80 Years Ago This Christmas Fort Benton, Montana, Was Named At Memorable Yuletide Party

Romance clings to our pioneer western names and events. And there is a pang of sorrow as one by one the old landmarks are razed to give way to the march of progress.

Some of the most fascinating tales of this section of the West are those of the Fort Benton Trail which linked Fort Benton, Montana, and Fort Macleod, Alberta. The old trail is pretty well gone today but the stories live on. Fort Benton itself is one of the romantic spots of the Northwest. Eighty years ago it was founded the event being made the occasion for a Christmas party that became a tradition. Soldiers, trappers and traders from Canada joined with the folks down in Montana in making this function a merry one.

The occasion is recalled in an article by Grace Stone Coates appearing in the Great Falls Tribune. The article follows:

Eighty years ago, on Christmas night, Maj. Alexander Culbertson gave a great celebration to all soldiers of Fort Lewis, to all the voyageurs and their families and all their friends.

He was celebrating the success of a long cherished project. He had carried through, under difficulty and discouragement and opposition, his plan to build an adobe fort instead of the usual log buildings of the American Fur company.

The Christmas festival of 1850 was a house warming at the first adobe building in Montana and signalized the triumph of Major Culbertson, who had salvaged the company from the desperate position in which mismanagement had placed it.

Kenneth McKenzie had compromised the company by exploiting the Indian traders and corrupting them with whisky. Chardon had jeopardized all the company had gained by years of fair dealing by discharging a load of shrapnel into a crowd of defenseless Blackfeet Indians who had come to the stockade to trade. With infinite patience and address, Culbertson had won back the favor of the Indian trappers. He had listened to the Crows' complaint that drift ice made it difficult for traders to bring their furs to the fort and promised them a new fort nearer their hunting grounds. Accordingly, he had settled a new site nearer the Teton river, seven miles below the present town of Fort Benton.

Old Fort Lewis had served since 1843. The new fort was ready in 1846 and the following season amply rewarded him for his attention to the Indians' request. So brisk was his trade with his newly cemented friends that the post's stock was exhausted even to all bedding and wearing apparel its garrison could spare. Everything was used for barter for the constantly arriving pelts. His shipment of buffalo hides alone amounted to 20,000.

Culbertson had seen Fort Laramie in Wyoming and admired the adobe building. With success already his, friendship with Indian traders assured and full control of the fur company's affairs in the west turned over to him he resolved to build another fort and build it of adobe.

The season was open and mild and the weather favored his plans. He found that clay near the location he had chosen was suitable for brick so he started work at once. Before the work was finished, the weather was freezing and the adobes had to be placed, undried, in the rising walls. There was always the possibility that they would not stand the strain put on them. But they held, and shortly before Christmas day the two-storey building was completed.

He issued invitations to all subordinates of the post, Canadian and French soldiers, trappers and voyageurs, and threw the big building open to Christmas jollity. Music and dancing, feasting, wine, flicker of fire on adobe walls, trinkets and rich pelt-ries for gifts. Triumph for Culbertson, who was still in his prime, and found success sweet—a man of 40, with 21 years of service for the company behind him and 12 years ahead.

At the climax of the gayety, hushing the uproar, Major Culbertson briefly recounted the services of old Senator Benton of Missouri, who had stood between the American Fur company and ruin in the bad days of 1844. He proposed that the new fort, the sturdy, sound adobe building, be from that time forth known as Fort Benton.

The new name passed from lip to lip first with whispered comment, then with a rising storm of applause. Violins struck up their tunes again and the dancers flew, shouting the name to the rhythm of their feet. And Fort Benton it became on every map.

Victor Record HITS



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Victor Records

Social & Personal News of Southern Alberta

Barons

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

BARONS, Dec. 11.—Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Peacocke entertained at dinner on Sunday, their guests being Mr. and Mrs. Joe Miller and son Jimmie, Mrs. Ben Hood, Mrs. Bill Linehan, Mrs. MacWilliams, all of Okotoks.

