

THE CANTON LEADER

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Shall We Have State Life Insurance.

From the increasing evidence of graft practiced by the managers of the Equitable, New York and Mutual life insurance companies of New York City, the time seems to be near when the present system of life insurance must be changed to one that will give the insured absolute protection against graft and robbery.

The three big companies above named represent about thirteen hundred million dollars belonging to the policy holders, yet from the startling disclosures forced from the management, it is quite plain that the policy holders, the owners of this great wealth, have as little to say about the disposition of the principal and surplus as the varietal tramp who holds out his hat for pennies on a Wall street corner. Thomas W. Lawson figures out that one hundred and fifty million dollars has been stolen from the policy holders by the management of these big mutual companies, and we believe Mr. Lawson is not far from the actual figures.

What protection have the policy holders against the official looters? What protection can they get under this infamous system?

President Roosevelt favors some kind of government supervision of all life insurance, and so far as public opinion goes, this would be a vast improvement over the dark lantern hoodling, but will it bring life insurance to a full and perfect condition whereby the insured can reap a just and equitable reward from their investment. We think not.

From the crooked manipulation of books and checks as practiced by McCall and McCurdy, and others, government inspectors could not prevent fraud, and fraud will never be wiped out while greedy opportunity is open to the personal and unrestricted control of millions of the people's money. Those insurance kings were no doubt honest enough when they began to handle the affairs of their companies in a modest way, but hundreds of millions and opportunity without restraint led them to commit questionable transactions through favoritism until through arrogance and self imposed power they gave away or converted to selfish ends millions of the people's money.

The disgraceful exposures now going on in New York has stupified the honest manhood of the nation, and no doubt the blackest transactions are yet to be exposed.

How shall we find an honest and safe system of life insurance?

Why should we not seek relief through the state?

National life insurance might be one way out of the present muddle, but we hold that a system of life insurance by the state would be less cumbersome and more local in its nature.

We trust the state absolutely in financial transactions and know that our money is safeguarded.

It may be socialist in its face, but a state department of life insurance would meet a responsive echo in the heart of every man whose looking for life insurance at a reasonable rate with a guarantee that every man thus insured would receive justice and his dues. A superintendent under pay by the state or on a fixed salary could have no motive or power to be dishonest, because the strong arm of the state would safeguard the accumulating wealth and disburse it under a carefully drawn statute.

The surplus millions of the big New York companies led the high salaried officials to assume autocratic powers, but under state management these temptations and powers could never exist. The state is the people, and servants of the people would be compelled to publicity at stated periods, and thus a department of life insurance could be operated at a trifling expense—without \$100,000 salaries, or side grants to favorites, or campaign contributions or fabulous attorney fees.

State life insurance could be carried for one half what it now costs in old line companies, and nearly all industries people could afford to protect their families against want. The scheme may seem a little in advance of the times, but we are firm in the belief that state life insurance will come, because individual control of the peoples life money is proven to be a gigantic fraud.

The vast sums of money sent out of this state and every state, every year, to help swell the coffers of Wall street manipulators and trust companies of the east could be kept within the state and used to the direct advantage of the home people.

There is nothing in the constitution to prevent the state from assuming the responsibility and management of such a business, and a discussion of such a measure will do no harm, because the best and cheapest and safest system of life insurance concerns the welfare of the nation.

Already an effort is being made to get the governors of the several states to act as a protective committee in the interest of the policy-holders of the big companies and help to compel those companies to make restitution of the vast sums of money stolen. This is one way to right a wrong but in the litigation that will follow the policyholders will be fighting their own money. In the face of all this trouble let us turn our atten-

tion to life insurance conducted by the state.

Shall South Dakota lead the way and blaze a path through the snares and corruption of the old line system to one of safety through state control?

The board of regents of education held a meeting at Sioux Falls with the heads of all the state normal schools and State Superintendent Ramer to consider the new five-year normal course which has been arranged for the state. Their work will also concern the study courses of the sectarian schools, which are by law placed on an equal footing with the state schools, where the course of study covers the same ground as that pursued in the state schools.

