

THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

—THE INDEPENDENT HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY WEEKLY PAPER IN THE STATE—

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E. B. GLICK OF FOXHOLM WINS CLAIM NUMBER ONE

6,000 Names Have Already Been Drawn—Minot Well Represented—Congressman Hanna at Drawing—Little Son Drew Out First Number.

The drawing for the Berthold lands began at Dolbeck's hall at ten o'clock Wednesday morning, 2000 names being drawn the first day. A similar number were drawn today and the remaining two thousand names will be drawn tomorrow. Six thousand names in all will be drawn, as Judge Witten has learned from experience that on the average, only one in three or thereabouts will file on land drawn in a government lottery. There are approximately 1000 claims to be filed upon, but in case that Congressman Hanna's bill is passed at the next session of Congress, and there is every reason to believe that it will, there will be 1000 additional homesteads, to which the homesteaders may secure surface patent.

E. B. Glick, of Foxholm, N. D., secured chance No. 1, and as Judge Witten read his name, and the crowd of several hundred learned that a North Dakotan was successful, there were lusty cheers, for the lucky Foxholmite.

The drawings were made in full view of the public on a raised platform about twelve feet square in the front of the building. Here the blue envelopes containing the 20,504 affidavits, were brought in, in huge tin cans and scattered about the platform. There was no chance for one of them to become lost, as woven wire had been placed all about the platform. Before the drawing took place, government clerks stirred the envelopes well with scoops, so that each person who registered could consider that he had as fair a chance as the next one. Robert, the little son of Congressman Hanna, had the honor of selecting the first envelope. He was not blindfolded. Judge Witten said that it was entirely unnecessary to blindfold the lad because he had seen to it that there wasn't a mark of any kind on any envelopes.

"If there is anybody here who thinks he can pick his own envelope from the bunch, come up," the judge said. "I'll give you thirty minutes to do it, and will guarantee to give you No. 1, providing you forego all your other chances." Nobody appeared.

Congressman Hanna stood near his son and said: "Walk around and then thrust your hand down towards the bottom and pick out an envelope." He did so and as he stood holding up the envelope, C. A. Fisher, the photographer, took a flash light picture of the lad. Later another flashlight picture was taken of Congressman Hanna, ex-Gov. Devine and Judge Witten, with Masters Robert Hanna and Douglas Devine, who assisted in the drawing, in the foreground.

Adjoining the platform, was a space allotted to the landoffice officials, city officials, the stenographers and representatives of the various newspapers. The hall was packed with interested spectators, altho a heavy rain was falling, continuing all day long. As the names were called, the affidavits were handed to the government stenographers, who made lists of them.

Judge Witten made a very interesting address just before the drawing began. He said that years ago, when government land was opened for settlement, the homesteaders made a grand rush for the claims, at the firing of a gun. Sometimes two men located on the same homestead and one was bound to lose. The man who won usually spent in litigation all the place was worth. The honest man told the truth, and the dishonest man usually got the claim. Land is getting too scarce for such rushes any more, and besides the government hit upon the lottery plan which has been used successfully in several drawings. He stated that the letters received by him thru the postoffice were placed at once in metallic cans and guarded night and day.

He stated that a great many people

JOHNSON CHARGED WITH MURDER IN FIRST DEGREE

Testimony of Mrs. Gash at Coroner's Inquest, Makes it Look Bad for Grelland Farmer—Body Buried Today.

The body of John Gash, the man who was murdered near Grelland post office, twenty miles southwest of this city Monday evening, was brot to Minot in Judge Murray's automobile Tuesday evening and placed in Rowan's morgue. Here the inquest was held Wednesday afternoon, Judge Murray acting for Coroner Taylor. The jury found that Gash had met his death from a gun shot wound, the charge entering his head behind the right ear, fracturing the skull and tearing the right meningeal artery. A post mortem examination had been conducted by Drs. Titus and Ringo. The coroner's jury charged Gust Johnson with murder in the first degree.

