

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

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DES LACS OIL PROSPECT BRIGHT

Minot Press Representatives Shown Through Oil Fields West of Minot—Flow Continues Satisfactory.

A representative of the Independent took advantage of an invitation extended by the officials of the Des Lacs Western Oil Co. to visit their oil well near Des Lacs last Saturday afternoon and in company with Peter Kulas, chemist, and C. A. Johnson, of the Minot Daily News we were taken out to the scene of the recent oil find. There we found that a goodly assemblage of representative citizens had already gathered, including L. D. McGahan of the Messenger, Chas. Scribner and son of Tasker, Judge Dill of Minot and various others whose names we neglected to learn. We were taken to well No. 1, the first well sunk. This well, which is but 240 feet in depth, was found carefully capped and locked. Upon this covering being removed a slusher was lowered and came up filled with a dark, oily liquid, which was emptied into a pail. This operation was repeated two or three times. The fumes which arose from the pail smelled strongly of gasoline or benzine. A saucer full was skimmed off the top and a match applied, when the flames shot up and in a minute's time the contents were completely consumed. We then went over to well No. 2, which is facetiously termed "Pete's Well." The same conditions prevailed here as at No. 1, and the same procedure followed. The liquid here was of a slightly clearer quality, but the flash test and odor corresponded the results obtained at the first well tested. Here a tape was lowered and the measurement disclosed the fact that a depth of 236 feet had been attained. We returned to well No. 1, which is but 240 feet distant, and by this time the liquid which had been poured into the pail had settled and bottles were then procured in which the surface liquid was then poured. This sample and the one obtained at the No. 2 well were brought back to Minot by Mr. Kulas who will make a chemical analysis of this test as he does all samples taken from the wells.

At well No. 1 preparations are being made to erect a derrick. Caissons have been sunk at the four corners upon which the superstructure will stand. Piled around are a large number of pipes or tubes, varying in size from 8 to 12 inches, and perhaps 20

feet or more long. One pile represents an outlay of about \$5,000 and there are more in transit, the whole representing an expenditure of over \$12,000. This for the tubes alone, and this item is but one of the many required to sink a well of say 4,000 feet, the depth which the management say may be necessary to strike the flow. There yet remains the expense of procuring a drilling apparatus adapted for this particular purpose. We were told that this machine and the labor attendant upon sinking the well to the depth necessary may cost around \$16,000, bringing the total up to fully \$28,000.

Already stock has been sold sufficient to cover the expenditures to date but it will be necessary still for the public to subscribe liberally in order that a complete test well may be sunk and the fact fully determined whether there is oil in paying quantities underlying this region or not. If so be there is, the imagination cannot conceive the untold wealth which will pour into this region and the impetus that will be given to property values either directly in the district or in the territory adjacent. Industries without number would locate hereabouts, rail transportation would be revolutionized and benefits of varying description accrue to our people.

Notwithstanding the bright prospects and evidence which to a casual observer would seem to be overwhelming, the management is very conservative in its prospectus and other inducements which are held out to the investor. To our mind the best guarantee which the public can possibly have when asked to venture their savings in a matter such as this where the outcome is problematical is that those who are handling the funds are careful and conservative and get full value received for every dollar expended. In this respect we may rest assured that the management of the Des Lacs Western Oil Co. measures up to every requirement along that line. The officers of the company are all men of standing and good repute in their respective communities. They have no inclination much less desire to exploit a venture of this character for personal gain. They are men whose honor is beyond question. All are enthusiastic over the prospect of a successful oil well, and certainly the indications are very much in their favor.

We speak thus unhesitatingly in endorsing this proposition from the fact also that those connected with the management have made no effort to enlist our support or endorsement, confining their relations with the Independent to a strictly cash basis in their transactions, a fact which confirms us in our knowledge that the public may rest assured of the integrity on the management of the Des Lacs Western Oil Co.

FIELD MEET AND DECLAMATION CONTEST

Two Important Northwestern N. D. High School Events to Take Place at Minot Normal Saturday

The third annual field and track meet of the high schools of Northwestern North Dakota will be held at the Normal field at 2 o'clock p. m., Saturday, May 12, under the auspices of the Normal school.

