

# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

This Issue 16 Pages

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

FIRST SECTION

Vol. 18; No. 5

Minot, Ward County, North Dakota, Thursday, May 15, 1919

Subscription \$1.50 Per Annum

## MRS. McDONNELL SAYS SHE HATED DAUGHTER

### Mother Gives That as Excuse for Assault on Daughter—Neighbor's Visit the Cause.

Jamestown, N. D., May 13.—Etta McDonnell was killed by her mother and father because she had told her mother and father that she had been assaulted on the night of her death, Etta, came into the house, she found this neighbor holding her mother in his lap.

Back of the terrible scene that was enacted in the McDonnell home near Courtenay on March 24, last, when Etta was kicked by her father and beaten till she was unconscious by her mother, was a hatred for the child that the mother developed because of her story of the neighbor's alleged visit.

That hatred was given by Mrs. McDonnell as the cause of her action in beating the child, when she stated to State's Attorney John Carr the whole sordid details of the scene that ended in the girl's death.

**Confirmed First Story.**  
Mrs. McDonnell told the story of the child's death to Mr. Carr after she had called the prosecutor to the jail, several days after she and her husband had been arrested charged with killing the child.

Mrs. McDonnell said that she had decided that it was well for her to tell the whole story of what had happened, and she proceeded immediately to a detailed account of the affair. It corresponded in detail with the story that she told the night she was brought to Jamestown, when she made her first confession. That confession was repudiated the day following, but a few days thereafter the woman confirmed her first statement. Mr. Carr kept the second confession secret.

**Father Kicks the Girl.**  
According to the woman's story, which covers about 15 pages, and which was signed in the presence of witnesses, McDonnell first assaulted the child on the morning of her death. Etta was lying on an improvised bed on the floor and the father kicked her brutally three or four times.

Mrs. McDonnell said she dressed herself, and then took a board from the end of an apple barrel and began beating the child. The board split, she said, and then she took up one part of the broken board and continued with the punishment of the girl.

The child, unconscious as a result of the terrific beating, lay in a stupor for some time, and when she revived she attempted to get out of the house. She was again beaten, and didn't recover consciousness again during the day. That afternoon, about eight hours after the parents had made their initial assault upon her, the girl died.

**McDonnell Informed.**  
About 10 days ago State's Attorney Carr informed McDonnell that the wife had related the story of the child's death. He still maintained innocence, but last Saturday morning called State's Attorney Carr to the jail, and said he was ready to plead guilty. Mr. and Mrs. McDonnell were taken to the district court about 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon, and Monday morning they began serving their quarter-century sentence for second degree murder.

**Professes Interest in Children.**  
Mrs. McDonnell, during the last few weeks, has professed interest in the welfare of her six children who are being cared for in Fargo, and seemed desirous that they should have a good home.

A sister of Mrs. McDonnell has evidenced her desire to take care of the children and they will probably be committed to her care.

Both Mr. and Mrs. McDonnell have professed sorrow at the affair that ended in Etta's death, but the mother always asserts that she had come to hate the child because of the stories Etta had told her father, and that that hatred really was responsible for the tragedy.

**Assigned to Duties.**  
In the prison at Bismarck, yesterday, McDonnell was assigned to a job in the engine room, shoveling coal, while Mrs. McDonnell was assigned to sewing. The couple was taken to Bismarck by Seaman A. Smith, former sheriff of Golden Valley county, acting state transportation officer.

## MOTHER AND DAUGHTERS GET-TOGETHER

### A Great Time is in Store for the Matrons and Maids of the City Monday, May 19.

The Y. W. C. A. people, who always "put things over" in a big way, are reporting that plans are coming along in fine style for the Mother and Daughter Get-together on Monday night of next week.

It is remembered that the fathers and sons of the city had one of the biggest jollifications ever, and the coming voters of the nation seem determined to surpass their rivals' efforts.