Mrs. Gash was the main witness at the inquest. She stated that her husband had bought Johnson's claim conditionally, and Monday evening about 5:30 he started across the road to Johnson's sod shack, about 600 feet from Gash's house, to tell Johnson that he intends to fulfill the contract. There is a slight raise of land between the two houses, but words spoken at one place can easily be heard at the other. Mrs. Gash hearing the men quarrelling, crawled up a ladder at the side of her home and saw her husband approach within 50 feet of Gash's house. Johnson ordered Gash off the place, saying he didn't want to talk to him. Gash replied that he didn't have to get off the place and he would talk to Johnson if he wanted to. Johnson told Gash to get off the place or he would shoot him, and he appeared in the door with a gun. Gash started to run when Johnson shot. Gash fell mortally wounded, and Mrs. Gash ran to her husband's side. Johnson went to the home of a neighbor, a relative of Mrs. Gash and said: "You had better go over and see Marie. I've shot her husband."

Gash was found unconscious. Medical aid was summoned from Douglas, but the man was dead before the doctor arrived. The remains of Gash were interred at Rose Hill cemetery this afternoon, funeral services being conducted from Rowans undertaking parlors by Rev. Olsen.

MAN WAS GIVEN KNOCKOUT DROPS

Axel E. Noxon of Dwight, N. D., Loses \$28 After Companions Give Him Beer Containing Dops.

Axel E. Noxon of Dwight, N. D., arrived in the city Saturday in time to register, tho he came near not being here at all. On his way to Minot, he stopped at Wahpeton and sitting in the Commercial hotel Friday night, he was approached by two men who asked him to take a drink of beer with them. Axel wanted to be sociable, and besides he does appreciate a good drink of the amber fluid, so accepted. No sooner had he taken a drink from the bottle, than he began to feel queer. The beer contained knockout drops. Axel woke up several hours later in an alley and he learned the next morning that every cent he had of his fund of \$28, was missing. So were his companions. He borrowed money from his brother-in-law with which to complete his journey and after arriving here, needed funds so badly that he pawned his suit case.

12,458 REGISTERED AT MINOT

Last Day Proved Quite Exciting—John Stevenson Last Man to Register—Lansford Man Nearly Loses Chance to Register.

The registration for the Berthold land ended at midnight Saturday night, the total registration at Minot being 12,458. The registration during the closing day was quite heavy and there was some rivalry as to whom should be the last to register.

John Stevenson, one of the notaries, registered a few seconds to 12 o'clock. He had his affidavit in readiness and just before the hour of midnight was reached, he handed it to another notary who placed his seal upon it. Axel Lindquist thought he was going to be the last, having handed in his application just a few seconds prior to the time that Stevenson handed in his.

Tollef Sather a Lansford man, arrived by auto at 11:30 o'clock and was greatly disappointed to learn that he could not register because he was not a citizen. Robert Gillespie, one of the notaries, routed John H. Stenersen of the county judge's office out of bed and secured the necessary papers and the man was able to register just a minute and a half to twelve.

MINOT SCHOOLS OPEN.

The Minot schools opened Monday, but that being a legal holiday, Labor day, little work was done. The pupils were assigned their places. The enrollment this year is over 1200 and there are 260 new pupils, the greatest number of new ones in the history of the school. The work is progressing nicely. Supt. Wolfe is beginning upon his twelfth year here as the head of our schools.

GOTCH DEFEATED THE RUSSIAN LION IN TWO STRAIGHT FALLS

Frank Gotch, champion catch-as-catch-can wrestler of the world, defeated George Hackenschmidt, the Russian wrestler, in Chicago Monday afternoon before a crowd of 35,000 people. Gotch defeated his man in two straight falls in less than twenty minutes. The first fall was secured in 14 minutes and 18 seconds by a half Nelson and the second in 5 min-

INDIAN AGENT VISITS MINOT

INDIAN AGENT VISITS MINOT. Major Hoffman, Who is a Regular Little Czar Among His Tribes, on the Reservation, Talks of Conditions There.

