

THE INDEPENDENT HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IN THE STATE.

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WARD COUNTY PRESS ASSOCIATION MET

GOOD REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNTY PUBLISHERS GATHERED TUESDAY AT ASSOCIATION ROOMS — ACCEPT KENMARE'S INVITATION.

A good representation of the publishers of Ward county gathered at the rooms of the Association of Commerce Tuesday evening, to perfect the organization of the Ward County Press Association.

President McLaughlin of Kenmare called the meeting to order at eight o'clock, with the following present; W. E. Krick, Berthold Tribune; T. M. Filbert, Des Lacs Observer; D. R. Green, Sawyer Telegram; M. J. Pavlik, Carpio Free Press; F. A. Parratt, the secretary, Donnybrook Courier; C. A. Johnson, Minot Daily Reporter; Franklin Kauffman, Minot Optic; G. D. Colcord, Minot Independent and W. B. McLaughlin, Kenmare Journal.

The work of adopting the constitution and by-laws was taken up and other business matters discussed. The association enjoyed a visit from the members of the railroad commission and short talks were given by W. F. Cushing, the secretary, and the commissioners, O. P. N. Anderson, W. H. Stutsman and W. H. Mann.

Later, the matter of county printing was discussed. The commissioners have decided to allow the auditor to distribute the printed matter among the printing offices of the county on an equal basis.

The following resolution, pertaining to the cutting of legal rates was adopted unanimously:

RESOLVED, That inasmuch as it has come to our certain knowledge that the practice of legal fee splitting has been in vogue more or less in Ward county in the past, and in certain instances, strictly contrary to the statutes of North Dakota, the Ward County Press Association hereby goes on record as considering this practice most unbusinesslike and unfair to the interests of all of its members as well as to the attorneys themselves.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the future drastic measures be taken to prevent a repetition of this, and that any overtures relative to the division of profits on legal notices to which we are justly entitled will be considered as strictly against the principles of this association.

The Kenmare Commercial club has invited the association to hold a meeting at an early date at that city, which invitation was gladly accepted and a vote of thanks tendered the city of Kenmare.

WARD COUNTY PAYS MORE COSTS

JUDGE LEIGHTON SETS ASIDE COSTS IN WARREN ACTION AMOUNTING TO \$342.50.

Judge Leighton has set aside the costs in the Warren action, which was heard in December, wherein the State's Attorney ordered the Clerk of Court to assess the costs, \$342.50, to E. G. Warren, county superintendent. Warren brot an action to have the costs set aside and the Judge rendered a decision Monday, thus throwing the costs of the action on the county.

Minot Farmer Succeeds With Alfalfa.

A. L. Bouk from twelve miles south-east of Minot, bought four pounds of Grimm alfalfa seed two years ago, for 60 cents a pound from the Dickinson experiment station. Last year the patch yielded 198 pounds of the very best seed. Mr. Bouk disposed of all that he had to spare to John Ehr for 60 cents a pound and at that rate his yield last year was worth \$118.80.

Mr. Bouk will have enough seed for ten acres more on his own farm, besides he is saving enough seed for ten acres more next year. "It is no trouble to start; it catches about as easily as Russian thistles," Mr. Bouk explained.

Praised Governor Devine.

Crosby Review: On Tuesday last the citizens of Crosby and vicinity were delighted with another opportunity to listen to former Governor Devine as with his usual splendid word-painting ability he portrayed the wonderful possibilities of North Dakota. No man has done more for the advancement of our people along educational and material lines than has Mr. Devine. From the day he came to the Northwest he has unselfishly contributed the results of his experience and knowledge, and has done it, at times, with but little recognition or proper appreciation. The day has come, however, when he is recognized as one of the brightest stars in a galaxy of self sacrificing prophets whose names will long adorn the annals of our great state.

