

Geo. B. Winship Recalls Incidents Of Early History of Grand Forks Herald and Various Other Papers

This is the tenth of a series of reminiscences of early newspaper experiences in Grand Forks compiled with the development of city and county.

BY GEO. H. WINSHIP.

W. L. Dudley was one of the most useful and competent men ever employed on The Herald. During his long service he filled almost every position, from the printer's case to the editorial throne. He was as timid and bashful as a country high school girl, but he had rare ability as a newspaper reporter. He got the news he went after, but how, was always a mystery to me. He seldom talked with people, did not have established news centers or fixed sources of information, but he always thoroughly covered the city, showed up with a note book full of facts and his statements were seldom controverted. In public meetings he quietly slipped in, and occupying an inconspicuous seat in the back ground, he never failed to note every motion and every point made by the speakers. His reports were full, accurate and comprehensive. It was as a descriptive writer, however, that Mr. Dudley excelled. I have in mind, at this time, the burning of the first Hotel Dacotah, and Dudley's vivid description of the scene. It was a remarkable word picture of a disastrous conflagration, and its naked simplicity and minuteness of detail left nothing unsaid in the report. His style was clear, distinct and simple, and his language pure and undefiled. During the late years of his service we got to know and appreciate his talent, and about all the important descriptive work was assigned to him. That fine 150-page illustrated writeup of Grand Forks, issued in 1904 in celebration of the silver anniversary of The Herald, was largely the work of Mr. Dudley; and every time I look at it, and that is quite often, I am reminded of good old "Dud" and his quiet and efficient service.

UNIQUE MASONIC TEMPLE IS PLANNED BY MISSOURI LODGES

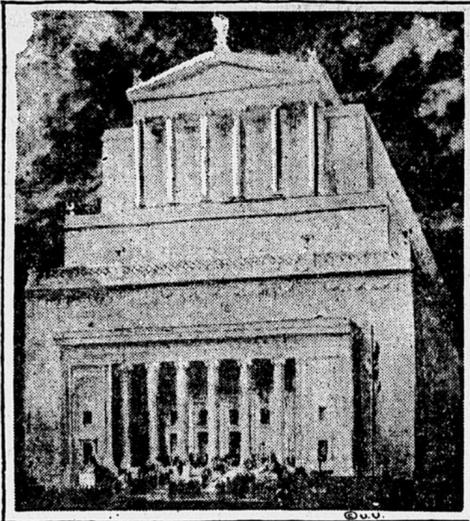


Photo of Architect's Drawing of Proposed Temple. A new temple, to cost approximately \$2,500,000, will be erected in St. Louis by the York Rite Masonic bodies, in conjunction with the grand bodies holding state jurisdiction over the other chapters and councils in Missouri. The temple will be built in three receding stages, emblematic of the three steps of masonry.

Joe Scanlan was a dapper little fellow, who did good general work for The Herald in the late '90s. He was an all round worker, taking a hand in any department and doing well. As reporter, solicitor, collector and society feller he was equally at home, and he had energy and tact and geniality in abundance. On one occasion, early in '97, Joe found himself alone with the city work, and came to me for help. I asked him if he had any one in mind, and he said that W. P. Davies was foot-loose and we might get him to help us out. I approved the suggestion, and Joe hunted up Mr. Davies and set him to work. I had known of Mr. Davies for some time, but as he had been a school teacher and a farmer and latterly a carpenter, I was in doubt in just what vocation his real talent resided. He qualified amply in the local field, and quickly got the run of all the other departments, gradually working his way to the editorial room where the heavy lead was pounded out, and where lighter lucubrations found an outlet in the Nubs of News column. In all these departments Mr. Davies made good, and in a very short time he was installed as managing editor and chief editorial writer. I quickly realized that Mr. Davies was the man I had long sought, and from that time on he began to leave home winters for a more or less protracted absence, feeling that there was a reliable man at the helm of The Herald who would steady the old craft away from breakers into calm and safe waters. Of the "world, the flesh and the devil" our views were substantially in harmony. Our minds in many ways were of the same order, somewhat similar, and our standards of politics, morals and religion were much the same. He interpreted me with rare precision, and I reposed full confidence in him; so my absences from home of one or six months were made possible because of his loyalty and integrity. Among Mr. Davies' many commendable qualities was his apparent satisfaction with his salary, no matter how small. He never bothered us with suggestions that he ought to have more money for his services. He started in at a very low wage, and in due course his salary was more than trebled, but not from any suggestion from him. It is very pleasant, indeed, to have employees around who are satisfied with their stipend, and take more interest in service than in salary. I have an unlimited fund of good things I might say of Mr. Davies, but he is blushing enough now, and being alive and well, I better leave him alone for a few years.

