

THE PRODUCERS NEWS

A PAPER OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE

Continuing the OUTLOOK PROMOTER Vol. V. Number 48

VOLUME I.

PLENTYWOOD, SHERIDAN COUNTY, MONTANA, FRIDAY, JULY 5, 1918.

NUMBER 12

"WE STICK" FARMERS WIRE HEADQUARTERS

Rump Convention Called at Great Falls to Throw Monkey Wrench Into League Machine Repudiates Trouble Makers

Pursuant to a call sent out over the state of Montana by a number of "Copper Collared" League members and boosters, a rump convention convened at Great Falls last Tuesday, July 2nd, for the purpose of throwing a monkey wrench into the machinery of the Nonpartisan League, in the way of a move to divorce the Montana Nonpartisan League from the National organization in order that time proven politicians might get control of the Montana organization and thus destroy the unity of the National movement.

There is no doubt but that the copper paytriteers was the inspiration of the whole undertaking, as they feel themselves slipping as the election approaches.

However, the whole affair proved to be a boomerang and the instigator of the rump convention was voted down by the farmer members of the League by a huge majority and a telegram announcing "We'll Stick" was sent to President Townley at the National headquarters at St. Paul.

Following is the report sent to the Producers News from the floor of the convention at Great Falls:

Great Falls, Mont., July 2, 1918.

A committee appointed to express the sentiment at the gathering of Nonpartisan members this afternoon gave out the following:

A gathering of members of the Nonpartisan League, representing various sections of the state, was held at Great Falls, Mont., on Tuesday, July 2, 1918, at Carpenter's hall. In attendance to a call made by members of the League in Fergus county.

After a full discussion of the purposes of the call, members came to the unanimous agreement that the purposes for which the call was made are satisfactorily cared for by the state and national organizations.

The membership also expressed entire confidence in the leaders of the state and national organizations and sent to President Townley the following message:

"WE'LL STICK!"
Sam W. Teagarden,
L. F. Border,
R. B. Martin.

JOYOUS GAB-FEST AT GREAT FALLS

Owing to a misunderstanding, or as one of the members expressed it, "A lack of understanding," a number of Farmer members of the League gathered at Carpenter's hall on Monday, July 1, for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to the organization in general and a state convention in particular.

Mr. Sam Teagarden, at whose instance the call was sent out, explained what was wanted and seemed a little confused as to exactly what that was; however, R. B. Martin, who happened to be around, was able to clear the matter up and in a rattling good speech explained the burdens and anxieties of the National office and gave an excellent resume of the ever-changing strategy of the long battle they had and the members generally, are called upon to wage. Martin's few words proved an eye-opener to the assembled farmers and the lack of information, "took to the woods and has not since been heard of."

The meeting—conducted all the time in the spirit of good fellowship—was ornamented by not a few excellent speeches from the various delegates and the sentiment of the meeting crystalized in a resolution confirming once again the solidarity and steadfastness of the membership. Nothing could have been finer, the trades union men present enjoyed the thing to the limit and a suggestion was made that a joint meeting be called of both arms of the industrial army, that the old gang might know at last that Union men and Farmers were one. A good time was had indeed, and the visiting delegates went home more than ever bent on the great watchword—"We'll Stick!"

Dawson County Commissioners Will Have to cough Up Many Thousand Dollars, Illegally Extracted From the People in That County

A finding in behalf of the plaintiff in the case of Dawson county versus Andrew Larson and Hedley V. Robinson, county commissioners, and F. W. Hurly, former member of the board, was rendered last Thursday by Judge Hurly of Glasgow, according to a communication received from the plaintiff's attorneys.

The result of such decision is that Mr. Larson will be required to pay back to Dawson county \$1,410.75, Mr. Winler \$1,410.75, Mr. Robinson \$319.25, all of which were collected by the commissioners as per diem and traveling expenses incurred in viewing the matter was instituted in court several months ago, a complaint setting forth that against the county of \$8 and 25 cents per mile for expenses was not a proper charge under the provisions of the statute.

revision of the board and was done pursuant to a general order of the board of county commissioners, providing for such supervision and inspection was not rendered pursuant to any previous order of the board directing the defendant to inspect the condition of any contract construction work on any highway or bridge in the county, or in connection with any such inspection.

