

“What Happened this Week in History”

June 20

1929

“Odd Fellows Hall Reopened with Big Dance”

The reopening of the odd Fellows Hall in Townsend was a gay event when a very large crowd was present last Saturday evening to inspect the rearranged and renovated hall after the fire damaged it a few months ago. Dancing was the main entertainment and highly enjoyed by dancers in both the dining room and main lodge hall, while in the club rooms cards made entertainment for many. The Merry Makers orchestra was engaged to play for the grand opening. At midnight, ladies of the Rebekah Lodge served supper in the store room of the large merchant rooms on the first floor.

The hall has undergone a complete renovation and repair necessitating the rebuilding of second floor, roof and part of the walls and the partition between the kitchen and dining room. The first floor was damaged when the store room was almost completely destroyed. The kitchen has been very much improved over the old one, in that the ladies cloak room and kitchen are now combined in a roomy light kitchen equipped with electric and coal ranges and fine dish cupboards.

The dining room and main lodge hall have been papered in up-to-date designs and painted in first class shape, the floors of which rooms have been laid with hard wood maple, making one of the nicest, if not the best, dancing floors in the city. The large store room below on the first floor has been completely renovated with paint and is in first class condition to house a store. The hall is the most popular building in Townsend for lodge gatherings and other public entertainments and with the remodeling and new clean appearance, is not only an improvement over the old hall, but a credit to the town.

1935

“Local Boy Scouts Win Five-Day Trip at Camp Vigilante”

Last Thursday evening brought to a close a six-week high point contest in Troop 110 of the local Boy Scout organization. James Reynolds and Bud Clark with 391 and 383 points respectively won first places in a group of sixteen boys for a free five day trip to Camp Vigilante near Helena. Eddie Daniels won third place and an official Boy Scout knife with 376 points.

Points were given on the following subjects: attendance at meetings; good deeds; making something for the troop; school report; church attendance; cleanliness; and drill movements.

Figures of good deeds alone for the six-week period totaled 1277. While church attendance made a remarkable improvement after the contest was inaugurated, some of the boys having perfect attendance records. In all other subjects too, a great deal of interest was shown.

Those from Troop A who are going to the camp are Jimmy Reynolds, Bud Clark, Chas. Ragen, Willis Smith, Lanress Fike, Earle Ridgeway, Walter Aikens, Eddie Daniels, Jack D’Arcy, Dan McCarthy, Joe Gabisch, George Gabisch and James Gillogly.

1946

“Court House Corner is Now Clear with Fence Disposal”

Woodrow Hensley made the highest bid and the lattice fence erected on the courthouse lawn has been sold to Mr. Hensley and is now torn down. Mr. Hensley’s bid was \$25.50.

A few years ago when the court house grounds were landscaped the fence was erected to shut out the unsightly view of a blacksmith shop and all the necessary machinery and equipment around the shop.

A few months ago the county was able to purchase the shop so that they could complete their court house square and the shop was torn down. All that now remains to be done before the square is finished is to build a lawn where the shop and lot were and move some of the shrubbery on the courthouse lawn.

It was a conundrum to many how the solid concrete building, used as the shop, was to be done away with which was solved by Harvey McIntyre, who had been given the privilege of using the building until spring with the understanding he was to remove it. It was a trick well worth recording. Mr. McIntyre had a bulldozer mechanized machine move in and pile all the top dirt in a huge pile and when down about ten feet, the walls of the building were undermined and buried for all time far down under the corner. The dirt was leveled over the buried treasure and all evidence of a building removed.

Recently the hospital, which lies just back of the court house, has had some large dogwood shrubs cut so that the view is much improved and when the court house completes the lawn, Townsend will be admired for its well kept beautiful park spaces.

“Girl Scout Court of Honor”

On Monday, June 17, Girl Scout Troop No. 1 of Townsend held their annual Court of Awards.

The program was dedicated to good relations between the countries of the Americas. In accordance with that general theme, a radio skit, written by the Scouts, was given to an appreciative audience. Travel talks and folk songs of the Americas also featured the program. The hall was decorated in the same motif, displaying flags of the nations, and having as a stage background a large map of the Americas.

Peggy Graveley, Eleanor Schwisow and Roxy Ward winners of the spring posture contest modeled Latin American costumes.

