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WILLISTON, WILLIAMS COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1915.

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

## ALIEN ENEMIES IN OUR CHARGE

### THE FIVE AUSTRIANS WHO ESCAPED FROM CANADA STILL IN COUNTY JAIL

This community, so far as known, has no men in the trenches or on the ships of any of the parties to the European argument has no correspondents gleaming material for the magazine page and the lecture platform, no red cross nurses braving death for the sake of humanity, still we are, in a remote way, in touch with the intricate workings of war.

**Austrians Work Under Guard**  
Inspector Hall, a United States official stationed at Winnipeg, was in the city this week to get further particulars in the case of the five Austrians in the custody of the county officials. The subjects of Francis Joseph's country are claimed to be registered in Canada as alien enemies and having slipped across the line contrary to the laws of nations this government is responsible, as a neutral, to the Canadian government, pending the investigation of their case.

The Austrians finding work very scarce in Canada, especially for alien enemies, quietly migrated to North Dakota and found work with a threshing crew in the eastern part of this country. One of them is married and endeavored to have his wife join him, that was where their trouble began. She was detained and through her the whereabouts of her husband and his four companions was learned. Their arrest followed. But they hired an attorney and resisted the effort to take them back. They disclaimed any intention of returning to fight for their country but they wanted to stay where they could get work. All this was national red tape is being untangled the Canadian authorities consented to the release of the men to work if local authorities would guarantee their safe keeping and return. The Austrians themselves put up the money to pay men to guard them while they worked. They worked three weeks but the guards, who were farmers connected with the threshing crew, refused to take any pay saying there was no guarantee to do. The five are again in the county jail. They appear to be men of intelligence and thrift having over \$600 on deposit in a local bank.

### Don't Want to Fight

One of them who speaks good English said: "We don't want to go back to the old country to fight, all we want is a chance to work and we have a better chance here than in Canada and we will come back here after this trouble is fixed up. And the joke is we are from a part of the country that is in sympathy with Russia."

Inspector Hall got particulars from them to aid in the investigation. One of the men claims he paid his \$5 fee and was registered at a certain time and place but no record of it can be found. Another claims to be a citizen of Canada. The inspector says there is considerable trouble along the boundary of eastern states from such cases. He says that eventually the men in the Williams county jail will have to go back to Canada, that they cannot get lawyers and money enough to prevent it.

### "GET-TOGETHER" NIGHT.

The first informal social and "Get-Together" night of the Williston Community was held last Monday evening in the community rooms of the Congregational church. It was very largely attended by the members and friends of the Center who spent a delightful evening in friendly intercourse. No formal program was rendered, but a basket ball game was played between the Center and City teams resulting in a score of 47 to 27 in favor of the Center.

Refreshments were served by the losing team in the membership campaign which was held last week. These two teams were captained by A. J. Field and H. A. Lamb, the Field team winning. The contest brought the membership nearly to the two hundred mark. Every defeat has its compensations and this contest was no exception. All who were present Monday night know that the losing team are experts in running a cafeteria. With H. A. Lamb as chef, Miss Cora Brundsvold pouring cream, Judge Butler at the coffee urn and J. H. Batten as marshal to keep H. W. Braatlien, J. Arthur Cunningham and other boys who were inclined to be boisterous in order, everything moved like clock-work. The Center is indebted to the No-Vary Products company for their supplies of coffee, pickles, olives, and for the napkins upon which were printed in addition to the No-Vary advertisement, these words: "If you want to do good boost for Williston Community Center Get-Together Night. Then keep on boosting every night and every day for the balance of the year, and continue doing so every year thereafter."

It is the intention of the Community Center to have one of these social and "Get-Together" nights about once a month during the winter season. They are not restricted to members but are open to the whole community and all who come will be welcomed. The success of the first of these affairs makes it certain that they will rank among the popular social features of Williston.

**ARRESTED AT MILES CITY**  
Esau Malouf alias Albert George, wanted here for forging checks, was arrested at Miles City and Deputy Sheriff Strom has gone to bring him back. Before leaving here Malouf worked in the vicinity of Marmou.

