

ELKS BOOSTER EDITION B.P.O. ELKS

Volume "Thirty"

BISMARCK, N. D., APRIL 21, 1915

Price: One Smile

Elks Minstrels to be Banner Production

Fast and Snappy Show, Replete with Up-to-Date Features is Assured Theatre-Goers at the Auditorium Friday Night; Thousands of Dollars in Scenery and Costumes. Best Talent in City, Assisted by Miller, Draper and Byfield of N. Y. City, to Amuse Public.

"To be or not to be—that is the question," quoth Shakespeare many years ago. And so we did a little soliloquizing ourselves. First a suggestion, then consideration, later determination, and now realization. There remains nothing more but a word of thanks and appreciation, and a little tired smile or two to let you know we're "all in." It's "30" for us. Your handshake was a stimulant for that lazy feeling when we came in to wear out your office furniture, Mr. Advertiser. As we looked around us, and saw how each and every brother was throwing it "into high" to make this little effort a success, our hearts beat a little faster and we knew that B. P. O. E. meant just what it spells—Best People On Earth. BOOSTER COMMITTEE, C. H. Crockard, Chairman.

Bismarck Lodge 1199 Is in Fine Condition

Membership Now Numbers Over Two Hundred and Fifty; Maintains Handsomely Furnished Club Rooms; A Live Organization, Composed of Successful Business and Professional Men. While Not Yet Five Years Old, Lodge Shows Steady, Healthy Growth.

Lives there a man with soul so dead Who never to himself hath said: "Both for my own and family's sake, A bit of minstrelsy I'll take?"

If there exists on this terrestrial globe of ours a man—or a woman, for that matter—who never said it—well it's high time it is being not only said, but high time, too, that a little minstrelsy is being taken.

Got a grump at humanity? See the Elks' Big Minstrel and forget it! Ever have the blues? Visit the Elks' Minstrel and have them no more forever! Not getting along well with your wife? Go to the Elks' Minstrel and then back home and love her world without end, amen! Out of tune with the Creator and Creation? Go to the Elks' Minstrel and get keyed up to high "C" so that you can sing the praises of this beautiful old world in unison with those who never cease to rejoice that they are living in it and are a part of it! Got dyspepsia? You won't have it if you attend the Minstrel.

As a panacea for all ills, a good, old fashioned, way-down-south-in-Dixie minstrel has absolutely no competitor.

Anyway, here we are with our 1915 Elks' Big Minstrel, bigger and better than ever, and with a most appetizing menu of minstrelsy, especially designed to meet the demands of the most fastidious epicure. It will be served at the Auditorium Theatre on next Friday night, April 23, and replete with new and up-to-the-minute and a-minute-ahead features, the rehearsals as witnessed by the writer, guarantee beyond possibility of a doubt.



Men and things are getting busy at the theatre in preparation for this big event. Paper hangers, painters, ratcatchers, old clothes men, vacuum cleaners, and the local fire department are now at work making extra preparation to accommodate the big crowds. The side walls of the theatre are being pushed back, the roof raised, the floor dropped, and peep holes let in all around so as to let out the noise. The seating capacity will be increased to 2,371. Some seats have been greatly widened in order that visiting brethren of unusual avoirdupois may not be choked. These will be reserved for the heavyweights that come. Strong disinfecting germicides have been attached to the places where opera glasses ought to be and you are advised to use these freely after such jokes as may appear to require its application.

Miller & Draper, of New York City, under whose direction this show is presented, are the best known producers in the business. For fourteen years they have been staging Elks' Minstrels over the United States. During that time they made for Elks lodges approximately a half million dollars. (Should they fail to make

a half-million for Bismarck, No. 1199, there will be things doing not on the program.) The leading Elks, grand lodge officers, and the lodges where Miller and Draper have played, are enthusiastic in their endorsements. Harry Miller is an experienced show man of real value under whose system Elks' lodges have started home building funds, made big charity funds and furnished lodge rooms. Mr. Miller has a connection with the big-

gest publishers who supply him with the Cohan music he carries with his productions. Clint Draper comes to Bismarck well known as a performer of experience, having been with the leading minstrel productions of the country. He is one of the very best black-face comedians and dancers in the country, and under his tutelage, dancing acts of exceptional merit are staged at Elks' Minstrels. He is a real performer, a student of negro dialect, and will merit nothing but the most favorable criticism of those who know the southern negro in his home. Miller and Draper have invested thousands of dollars in scenery and costumes, all of which, making a full carload, have been brought to Bismarck for the coming minstrel.

Program—First Part
The curtain will arise upon a scene entitled "Carnival Night at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, 1915." The scenery for this was built and painted from drawings furnished by the architectural commission of the exposition. The scene represents the East Court of the Grand Court of Honor at the San Francisco Exposition, and is as authentic as canvas and paint can make it. The electrical effects

introduced render the scene one of unparalleled beauty and elegance, achieving a distinct triumph from an artistic standpoint, and giving a brief idea of what the great Exposition is.

Following the opening chorus, the "end men" and the balladists will early begin to get in their work. Joke will follow joke in quick succession, all of them localized to suit all sorts of conditions and men in this city and vicinity—and all who know anything at all about the ability of these comedians—and every-

body should, because they have an international reputation as well as a home reputation—may figure out in advance the side-splitting laughs that are in store.

The real test of a minstrel show, notwithstanding all the fun cropping out of the first part, is the Olio, or second part. Almost anybody can put on a pretty good first part. The Booster could do it itself, if it had a mind to. But most minstrels fall down woefully on the second part of the entertainment. This isn't going to be the case with Bismarck, No. 1199, however, as the second part bids fair to eclipse the first part.

No money has been spared and no stone has been left unturned to make this benefit one that will stand out for years to come as setting a new high water mark for affairs of this kind in this vicinity. The committee in charge wish to state emphatically that there never has been a minstrel show in the city of Bismarck, professional or otherwise, as well equipped in the richness of its costumes and scenery both for the performances and the parade. The local atmosphere will not be lost sight of, as the boys are hard at work lo-

While Bismarck Lodge Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, No. 1199, is one of the youngest lodges in the state and does not lay claim to a large membership, the enthusiasm of the individual members has never been questioned, and it is one of the best fixed financially in the state, and has as high a class of men in the ranks as it is possible to find.

Organization
On the evening of June 3, 1910, a little band of Elks, who had been members of other lodges over the state and United States, met in the N. D. N. G. Armory in Bismarck and there was born No. 1199.

District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler Palda of Minot Lodge, 1089, assisted by the officers of Dickinson Lodge No. 1187, took the offices of the special session of the Grand Lodge which instituted 1199 and installed the first set of officers, whose names and positions appear at the head of this column.

Secure Permanent Quarters.
The first was the only meeting that was held in the armory, as a committee was appointed at that time to look up rooms and they soon reported they had engaged rooms on Main street, known as Patterson's hall for their permanent headquarters.

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calling all the acts and jokes and some of the songs. This is one time when the public will get more than value of the price of admission asked in real enjoyment, besides benefiting a worthy cause.



WM. O'HARA
Grand Exalted Ruler



A. A. JONES
Esteemed Leading Knight



C. H. CROCKARD
Esteemed Loyal Knight



H. T. MURPHY
Esteemed Lecturing Knight