

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

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GAME BOARD MAKES EXCELLENT REPORT

Finances are Boosted—With Account in the Red in 1913, There is Now Over \$40,000 in the Fund.

Again this year Ward county leads the counties of the state in the number of hunting licenses sold, according to the annual report of the Game and Fish commission which has just been completed. This makes two years in succession that this county has led the state.

Cass county stands second in the number of licenses issued. Last year there were 2,063 licenses in this county as against 2,010 in 1915. Ward county sold 2,597 licenses during the last hunting season and 2,065 in 1915. Stutsman county stands third in the list with 1,993 the past year as against 1,825 in 1915.

The report shows that last season there was a total of 39,540 licenses issued in the state with 160 non-resident licenses as against 36,383 resident and 107 nonresident licenses in 1915.

It is interesting to note the wonderful improvement that has been made in the finances of the game and fish board and in the number of arrests and convictions since 1913. There is now \$40,379.56 on hand in the treasury of the commission, a most remarkable showing, as when the biennial period of 1913 was started there was a considerable deficit in the fund after outstanding claims had been allowed.

In the matter of arrests and convictions for violations of the game laws there has been a splendid showing made by the board. Great credit should be given the members of the board and the splendid corps of wardens and deputies that have been kept busy constantly.

During the biennial period of 1911-12 there were 29 arrests and 29 convictions. In 1913-14 there were 173 arrests and 155 convictions, while in 1915-16 there was a total of 261 arrests and 245 convictions. Not one case was lost, 16 cases only being dismissed. The total fines amounted to \$3,000 in round numbers for the year.

In the matter of finances there will also be a considerable increase as no report was made for the trappers' licenses issued during 1916 for the reason that the season does not close until April 15. The board anticipates an increase of 100 per cent in the number of licenses issued over the year 1915.

In the report of E. B. McCutcheon, chief game warden for the first district of the state, attention is called to the damage that has been done prairie chickens by crows, which the warden characterizes as veritable pests. In this report he says:

"One of the great pests we have in relation to increased propagation of prairie chickens is the crow. I have made a sufficient investigation to personally substantiate this statement. An effort should be made to set apart the last week in May of each year for special efforts, not only by wardens, but by the sportsmen and the public in general, to shoot or kill these birds and destroy their nests, and thus head off the terrific toll that they are taking each season from our game birds. These pirates seem to have increased, due to the past few years of protection of birds in general."

Visited Home of Birth After 41 Years.

Fred W. Dale and wife have returned from a visit in the east. Mr. Dale visited Ashtabula, O., the place of his birth, for the first time in forty-one years. He was but a boy of nine when he left Ohio. His father owned a 40-acre farm close to Ashtabula, and Mr. Dale says the old brick house on the place where he lived as a boy is still standing. The city has grown away out and now includes the farm. Large blocks occupy land that formerly grew fruit. Mr. Dale attended a meeting of the representatives of the Dauch Manufacturing Co., a three days' session, at Sandusky, O. This is the concern that manufactures the Sandusky gas tractor which Mr. Dale handles in this city.

Mrs. Dale visited with her son Charles in Minneapolis several weeks. Charles will finish a six year law course at the University of Minnesota in June. He stands at the head of his class. Miss Florence Dale, who is teaching at Akeley, Minn., visited with her mother and Charles during the holidays.

St. Paul Live Wires Advertise Carnival.

One hundred and five St. Paul live wires, who made a trip as far west as Minot, advertising the big Winter Carnival which opens in St. Paul next week, arrived in Minot Saturday afternoon. They were accompanied by a band and all were attired in gorgeous carnival costumes. They marched through the streets of the city and the band gave a fine concert. They spent the night in the city, many of them visiting the curling rink, participating in games. They left Sunday for Grand Forks.

W. R. C. Officers Installed at Enjoyable Gathering.

The installation of officers of the local Women's Relief Corps occurred at the home of Mrs. C. F. Sweet Tuesday, Jan. 16, the Corps being entertained in an enjoyable manner with flowers and flags and a delicious luncheon was served. Miss Katherine Ehr-

assisted Mrs. Sweet and Mrs. Maxham in serving.