## GRAIN HAULING IS INTERRUPTED

### NO SLEIGHING IN THE VALLEY, NO WHEELING ON THE BENCHES—SNOW WANTED

Williston is paying a penalty for being located in too warm a climate. The snow will not stay in the streets and in the surrounding valley to make hauling on sleds practical while on the higher ground in all directions from the city the snow is too deep on the roads for hauling with wagons. This situation has existed before but seldom if ever has it been so serious as now. With perhaps a million bushels of wheat and flax in the surrounding graneries and the marketing and trading season on, there are only very light receipts at the elevators.

**Job For Weather Bureau**  
Local business men will cheerfully pay a bonus to the weather man for four inches of snow and a freezing temperature to take the place of this continual mud and thaw. Some farmers bring an empty wagon to the edge of the sleighing and transfer their load. Some bring light loads and "double up" snaking their bobs through the mud with four and six horse teams.

### Mud and Marriages

One young man was coming to Williston to be married but got stuck with his load of wheat less than three miles from the elevator. The date was set, the girl would be there to meet him. He did not have much cash with him and was worried about the expenses. But fortunately a license is only \$2 and the affair went through without delay. Afterward he hired a wagon and brought in his wheat.

### Buying at the Snow Line

One local grain buyer, A. E. Lowe, said that he would establish a buying station at the snow line northwest of the city. He has platform scales and will build temporary bins and haul the grain in his elevator in wagons. He said he would be ready for business yesterday and would pay one cent under the Williston price.

There is some talk of merchants and grain men subscribing to the expense of icing the roads but the plan is far from practical so long as the thawing weather continues.

## COUNTY CONCURS IN B. F. A. PLANS

### COUNTY BOARD AND B. F. A. DIRECTORS AND AGENT MEET —DISCUSS PROJECT PLANS

The Board of County Commissioners convened on the 22nd with a full attendance. The day was devoted to auditing bills and other routine business. The following day, Tuesday, the Better Farming Association directors and County Agent Hall met with the commissioners to consider matters relating to the county work.

The most important subject taken up was the comprehensive set of plans recently formulated and agreed upon by the State Better Farming Section and the Federal Department of Agriculture for county organizations, county agents and the farmers co-operating with them to employ and work under.

### Provide Needed System

These plans are made up in separate sets for each department or project of the work, such as corn culture, alfalfa growing, dairying, pasture, etc., and provide for systematic work and records of results. While there is nothing in these working agreements that is binding, except on the county agents, the duties as well as the privileges of all concerned are defined. Provision is made for demonstration work by a large number of farmers co-operating with the county agent. The federal, state and county departments have certain parts to perform, such as providing seed; the work of demonstration is carried on for a fixed number of years and each step is recorded and given the publicity necessary to disseminate results. The records will be of special importance as they will show at all times just what work has been and is being done in the county, in such a manner that the work can be checked up or intelligently taken up by a new man.

### Adopted For Williams County

County Agent Hall is enthusiastic over the idea which he says will define and systematize his work and will ultimately result in much better service to the county. He read and fully explained the provisions for work under the different projects to the commissioners and directors. The plans were unanimously concurred in and adopted for use in the county work.

### Funding Bonds Considered

The commissioners took under consideration the question of funding bonds to take care of the county's floating indebtedness of which there is about \$30,000, in the form of county warrants drawing seven per cent interest. County Auditor Aaen has already carried on some correspondence with the state Board of University and School Lands. They think it probable they can loan the county \$30,000, at four per cent on terms that would admit of gradual retirement during ten years. As this would effect an important saving in interest the auditor was instructed to continue negotiations.

### DOLLIVER-BASSETT

November 18, Allen James Dolliver of Williston and Clarice May Bassett of Blue Earth, Minn. By Judge A. L. Butler.

## GETTING INTO THE GAME

Has not the time arrived for Williston to speed up—get into the game—do something for herself?

Without any attempt to delve into problems of municipal economics, without any desire to retrace traveled ground or shy unfriendly criticisms, the present seems a fitting time to publicly propound a question that is already uppermost in the minds of many.

If opportunities have slipped by, if prestige has been lost, the fault lies with the many as much as with the few. A city, like a state, is as good as its citizens make it and no better.