Thirty contestants have entered from Berthold, Crosby, Minot, Surrey and Velva. Surrey and Crosby make entries for the first time.

The following is a list of the events: TRACK—100 yards; 220 yards; 440 yards; half mile; one mile relay in teams of four.

FIELD—Pole vault; run; broad jump; run; high jump.

WEIGHT—12-pound hammer throw; 12-pound shot put; discus throw.

It looks like a close contest between Minot and Velva, the latter having experienced field and weight men, also good track men. An exhibition hammer throw will be given by Knut Christianson of Benedict, who expects to break his St. Olaf record of 152 feet and 9 inches.

An admission of 25 cents will be charged to defray the expenses of the contestants.

Declamatory Contest

The third annual declamatory contest will be held at the Normal school gymnasium at 8 o'clock on the evening of May 12. This includes contestants from the high schools of North Dakota. The following is the program:

- Piano Solo.....Selected
- Miss Virginia Mott
- Whirligigs.....O. Henry
- Harold Shaft, Minot
- The Trial Scene.....Victor Hugo
- Ervin Kahellek, Kenmare
- The Death Bed of Benedict Arnold.....Lippard
- John Paulson, Flaxton
- Voice Solo.....The Lark
- Mrs. Amy Simpson
- The Death Disk.....Mark Twain
- Glady Miner, Kenmare
- The Rejuvenation of Mary.....Warner
- Irma Hendrix, Minot
- The School of Squealers.....Dickens
- Dorothy Whitson, Berthold
- Jack, the Fisherman.....Mary Phelps
- Flora Glaze, Flaxton
- Voice Solo.....Spring Song
- Miss Amy Owen
- Awarding of certificates and honors for declamation and field meet—Supt. Clarke

MRS. JULIA HOLLAND CALLED TO REWARD

Mother of Mrs. E. S. Person Died Suddenly at Daughter's Home During Night—Interment at Zumbrota, Minnesota

Mrs. Julia Allen Holland, aged 73 years, passed away at the home of her daughter and husband, Major and Mrs. E. S. Person in this city at an early hour this morning from heart trouble. Mrs. Holland had been ill during the past four months, having contracted a cold in January from which she failed to recover. She arrived from her Minnesota home about a month ago and for a time the change appeared to benefit her. Mrs. Holland had appeared as well as usual, however, and had enjoyed the evening prior to her death on the porch of the Person home. She retired at the usual hour and sometime during the night passed peacefully to her long rest. In the morning when her daughter went to call her she was shocked to learn that death had come.

The funeral is to be held from the Person home Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, Rev. P. W. Erickson in charge, and the remains will be taken to the former home, Zumbrota, Minn., for interment. Major and Mrs. Person will accompany them.

She was born at Acworth, N. H., January 23, 1844, and came west to become mistress of the home of several brothers who had decided to try their fortunes in the new west. They settled on a farm near Zumbrota, Minn., about 1863, and three years later, on October 1, 1866, she was happily united in marriage with Stanford C. Holland, upon the return of the future husband from the war, where he had served his country with honor. Mr. Holland died in 1886 and the responsibility of rearing the two daughters who had come to bless the happy home fell upon her shoulders. She met the responsibility with unflinching courage and the best testimonial of the noble work she did is the devotion and love of these two girls who survive her. They are now Mrs. E. S. Person of this city, at whose home her eyes were closed in death, and Mrs. E. B. Church of Long Prairie, Minn. While she was one of a family of eleven children, she is survived by but one, Lyman Allen, a brother, who lives at Filmore, Ill.

In 1891 she moved to Minneapolis in order that the daughters might have the better opportunity of attending the state university. During recent years she had lived with these daughters, dividing her time between the two homes.