J. C. Hoff Out of Jail.

J. C. Hoff, townsip proprietor of Palermo, and once publisher of the Palermo Standard, now defunct, visited Minot Tuesday. Hoff spent several months in the county jail at Stanley where he was tried and convicted of embezzlement. He was sentenced to serve a year in the penitentiary but secured his release temporarily while the motion for a new trial is pending. J. C. appears as rotund as ever so we believe that Sheriff Jim Dolan must set a good table at his hotel.

BULL MOOSERS GET TOGETHER.

H. F. Turner of Fargo, organizer of the Bull Moosers of the state, is here today meeting with State Chairman Dorr H. Carroll. It is quite likely that Mr. Carroll will become a candidate for Attorney General on the Progressive ticket.

BERTHOLD FARMER VIOLENTLY INSANE

ERICK WELTIKOL BROODS OVER REAL ESTATE DEAL AND THREATENS LIFE OF PROMINENT REAL ESTATE MAN AND HIS OWN.

Erick Weltikol, a young Berthold farmer, was brot to the city Monday suffering from dementia. He is being held here to await development of his case. If he does not improve soon, it will be necessary to send him to the asylum.

Weltikol formerly lived on a farm at Plaza. He sold his place to a young Berthold real estate dealer on the crop payment plan and bought a farm near Berthold. He was recently compelled to take back his Plaza farm and the fact that he could not meet the payments on the other, drove him to desperation. Sunday night he lay in the straw pile and when found Monday he had three bottles of strychnine in his pockets. He threatens to shoot the real estate dealer, whom he considers treated him unfairly, and intended taking his own life.

Weltikol once appeared before Judge Murray for beating his wife, and when he again appeared before the county judge, Mr. Murray remarked: "Erick, are you back again? It's got you this time, I see it in your eye."

WALTONS TO BUILD TELEPHONE LINE

DIRECTORS ORDER MATERIAL FROM MINOT CONCERNS — BELIEVE IN DEALING WITH HOME PEOPLE—60 MILES TO BE CONSTRUCTED.

A. Walton and son have been awarded the contract to build the South Prairie Farmers' Telephone line and will start work just as soon as the frost is out of the ground. The directors held a meeting here Friday and ordered material. The Roell Hardware Co. sold the wire and F. J. Willman the poles. Twenty-five foot poles have been ordered and it will be necessary to construct no less than 60 miles of the line to start with. The material will be here in about two weeks.

OLSGARD WILL LOCATE IN MONTANA

The many friends of Hon. T. E. Olsgard and family will sincerely regret to learn that they will leave Minot next week to locate at Glasgow, Mont., where Mr. Olsgard will establish a law office. Glasgow is a thriving city and there is considerable legal land business that requires attention, this being Mr. Olsgard's specialty.

Mr. Olsgard for many years has been one of our most prominent citizens. For twelve years he was register of the U. S. land office, this experience giving him a great deal of valuable information concerning land law. Indeed, it may be said that in this he has few equals in the northwest. For two years he was state's attorney of Ward county but refused re-election to accept the position as register of the U. S. landoffice.

PRES. CRANE ADDRESSES McHENRY COUNTYITES.

Pres. A. G. Crane of the Minot Normal, went to Towner Friday night where he addressed the school officers and teachers of McHenry county, delivering a very able address on "Dollars and Sense." Dean French of the state university spoke on "The Backward Child" during the afternoon.

Game Board Meets April 18.

The North Dakota Board of Game and Fish Control will meet in Minot April 18 in the afternoon, at which time the members hope to meet any sportsmen of the state and discuss ways and means for the better enforcement of the game laws.

Mrs. Wm. Gibb has returned to her home south of Stanley, after visiting with her daughter, Mrs. Truax and family.

DIVIDE CO. FARMERS WILL GROW CORN

GOVERNOR DEVINE IS INSTRUCTED TO SECURE ALL AVAILABLE GOOD SEED CORN GROWN IN WARD COUNTY.