In his findings Judge Hurly said, in part: "I think that under the law of 1913 before a commissioner could charge per diem for inspecting road work it was necessary that he be specially authorized by the board and that general orders would not be sufficient. "By stipulation it is conceded that the commissioners acted in good faith and for what they believed to be the best interests of the county. I feel, however, that regardless of this fact, the statute left no discretion with the board and that the fees charged and collected by the commissioners were unlawful, and I feel it my duty to render judgment as indicated. If the county attorney will prepare judgment in accordance with the views herein indicated and forward to me for signature, I will sign the same." The case came up for hearing on Oct. 9, 1917, before Judge John Hurly of Glasgow, Judge C. C. Hurly of this district having disqualified himself. The plaintiff was represented by Counsel Attorney Anderson and the defendants by Attorneys Leipler of Glendive and Loud of Miles City.—D. C. Review.

ON THE OUTSIDE.



HOW ABOUT THE SEED GRAIN PROPOSITION?

A prominent young farmer of the Dagmar country writes the following letter to the Producers News, throwing considerable light on another angle of the questionable business methods, which can be traced right into the door of the courthouse.

The Producers News will be glad to receive and publish any further information on the above subject that the farmers are able to furnish.

We want the people of Sheridan county to comprehend the peculiar manifestations of paytriteering that have developed in this county. The letter follows:
Dagmar, Mont., June 12, 1918.
Editor Producers News,
Plentywood, Montana.

Dear Sir:— While visiting a friend the other day, we were discussing the County Seed Grain proposition, and neither one of us seemed to know why the farmers were compelled to pay \$2.45 per bushel for seed wheat, although a law was passed against anyone charging 15% more than the market price for seed wheat, which would be about \$2.30 here.

This friend of mine got his seed through the county, being told to get it at the elevator at Reserve. When he got there they told him they had no seed and told him to go out into the country to one Andrew Larson, who happens to be my neighbor. I know for a fact that Mr. Larson got only \$2.00 per bushel. My friends was to pay \$2.48 per bushel, for which he gave his note bearing 6% interest; we would like to know who got that other 48 cents per bushel.

I understand that Larson might have gotten \$2.02 per bushel if he had demanded it, but not any more than that.

My friend asked County Attorney L. J. Onstad why they were charging such a price, and Onstad told him that, "you must realize the amount of work we have done to get this through." But could it actually take 48 cents per bushel, or let us say the sellers had received \$2.02, which would then leave 46 cents to cover expenses, it don't look to me as if the farmers who needed help was getting it at cost.

about \$3.85 at the local elevator; and for oats he had to pay \$1.25 per bushel, when he could have bought good seed oats at the elevator in Antelope for \$1.12 per bushel.

I know of no one else to write to where we can get the information wanted, so am writing to you, hoping that you either know something about it or will be good enough to look into it and let us know through your paper or by private letter.

Although I did not get my seed through the county, I think we are entitled to know what becomes of the money.

Hoping to hear from you in the near future and thanking you in advance,

I am, yours very truly,
CARL NELSON,
RR2—Dagmar, Mont.

STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

The stockholders of the Peoples Publishing Company held an annual meeting at Community hall last Monday afternoon. Two-thirds of the stock was represented and a crowd of stockholders were present. The annual report was read and accepted and other business transacted.

The following board of directors were elected for the ensuing year: Dan J. Olson, J. C. Gronvold, Guy B. Mellon and Geo. W. Rowley of Plentywood; Claire Stoner and V. E. Anker, Outlook; and J. S. Nyquist of Homestead.

After the election, the board met and organized: Claire Stoner of Outlook was elected president, and Guy B. Mellon of Plentywood was elected vice president, and J. C. Gronvold elected secretary-treasurer.

The meeting was very harmonious, and the stockholders were completely satisfied with the new board.

PROMINENT REDSTONE FARMERS MARRIED

Geo. A. Simmons, a prosperous, prominent and respected farmer of Redstone, and Miss Emily Ledfeldt, one of Redstone's most popular young ladies were united in the bonds of holy matrimony by Judge E. E. Belanski at his office in Plentywood last Wednesday.

Neil Brennon and Frank Marvel officiated as witnesses. Mr. and Mrs. Simmons will be at home to their many friends at the farm at Redstone at any time.

YOUNG LADY FOUND DEAD ON HOMESTEAD

THREE LADIES DROWN IN MISSOURI RIVER

Culbertson was shocked Monday by the news reaching here that three ladies had lost their lives the evening before while bathing in the Missouri river, south of Brockton. Their names were, Mrs. Carl Larson, Marie Ruffato and a younger sister, daughters of Gio Ruffato. Their ages were respectively 20, 16 and 10 years old.

