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Stockholders Given Banquet

Union National Bank Officials Give Men Interested in the Institution Good Time at Leland—Directors and Officers Re-elected—Bank in Fine Condition

It would be hard to find a more satisfied lot of stockholders of any bank, than the thirty who compose the Union National Bank of Minot, all of whom were present at the annual stockholders' meeting held at the banking rooms of the institution Tuesday night. And why should they not be satisfied? The bank has had a most prosperous year, a ten per cent dividend has been declared, between three and four thousand dollars added to the surplus fund, and there are assets amounting to nearly ten thousand dollars besides. This has been a splendid showing for the past twelve months, since the bank was reorganized, and the capital stock placed entirely in the hands of local men.

The stockholders were so well pleased with the manner in which the business had been conducted during the past year that the same board of directors were elected as follows:

Bradford, J. Fauchald and P. B. Anderson, J. Fauchald and P. B. Anderson.

The board re-elected the following officers:

President—E. S. Pergen.
Vice Pres.—B. H. Bradford.
Cashier—S. J. La Due.
Asst. Cashier—C. A. Haskins.
Second Asst. Cashier—C. H. Zehring.

After the business meeting, the stockholders adjourned to the Leland Cafe where an eight course dinner was served, after which an enjoyable and most instructive program of toasts was rendered. Attorney Le Sueur, who has an abundance of ready wit made an admirable toastmaster. He was chuck full of good stories and kept the crowd in a roar.

"How does the Union National Bank stand with the Public?" was the subject of a toast, responded to by Messrs. John Ehr, J. C. Smallwood, A. V. Swanson, and Peter Vandenoever. All proved excellent extemporaneous speakers and brot out some good points.

Mr. Le Due responded to "Troubles of Our Own," and after he had finished, we had no doubt that bankers really have troubles. They not only have their own, but have to bear the burden of a share of those of others. It takes an adept to turn a man down who does not deserve credit and still retain his friendship.

Mr. Haskins spoke on the same subject, giving an account of the troubles with the detail work. One has to keep a correct account of the standing of each customer of the bank, and not allow him to overdraw his account, and many are prone to do.

"Suggestions to the men behind the Bank" was the subject of toasts from Messrs. O'Dell, Colcord, McClure and Nedrud. Mr. O'Dell thinks that the ideal cashier is a pleasant jolly fellow, one who does a favor in a pleasant manner, so that when the favored one has business with a bank, he will be certain to come back. Mr. Colcord could not find any criticisms to make on the Union National, but gave ten reasons why a certain bank failed to make good. Mr. McClure and Mr. Nedrud gave some good advice to the management and brot out some really good points.

"Short Stories with some ancient history" proved a most interesting subject and the subject was handled well by Martin Jacobson and P. B. Anderson. Mr. Jacobson who is one of the oldest settlers in Minot, told of the days when the Bank of Minot was started by B. Ashley Miers, one of the shrewdest bankers that ever operated in North Dakota. He had his good points, but was ahead of his time and failed. The First National Bank was the next banking institution and this failed out of the remnants of the

Northern Bank, now the Second National, was organized, and this today is the oldest bank in the county. The Security State Bank was next organized and for a time did a flourishing business. When the chief assets of this bank became fast horses and automobiles, this bank failed. It was known as the Minot National bank at the time of failure. The Union National Bank was organized next and then the Minot State. Mr. Jacobson paid a high tribute to the other banks of the city and that there was plenty of room for all.

Mr. Anderson gave a witty speech, and told principally of the reorganization of the Union National Bank and are some interesting details of the working of the bank under the old management. Mr. Anderson has been a stockholder ever since the bank was organized and was well qualified to speak on this subject.

Mr. Skriveth, Eldon White and Mr. Fauchald told "how the stockholders could assist the management. Mr. Fauchald told that they could do much towards lining up new business. Mr. Skriveth gave an exceedingly witty speech full of good points. Mr. White was sorry the bank was not located in Harrison township.