Divide county, backed up by the progressive, energetic citizens of Crosby, are rapidly coming to the front in the Better Farming movement that is now sweeping the state and especially our own northwestern part of it. One of the especially notable things accomplished by Crosby citizens in behalf of the farmers of Divide county has been the raising of a fund of \$1,000 to encourage the raising of corn, and that, of course, naturally means hogs for Divide county.

The large sum secured speaks volumes for the businessmen of Crosby. They held at Crosby on Tuesday, March 31, a big county gathering at which it was estimated some 200 farmers were in attendance. Prof. Houk, assistant state Better Farming expert, was one of the speakers and J. M. Devine of this city also delivered an address. There was much interest manifested and lots of enthusiasm prevailing during the day and evening sessions.

Both the above speakers addressed the large gathering, both afternoon and evening. The Independent congratulates Crosby and Divide county in their earnest efforts in an attempt to bring better things to the farm and therefore better things to all of us who live in this section of the state. We hold that what is a good thing for Divide county is a good thing for Ward county, and whatever is good for Crosby is good for Minot, as they grow, we grow. As they prosper we prosper.

Mr. Devine was commissioned by several of the businessmen and farmers to arrange with our seed men here at Minot to corral about all of the first class, good Ward county seed corn that was in stock here for the farmers of that section.

OLSGARD WILL LOCATE IN MONTANA

FORMER REGISTER OF U. S. LANDOFFICE WILL ESTABLISH LAW OFFICE IN GOOD MONTANA CITY.

The many friends of Hon. T. E. Olsgard and family will sincerely regret to learn that they will leave Minot next week to locate at Glasgow, Mont., where Mr. Olsgard will establish a law office. Glasgow is a thriving city and there is considerable legal land business that requires attention, this being Mr. Olsgard's specialty.

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"Bull Moose" County Candidates.

State Chairman Dorr Carroll informs the Independent that he will make no special effort to place a county Bull Moose ticket in the field, altho it is very likely that a number of candidates will enter the contest under this banner. Friends of County Commissioner Vandenoever are urging him to accept the Progressive nomination for sheriff. Just what Mr. Vandenoever's intentions are we do not know. It is entirely possible that he will yet become a candidate for this nomination on the republican ticket.

Hulberg for Clerk of District Court.

M. O. Hulberg, a prominent Freedom township farmer, announces his candidacy this week for Clerk of the District Court of Ward County. Mr. Hulberg has held a number of offices in his own locality and says that he is going into the present contest with fair prospects. So far, he is Mr. Hagen's only opposition.

THIRTY CARLOADS OF CATALOGUES

CHICAGO MAIL ORDER HOUSE TO MAKE THIS SHIPMENT TO NORTH DAKOTA—WILL BE DISTRIBUTED FROM FARGO.

Fargo Courier-News: Indicative of the immensity of the advertising campaign carried on by the large mail order houses is the deal which was consummated in this city yesterday morning, when C. L. Smith, department manager of a Chicago concern, completed arrangements whereby 36 carloads of his firm's catalogues will be shipped into Fargo by freight and from here distributed over a large territory by parcel post. The deal will add \$20,000 annually to the stamp sales of the Fargo office.

A local transfer house has secured the contract for unloading and transferring the catalogues and the territory to be covered by the Fargo office includes North Dakota, Northern Minnesota and a section of Northern South Dakota. The books will come in two shipments of 18 carloads each, totaling about 200,000 catalogues.

"Few people have an idea what enormous sums are represented in the advertising outlay by the mail order houses," said a well known citizen in commenting on this deal yesterday, "but it is advertising which gets the business. These catalogues are going to take a vast sum of money out of the state the coming summer, but local merchants can materially reduce this sum if they decide to keep up a consistent advertising campaign in the local papers. The mail order houses make big profits, much bigger than the local merchants, and their business is growing every year. It is judicious advertising which accomplishes this. The local merchant should take the hint."

