

THE EVENING TIMES

ESTABLISHED JANUARY, 1905

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Table with columns for DAILY and WEEKLY rates, including One Year, Six Months, and One Month options.

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WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 21, 1906



THIS DATE IN HISTORY

- 1274—Robert Bruce, King of Scotland, born.
1330—Edmond of Woodstock, Earl of Kent, beheaded.
1556—Archbishop Cranmer burned at Oxford.
1663—Archbishop Usher died.
1663—Charlotte Tremoville, Duchess of Derby, heroic defender of the Isle of Man, died.
1685—John Sebastian Bach born.
1775—Lucian Bonaparte born.
1791—Battle of Bangalore.
1801—Abercromby mortally wounded at battle of Alexandria.
1804—Duke of Enghien shot by order of Napoleon.
1829—Duel between Wellington and Winchelsea.
1843—Robert Southey, poet laureate, died.
1848—Abdication of King of Bavaria.
1867—Gathering of Fenians at St Albans, Vt.
1871—Marriage of Princess Louise and Marquis of Lorne.
1873—William Foster hanged in New York for murder of A. D. Putnam.
1881—Potchestrroom surrendered to the Boers.
1883—Destructive floods in Halifax.
1886—City of Helena, Ark., nearly destroyed by fire.
1891—Gen. Joseph E. Johnson of the Confederacy died. Born Feb. 3, 1807.
1891—Lawrence Barrett, actor, died. Born April 4, 1838.
1895—Chinese—Japanese peace conference begun at Shimonsu.
1897—Blockade of Crete began.

CITY TICKET

Republican.

- For Mayor—John Dinnie, For Maristral—J. R. Church, For City Justice—P. McLaughlin, For City Treasurer—T. J. Hagen.
FOR ALDERMEN.
Second Ward—C. H. Howard.
Third Ward—R. A. Sprague.
Fourth Ward—O. Knudson.
Fifth Ward—(Two years) W. A. Hill; (one year) Geo. W. Buck.
Sixth Ward—M. C. Peppie.

THE GAS QUESTION.

The city made its greatest advancement during the period Mr. Dinnie was mayor. All of the great public improvements were conceived and executed during that time save, perhaps, the water works with its filter, and the construction of the bridges across the Red river. Twelve or fifteen miles of pavement with the necessary grading and curbing were laid, two or three new sewer districts were erected and a number of miles both of main and lateral sewers constructed. The contract for the lighting of the streets with the gas company was cancelled and the city installed its own electric street lighting plant. New stacks were built at the pump house and a new pump was purchased at a cost with setting, etc., of about \$16,000. A fire engine was purchased and many other improvements and betterments were made, not practicable here to enumerate.

Each of these matters received the personal care and attention of Mr. Dinnie. No litigation followed the construction of the pavement or sewers such as ensued at Fargo. This may be attributed to the good judgment and peaceful disposition of our people as well as to the care and skill displayed in the selection of material and the requiring of complete compliance with the contracts.

With all these matters upon his hands there was little leisure for Mr. Dinnie to take up either the water works or the gas question until the latter portion of his term.

In 1903, however, we find he had given the matter attention and in April of that year he enumerated the various franchises outstanding theretofore granted by the city, in his message to the council and through it to the people of the city. After discussing these franchises, he says:

"With respect to the remaining franchises (i. e. the Grand Forks Gas & Electric Co. and others.) I suggest

an investigation as to whether or not the rights conveyed are assignable and that if not assignable and the original grantee be not exercising such rights, that the franchise be cancelled and that if the rights are being exercised by others they be required to apply for another franchise which should be granted upon the terms I have suggested.

"I recommend a further investigation having for its object the taking up and cancelling of all franchises enumerated (including the gas company) and the granting of new franchises upon equitable satisfactory terms."

When the present executive was inaugurated he was therefore, if a student of the history of the city, posted concerning the same and fully advised with respect to the various outstanding franchises and the proper and efficient method of dealing therewith.

The relation of a public utility corporation carrying on business under a franchise from the municipality is purely business. The franchise is a contract and the rights both of the municipality and of the company are contractual. In considering these rights there is room neither for sentiment nor for political passion nor bitterness. It is merely a business question and the aim of the city should be that the best service possible should be obtained for the citizens at the least cost and with adequate compensation to be paid by the company for the rights conferred upon it. The question of republicanism or of democracy, prohibition or of religion are all foreign and have no place in its consideration. These are truths open and patent to all, and such was the situation when the present mayor took office.