"A look into the future" was handled in an eloquent manner by Mr. Bradford who does not want to see the bank grow in mushroom manner, thru long profits, but wants a steady growth, built from the ground up on a firm foundation.

"The Lawyer's Relation to the Bank" by John Lewis, elicited a burst of applause that showed that the speaker's remarks had gone home. Mr. Lewis is an excellent after dinner speaker. Mr. Lewis told that a bank could do much in discouraging men who do not do business in a business like manner.

"My Conception of a good Bank" was handled well by Dr. Carr, Chas. Graham and Mr. Pergen. Dr. Carr gave some interesting data regarding the banks of the early days away back several hundred years ago when national banks received money, but never paid it out, allowing the depositors to transfer their accounts to others. He paid a big tribute to Alex. Hamilton, our country's early banker, and that that a bank with a capital stock about the same as that of the Union National, located in a city of about the size of Minot, with say—thirty stockholders, was his conception of an ideal bank. Mr. Graham's idea of a good bank is one that offers protection to the patrons, reasonable accommodations and a fair profit to the investor.

Mr. Pergen's ideal bank is built on character. It is one whose surroundings are not shoddy and whose every employe is a man of strict business integrity. He does not want a sporty man employed in his bank.

"Helpful suggestions" were given by the Toastmaster, Mr. Boe, Mr. Truax, Mr. Morgan and Mr. White. The pleasant affair closed with a vote of thanks to the officers for the efficient manner in which the business had been conducted.

J. C. Smallwood, whose advertisement has appeared in practically every issue of the Independent since he opened his grocery store here four years ago, will be one of our steady advertisers this year. Mr. Smallwood's advertisements are classy, he gives the matter his attention, and says he makes money out of the investment. His ads. are read very generally, as he never allows them to run for longer than two weeks without a change. His ad. this week, calls attention to a big grocery sale, and some tempting prices are quoted. This is a grocery store of quality, and Mr. Smallwood deserves the trade that he is getting.

Is There a Combination? Weds the Sweetheart

Independent Talks With Commissioners Who Say They Are Willing at All Times to Do the Fair Thing—Taxpayers Need Not Worry

Chairman C. C. Willis, of the board of county commissioners has named Jens Glein of the Second district as one member of the Court House and Hospital Board, which according to a resolution made by Com. Arne Amundson of White Earth, makes Mr. Willis the other member. Com. Abbott's motion making Mr. Hurd one of the members of those important committees did not receive a second. Mr. Hurd feels as tho he should have been a member of the court house and hospital committee being the member from the First district and has refused to act on the Checking committee, which would mean a lot of work, and little credit.

Amundson, Glein and Willis seem to agree on most of the propositions and being a majority, can carry nearly any proposition they desire. There might be room for criticism here, were it not for the fact that they are three very careful men and the taxpayers need not fear that they are going to do anything rash. Hurd and Abbott have been lined up on practically every proposition so far, but have been unable to make much headway. The Reporter is criticizing Willis Amundson and Glein because it believes that a "combination" has been made between those three men. A majority always rules, and the Reporter should not be surprised that a majority takes it upon themselves to decide the various propositions. That majority of course should decide matters in the right manner, but so far we have been unable to see where they have failed to do so. The Independent would have no objection to seeing Mr. Hurd appointed on the Hospital and Court House committees, but Chairman Willis did not see fit to make such an appointment, and we do not feel like making any criticism. Mr. Willis knows a thing or

two about being a county commissioner, and we feel that everything will turn out all right.

