

# Flathead Indian Reservation Soon to Be Opened for Settlement

(Copyright, 1906, by Frank G. Carpenter.)

**K**ALISPEL, Mont., June 7.—(Special Correspondence of The Bee.)—I have come to Kalispell to tell you something about the Land of the Flatheads. This great Indian reservation, one of the most valuable left in the United States, has just been surveyed by Uncle Sam's land officers and the plats are now in Washington to be passed upon by the government. After they are approved the Indian commissioner will arrange as to the allotment of certain lands to the Indians and a commission will be appointed to classify the balance, after which they will be thrown open to settlers. The work will be done rapidly, but it is safe to say that it will be a year from now before the great rush to this country begins.

When the lands are opened applicants will register at the two chief land offices near the reservation. One of these is at Missoula, on the Northern Pacific railway; at the far south, and the other is here at Kalispell, on the Great Northern railway, within a short distance from Flathead lake and close to the upper part of the reservation, which, I am told, contains by far the best lands. The Great Northern railroad already runs from here to the head of Flathead lake, and it has secured the right-of-way for an extension of seventy miles skirting the eastern shores of that lake and running between it and the Mission mountains, so as to connect with the station of Dixon on the Northern Pacific on the south. This road will open up the whole eastern part of the reservation and will make Kalispell the natural entrance to it. It will cause most of the homeseekers to come here to register, and the prospects are that there will be between 50,000 and 100,000 here at that time. The laws provide that would-be settlers must come to the nearest land office in person and file their claims.

Registration may be made within sixty days from the date of opening and as soon as President Roosevelt announces the time the rush will begin.

### Uncle Sam's Big Lottery.

The names will be set down in the order of their registration and each person will be given a number. At the end all the numbers will be put in a wheel and Uncle Sam's officials will run the lottery. Those whose numbers are first drawn will have the first chance to pick their land and the lottery will go on until all the tracts are disposed of. Everyone will have an even chance at the drawing and the last man registered may get the first prize. This will be far better than the arrangements which prevailed at Oklahoma, where the man with the fastest horse and the bully with the big gun were able to outdistance or force their ways into the best lands.

There will be 5,000 big prizes in the lottery. The farms given to the settlers will comprise about 800,000 acres, and there will be altogether about 5,000 quarter sections. For these the government will charge a nominal price, and it is safe to say as soon as the land is allotted it will be worth \$25 per acre above Uncle Sam's charges. This will give each farm a value of \$4,000, or a total of \$20,000,000. Did you ever hear of such a lottery, with such prizes? There is nothing like it on record. In addition to this there will be other lands less valuable. The reservation altogether contains 1,500,000 acres, but about 300,000 of these are to be given to the Indians, and there are in addition about 500,000 acres covered with timber. There are also mineral regions and hot springs, about which will grow up a health resort, and the Pend D'Oreille river, which drains Flathead lake, has an enormous fall which will be available for the generation of power of all kinds.

The lands are to be divided up into five classes—first and second class agricultural lands, grazing lands, mineral lands and timber lands. The timber lands are of enormous value, and they will probably be sold at auction in forty-acre tracts to the highest bidder, and the money held in trust for the Indians. The mineral lands will be subject to the same regulations as in other parts of the country, and the agricultural lands will probably be appraised at about \$5 per acre, which was the appraisement as to the Rosebud reservation, open to settlement a year or two ago.

### Paradise of the Rockies.

The Kalispell people call this region the paradise of the Rockies. According to them it is the Garden of Eden, where the sun always shines, the crops never fail, and apples superior to that of which Eve gave Adam the core can be grown by sticking a twig in the ground. They laugh at the idea of the Flathead lands being worth only \$5 an acre, and say they will bring \$50 and upward, which is the price of good farm lands around here.

