

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

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MINOT BUSINESS MEN HAVE BEEN SWINDLED

M. O. Seglen Returns from Spokane Where He Testified Against Officers of National Home Loan Assoc. Who Were Found Guilty

M. O. Seglen returned from Spokane, Wash., where he went to testify in the famous Ives-Carr case in the United States district court.

H. S. Ives and George Carr were indicted last month charged with using the mails to defraud in exploiting the merits of the National Home company. The company will be remembered as having had offices in this city in the old Munz building at the corner of Main and Third streets. George Carr was the manager and he is well known in this section.

Both Ives and Carr were found guilty of the charges by the federal jury and were sentenced to serve five years each in the penitentiary and pay a fine of \$1,000. Four of the most noted lawyers on the Pacific coast have charge of their case and as the convicted men are said to have unlimited funds it is likely that the case will be fought clear through to the higher courts.

Minot and North Dakota people are interested in the case because many in this section entrusted the company with their money. Ives was president of the company and Carr secretary.

The system of making loans by the company is said to have been the idea of George Carr, who organized the National Home Building company. The name was later changed to the National Home company. Last April the government returned an indictment against the defendants of the National Home Building company which was thrown out as defective, as the company had changed the name.

More than 4,000 contracts, scattered throughout North Dakota and other western states were sold by the company. The government did not charge that the loan system was a fraud, but the indictment specified that the company sold the contracts under the representation the loans

of \$1,000 at 5 per cent could be received by each contract holder in from six to nine months.

The government spent more than \$5,000 in bringing thirty-one witnesses from distant points, in securing evidence and in the payment of jury's fees. Nearly thirty witnesses testified that they had received the contract with the understanding that they were to receive loans before the nine months.

Mr. Seglen is one of the North Dakota men who entrusted the company with a certain amount of money, and inasmuch as he was personally acquainted with Carr his testimony was important. The government paid all the expenses of his trip.

Carlson is a Manufacturer.

Joe Carlson, the north prairie farmer, who returned to Chicago recently has invested in a stair factory, having a third interest in the concern, which is said to be doing a good business. Joe made plenty of money farming in North Dakota. No wonder he can afford to become a Chicago manufacturer.

NEW SHOE REPAIRING SHOP.

H. S. Halley has opened a shoe repairing shop in the D. A. Dinnie building, corner First and Reishus streets. Mr. Halley is deserving of a share of the people's patronage. He's a good workman, and besides he is unfortunate in being unable to hear.

FUNERAL HELD AT WILLISTON

Remains of Dakotans Killed in Pennsylvania Wreck Shipped There.

Williston, N. D., Dec. 13.—Funerals of J. M. Uhlman and T. R. Bond, the Williston men killed in the wreck of an express train at Manor, Pa., will be held in this city either today or tomorrow, the remains being shipped here from the scene of the wreck.

Mr. Uhlman was a very well known ranch and stock man in this section of the state having extensive holdings in McKenzie. Mr. Bond was the foreman on his ranch, and was also his son-in-law.

They had gone to Europe last September after marketing a large number of cattle in Chicago. They had purchased the thoroughbred horses in France and had intended bringing the entire number to this city. They were due here today had not the accident happened.

Mr. Uhlman formerly resided in Wisconsin, but has been in North Dakota twenty years.

McCoy's Fixtures Arrive.

McCoy & Co. have begun remodeling their store for the installation of the new fixtures that have arrived. Twenty-four feet of new show cases arrived this week and when they are in place, there won't be a more beautiful store in the state.

President Halvor L. Halvorson left for Ottertail county, Minn., on land business. He will also attend the big land show which is in progress in St. Paul, as Minot's representative.

NORWICH VISITED BY BAD BLAZE

Pool Hall and J. W. Shields' General Store Burned Saturday Morning—Fire of Incendiary Origin.

The little city of Norwich, fourteen miles east of Minot, was visited by a \$10,000 blaze about two o'clock Saturday morning.

The fire was first discovered by the crew of a freight train that had just pulled into Norwich and the alarm was given by the engineer tooting the whistle. J. W. Buetner, a Norwich blacksmith, was one of the first citizens on the scene and he says the fire had gotten under good headway in the northwest corner of the pool hall. The pool hall and fixtures were soon a mass of flames and no attempt was made to save that building.

The fire soon spread to the general store of J. W. Shields which was soon totally burned. The Shields' store carried a \$5,000 stock, which was partially covered by insurance.

The old printing office building came near going up in smoke. The citizens covered the building with wet blankets and saved it.

The wind was in the southwest and this is all that saved the entire town from being wiped out. Norwich has no fire protection.

Just how the fire started is not known, tho it is believed that it was of incendiary origin. The owner of the pool hall was cut off town. It is reported that a warrant had been out for his arrest for pigging.

MINOT MAN CAPTAIN OF THE GUARD

The Shriners of the state are already making preparations to attend

MILLARD IS GIVEN SUSPENDED SENTENCE

the big meeting in Los Angeles in May, 1912. The Shriners of the state will send large delegations. We note that Dr. G. R. Ringo of Minot will be Captain of the Guard.

Many Potatoes Frozen in Transit.