Mrs. Neville Kirk (nee Marie Hegan) of Macleod was in Barons on Monday calling on old friends.

Miss Dorothy Rasmussen of Lethbridge was a house guest of Mrs. A. P. Hughes over the week-end.

Mrs. Scott, mother of Roy Scott, of the pool elevator, left on Wednesday for Ontario, where she will reside in future.

Mrs. J. Blecklock returned from the Lethbridge hospital on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. MacMillan are the proud parents of a daughter born Dec. 10.

Glenwood

(From Our Own Correspondent)

GLENWOOD, Dec. 8. — Mrs. Fred Curtis of Montana is visiting her relatives here, Mrs. Emma Sherwood, her mother; Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Layton, and Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Dudley.

Miss Elma Nordstrom left Sunday morning for California to spend the winter and probably longer.

John Burgess and Peter Goetz have gone north to trap at Cold Lake and other points. They expect to be away from Glenwood a few months.

Mrs. Sarah Layton was sustained as second councillor to Mrs. Myrtle Williams in the Glenwood Primary association at church yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Beavis of Hillcrest were at Glenwood Sunday visiting relatives, the Leavitts and Beavises.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Toomer, from Magrath, are visiting friends, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Wood and Mr. and Mrs. Bert Quinton, here for a week or so.

Mrs. James Prince entertained a dozen or more little friends of her son Molloy, who was four years old last week. Candy, nuts and a pretty birthday cake were served as refreshments.

Most members of the Sunday school missionary class were entertained at a supper at Bishop Wood's home recently. Miss Nellie Foleman was hostess at supper. Games and music followed. The company present were Mr. and Mrs. Ken Byam, Bishop and his wife, Misses Jennie and Nina Law, Emily Stringam, Amy Shipley, Maralda Archbald, Elden Quinton, Wallace Archbald, Wallace Leavitt, Grant Thomas and Shirley Packard.

Nanton

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

NANTON, Dec. 7.—The Porter family, who for several weeks have been staying on the farm with Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Walker, are moving this afternoon into Nanton into the house recently occupied by Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Blake.

The regular monthly meeting of the W.A. was held on Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. A. E. Davis with an encouraging attendance. Little business was transacted, but all were interested in the treasurer's report relative to the recent bazaar, which showed that the W.A. had taken in on this occasion upwards of $150.

The U.F.W.A. bazaar advertised to be held in St. Andrew's hall on Saturday afternoon, drew a large crowd. The conveners for the different booths, who for several days have been busy getting ready for this event, must have felt gratified at the patronage received. The home cooking department was represented by Mesdames W. T. Hobart, Edward Montgomery and Mrs. Jewell; th sewing department by Mrs. Frank Brown, Mrs. R. McPherson and Mrs. J. S. Blake. Behind the candy table with its many tempting little boxes stood Mesdames John May, Mart Wagner, and A. T. Lemley. The most eagerly-sought place at the bazaar was, perhaps, the postoffice, where parcels were distributed to those presenting cards, adults paying for these 25 cents, and children 15 cents. Long before the bazaar was over, the post office was declared to be closed.

The serving of tea, cake and ice cream kept a large number of ladies busy from 3 to 5.30. The fine-looking box of apples which was raffled for 10 cents a chance was won by Mrs. Archie Slade.

The regular monthly meeting of the U.F.A. was held above the Co-operative store on Saturday afternoon last, with R. M. Walker in the chair and Hart Loree as secretary. For some unaccountable reason D. M. Mulin, managing director for the Alberta Oil Consumers' association, failed to appear. An effort will be made to have him address the next meeting of the organization, which will be held on Dec. 20.

