

# Dakota Farmers Leader.

A Faithful LEADER in the Cause of Economy and Reform, the Defender of Truth and Justice, the Foe of Fraud and Corruption.

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CANTON, SOUTH DAKOTA, MONDAY, JULY 15, 1901.

\$1.00 PER ANNUM.

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is a fair index to one's social standing and a mighty pleasant place to visit three times a day—providing you are comfortable while sitting at the table.

Buy a set of our stylish,

Up-to-date Comfortable Chairs and one of Our Patent Extension Tables,

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John Anderson,  
Furniture and Carpets.

## ASSEMBLY A GRAND SUCCESS.

Enthusiastic Crowds Come from Far and Near and Honor the Occasion.

The Finest Talent in the Country Give a Magnificent Program Every Day—A Brief Sketch of What One Sees in Dobson Park.

The Canton Inter-State Epworth Assembly is drawing to a close under conditions which have brought words of praise and congratulation from hundreds who came from many distant points. The people of Canton and Lincoln county are especially proud of the glorious success so far, and, as the closing hours draw nigh, we predict the final good night and God bless you, on Sunday evening, July 14, to witness the end of one of the most successful



REV. J. O. DOBSON, D. D.  
Superintendent Canton Assembly.

annual Epworth Assembly meetings ever held in the northwest. Successful because of the numbers who attended, successful financially, successful in point of charming interest, successful as a great Christian educator, and finally a grand success as a means of furnishing the public a healthful and interesting amusement.

The task of giving anything like a detailed report of each session beyond the limits of any ordinary newspaper, but the LEADER will try and tell what occurred as fully as possible and note the many special features.

Reference has already been made in these columns to the great work performed by Presiding Elder Dobson and Rev. W. H. Jordan of Sioux Falls, Rev. A. C. Shepherd, Canton's talented pastor of the M. E. church, President Edgar Dean of the Assembly Organization, Secretary Emma L. Dahl, Treasurer Ed. L. Wendt, and the Canton members of the directory, Hon. C. B. Kennedy, W. J. Byrnes and Ernest Wendt. The above named represent the active pioneering workers who carried the great undertaking through to the end. Behind these stood the citizens of Canton to a man, and chief among the volunteers were Wm. M. Cuppett, Charles E. Judd, president of the First National Bank, Hon. A. R. Brown, Hon. Thomas Thorson, H. E. Thayer, Lars Wirstad and many others rendered valuable aid. To show how well they succeeded in this great work we will quote Bishop Joyce of Minneapolis, who stated to a LEADER representative as follows: "The Auditorium is one of the best I ever saw. I never saw anything better, and the architecture is tasteful." A very high compliment indeed coming from the President of the Epworth League, a gentleman who has traveled all over the world. The next compliment came from Prof. Baker of Iowa, the great Basso who said: "I have sung in seventy-two different auditoriums during my professional career, and I can state frankly that Canton's auditorium is the finest I ever appeared in."

These gentlemen are among the best judges of such a matter in the United States, and their verdict is conclusive proof of Canton's ambitious claim, that she has one of the largest and best appointed Auditoriums in the United States. It makes us all feel proud and the people of the state have just cause to rejoice with us in possessing a structure that will seat 4000 people and accommodate 5000 in an emergency.

We have briefly stated what we have to entertain the people in, and mention of the distinguished artists who have rendered the first annual session famous, is necessary in order that our friends who failed to attend may know what they missed and what in a general outline will be the order for a year hence.

Wednesday evening, July 3, almost the entire population of our beautiful city attended the opening and there were hundreds present from abroad. At the moment when Presiding Elder Dobson advanced to the front of the platform to announce the opening hymn, the great Auditorium presented a picture of wonderful beauty. It was indeed a brilliant scene. Flags, banners and bunting in profusion all

around the great circle, and over the platform the word "Welcome" in enormous letters designed in outline with small flags on a white background, greeted the admiring multitude. Six immense arc and twenty-seven incandescent lights in the brilliancy of a noontide sun completed the glorious picture by which three thousand people could admire the beauty of the structure in all its strength and massive proportions. As the expiring notes of "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" were echoed back from the river wooded banks of the Iowa shore, an admiring audience realized that the Canton Inter-State Epworth Assembly was a "thing of life" and a joy for future generations to admire.

Elder Dobson called upon Pastor Shepherd to invoke the divine blessing and eloquently and earnestly did he beseech God's aid in the glorious work and blessing upon all connected with it.

A piano selection by J. Homer Grunn, a brilliant young artist, opened the musical part of the program, followed by Grace Gertrude Webster in a reading selection, which was rendered in a manner that gained applause and appreciation from the audience. Next came Prof. Baker, the great Basso, humorist and reader, with a song that made him a favorite day and night since. These artists each responded to an encore. Addresses of welcome by Hon. Arthur R. Brown, and Hon. C. B. Kennedy, gems of intellectual brilliancy in their line, were responded to by Rev. Lachlan Mac Lean and Rev. G. F. Hopkins, men eminent and earnest in the cause of Christ. They spoke eloquently and in words full of gladness and admiration for the Christian Spirit and splendid purpose which made it possible for them to come to Canton on such a joyous occasion.



REV. A. C. SHEPHERD,  
Superintendent of Grounds.

We have been fortunate in securing a stenographic brief of Judge Kennedy's address of welcome which we reproduce.

Dr. J. O. Dobson, ministers of the gospel, members of the Epworth League and fellow citizens: I am rejoiced to have the opportunity to welcome you all to this beautiful auditorium and grounds and city this evening. This is a grand day for the city of Canton and the state of South Dakota and for every man who loves his race and wishes for better and uplifting influences. When I look around this magnificent pavilion decorated with the national colors on the eve of the nation's anniversary of its natal day, my heart beats faster and with joy and I am proud that I am an American and a citizen of the United States. These are the country we all love, and to which all our hearts turn with loyalty, although young in years, is mighty in accomplishment. It now stands out before the whole world as a world power to be reckoned with and is regarded as the very foremost in potentiality in resource in art, invention, literature and excellence in the science of government. This grand position was made possible because the government was founded on the eternal principles of right and justice and the operation of these principles on the activities of the people has made the great national success possible.

It is but a few years when this grand young state of South Dakota was known only to the redman, the buffalo, and the kite; now it is the marvel of the country on account of its vast resources. Its grand fundamental law and accomplishment of its citizens in these few years in building up a great commonwealth and developing its great resources. This development and success is due to the determination of its people to follow the rule of right. I am proud to be a citizen of this grand young state and to have been present and added my mite to its upbuilding. I well remember the first time I viewed the valley of the Sioux. I came over the hills from the east and when my eyes rested on the beautiful expanse of rich and slightly undulating prairie land stretching from the Sioux west as far as eye could reach; when I viewed the stunted Sioux fringed with beautiful trees, winding its way from the north to the south, I was impressed with the conviction that I had found

Continued on fourth page.

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Extra fine No. 1 fat trout per lb. 10c.  
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FARMERS IMPLEMENT & SUPPLY CO.

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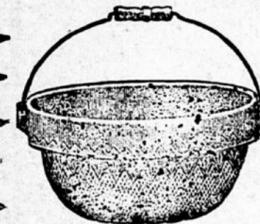
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