Mrs. C. F. Truax, state president of the W. R. C., was the installing officer and the following is a list of the officers:

- President—Mrs. Abbie Stenersen.
- S. V.—Mrs. H. Gragg.
- J. V.—Mrs. O. R. Roellig.
- Treas.—Mrs. Hazel Coar.
- Chaplain—Mrs. Wm. Hunter.
- Secretary—Mrs. Walker.
- Guard—Mrs. Rowan.
- Asst. Guard—Mrs. Reed.
- Patriotic Instructor—Mrs. John Campbell.
- Musician—Mrs. E. S. Person.
- Conductor—Mrs. Bateman.
- Asst. Conductor—Mrs. Epstein.
- Color Bearers—Mrs. Youngman, Mrs. J. S. Sepp, Mrs. Eldon White and Mrs. O. H. Moon.

ONE LIFE LOST WHEN NELSON HOME BURNS

Ray, N. D., Jan. 11.—Meagre information received by telephone this afternoon from Nesson is to the effect that the old residence of Herman A. Nelson has just burned and that one of the younger Nelson children lost its life in the fire and another was seriously burned. So far as reported no other property than the old house was destroyed.

A large new residence had just been completed and the family intended to move from the old to the new home on the return of Mr. Nelson, who had been called east by the death of his father.

Mr. Nelson is one of the early pioneers of the county, settling in Nesson Valley over twenty years ago. He is also one of the most extensive and progressive farmers of this district.

This is Mr. Nelson's second disastrous fire. The first occurred two or three years ago, destroying a large barn and valuable farm property.

Mr. Nelson is one of the most prominent farmers in North Dakota, being one of the earliest settlers in western North Dakota. He was a member of the state Normal School board for several years and has done good work for the Minot Normal school. The many friends of the Nelson family sincerely regret to learn of their terrible loss.

AMBROSE OLSEN DIED FROM ACCIDENT

Former Kenmare Man, Who Was Right of Way Agent for the Soo, Met Death at Allerton, Ia.

Ambrose Olsen, formerly of Kenmare, who spent several years in North Dakota as right-of-way agent for the Soo and Great Northern railway companies, lost his life about four weeks ago as the result of an accident at Allerton, Iowa.

He was a federal employe, being employed under the direction of the interstate commerce commission in securing the valuation of the railroads of the United States. Arriving at Allerton, Iowa, he stepped off a C. R. I. & P. train. His foot went through a hole in the depot platform and his leg was broken. He was immediately put on a train for Minneapolis, but it was soon seen that he could not stand the trip in that condition, so he was taken to Mercy hospital at Des Moines. Here the bone was set and for a time he seemed to be doing nicely. According to the physicians, however, a blood clot went to the brain, and Mr. Olson passed away suddenly.

The remains were immediately prepared for shipment and taken to Bowman, where services were held from the Methodist church, Rev. Benson officiating, and the remains were laid to rest in the Bowman cemetery beside those of his father, the late A. M. Olsen.

Ambrose Olsen was 39 years of age at the time of his death, and was born at Rushford, Minn.

Mr. Olsen was a graduate of Pillsbury Academy, Owatonna, Minn., and of the Cumberland University, law department, Lebanon, Tenn.

THE LEATHER THAT GOES TO THE TRENCHES

The war is reported to be using up 64,000,000 hides a year, of which 44,000,000 are to make the necessary 200,000,000 pairs of shoes. These shoes are resoled after they are worn, which requires 600,000 hides and keeps an army of shoe repairers busy.

Henry Carr of Glenburn Marries. Henry E. Carr, a prominent young Glenburn farmer, was united in marriage at Glenburn Saturday to Miss Mary Agnes Norsby, a very attractive young woman from that place. The couple will reside at Glenburn.

Mr. Carr is one of the early homesteaders and both himself and bride are held in the very highest esteem by all.

