

“What Happened this Week in History”

Submitted by Linda Huth; Sponsored by: The Cotter Foundation

May 21

1936

“Commencement Week Starts for Local School”

A large class will be presented for graduation from the Broadwater County High School on May 29th; 31 having been sufficiently prepared to receive their diplomas, according to Principal W.L. Emmert, who announces Commencement week activities. Attorney General Raymond T. Nagle will deliver the Commencement address.

With the Baccalaureate services, a feature of this coming Sunday evening, the high school will commence the 33rd Commencement week. The Baccalaureate sermon will be preached by the Rev. John W. Kuller of the Townsend Methodist Episcopal Church in the gymnasium of the school the program of which will commence at 8:00 o'clock, the title of which is “The Mind of Christ”, the program to include hymns, music by the school's glee club.

Commencement exercises will be held on Friday evening, May 29th and will mark the closing of a very successful year under the supervision of W.L. Emmert who closes his first term as head of the school. Other important events in the week will be the Junior-Senior banquet on Tuesday evening, the Class Day exercises on Wednesday evening and the Commencement Friday. Students will find happy class gatherings during the week and the seniors who are leaving the Alma Mater will experience moments of happiness intermingled with strange thrills of regret and sorrow.

High school seniors and the faculty and their wives have been invited to a buffet supper party at Canton tonight. Mrs. W.J. Gaab, Mrs. W.G. Kirscher and Mrs. John Mannix are to be hostesses and the party will be given in the woman's club room.

Graduating seniors from the class of 1935-1936 are: Harry Anders; Robert O. Blakely; Aletha Myrle Brisbin; Eleanor June Buckingham; Valeria Montez Clare; Gerald L. Clark; Ruth Cornelia Conner; Virginia Dale Cook; Clarence Dallas, Jr.; Margaret L. Doggett; James W. Franklin; Joseph E. Gaab; Jack E. Gruber; Ann Arline Houston; Henry E. Huth; Adah D. Kelly; Mildred Margaret Kenney; Betty Jeanne Kirscher; William Mackey; Dorothy Ann Mannix; Alice Mason; Thomas Myers; Dorothy Nilson; Maxine Nilson; Joseph Seery; Earl Simons; Jack Smith; Viola T. Walter; Jean Williams; Ann Marie Zimmerman; Charles Smith.

“Radersburg News”

The Ladies Aid was entertained at the home of Mrs. Wayne Miller Friday. The usual crowd attended. After the business meeting and at the close of a pleasant afternoon,, a delicious lunch was served.

Mrs. Geo. Grandeschamp from Thompson Falls arrived in Townsend by train Tuesday. She accompanied her brother, Alfred Doughty, to the Burg where she is spending a few days with her mother, Mrs. Hattie Doughty and relatives.

Mrs. John Williams and daughter, Charlotte, spent a few days in York visiting her sister, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Greaves.

Mr. and Mrs. James Holling of Hassel were visiting relatives and friends in the Burg Sunday.

The eighth grade pupils of Radersburg who took exams in Townsend Thursday and Friday were Fay Hough, Jeannie Dundas, Iva Campbell, Rea Sitton and Bennie Webb.

Bill Duff of the Summit Mine was a business visitor in town on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Zimmerman and daughter, Billie Jean, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Shea of above Hassel were visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark Edenfield and son, Delbert, have moved to Scratch Gravel where he has employment.

“Personal Happenings”

Max W. Sorensen entertained the members of the high school orchestra Sunday at a picnic near his home at the Round Grove Ranch.

Mr. and Mrs. Homer Shelley transacted business in the county seat coming in from their valley home Wednesday, smiling over the fine rain of the night before and reporting everything growing in first class condition.

Mr. and Mrs. F.N. Weed have purchased the home formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. R.N. Lodge located on the corner of Broadway and Maple streets. It is one of Townsend's very attractive and comfortable bungalow type dwellings with well improved grounds. Mr. and Mrs. Weed and family have permanently established their home in Townsend. Mr. Weed having also purchased the Townsend part of the Broadwater County Abstract Company in which firm the Lodges and H.A. Swope are associated.

“Townsend Boys Take Order from Hobo at Point of Gun”

Four Townsend boys were kidnapped in their own car, three later liberated and the fourth taken for a longer ride last Sunday in Helena. After getting together again and talking things over they decided they had been kidnapped and hadn't been kidnapped and really didn't know what to think, things happened so fast. All agreed that Mongrain came the nearest to being bumped off than any of them and before the fright of the situation subsided they could all feel the gags over their mouths, their eyes blind folded and suffering somewhat from lack of food, water and mistreatment at the hands of real desperadoes.

It all came about when they started for Missoula last Sunday. In the party were Donald Whaley, Stanley Mongrain, Bill Stiner and Willard Lofgren. They left Townsend early Sunday morning for Missoula and had stopped at the Hamburger Inn in Helena for breakfast, according to the story, when a fellow accosted them just after they were finished, asking them where they were going. Upon being told they were headed for Missoula he remarked that that was just where he wanted to go and intended to go with them. Upon refusing the request for transportation giving as excuses they were crowded as it was and didn't want any more passengers, the stranger drew an automatic pistol from a shoulder holster and the gun talked louder and more forcibly than words. Needless to say the stranger went along.