A further evidence of the success of the evening is found in the splendid co-operation from so many angles—the Association of Commerce men, the City schools, the Normal school, women's clubs and lodges and church societies; these together with the Y.

W. C. A. will prove a force of real significance.

It is to be understood that every woman of the city is heartily invited to join with the crowd for the evening. There are evidently no bars of any kind. Already nearly seven hundred girls have evidenced their intention of attending and the list of women to be big sisters and mothers for the evening numbers about three hundred and fifty. These numbers indicate that there is a fine opportunity for several hundred women to select a daughter or little sister for the evening. A special canvass of the mothers of the city has been made thru the city schools, but there are hundreds of women who could not be reached in this way.

Consequently an opportunity is given all women who have not registered, to report their intentions of attending the Get-together by registering at the Y. W. C. A. rooms at any time between now and Monday forenoon, preferably at once. Cards are placed in a noticeable position near the door, so if an attendant is not at hand, each woman may help herself.

There are no admission fees, but each woman is to bring a "standard lunch," the exact menu of which can be secured at the Y. W. C. A. rooms. This lunch is to be large enough for two—the "mother" and the "daughter."

No woman is to stay at home because she has no daughter, or because she has too many daughters, nor is any girl to remain away for want of a mother or big sister. An "Agency" will be established near the entrance so that the "motherless" and "daughterless" can find each other.

## CITY PLANNING GIGANTIC PAVING PROGRAM

### City Engineer Draws Chart for Many Miles of Proposed Paving, Some of Which Will Be Completed This Year.

A gigantic paving program is being arranged for the city of Minot to be completed this year and next. It will undoubtedly include anywhere from twelve to twenty miles and possibly more.

The proposition is to complete the paving of south Main street to the hill and to pave Fourth avenue south, from Second street southwest to the entrance of Riverside Park. City Engineer Thomas has also drawn a chart including the paving of the intersecting streets and avenues thru the court house and high school districts. The plan also includes the paving of Second street southwest and north-west over in the Normal school district.

At a meeting of the city commission Monday night, City Engineer Thomas was ordered to draw plans for paving three blocks on Fourth avenue north-west and for the South hill on South Main street as far as the St. Paul flats. This paving will be done at once and it is believed that when the work is once started, petitions for other projects as outlined above will be submitted by the property owners. It is generally predicted that this section of the state is due for a big crop this year, as we have more moisture in the ground than has been known in years. All that would put a stop to a great paving program would be another crop failure and this is not expected this year.

## DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA WILL HOLD INITIATION

### Thirty-eight Candidates to Receive Work Sunday—Banquet and Program in the Evening.

The Daughters of Isabella, Court of St. Elizabeth No. 170, will hold an initiation next Sunday afternoon at their rooms in St. Leo's Catholic church.

The members will attend Holy Communion at 8:30 that morning and the work of initiating 38 candidates will begin at 1:30 that afternoon. The banquet will be held in the evening. Miss Kathryn Ehr will be the toastmaster. The invocation will be delivered by Father Arsenault. Mrs. M. E. Dwire will deliver the address of welcome to the candidates. Father Weiser of Bowbells will render a piano solo and Miss Genevieve Vandenoever will speak on "The day's views of a candidate." A short talk will be given by Father Raith and the members will engage in community singing.

The officers of the St. Elizabeth Court are: Chaplain, Rev. Jos. Raith. Grand Regent, Mrs. Francis J. Murphy.

Vice Grand Regent, Miss Julia McDonough. Lecturer, Mrs. A. A. Robinson. Treasurer, Mrs. P. Fichteneau. Financial Secretary—Mrs. M. P. Parriott. Prophetess, Mrs. M. E. Dwire. Historian, Miss Alice McGowan. Monitor, Mrs. John O'Leary. Sentinel, Mrs. Lee Fehan. Organist, Mrs. Brugman. Trustees, Meta McKeane, Charlotte Vandenoever, Elizabeth Kelley, Margaret Falvey, Margaret Foley and Rose Hoellinger.