And, indeed, Flathead country is rich. I have driven for miles up and down the valley through the farms all the way. There are big barns and comfortable homes. The land is well fenced and some of the fields contain a hundred acres or more. The soil is a black loam from one to eight feet deep, resting on a subsoil of



MAIN STREET IN KALISPEL.

clay. I am told it is as rich as guano, and the board of trade here says that it is now yielding a million bushels of oats and a half million bushels of wheat every year. One of the queer features of this locality is the climate. It is a land of warm winters and comparatively cool summers. On the eastern side of the Rockies the thermometer goes down to 20, 30 and 40 degrees below zero. Here the average is from 15 to 40 degrees above that point, and the summer nights are always cool.

### On the Reservation.

The Flathead lands are said to be especially fine. They are well watered, and there are parts of them where irrigation is possible. Flathead lake, one-half of which lies in the reservation, is about thirty miles long and from eight to sixteen miles wide. It now has a steamer upon it, and one can go by the Great Northern railroad to Somers and thence by boat the full length of the lake to Polson, where a stage line will take him down through the reservation to Ravalli, on the Northern Pacific. The lake is noted for its pure, icy cold water. It is full of fish, and so clear that the speckled beauties can be seen swimming scores of feet below the surface. The Pend D'Oreille river, which drains the lake, pours out over a succession of rapids and falls, four miles in length, furnishing an immense water power. The valley of the river is about thirty miles long and ten miles in width. It is a level prairie, intersected by four clear streams, fed by the Mission mountain range. The land is treeless, although the mountains are covered with timber. Below the river, in the southern part of the reservation, some of the country is semi-arid, but it can be used for grazing. The slope of the country is such that the waters of the Flathead river could be conducted over it, making it one of the most valuable parts of the reservation.

### Indian Allotments.

The Indians are to have the first pick at the lands, and they will have some of the best. Many of them, however, already have farms which are fenced and improved; and it is hardly possible that they will give likewise preferred lands with some timber upon them, and they will pass much of the black prairie by and choose farms near the foot hills. After the reservation has been opened they will have the right to lease their lands to the whites, and will probably rent them out on twenty-year leases. After that time they can sell; and eventually all the lands will belong to the whites.

One advantage that the settlers here will have over those of other new regions will be the markets of Montana. This state is largely devoted to mining and there is a strong demand for all kinds of food crops at high prices. Timothy hay, for instance, is now selling here at \$15 or \$16 a ton, and cats bring a cent a pound. Wheat sells at extraordinary prices to the local mills, and the most of that raised is made into flour to home consumption, the remainder going to the Pacific coast, where it is especially prized for making crackers and pastry.

### Hot Springs Region.

This flat-head country is already a health resort. It is visited by tourists during the summer, and there are farmers who are settling here on account of the climate. The reservation has eight hot springs, which have been used by the Indians for generations to cure various diseases. As it is now, hundreds of white people visit them for their health. They camp out in tents, drinking the water and bathing in it. Some of the springs are too hot for this purpose, others are heavily impregnated with sulphur and other minerals, and some are springs of boiling mud, which are said to be good for skin diseases. It is not known just how these springs will be treated in the allotment. They will probably be reserved by the government, and may be

sold at auction or disposed of in some other way.

### Flathead Indians.

But let me tell you something about the Indians who own these lands. They are called Flatheads, but their craniums are of the same shape as those of other Indian tribes, and there is no evidence that they

have ever flattened their heads by having them tied to boards when they were babies, as did some of the Indians of the lower Columbia river. They are really good-looking people and are especially friendly with the whites. They were well-spoken of by Lewis and Clark when they made their expedition across the continent, and it is one of their boasts today that they



FLATHEAD INDIAN FAMILY.

never shed the blood of a white man. The Flatheads are not many in number. They have never exceeded 2,000, and there are perhaps just about that many today. In the allotment they are to have eighty acres each, which will give every family 500 or 300 acres.

