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## Noah Will Die On the Scaffold

### Murderer of Gust Johnson Will Expiate His Crime At Bismarck, October 23--Man Smiles as He Hears Jury's Verdict--Wanted to Address the Jury.

Robert S. Noah, who killed Gust Johnson, the old Kenmare farmer, was found guilty of murder in the first degree and the jury returned a verdict of death at four o'clock Saturday afternoon. The case went to the jury about 11 o'clock Saturday morning, and within a few minutes nine had decided that Noah ought to die, while three of the jurors held for life imprisonment. At 4:30 the defendant was summoned, and informed as to his sentence. He did not show the least emotion and there was a smile on his face as the Judge read the verdict. Noah had remarked that he expected that he would have to swing, but that he didn't give a cuss.

Noah will be hanged at Bismarck on October 23, next and he will soon be taken to the penitentiary. The man is a moral degenerate of the worst type, and during his trial, was the most complacent individual in the entire court room. He frequently smiled and even broke into laughter at things which he thought funny, and endeavored to coach his attorney, K. E. Leighton, who was appointed by the court to defend the culprit. After Mr. Leighton had made a brief address to the jury in behalf of Noah, the prisoner attempted to arise and was going to address the jury himself. His attorney made him sit down. What Noah was going to say, is not known, but it is believed that he would have dared the jury to hang him.

Mr. Leighton believes that Noah is insane to a degree, and in that he agrees with Mr. Leighton. His act was that of a man with a disordered mind, perhaps the result of years of dissipation and riotous living.

Perhaps he inherited some of his cussedness. Mr. Leighton viewed briefly the confession. According to Noah's confession, he has led a criminal career nearly all of his life. In the confession that he once worked on the section at Washburn, N. D., as section foreman, and his attorney showed that a man with criminal inclinations such as Noah had, must have been insane to have worked on the section. Mr. Leighton admitted that Noah was a man dangerous to the community and asked for nothing more than to imprison the fellow for life, where he might be of some use to the world, and yet be out of the way of doing any harm. He gave three reasons for human punishment. First, for the reformation of the offender, second, to deter the commission of other crimes, and third, to prevent the offender from committing other crimes. Punishment by imprisonment in the penitentiary would fulfill all of these. Mr. Leighton's argument was brief and to the point, and no doubt had considerable effect on the jury.

There was little to the trial. The prisoner had already admitted his guilt, and the trial was only made necessary to determine the extent of the punishment. The state's attorney reviewed the confession. At the trial, Noah's faithful wife remained with him all of the time and wept over him. This had no effect whatever on the fellow for he paid no more attention to her than if she were not there. He showed not the slightest emotion or fear. If the governor does not commute his sentence, he will step up onto the scaffold, and as he said, "with a smile on my face and stick my head under the noose."

Noah has told a number of stories about his life which no one believes. He seems to have a great opinion of himself, as though he thought he had done something cute in taking the life of a defenseless old man. During the time that the state's attorney was reading his confession, he smiled like a school boy and when the attorney read how Noah had pulled the trigger, and the man fell back dead, Noah looked as though he had been reading the funny pictures in a Sunday paper.

Noah told one of the prisoners that he had taken Johnson's life, because Johnson had killed his pal. It is believed that this is one of Noah's hallucinations.

Capital punishment in some states is not tolerated and there seems a growing tendency all over the country to do away with it. If anyone ever deserved to be hanged, Noah certainly does. He is a dangerous man at large and if he is imprisoned for fifty years and then pardoned, it is not believed that his nature would change materially. If Noah could be sent to the penitentiary for life and be certain of remaining there, we have no doubt that the jury would have fixed his punishment at life imprisonment, but there is always that uncertainty of a man making his escape, or ultimately of his being pardoned, and this no doubt had much to do with the jury's reaching the verdict that it did. The jury consisted of the following:

W. Abraham, Joe Ballif, O. H. Moon, R. M. Purvis, A. N. Olsen, F. A. Frael, Frank Moon, John Lynch, P. H. Boyce, C. A. Grow, C. L. Prescott, Joe Rowan.

## LONG SEARCH FOR FATHER

Mrs. Louis Muhs, after a search for her father for many years, has discovered that he is living in North Crandall, Wis. The story reads like a novel, nevertheless is quite true.

