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BRIEF STATE NEWS

Plans are being made for a statewide grade school athletic meeting in Grand Forks soon.

Debaters of the North Dakota agricultural college defeated the Oregon agricultural college team by a two to one decision.

Albert Peterson, aged 85, the oldest convict in the penitentiary, died Sunday of old age. He was sent up 23 years ago for life, charged with wife murder.

W. R. Foster, a well known farmer of Starkweather, has been arrested charged with selling mortgaged property. A large legal battle will take place at the next session of the Grand Forks is after the new Equity packing plant and it is reported that the Commercial club of that city has offered a cash bonus of \$50,000 if the committee will consider their city.

When fire broke out in the moving picture show in Fargo recently, the audience arose and passed out quietly, enabling the firemen to extinguish the blaze before material damage was done.

Andrew Foss, of Aneta, found his wife lying dead on the kitchen floor one morning last week. Mrs. Foss had evidently gotten up to get the morning meal and dropped over from heart failure. She was 69 years of age.

The annual meeting of the North Dakota well drillers' association is being held in Devils Lake this week. A. L. Brown, of Grand Forks, president and Howard E. Simpson, of the state university, are conducting the program. There are 300 well drillers in the state.

Choosing to celebrate her wedding on the scene of her daily labors, Miss Julia Nelson, a school teacher near Watford City, in McKenzie county, was married a few evenings ago at the school house, to Ellis Nereson, of Schafer. Patrons and pupils of the school were present. The bride's home is at St. Joseph, Montana.

It has been learned that the stockholders of the Northern Trading company of Casselton, at a meeting held recently, elected among their directors R. C. Kittel, former president of the defunct First National Bank of that city and his brother, W. F. Kittel, former cashier. Among others elected on the board were attorney R. M. Pollock and Judge Edward Engerud, both of Fargo.

Leo Kissick, of Moorhead, Minn., has a big fight on in the Cass county district court. The purse is for \$2,000 and the battle started on Jan. 13th. A decision is expected in a few days. From the high lights of the battle it appears that Kissick, while riding a motorcycle on May 3, 1914, was "knocked out" in an unpugilistic way by being struck by an auto, alleged to have been recklessly driven by H. E. Kallgren, of Fargo.

The killing of Bart Kramer, an American, and a former resident of Grand Forks, was officially reported in despatches to the state department by Collector Cobb at El Paso. Kramer was killed near Guerra, sixty miles west of Santa Ysabel. The department was informed that the band which killed the party of Americans was commanded by two former Villa colonels, Lopez and Bettrian.

Walking eleven miles with the temperature 20 degrees below zero and the wind blowing a gale was what A. H. Yeomans, of Devils Lake, did in order to open his moving picture house at Cray one day last week. The train service was not running to suit Yeomans. When he reached his destination he was thoroughly chilled, but when the theatre opened he was the hero of the moment.

Edward Katter, aged 50 years, was burned to death in his home four miles west of Leeds on Wednesday of last week. From the position in which his bones were found close to where the door would have been, it is believed that he made an effort to get out of the house. Katter was an abachelor, and had lived in the country about twenty years. There are no known relatives in this country and he lived alone.

They have relied on the friendship of both factions in Mexico and have paid the penalty of death. That is the belief of Mrs. J. C. Haney of Grand Forks, who may be the lone survivor of her family. She has lost two brothers killed by Mexican bandits, in the western Chihuahua district, and with no word from her father, mother and two other brothers, she believes they two have been made victims of Villa's vengeance. Mrs. Haney opposes intervention in Mexico.

Rev. O. N. Fosmark, of Grand Forks, died last week. He was known chiefly for his contribution to the great controversy that raged a generation ago among the Lutherans of the country on the question of predestination, which was largely responsible for the settlement of that controversy. For thirty years he was pastor at Fergus Falls, Minn. He established the Park Region college, and until a few years ago was financial agent of that institution. A recent contribution by Rev. Fosmark to the present movement towards unionism of several Lutheran conferences gives promise of being important.