Co. D Fighter Back from the War. Allen Racine of Maxbass, who left Minot for the war with Co. D, has returned from France, where he was engaged in some severe fighting. He was in Minot Sunday. Allen was wounded once and was also gassed.

## ALBERT SHIPTON OF DONNYBROOK DIES

### Prominent Farmer, Formerly a Resident of Minot, Died Suddenly of Apoplexy.

The following from the Donnybrook Courier, tells of the death of Albert Shipton, former resident of Minot. Mr. Shipton was one of the best citizens of Ward county and his death is generally regretted.

Last Sunday morning people of this community were startled by the report that Albert Shipton was dead. It is stated that he dropped dead without warning after having raised up in bed to shut off the alarm clock which had started ringing. The local doctor was immediately summoned but upon his arrival could do nothing but announce that death had taken place. Apoplexy is given as the probable cause.

Mr. Shipton was 46 years of age. He was a man of Herculean build and possessed great physical strength, and appeared at all times to be in the best of health. He was always a very busy man, taking care of his large, well developed farm and a big herd of dairy cattle.

The following obituary is contributed by Rev. Jas. Hughes.

"The deceased who passed away so quietly and suddenly last Sunday morning, at 5:45, was well known in this vicinity, he and his family having lived on their farm two miles southwest of town since 1905. His health seemed to be usually good and hence the entire community was shocked at his unexpected departure. He was born near Spring Valley, Minn., and grew up in that country to young manhood. After he was 18 years of age he was attracted by the west and saw many places in it before he settled down. On May 20th, 1902, at Minot, he and Miss Minnie LaValle were united in marriage, and to this union five children were born, four of whom survive, the oldest having gone on before in her infancy. They lived in Cut Bank, Mont., where Mr. Shipton was employed as inspector of the Great Northern roundhouse in that place until they removed to Donnybrook.

Mr. Shipton was a quiet, hard-working and thrifty man. He was a true husband, a splendid neighbor, a kind father and a rich provider for his family. Of all the good he was numbered among the best. His early life was spent among the Lutherans and Methodists, and he was reared in the Protestant faith to be a thoroughly good man."

The funeral services were held at the house this afternoon, Rev. Hughes officiating, and burial was made in the Odd Fellow cemetery.

## Community Dance Was Successful.

The community dance given at the Anderson block Monday evening by Blaine Allen's "International Scrap-Iron Band" of Minneapolis, assisted by local musicians was attended by nearly three hundred couples and the event was very enjoyable. The music was excellent.

Mr. Allen is a former Minot resident, having directed the famous Minot Symphony orchestra several years ago, and also having been director of the Minot Metropolitan Band during its last season of concerts at Riverside Park. He is a musician of real ability and has a large acquaintance over the northwest. His present tour covers nearly all of North Dakota and part of Minnesota, and he is being favored with a good patronage wherever he appears.

## MINOT MAN HEADS THE INTERSTATE TRACTOR

### L. C. Stearns, Prominent North Dakota Auto and Tractor Dealer, Heads Organization that Manufactures Famous Plowman Tractors.

The following from the Waterloo (Iowa) Evening Courier is of particular interest to the many friends of the Minot Auto Co. and kindred organizations thruout the state and Canada, as it concerns a transaction of gigantic proportions put across by L. C. Stearns of Minot, who is secretary and general manager of the Minot Auto Co., and either president, or vice president of the various other organizations.

Mr. Stearns' many friends thruout the state will be pleased to learn that he will not leave Minot, altho he will have general supervision of the manufacture of the Plowman tractors, which will necessitate his being away from the city a part of the time.

The Minot Auto Co. have been general northwestern distributors of the Plowman tractors for the past two years and have placed some 500 of these machines thruout the Northwest where they are giving the very best of service.