It is reported that our old friend and ex-county clerk, E. S. Beck, has bought the Harrisburg Journal and will be the power behind the editorial quill from this time onward. Bro. Beck will find that running a newspaper is no easy task, but we wish him great success in his new field of work. The late editor, Mr. Otis, goes west after the setting sun.

We take pleasure in calling attention to Hon. A. L. Van Osdel's Pike's Peak "Panorama," printed on the first page. It's a master piece descriptive of the beauties and grandeur of nature as seen from that stupendous snow capped peak sitting alone as one of the sentinels of the western world. Mr. Van Osdel's descriptive powers are elegantly displayed in this bit of Pike's Peak painting.

The Inwood Herald special edition is at hand and it gives evidence of a great amount of hard work. It is a creditable publication for any country town, but those big editions are not money-makers. Postmaster Mak is the handsomest man in the gallery of handsome faces, and Sam did his share in getting up the boom edition.

The London Mail tells of a strip of land at Piccadilly and St. James street which has been sold at the rate of £34 3s 4d a square foot, or "the enormous sum of £1,488,300 per acre." In June last the Silliman corner at Wall and Broadway, New York, brought \$589,222 a square foot, or \$25,664,432.20 an acre. This is pretty fertile soil, but it wouldn't produce fifteen bushels of wheat.

The insurance grafters run less risk than the bank safe wreckers, but the safe blower has the best of it so far as courage and daring goes. One is a professional thief and the other is a professional scoundrel. One robs a bank safe with depositors money therein, the other robs the depositors deposits, and both classes should go behind prison bars when caught.

"Everybody works but father." Mother works him for sealskins, sister for a piano, Robert for a cool thousand, and the politicians, home missionaries, book agents and old furniture men work him to a finish. But father never works. He never gets a chance.

The annual ministerial conference of South Dakota Methodist churches will be held in Watertown Friday and Saturday, Oct. 20-21. The conference will be in charge of Bishop H. W. Warren of Denver, who will at its close announce the appointments for the ensuing year.

Murderer Wilson who is afraid he may die in the pen from consumption if not released, and for whom, Judge Aikens was seeking a pardon, failed to advance any good reason why the pen was not the best place for the brutal coward to die in, and the pardoning board denied the application.

In a recent address Vice President Weeks of the New York Life Insurance company remarked that thru "divine power" the company was "unconsciously solving the great problem of the century." It seems that there were others beside President Baer who were divinely guided.

The books show that the three McCurdy's have drawn out of the Mutual \$4,643,926 in the last twenty years. Nobody can compute what the next twenty would have been worth to them had not this fussy investigation been sprung.

The Norwegian Storting by a vote of 101 to 16, accepts the Karistad agreement for dissolution of the old union and the offer of the throne to a Bernadotte seems to have been dropped.

It seems that Hon. R. F. Pettigrew looks not with favor upon the Panama canal. He used to favor the canal as against Huntington. How things do change?

It is reported from Deadwood that Congressman Martin will make a few anti beef trust speeches before he goes to Washington.

Omaha can go to sleep now and take the alarm bells from her children—Pat Crowe is behind the bars.

F. M. Pelletier has resumed business in Sioux City, and there never was a more popular business man in that city.

The bank safe blowers are trying to keep even with the insurance grafters.

D. S. Guinter and his son Merrill, are back from Mitchell.

Why McCall Must Go.

The New York Press gives six reasons why McCall must go. They are based upon McCall's own confessions: First—That false statements were made, which is a crime.

Second—That money was paid to prevent unfavorable legislation, which is bribery.

Third—That money of policyholders was paid to get new policyholders; conversion of funds.

Fourth—That company money was paid to political committees, embezzlement.

Fifth—Bonds were sold one day and bought back the next to deceive the insurance department; fraud.

Sixth—That accounts of the New York Life were "looked"; forgery.

Bribery, conversion, embezzlement, fraud—that is a pretty large record for one man to live down at McCall's time of life. The Press believes his case demands release from further cares of office in order that he may give his attention to the litigation which will grow out of his acts and repentance and prayer.

Another Norway Surprise.