DISTRIBUTION OF ROAD FUNDS

EARLY DISTRIBUTION OF AUTOMOBILE FEES MAKES MUCH ROAD WORK POSSIBLE THIS SEASON.

The first distribution to the counties of the state out of the motor vehicle license fund of 1914 was made April 1st by Thomas Hall, Secretary of State. During the three months that the distribution covers, 5,519 automobiles and 225 motorcycles were licensed. Out of the \$17,822.00 received for licenses \$13,908.60 was distributed for the improvement of county roads; the balance, \$3,413.40, has been put aside for the cost of tags, postage, clerk hire, etc. Out of the \$13,908.60, Ward county has received \$373.60 for 147 automobiles and 8 motorcycles. The money coming this early makes it available for use in improving our county roads early in the season. Distributions of this motor vehicle fund will be made monthly hereafter.

The chiefs of police of fifty cities and the county commissioners of every county in the state have been asked for their earnest co-operation in the enforcement of the motor vehicle license law. It is a misdemeanor to operate a motor vehicle without a tag. Mr. Hall does not want the law to be regarded as a dead letter, for its enforcement means not only safety to the public, but the improvement of our county roads as well. Judging from last year's figures there are no less than 9,000 unlicensed motor vehicles in the state at this time.

Trainmen's Ball.

Minot Lodge No. 109, Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen will give their annual ball at the Armory next Monday evening, April 13th.

The affair, which is the eleventh annual one of this organization promises to exceed in attendance the record of all former affairs.

All the division officials of the Great Northern railroad have been invited, and it is expected that Paul F. Keating, former trainmaster at Minot, but now superintendent of the Breckenridge Division, will lead the grand march.

Will Not Build in Liberty.

Liberty School District No. 70 held a special election Friday when the proposition of bonding the district for \$1200 for a new school building was voted down 51 to 16. The question of bonding the district was lost 49 to 15. This would have been the fourth building in the district and many hope to see the schools consolidated in due time.

Stanley Hotel Damaged by Fire.

The Commercial Hotel at Stanley was badly damaged by fire Thursday night. The fire was confined to four rooms on the second floor but the damage was so serious that the entire hotel was put out of commission temporarily.

Minot Boys Honored.

In the oratorical contest at the state university Randall Larson of Minot won second place and a \$20 prize. Howard Huston of Granville, a former Minot student, won third place. The first place was secured by Lester Smith, who secured a \$30 prize.

SAVE THE ORDER! IS NEW SLOGAN

WARD COUNTY WOODMEN AGAINST SUNDEAN FACTION AND THOSE WHOSE AIM IS TO GET OFFICE.

The Ward county Modern Woodmen at their county convention held in this city Wednesday afternoon, elected J. B. Weinberger of Kenmare as chairman of the convention and C. B. Davis of Minot as secretary. L. A. Corey was elected as delegate to the state convention to be held at Bismarck in May.

The sentiment of the county convention was that rate adjustment was a problem for cool-headed, intelligent men, and that "in our opinion John L. Sundean and those neighbors in this state who have aided and assisted him in his efforts to disrupt the order under the pretense of saving it, are not such men as we would or could safely choose to readjust the problem of rates; neither are those neighbors now agitating in behalf of men whose only avowed purpose is to secure the offices, such men as we would trust in the settlement of the great question which means life or death to this order," and that only delegates to the head camp be elected who can be trusted in this crisis to act intelligently, honestly and conservatively, having in mind only the future welfare of the order.

SCHOOL OFFICERS TO MEET APRIL 23

TO BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MEETING OF THE N. W. EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the school officers of Ward county will be held in Minot April 23 and 24. J. P. Hollis, from the extension department of the Agricultural college, will lecture, giving views of the country schools and surroundings. State Superintendent Taylor is coming, also.

The Northwestern Educational Association will meet in this city April 24 and 25, the members comprising the teachers from eight or ten of the northwestern counties of the state.