The article from the Waterloo Evening Courier follows:

Eastern capitalists, interested in the future possibilities of the Plowman tractor by L. C. Stearns of Minot, N. D., who has extensive trade relations in his home state, Montana and western Canada, have, within the past few days completed a deal which is of general interest to industrial circles of Iowa and of particular interest to Waterloo, by the purchase of the physical assets, including copyrights, patents and trade names of the Interstate Tractor company of Waterloo, manufacturers of the Plowman tractor. The announcement of the purchase, together with the statement that representatives of the new owners are now in charge, relieving Howard S. Miller, receiver, was given to the press today.

## Wide Trade Relations.

The advent of eastern money into the local industrial field, carrying with it the usual anticipated expansions and improvements, was made thru Mr. Stearns of Minot. This gentleman is affiliated with the Minot Auto company of Minot, N. D., the Grand Forks Overland company of Grand Forks, N. D., the Western Tractor company of Regina, Sask., Canada, the Grand Forks Tractor company of Grand Forks, N. D., and the Great West Motors company of Calgary, Alberta, Canada, which have selling organizations of recognized efficiency. Mr. Stearns is listed among the successful pioneer tractor dealers of northwestern North Dakota, Montana and western Canada.

## Tractor is Popular.

During the past year the various organizations Mr. Stearns is identified with have been selling the Plowman tractor and he is emphatic in his declaration that it is the popular tractor in that part of the country. The Minot Auto company, known as the leading organization of its kind in northwestern North Dakota, practically introduced the Plowman tractor in its trade territory and during the past year disposed of upwards of 600 machines. This was considered remarkable in view of the restrictions placed on trade by the war and the light crops in that section of the famous wheat producing state.

Mr. Stearns' wide field of interest

in agricultural sections has placed him in a position to check up the work of the Plowman tractor in many different soils and under varied conditions and he is confident that the Plowman tractor has a future far brighter than any other tractor on the market today.

## Factory Has Big Capacity.

The factory the new owners are securing is second in point of production among the tractor factories of Waterloo. It has a capacity of from ten to fifteen tractors per day, which will probably be increased as the new organization proceeds with its present plans.

Altho Mr. Stearns will not be on the personnel of the management, under his direction heads of departments are being appointed to insure no deterioration in the make of the Plowman tractor in the future. The men being placed in direct charge of the factory are men of long tractor manufacturing experience and all have made a success in their respective capacities.

## An Unlimited Outlet.

The fact that the several organizations Mr. Stearns is identified with are selling the Plowman tractor and each of the organizations plan extensive trade development during the expected post-war business resuscitation, promises an unlimited outlet to the product of the Plowman factory.

Despite the precarious trade conditions during the war, the companies named above have enjoyed singular success in their respective territories. Northwest North Dakota and eastern Montana, which are catered to by the Minot Auto company, have been forging ahead with lengthy strides with the farmers harvesting a crop averaging eight or ten bushels to the acre instead of the usual average of from 17 to 20. The general belief is that that section is due for a bumper crop this year and with the prevalent high price of wheat and other farm products, the territory is bound to be one of the richest agricultural sections of America.

## Banner Year Expected.

The extension of trade into the prairie provinces of Canada has also taken on new life with the cessation of war and the present year is expected to be a banner one in this regard. During the past year business conditions improved very considerably in western Canada and reports indicate that further improvement is noticeable almost daily. With this future in sight, and his intimate knowledge of the manner in which the Plowman tractor stands the tests and is popular among the farmers of the west, Mr. Stearns quickly conceived the future of the Plowman tractor and when it became known that the purchase of the factory here in Waterloo was possible, he lost no time in interesting eastern capital. Because of his business standing in the west, and the known efficiency of his tractor selling organizations, the effort met with instant success and the purchase was completed.