Preston Lawrence, of the Lawrence Produce Co., who has been in Kansas for several weeks, marketing several car loads of potatoes shipped from Ward county, will return home this week. Mr. Lawrence found several of the cars in bad shape, the potatoes having frozen in transit. It became necessary for him to have the many hundreds of bushels sorted over. Hardly a car load of potatoes shipped into the south arrived in good shape, even Colorado potatoes being badly nipped. This will have a tendency of making the price of potatoes very high in the south.

Sherman Hard to Satisfy

Secretary Sherman of the Minot Commercial club is hard to satisfy. He wanted a hundred new members added to the club a few days ago, so his committees got out and added not only the hundred, but fifty more. Now he wants to increase the membership of the club from 350 to 500 by Jan. 1, and if he tells the committees that they must do it, of course there will be nothing for them to do, but to get out and perform another feat. "Sherm" just won't be satisfied until the Minot Commercial club ranks number one in the state.

Man Found Guilty of Forgery in the Third Degree Will Not Have to Serve His Suspended Sentence of Two and a Half Years

E. B. Millard, charged with forgery in the third degree, was found guilty by the jury in district court. The jury recommended that the Judge use clemency in sentencing the defendant, and Judge Leighton accordingly gave the man a sentence of two years and a half in the penitentiary, the sentence to remain suspended pending the good behavior of the defendant.

A petition signed by hundreds of Minot's business men was presented to Judge Leighton asking that the sentence be made as light as possible, the signers believing that the circumstances surrounding the changing of the date on the \$55 note, did not warrant sending the man to the penitentiary.

Millard was given a note for \$55 payable October 1, 1911. He says after the note was made out, it was agreed between himself and the man who gave the note that it should be payable on demand. Accordingly, a change was made in the date from 1911 to 1910, the day the note was given. No one lost a cent by the transaction and under ordinary circumstances the case would never have come to trial.

The jury on the first ballot stood six for conviction and six for acquittal. The foreman violated the rules of the jury room, when he left the room and walking into an adjoining room, he asked Sheriff Kelley what the sentence might be in case of conviction. The sheriff advised him to hike back immediately, telling him that he didn't know and wouldn't tell him if he did. Millard no doubt could have secured a new trial upon those grounds, but under the circumstances will not apply for one.

He is a switchman employed by the Great Northern.

LOUIS BERG FACES SERIOUS CHARGE

Minot Young Man Arrested on Charge of Seducing Girl Under Sixteen Years of Age—Three Girls Under Arrest—Other Warrants Out

In a raid on a house on Lincoln avenue Monday afternoon, Louis Berg was arrested on the charge of having carnal intercourse with Ida Budtke, a girl less than sixteen years of age. At the time of the raid, three young women were at the house with Berg and they were also arrested. The quartet were taken to the city jail and locked up. The arrest was made by Officer Wm. Bakeman. When he rapped on the door, there was no response, and he kicked the door in, placing the occupants of the place under arrest.

Two of the girls, Ida Budtke and Lilla Busby are said to be less than sixteen years of age. The other girl arrested is Signa Gilbertson.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Elmer Reed who is charged with having improper relations with Lilla Busby. Another warrant has been issued for the arrest of Richard Reed, charged with a like offense. Raymond Nail is also wanted by the police. It is said that the three young men were in Minot at eleven o'clock Tuesday night, but when the officers went to arrest them Wednesday morning, they had gone.

The hearing of the girls and Louis Berg will take place before Judge Murray today or tomorrow.

The offense with which Berg is charged is punishable by a term in the penitentiary.

It is understood that the mother of one of the girls, growing suspicious, had made complaint to the police, which resulted in the raid.

FARMERS MAY THRESH FLAX OVER

Many Are Contemplating Threshing Valuable Crops Again in the Spring, in Hopes of Saving Much That Went Through Machine

A good many farmers will thresh their piles of flax straw in the spring hoping to get a good many bushels of the valuable product that went thru the machine by reason of the straw not being in the right condition at the time the flax was threshed. During the coldest weather, it is said that the flax threshed perfectly, but when the weather became warmer, much of the flax went thru the machine with the straw. It will not take many bushels from each stack to pay the farmers well for their trouble.

BOARD ISSUES \$31,000 BONDS

First Steps Taken Towards Securing Public Park for Minot—Site Not Yet Selected—Interest 5 Per Cent.

The first steps were taken Monday night by the park board of this city towards a public park for the city of Minot, when the board passed a resolution advertising the sale of \$31,000 park bonds, which must not draw more than 5 per cent interest. The bonds will be issued in denominations of \$1,000. The resolution is signed by F. B. Lambert, president of the board. We understand that the board has no site selected yet.

We've Told the Story Many Times Over

'Tis Simply This--

The newest gifts, the gifts that look the best and please the most people are in the lines we keep. Our store from end to end is a wilderness of such gifts. We have all that is latest in fashion or neatness in style. All the popular fads and fancies. We've any cost from a few cents to many dollars, we've something for everybody.

Jewelry and silverware embrace the most popular gift in the world.

Our store is full of Christmas suggestions.

Special Announcement

We have made special arrangements with Mr. Paul Green traveling salesman for Reed-Bennett Co., of Minneapolis, to be with us during the holidays. His entire line will be at your disposal, same consisting of

Diamonds, Watches, Gold and Gold Filled Jewelry, etc., etc.

Our stock will be equal to any in the state, so do not forget the place.

Hart Swalstead
The Leading Jeweler
Minot