Miss Clay, of the United Chautauqua of Canada, requested the privilege of a brief audience. She said she had what she felt would be regarded as an attractive proposition for 1932, viz: a four-day summer program of high-class entertainment, the contract price $575, with a maximum guarantee from the local guarantors of $250. We will send three tent boys, and about ten days before Chautauqu, two or three girls who will sell tickets in the town and surrounding comunity. Any money resulting from the sale of tickets, and that taken on the ground above the contract price, to be divided equally. After hearing Miss Clay it was decided to get into touch with the guarantors for the 1931 contract, and discuss the four-day proposition at the next meeting of the U.F.A.

Rinard

(From Our Own Correspondent)

RINARD, Dec. 6. — Mr. A. Wiggill, who has been very sick in the Cardston hospital, is now staying in Kimball, gradually recovering.

Sympathy of the neighbors is extended to Mrs. R. McMullen, jr., on the sad death of her mother in Medicine Hat recently.

Quite a number from district and surrounding points shipped their turkeys to Cardston creamery this week. Good prices were received for large No. 1 birds, but as there were many smaller birds with consequent lower grades, some disappointment is expressed.

A new Hungarian family has moved to H. Wagner's farm to carry on operations.

Miss Vivian Peterson is attending high school at Welling.

D. Campbell is taking a course in barbering at Calgary this winter.

The contract for hauling coal to the Rinard school has been given to Wm. Perry, as he gave satisfaction during the last year.

Mrs. J. Secretan is a patient in the Cardston hospital.

Mrs. Joe Powell has been visiting friends in Cardston during the week.

Houle Gum, Chinese merchant, is improving his store in the Gap.

Del Bonita

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

DEL BONITA, Dec. 8—W. Newton, J. P., left for Cardston on Wednesday, the 3rd inst., to have his tonsils removed, Dr. Molloy being in charge.

F. A. Allen and son motored to Calgary Saturday last.

A very successful social evening was held in the Shanks Lake schoolhouse on Friday. A lovely moonlight night brought out the crowd of merry-makers.

A. A. Fisher is in Lethbridge this week under the care of his doctor.

Ray Seale is not improving, and a change of air is deemed necessary. Mr. and Mrs. Seale with baby left for Seattle on Saturday. Mr. Weiss drove them in his car to the train.

O. Weiss and party have returned from an enjoyable deer hunt. Mr. Weiss secured one deer.

Mrs. Weiss of Del Bonita was the guest of Mrs. Woods of Magrath during the past week. Mrs. Powlesland spent Monday and Tuesday with Mrs. Shauss of Magrath.

Mr. and Mrs. Allen, Miss Welby and O. Allen were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Hitt in their new home.

Messrs. Ferries, Jinks and Powelsland were Lethbridge visitors.

Messrs. Grant Ferries, Roland and Horatio Swallow, Mr. and Mrs. Swanson with their daughter June, J. Alton and R. Vale, D. Wallace, Roland and Gordon Wiley, Mrs. Allen, O. Allen, Miss Welby, Mr. Helgerson and A. Clinton were Magrath visitors Tuesday of last week.

Blackie

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

BLACKIE, Dec. 8.—Jack Gall, of Oyen, was in town last week with old friends.

Mrs. John Wilson and family, Mrs. T. Nash and Stanley were Calgary visitors on Tuesday.

Miss Mary Stewart was the guest of her parents for the week-end.

About 23 members were present on Wednesday evening, Dec. 3, when the W.I. met at the home of Mrs. (Dr.) Murray. The election of officers took place, and the following members were again elected: President, Mrs. C. L. Roebuck; vice-president, Mrs. Harry Andrews; secretary, Mrs. Fred Rockefellow, jr.; treasurer, Mrs. Wm. Dancey. After the usual business six tables of bridge were played and the winners were; first, Miss Dorothy Andrews; second, Mrs. McMahon; highest average score, Mrs. Fred Rockafellow, Jr.; consolation, Mrs. Harry Andrews. After lunch was served by the hostesses, Christmas gifts were exchanged by those present, which created much fun and ended a most enjoyable evening.