John D. Geist, superintendent of the poor farm, was in the city Saturday to meet the Soo train, where two little children from Kenmare were turned over to his care.

ASSESSORS HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

PROMINENT MEN FROM ALL SECTIONS OF WARD COUNTY DISCUSS PROBLEMS WEDNESDAY—INSTRUCTED BY AUDITOR AND OTHERS.

A large number of the assessors of Ward county met at the court house Wednesday for their annual convention. They received instructions from the county auditor, L. J. Thompson, State's Attorney Nestos, the county commissioners and H. E. Wheeler, assessor for the city of Minot.

The state's attorney explained the registration law, it being necessary for the voters who wish to participate in the primaries to register under whichever party ticket they desire to vote.

Copies of instructions prepared by the state tax commission, were handed to each assessor. All property will be assessed at 25 per cent of its value as near as possible.

Assessable property was defined. The laws of the state provide that all property shall be assessed, except public property and property used exclusively for religious, educational, charitable or cemetery purposes, and the personal property of each individual to the value of \$50.

Assessors were instructed to assess railroad business sites the same as other property.

Last year nearly two-fifths of the assessable property of the state escaped taxation. It is estimated that the assessable property of the state exceeds two billions of dollars. On a 25 per cent basis, the assessed valuation of the state should be \$500,000,000, but last year it was but \$307,000,000.

The assessors have received their books. Those attending the meeting were:

E. C. Clark, Passport; Frank J. Schloer, Waterford; E. B. Wallace, Burlington; Frank Andrews, Baden; J. H. Peterson, Des Lacs; A. A. Larson, Foxholm; Frank B. Schmidt, St. Mary's; C. F. Weed, Maryland; J. B. Rasmussen, Sauk Prairie; Jens Anderson, Kenmare; Walter Troxel, Mayland; Oscar Ostrom, Spring Lake; D. M. Shorb, Surrey; Jacob Marshall, Eureka; A. J. Anderson, McKinley; James Lawson, Carbondale; Tom Hoover, Tatman; P. W. Glovitch, Iota Flats; L. P. Peterson, Torning; A. S. Nelson, Spencer; Geo. Nelson, Harrison; John A. Harstad, Margaret; Aleck Podruchy, Rushville; Jacob Frost, Afton; L. A. Mann, Mandan; P. P. Falkass, Lund; Andrew Walden, Cameron; I. I. Van Sickle, Anna; J. J. Larson, 5th Com. Dist.; P. C. Nelson, Denmark; J. W. McCahan, Des Lacs; John A. Borud, Rolling Green; P. P. Borgers, Tolgen; Ole Ness, Rice Lake; Charles Ostrand, Elmdale; C. A. McCQueen, Berthold Village; Levi Leifson, Evergreen; E. E. Townsend, Gasman; H. E. Back, Willis, Andrew Lodiien, Ryder; J. B. Billion, Ryder; Ed Tresland, Burt; Peter Holback, Nedrose.

BOLD ROBBERY AT LEXINGTON HOTEL

DARING NEGRO WITH MASKED FACE COVERS CLERK WITH A WICKED LOOKING GUN AND SECURES ABOUT \$35 EARLY SATURDAY MORNING.

The office of the Lexington hotel was held up by a lone highwayman at 3:30 o'clock Saturday morning. The only occupants of the lobby were the clerk and the night porter when a man who appeared to be a negro entered and at the point of a wicked looking revolver demanded money.

"Don't make an outcry or I'll fill you full of bullets," he said to the clerk—and the order was obeyed. The burglar secured \$31.85 from the till and departed before he could be caught. Two minutes later Policemen Bakeman and Dwire were on the track of the fellow, who ran west towards the G. N. viaduct and darted behind some buildings. No clue has been secured.

The burglar appeared to be a negro with a handkerchief over his face but he was so black that it is possible that he had merely blackened his face.