Figures to show growth and productiveness, recitals of advantages, statements of successes achieved, such as were published in harmony with the Appreciation Week movement, are splendid and inspiring; are effective while they last, but the steady, week in and week out follow-up is what brings home the bacon. The tool called a car starter, in the hands of one man, will move a loaded box car out of its tracks but it requires a number of strong and willing hands, all pushing in the same direction at the same time, to keep it rolling.

Williston has made remarkable advancement and through sheer force of its exceptional advantages and individual liberality and enterprise it continues to grow. But it cannot be expected to keep on moving; its progress will be surer and swifter with all hands pushing.

Community boosting and building is no longer considered in the role of something optional to be indulged upon occasions, like a holiday celebration; nor of something altruistic, done through patriotism and public spirit, when one happens to feel that way. Boosting has become a business essential—a first cousin to self preservation. Building a city and making it prosperous is a purely competitive proposition because others are in the same line of business. The town whose businessmen neglect the business of building the community as a whole will lose out in the race with its competitors.

That point conceded, the question becomes one of ways and means. The point of being able to afford the ways and means is not well taken, since the cost is far greater to neglect than to do. Williston businessmen are too able, too ambitious, too keen to neglect to do what the businessmen of cities all around them are doing and doing with success—providing efficiently for the commercial welfare of their communities as a whole. Practical organization, united effort and expert leadership are without doubt the essentials to the desired end, but the particular system best suited to our needs is a matter for careful consideration and not for The Graphic to name.

The budget and paid secretary system is often mentioned and is employed with apparent satisfaction by cities around us such as Minot, Havre, Bismarck and Glendive. They get results and at no greater cost than by the old, haphazard, unsatisfactory subscription list methods. No man or set of men can be expected to donate the time and effort, while neglecting their individual interests, necessary to make any form of organization efficient. When a body of people establish a store, or factory, or bank, a farm, a church or a school, they employ a person trained for the work, put him in charge, pay an adequate salary and hold him responsible for the success of the enterprise.

It may not be out of place to mention a couple of specific instances of things a trained leader, on the job six days in the week, could have done. At Glendive they have, in the exhibit room at the railroad station, an elegant array of samples of this season's farm products. The display in the local exhibit room is faded and dingy, most of it has been in place for several years. Again, when a large number of farmers and other local people co-operate with the local papers in getting together material for special issues such as were gotten out last week, a channel through which copies of such valuable advertising could be gotten into the hands of distant parties likely to be interested would have made the effort worth while. A paid secretary would certainly have such a list compiled. No unpaid man could be expected to do such work.

Possibly we are not ready for a paid leader. Possibly no competent man would take hold under present conditions. If so the need of action is all the more urgent. Williston has advantages not equaled by any city in its class in the Northwest. She needs, only, the impetus that comes from organization and efficiency. Prosperity is the product of opportunity multiplied by effort.

A community becomes what its people make it and there is a tide in the affairs of men, and cities, which taken at the ebb, leads on to fortune.

### SUBPOENAED ON THE POE CASE

Ole Inwaldson, E. C. Carney and A. E. Lohrke have gone to Helena, Mont., as witnesses in the case of the United States vs. W. T. Poe, charged with using the mails for fraudulent purposes. Mr. Inwaldson was subpoenaed as register of deeds and signature expert, Mr. Lohrke as the deputy states attorney who investigated the case and caused Poe's arrest and Mr. Carney as one of Poe's victims.

Poe, who was at one time city auditor of Williston and was sentenced to seven years at the Bismarck penitentiary for misdeeds during his term in office, was out on parole. He victimized loan men by borrowing money on non-resident tracts in this county, using the mails for that purpose.

### BROUGHT FROM MINNESOTA

Sheriff Erickson went to Hopkins, Minnesota, and brought back Alfred Olander, a young man wanted at Willrose for issuing checks on banks in which he had no funds. He is in bad on other counts but appears anxious to square up everything.

### NEW RAILROAD TIME CARD 28TH

The winter train schedule will go into effect Sunday, November 28. The important changes are in the time of No. 3 and No. 4. The agent has not yet received the exact time but from data at hand it can be seen that No. 3 will arrive from the east at about 9:00 p. m., and No. 4 will arrive from the west at about 10:00 a. m. The locals to Minot and Glasgow will be discontinued. No. 1 and No. 2 will remain unchanged.

