

OUR TOWN 100 YEARS AGO, Part 2

July 1925. We know that history can repeat itself. Let's hope that some events from July 1925 do not. It was a joyous month with Independence Day celebrations and patriotic activities, and it had its terror-filled moments. The first front page of July focused on earthquakes. A 6.9 quake hit near Townsend on June 27th, destroyed schools and other buildings in Gallatin County and toppled chimneys in Whitehall. On June 29th, Santa Barbara, California was struck by a 6.3 quake that caused extensive damage and the loss of 11 lives. Two children in Neihart, Montana were buried alive when a dam broke. Whitehall lost long-time resident, founder of the Old Men's Birthday Club and a Colonel in the 11th Missouri Cavalry during the Civil War when Colonel Lewis Clark Pace passed away at the age of 90. No surprise that congressmen raised their own salaries and increased postal rates for citizens but still cluttered the postal service, for free, with mail including speeches they had written but never delivered. The U. S. Pacific fleet of 50 vessels sailed from Honolulu for ports in Australia, New Zealand and Tasmania. Updates on the Scopes trial (teaching evolution in school) appeared in each week's papers. Yellowstone was expecting a rush of at least 160,000 visitors for the season. The following are just a few highlights of news as printed in the July 1925 editions of the Jefferson Valley News.

WE ALL QUAKED THEN WE HIKED, But Most of Us Got a Million Dollar Scare out of It and There Were Some Ludicrous Situations. Whitehall's dinner hour was rudely disturbed on Saturday, when at 6:23 the first of a series of tremblors started the greatest exodus for the outdoors that this town has ever seen. It is a wonderful thing to develop human nature and to show, after all, that we are brothers and sisters—only some can run faster than others. There are those who ordinarily walk down stairs who insist upon rolling down during a earthquake. One lady dropped the baby and rescued the house tomcat and squeezed it so hard that she was scratched up.

WHITEHALL'S O.K. Whitehall "went over the top" by exceeding its share of the \$200 allotted to Jefferson county in the American Legion Endowment Fund drive, according to those of the local post. The six girls who gave their time Tuesday and Wednesday to the support of the disabled veterans and orphans of veterans of the World War were Mary Wolverton, Arlene Harbison, Jean Thompson, Mable Hart, Katherine Evans and Dorthy Manlove, and all, with exception proved themselves good rustlers.

SOUTH BOULDER CLOSED. The Montana Fish and Game Commission in regular session in Helena approved the petition of the J. I. C Rod and Gun Club and has closed the South Boulder against fishing for an indefinite time, in order to give the fish a chance to grow. It is the intention of the Club as well as the State authorities in closing this stream to make it CLOSED. Warning to any that might think it a joke.

HAIL STORM TWO MILES WIDE DAMAGES CROPS. Sweeps Summit Valley Wednesday—Damage Enough, but not As Bad as First Reported. Farmers had not been able to make an estimate of the loss with the exception of Geo. B. Franks, who reported complete "hail out." The path of the hail took in the following ranches: Geo. B. McKeown, Geo. Ary, Arthur Shaw, Harry Shaw, Wm. Stephens, Geo. Franks, Larry Kyle, Chris Noble, R. W. Gibson, Roy Robinson, J. Richardson, Ben Koestlin, Henry Rundell, I. Westmoreland, J. R. Wetzel, Carl Rundell, Ed Armstrong, J. W. Powell, Almon Patrick, F. Black, Albert Sparrow, A. L. Johnston. The storm started just north of Cardwell and swept to the south to the vicinity of Harrison.

TALK OF THE TOWN. A North Dakota tourist was in Barnes barber shop when the first quake came. He was just nicely lathered, but did not linger. His wife, who was sitting in their auto, yelled, "Come on, Paw, we're going to North Dakoty right now!"

Showers began on Monday and at midnight there was a good fall. Opinion differs as to the desirability of rain just now. The rancher with a big hay crop down wants it dry for a day or two and the dry land farmer will take some moisture. The cloud bursts of Sunday and Monday washed out dams and broke ditches, flooded gardens and drowned chicken and worked havoc generally on both the north and east forks of Whitetail

creek. Ralph Shaw of Bone Basin spent Monday night at the H. C. Collins home. He was returning from the saw mill, but was unable to get home on account of the cloudburst.

The Milwaukee trains were routed through Whitehall for two days following the earthquake, which caused some slides on their line. The report of the caving of the Lombard tunnel was largely exaggerated. The Northern Pacific suffered little delay in this section, the road being cleared withing a few hours after the shake. The fire bell sounding Wednesday morning was, in a measure, a false alarm. Some rubbish was being burned on the railway property near the water tank. The volunteers responded quickly.

Mrs. Amos Hall and Mrs. L. R. Packard left for Glacier Park on Saturday afternoon immediately following the funeral of Col. Pace. Mrs. Hall was driving and felt quite equal to the task. Ten thousand road maps, showing Whitehall, its approaches, and distances, with information regarding the Jefferson valley and its attractions, have been prepared and printed in the News office distribution. The people carrying the expense and making the distribution are: The Modern Hotel, Greene & Sons, Whitehall Drug Co., and the Jefferson Land and Irrigation Co. Tuesday 300 went to the Park in the hands of people who intend visiting every camp and hotel. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Justus started on Saturday morning for Boston in their automobile, expecting to make the run there in 16 days. On the way home they will take it more leisurely, expecting to reach Whitehall on the 20th of August or thereabouts.

The Wolverton boys, S. D. Houghton and Billy Stith are hauling a fifty-ton car of ore from the Millburn mine at the head of St. Paul canyon this week.

Montana people just thought it was warm. In the middle west last week the heat claimed 14 victims and in California seven. In Montana there have been no prostrations reported.

A few I. W. W. bums have been making the Whitehall park their headquarters the past few days, refusing to go to work, and meeting the itinerant workers who happen along and urging them to hold out for wages which the ranchers cannot afford to pay. Whitehall is a good place for men who want to work, and it ought to be made a poor location for the professional loafer and spreader of discontent.

Some of the local folks who went in to Butte to attend the rodeo report that they did not see much in the way of cowboy stunts. Early in the proceedings the cowpunchers and the miners started to fight and it was a continuous performance. Butte papers omitted entirely the meeting of the national association of bootleggers which held a three day session in the mining city on July 2, 3, and 4.

E. E. Powell, the "Honey Boy" from Waterloo, was in the valley one day recently delivering some of his new crop of honey to the farmers. F. E. Houghton made a trip to the Whitetail dam Saturday and opened the headgate, as the farmers were needing more irrigation water for their grain and second hay crop.

A Mammoth miner who had been to Butte to celebrate brought the remains of his inspiration to Whitehall Monday and landed in the hoosegow. He had no money—in fact, he had no pockets. So, after a much needed rest he was started on his way to Mammoth. He had a fine Fourth, but a somewhat rotten Fifth.

A young man appeared at the old Beall ranch on Saturday and went to work. Later in the day he became demented and insisted upon giving an exhibition of the nude in art. The grace and lines of the "human form divine," or at least his exemplification of it, was not appreciated and the sheriff was sent for. He was rounded up by some of the men folks and held in durance until Sunday morning, when Let Knight came over and took him to Boulder. No one seems to have obtained his name.