While North Dakota boys were raising record yields of corn in the boys' acre yield contest last season, boys and girls were busy growing pigs in the annual pork production contest. Edith Penno, 14 years old, from near Grafton, carried off first prize of \$100 in gold, given by the extension department of the agricultural college and a registered Yorkshire sow given by Thomas Canfield, of Lake Park, Minn. The results of the contest were recently given by the extension department. There were twenty-four premiums offered, and of this number, eleven were carried off by girls. The second prize was taken by Kenneth Wood, of Arvilla; the third by Martha Penno, sister of the winner of the first premium; the fourth by Mildred Pierce of Ellendale, whose brother, Milton Pierce, took fifth place. Many other prizes were given by local organizations and were mostly carried off by North Dakota girls. Edith Penno won first place

with a little of twelve Yorkshire pigs, which at an age of 196 days weighed a total of 2,593 pounds, an average of 215 pounds each. The total value was \$155.58.

Superintendent W. E. Berner announces that it is all settled, and Jamestown is to have that long promised new depot this year. A \$150,000 structure has been planned.

Ward county in 1915 licensed 1,083 automobiles and the total amount of money remitted to the county for the construction of good roads was figured to be \$2,927.46. Only three other counties in the state exceeded this amount.

Deep snow and cold weather has made it difficult, and on some occasions impossible, for the mail carriers to make the round of their routes this week. Monday morning 34 below zero was registered here.

The revival meetings at Raso have been a success. Fifteen per cent of the population were converted. Rev. John T. Walsh of Chicago, who has been conducting the meetings, will begin to convert some of the populace of Drake Jan. 17th.

Fire bugs at Sykeston, last week, made a bold attempt to burn up the newspaper office in that town. The editor received a letter unsigned warning him not to investigate, intimating that the party would "get him" if he did.

The Grand Forks police have picked up only three drunks since January 1st. These three claimed to have been given the booze by a friend. Since the closing of the saloons on the East Side the wavering ones are in evidence not.

The contract for installing the steel cells in the court house was let last week to the Pauley Jail Building Company for the sum of \$1,292, complete. Dunn county has been without a jail for almost a year, ever since the small jail building burned down.

Ole P. Pytten, of Kindred, 104 years of age, and the oldest resident of North Dakota, died at the home of his daughter in the above place last week. Pytten had been ailing for two years. The grim reaper found him as a shock of grain, fully ripe for the harvest.

The Messenger states that Rev. M. C. Osmund, a former pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Balfour, is at present in the sanitarium at Woodman, Colorado, fighting for life, with little hope for his recovery. Mrs. Osmund died several years ago in Idaho.

The enterprising firm of Bacon & Burr has been granted a franchise to operate an electric light plant at Granville. At the present time most of the business places of the town are lighted from their plant and they now will put in additional equipment and extend the service.

Two violent deaths occurred during the Christmas festivities in North Dakota and both of them are attributed to cheap whiskey. William Brooks is the first victim at Napoleon and Ole Halgrenson of Berthold is the second victim, who was brutally murdered by his neighbor, Andrew Anderson.

Forty-two degrees below zero one morning recently reminded our inhabitants that we still do occasionally have a cold spell in this country. Some thermometers registered forty-four below at 7 a. m. At that, our climate is much milder than where only a few miles away, with the accompanying dampness so prevalent in the eastern and central states. Here the sun shines, and business goes on as usual.

Blaming his craving for drugs, which he had been unable to purchase, for his downfall, Earl Raymond, 26 years old, of Perham, Minn., confessed to Thomas Burke, state's attorney at Minnawaukan, to the robbery of the Olson drug store in that city, when he took \$200 worth of morphine and \$250 worth of jewelry. According to Raymond he had no intention of taking anything but drugs when he broke into the store. That part was accomplished so easily, he said, that he decided to empty a show case on the jewelry side, and filled his pockets. Entrance was gained to the place by breaking a glass in the front door, by which he was able to open a spring lock. When the young man was found in his room he was partly under the influence of the drugs.

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The matrimonial affairs of Ludwig Krumenacher, of Dickinson, who died in that city three years ago, forms the basis of an action in the district court in the above city in which his first wife, a resident of Austria, seeks maintenance for herself and children, claiming Krumenacher's divorce and subsequent marriage illegal. It was in 1887 that he married in Hungary

and several years later he and his wife parted. In 1903 he came to the United States and in 1910 he secured a divorce here. Very shortly thereafter he married again, and two years later, his second wife died. In 1914 Krumenacher died, leaving his estate to a brother. Now his former wife in Hungary insists she is entitled to a share in the division of the estate.

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