

THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

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ENGINE AND EIGHTEEN CARS GO IN THE DITCH

A Terrible Wreck Four Miles West of This City Near the Big Bridge This Morning—Fireman Joe Splan has Leg Taken Off and Arm Badly Burned, May Die. Engineer West and Brakeman Walrath Injured.

An east bound freight train running thirty-five miles an hour was wrecked at 1:40 o'clock this morning about four miles west of this city on the Great Northern. The train was running about a quarter of a mile this side of the big bridge when the rails must have spread causing one of the worst wrecks known on the road in years. Eighteen cars were piled together and totally destroyed. Engineer Wm. West whose home is in this city, jumped through the cab window and escaped with a severe shaking up. The brakeman, Frank Walrath, who was in the engine, also escaped with a few bruises. The fireman, Joe Splan, is terribly injured and burned, and it is feared that he will die. The injured men were brought at once to this city on the engine of Passenger train No. 1, which leaves this city at 2 a. m. Splan was placed in the hospital and his left leg was amputated this afternoon above the knee. It was terribly crushed. The arm was burned very badly with escaping steam. For two hours he was a prisoner in the cab. The engine rolled over on her side and went down an embankment 40 feet. He could not be released until "Happy Jack" from the round house went out with the wrecking crew and saved him out. Splan displayed great courage while a prisoner in the cab and although terribly injured, he did not complain. The engine is a huge Mastodon, No. 748. When taken over, Splan jokingly asked of his comrades, "Boy's how do you like my pig leg?"

The cars which were wrecked were loaded with lumber, shingles and coal.

Worked by Pretty Girl

Miss Bessie Lawrence, a pretty brown eyed lass of eighteen summers, worked the people of Minot perfectly Monday, but it is all right. She is only a girl and needed the money. She carried a letter from one supposed to be a minister in Wisconsin stating that she was an orphan and wanted to get to friends at Great Falls, Mont. She sold little song books for a quarter. It has since been learned that the letter was not written by a minister at all and she is raking in pockets of quarters every day. The people of the west like to be worked, especially by a pretty girl.

Donnybrook Man Arrested

Chas. Smith of Donnybrook became intoxicated in this city Monday afternoon and wanted a scrap. He was put out of the Montgomery Hotel and later was put out of the office of Greenleaf & Leighton. He was placed in the city jail by Officer Kimball and Tuesday morning fined \$9. by Justice Cooper, which he paid.

Shook Minot's Dust

Carl Teed was fined \$5 and costs by Justice Cooper Tuesday morning for being drunk and disorderly. He did not have the money to liquidate the fine and was given one hour in make his departure. He took advantage of the kind offer and shook the dust of Minot from his feet in just three minutes.

The wrecking crew at once began clearing the track but the work will not be completed until sometime tomorrow. The trains of course cannot pass, but passengers are taken out from this city and transferred to trains from the west. The train backs to Williston 122 miles with the passengers. No freight is hauled yet.

The sight is a horrible one. The cars are literally jammed together. The trucks are one mass of twisted steel. The rails are bent in the form of circles. A dozen or more rails are torn up. The wrecking crew are burning the cars and lumber, which would make some poor farmer's fine wood pile for the winter. But Jim Hill does not see it in that manner.

No one seems to know how the wreck occurred. No one is blamed at this time and it is likely that no one will ever have any blame attached to them. The loss is many thousands of dollars to the company.

John Bergerson, alias "Happy Jack," who released Joe Splan from the engine, tells a story of remarkable fortitude. Jack had to saw off two bolts and an iron bar before Splan could be set free. He found Splan's hand tight against the hot boiler with mud beneath it. Splan tried in vain to dig the dry mud from beneath his hand that he might free himself, and he even wore off the ends of his finger nails in his vain endeavor to get away from the boiler. He was strong enough to shut off the stop cock of the water glass. When the doctor went to lift the man from the cab, he tried to get out himself.

Miss Feeter's Brother Dies

Mr. Kirkpatrick at the New York store received a letter Tuesday stating that the brother to the Misses Della, Edith and Edna Feeter, who was badly injured in a wreck near Duluth, died. His remains will be interred at Bird Isle, Minn.