Moore to Visit the Ford Factory. Charles Moore, of the Moore Motor Co., left Tuesday for the east, where he will spend two or three weeks. He will visit at the home of his parents in Indiana and from there will go to Detroit, where he will spend a week or ten days at the factory trying to ferret out how Henry can furnish such good touring cars laid down in Minot for \$398.80. He will visit the Automobile show in Chicago and while

DES LACS OIL WELL IS MOST PROMISING

AFTER A 24-HOUR PUMPING TEST WELL CONTINUED TO PRODUCE GENUINE OIL SAND — PROMINENT CITIZENS PROMOUNCE TEST TO BE VERY SATISFACTORY.

A great deal of interest has been aroused in the vicinity of Minot over the discovery of oil on the A. F. Blum farm, 17 miles west of Minot, near Des Lacs and Lone Tree.

The oil was first discovered by Mr. M. H. Anderson, who was employed by Mr. Blum to drill for water. At a depth of 234 feet the drill struck a rock twelve inches thick; after penetrating this rock the drill dropped a foot, which is very unusual in well drilling. Soon after Mr. Anderson noticed the odor of oil coming from the well, and upon lowering the slush-bucket, about two gallons of oil was taken from the well. Mr. Anderson continued to drill, and at a depth of 244 1-2 feet, struck a strong flow of water, which came within 18 feet of the surface.

Mr. Blum brot samples of the oil and mineral taken from the bottom of the well to Minot and a chemical test was made, which showed a strong percentage of kerosene and gasoline, the mineral test revealed a blue shale substance which contained aluminum, also a by-product which may be used as a binder for varnish or soap. There was also evidence of a chemical used in silver polish.

The discovery was made Oct. 22nd, 1916. Since that time the well has been inspected by a number of prominent businessmen from Minot and neighboring towns, and it is the general opinion of those who have inspected the well, that by going to a greater depth, a strong flow of oil will be discovered.

Mr. Blum has organized a company with a capital stock of \$275,000.00, which will be known as the Des Lacs Western Oil Co. He has secured Messrs. H. S. Johnson, L. Colby, M. H. Anderson, E. R. Sinker, J. Davick, M. D. Johnson and Arthur Blum to assist him. The officers of the company have been chosen from this number.

The writer was informed that it was their intention to push the work of development as fast as possible, several tests having already been made since the company has been formed, which have brought a great deal of encouragement to the company. The tests have been made according to instructions given by E. J. Babcock, State Chemist, who is also dean of the College of Engineering of the State University, and according to these instructions have placed the well under lock and key, it being unlocked from time to time as the different tests are being made.

The first test was made on the 8th and 9th of December. Eight samples were taken from the well at that time, under different conditions. A large quantity of oil was taken from the top of the liquid and some of it was tried in a 1-2 horse-power engine, which gave the engine the same power as ordinary gasoline. About 250 gallons of liquid was pumped from the well at that time, and the samples were sent to Mr. Babcock for a chemical test.

Another test was made January 2nd, which was similar to the first, the liquid taken from the well being placed

away he expects to be "going some."

The Moore Motor Co. has already disposed of fifty of the 1917 models but fear that this year, as in the past, they will have a hard time getting enough cars for the trade. Mr. Moore, while at the factory, will use his hypnotic powers in trying to persuade the management to send the company more cars.

HOW BISHOP BUILT UP A FINE LARGE HERD

F. W. Bishop of Benedict was in the city Friday on business. He phoned out to the farm and learned that the family had weathered the fierce storm all right, though they could not see the granary four rods away from the house. Mr. Bishop told the Independent how he had produced a herd of 70 cattle and 15 horses in about four years. Four years ago he had but nine cows and two horses and the stock he has at present represents the increase. He has some of the choicest milk cows in the country.

Sister Dies in New Brunswick

Mrs. Nelson Hillman of Woodstock, New Brunswick, a sister of Mrs. J. H. Tompkins and Mrs. Archie Porter of this city, passed away at her home in Woodstock at twelve o'clock Sunday night.