Last Sunday forenoon fifty seven friends and neighbors called on Mr. and Mrs. John J. Steensland at their elegant new home just west of Moe, and gave them a thorough surprise. The surprisers carried with them an abundance of good things and proceeded to prepare a dinner fit for the gods of ancient Greece. During the dinner hour, Mrs. O. J. Steensland, in a neat speech, presented Mrs. John Steensland with \$35, a gift from the surprisers and as a remembrance of the occasion. After Mrs. Steensland's speech the festivities continued until the supper hour arrived when another feast was spread and joy was unconfined until the surprisers departed for their several homes. Those present were:

Simon Ulrikson and wife, Thomas Ulrikson and wife, Knute Ulrikson and wife, Gilbert Thompson and wife, Theo. Thompson and wife, Bennie Sundvold and wife, Theo. Sundvold and wife, John Walquist and wife, Sander Brynjulson and wife, O. J. Steensland and wife, C. T. Hegness and wife, Iver O. Tvedt, P. Anderson, Mrs. Rev. Nummedal, Mrs. E. Wilson, Mrs. R. O. Tvedt, Mrs. Bert Thompson, Misses Mina Steensland, Anna Odegaard, Carrie Hanson, Bertha Wilson, Belle Wilson, Anna Larson, Clara Larson, Tillie Ulrikson, Inga Ulrikson, Gunnell Rikansrud, Emma Ekle and Albert Wilson, Jens Wilson, Lars Wilson, Olaf Sogn, Kasper Sogn, Wm. A. Larson, Anton Bakke, H. Pederson, Torkel Rikansrud, Sven Rikansrud, Chas. Ekle, Olat Ekle, Fred Feddersen, Rudolph Steensland, Paul Grevious, L. Eldness, Obel Ulrikson, Ole Ingebretsen.

President Nash of the Aberdeen Normal left for Aberdeen Thursday, after a brief visit at home on his return from Sioux Falls, where an educational session of Normal Presidents was held.

Miss Grace Van Vleet of Hartford, S. D., state corresponding secretary of the W. C. T. U. and state organizer of the "Y" branch, was in the city over Sunday. On Sunday morning she spoke in the Cong. church and the subject was "Service." Her address was helpful and very much appreciated. In the afternoon she spoke to a large number of children in the M. E. church, on the Loyal Temperance Legion work and methods as recently taken up by superintendents Wendt, Stowell Breerton and Shields. A L. T. L. has recently been organized here. Miss VanVleet spoke in the M. E. church in the evening. On Monday evening she addressed about 125 girls at the high school, her subject being: "If I were a Girl Again?" and in the evening she spoke at the Lutheran church when a fine audience greeted her. A quartet from the high school composed of Misses Ruth Gemmill, Maud Helme, Hester Anderson and Julia Bucheister furnished the music. Miss VanVleet is a charming lady and a most agreeable speaker.

Advertised Letters.

The following letters remained un-called for in the Canton postoffice on Saturday, October 7, 1905:

Anderson, Mrs. Bessie
Blakeslie, Geo.
Brown, Chas.
Crandall, M. S.
Crawford, J. S.
Evans, Harry C.
Graham, Niel D.
Jacobson, Isabell Mrs.
Johnson, Martin
Overland, Mr.
Smith, E. W. 17
Thorson, Miss Clara
In calling for the above list please say advertised.

T. T. SMITH, P. M.

Miss Hage's

Special Sale!
Saturday, Oct. 14.
Pattern Hats
Tailor Made Hats
Children's Hats
Elegant Goods.

Helga Hage.

MORE ROOM NEEDED.

The Puckett-Pidcoe Store Rooms to be Enlarged and Improved.

For a year or more Mr. Puckett, head of the Puckett-Pidcoe Co., has felt the pressing need of more room to accommodate the rapidly growing business, and this necessity increased so fast that Mr. Puckett and Mr. Ryan, the new member of the company, decided that the full limit of the lots was what their business demanded. The two lots cover a space of 132 by 50, and the present store room is something like 74x50. The new addition will be 32x50, leaving only room enough in the rear for a platform and driveway. The present rear wall and the partition between the dry goods and grocery department comes out, which will make a store room something like 50x106. In the rear center will be the cashier's office elevated, affording an open view of the entire store. The new addition will only be one story and will contain sky lights. Back of the dry goods department, in the addition, will be located a cloak room and a carpet room, and on the south side a sitting room and lavatory will be located.