Were Boys Together

Dr. Seaton, the magnetic healer, and corn doctor, is to be found at room 7 at the Mercantile hotel. The doctor's wife, Madam Siegel, is also at the hotel telling fortunes. The doctor makes a speciality of curing pimples and black heads. He learned that an old friend, Robert F. Johnson, was ill of rheumatism in this city and called on him Monday evening. They were boys together at Wells, Minn., and the doctor has taken charge of Mr. Johnson's case with the hopes of effecting a cure.

75,000 Chattel Mortgages

James Briggs, register of deeds reports that work at the office is increasing. The receipts for October were \$952.05. There were 159 real estate transfers for October. One clerk is kept employed continually taking off chattel mortgage releases, at the rate of 75 a day. There are now on record in the county 75,000 chattel mortgages, some dating back six years. At the present rate, this number will be decreased greatly in a short time.

A VISIT TO THE PENITENTIARY

JUDGE MURRAY TELLS IN AN INTERESTING MANNER OF THE PRISONERS IN NORTH DAKOTA'S GREAT INSTITUTION. TALKS WITH CARL HANSON.

Sheriff Scofield, Judge Murray and Deputy Sheriff Jack Shipton returned Tuesday from Bismarck where they took the five prisoners sentenced to terms in the penitentiary. They were shown through the penitentiary by Warden Boucher. We are indebted to Judge Murray for a very good description of the penitentiary and the manner of carrying on the business of the institution.

The twine plant is of particular interest. The twine made at this penitentiary by convict labor has found a place in the market and every year thousands of pounds more could be sold. The Judge saw many prisoners at the penitentiary who were sent from this county. He talked with Carl Hanson, who was sent up for life for the murder of Napoleon Lemay near Tergus. It will be remembered that Hanson was with Willie Ross, at the time. Ross was hanged at Bottineau. Hanson looks fat but a little pale. He said he was treated well at the pen but wished for his freedom. He inquired about his Minot acquaintances. The warden stated that Hanson was a model prisoner. Hanson is in charge of some of the cells. He also waits on the tables and in that manner gets better grub than the others. The warden explained that life prisoners always get the best jobs. John Gustav the horse thief is making twine by the side of a big tall Indian sent for murdering his wife. The big Indian is dressed in striped pants, a white hat and a hickory shirt and Gustav who is a short fellow looks very odd by the big buck. Old man Kent, the Mandan wife murderer, was pointed out to the judge. Kent got his hired man to kill his wife and was sent to the pen for life.

The prisoners are not supposed to look up when visitors are passing through. They are not allowed to talk to each other. They make their lives at the penitentiary pleasant or miserable, just as they choose. The warden explains to each prisoner who comes there that if their rules are lived up to strictly, the prisoner gets along well. But if he does not obey, his life will be one of misery. They have a library which at times the prisoners have access to. The dining room is used for a chapel on Sundays.

There are now 130 prisoners in the pen, including one woman who was sentenced for seven years for passing bogus money. The warden was glad of the addition from Ward County, as he needed the men for certain work. When the Ward county prisoners arrived, the guards lost no time in shingling their hair and cutting off their mustaches if they had any. They were then given a bath and assigned their future places. Their old clothes are burned unless returned to friends or relatives. If they have any valuables, they are given in charge of the warden and are given back when the prisoner regains his freedom. He may use the money if he chooses in buying fruit or other luxuries such as toilet soap. Judge Murray handed the Warden a dollar telling him to buy Carl Hanson some fruit.

Joe Sheeley, who was mixed up in the Montgomery deal, was busy picking corn. Ryan, who got four years for robbing Henry

Stammen, was out stringing a new telephone wire between the pen and Bismarck, a distance of a mile.

A lot of blood hounds are kept in a kennel but no one is allowed to see them.

The warden is a fine man with a big heart but the discipline is perfect.

The penitentiary covers six acres and is surrounded by a solid brick wall thirty-six feet high. Guards are kept in houses on top of the wall at each gate and they are armed. The guards in the enclosure are armed only with a walking stick. The walls were put up by convict labor entirely. The penitentiary is self-supporting and the system is perfect.