Most of these Indians are engaged in farming. Nearly all own more or less

stock, and there are several who are now raising buffaloes and cross-breeding them. There is an island in Flathead lake known as the Wild Horse Island. This is a great grazing ground for the buffalo herds. The animals are taken to it on steamers. They are loaded by means of a windlass, which gradually drags them up the gangway and onto the deck. This is no easy matter, for buffaloes are wonderfully strong, as is shown by a bull which recently thrust its horns through a six inch guard rail while loading.

One of the largest herds of buffaloes here is owned by a man named Pablo and the heirs of a half-breed Indian named Allard. It contains 300 buffaloes and it is said to be the largest in the United States. It was started with six calves, which were brought across the Rockies, and added to from time to time.

### Raising Buffaloes for Profit.

The men who have this herd have gone into a regular business of breeding buffaloes for profit, and I am told that it pays very well. The animals are wanted for the various zoological gardens and also for city parks, and good sized ones will bring from \$50 to \$100 apiece. The animals are brought to Kalispell for shipment and sent out by express in crates, just as prize sheep are crated for the same purpose. The Conrad estate has about sixty buffaloes, which it keeps inside fences, handling them like domestic cattle. The animals are quiet and safe enough if one does not venture near them on foot.

From these two herds Kalispell now and then gets a feast of buffalo meat. This is usually the case at Christmas, when the local butchers will buy a buffalo to kill, retailing the meat at 50 cents a pound. The meat has all the tenderness and juiciness of a well bred Shorthorn, and at the same time the flavor of the wild deer of the Rockies. In addition, the hide brings in at least \$10, and the buffalo head sells for \$50 or \$75, so that a single animal thus killed pays very well.

I have been told that these people are crossing the buffalo with domestic cattle. I have not seen the results and give the story as told to me. The favorite breeds for crossing are the Aberdeen-Angus and Galloway, and the results are animals much like the buffaloes, with a rich, velvety black or brown fur. The skins are said to make beautiful coats, but the heads are not as valuable as those of the pure buffaloes.

### Elk Farms in the Rockies.

This whole country is a land of big game. There are moose, elk, mountain sheep, mountain goats, grizzlies and other kinds of bear, several deer, together with mountain lions and all sorts of small game. About fifteen miles east of this town there are now two elk farms, the owners of which make a business of selling elks to zoological gardens and furnishing their heads, horns and teeth to the members of the Elk lodges throughout the United States. They get from \$75 to \$200 each for elk heads, and the teeth, when set as cuff buttons or charms, will often bring \$50 a pair. Each elk has two teeth of the kind desired and the teeth have a regular value in the markets.

I am told the elk are easily domesticated and that they have in some instances been trained to draw wagons and carriages. They are speedy and would make good carriage animals were it not that they frighten the horses more than the noisiest of automobiles.

### Not Wild Nor Woolly.

The eastern tenderfoot who expect to make a rush for the Flathead lands can

come to this place without revolvers or bowie knives and they will be as safe as in any New England town, where the curfew is cried every night. This valley is largely settled with eastern people, and Kalispell is as quiet and orderly as any place of its size in Ohio, Indiana or Illinois. It is a thriving town of 6,000 souls, with good stores, fine homes and paved streets. It has a public library, a theater, churches and schools. It has electric lights and water works, as well as an enterprising board of trade and a lot of real estate agents who regret that the dictionary has not bigger words to express the real glories of their country and its resources.

Indeed, times have changed here since the rush, which took place fifteen years ago, when the Great Northern came in. At that period the chief town was at the head of the lake. It was known as Demererville, and it boasted about 1,000 population and seventy-three saloons. Gambling was common and there were all sorts of sharpers. Among the latter was a justice of the peace, whom I shall call Smith. Judge Smith was fond of the bottle and the dollar and he made no bones of taking both on every occasion and on any pretense. At one time a stranger was shot by mistake while walking the streets and Justice Smith was called in. The body was still warm, but Smith at once began to go through the pockets. In one of them he found a knife, a bunch of keys and a \$30 gold piece, and in another a pistol. As he raised the latter he straightened up and exclaimed: "Why, what is this? Carrying concealed weapons! That is contrary to law. As justice of the peace I fine this man \$20." And he thereupon put the coin in his pocket. FRANK G. CARPENTER.