Harry Cooper, a bright University boy, was city editor for a period and won a good reputation as a successful news sleuth. He was another good newspaper man who abandoned a brilliant career as a journalist to go into law. I understand he is now a successful practitioner at Kenmare.

C. M. Scott, now of Seattle, was city editor for several years, and a mighty good one he was. I believe he was the most systematic news organizer The Herald ever had. He had news centers in every part of the city, and the amount and variety of his daily report frequently over taxed the linotype machines. He was of the editor-printer class of reporters, and in a pinch could put his matter into type and go to press. Charley is holding a good job in Seattle at this time. His son, born in Grand Forks, served in France during the war. Another very competent city editor was Non Davies, subsequently editor of the Crookston Times. Mr. Davies was a tireless worker and covered a large area in his daily round-up. His reports were well written and free from bias. "Non" was quite a likeable fellow, and knew the newspaper business from A to Z. S. P. Donohoe was another efficient and hard working reporter. For several years he handled the East Grand Forks department and edited the telegraph at night, afterwards taking on the city work. He was conscientious and pains-taking and served The Herald well. He now lives in Seattle, connected with P. I. During the epidemic and panic periods of 1894, George H. Broadhurst

served as city editor for a few months, following a year's experience as manager of the Metropolitan theater, when first opened to the public. Sometime later he went to New York and achieved success as a play writer.

George A. Benson was our boy reporter during the first decade of this century, and he handled matters from both sides of the river. He was very efficient and reliable, his work from the start gave satisfaction, and I judge it continues to give satisfaction, as he still a member of the board of directors. Very genial and polite, he knew how to rub the fur the right way, and it was seldom that subjects could resist his hypnotic influence. In a very short time Rosa, jumped from a \$50 salary to \$175, and he was still climbing up when I left Grand Forks. For health considerations Mr. Rorapugh came west with his family and now resides at Eugene, Oregon, with his daughter, Marion. Mrs. Rorapugh passed on several years ago.

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Another Man Sure There Is Monster Alive In Patagonia

Philadelphia, March 11.—The Pleistocene monster seen in Patagonia, according to reports from the Buenos Aires Zoological garden, is not a myth, snake or a turtle, in the belief of Lieutenant Commander O. Bevilacqua, now at the Philadelphia navy yard. The naval officer said today that he had seen a monstrous animal off the coast of Patagonia 16 years ago that resembled descriptions of that reported seen recently by an Englishman named Sheffield in the same locality.

Lieut. Bevilacqua, who is commander of the U. S. S. Kaweah, said that during 1906 while in the straits of Magellan, about 500 yards off the coast of Patagonia, he saw the monster one afternoon. The visibility was high and I do not believe I could have been mistaken," he said. "I was scanning the skyline toward the shore and I heard a splash and saw a huge ice covered boulder fall into the sea from the high rocky shore. A moment later a large animal appeared at the point from which the boulder had dropped and looked out toward me.

"The head was like that of a horse, and the neck was fully thirty feet long. It was not a turtle, because turtles do not have necks of that length. I am equally sure that it was not a snake because snakes do not live in the ice and snow."

Journalists Give Hughes Gold Shears

Washington, March 11.—Washington newspaper correspondents presented to Secretary Hughes at the state department today a pair of gold desk shears in token of their appreciation for his "kindly assistance to them in their work," since assuming office. The gift was said to be unique in that it was the first ever given a cabinet officer during his services by newspaper men who come in daily contact with heads of administrations.

The gift, which was appropriately engraved, was presented on behalf of the correspondents by Mathews F. Tighe, who has been "covering" the state department for more than forty years. In delivering the shears, Mr. Tighe expressed the hope that the secretary would make the use of the gift that Alexander made of his sword "in cutting the Gordian knots of international diplomacy," to which the state department head replied that he was quite sure the correspondent would not permit any knot, Gordian or otherwise, to escape his attention.

CANADIAN VISITOR ROBBED

Minneapolis, Minn., March 11.—Mrs. H. D. McGurk, of Chaplin, Sask., was held up here tonight by two bandits and robbed of diamonds valued at \$5,000 and \$200 in cash.

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