At a meeting of Granite lodge, No. 127, A.F. and A.M. held in the Masonic hall on Wednesday, Dec. 3, the following officers were duly elected for the ensuing year: Don B. Leyden, W.M.; M. C. Burke, I.P.M.; F. C. Dougherty, S.W.; J. M. Arnold, J.W.; E. Wellman, treasurer; Harry Andrews, secretary.

Rev. J. J. Farquhar of Brant was the preacher at the United church on Sunday last.

Recent visitors in Calgary were: Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kelly, Mrs. W. A. Acton, Rev. D. Reid, Miss Margaret Reid, Mr. A. E. Ricker, Miss Heffernan, Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Jenson, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Bucher and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Schmidt, Mrs. G. R. Metcalfe.

Varsity Notes

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, Dec. 10.—The eleventh annual Inter-Year Play competition was presented by the Dramatic society at the University of Alberta last week. The presentations this year afforded much pleasure and diversified entertainment to the large number of enthusiasts which was assembled.

The university orchestra under Mrs. J. B. Carmichael played Friml's Three Musketeers, and at its close the curtain went up for the Freshman play, "The Warrior's Husband" which had its setting on a battle-field before the camp of the Amazons. This was a lively, exuberant comedy and was well received. Its cast consisted of Margaret Craig—Hippolyte, Queen of the Amazons; Lewis Thomas—Homo, her husband; Ethel Miller—Antiope; Veeda Haddigan—Buria, Armor-bearer to Hippolyte; Leo Kunellus—Hercules; George Poole—Theseus; Bob Berkoff, a Grecian Herald; Beth Carscallen, an Amazon warrior; and Mona Kane, Dorothy Browning, Jean Schurer, and Allison Grant who made up the Amazon Guard. The play was directed by H. B. Binny, aided by a committee—Helen Barry and A. Irwin.

The second presentation, that of the Juniors, was the "Drums of Oude," by Austin Strong. This is a drama of the late nineteenth century, its setting being in India, during the time of the mutiny. The suspense of the situation was well sustained throughout, but the climax at the end was weak, which detracted greatly from the finish of the performance. The cast consisted of Capt. Hector McGregor—Chris Jackson; Lieut. Alan Hartley—C. McKim; Sergeant McDougall—Bill Odynski; Mrs. Jack Clayton—Gwen Pharis; Stewart, a sentry—Bill King: Two Hindustan Servants—Morley Tuttle and Francis Elliott. The play was directed by George Hamilton, with the aid of a committee consisting of A. Harmon, Jean Greig, Dorothy Riley and A. Dohry.

"Prince Gabby" by Jane Murfin was the Sophomore play, a modern little comedy depending upon dialogue. This was a very finished performance. Miss Priscilla Hammond took the part of Mrs. Canton very charmingly while T. C. Bryne as Mr. Canton and J. A. Ferrell as the burglar handled their roles in an easy, delightful manner.

The final presentation, "The Monkey's Paw" presented by the senior class was the most finished performance of the evening and to the senior class was awarded the much coveted shield. This play, by W. W. Jacobs has a tense, tragic atmosphere which is very difficult to sustain and the seniors held the audience from the first. Nona Nicholls in the role of Mrs. White did exceptionally fine work; and Cyril Pyrcz as Mr. White is to be highly commended. The supporting cast included Dennis Healy—Herbert; Reuben Jesperson—Sergeant Major Morris; Eddie Foy as Mr. Sampson, and all helped to make the play a success. This play was directed by Ian S. Macdonald. The senior committee consisted of Doris Dunham and I. Macdonald and Art McLennan acted as stage manager.

When the curtain went down of the last scene of "The Monkey's Paw" the University symphony orchestra played several selections in the interval awaiting the judge's decision. The judges, Mrs. Hyndman, Professor Adam, and Dr. Keeping after some discussion announced the awarding of the shield to the senior class for "The Monkey's Paw". They chose Miss Nona Nichols, who had taken the role of Mrs. White in that play as the best actress of the evening; Mr. Chris Jackson who gave a splendid performance as Captain McGregor in the "Drums of Oude" was chosen as the best actor.