### Fratle of the Youngsters

Visitor—Well, my little man, I suppose you take after your father, do you not? Little Man (aged 5)—No, sir; but he takes after me with a stick sometimes.

"Here! here!" cried the Rev. Mr. Goodley, happening upon a gang of bad boys playing craps, "what are you playing that game on the Sabbath for?" "Why, fur keeps," replied one of them. "Wat'd yer 'spose?"

Little Elmer—My mamma can tell things by lookin' at people's hands. Visitor—Indeed! Is she a palmist? Little Elmer—I dunno; every time she looks at my hands she tells me to go and wash 'em.

"Tommy," said Mr. Tucker, laying him across his knee and vigorously applying a large and muscular paternal hand, "it almost breaks my heart to do this." "The why don't you let maw do it?" yelled Tommy.

"Now," said Willie's mother, "I hope you'll profit by that spanking and not be such a little savage hereafter." "Boo! Boo!" sobbed Willie, "I wisht I was a little savage." "You do?" "Yes'm. Little savages' mamas don't wear slippers."

On a recent Monday morning the pastor of a church in Virginia, according to Harper's Weekly, was the recipient of a basket of strawberries brought to him by a little girl of the parish.

"Thank you very much, my dear," said the minister. "These berries are as fine as any I've ever seen. I hope, however, that you did not gather them yesterday—the Sabbath."

"No, sir," replied the child, "I pulled 'em early this mornin', but they was a-growin' all day yesterday."

### Death of Another Omaha Pioneer

**D**URING the week John Wesley Lytle, one of Omaha's oldest citizens, answered the final summons. He was buried on Tuesday by the Masonic order, of which he had been a member for many years. Judge Lytle had lived in Omaha for more than forty years, and had been active in many ways in connection with the growth of the city.

