WIND RIVER MOUNTAINEER

THE LEADING NEWSPAPER OF LANDER AND FREMONT COUNTY

VOLUME XLIV. Lander, Wyoming, Friday, Jan., 27, 1928. No. 14

AN INTERESTING ARTICLE ON GAME QUESTION

BY ONE WHO HAS SPENT MANY YEARS IN THAT SECTION

San Diego, Calif.,
January 21, 1928.

This article is written in an endeavor to show the situation as it is in the upper Wind River country at the present time.

The great majority of the residents in the Dubois district and who are directly interested in the question are opposed to domestic sheep entering certain areas which have always been used by other stock and game animals. This opposition of the big majority was shown at a general meeting in Dubois early last year, and the Federal Forest Service was respectfully petitioned to refuse the granting of any grazing permits for domestic sheep on that part of the Washakie National Forest bound as follows:

"Beginning on the divide, between Bear and Caldwell creeks and divide between Bear creek and Wiggins fork thence extending westward around the head waters of Wind River and southward to the divide between Tory and Dinwoody creeks. Most of the area within these boundarier adjoins the summer ranges of the large herd of elk that is wintered in the Jackson Hole country, and ninety per cent of the big game on the Wind river side lives within this area and on adjoining winter range outside of the National Forest. A conservative estimeate of game animals on this side is some 1400 to 1600 elk, the bulk of which ranges, in summer on upper Wiggins fork, Horse, Brent, Tappan and Six-mile creeks. 500 to 700 deer ranging mostly on Wiggin fork,Horse creek and Jakey's Fork. Two important bands of mountain sheep, one in the rugged range around the headwaters of Wiggins Fork, and Horse creek, consisting of some 200 to 300 head, and those along the continental divide on the headwaters of Jakey's Fork and Torrey creek, some 300 to 400 in number. There is probably 30 to 40 moose distributed over the area, a number of bear, besides furbearing animals and grouse. At the present writing there's a band of about 75 mountain sheep ranging a few miles south of Dubois and can often be seen from the village.

While the number of elk on the Wind river side is small compared to the large herd that drifts into the Jackson Hole, it is believed there are more of all other species of big game animals on the Wind river side than there is on the Snake river drainage, out side of the Yellowstone Park.

Refusing the granting of grazing permits by the Federal authorities for domestic sheep on this area will not cause any hardships on the owners, as there is ample range near by, which has been used as a sheep range for a number of years.

Owing to the peculiar conditions obtaining in this locality, kind of sool forage, etc., in the foothills bordering the valley, which provides excellent winter pasture for game the animals as well as cattle and horses, they will necessarily have to pass over the lower winter range, adjacent to, but outside the Forest, thereby grazing it off, and the soil being of a loose, sandy character in manyplaces, what forage is not grazed off, will be stamped out by the sharp hoofs of the sheep

While the Forest Service has no jurisdiction outside of the National Forest, a glance at the map will show they hold the key to the grazing of lands here adjacent to the Forest ranges, as the only inlet and outlet to the summer grazing grounds is over the small area used for winter grazing by elk, cattle, and horses, between the Shoshone Indian Reservation and the high mountain ranges. The winter winds clear the snow from this foothill range along the Forest boundary—some inside the boundary—thus, providing natural winter grazing for elk and deer, which is much better for game animals and more economical than feeding hay.

Many men, thinking only of their interests and desirous of obtaining range for their flocks contend that shesheep in normal numbers do not interfere with the game on their ranges, but it is a well known fact with those familiar with the habits of game that domestic sheep do very much interfere with them when placed on their range, to the extent of the number thereon, even though there is grass left on the range, as there is a scent about sheep that will drive game away if there is any place else to go, while it is a proven fact that elk will mingle and feed contentedly on a range with cattle and horse

Much stress by some is put on the number of horses on the open range contending they graze the range more closely than sheep do, but this depends entirely on the character and kind of grass. Sheep will not graze the coarse grass close but when they leave a fully stocked range nothing else will eat it unless very hungry. The effects of one or two bands of sheep on a large area may not be noticeable for some years but past history has shown in all cases where they get a hold in game ranges, the range is soon depleted of all game animals, and the country made undesirable for recreational purposes.

In a recent survey by the Department of Commerce and Labor, it was shown the tourist, or as is commonly called the "dude" business, has spent more than on million ($1,000,000), dollars and invested more than $600,000 in ranches in Wyoming the past year, and the business is increasing in leaps and bounds. Of course, these figures are small compared to the the stock industry, but considering the territory covered by this business it is worth encouraging and protecting from an economic point of view as well as the aesthetic and recreational benefits. It is safe to say that 80 per cent of this business in the state is done north of the 42 degree of north latitude , and west of the 108 degree of W. Longitude, where all species of big game abound, the struems and lakes well stocked with fish and domestic sheep grazing has not yet spoiled the beautiful camping grounds and polluted the streams.