Cando Farmers Discouraged

Colonel P. L. Kline of Deering spent a week at Cando and Bismarck on business. The Colonel is now ready to cry sales in this part of the state this winter. Saturday he has charge of J. P. Dahl's large sale north of the city. As an auctioneer he has no superior. Mr. Kline says the crops were very poor at Cando, business men are having a hard time collecting money for goods sent out last summer. Loaded wagons in Cando are a scarce article. The farmers are badly discouraged.

The Colonel understands the stock business thoroughly and gives special attention to Red Polled, Hereford, Aberdeen and Black Poll Angus cattle. Mr. Kline says Deering is on the boom and the third store is going in.

Five go to the Pen

Sheriff Scofield Sunday sent to Bismarck five prisoners who will make their home there for periods of from one and a half to three years. They are as follows: J. F. Makiska, the Kenmare drug store burglar, 2 1/2 years; C. C. Williams, who embezzled J. A. Englund's money at Kenmare, 2 years; H. H. Duffy, the box car thief, 3 years; John Hassett, the pigger, 1 1/2 years; Harry Wilson, the G. N. box car thief, 3 years. Hassett, the pigger, stood trial and was found guilty. As this was his second offense, Judge Palda thought the penitentiary would be about the right place for him. This is the biggest grist of men ever sent to the penitentiary from Ward county at a single term of court. Court will last all of next week, it is believed. The prisoners were in charge of Deputy Sheriff Jack Shipton.

WRECK CAUSED BY DESPERADOS

There is now no doubt but that the terrible wreck Wednesday morning west of this city, was caused by someone taking up one of the rails. It is supposed that the work was done by robbers who hoped to wreck the passenger train, then about due. The freight happened to come shortly before the time of the passenger. The section men found the crow bar in a culvert near the scene of accident, which was used in taking up the spikes.

The tax list for 1903 is now ready. T. A. Melhus has the honor of having tax receipt No. 1.

The delinquent tax list will be published in the Independent this month.

Carl E. Meade and Miss Blanch weatherly, of Lansford, were married by Judge Murray Tuesday.

Daniel A. Kline and Miss Eva B. Moffett, of Douglas, were married by Judge Murray at his home October 28. The same day the Judge united in marriage at the Scandinavian hotel Wm. Luck and Miss Florence Bishop of this city.

Rev. T. G. Smith, of Davenport, Ia., will preach at the Baptist church Sunday morning and evening.

VERELEY GETS ONE YEAR IN THE PEN.

The Man who Knocked out Alderman Dolloff's Molars Received a severe sentence for Maiming—expected to get a term in the County Jail.

A. M. Vereley, who assaulted Alderman H. T. Dolloff, near the Second National bank several weeks ago, was Saturday convicted of the crime of maiming. The jury was out five hours and they brought in the charge of guilty but asked for leniency from the judge. The man was sentenced Monday afternoon by Judge Palda to one year in the penitentiary. Attorney Sutton made a great plea for Vereley but Palda had dug up some past records of the young man and found that his reputation had been very bad. In giving Vereley his sentence, Palda stated that had the jury not asked for leniency, he would have sentenced him five times harder.

Vereley boarded with Dolloff and refused to pay his board. Dolloff attached Vereley's money and this made him so angry that he caught the alderman near the bank and assaulted him in a terrible manner. When the alderman was nearly unconscious, the cruel young man picked up the body and struck him again. Several of Mr. Dolloff's teeth were knocked out. Vereley will be taken to his new home in a few days.

No one expected that Vereley would be sentenced to the penitentiary but that he would get a long term in the county jail.

HANS C. BUKKE DROWNS IN MOUSE RIVER

An Old Trapper Falls From his Boat While Hunting Muskrats and Drowns in Three Feet of Water.