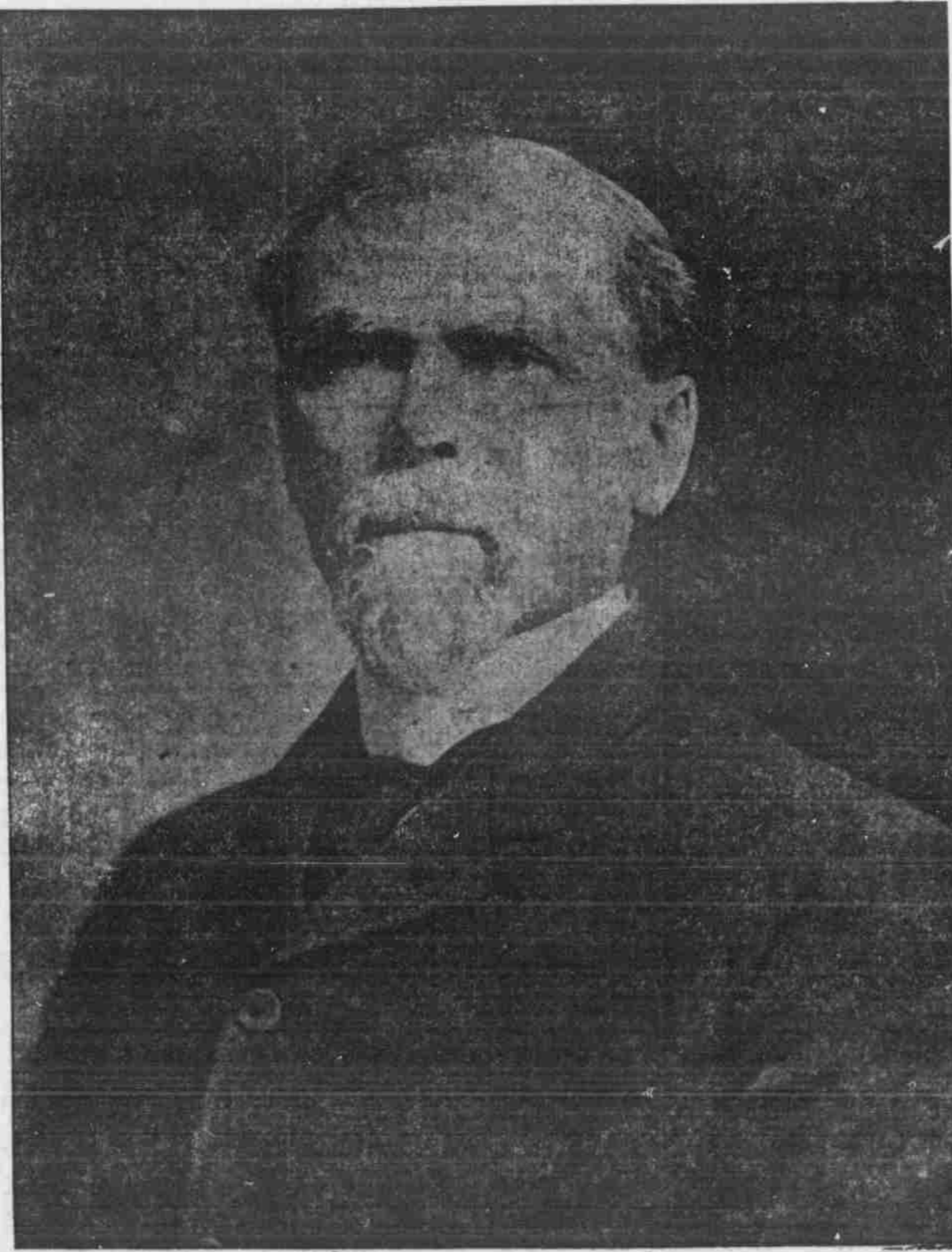
## Coburn the Latest of Kansas Senators

**F**OR more than fifty years Kansas has regularly come into the limelight on the stage of American politics. The strenuousity that marked the erection of the territory, and then the state, has not diminished with the passage of time, but the enthusiastic zeal of the people down there seems to have increased. Each year a new and picturesque figure is given to the national galaxy of statesmen and lawmakers, and for 1906 the offering is Foster Dwight Coburn, who has been appointed United States senator by Governor Hoch to fill the unexpired portion of the term of Joseph Ralph Burton, who has resigned to escape expulsion from that august body. Coburn is hardly known to politics, but he is known wherever agri-

culture is respected. His years of service in the cause of the farmers of Kansas in particular and the world in general have been busy and fruitful. He has become an authority on all matters pertaining to the farm in its every avenue, and especially with regard to accurate reports of yields of different grains, the value of farm stock and other factors. His personal reputation in this line exceeds that of any man in this country, and he is held in all but reverence by the farmers of the west for his ability and achievements.

Foster Dwight Coburn was born in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, May 4, 1846. His education was obtained in the common schools and he served in the civil war, enlisting in the One Hundred and Thirty-fifth and later in the Sixty-second Illinois

infantry. He removed to Kansas in 1867 and engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1882 he was appointed secretary of the State Board of Agriculture. He resigned this position to become editor of the Live Stock Indicator, published at Kansas City, and was again appointed secretary to the Board of Agriculture in 1894. Since that time he has held this position by common consent. He has also been a member of the board of regents of the State Agricultural college, and has published several standard books on live stock and agricultural topics. In 1904 he was "loaned" by the state of Kansas to the World's Columbian exposition at St. Louis, where he planned and organized the greatest live stock show ever held.



FOSTER DWIGHT COBURN.

## Quaint Happenings of Every Day Life

**A**rtistic Temperament Gone Wrong. ARONESS Marie De Galovics of New York did not seriously object when her husband, in fits of anger tied knots in her corset strings, because she considered him a man of strong artistic temperament. But when the baron took her across his knee and spanked her she concluded his artistic temperament went too far. So she had the baron pulled into court, where she told her troubles.

