

# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

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## REV. MR. ELLSWORTH WEDS

Pastor of Minot's Episcopal Church is United in Marriage to Miss Florence Corbett.—An Unusually Pretty Church Wedding.

Rev. N. E. Ellsworth, pastor of the Episcopal church of this city was united in marriage Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock to Miss Florence Corbett by Bishop Mann. The ceremony was performed at the church, before a large crowd of friends and the Episcopal service was used. The ceremony was very pretty and most impressive. Mrs. Geo. W. Wilson was matron of honor while Rev. Mr. Moorehouse of Rugby was groomsmen. Miss Winnie O'Dell presided at the organ, playing the wedding march as the procession entered and left. The ribbon bearers and flower girls assisted in making the ceremony more beautiful. The bride was accompanied by her father J. C. Corbett, and the bride and groom met at the altar where the father gave the bride away and the groom placed the ring on her finger. Hjalmar Olson, a former New York city chorus boy then sang the Episcopal hymn.

The bride has resided in Minot most of the time since 1891, where for a number of years she taught successfully in the Minot schools. She is a woman of rare attainments, being very proficient in vocal music. No one holds a higher place in the esteem of the people of Minot than she.

The groom for two years has been pastor of the Episcopal church of this city. Mr. Ellsworth is making a brilliant record and is popular with everyone. The couple have the brightest of prospects and the best wishes of all.

## Turkeys Free.

Smallwood, the grocer is giving away ten turkeys again this year. He gives a ticket with each dollar's worth of goods bought at his store, and on the Thanksgiving evening, ten lucky persons will get the fine fat turkeys. Only one turkey to go to any one person. Mr. Smallwood says that in case one person draws two turkeys, the second turkey will go to the next number following. He takes this way of dividing his profits with the customers who appreciate the method very much.

## Dr. Renner is Married.

Dr. U. Renner, the well known retired physician, was united in marriage to Mary O. Beard, at the Methodist parsonage by the Rev. Mr. Powell, pastor of the church. They are residing on the bride's claim twelve miles south of the city.

The bride is a prominent member of the church. She has lived here for about five years and has a large number of friends. The doctor came from Indiana about five years ago also, investing in considerable land. He is considered one of the wealthy men of the county.

# MURPHY PUTTING UP GOOD DEFENSE

County Treasurer Mitchell returned from Fargo where he attended the Murphy trial several days. Mr. Mitchell said the attorneys were fighting for all they were worth on both sides. The state is putting up a good fight, but the defense is putting up a better fight than it did the last time, it is said. Several of the states best witnesses have testified, among whom are Wm. Crowder and Harry Hardy of Ross, two of the former Road overseers.

Crowder testified that Murphy had given him two ten dollar bills in Murphy's office to quiet the matter when Crowder learned that his name had been signed to the road receipts. Crowder says that he took the money to the office of State's Attorney McGee immediately, where they were given to Mr. McGee and marked. These bills were introduced in evidence.

Hardy claimed that his name had been forged to a road receipt for \$245.05 and that Murphy, to make good, had brot to Greene's office and placed before Mr. Hardy \$245 to cover the amount.

The defense dwelt upon the character of the business Mr. Hardy once conducted in Minot, that of running a pool room and tried to hint that Hardy might have been guilty of blind-pigging.

The defense to-day scored several good points. The Fargo Forum has the following to say of the trial:

Witnesses who testified in the Murphy trial Thursday in behalf of the state were the road overseers of the different townships in Ward county where similar alleged forgeries of road tax receipts were found to exist.

In the beginning of the hearing of this case, like at the former trial, Judge Pollock allowed the state to introduce in evidence the several other transactions of a similar nature which were discovered in the other townships of Ward county and which could all be tried within the specific information against Major Murphy.

The first witness called in the morning was F. H. Slatky, road overseer in Minot. Mr. Slatky on direct examination testified that during the year of 1904 Major Murphy called on him and filled out a receipt for \$50. It was stated by the witness that

Some Damaging Testimony has Been Introduced by Both Sides--Slatky's Damaging Testimony for State.

## CASE HARD FOUGHT ONE

Looks Bad for Overseer Dickman of Carter Township Who has a Happy Faculty of not Quite Remembering.

the defendant represented to him that that amount was due the township from the Soo for road taxes and that he required the witness to sign the receipt in ink.

The receipt, signed, was introduced in evidence by the state and showed that \$180 had been paid to Slatky. The witness stated that when he signed the receipt the word fifty was written out and that the figures \$50 were also on the receipt.

Judge Lauder took the witness on cross-examination and after considerable preliminary cross-examination the receipt in question was called to the attention of the witness.

The witness was asked whether he was sure that the word fifty was written out on the receipt and he swore positively it was.

Upon a microscopic examination it was found that the receipt was written upon a very thin piece of paper and that it would have been impossible for the word fifty to have been written in the place on the receipt as described by the witness, and erased and the words one hundred and eighty written in the place. This caused Judge Lauder to dwell on this particular point at some length and he finally secured an admission from the witness that the word fifty was not written out but that the receipt contained the figures \$50.