She was a member of the Congregational church for many years and until recently she was active in religious and charitable work. She was a woman of strong character and when confronted with duty or obligation she met the responsibility with a firmness that meant success. Tender and gentle in her life and with a heart ready to sympathize with those in distress, she lived her life as a ministering angel, drawing to her by the unbreakable ties of friendship and love the hearts of those who knew her. She was a woman of much culture and her charming companionship was blessed with that embellished with her splendid mental accomplishments. She was a sweet and gracious and noble woman, serving her generation to the fullest measure of its requirements. Death came in the autumn of life when the passing hand of time had tinged her

brow with grey and when the recompenses of the years were written in lines of sweetness on her face. Out of the richness of her life came the mellowed tinge of the fallen leaf and when the time came for her to pass from the scenes of earth where she loved and was loved to those sweeter and purer scenes that are beyond the view of that which is mortal, she closed her life with the benediction of those who knew and loved her through the long years of her life.

Three Hudson Autos Burn in G. N. Car
Three new Super-Six Hudson automobiles consigned to a Kalispell, Montana, firm, were destroyed by fire on the crossing at Third street northeast about midnight this evening. The car was on fire when the train pulled into the city. The local firemen were called and put out the blaze. One of the cars was totally destroyed and the others damaged. The roof of the freight car was burned and the car was otherwise damaged. The car was sealed and the fire started in a mysterious manner.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LEADS MINOT RAID

Langer Directs Work of Forty Special Deputies—Plans Remained Secret—Forty Arrests Made.

Without a doubt, the greatest raid in the history of North Dakota was "pulled off" last Monday night in this city under the personal direction of William Langer, Attorney General of North Dakota, assisted by Assistant Attorney General Dan Brennan, F. L. Watkins, state enforcement league officer, Sheriff John J. Nedreloe of Ward county, States Attorney Herigstad and forty Minot citizens, who had

(Continued on page 4.)



DIAMONDS

We sell the finer grades of diamonds only. There is a wealth of meaning in that simple statement.

So many people must depend upon the word of their jeweler in the purchase of a diamond, that it is essential that the firm from whom you buy should be known, dependable, in business for years, and with a reputation for honesty, permanence and trustworthiness beyond dispute. To assure the most perfect stones, we insist on making a personal selection, which must comply with our standard of quality—a system in use in all our years of business.

This is one of the many safeguards of a reliable jewelry house for your protection.

Diamond rings from \$5.00 to \$1150

Largest stock of diamonds and diamond mounted jewelry in the city.

Hart Swalstead

Jeweler

SHOULD HOSTILE WARSHIPS APPEAR OUR COAST DEFENSES ARE READY



LEARNING HOW TO DEFEND OUR COASTS

While every effort is being made to strengthen the mobile forces of the nation in preparation for active war with Germany, the coast defenses of the nation are not neglected. Army men have not lost sight of the possi-

bility of an attack on our coasts. The pictures show three scenes at one of the principal Atlantic coast forts: Upper, just after firing a practice shot with one of the twelve-inch coast defense rifles; center, keeping a close watch for enemy submarines or other

craft; lower, swabbing out the chamber of the big gun after firing. All the main strategic points of our coast are well defended, it is believed; but many persons hold with Admiral Peary that we need an immense fleet of aerial coast defenders.

ORPHEUM

Program for Week Beginning May 14

Monday and Tuesday May 14-15
Kathryn Williams and Theodore Roberts in "The Cost of Hatred"
Burton Holmes Travelogue and Victor Moore Comedy

Wednesday and Thursday, May 16-17
Vivian Martin in "The Spirit of Romance"
Fatty Arbuckle in a two-reel Comedy "The Butcher Boy"
Don't miss this, the critics say "It's great."

Friday and Saturday May 18-19
Harold Lockwood and May Allison in "The Hidden Children"
Sidney Drew Comedy "The Awakening of Helen Minor"
Pathe Weekly News



The decorative art of all lands and all ages is actually laid at your feet in the exquisite patterns and colorings of

Bundhar Wilton

DURABLE AS IRON
RUGS & CARPETS

In our practically limitless range of offerings are found the intricate, slowly evolved designs and deep, lustrous colorings of the ancient Oriental, as well as the dainty patterns and even more delicate shades characterizing the reigns of Napoleon, his contemporaries and predecessors.

Modern art, with its daring, yet oftimes welcome departure from the thought of the past, in these carpetings, likewise finds generous and prompt recognition.

In fact in Bundhar Wilton we have in a meritorious, dependable fabric, just what you want.

Lidstrom Furniture Company