Thirty-eight and attractive, the baroness said she is the daughter of a South American Indian chief and bore the title of princess there. The baron, she said, is her third husband. A year ago, finding herself in great financial embarrassment, she opened a boarding house.

took a room. He told her that he was a singer with the Metropolitan opera forces and an Austrian nobleman, who had been a judge at Buda-Pesth. The ex-princess fell in love with him and they were married on April 17 last.

The baron, she said, soon began to show morbid symptoms of jealousy when she looked at any of the other boarders and at length she had to give up the boarding house. They moved, but the baron's jealousy continued. Whenever the baroness would go shopping the baron always insisted on going along. To keep her in he used to tie Gordian knots, not alone in her corsets, but in her shoe strings. "He ruined ever so many corsets and

shoe laces," she said. "It was really very trying. But I did not mind that so much as to be spanked. When he would see me sitting at the window he would come up and putting me over his knee give me such a spanking as I never got before. Now I want him to stop it."

The magistrate said he would hold the baron under \$500 bond to behave himself for six months. As he was about to be taken back to a cell, in default of bail, the baroness became remorseful. "If he'll be a good boy I'll take him back," she said. The baron stopped and with a fine gasp exclaimed rapturously: "My dear baroness, I'll never do it again." "Discharged!" said the judge.

### Train Passes Over a Child.

"Lie down, lie down," screamed Fireman Harry Hoover, from the pilot of his fast flying locomotive at Look Haven, Pa., to a little tot standing on the rails in front of the engine, and the little one fell like a small log and laid still while the entire Beech Creek accommodation swept over her and came to a stop three train lengths beyond. It was one of the most remarkable escapes from death ever known in the vicinity.

Hoover was off the locomotive before it had passed clear over the child, and he was on the tracks as the last car swept by, tearing the little child from between the ties. There the passengers and engi-

neer found him sitting on the track by the 3-year-old, almost beside himself with joy.

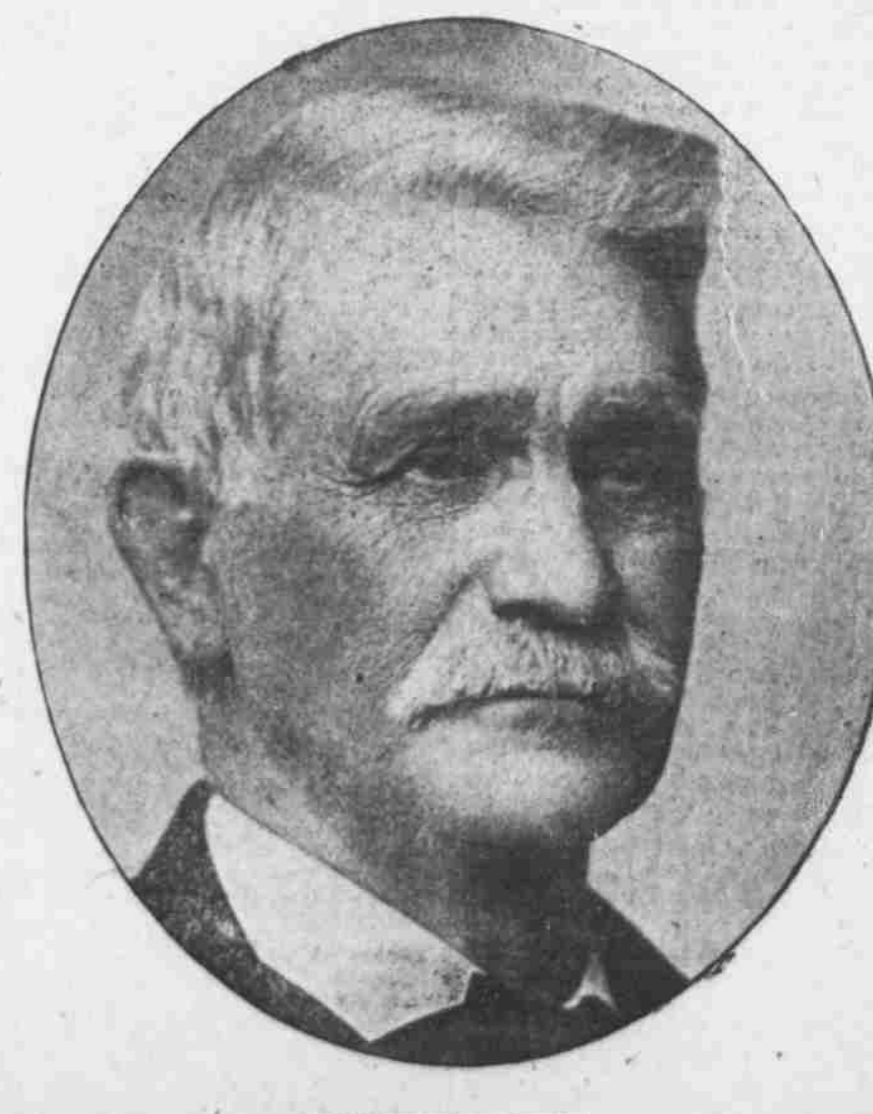
### Lively Church Social.