Major Hoffman, Indian agent, at the Fort Berthold reservation, visited Minot Friday in the interest of his tribes. He is a dapper little gentleman and shows evidence of being well educated. Speaking of the Indians he said: "You would be surprised to see how the Redmen are taking to agriculture. Many of them have well tilled fields and they are very prosperous. An Indian is not allowed to dispose of the farming lands which the government has allotted him, unless in my judgment, he is qualified to make better use of the money which he would receive than keep his land. In most cases, I recommend that the Indian keep his land. There are lands on the reservation, left by deceased Indians, that may be sold."

"I am surprised that the government has retained so much of the land for coal purposes. True there is some coal on the reservation, but most of the land has no evidences of coal and it would be necessary to dig two or three hundred feet under the surface to get it. I think that this land eventually will be thrown open to settlement, giving the homesteaders a right of surface patent."

The major's attention was called to a tall man who stood about six feet four inches. He declared that there was an Indian named Coffey, out on the reservation who stood six feet eight or ten inches in his moccasins.

MRS. PARKER VISITS MONTANA.

Mrs. Clarence Parker returned from Fowler, Mont., where she spent a week visiting her father, J. D. Gordon, formerly a resident here. Mr. Gordon has splendid crops this year, his flax averaging about 20 bushels. Mrs. Parker brot home a sample of the flax, which stands 32 inches high in the field.

Miss Esther Parker, who has been enjoying an outing at Lake McDonald, returned with her mother.

DINNIE WILL BUILD ARMORY

D. A. Dinnie, who has secured the contract for the erection of the new armory, broke ground for that structure Saturday. It is hoped that the building can be completed this year. The foundation will be put in at once.

JOHN GASH, OF RICE LAKE, MURDERED BY GUST JOHNSON

GOOD LECTURES BY UNIVERSITY

The Commercial club has made arrangements to finance five extensive lectures, in connection with the state university.

The first lecture, illustrated, "Making of a Town," will be given about Oct. 15, by Pres. McVey.

The second number will be given early in November by Frederick Koch professor of dramatic literature, who will give readings from Romeo and Juliet.

Dean Babcock of the school of mines will lecture early in December on lignite coal, briquettes and gas.

The fourth number will be the big one and will be given by Dean Bruce on Monday, Jan. 15, on Robert Burns.

Vernon P. Squires, head of the English department, will give the fifth lecture, American war songs and Ballads.

Popular prices will be charged, the admission to be so small that no one can afford to miss these numbers.

YEGGMEN BLOW SAFE IN STANLEY OFFICE

Special to the Independent.

Ross, N. D., Sept. 7.—The Stanley postoffice was burglarized some time during Monday night, tho the exact hour is not known, so quietly did the yeggmens go about their operations. The door of the big safe was blown off with nitro-glycerine, tho the burglars must have been frightened away before they got into the main money drawer and got between five and ten dollars in cash and stamps. The sheriff and deputies are hot on the trail of the yeggmens, who are believed to be members of an organized gang working in the state.

Stanley is the first station east of this city on the G. N.

INJURED BY KERO-

SENE EXPLOSION

Mrs. H. S. Johnson, wife of the manager of the Rogers Lumber Co., met with a serious accident at her home in Eastwood Park Wednesday. Thinking the fire was out in her kitchen range, she poured a quantity of kerosene into the stove, causing a terrific explosion. The flames shot up into her face, burning her hair and eyebrows to some extent, and causing painful, tho not serious burns.

INSANE FATHER MUTILATED FAMILY

A. A. Peters Attacked Wife and Five Children With a Hatchet—Two Members of Family Apt to Die—Father Then Shot Himself.

Williston, D., Sept. 5.—A. A. Peters, a farmer 40 years old, residing near Epping, this county, at an early hour this morning attacked his wife and five children with a hatchet.