Nothing was done by him for about a year. In the spring of 1904 the city of Grand Forks was indebted to within about \$30,000 of the limit prescribed by the constitution. It had neither fire hall nor detention hospital. The city hall has gone to wreck and ruin and a fire had destroyed the council chamber.

With these conditions confronting him Mr. Duis caused to be introduced into the council an ordinance authorizing the vote upon the question of whether or not a municipal commercial lighting plant should be installed. He neither obtained nor presented to the council any estimate as to the probable cost thereof by engineers of repute or otherwise. He had no authentic information upon the subject himself. There being a tie vote upon the enactment of the ordinance, he held himself authorized to vote upon the question and declared the ordinance carried by a vote of 5 to 4. It is now urged by his followers, that this was an invalid ordinance, but if invalid, it was by reason of the act of Mr. Duis himself. A vote was taken by the people and Mr. Duis was authorized to issue \$30,000 in bonds for the purpose of installing a municipal lighting plant. Nothing has been done since that time. No plans have been prepared or presented either to the people or to the council. No specifications of the plant have been presented. There has been no estimate of the probable cost of installing such a system and there has been absolutely no attempt made to issue bonds or obtain bids therefor.

This is precisely the condition that was predicted a year ago by every man of ordinary common sense. It requires no lawyers to convince one who had given the matter the slightest thought that the vote of the people upon the proposition was absolutely and entirely futile and this was known to Mr. Duis when he caused to be placed the proposition upon the ballot.

Although at the time Mr. Duis took office he had before him in the official records of the city, the discussion of the identical question by his predecessors in which discussion the matter had been fully and completely covered, yet we find him falling entirely to appreciate the situation, ignoring the recommendations as to sound and efficient action and leading the people to believe that he could accomplish that which was absolutely impossible, and so known by him to be when he caused the futile steps to be taken.

After ignoring the vote of the people authorizing him to install the commercial plant for the period of eight or nine months the present executive feared the excitement he had stirred up by his bonding proposition might die out and he might fall to reap the

benefits he had anticipated therefrom.

Prior to this time the council had by resolution, introduced by Ald. Moran, authorized the commission to confer with the gas company and investigate existing conditions. While this resolution was not vetoed it yet did not meet with his approval and he did nothing to aid it, but on the contrary, by insinuation and imputations cast every obstacle in its way. This commission investigated the subject and as a result of its negotiations, procured a reduction in the price of gas. It accomplished something. It went through no useless motions. It had little power but that little power was used with tact and discretion which was in strict contrast with the methods adopted by Mr. Duis.

At the same meeting of the council authorizing the appointment of this commission a resolution was by it adopted requesting the opinion from the city attorney as to the validity of the franchise and the power of the city council to regulate the rates. This resolution was accorded the same reception by the mayor as was the resolution creating a commission. Both resolutions have been referred to by him and by his followers as being attempts to rob him of some credit in his so-called gas campaign. It is to steps of this character and to those who favor the same that he had spread broad cast his charges of corruption and venality written upon his own letter head and signed in his name.

The absurdity of the bonding proposition was soon apparent, for the amount which could be realized upon the credit of the city would not be greatly in excess of the sum that would be required to purchase the meters alone, without taking into consideration the installation of the plant. The proposition was therefore permitted to slumber. We hear nothing of it now except by way of excuses and explanations. While the opinion of the legal department was still under consideration and without waiting for its completion. Mr. Duis caused another ordinance to be introduced which last ordinance attempted to exercise the power of the state in regulating the price of gas. This was equally absurd with the bonding proposition. Before this ordinance came to its final vote the opinion of the legal department was furnished which opinion held the franchise void and the city to be without power to regulate rates. The latter question is clear and plain, and it is conceded the position of the legal department was absolutely correct and that the rate ordinance was a nullity.

In ones own private business affairs, one usually selects an attorney in whom he has confidence and follows his advice. This Mr. Duis does in his private affairs, but he deems some other rule more consistent with his ideas as to what would inure to his own advantage with respect to city affairs. Unable to question the validity of the opinion of the legal department, in fact conceding it to be sound, yet he attempted to run directly counter thereto and caused to be enacted by the council an invalid and void ordinance. Reasonable minds can draw but one inference or deduction from actions such as these.