### CONTRACT FOR EXCAVATING

The contract for the excavating for the \$40,000 annex to the Great Northern hotel has been let to Harding & Espin. They are removing the structures now on the site and will begin moving dirt at once.

### SENTENCED TO ONE YEAR

Stewart B. Goit, bound over some time ago for the larceny of calves, pleaded guilty Saturday evening before Judge Fisk and was sentenced to one year at Bismarck. The offense was committed north of here in Muddy Valley.

## DECLINES TO LET NAME ON BALLOT

### WILL NOT BE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT, HE NOTIFIES NEBRASKAN

Washington, Nov. 18.—Associate Justice Hughes of the supreme court today notified the secretary of state of Nebraska that he would not be a candidate at the coming presidential primary election, and requested that his name be not placed on the ballot.

Formal declination of Justice Hughes, to which he took oath before a notary, and which was telegraphed to the secretary of state at Lincoln, follows:

"A petition having been filed with you on November 13, 1915, requesting that my name be placed upon the official primary ballot of the republican party for the primary election to be held in Nebraska on April 18, 1916, as a candidate for the office of president of the United States, I hereby notify you that I decline the nomination made by this petition, or similar petitions, and request that my name shall not be placed upon the ballot for such primary election."

### Effort is Uncertain

There is a difference of opinion in political circles here as to the technical effect of the declination. The attorney general of Nebraska has been quoted as saying Justice Hughes could not withdraw his name from the primary ticket. On the other hand, Nebraskans in Washington contend there is no question as to his right to withdraw.

### PROBATE COURT HEARING

A hearing in the estate of John Daniel Steinhilber who before his death was a rancher near Mondak, was held before Probate Judge Butler Tuesday. Steinhilber owned property of a personal nature to the amount of about \$20,000.00 in this county and some of the heirs petitioned to have this part of the estate probated here. The petition is resisted on the ground of no jurisdiction and Attorney Craven for the petitioner and Attorney Owens for the respondents argued the case before Judge Butler. No decision has been made.

## BUFORD SCENE OF SERIOUS SHOOTING

### JOHN RENVILLE DANGEROUSLY WOUNDED IN ABDOMEN BY W. W. CORBETT

At Buford, Monday evening, under circumstances not yet fully known John Renville, a breed, was shot and dangerously wounded by W. W. Corbett, a farmer and county constable of that vicinity. The shooting occurred about 9 o'clock and Renville, a man of stalwart build, aged about 35, walked several hundred yards after being wounded and fell unconscious in a ditch where he lay several hours before being found by his friends.

Tuesday morning the wounded man was brought to a Williston hospital and operated on. The wound is near the center of the abdomen, the bullet making five perforations in the small intestine. Recovery in such cases are rare but Dr. Distad, in charge of the case, stated Wednesday just before noon that Renville was showing no dangerous symptoms and that recovery was to be hoped for.

The substance of a statement made by Renville to States Attorney Owens is that he, John Renville and his brother Max were returning to their home which is near Buford from Watford City, McKenzie county. They reached Buford in the evening and stopped there and drank several bottles of "ginger ale." They met Corbett and conversation ensued. Corbett told them to go home. They said they did not have to go till they got ready. Then Corbett pulled his gun and shot. Renville claims they were unarmed and made no hostile demonstration toward their assailant. After the shooting Max Renville ran home and returned with their father but they were long in locating John.

Corbett, it is stated, claims the shooting was in self defense. Sheriff Erickson went to Buford and arrested him on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon. He was arraigned and bound to district court. Later he gave bonds in the sum of \$500, pending a change in the condition of the wounded man. All parties concerned are old settlers in the neighborhood, the Renvilles living on Indian allotments.

### MANY SKATING

There was a large crowd on the slough and Sand Creek skating Saturday and Sunday in spite of the light fall of snow. The first of last week the ice was the best ever seen here, the entire large slough being just like a mirror. The snow of Tuesday evening spoiled this but Sand Creek overflowed and there was fairly good skating there. A number interested in skating are endeavoring to have some one flood the creek and part of the slough and this will probably be done.