The party started for their destination. At a point beyond the Broadwater natatorium the “Boss” of the party told three of the youths to get out and then continued with Stanley Mongrain. The three got back to Helena by a passing motorist. The “pseudo kidnapper” and Mongrain continued toward Missoula for a few miles farther when the supposed desperado decided to return to Helena. At Lyndale and Benton, the Kidnapper got out and took the

jungles along the Great Northern tracks. Mongrain went to the Police station to report the incident and there was joined again by his party.

The stranger made no attempt to rob or take the car of the boys and officers were at a loss what was the motive.

A search was quickly organized by Helena officers and members of the state highway patrol, but no trace of him was found. He was described as a man of slender build with thin unshaven face, about 5 feet 7 inches tall and weighing about 135 pounds.

1964

“Townsend Skit is Winner at District Meeting”

The Historical Skit contest at the American Legion District No. 6 meeting in Wisdom was won by Broadwater Post No. 42. Open to all posts in District 6, the contest winner was awarded a cash prize and the opportunity to compete with 10 other District winners at the Department Convention in Helena July 18th where the prize money will total \$1,000.00

The skit won much praise and the decision of the judges was unanimous.

A large delegation attended the meetings. Present from Townsend were: Troy Helmick, post commander; Bob Green, adjutant; Bob Myles, finance officer; Jerry Duehr, Jim Johnson, and Frank Upton. Representing the Auxiliary were Anne Sitton, president elect, Lenore Johnson, Gen Walter and Clara Ballard. Dist. 2nd Vice Commander Ray Nydegger was installed as 1st Vice Commander at the conclusion of the meeting and Mary Alice Upton was installed as President of District No. 6. Lenore Johnson will serve as District Secretary-treasurer.

“Winston News”

The big smoke Saturday was the Winston Beavers 4-H Club burning the tall, dead grass on the Winston Cemetery. Each year this group spends a day cleaning and repairing damage to the cemetery. They regret that they are unable to put markers on the fifty-odd unidentified graves, but there are no records in which these graves are recorded. Charles Baum helped the club members by taking the fire truck and wetting down the grass surrounding the cemetery, then standing by to be sure that the fire did not get out of control.

Mrs. Jim Cox, assisted by Mrs. Glenn Truscott and Chrissie Cox, served midnight refreshments to a group of young couples homeward bound after the Broadwater County High School Junior Prom. The girls, all from Lewis and Clark County, were: Mary Casey, Edie Drost, Linda Flitner and Cathy Potter. Their escorts were Clifford Cox, Steve Kirksey, Don Truscott and Jack Lokowich.

The Winston school picnic is to be held Sunday May 24, at the picnic ground on the Baum Ranch. Time suggested for the dinner is one o'clock.

“Radersburg News”

Miss Terri Ralls returned to Helena Monday morning after spending the weekend here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ralls.

Mrs. Carrie Hardgrove entertained at dinner Tuesday evening in honor of the 8th grade graduating students. Those enjoying the occasion were: Teddy Roberts, Susie Harris, Marsha Miller and Devon Miller. Also included were the upper grade teachers, Miss Mitzie Stroup and Erma Patterson.

“Local News”

Mrs. Alice Perkins was in yesterday to tell us she is moving back to her ranch on Gurnett Creek for the summer.

Tom Sweeney of Fairbanks, Alaska is visiting a few days with his mother, Mrs. Mae Sweeney, and sisters, Mrs. Frank Upton, Mrs. Bill Booher, and Mrs. Bob Sitton. Tom is a member of the Alaska State Police and came down to the States to attend the Western States Crime Conference to be held at Eugene, Oregon. Tom said yesterday that Fairbanks had no damage from the recent earthquake, but his wife's parents, who lived at Kodiak, lost everything they had.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Stockburger left this morning for Kalispell to visit relatives. Jerry will get in some fishing on Flathead Lake while over there.

D.W. Neifert , Floyd Kirley and Kenneth Rolandson of Neifert White Co. were in Great Falls Thursday of last week attending a John Deere sales meeting.

"Party for Clines"

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Lundborg and their employees and families had a farewell party at the Lundborg Cabin on Deep Creek Tuesday evening for Mr. and Mrs. Cline and daughters.

Mr. and Mrs. Cline have bought a ranch near Arlee and are moving at the end of the school term.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Lundborg, Allen, Larry and Carol; Mr. and Mrs. Heinie Huth, Jim, Joan and John; Mr. and Mrs. Mike Massa, Penny and Tommy; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Armstrong, Monte Armstrong and Cathy Bucy; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Whaley and David; Mr. and Mrs. Art Schwisow and Paul; Nellie Sayer, Patty Jo, Cathy, Gayla and Eddie, and the honored guests Mr. and Mrs. Cline, Delrene, Carla and Darlene Merrit.

A very enjoyable dinner was served after which Bob Armstrong showed slides.