Mr. Duis has deliberately ignored the recommendations made after careful consideration by his predecessors and which are uniformly deemed sound and correct. He has caused an election to be had for the issuance of bonds and after being authorized so to do he has accomplished nothing, nor has he even attempted to do anything. He has ignored absolutely the authority he requested and he has followed that by attempting to obtain from the council the exertion of a power not possessed by it. He has run directly counter to the opinion of the legal department of the city and of any attorney who has given the subject the least thought or attention. He has absolutely no warrant or backing in the position he assumes except that of some of his political followers and employees.

Although when inaugurated he had before him the plan which commends itself to every reasonable judgment, to wit: the recommendation for the cancellation of the franchise and the granting of a new one which shall adequately conserve the city's interest; a franchise that should be limited in terms with compensation for the rights conferred, and with a sufficient measure of control both over quality and price, he has refused and neglected to take advantage thereof.

What conclusion can be drawn from these facts?

What object is sought by him to be attained?

What excuse can justify futile and expensive proceedings, doomed to inevitable defeat?

A MASTER INGRATE.

It has ever been the policy of Winship to smite the hand that feeds him—after he gets possession of the grub. It was Alexander McKenzie who labored with Senator Hansbrough in behalf of Winship's appointment to the local land office job. The senator, after pointing out that Winship did not deserve the recognition, and that he was a notorious ingrate, yielded his

judgment, and Winship took the place, practically from McKenzie.

When Winship held office he treated McKenzie with much deference in his paper, and even went so far, on rare occasions, as to indirectly admit that the senator had been of much service to the state.

Finally, it became apparent that the land office must be abolished, and Winship saw that he would soon be out of a job. He resigned, and from that time forward McKenzie has been branded by the Herald as a bad man, a "boss" and a dangerous influence in state politics.

The "Looting of Alaska" story that Winship is now making use of against McKenzie in the hope of prejudicing those who are not familiar with the facts is only a fresh exhibition of Winship's hypocritical qualities. While McKenzie was in the toils of his San Francisco enemies, who were the real "looters of Alaska," Winship was on the Pacific coast enjoying the fruits of the job that McKenzie had gotten for him. He went to see the big Scotchman, and wrote home to his Herald a favorable review of the McKenzie side of the case. In this review he said, in substance, that McKenzie's punishment for contempt of court was most excessive and most extraordinary; that McKenzie, in resisting the court's order, had followed the advice of his attorney. It was really a warm indorsement of McKenzie, coming, as it did, from one of Winship's cold and selfish nature.

OUR DOMESTIC CARRYING TRADE.

Had not the age of impossibilities passed, the recent idea of making a great navigable waterway out of the Red River of the North, and establishing a new line of oceanic communication between America and Europe by way of the Hudson bay might be considered an Utopian dream.

It has, however, enough probability to give it a foundation in fact.

When James J. Hill first announced to the world that what had been considered the barren and frozen prairies of North Dakota would be converted into the richest farms upon which the sunshine of heaven ever fell, people laughed at his lack of judgment. Now he is reaping the rewards of that judgment in the accumulation of a fortune far greater than that of Croesus, and all the result of his belief that nothing is impossible.

The opening of the waterways for commerce is one of the great industrial problems of the age, principal of which is the Panama canal.

It is not impossible that the settlement of the Canadian northwest and the adding of that vast empire to the productive area of the world will demand a shorter water route to the consuming markets than is now afforded.

Geographically Hudson bay should become this route.

If the head waters of the Red river be so dammed that they would be utilized in the dry season to keep the water in the river at a navigable stage, it would certainly become a large commercial route by which the Hudson bay route to Europe would be largely fed.

Other rivers in Canada would serve the same purpose, but as a nation we need only be concerned in the river which would naturally affect our domestic carrying trade.

We may by statutory enactment prevent the development of an international commerce route, but such would always be artificial and is very much on the plan of legislating value in an article above its intrinsic value.

The commercial avenues to the east must be so developed that the products south of the line can be transported over them quicker and cheaper than they can over the one through Hudson bay. In a word, tide water must be brought as near on the east as it is on the north.

Unless this is done there must develop a commercial demand for a northern route. And it must be borne in mind that commerce in this age does not know the lines which divide kingdoms and empires.

Legislation may help but it does not control the markets of any country, much less does it have a hand in the making of routes.

With all the cry against railroads, it must be recognized that they employ a great army of people who must be fed by the producer thus making one of the great domestic markets. Let the traffic by which the railroads live be transferred to the other corners this army of consumers must be thrown on the producing classes, thereby increasing its production and at the same time decreasing its market. This in time, will drive all men back to the soil, where each will be able to provide only for his immediate wants because he will have no market for his surplus—a condition that is highly developed in all savage nations and to which some misguided social economists in this age are seeking to lead the masses.