### HAUGE LUTHERAN

A. E. Distad, Pastor  
Sunday services—At Williston 10:30 A. M. and 7:30 P. M. Communion service at Ploom Creek 2 P. M.  
There will be a basket supper in the church 2 P. M., Tuesday, December 7th. Ladies please bring baskets. Coffee served free. Come, and bring your friends with you!

## ACTION AGAINST THE DIRECTORS

### ACTION BROUGHT FOR FAILURE TO OBSERVE FLAG AND ATTENDANCE LAW

Mandan, N. D., Nov. 20.—Following an investigation of the past three weeks of the schools of Morton county State's Attorney William Langer this afternoon started action that may result in wholesale arrests, when he brought mandamus actions against directors of 87 school districts on various charges.

The North Dakota statute demands that each school be provided with a flagpole and the United States flag and that the flag shall be flown above the school during all sessions. With the one exception of the city of Mandan schools, not another school of 293 in the county comply with this. The writ of mandamus issued calls upon each school director to immediately obey the law or appear in court and show cause why it is not done.

### 1,716 Not In School

In addition to this State's Attorney Langer says that there are 1,716 children between the ages of 8 and 16 years who are not in school.

This afternoon he mailed a registered letter to the parents or guardians of these children and ordered them to immediately place the children in the nearest school. Unless this is done within five days, after receipt of the registered letters, arrests will follow.

The state laws permit absence from school on five excuses, sickness, want of necessity at home, attendance at some parochial school, or acquirement by some other manner of the common branches of learning taught in the schools. If the child lives two and a quarter miles from the school, attendance is not compulsory, but the action then falls on the district board, which by law is required to furnish transportation. As this latter is the plea of some of the parents of the 1,716 not in school, mandamus proceedings will be brought against the school officers for failure to provide transportation.

### School System Bad

"Morton the largest county in North Dakota has the poorest rural school system of any county in the state," says States Attorney Langer. "Farmers generally give the excuse that children are needed at home for assistance with threshing. There is hardly a farmer in the county who needs what help the older boys might give for more than two days at the most."

"Threshing assistance is no excuse in 90 per cent of the delinquent cases. I fail to see where a girl or boy of 8 or ten years can help. Each child has a God-given right to education," said the prosecutor. "I know for a fact that there are not a few but hundreds of children in the county who have never attended a full term and there are many who have never been inside a school house."

"In my investigation I found that some school directors, living less than a mile from schools, are themselves keeping the children out. The equipment of the schools in the rural districts is splendid, but the general laxity and failure to compel attendance is the cause of this action."

### Doesn't Expect Trouble

The states attorney is not looking for any trouble in connection with the writs of mandamus against the school district directors, aimed to cause them to have the United States flag flown in "seasonable weather." He believes failure to have done so before was because of ignorance of the law.

However, in the case of the action of parents in not sending children to school he expects to make wholesale arrests. He asserts that he has the "goods" on practically all of the parents of the 1,716 children not in school. However to arrest some 800 parents would entail tremendous expense to the county. Therefore he gave warning to each parent or guardian by registered letter and allows five days of grace from the receipt of the letter.

Reports from the 290 teachers in the county will be received in the next ten days, following which all delinquents will be arrested and brought into court. Attorney Langer believes that the warning will suffice in a large percentage of the cases.

He quotes school No. 6 in the Crown Butte district as one example. Ten farmers all living within a radius of a mile and a half from the school are parents of 27 children, ranging from 8 to 15 years of age, who are not in school. It is the rural schools that are most affected, although some of the towns and villages are delinquent. At Hebron there are 22 children not in school, according to the figures of the states attorney.

### EIGHTY ACRE TRACT SOLD

Geo. J. Buhler made a cash sale Monday of an 80-acre tract of raw land to William Determan, a farmer residing in the vicinity of the land transferred, which is 35 miles north of Williston. The price was \$22 per acre.

### FOUR REQUESTS.

Aaker's Business College received 4 requests for office help the past week and had no graduate out of a position to recommend. Enroll and qualify for a position worth while—worth your effort. You can, if you only will. The business man needs you, the school needs you to supply the demand for office help. Send for catalog to H. H. Aaker, manager, Grand Forks, also for a Gas Tractor and Auto course catalog.—23-1t.