Mrs. Muhs, when two years of age, was adopted by a family living in Northern Wisconsin. When she was eight years of age, her foster parents died and she was taken back by her mother, her parents having separated. Mrs. Muhs' maiden name was Agnes Wickert.

Her life at home was not pleasant and at quite an early age, she left home, her ambition all of her life being to find her father, whom she could not remember. She learned the barber's trade that she might be able to meet men likely to know something

of her father. Once she thought she had found track of him in Alaska and came very near making a trip to that country. The report that her father was there was evidently a false one. She wrote to many cities for information, and a letter written to the chief of police at Manitowac, Wis., found a cousin who informed her where her father was living.

Mrs. Muhs left Monday night for Wisconsin to visit with her father. He is now about sixty years of age and is living with his mother. The grand mother wrote a pathetic letter to Mrs. Muhs in which she tells of long years spent in trying to locate her.

The meeting will be a very happy one, indeed.

## If The Prairies Could Only Speak

### Story of an Injured Husband Whose Home Was Broken Up and His Life Blighted--Fortune Cast to the Four Winds of Heaven.

If the silent prairies of North Dakota could only speak, they would tell some tales that would cause heart throbs enough. The Independent editor, who has no troubles of his own, is often compelled to listen to tales of woe by those who are really wronged.

On Monday afternoon, a forlorn looking fellow, whose name we will not mention for the sake of his children, entered the Independent office, his head bowed down, for he was broken hearted. He isn't an old man, but he looks ten years older than he really is, and his sunken eyes tell plainer than words that he has experienced terrible agonies.

"There isn't much in life for me, any more, Mister," he said, giving us an appealing look. "You see, Mister, my home is all broken up. Yes, I've been a rich man in my day, but my fortune has been cast to the four winds of heaven by her and--that--that--man. Do you want to hear something of my life? Well, it's quite a story, but I won't bother you long."

"You see, I used to live in the state of --, and I followed the life of a machinist. I made good money at that kind of work, besides I could not stand farm work. My wife lived on the farm which I bought, while I worked in one of the large cities. I earned good money, saved a large portion of it, and sent it to her. We improved the farm, and managed to get 220 acres of land. I hired a fellow to work on the farm and treated him well, treated him as a hired man should be treated, and when I was around, the fellow kept his place. He was a good hand around stock, and I liked him well enough. Well, I was away a good deal and well to make a long story short, he took advantage of my absence and sort of broke up my little home."

"I worried over the trouble so much that I couldn't do my work well any longer in the shops, and lost my job. I decided to come to North Dakota and file on land. My wife induced me to deed her a portion of the land, that I might be able to comply with the law. After I had done this, there was no staying around home any longer. During my absence, she held a sale, came to North Dakota with the hired man and they located on a farm which my wife had purchased by mortgaging the land which I deeded her. Half crazed I followed them to this state and tried in every way possible to form a reconciliation with my wife. I was with them on the farm for a time but I was told by my wife that I was not wanted there. I would leave for a time, then return. I did the best I could for her, putting in the crop one season on her farm. I have prayed that things would soon be different, but I suppose that the Almighty has seen fit that they should be as they are. I am here in Minot working at my trade getting good wages, I could soon forget my wife, but she has even poisoned the minds of my children and they will not recognize me."

"I have a good many warm friends in Minot and they are standing by me. I am working hard, and trust that some day a chance will come, which will make me happy again."

"I have sold my land in --, and have invested in 320 acres of land in Ward county."

"I certainly have my troubles. What would you do Mister, if you were in my place?"

And before we could choke down the lump of sympathy that had gathered in our throat, the man with tears streaming down his face, passed out of the door and was lost in the crowd.

The little incident brought to mind the verse we learned when a boy:

"If every man's eternal care,  
Were written on his brow,  
How many would our pity share  
Who have our envy now."

### ASSESSORS HELD MEETING

Secure Their Books and are Now at Work--Schedule Same as Last Year--Must Take Full Valuation.

The assessors of the county held a meeting at the court house Saturday and secured their books. The auditor instructed them to assess on the full valuation plan this year and not vary from the plan one iota. The schedule is exactly the same as last year and the assessors will begin work this week. Many will not be thru with the work until the first of July.