All were horribly mutilated, each receiving a dozen wounds or more about the head. All still live, but the wife and one girl are likely to die.

The oldest, a boy of 15, and the sixth child, an infant, were unharmed. Peters placed the muzzle of a shot gun in his mouth and blew off the right side of his head. He was undoubtedly insane when he committed the act, but appeared rational the day before. The wounded children and Peter's body were brought here today, and the wife will be brought tonight on the train.

The family had a prolonged struggle with the insane father. The oldest boy succeeded in telephoning for help, but it was too late.

School Teacher Met Death After Quarrel With Farmer Over Trivial Matter—Farmer Awaits Hearing in County Jail.

John Gash, a former well known resident of Minot, was shot by Gust Johnson, his neighbor at the Gash farm, 20 miles southwest of Minot Monday evening, dying shortly after ten o'clock last night from the terrible wound. Johnson used a shot gun, the charge entering the rear of the head just behind one ear. The man died in terrible agony. Gash was cared for by neighbors until death came.

Johnson claims that the shooting was done in self defense, tho he will no doubt have a hard time proving this.

The trouble arose over a land deal. Last fall, Johnson sold a farm to Mrs. Gash, but nothing was said concerning the buildings. Johnson later sold the lumber from the buildings to a neighbor who was told by Mrs. Gash that they belonged to her, when he came after it. The neighbor said that was all right, that he did not want the lumber if it belonged to her and left. He reported the matter to Johnson who hurried up to the Gash farm. Gash, who had been teaching school in that neighborhood, had returned home shortly before and he started down towards his wife's farm. Here he met Johnson who was on his way to the road with a shotgun. The men had some words and Johnson fired. Gash and Johnson had been the best of friends before that.

Johnson was arrested by Deputy Sheriff J. H. Dillon of Mountrail county early Tuesday morning at the home of Wm. Maker, a neighbor and turned over to Sheriff Kelley that afternoon. He made no resistance and treats the matter very lightly. He merely says that the shooting was done in self defense.

Gash was a man nearly 40 years of age and first came to Minot ten years ago, with his wife and babies. Later he left Minot and moved south. There he had some domestic trouble and his wife left him. He returned to Minot three years ago and worked for a time at Begley's wood and coal yards meeting with an accident there which resulted in a broken arm. The fracture never healed properly and the arm was rebroken, but Gash remained more or less a cripple. He has been teaching school near his farm. A year or so ago he was married to Mrs. Bates, his wife surviving him. Gash was not a troublesome fellow at all, and those who knew him best believe that the shooting was entirely unnecessary.

Johnson was brought to this city Tuesday afternoon and lodged in the county jail, to await his hearing. He will undoubtedly be held to district court. He is a farmer about 40 years of age, and unmarried. He does not realize the seriousness of the offense.

NORMAL BOARD ADVERTISING FOR BIDS

In the Commercial West appears the notice for bids for the erection of the main building and boiler room for the Minot normal school. The bids are to be received up to 10 o'clock a. m. Sept. 26, and it is presumed that the board will meet here at that time. The plans and specifications can be seen at the trade exchanges in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Fargo, Grand Forks and Minot and at the offices of the architects, Hazby & Gillespie, Fargo. It is hoped that there will be no delay in the work for the foundation could just as well be finished this fall.

VISIT FROM OLD MINOTER.

Chas. Gates, a former resident, arrived from Aberdeen, S. D., Tuesday to meet old time friends. Mr. Gates has been engaged in the theatrical business at Aberdeen for several years and he has made quite a success of the business. He is making arrangements to install a circuit similar to the Orpheum.

TO THE FARMER

having the best display of field crops and grains at the Ward County Fair, we will give a

\$5.00

Waterman Fountain Pen

W. H. REIGHART

THE EXCLUSIVE JEWELER

(Continued on page 4)