Since writing the above, we have talked personally with Messrs Willis, Glein and Amundson, and they have assured us that they have made no combination. They state that they are ready at all times to talk over the various propositions that confronts the commissioners with those interested in them, and we believe that there is no reason why our board of commissioners cannot agree on practically everything of importance. No two men can see alike all of the time, and we believe that if the three commissioners mentioned should see differently on a subject, they would not hesitate in voting against each other. Take the case of the county official papers for instance. The majority of the board really favored the Minot Optic, which paper has not been official for some time, yet the other commissioners gave in to Mr. Hurd, and allowed him to name the Reporter. This does not look like a combination. The Independent is against combinations at all times, and if at any time we should believe that any three commissioners are working together to the detriment of the taxpayers in general, we will not be slow in making our views public. It is unfortunate that the First district does not have a member on the court house and hospital committee. Mr. Willis no doubt has his reasons for not appointing Mr. Hurd. A number of business men who were somewhat alarmed by the Reporter's editorial concerning the combination, visited the commissioners' meeting the following day and found everything going smoothly and came away feeling certain that the taxpayers would receive the fairest kind of treatment by every member of the board.

Weds the Sweetheart Of His Youth

J. D. Gordon, Prominent Ward County Farmer Marries Mrs. Jessie Davis, the Lady to Whom He Was Engaged 35 Years Ago—Both Had Wed

The culmination of a very pretty romance, extending over a period of thirty-five years, was the marriage of J. D. Gordon, one of Ward county's prominent farmers, and Mrs. Jessie Davis, a charming lady of Butte, Mont. The wedding occurred on Jan. 2 at Butte, where Mr. Gordon had gone three weeks prior to visit the sweetheart of his youth.

Thirty-five years ago, when Mr. Gordon was a youth, he courted Mrs. Davis, then a slender brunette whose maiden name was Jessie McCucker. Miss McCucker lived on an adjoining farm and the two were lovers from their youth. They plighted their vows and intended soon to wed. One night they attended a dance, and over some slight disagreement, they quarreled. It proved to be one little act that changed their entire lives. At the same dance was Miss Mary Wike, a close friend to Jessie McCucker, a pretty blonde and after the quarrel, Mr. Gordon began paying attentions to Miss Wike. The couple were engaged in a short time, and soon afterwards wed. This all took place back in Barry, Ill. Two women never "fell out" over the affair and have remained fast friends all of their lives. Miss McCucker soon afterwards married a Mr. Davis and they left Illinois locating in the west. Twenty years ago, Mr. Davis died, leaving a wife and a daughter, who since has grown and married. For the last few years, Mrs. Davis has been a resident of

Butte, where she owns a large amount of valuable property.

Mrs. Gordon was of a very unselfish nature and shortly before she died she told her husband that if anything ever happened to her that he should name as the sweetheart of his youth and marry her. She was still willing. Mr. Gordon carried out the wishes of his former wife, and since he had not met Mrs. Davis for fifteen years, he knew where she lived, and along towards the holiday season he stole away from his friends and was married.

Living in Butte are five McCucker sisters, all in good circumstances, and the four accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Gordon to Seattle and Spokane where they spent a week or more on their honeymoon.

Mrs. Gordon will not arrive in Minot until March. She has business interests that will demand her attention at Butte for some weeks yet. Mr. Gordon arrived some other day and is receiving the congratulations of his many friends.

Mrs. Gordon is a book keeper and stenographer, having taken up the work after the death of her husband, and with her business ability, she will prove a valuable assistant to her husband, who is manager of the 2000 acre Scofield farm.

The years have dealt kindly with her and she still retains much of the beauty that characterized her in her youth.

The Independent wishes through an abundance of happiness.

Matrimonial Paper Gets Doc Reed Wife

Ross Farmer Secures Pretty Virginia Widow Thru Advertisement--Wedding Was a Happy Event--John Carter Attends the Couple

Doc Reed, a steady farmer residing ten miles south of Ross, has won a prize in the way of a beautiful young Virginia widow. Doc grew lonely out on the broad prairie and no damsel to his liking living near by, he sought the assistance of a matrimonial journal, bless the publication—and soon entered into correspondence with a beautiful young widow, of Virginia. Doc spruced up a bit, put on a "blond" shirt, got the photographer to take his picture, and after touching it

up in a manner that made her really handsome, he sent the couple last week, with her little girl, and the marriage ceremony was performed. John Carter, the accomodating Ross butcher attended Mr. Reed at the wedding, and one of the belles of Ross, "stood up" with the bride.