A basement store room will be another important feature of the increasing demand for business facilities, and this will occupy the same space as the floor above. When the present improvements are completed, and that will be soon, the Puckett-Pidcoe Co., will have one of the finest and largest retail stores in the state.

Mr. Puckett began business here in 1894, when he purchased the Charlie Christopher stock of goods in the double store which is now about to be enlarged to meet the demands of a steadily growing business. Mr. Puckett by courteous treatment of customers, by honest goods and honest methods has built up a business that is a credit to his ability and judgement and an evidence of what comes from an honorable business personally conducted. Mr. Puckett won friends rapidly and his trade grew until he found it necessary to take a partner with whom he could divide some of the hard work required to manage such a business, and Mr. Pidcoe was taken into the firm which was then incorporated. Mr. Pidcoe's interest has recently been purchased by Mr. Ryan and the business will continue to grow. Mr. Ryan being in every way well qualified to divide the management and give special attention to the grocery department.

Death of Halvor Austin.

The subject of this sketch, Halvor Austin, was born in Tin, Telemarken, Norway, April 1, 1820. He came to this country in 1849, and after staying three years in Wisconsin moved to Fillmore county, Minn. He remained there less than a year when he moved to Winneshek county, Iowa, buying land near Decorah, where he lived till 1874.

In the spring of 1874, the Austin family, Herman Hermanson, Brynjulson and Mrs. Tollef Brynjulson started out with three wagons and made the trip from Winneshek county to the Sioux river, across Northern Iowa.

Mr. Austin bought land along the Sioux river shortly after arriving, upon which he lived ever since.

Shortly after his arrival in this country, and during his stay in Wisconsin, he was married to Miss Karl Peterson. This union was blessed with seven children, three of whom died while quite young.

Halvor Austin was physically quite a large man, strong and robust, with a rugged constitution. He was a worker, and the writer has often heard it related that during the early days he very often did two men's work.

He was a true christian, a devoted husband and father, loved and honored by all who came in contact with him. Meekness and peacefulness were the characteristics of his personality.

He died October 9, 1905 aged 85 years 6 months and 9 days and was interred at the Beloit cemetery on Wednesday October 11. The funeral which was largely attended, was held at the home of his son, Peter Anstin and the services were conducted by Rev. S. J. Nummedal. The children of the deceased are: Peter H. Austin, Sioux county, Mrs. J. L. Norris, of Lawton, Oklahoma, Andrew C. Austin of Mexico City, Mexico, and Mrs. H. W. Rogness, of Norway township.

The pall bearers were: P. A. Overseth, P. H. Hall, S. O. Groth, Thos. Anderson, Herman Hermanson, and Nels Torkelson.

Mike Hanson who comes to town once in a while to secure nose coloring and gets so much on that the marshal gets sight of his headlight and puts Mike away for safety. Mike worked out part of his last due bill and then made tracks through the brush like a bull moose in fly time. He came into town the other day in a repentant mood but the marshal was obliged to call on Mike for the balance of his due bill. Mike almost wept and the marshal's heart was sad, but Mike was given light work to square the account. He was sent along with J. L. Opperud to assist in putting a stove in the cooler and J. L. had to almost give bond for Mike's return but Mike looked so sad and so heartbroken that the marshal relented. J. L. and Mike loaded the stove and were crossing the track when Mike saw a chance to split a freight train and get away, and he went. Mike won't come to Canton for any nose paint for some time.



Up-to-Date Single and Double Breasted SUITS For Young Men.

Spitz & Schoenberg
Correct Clothes....

The best clothes made for young men and boys.

Perfect fit and satisfaction guaranteed
or your money refunded.

Suits Single and Double Breasted \$7 to \$18.

Overcoats \$5.00 to \$25.00.
Seely & Tank,

Proprietors UP-TO-DATE CLOTHING STORE.