## Future Plans of Expansion.

Detail plans of the future of the company under its new owners and management have not been given out, but it is generally assumed that expansions are in order. The factory as it stands today is well equipped for the manufacture of Plowman tractors and repairs and a good supply of both are assured. Undoubtedly the capacity of the plant will have to be increased when the selling organizations Mr. Stearns' connection with the new company brings to the service of the Plowman tractor get into full operation.

The intention of the new owners is first to insure owners of Plowman tractors of repairs being stocked as soon as possible by the Plowman dealers in every section where the tractor has been, or is being sold, and the matter of catering to the demand for increased production will be taken care of later.

In the meantime a complete line of repairs and parts are stocked at the factory here, and shipments of all orders will be made the same day they are received.

## H. M. Wilson Addresses "Inquisitors."

The 98th dinner of the "Inquisitors" club was held last night at the Elks' Home. The paper of the evening was read by Henry M. Wilson, manager of the International Oil Co., of this city, who chose as his subject, "Oil and the War." Mr. Wilson showed that oil was one of the main factors in winning the great world war. The oil producers of the United States furnished practically all of the oil used by the Allies on the western front and there was never a time when there was not plenty of oil at hand. It required 78 carloads of oil a day for the Allies along the western front and out of every 35 cars used, the United States furnished 30 of those cars. It required a great many tank steamers to carry this fuel and the Germans, realizing that the product was so important in the winning of the war for the allies, made a special effort to sink the valuable cargoes. Oil had to be transported with the greatest secrecy. Every day the Allies used about as much oil as is handled in the city of Minot during an entire year. At the conclusion of the paper Mr. Wilson was given an opportunity to explain many interesting phases of the oil business, with which he is entirely conversant.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Annan are preparing to leave Saturday for a month's visit in the west, going to Seattle and Portland over the G. N., then south of San Francisco and Los Angeles, and back thru Salt Lake City, to Denver and Chicago. Mrs. Annan's health has not been good and it is hoped the trip will be of benefit to her. Mr. Annan is the assistant roadmaster for the G. N. at Minot.

## RED CROSS CONFERENCE MAY 22 AND 23

### Group of Divisional Red Cross Officers Will Arrive From Minneapolis—Important Work to be Planned.

A group of Northern division Red Cross officers will arrive in Minot from Minneapolis for the purpose of conducting a Red Cross conference on May 22 and 23. This conference is held to present to the workers of Northwestern North Dakota the Peace program of the Red Cross.

There will be a mass meeting on the evening of May 22 at the Auditorium which the general public is urged to attend. Every Red Cross member will want to hear of the canteen and hospital work carried on in France from Mrs. Stewart Campbell and Hon. L. B. Hanna, who have been actively engaged in this work overseas.

All Red Cross workers will have an opportunity to meet these division officers and learn first hand what part the Chapter's organization is expected to take in the Peace program. This is important not only to Chapter and Branch officers but to all Red Cross members. The conference will continue May 23rd at Red Cross headquarters.

Minot people should attend especially the evening meeting and give the visitors the inspiration derived from a full house in our new Auditorium. Minot is considered to be the center of things in this part of the state. This is the time to show our loyalty and get an understanding of "The Greatest Mother in the World."

A luncheon was served Tuesday at the Leland, the members of the executive committees of the Ward County Chapter and the Minot Branch being present, at which they planned for this conference.

Dr. A. D. McCannell appointed the following committees:

- Program—A. D. McCannell, Mrs. E. B. Goss and Mrs. Carr.
- Automobiles—F. C. Upton, Mrs. R. E. Barron and Mrs. J. C. Huyck.
- Luncheon—Mrs. A. A. Robinson.
- Enrollment—Mrs. E. O. Dickinson and Mrs. John Nelson.
- Publicity—H. M. Wilson, Rotary Club, Town Criers, and J. Milloy, G. D. Colcord and W. M. Smart, representing the press.