It therefore behooves the people to take notice of the signs of the times and see that the great carrying trade is preserved for ourselves and that all its advantages accrue to us as a nation.

BUY AT HOME.

The large amount of building which will be done in the city during the present summer should make a large local business for the manufacturers of and dealers in building materials.

There is a constant protest against the man who passes by his local merchant and deals with an all order house. This protest is well founded and applies to every line of business.

Men in the city have invested money in brick making plants and in lumber yards and planing mills, in cement works and in hardware stores.

These men pay taxes and then assist in carrying on the local government. They employ labor and this labor spends its money with the local merchants and thus they help to keep up the business prosperity of the community.

Now, if these people can furnish the material required for the buildings in this city as cheaply and as of good quality as their outside competitors, then they should emphatically be given the trade.

Fortunately they are able to do this and thus the only excuse ever offered for dealing away from home is answered.

Under these conditions there is no reason why every particle of building material used in this city this summer should not be manufactured here. It would give employment to an increased number of people and would thus react advantageously on the business community.

The proprietor of the Plaindealer has arrived at the stage where, in support of his candidature for the mayoralty, he deems it necessary to write anonymous letters for publication in his feulcent sheet in his own behalf. In his communication in last evening's Plaindealer, however, he made the egregious blunder of signing the same "An Old Soldier"—as no old soldier, possessing a just claim to that honorable appellation, would hesitate to show his face to the enemy. This idea of stealing the livery of heaven for the purpose of serving the devil is possessed of no originality—"The Old Soldier" (?) to the contrary, notwithstanding. It has ever been a chief characteristic of deception and dishonesty to hide behind the mask of honorable titles in order to better serve reprehensible ends and aims. There will be few, if any, who will be deceived by a device of so hoary a nature.

That the Pee-Dee already recognizes the ghostliness of the approaching defeat of its master would seem to be evidenced by the following extract from the hysterical wall which it emitted last evening. Certain it is that no one, unless it be the descript writer and Omnipotence, may know to a certainty the exact meaning which the conglomerate jumble of words were intended to convey, but if it does not mean that he has already recognized the handwriting on the wall it simply means nothing at all: The calamity of defeat will come as an awful catastrophe to that element, and to behold its certain approach, which from the noticeable change of symptoms, it may be inferred it does, must be a terrible rack to its hitherto bombastic self-reliance.

The Herald strenuously insists that Mr. Dinnie's election means that the machinery of the city government will be used to further the interests of "the old gang"—although in what way it does not make clear. But in the event of Mr. Duis' election, then what? Is it not as reasonable to suppose that this new political gang, which Winship, Spalding, et al are frantically endeavoring to create, will be the beneficiaries? Else why should the Herald be so anxious for Duis' success? Is it because it can use him or merely for what there is in it?

The Herald's plea for the humane society to "get busy" is both pertinent and timely. The first case to claim the attention of that organization should be that of the alleged editor of the recently resurrected Plaindealer, who, from his continual vacuous maunderings, is evidently receiving far from the best of treatment. If there was ever a pitiable case, ripe for a prolonged sojourn in the home for the feeble-minded at Grafton, this must certainly be it.

NOTE AND COMMENT

The usual hard luck story can be expressed in the word laziness.

Peculiar that people will pay to listen to troubles on the stage that would bore them to death in real life.

When a wife sighs and looks resigned at the mention of her husband's name, the family skeleton comes into view.

Most people look blank when you talk about your conscience.

In the average family the daughter selects the wall paper pattern for the parlor and the mother that for the kitchen.

When a man talks about how near you came to stepping into a pitfall in

E. J. LANDER & CO. Real estate listings including B-720 \$1050, B-719 \$3200, 50-ft. \$250, B-716 \$1600, B-716 \$1600, B-596 \$2100, B-714 \$1500, 50-ft. \$175, B-715 \$500, B-619 \$350, B-713 \$550, B-698 \$1500, B-659 \$2300, B-649 \$1600, and FOR RENT 6-Room Flat - \$30, Store Room - \$50.

the past you can rest assured that he has been following in your footsteps.

Several Fargo families are swell'd with mumps.

The south believes in helping the negro up—by means of a rope.

Many people find consolation in the adage that the good die young.

When a woman finds work she can do sitting down she is sure of a rest.