Mrs. Hillman visited with her sisters in Minot, accompanied by her father, Arthur McLean, about five years ago, remaining here about two months. She made a great many friends here who will regret exceedingly to hear of her death. Many now residents of Minot knew the deceased in her old home. Mrs. Hillman had been in poor health for some time. Mrs. Tompkins visited her last fall, taking her to a hospital at Portland,

in 5 gallon cans and sent to Mr. Babcock by express under seal.

The third test was made on the 10th and 11th of January. This was the most severe test the well has undergone. A pump was placed in the well, which was run continuously for 24 hours by a gasoline engine, approximately 4800 gallons of water and liquid being pumped from the well, or an amount equal to filling and emptying the well 27 times. Samples taken from time to time during this test showed a certain per cent of oil. Immediately after the pump was taken out a slush bucket was lowered to the bottom of the well and a sample was taken from the bucket which contained oil sand. This sand is characteristic in all petroleum fields. Mr. E. C. Auburn and Mr. M. H. Anderson examined the sand and pronounced it the genuine oil sand. One thing distinctly noticeable was that the sand gave a stronger odor of gasoline than the oil secured from the well.

A number of citizens from Minot were present when the last test was made, and procured samples of the liquid. The sentiment of those present is expressed in the following statement:

This is to certify that we were present at the Des Lacs Western Oil Co. well on January 11, when the pump was removed from their oil well after a continuous 24 hour pumping test; that immediately after removing said pump a slush bucket was lowered to the bottom of the well; that we procured from said well some of the slush and that the slush from the bottom of the said well contained inflammable material, and that the said sample obtained by us contained inflammable oil.

(Signed): E. S. Waterman, Frank Eicher, C. E. Torgerson, Iver O. Flom, L. L. Logan, W. N. Sayers, J. R. Dearmin, J. W. Webster.

Two disinterested men, G. S. Webster and Eph. Nedrow, were appointed according to instructions given by Prof. Babcock, to oversee the pumping test and were on the job continually during the entire twenty-four hours. One more test will be made to comply with the instructions given by Prof. Babcock.

The company have the lumber on the ground for putting up a building for housing the working men, the pit for the derrick has been finished, which is twelve feet square and of the same depth. It will require a derrick 80 feet high to handle the drill.

The writer was informed by one of the company that their plans were to install a drill that would enable them to go to a depth of 3500 or 4000 feet if necessary. The well will be 16 inches in diameter at the beginning and will be reduced in size according to depth. Mr. Anderson will have charge of the drilling, and has had considerable experience in drilling deep wells in the Alberta oil fields. He states that it is his opinion that another flow will be found at 1000 or 1200 feet and possibly several small flows may be encountered. He expects to strike the strongest flow at a depth of 2300 feet, judging from his experience in other oil fields.

This well is two miles from Lone Tree and three miles from Des Lacs. It is the company's plan to get their power from the Northern States Power Co., who have recently extended their lines to Des Lacs and Berthold.

The company has leased office rooms on the first floor of the Zlevor block, and have samples of the liquid on display that were taken from the well.

Robert B. Stacy-Judd, a prominent Minot architect, was united in marriage to Miss Anna V. White, who has been a teacher in the Minot schools for a number of years, the ceremony being performed at Minneapolis Jan. 10, the wedding breakfast being served at the Radisson hotel immediately after.

After visiting for a time at Waseca, Minn., the bride's home, and in Minneapolis and Chicago, the couple will leave for the south, where they will spend several days, returning to Minot at the end of the month. They will occupy the beautiful new bungalow which the groom recently erected at a picturesque spot along the north hill, overlooking the city.

Mr. Stacy-Judd is one of the most prominent architects in the west, coming to Minot several years ago, where he has built up a very extensive business. Both himself and his charming bride have won a host of friends who join the Independent in best wishes.