Hans C. Rukke, a trapper 54 years of age, was drowned in Mouse River about six miles east of Russell postoffice in Bottineau county, where the Cut Bank flows into the Mouse, Thursday. His body was found Friday in thirty-eight inches of water and sixteen inches of mud. In his boat were his gun and seventeen muskrats. The man left his partner in the trapping and hunting business, Gilbert Rasmussen, early Thursday morning and rowed up the river in a boat. When he did not return to camp at noon Gilbert became alarmed and notified some neighbors. They did not go to hunt for Rukke until Friday morning. Ed. Ludtke and Gilbert Rasmussen after going up the river forty rods, found the body. The justice of the peace was notified at once but decided that no inquest would be held. Undertaker Chas. Weagant of this city was called to the scene of the accident and had the body brought to Minot where it was prepared for shipment to Hanska, Minn., the old home of the dead man. The deceased was never married and the only near relative he leaves is his brother, R. C. Rukke, of Reynolds, N. D., who came to Minot Sunday. The dead man was an uncle to the wife of Dr. W. M. Schaleben of Lansford, who accompanied the body to Minot. The man was sickly and was taken with cramps. He had filed a contest on a claim near Mohall, which he intended filing on if he was successful.

James J. Hill spent ten minutes in Minot Sunday afternoon. He was on his way east from Anaconda, Mont., where he had been trying to settle the strike in the copper mines. He did not leave his car.

Owing to the uncertainty of the arrival of Rev. and Mrs. Edgar Jones, the date of their reception has been postponed from Friday night until next Tuesday evening.

THE OLSON CASE IS UP

OURGEN OLSON STATES THAT THE MATTESONS AND L. STORBY LAY IN A DEEP COULEE THE NIGHT OF MAY 19, AND TOOK DELIBERATE AIM AND FIRED NEARLY KILLING HIM.

The case of Jourgen Olson vs Hans and Erick Matteson and L. Storby, came up in district court Monday. A jury was secured after much trouble. The examining of the state's witnesses began Tuesday morning. Martin Running testified that he had spent Sunday May 10 on Mr. Olson's claim near Bowbells and he did not see him fire any shots. He was with him all day. Ole Running when placed on the stand corroborated the statement of his brother.

Adolph Vowry testified that Martin Mattison came to his place and wanted to borrow shells for his shot gun to scare Olson with, but Vowry would not let him have any telling him that he could scare Olson with powder just as well and if he needed to do any shooting, he should load the shells with wheat.

L. C. Bloor testified that Erick Mattison had come to his place to borrow a gun and the owner being gone, he waited two hours until he returned. Martin Sorenson owned the gun. Martin Sorenson when placed on the stand testified that he loaned Mattison the gun.

Jourgen Olson, who had his left leg shot so that it had to be amputated, says that Erick Mattison had brought contest against his claim and he went there four times trying to settle the affair. He said that he did fire some shots the night of May 10 but he fired them from the door of his shanty. He left his claim that night and returned there May 19. He borrowed a stone-boat from Ole Running and went to his claim to dig rock. The Mattisons had seen him go up at noon and they lay in a deep coulee for him at night when he returned. No one could have seen them in that coulee. They were half a mile from any house and Olson was shot as he was crossing Erick Mattison's land. He heard two shots fired and the third one took effect. The three men were standing on Adolph Vowry's land he thought.

R. Y. Hadwin was placed on the stand and stated that the coulee was a deep one.

Dr. Windell said he amputated Olson's leg and found sixty shot therein. He must have been standing still when the shots were fired.

Olson's rain coat, and the crow bar were presented in evidence. A shot gun and a rifle used by the Mattisons were also presented.

This morning the defense placed on the stand Tom Rosson and his sister-in-law. They said that on the night of May 10, they heard shots fired, but they were two miles away.

Hymeneal.

The marriage of Mr. Glen D. Colcord to Miss Mae Evans takes place tonight at 8 o'clock at the Catholic parsonage, Rev. Father Raith officiating. Immediately after the ceremony the bride and groom will drive to Oakland Park, where they have a neat cottage prepared for their home. The bride is a very estimable young lady, and a former resident of Marshall, Missouri. She has a claim which is proved upon. Mr. Colcord came to this city about two years ago from Illinois, where he was engaged in newspaper work, and is the officiating editor of the Ward County Independent of this city. Immediately after their arrival from the parsonage they will give a formal reception to the immediate relatives and the employees of the office, from the devil up. Quite a number of handsome presents were received. Mr. and Mrs. Colcord will be at home Nov. 15th.

Irwin's Harp orchestra will give a grand ball at Jacobson's opera house Tuesday evening Nov. 10. This orchestra has the reputation of being one of the very best in the state and a large crowd is assured.