### Turkish Bath Parlors

The Turkish Bath parlors at the Opera Barber shop have been reopened, with Mark Nelson, as attendant. Mr. Nelson is an old Turkish bath man, and is giving the best of satisfaction. The parlors are run in regular metropolitan style and are patronized well. Mr. Nelson's hours are every night between the hours of 8 p. m. and 7:30 a. m.

### For Sale Cheap.

One hundred sixty acres good farming land, fifteen miles west of Minot and six miles south of Des Lacs. Description as follows: NW 1-4 of NW 1-4 section 14, E 1-2 of NE 1-2, NE 1-4 of SE 1-4 section 15, township 154, range 85. Price \$10 per acre. Write Otto Rood, 417 Central Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 4-16-4-30 chg.

### Olson Gets a Year.

John O. Olson of Harvey, who several days ago robbed his landlady, Christina Weiber of Harvey, of \$175 and who was arrested at Moorhead by Chief of Police Andy Dompler of Harvey, was up before Judge Burke, who came up from Carrington and held a special session of court here Thursday, plead guilty to the charge of stealing the money and was sentenced to one year in the state penitentiary. Mrs. Weiber appeared before the judge and with tears in her eyes begged for clemency for the prisoner, but the judge thought that a year in the pen would give him time enough to think over his error and make new resolutions to lead a better life hereafter.

### An Educated Horse.

Will J. Steinbach has trained one of the young horses on his father's farm out southeast of this village until the intelligent animal can give any of the trick animals generally seen in the ring a great many pointers in the game. In all, the animal does thirty-four different stunts and they are all good ones, among them being the difficult ones of taking your coat off and helping you put it on, untying a handkerchief from your neck, putting a collar around your neck and taking it off, saying his prayers, and a lot of others. It is the intention of Master William to bring "Dock" to town some of these Saturdays and give an exhibition, and when he does you must not fail to see them go thru with the performance. It will be well worth seeing.--New Rockford Transcript.

### Back From the West

John Rosencrans and family returned from Washington Saturday night. Mr. Rosencrans is an old time North Dakotan and has yearned to return to this state ever since leaving a little over a year ago. He states that the fruits, flowers and cheery climate of Washington are nothing when compared to the golden harvests of North Dakota, and that a farm in North Dakota over which winter blizzards blow is a paradise compared to the dense and smothering dust of Washington desert. John will remain here permanently and no literature of real estate agents bordering on the Pacific will ever be sufficiently eloquent to persuade him to leave here again. The financial panic has paralyzed business in the far west while it appears hardly to be felt here. He also says that John and Frank Schumacher and their families have already packed their trunks to start back home.--Townier News and Stockman.



**KNUTE T. HAGEN**  
Republican Candidate for the Nomination for Clerk of Court, of Ward County.  
For Twenty-three Years a Resident of Minot and Ward County.

### HOGGING IT ALL

Hansbrough's Characteristic Trick of Claiming Undeserved Credit.

Hansbrough is at the old game of claiming the credit for all Congressional legislation in behalf of North Dakota interests. His latest bit of piracy is to assert that he alone is responsible for bringing about the irrigation experiment now in progress at Williston.

When the Reclamation Bill was before Congress, Hansbrough declared he had no personal interest in the measure. He did not even attend the sessions of the National Irrigation Congress at either Ogden or Mandan, or the State Congress at Bismarck.

Now that pumping for irrigation purposes seems likely to be a success, he is endeavoring to star himself as its original promoter in this state. As a matter of fact, it was General Williams and Alex McKenzie of Bismarck, and Mayor Wegley of Williston who brought about the success of the experiment in North Dakota, and it is to Senator McCumber and Congressman Gronna, of North Dakota, Senator Clapp and Congressman Stevens, of Minnesota, and Senator Newlands, of Nevada, in particular that credit should be given for northwest support of the reclamation bill in congress. Hansbrough needn't send for Roosevelt's pen this time.

**Find Free Gold.**  
A telegram from Rawhide, Nev., states that free gold had been struck on one of the mines owned by the mine parties. This is a great find and makes the mine worth a cuss.

### GREAT DEMAND FOR CREAM

White Bros. Ice Cream Factory Uses Many Gallons of Cream a Day. Pays Farmers Spot Cash For the Product--Splendid Market.