Southern Alberta students are beginning to think about that delightful day, when with Christmas exams. behind them they will be leaving for a vacation at home. Lectures and tests close on the 19th this year and plans and reservations are already being made. Among the students from the south who will be returning home for their vacations are Miss Doris Dunham, Miss Evelyn Shillington, Miss Jennie Hocking, Miss Winogene Brandow, Miss Doris Coutney, Miss Gwen Pharis, Miss Hilda McEwan, Donald McNab, George Meech, Bud Millar, D. Ostlund, Wayne Matkin, S. Moscovich.

City Given Clean Bill of Health For Month November

Lethbridge had a clean bill of health in the month of November in the absence of contagious and infectious diseases, as shown by the report of Dr. Lafferty, medical officer of health.

The birth exceeded the death rate in the month. There were 63 births as compared with 43 in November last year; 22 marriages as compared with 28; and 14 deaths as compared with 27.

City Water

Examination of city water showed no traces of B Coli. The highest count of bacteria was 10 and the lowest 0, with an average of 3.

Milk Examinations

Name—	Butter Fat
Hodgener	3.8
Pavan	3.7
Dow	3.7
Crystal	3.6
Fabbi	3.2

Isolation Hospital

Patients remaining end Oct., 1930:	
Scarlet Fever	1
Patients admitted during November:	
Mumps	1
Whooping Cough	1
Patients discharged during Oct....	2
Patients remaining end November:	
Mumps	1
No. of Hospital Days	21

Turner Valley Oil For Year Worth Millions

Turner Valley's production for 1930 will be approximately 1,284,762 barrels, valued at about $4,396,667.00, provided the production figures for December remain at the same level as those for November, which have just been announced.

Up to the end of November, the oilfield produced during the eleven months of 1930 a total of 1,152,475 barrels of oil, mainly naphtha, valued at approximately $4,033,666.00. The November production was 132,287 barrels, valued at $453,004.50. These figures added to the totals for eleven months give the approximate production and value of production for 1930.

The value of production from Turner Valley in 1930 increased to the extent of approximately $3,234,205,000 from 1927. During that period the production was more than tripled.

The following table gives the production and approximate value for the past four years:

Year.	Production.	Value.
1927	332,132	$1,162,462.00
1928	481,645	$1,685,757.00
1929	951,645	$3,330,757.50
1930	1,284,762	$4,396,667.00

THE NEW Capitol Theatre

LAST SHOWING TONIGHT
"BULLDOG" DRUMMOND BACK!
His latest adventures are filled with greater thrills and bigger laughs than ever.

TEMPLE TOWER

with KENNETH McKENNA
Marceline Day
Henry B. Walthall
MYSTERY
THRILLS
LAUGHS GALORE

ADDED
FOX NEWS
PEEP IN THE DEEP
Comedy Scream
SONG CARTOON

EMPRESS Entertainment
TODAY AND SAT.



A COLUMBIA Picture
with JACK HOLT DOROTHY REVIER
DIRECTED BY HARRY JOE BROWN

How he hated her!
His love turned to rage when she squealed on him—then he learned why she did it!
Gripping drama—thrills—Chilling suspense!

The SQUEALER

NO. 3—"THE LIGHTNING EXPRESS":
"Dangerous Rails"
ADDED: COMEDY SCREAM, "THE ELIGIBLE MR. BANGS"
ALL TALKING NEWS
OSWALD THE LUCKY RABBIT,
ONE VAUDEVILLE ACT THAT'S SURE TO PLEASE
MIDNIGHT SHOW AS USUAL.