J. B. Perkett Visits Old Home. J. B. Perkett, who has held a responsible position as head of one of the departments of the International Harvester Co., for years, left Monday night for Chicago and Buffalo, N. Y., to look after business matters. He will visit with his mother and sister at his old home in the Adirondack mountains before returning. Mr. Perkett came west seventeen years ago and this is his first visit east since that time.

State Visits Peoria Factory. George A. State, manager of the Scofield Implement Co., is expected home from Peoria, Ill., today, where he went to confer with the head officers of the Peoria Tractor Co., which is represented in Minot by the Scofield house. Mr. State attended the implement dealers' convention in Minneapolis also.

Recovered His Overcoat. E. O. Hestikind of Norwich wore his new \$90 'coon skin coat to Minot and one of the visiting county commissioners put it on and took it away from a cafeteria by mistake. The Norwich man visited the Independent office to advertise for his coat and while he was here the commissioner entered the sanctum and the exchange of coats was made.

Prominent Newspapermen Visit Minot. Robert Hughes of Wahpeton, president of the N. D. P. A., M. I. Forkner of Langdon and E. L. Richter of Larimore, were in the city the first of the week conferring with Secretary Holben regarding plans for Appreciation Week.

DAMN THE SECRETARY (Editorial in La Crosse Tribune)

If the chamber of commerce does something you don't like, or doesn't do something you favor, damn the secretary.

It's quite the conventional thing, done in all our best cities and in the greatest chambers of commerce. It's one of the things a secretary is for, and damn him, he's used to it or he's no good secretary!

It all comes about because people have the wrong notion of what a secretary is, to begin with. It's a hopeful sort of fiction that a commerce secretary is a super-man, a creature of superlative power and intelligence,

whose signature is as potent as Aladdin's lamp to build magic skyscrapers and turn the desert into mills. Be it distance, he annihilates it with "seven league boots"; be it time or money, his pen is a wand that conjures up the heart's desire.

Now, your secretarial person is nothing of the sort. He's a fairly intelligent human whose training takes in the history of developments, who knows the things that are important, and who serves as clerical generalissimo and administrative first lieutenant to a group of citizens who have civic pride, a sense of public obligation and a fair amount of cultivated human intelligence.

The chamber is after something—a park, a school, a factory, a depot—what you will.

Tell the secretary. Presto! There's your depot!

Is that it? Certainly not.

The chamber meets. Its leaders want to know a lot of things, as a basis for work upon the project.

What will it cost? The secretary secures an estimate. What is the modern way? The secretary knows, or knows how to find out, what has been done in other places. How is the thing installed? Where are the authorities?

What influence can be brought to bear? What mistakes are to be avoided? All these things the secretary may know, or can find out. He does so, and the facts are laid before the members, for their consideration.

What the city needs, what it should avoid, where it should develop are not matters for the decision of the secretary, but to draw upon his special experience and expert training is the privilege of the chamber. He is under orders, and if he has tact and insight, he can be of almost immeasurable service. In addition, there is the mountain of detail connected with the multifarious activities of a chamber composed of bureaus that deal with every phase of a city's public and private enterprises.

Outside of all that, a commercial secretary has little to occupy his time. Damn him, by all means. A secretary who isn't damned may as well be fired, for he's only an opportunist who draws his salary for holding his job.

Barbers Raise Prices. In Minneapolis in all the down town barber shops the price of shaves has increased from 15 to 20 cents and hair cuts from 35 to 40 cents on account of the war. In Minot, the same old prices still prevail.

R. B. STACY-JUDD IS A BENEDICT

Prominent Minot Architect Takes Miss Anna V. White, Popular Teacher, for His Bride.

Robert B. Stacy-Judd, a prominent Minot architect, was united in marriage to Miss Anna V. White, who has been a teacher in the Minot schools for a number of years, the ceremony being performed at Minneapolis Jan. 10, the wedding breakfast being served at the Radisson hotel immediately after.

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M'GEE AND GOSS FORM PARTNERSHIP

Former Judge of State Supreme Court Returns to Minot to Practice Law.