To many people are indifferent to beauty and gradeur of our natural scenic places and seem to think as long as they live there will be some wild life and few nice places to camp in the mountains neath the shade of aspens and pines, but if we are tohave any places left as nature made them, to hand down to posterity to show what nature made for them, on this American continent, we will haveto keep up an unceasing fight for it, and one of the mostdangerous element at the present time threatening to mar the landscape, beauty and granduer, and final extiction of all game animals is domestic sheep being permit ted in the regions southeast of the Jellowsone National Park, the only corner left in the United States where all species of our big game is yet to be found in their natural state and making their last stand.

Looking beyond tomorrow and thinking of the future in generations instead of twelve-months we can easily see the benefit and good this small territory will be to the most people in the long run by keeping it in as natural a state as possible. Thousands of peaple are coming to these mountain regions annually for health and recreation and are increasing every year.

To all true Waltonians who know the situation here, let this be an eppeal to get behind the cause, and those who do not know, let them investigate.

John I. Hough.

BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Joe. P. Jacobs, D. D.. will preach next Sunday morning and evening. Dr. Jacobs will bring messages that will be helpful and uplifting.

Special music by the choir. The services for the week will be as usual. Come for Bible School at 9:45 and spend a helpful hour in the study of the word of God.

B. Y. P. U. at 6:30

A warm welcome awaits you at all the services.

First Congregational Church

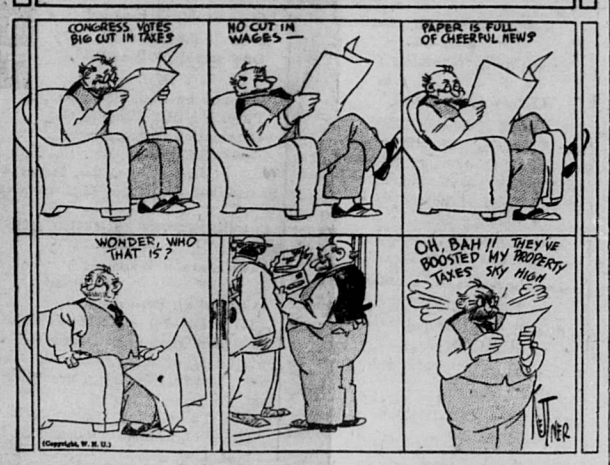
Devotional service Sunday morning at 11 o'clock

Sunday School at 9:45.

Christian Endeavor at 7: 30, P. M.

Jeems Dickie of Thermopolis was also reported present.

Our Pet Peeve



AN APPEAL FOR HELP

Dear People of Fremont County:

I respectfully submit to your charitablo consideration one of the saddest calamities that has ever occured in this county.

Before the echo of a tragedy, that cost a Sister her life, has passed away, comes the sad news of another tragedy that has left in its wake the ruins of the main building at St. Stephen's Mission. The details have already been furnished and need no mention by me. It suffices to state that the sad spectacle is sufficient to evoke the sympathy of any human being.

St. Stephen's Mission is an institution established for the physical, intellectual and moral training of the Indian. This work is carried on by two Jesuit Fathers, one Jesuit Brother, one lay professor and seven Sisters of the Order of St. Francis. These people have dedicated their lives to this unselfish work and receive no earthly remuneration for their efforts. Apart from the little assistance bestowed by the government they have nothing to depend upon save what they derive from the fruits of hard work on the farm.

As far as I know those in charge of St. Stephen's Mission have never asked a cent from anyone in this county, although they have carried on this benevolent work for fifty years. Yet St. Stephen's Mission is a decided asset to this part of the state. Every year it spends thousands of dollars in Fremont County, and, should it cease to exist, it would be a decided loss.

I am mindful of your past record in the fields of Religion and Charity, and for that reason I appeal to you with confidence, feeling sure that you will lend a helping hand to alleviate this great distress. The amount of insurance which the Mission could afford to carry would not cover a fourth of the cost that would be entailed in trying to repair the loss. I can say with all truth that Father Keel, Father Lannon, Brother Stern and Mr. Miller are practically homeless and I am placing this case beford you that your charity may manifest itself in helping them to build something that will furnish them with much needed accomodations.

Every cent will be deeply appreciated and I hope and pray that the Great Giver of all good things will bless with abundance all those who will lend a helping hand. At this time I wish to express my sincere appreciation to those who have already helped.

Donations may be sent to Father Keel at St. Stephen's, or to me at Lander.