Children's Matinee Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Admission 10c

COMING MONDAY
All Technicolor Special
"SWEET KITTY BELLAIRS"

Unaffiliated S. S. Students in City Will Be Listed

The controversial question of pupils of the Lethbridge schools attending Sunday schools in the city for religious instruction was brought up once more at the regular meeting of the board on Thursday evening, Chairman Virtue being its sponsor. At his suggestion the secretary of the Baptist Sunday school had written the superintendent of schools, requesting the names of those students not at present attending Sunday school, it being his intention to get in touch with them in an endeavor to induce them to enroll with some Sunday school.

The giving out of such names was opposed by Mr. Westbrook, who felt that in doing so the board would be exceeding its rights. The suggestion was made that the names of all school children be collected along with their various religious denominations and that this list be supplied all churches so that a check up could be made and the religious bodies each communicate with children of their own persuasion who did not attend Sunday school.

Other members of the board felt that this entailed too much work and the matter was left with the superintendent requested to compile a list of those students not attending Sunday school and that this list be made available to any religious body if requested.

Canada Enters Challenge For 1931 Davis Cup Series

TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 11.—Canada has forwarded her challenge for the Davis Cup series in the American zone in 1931. It has been announced by the council of the Canadian Lawn Tennis Association. It has been forwarded to the French Lawn Tennis Association.

OXFORD-CAMBRIDGE DRAW TWO GAMES

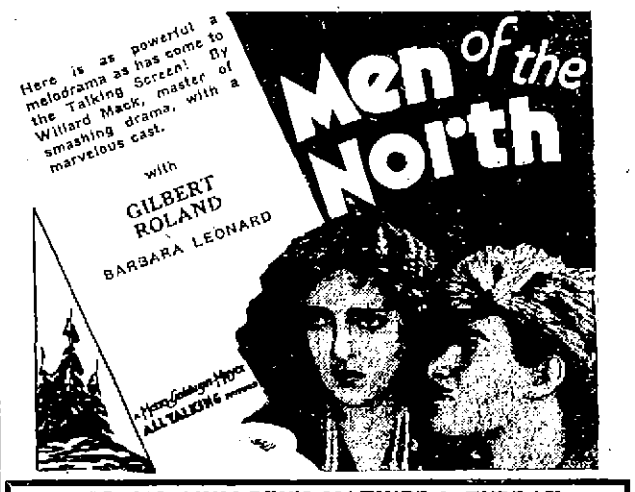
LONDON, Dec. 12.—Oxford and Cambridge have fought a drawn battle for university supremacy in both rugby and soccer football.

FLYERS IN NAPLES

NAPLES, Dec. 11.—(A.P.)—Miss Winnifred Spooner, British woman aviator, and her flying partner, Capt. E. C. Edwards, were warmly welcomed when they arrived here today, still showing wounds on their faces and bruises received when their plane made a forced landing last week in the Tyrrhenian Sea off Bel Monte Calabri. They go to Rome tomorrow to thank Italo Balbo, minister of aeronautics, for the aid he rendered them after their accident.

THE NEW Capitol Theatre

STARTS SATURDAY



SPECIAL CHILDREN'S MATINEE SATURDAY MORNING AT 10 A.M.—ADMISSION 10c
ALSO RADIO BROADCAST

ALSO

MICKEY MOUSE CARTOON | Charles Chase In "LOOSER THAN LOOSE" | PARAMOUNT SOUND NEWS

CHRISTMAS CHEER CONCERT

SUNDAY AT 9.15 P.M.
IN THE
Capitol Theatre

ASSISTING ARTISTS:
MRS. MARSHALL
GOLD MEDALIST AT MUSICAL FESTIVAL
MRS. BECKER
ELOCUTIONIST
MISS JANET McILVENA
MR. J. BERRY
MALE VOICE CHOIR
CONCERT ORCHESTRA
DIRECTION MR. GEO. BROWN
INSTRUMENTAL TRIO
SILVER COLLECTION
NO CHILDREN ADMITTED UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY PARENTS

ENTIRE PROCEEDS FOR CHRISTMAS CHEER FUND