Hon. E. B. Goss, who completed a six year term as member of the supreme court of the state of North Dakota the first of the year, has formed a law partnership with George A. McGee, the new firm to occupy the McGee quarters in the John Ehr block. Mr. Goss and his estimable family have returned to Minot, where hosts of friends welcome them.

The new firm is a strong one. Both Mr. Goss and Mr. McGee are indomitable workers and very able lawyers. Mr. Goss was Judge of the Eighth Judicial district before being elected to the Supreme bench and prior to that time practiced law at Bottineau. Mr. Goss has acquired valuable residential property in Eastwood Park, buying the home now occupied by M. F. Schooler. Mr. Goss is arranging to build a fine residence on the property the coming summer.

Storm Did Some Damage. Some damage was done by the storm last Thursday night. Plate glass windows at the McCoy Furniture store and the McCoy Department store were broken and a plate glass window in the Citizens Bank block was blown in. A door was blown in at the rear of the basement of the McCoy Department store, allowing the water pipes to freeze, and considerable water ran into the basement, which damaged some of the stock to the extent of two or three hundred dollars.

Woodmen of World Install Officers. The following newly elected officers of the local lodge of the Woodmen of the World were installed Jan. 11:

Consul, S. A. Yri; Banker, Earl Pickett; Adv. Lieut., H. C. Coleman; Clerk, Gust W. Dahlquist; Escort, J. M. Galloway; Watchman, E. B. Evans; Sentry, Art Anderson; Auditors, A. M. Kallness, Theo. Otterson and M. E. Fowler.

The next meeting night, Jan. 25, will be given over to a dance to which the public is cordially invited. Quigley's orchestra will furnish the music.

YOUR HOME

You wanted to build last season. But could not find the time to do so.

Don't let the spring season find you in the same position, but get busy at once and let us show you our Plan Books. In these plans you can find just the design that you have been looking for. We have just received some new plans which include the latest styles of modern priced homes. In addition to these we will gladly give you the benefit of our suggestions and experience and will help you in any way possible. All without cost to you.

OUR TIME IS YOURS. PIPER-HOWE LUMBER CO. "A Safe Place to Trade"

Instituted O. E. S. Chapter at Berthold

The members of the Eastern Star from this city, who attended the institution of a Chapter of the O. E. S. at Berthold Thursday evening, returned early Saturday morning on No. 4, the first train that had gotten thru on the Great Northern for two or three days on account of the storm. Owing to the blizzard which was raging, none of the country candidates were able to attend the proceedings and only a part of those living in Berthold. The visitors were treated royally, a social and banquet following the ceremonies. The Chapter was instituted by Grand Worthy Matron Mrs. L. J. Palda and Grand Worthy Patron Judge Murphree of La Moure.

Make Your Building Plans Now.

Drop in during these cold winter days when you are not busy and let us talk over your building plans for the coming year with you. Our experience and intimate knowledge of building materials will unquestionably be of value to you, and then, too, we have numerous plans of buildings of various types for you to inspect. Our services are yours to command. In availing yourself of our assistance you are in no way obligating yourself, consequently it is "up to you" to "get busy." Call on us and arrange a convenient time when we will be able to give you needs our undivided attention. Rogers Lumber Co., H. S. Johnson, Manager.

Minot Man Participates in Will.

Henry Hecht, who recently returned from Ida Grove, Ia., where he attended the funeral of his brother, learned upon his return that the brother's will had been found, leaving \$20,000 worth of property to the four brothers and sisters. The brother had visited the Hot Springs for his health and was killed by an explosion while lighting a gas stove. It is presumed that he turned on the gas and left it on while looking for a match.

Aurland Says Farming Pays.

C. Aurland, who owns a quarter section of land five miles southwest of Minot, considers that the farm is worth \$50 per acre from an investment standpoint. His buildings represent but a few hundred dollars outlay and he keeps no stock whatever, doing grain farming exclusively. He has had a good income from the farm every season for years and last year with a short crop, cleared \$1200.