Doc is really a good fellow and will make his wife a good comfortable home.

Knocks the Gas Proposition

A Sorehead, Kansan Sends Scurrilous Letters to Minot Parties—Also Sends Copies of Kansas City Star—Will Do No Damage

A number of copies of the Kansas City Star containing an article concerning the gas supply of Kansas City, have been sent to the most prominent of Minot's citizens, in hopes of giving our own gas proposition a black eye. It is a fact that during the recently cold snap in Kansas City, the gas supply was not adequate to furnish all the heat necessary. It must be remembered that the gas is piped from Chanute Kan., several hundred miles distant, thru two six inch pipes, and the supply was sorely tested. A large number of towns all thru that country are supplied with gas, and more wells may be needed in that district. The gas proposition however has been a big success in Kansas, and is today, the same as it is in North Dakota. The papers were no doubt sent by a crooked fellow who was

"frozen" out of the Kansas company. Several typewritten letters denigrating the people from investing in the Great Northern Gas proposition, were also sent here. They were written by a lawyer, who does not care a tinker's dam whether the North Dakota proposition is a success or not. He was probably paid to get out this literature. The Great Northern Gas and Pipe Line Company invites the closest inspection. The more you see of the wells, the more you will like the idea of owning a little stock. The Independent editor knows that have the gas in the Westhope field now. If it only holds out—and there is no reason to believe that it will not—the proposition will surely be the greatest success of the Age in North Dakota.

Wm. Black of Chicago is reported to have a daughter who was born last night at the Leland hotel. Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Seglen.

Second National Does Nice Business

At Annual Meeting of Stockholders, Twelve Per Cent Dividend Announced and \$10,000 Placed to the Surplus—Old Officers Re-elected

The stockholders of the Second National bank held their annual meeting Tuesday night, and the following directors were re-elected: Joseph Roach, D. H. Lord, James Johnson, T. P. Kulaas and R. E. Barron. The following is a list of the officials re-elected for the ensuing year:

President, Jos. Roach.
Vice Pres., James Johnson.
Cashier, R. E. Barron.
Asst. Cashier, H. E. Byrum.

The reports read at the meeting, showed that the year past has been by far the most successful year in the history of that institution. A dividend of twelve per cent was declared and \$10,000 were added to the surplus fund.

The Second National Bank, which was known as the Great Northern

bank until about five years ago, is the oldest banking institution in Ward county and its business has ever been conducted along conservative lines. The bank has grown until it is one of the strongest banks in the state, the surplus fund of the bank now being \$35,000. It would indeed be hard to find a more capable, conscientious accommodating set of officers than are connected with the Second National bank.

We are proud of Minot's banks. While they are not considered philanthropic institutions, they contribute a great deal to the growth and development of Minot and are in a position to do better service than ever. The Second National bank has a nice list of patrons, their November deposits running up past the eight hundred thousand mark.

The Minot academy of Music is enjoying a very large patronage, more than fifty students being enrolled regularly. There are some thirty new students. The piano contest brot in a large number, and the lucky one will be judged according to the most progress made in a certain period, one year we believe. The piano is a good one, and well worth striving for.

M. O. Seglen is giving away to his customers a beautiful souvenir in the way of a glass covered calendar with the picture of the interior of his store. Mr. Seglen has recently completed an addition and has made other improvements that has made the store among the best of the kind in the state.

John Strommen has gone to Crookston, Minn., to visit his father and brothers.

Mrs. Jack Sheehan of Tasker was shopping in the city Tuesday and Wednesday.

At a meeting of the county commissioners Monday morning Dr. Larson was re-appointed county physician for the ensuing year.

D. H. Lord, the contractor, is in quite a serious condition at the Leland hotel, suffering from a severe cold.

John W. Black was one of the sheriffs at Venatchee.