When a vegetable can be converted into a salad it gets into the vegetable 400.

The mannish girl is usually a manless one also.

Whether or not a father is prepared for a rainy day depends on which arrived first—the daughter's wedding or the rainy day.

Some men have an idea that women are wasting their time except when they are cooking.

Many people are living on the reputation of their ancestors who would die on the reputation of their successors.

PULSE OF THE PRESS

A Reprehensible Practice. [Linton Record.]

It is a fashion with a few North Dakota newspapers to abuse and misrepresent our state officers and United States senators and representatives simply because the editor's ambition to hold an office has not been satisfied by the party leaders or the people. It is the custom with this class of editors—having no foundation for criticism of the official acts of those they oppose—to persistently seek to prejudice unthinking people against such officers by reiterating, "machine! machine!" At the present time such men as Winship, the rascal Murphy, who is not above beating country editors out of their subscription dues, and among the lesser lights a number of about the same mental caliber as our own political cherub, Patterson, are crying out against practically every one who holds office in the capitol at Bismarck, or who is serving the state at Washington. And yet, despite these ungenerous cries and abuse, the members of our delegation in congress are making a great game for themselves. The entire delegation is painstaking and hard-working. There isn't anything within the bounds of reason—be it an errand to a department or the presentation of a bill in their constituents' interest—that each and every one of them will not undertake for those at home whose servants they are. Take Senator McCumber, for instance, who was chosen by what the honest and consistent "reformer" down the street calls "the machine." This man McCumber is one of the strong men of the senate. He is able to hold his own in debate with any of his colleagues, and more than hold it with any of them. He is a strong power for good in this state. And yet, if those who call themselves "reformers"—most of whose leaders have been kicked out of office by the people of the state—had their way, McCumber would be quickly brought home and one of the pin-head crowd of incompetents sent to Washington to take his place. In this connection it is pertinent to call attention to something shown by the senate journal of the last legislature. The leader of the democrats was the venerable and honored Casbel, senator from the Walsh county district, against whose honor and probity no man has said a word—has even raised a shadow of suspicion. When the vote in the senate was about to be taken for Unit-

ed State senator, Mr. Casbel arose and said:

"Before announcing my vote I desire to say that I am a democrat, but not so narrow a partisan that I cannot see merits in a candidate, no matter what his political affiliations may be. Neither is the gentleman whom you will elect United States senator so dwarfed within party lines that he cannot see merits and demerits in a measure, no matter by what party presented, and he has courage to support or oppose it according to his convictions; for such is his record in the Philippine government bill and the amendments thereto. This legislative assembly will reflect credit upon itself and honor upon this young commonwealth by re-electing the honorable gentleman to succeed himself. I, with no party candidate, take the liberty to join with you in honoring the gentleman who by his private and public record has brought honor upon himself and the state which he represents. I therefore take pleasure in voting for Hon. P. J. McCumber for United States senator."

But Patterson says McCumber and all the rest are members of "the machine." And, to paraphrase Mark Anthony, "Patterson is an honorable man."

Proposals Wanted. Notice is hereby given that the city of Grand Forks, N. D., will receive sealed proposals until 5 o'clock p. m., Wednesday, March 21, 1906, on bidding to be furnished by the city engineer for the labor of constructing a bridge bent on the west bank of the Red River of the North according to the proposal and the plans and specifications now on file at the office of the city engineer. Bids to be delivered at the office of the city engineer. J. J. Smith, City Engineer. Dated at Grand Forks, N. D., March 17, 1906.

METROPOLITAN THEATRE

Saturday, March 24

The Peer of All Musical Shows W. C. WHITNEY'S Piquant Musical Mixture

Isle of Spice

ORIGINAL PRODUCTION

20-Song Hits-20 Entire Production Sumptuously Produced

SEAT SALE OPENS FRIDAY AT 10:00 A. M. PRICES, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c, 50c

METROPOLITAN THEATRE

Monday, March 26

CURTAIN RISE AT 8:15 P. M.

HAMLIN & MITCHELL'S Original Production of the Splendid Musical Extravaganza

BABES IN TOYLAND

MUSIC BY VICTOR HERBERT Book by GLEN MAC DONOUGH. Produced under stage direction of JULIAN MITCHELL. Same cast that plays New York, Chicago and all large cities.

Beautiful Chorus! Gorgeous Scenery! Magnificent Orchestra!

SEAT SALE SATURDAY Prices Lower Floor, \$1.50, Balcony, \$1.00, Gallery, 50c