A waist measure social threatens to disrupt the Wesleyan church of Wilmerding, Pa., and all local society. The social was held last week by the Wilmerding Wesleyan society to raise funds for church work. Admission was 1 cent for every inch of girth showed by the tape measure. Refreshments were furnished free.

The social was a great success among the younger people, but older members of the Wesleyan community are raising a hue and cry. They declare that it has made the church ridiculous; that it savors of flippancy, and that the size of one's waist has nothing to do with the size of one's soul. A church trial for those who originated the social is threatened by some of the more radical of the conservative church members.

Nothing else has been talked of since the social. All the fat girls, it is alleged, pulled their corset strings a trifle tighter, and there are charges that a number of thin ones at their cost and consumed dried apples and water immediately before leaving home. The young man who handled the tape measure is accused of unnecessary slowness as he passed it around certain of the more beautiful forms.

All the young people have taken up arms in defense of the social. The war threatens to be something fierce.



JOHN WESLEY LYTLE.

### Two More Army Officers from Nebraska

**O**N Tuesday at West Point Military academy another class will be graduated. Two of its members are Nebraskans, one from Omaha and one from Beatrice. These young men both secure honorable positions in their class. Of them the Hovetter, the annual publication by the graduating class of the academy, says: "SCHULTZ, Hugo D. 'Schultz.' 'Goat,' Beatrice, Neb.; sergeant.

"The horn, the horn, the lusty horn is not a thing to laugh at scorn. After a few years' scrapping in the Philippines, this warrior bold was thrown off the train at Hurlingham. Here he specked enough to take the only exam he ever passed, and has been resting on his laurels ever since. 'Goat' entered in '01, but was such a good fellow that the academic board kept him back a year by

way of example to the youngsters. His motto has ever been, 'Never bone what you can bugie, and he has consistently lived up to it. He prepared at Lieutenant Iraden's and the University of Nebraska.' WARING, Roy E. 'Nuts,' Omaha, Neb.; corporal, acting sergeant; A. B.; outdoor meet (b). 'Our armies in Flanders swore terribly,' cried my Uncle Toby, 'but never aught like this.'

Spent his early life trying to outtell all the Indians west of the Missouri river, and we are inclined to believe he succeeded. Almost any day he may be seen executing his usual antics across the arena with some one in hot pursuit. 'Nuts' has defied all efforts at taming, and, though he says his F. C. S. is a railroad magnate, we have our doubts as to whether his administrative experience ever saw him tricker than an office boy. While preparing at Deans's academy he was known as the village bad man, and was under bonds to keep the peace. He was voted the wisest man in the class by unanimous ballot.



ROY F. WARING.



HUGO D. SCHULTZ.