Cots and bedding of any description are badly needed and those who wish to help in this way will please notify Father Keel or the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,
FATHER MULLINS,
Lander, Wyoming.

A. C. Allen, attorney of Riverton and Gus Morrow of the same place were in Lander Wednesday. Mr. Allen was here in the interest of the Noyes Chittim estate. Mrs. John Chittim of this city was recently appointed administratrix of this estate.

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Hudson of Sweetwater were shopping inthe city Tuesday.

A DISASTROUS FIRE

St. Stephen's Mission lost its main building Friday morning by fire from an unknown origin. Smoke came pouring out of the walls of the second story at nine o'clock and the available fire fighting equipment was useless as the blaze could not be reached. The main building erected fifty years ago was destroyed and with it the boys dormitory and contents, the chapel with much of its furnishings and the rooms of the fathers and brothers with contents. No one was injured and the boys were removed in order by their directors.

Assistance came from the fire department at Riverton, altho it could not be summoned by telephone as the connection went out at the time the fire was discovered. The department saved adjoining buildings. The loss is estimated at $50,000 and it will cost much more than that amount to replace the structure.

Building plans are already under way. The Catholic church thru this mission has performed a major service to the Arapahoe tribe and in addition to religion has taught a superior type of scientific agriculture and kindred lines which many of the boys and girls have absorbed thru contact with the mission work. The process is slow but thru several generations the work goes on and the results have proven the worthwhileness of the undertaking.

An appeal has been made to the people of Fremont county for bedding, clothing and furnishings to assist the men and boys who lost all of their physical possessions. This appeal is expressed in a communication from Fr. Mullins of Lander.

HAROLD WENDALL LEEDY

Harold Wendall Leedy passed from suffering to peace in the heavenly kingdom Thursday at midnight at Bishop Randall hospital following an illness of eight weeks from a bone disease of the hip which caused intense pain borne by him with unusual fortitude for a lad so young.

He was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Leedy of Hudson and the grief stricken parents are left bereaved over the loss of their fine son. He was a member of the sixth grade in the Hudson school, beloved of his teachers and schoolmates. He did his work well in school, was of a happy disposition and had a promising future.

He was born May 21, 1915 at Casper and spent his life at Hudson where his parents make their home just at the edge of town. The funeral was conducted Sunday afternoon at the Lander Methodist hurch. The pall bearers were selected from his playmates at Hudson, Frankie, Linkie and Victor Dolence, Nickie Svilar, Dante Tracey and Melvin Rogers carried the casket which held the body of their life-long friend. The many beautiful flowers reflected the heartfelt sympathy of a large number of friends. Songs of comfort and words of peace and hope constituted the service directed by the Rev. B. A. Bessire. Burial was at Mt. Hope, Lander.

Mourning the passing of Harold are his parents, half-sister Rose Fern Leedy, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. MacDowell and family of Lander.

L. N. Ellis returned Sunday from Denver where he had been attending the stock show. Incidentally, he also had his tonsils taken out and was minus several molars. These small operations were done in the hopes that he would relived from the pangs of rheumatism with which he has been suffering for several years.

CHAMBER COMMERCE ANNOUNCE BUDGET

Lander's chamber of commerce made up its budget yesterday out of $1968 pledges for its operation for 1928, putting into agriculture and livestock $150, $800 in roads, $50 in civic improvements, $50 in finance and trade expansion, $530 publicity and entertainment, and $338 in secretary expenses. It is expected that the budget will be increased by another $150 from individual subscriptions not yet obtained.

The budget according to the constitution covers three-fourths of the total pledges that there may be a reserve for expansion and emergencies which may arise thru the year. This contingent fund is made available by the vote of the directors.

The board set the dates for the regular monthly meetings of the club on the second Monday evening of each month. The time is at 7:30 and will be preceded by a dinner at 6:30 and those who desire the combination may go at that hour. The next meeting will be February 13. The place will be announced later as arrangements are made.

LANDER HI LOSES TO THE CASPER MUSTANGS

The old jinx which has been grinning from the basket ball loop on our boys ever since the opening of the basket ball season, was still in a very healthy state of preservation when the Lander Hi basketeers went down to defeat before the prancing Mustang on last Friday evening and the gym, when the final score stood Lander 15, Casper 23.

The Lander boys showed up in good form, and demonstrated that they understand the game from ankle to lariat. In fact, they played a better game than did the visitors, and often played rings around their heavier opponents; but the one weak but fatal point was their inability to hit the loop, and at that point the jinx was extremely strong. The imp seemed to siton the edge of the loop, and when the ball struck on the ring and, for an agonizing moment swayed backward and forward, and then dropped harmlessly on the outside, while the jinx would dance up and down and laugn in derision at the frantic cries and groans of the audience.