Special awards for Honor Scouts based upon dependability cooperation and adherence to the Girl Scout laws and promises were presented to Eleanor Schwisow and Marion Chamberlain.

The award for honor patrol, based upon cooperation, dependability and efficiency in record keeping went to the Wolverine Patrol. Members of that patrol are Peggy Graveley, Evelyn Ross, Billyjean Zimmerman and Lois Schreiner.

The following scouts earned second class rank: Mary Francis Kieckbusch, Marion Chamberlain, Margery Kieckbusch, Lee Ann Stewart, Petty Muliigan, Marlene Boster, Alice Erickson, Roxy Ward, Eleanor Schwisow, Evelyn Ross, Alice Miller, Eleanor Miller, Betty Ann White, Lois Schreiner, Billyjean Zimmerman and Peggy Graveley.

Proficiency badges ere awarded as follows: "My Troop" badge Peggy Graveley, Lois Schreiner, Evelyn Ross, Billyjean Zimmerman, Lee Ann Stewart, Marion Chamberlain; Transportation and Communication badge Eleanor Schwisow and Peggy Mulligan; Bibliophile badge Lois Schreiner.

Eleanor Schwisow, young pianist, played soft music for the half hour preceding the program and at the close the girls presided over the serving of refreshments.

1957

"First Spraying for Mosquitoes Will be Early Friday; Bee Owners warned"

Townsend and vicinity will get its first chemical spraying for the control of mosquitoes this year, on Friday morning. The money collected has been divided into two parts and two complete coverages will be made of the city and as far out as the funds warrant, Bud Neifert, chairman of the committee for the Townsend Rotary Club advises.

In stating the date for the spraying, Neifert said it was advisable for people to take in any article hanging on the line. Also put cars in garages that night or cover the tops. The chemicals used have some oil. They will not spoil garments or cars, but they would probably have to be washed were they not covered.

Those who have bee hives in the vicinity are warned and advised to cover them the night before so that as little damage as possible will result to the bees.

The people of the town are also asked to keep their own alleys clean and dry all through the summer.

Those who will do the spraying from the air have been ordered to save where they can such as the main street of the town, but to get the alleys.

"Fifteen Scouts Advanced at Court of Honor"

Two Scouts, David Kearns and Jim Thompson, have received their badges and are now 1st Class Scouts. They were given their awards at a Court of Honor held here June 6th. There were 13 other Scouts who received awards for advancement.

The investiture ceremony was presided over by Scout Master Ralph Thompson assisted by District Scout Commissioner Bill Tyra of Helena.

A large number of parents were present and for the first time mothers received miniature pins like the ones given the boys who received pin awards.

Five boys received Tenderfoot pins. Those receiving these awards presented in a suitable ceremony were: David Etwiler, Jim Lots, David Campbell, Milton Dove and Bobby Miller.

Those invested with pin badges for being advanced to 2nd Class Scouts were: Mike Valentine, Robert Lundborg, Chris Grover, Dennis Kelly, Dana Stiner, John Schwisow, James Etwiler and John Ulmer.

A charter was presented to North Star Lodge No. 19 I.O.O.F. for sponsoring Boy Scouts.

1963

"Toston Briefs"

Jack Swarts was guest of honor at a Father's Day dinner at the Beacon restaurant in Townsend. Other guests included Mrs. Swarts, Mr. and Mrs. Lyall Middleton, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Biggs and Mrs. Myrtle Biggs of Townend.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Anzik and Hal Plummer visited Miss Clara Miller and Jim Miller in Crow Creek valley.

Miss Olive Cain of Helena spent the week with her parents and brothers, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Cian, Lynn and Lenny. Mr. and Mrs. Cain and Lynn have moved to Missoula where they will make their home.

Terry Plummer and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Zollinger of Townsend attended the rodeo in Boulder Sunday.

1974

“Local News”

Seven persons from the Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church attended the fifth Lutheran Triennial Rocky Mountain District Convention for women at the Colonial Hilton in Helena Tuesday and Wednesday. About 400 women from Montana, Wyoming and Northern Idaho were present.

The theme, “Redeemed – Say So!” was carried out by several speakers of national prominence in the Lutheran Church. Attending were Mrs. Al Hinton, Mrs. Bob Hensley, Mrs. Sam Galgerud, Mrs. Nels Vestre, Mrs. Bill Bieber, Mrs. Willis Burmaster and Mrs. Bob Ohnstad.