It is reported that the three, accompanied by a still younger Ruffato girl, went down to the river Sunday afternoon and were wading in the river on a sandbar. The little girl, 6 or 7 years old, was not allowed to go in the water with the others and she gave the alarm. It appears that one of the girls stepped off into deep water and the other two in trying to rescue her were soon beyond their depth. None of the girls could swim, and soon they were being swept down the river by a current, which is quite swift at Brockton.

Up to Wednesday morning none of the bodies had been recovered. A party from Brockton were searching the river yesterday between that point and Culbertson, but so far no trace of the bodies has been found. People along the river are requested to be on the lookout and report to Gio Ruffato, father of two of the girls at Brockton.

The bereaved parents and relatives have the sincere sympathy of the whole community.—The Culbertson Searchlight.

THIRTY MORE MEN CALLED TO COLORS

Fifteen more men will leave for Camp Lewis tomorrow, Saturday, and fifteen more will leave Sunday. These men were called to fill a shortage in the June 26th quota, caused by rejections for different reasons.

No Evidence Found Indicating Violence—Thought to Have Succumbed From Exhaustion.

The body of Louise Marsh was found dead in a homestead shack 30 miles southwest of Redstone last Saturday. Immediately the authorities were notified and County Physician E. G. Steele, Dr. Toney of Redstone, Deputy County Attorney T. Greer of Plentywood and Acting County Coroner Selmer Corlinus of Redstone went to the scene of the death.

At first those arriving at the homestead were given an impression from the facts connected with the case that a suicide or murder had been committed, but after the autopsy the doctors and jurors came to the conclusion that the death of the young woman was of natural cause produced by nervousness and exhaustion. The jurors were John S. Alberts, Ed. Phillip and Caleb Koljem and Chas Westgaard.

According to the story leading up to the death, Louise Marsh was to be a mother within a short time and had come to her homestead on the reservation the day of her death in an automobile from Eckmann, N. D., the trip taking two or three days. After her arrival she asked her brother-in-law, Hilo Chase, who with his two children were at the homestead, to go to a nearby spring for a pail of water. Upon their return they found Miss Marsh lying on the bed in a state of exhaustion. She gasped for breath and said a word or two and died. The brother-in-law did everything possible to revive her and finally sent for help. The deceased has a brother, Chas. Marsh, residing near Flaxville.

—Peter Tang and A. T. Vollum spent the Fourth of July at the Brush lake celebration.

Loyalist Nonpartisan League Farmers of North Dak. Rout the Hunnish Paytriteering Profiteers--Frazier and Entire League Goes Over the Top

With but a few additional returns in, the primary election results are about as reported following the election day. The precincts reporting last brought Governor's Frazier's total vote, with about 300 precincts missing, to 51,060 and Steen has increased his total to 36,283, or a majority for the Nonpartisan candidate of 14,777. There is now little doubt but that the final figures will show Frazier with an easy lead of at least 17,000 votes.

No changes in the congressional results have been announced, Baer, Young and Sinclair being the winners.

Returns from the county show that the house and senate of the next legislature will be strongly Nonpartisan League.

N. C. McDonald has a comfortable lead over Miss Nielson on the educational ballot for state superintendent of public instruction and Harry Bronson of Grand Forks leads Charles Fisk of Minot for the supreme bench.

It will probably be the latter part of the week before complete tabulated returns will be available.

Following is the latest tabulation on the governor:

GOVERNOR. County— Frazier. Steen Adams 587 344 Barnes 1701 1180 Benson 956 844 Billings 365 231 Bottineau 1573 695 Bowman 572 344 Burke 703 499 Burleigh 1463 1152 Cass 1791 8213

Cavalier	837	696
Dickey	593	461
Divide	1058	434
Dunn	016	348
Eddy	675	290
Emmons	739	425
Foster	482	305
Golden Valley	403	540
Grand Forks	1165	1966
Grant	1313	497
Griggs	634	279
Hettinger	972	452
Kidder	915	285
LaMoure	1175	500
Lagon	681	179
McHenry	1681	808
McIntosh	701	166
McKenzie	1040	429
McLean	1357	1011
Mercer	660	233
Morton	1714	1041
Mountrail	1341	591
Nelson	876	715
Pembina	701	914
Pierce	651	662
Ransom	917	1307
Ransom	1047	567
Renville	664	284
Richland	832	1109
Rolette	759	473
Sargent	715	610
Sheridan	855	341
Sioux	182	219
Slope	512	196
Stark	983	821
Steele	825	456
Stutsman	1376	935
Towner	1681	807
Trail	1114	1004
Walsh	1009	917
Ward	1928	1964
Wells	1295	572
Williams	1348	942
Totals	51060	36284