Slatky made several other admissions upon cross-examination, which undermined his testimony in direct examination.

The second witness during the morning session was F. Wheelock. His testimony was along the same lines as that of Slatky although not quite as exhaustive as the former.

W. J. Dickman, road overseer of Carter township, was the third witness examined during the day. He testified regarding the raising of a road tax receipt which he gave to Major Murphy for which Major Murphy paid him \$50.40, representing to him that the amount paid was all that was due from the Soo for his district in road taxes in 1904.

On cross-examination Judge Lauder asked the witness whether it was not true that he was suspected in his neighborhood of pocketing the money for road tax and never working out the tax.

The witness stated he could not remember.

"Mr. Dickman, is it not true that threats were made in your neighborhood that you were to be prosecuted for embezzling the money for road tax?" was asked.

"I don't remember," replied the witness.

"Will you say there was or was not such threats made?"

"I won't say that there weren't."

"Did you not write a letter

about the time that State's Attorney McGee or Assistant State's Attorney Green saw you about the receipt you say was raised, that you were about to be prosecuted for pocketing the road tax?"

"I don't remember."

"Did your wife write such a letter?"

"I won't swear to that."

"Did Major Murphy ever offer you any money to swear to the receipt?"

"He never did."

"What did Major Murphy give you as road tax for your district?" was asked.

"He came out to where I was working in the field and gave me \$50.40 which he said was due the district for road taxes from the Soo."

"And you signed a receipt for the same?"

"Yes sir. He filled out a receipt in his buggy and handed me a fountain pen and told me to sign it. The receipt was made out in lead pencil."

"And it was for \$50.40?"

"Yes sir."

"And this is the receipt?"

"Yes sir."

The receipt was then closely examined by Judge Lauder and was handed to the jury for its inspection.

This was done to show the jury that there was no possible chance of erasing the pencil writing and substituting a larger amount owing to the quality of the paper the receipt was written upon.

"How did you think Major Murphy was paying you?"

"I thought he was paying me dollar for dollar or 100 cents on the dollar."

"And where did you think Major Murphy was getting his pay from?"

"From the railroad company"

"Isn't it a fact that Major Murphy entered into a contract with you to work out the road tax or hire it done at a rate of 66 per cent?"

"No sir."

"You swear then that what had been written on the receipt you signed has since been erased do you?"

"Yes sir."

"And something else had been written in the receipt other than was in at the time you signed it?"

"Yes sir."

This part of the testimony will play an important part in the trial later on and it is the intention of the defense to show the jury that it would be a physical impossibility for any pencil writing no matter how light to be erased and something else substituted on the paper that was used in making out the receipt. The testimony of Dickman will also be torn down by witnesses whom the defense ex-

## TRACY TO ORGANIZE THEATRICAL CIRCUIT.

A. W. Tracy, the big advance man for the Crows, is contemplating organizing a Theatrical Circuit for North Dakota embracing about 100 of the better towns. Mr. Tracy is acquainted with nearly every opera house manager in the state, and knows also the companies that are playing thru the state. For this reason, he will be able to weed out the poorer companies, giving the people of the circuit only the better class of attractions. He intends co-operating with the eastern circuits and in this manner, expects to be able to play many of the larger companies which have hseretofore played at Grand Forks, Fargo, Jamestown, Bismarck, on their way to the coast. Mr. Tracy believes that he will be able to swing those companies on the Great Northern, playing them at such towns as Devils Lake, Cando, Bottineau, Minot, and at Williston, where a big opera house will soon be built.

Mr. Tracy will make Minot his headquarters, and he will remain at the head of the Crows for this season anyway. He will handle real estate in connect on with the circuit. The proposition is very likely to go thru. There is no man in the state better fitted to carry it thru to success than Mr. Tracy.

## C. G. Hall Was Drugged.

C. G. Hall a laborer, was found about ten o'clock Tuesday night near the viaduct in a stupefied condition,—dead drunk—as the officers thot. The man came to his senses in jail next morning and was astonished. He had been invited into a blind pig and given a drink of beer, which had been doped. The man had lost two pocket books and a watch. The man took the police back to the place where he was found, and the two pocket books were found, but the watch is missing. It is believed that the thieves feared detection and placed the money where the man lay.

## White Earth Farmer Found Dead

Jerry Osmund, a farmer living four miles south of White Earth, was found dead in his manger Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock, one of his horses standing over him. It is believed that the man was killed by the horse, tho his death may have been caused in some other manner. Early Monday morning Guy Williams and another fellow entered the barn and saw Osmund's latern hanging back of the horses. They blew out the light and took the latern down. They did not see anything of Osmund and thot he had left the barn. The man might have been dead at the time.

The Catholic fair which ended Thursday night netted the ladies about \$1900 which will go towards wiping out a \$2000 debt on the present church building. This is an excellent showing.

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