Reception—Dr. A. D. McCannell, Mrs. E. B. Goss, Dr. J. T. Newlove, E. M. Graham, E. A. Long, M. R. Porcupine, Dr. F. Ewing, Kenmare; Judge Goss, Mrs. John Nelson, Mrs. A. Carr, H. M. Wilson, Mrs. E. O. Dickinson, C. H. Zehring, Mrs. A. A. Robinson, F. C. Upton and J. Fauchald.

## DICK POSEY, EXHAUSTED, LAYS DOWN TO DIE

### Had Been Left on Prairie Southwest of Carrington Saturday—Body Found Accidentally Sunday.

Carrington, N. D., May 12.—Dick Posey, left on the prairie in the hills country Saturday afternoon, wandered around probably several hours, then laid down and died of exposure. He was found Sunday afternoon by Charles Vogt, who was passing thru the prairie section.

Mr. Posey had left his home west of Melville early Saturday afternoon, against his better judgment, to go to a neighbor's home with Jake Shaeffer and his two sons, who had called at the Posey farm in an auto. On their return from calling on several neighbors, it appears that they struck a mud hole and Dick got out of the car to help extricate the car. He was left on the prairie.

It is said that Shaeffer had some home made alcohol with him and was well under its influence, altho neither of his grown sons had touched any of the liquor. At any rate, the auto with the three Shaeffers in it proceeded on to the Shaeffer home. No word was given out that Posey had been left on the prairie.

There were no marks whatever on Dick's body, so there is no thought of foul play in connection with his death. No one has been found who saw him alive after the Shaeffers left, and it is presumed that he walked until exhausted, then laid down to rest and died from exposure, a cold rain falling during the time. When found, the body was about three-quarters of a mile from Martin Hegna's home.

Mr. Posey was a powerfully built fellow, one of the physical giants of this region. He was 34 years old and leaves a wife and six children, the eldest child being 13. During the holidays, he took out a \$2,000 life insurance policy. He has been farming west of Melville and had already started his spring seeding operations.

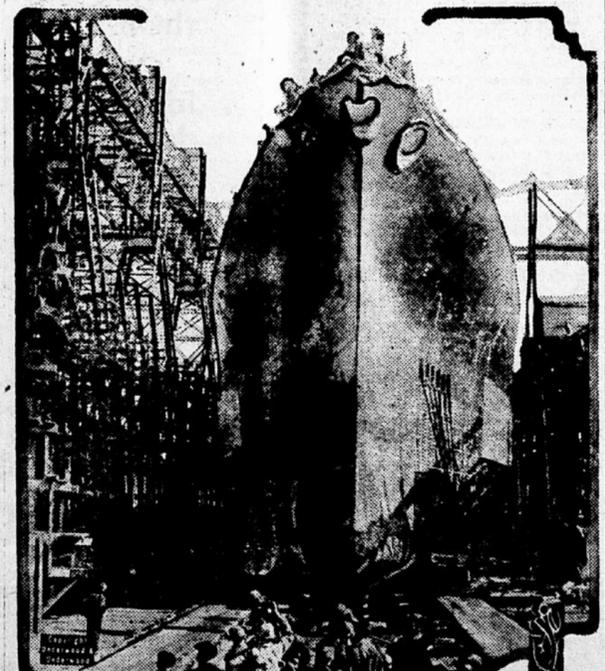
## Musical Club Election.

The Wednesday Musical club elected officers Wednesday afternoon as follows:

- President—Mrs. L. C. Eby.
- Vice President—Mrs. O. Epstein.
- Secretary—Mrs. Harris M. Erenfeld.
- Treasurer—Mrs. G. D. Colcord.

Be sure to visit the Minot Cloak and Suit Co. next week. Corset week with ten special offerings in corsets. (adv.)

## LAUNCHING OF BATTLESHIP TENNESSEE



Scene at the launching of the battleship Tennessee at the Brooklyn navy yard. She is one of the biggest American dreadnaughts and was christened by the daughter of Governor Roberts of Tennessee.