In the last half, the boys became desperate, and instead of playing their old steady game, they tried to flirt with Lady Luck by taking wild changes in shooting the loop from the center of the floor. That was fatal. Had they played the old safe run as they did in the first half, the story might have been different.

Win or lose, the boys displayed a fighting spirit of which people may well feel proud. They are bound to hit the proper stides and will give a good account of themselves.

McCoun- Browne

On sunday evening at the Wind River Mission, Rev. John Roberts officiating, Mr. Ralph McCoun of Lander and Miss Louise Browne of Chicago were united by the wedding knot

Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Marty of this city acting as witnesses.

The bride came here from Chicago sometime ago and has been teaching at the Wyoming State Training school and during her short stay has made many frends, with her pleasing and pleasant personality, among the younger set of the city.

Mr. McCoun, a son of Mr. and Mrs. L. T. McCoun, was raised in the Lander valley, attended the public school and graduated from the High school with the class of '22.

Since that time he has been working for ifferent firms in the city and at present holds the position as deputy county treasurer.

This week the young couple are enjoying the congratulations and well wishes of their many friends.

Clyde, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Gentle, was taken to the hospital Tuesday, suffering with an attack of appendicitis. At present he is reported somewhat better and it is hoped that no operation is necessary.

Vel Firestone of Denver spent several days visiting his parents Mr. and Mrs. Firestone.

W. A. Hays and George Ludin of Arapahoe are in the city on business today.

TURKET MEET AND A BIG FEED SOON

The Wind River Cooperative Marketing association will hold its third annual meeting at Lander on February 4th., 1928, at the Vocational high school.

In the past the association has held two annual meetings, one at Riverton, and one at Lander, but the board of directors feel that this is unnecessary, and from henceforth there will be but one meeting, which will be held alternately in Lander and Riverton. The date of the meeting will be set each year by the board of directors of the association.

The meeting for 1928 will be an all day affair, commencing at 11 o'clock, A. M. and ending sometime in the afternoon. This year the ladies in the Lander community are going to serve dinner at noon, for members of the association and their friends. The cost of this dinner will be 50c per plate, and all reservations should be made not later than Thursday, February 2nd.

Tickets may be had at the Extension office, the Wyoming State Journal office, secretary of the chamber of commerce, Lander, Roy McFarlane, Hudson, The Riverton Review, The Riverton Chronicle, and John Mitchell at Riverton. Tickets may likewise be secured at the receiving stations during the next Turkey sale.

The business men of both Lander and Riverton are cordially invited to partake of the above mentioned dinner, the ladies have promised a real turkey feed.

Wyoming's Mining committee of eleven met in Casper Friday, the session being sponsored by the department of Commerce and Industry, and discussed fully the mining situation of the state and made plans to bring it to the attention of the people as its foremost industry.

Fremont county was represented by A. H. Maxwell, member of the committee, and Judge E. H. Fourt. Both men addressed the meeting and their remarks were given considerable mention in the Casper papers reporting the meeting. All members of the committee were present except Fred Patte of Casper, who was in Denver on important business.

A complete mineral survey was provided for each county in the state and the data to be gathered into a state booklet which will be available to capital interested in development. The survey will be conducted by civil engineers and others interested in the mining business of each county.

Cooperation of the state university is to be obtained thru a committee headed by T. Joe Cahill, secretary of the department of commerce and industry, and two others to be selected by G. H. Hagans, chairman of the committee of eleven, to consult with Dr. A. O. Crane, president of the State university, regarding an assay service to prospectors which will be prompt and without charge until such time as the department can be financed.

Efforts will be made to bring the mining industry on a parity with that given Agriculture.

The next mining congress will be held at Laramie, the seat of the state university, and proper legislation will be developed at that time to further the industry.

METHODIST CHURCH

Is the bible a difficult book to understand? Particularly the Old Testament? Perhaps we can help you somewhat. Next Sunday morning we start a number of sermons on "The Messages of the Book," in which we shall deal with the main message of a book in each sermon. Genesis will be considered next Sunday. The special topic is, "God The Creator."

The Epworth League is having a fine time with their study of Stanley Jones' book, "The Christ of the India Road." Come to the meeting at 6:30 There was a splendid attendance last Sunday. The evening church service is at 7:30.

CARDS OF THANKS

We take this means of thanking the people of Hudson and Lander for their sympathy and kindness to us in our great sorrow. Our neighbors and friends at Hudson and Lander have been very kind to us and we wish to especiallly thank them for all they have done

Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Leedy and daughter,
Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McDowell and family

Little Scotland of the Circle land was well represented in Lander