NEW CABLE TO NEWFOUNDLAND

Now in Operation in Connection with the Postal Telegraph Co's Land Lines.

A submarine cable has just been completed between Newfoundland and The Commercial Cable Company's station at Canso, Nova Scotia, there connecting—through that company's cables to the United States—with the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company's land lines, and with the Canadian Pacific railway telegraphs.

In this connection it might be well to state that since the Commercial Cable Company was established in 1884, since when, by remaining absolutely independent, it has effected a reduction of 50 per cent in cable rates. The excellent cable and telegraph service of this company is at your command. Canton office in connection with the LEADER.

Calfes Estray.

Four calves strayed from the farm of the subscriber northwest of Canton about the first of October. Three were red and one a roan. Those having said calves in their possession or know of them, will please notify HENRY COOPER.

Horses For Sale.

A span of matched gray horses, coming 8 years old, weighing 2600. Apply on the Major Dixon farm. 16-2 ERNEST AXELSSON.

A Quiet Wedding.

Grant Lyon of Inwood and Miss Mabel Buchanan of Shindler, were quietly married at the Congregational parsonage Tuesday afternoon by Rev. G. S. Evans. The groom is a prominent young gentleman at Inwood, where he is engaged in the grain business, and the bride is a sweet charming young lady, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Buchanan pioneer residents of Springdale township. After the ceremony in this city, the bride and groom were driven over to Inwood, accompanied by relatives, where a reception was held in the evening. The LEADER joins with their many friends in Canton in extending congratulations.

Winn Bennett Hurt.

The Vermillion University football team went down to Lincoln, Nebraska, to play the husky Corn huskers of that state. Vermillion was defeated but made a gallant fight, notwithstanding their inferiority in point of weight, and during the game Winn Bennett of this place, son of Millard Bennett, got his shoulder blade broken. Details are not obtainable. The game of foot ball and the college cane rushers are little short of pitched battles and the sport in these contests has been eliminated by the determination of the contestants to win at the risk of limb or life. It is hoped Mr. Bennett's injuries are no worse than reported.

Organ For Sale.

Good organ for sale cheap. Enquire of F. E. Ehredt. 16-2

Sings to Beat the Band.

The announcement of the coming of Morphy, "the man who sings to beat the band," and his band, to every city where he has not appeared, promptly gives rise to the question: "Can he really sing to beat the band?"

Replying to the question, it may be stated that Morphy not alone sings to beat the band, but he possesses another accomplishment, viz: that of perfect enunciation, which enables you to understand every word he sings, thereby giving you the benefit of the story intended by the author to be conveyed in the song.

There is not a musical act in existence today that is so inspiring and so thrilling as Morphy's act of singing with full military band accompaniment. It stirs the human emotions as no other musical act in the world. He makes a tremendous hit everywhere he appears, and is greeted with packed houses. His wonderful act is not duplicated by another singer in the world.

The popular nature of Morphy's program, both for the concert music and his songs, makes it appeal to everybody. The American people like to be entertained and not saddened, hence they like American music, and this class of music predominates in Morphy's program. Seats may be reserved in advance for this most extraordinary musical attraction, which is booked to appear in the Canton Opera House on Friday, Oct. 27.

Gudmund Skartvedt and J. Slosson have a handsome sign over their real estate office, and Ollie Hanson is the artist.

SHOES FOR ALL

We tried to get out of the shoe business but our customers protested so earnestly that we concluded to keep on selling the

Best Shoes Made

One lady customer said: "Don't do it, Mr. Lybarger, I have been getting my shoes here for years and I don't know what I shall do if you quit selling shoes." Many other customers expressed similar opinions. My constant aim for years has been to please customers, and an order went in at once for a stock of foot wear for both ladies and gents that will please my old customers and new ones.

It is the aim of the Dollar Saving Store to carry everything the people need, and when I say Dollar Saving Store, I mean it, and if you doubt my ability to SAVE YOU A DOLLAR, call and be convinced.

Buy a Dollar's Worth of Goods at this Store and Save 60c.

O. H. Lybarger's Dollar Saving Store

The Dollar Saving Store

The Dollar Saving Store