here as week end guest of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Nilson.

Mrs. W.D. Williams and son, Danny, and Mrs. Clarence Crowe were business callers in Helena last Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Williams and daughter and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Simons and daughter spent the 4<sup>th</sup> with relatives here.

Miss Sharley Williams and Miss Grace Whitcomb came out from Helena to spend the 4<sup>th</sup> with Sharley’s parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Williams.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Harris and family spend the week of the 4<sup>th</sup> visiting relatives in Butte.

Mr. and Mrs. George Harris and family, Mrs. Bess Doughty and Miss Bobby Anne Harris spent last week visiting relatives in Moses Lake, Washington. Mrs. Doughty and Miss Harris remained there for a longer visit.

Mrs. Jesse Knight, Miss Linda Doughty and Miss Terry Ralls were Townsend callers Saturday.

### **1962**

#### **“David Kearns Goes to France as Cadet Exchangee”**

Three members of the Townsend Cadet Squadron of the Montana Civil Air Patrol have received assignments for instruction and observation, according to an announcement this week by Major Lloyd Heberle, Squadron Commander.

Cadet Lt. Jim Webb, son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Webb of Radersburg, left Helena airport by plane Sunday for Hill Air Force Base at Salt Lake City on a Space Age Orientation Course. He will be there a week and during his stay will visit Hercules Powder Co. and Thico Corp., plants where rockets are made, and will also witness missile firing.

Friday, July 13, Cadet David Kearns, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Kearns will leave via air for France where he will spend five weeks visiting various military establishments. He will be a guest of the U.S. Air Force and the French Air Force. His trip was arranged by the International Air Cadet Exchange.

Young Kearns will first fly to Washington, D.C. for briefing before continuing on to Europe.

Cadet Robert Flynn, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Flynn, will leave July 28 for Chanute A.F.B. in Illinois as a guest of the Federal Aviation Agency. Flynn will observe and receive instruction in air traffic control and tower operation.

Major Heberle also stated that later on more cadets will get assignments to travel and receive instructions, but plans at this time are incomplete.

## **1973**

### **“Crow Creek News”**

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Cazier, Jeff and Steven recently visited Louie Day of Sheridan, Montana.

Mrs. Robbie Hensley is home from the hospital and doing fine after an appendectomy operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sanderson and boys of Belgrade visited Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Sanderson and family Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tim Turman and family were in Idaho Falls over the weekend visiting Mr. and Mrs. Keith Barnard.

Mrs. Dan Hunsaker and Miss Diane Hensley went to Provo, Utah to pick up Donna Dee Hunsaker who has been attending Brigham Young University. They also visited with Mrs. Dan Hunsaker's mother, Mrs. J.E. Hansen of Hyde Park, Utah.

### **“Hooks Named City Attorney”**

Patrick Hooks was hired last week as the city attorney for Townsend.

Hooks replaces Larry O. Foss, who acted as legal advisor for the city for over 15 years. Foss resigned several months ago. Since he was also county attorney, Foss was not allowed to be city attorney too.