White Bros. the ice cream manufacturers have paid the farmers of Northwest North Dakota thousands of dollars for cream during the past few years and the demand for this product has been growing year after year. They are now offering excellent inducements to secure enough of this product for their increasing trade, and will pay spot cash for the same. The prices which they offer makes it pay the farmer a good deal more than making butter or selling to a creamery. Farmers will find it to their interests to call on this firm, to write them concerning the sale of their cream. This firm does a good square business, as everyone knows who has any dealing with them, they make an excellent product of ice cream, have a ready sale for the same and can afford to do well by the farmers.

White Bros. anticipate a greater business this year than ever before. They supply practically the entire northwest with their product of ice cream and reach away out into Montana.

Have just returned from the east and am in better shape to loan money on farm security than ever before. I loan for a large Chicago life insurance company, and their prepayment privileges, etc., are very favorable to the borrower.  
—T. E. Shaney, Superior, N. D.

**GIFTS FOR EASTER**

Second to Christmas only, Easter is the great gift season of the year

Our assortment of suitable Easter Gifts are large and the range in price and variety of articles shown makes a pleasing selection at this store an easy matter

**W. H. REIGHART**  
THE EXCLUSIVE JEWELER  
WATCH INSPECTOR G. N. RAILWAY

### Will Locate at Minot

It is with regret that the friends of Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Newlove learn that they intend making their future home at Minot. The doctor has for sometime been thinking over the matter of going into partnership with his brother who is already located there, and has reached a decision to do so. He will leave here about the 15th, and Mrs. Newlove and babe will go out there about the 1st of May. While we regret having them leave Rugby, we can only wish them the best of prosperity in their new home.--Rugby Tribune.

### For County Surveyor.

E. J. Thomas, who has been deputy surveyor for the past two years, will endeavor to secure the Republican nomination for the office and his chances appear excellent. In fact he is the only candidate in the field, so far as we know, and he is well qualified. Mr. Thomas has the office in better shape than it ever was before. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, where he took a course in Civil engineering.

### Wife Nagged Him.

The Drake vs. Drake divorce case was argued before Judge Goss Saturday afternoon. The husband who is a Ward county coal miner, was suing his wife for divorce. The evidence showed that Drake had left his wife in Milwaukee, coming west. He endeavored to show that his wife was very cruel to him, in the way of continually nagging him, but the judge denied the motion.

Are you going to wear a new suit for Easter? A Stein-Block suit fits you, is stylish and wears as well as made to order clothing. You save from \$10 to \$15 on the suit. Look my stock over. E. M. Mitchell, Masonic Temple.

Recently a farmer in which house a telephone had just been placed, found immediate and priceless employment for it in calling a doctor to attend his only son suddenly stricken with a deadly disease. It was late at night, no telegraph offices were open, the distance some fifteen miles. The difference in time between what would have been the utmost speed of a mounted messenger, and the sending of the telephone message for the doctor was the saving of the young man's life.

### The Farm Telephone.

Farmers get more good out of their telephone is not only a business conclave of patrons do. To them the telephone is not only a business convenience, but a means of social intercourse as well. It has often protected their property from injury, and even saved the lives of their wives and children. Not long ago a farmer was called to his window by the sound of galloping hoofs, and looking out saw a pair of runaway horses dashing past, whirling along a buggy containing two frightened and helpless women. Being a quick-witted man, he wasted no time in useless attempt at pursuit, but rushed to his telephone and told a neighbor living some distance down the road what was coming. This neighbor as the farmer knew, had a crew of men employed near his house, and when the runaways reached that point they met a line of strong, courageous fellows who stopped them and rescued the women from otherwise certain death.

### A Sweeping Resolution.

The county commissioners passed a resolution last week, providing that no physician except the county physicians within a radius of ten miles of Minot shall doctor a county patient.

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Col. M. H. Wiesler of Norwich held a very successful sale at Learn's feed barn Saturday afternoon. Mr. Wiesler is planning on holding monthly sales in this city, and allowing the farmers to bring in anything which they desire to sell, and he will sell it. The merchants could give special inducements for that day, which they no doubt will do, and we can have a genuine old fashioned market day. This would prove a very good thing for the city as well as for the farmers. Prizes could be given and withal we could get together and have a good time.

My \$15 and \$20 suits can't be equalled in style, fit or durability. They are \$15 values. I am quoting these prices to introduce my clothing stock. Come in and inspect them. E. M. Mitchell, Masonic Temple.