

# The WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

This Issue 12 Pages

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

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FRANCIS J. MURPHY

## FISK, MURPHY AND NASH FORM LAW PARTNERSHIP

THREE OF MINOT'S MOST DISTINGUISHED ATTORNEYS COMPRISE NEW LEGAL FIRM—MESSRS FISK, MURPHY AND NASH, LONG PROMINENT IN LEGAL FRATERNITY OF STATE, ESTABLISH OFFICES IN GORDON BLOCK

Attorneys Charles J. Fisk, Francis Murphy and Dudley Nash, three of Minot's most prominent attorneys, have formed a partnership and will maintain offices in the Gordon Block on Central avenue, having leased the entire second floor of the block where Messrs. Fisk & Murphy have had their offices for the past few years. Dudley Nash moved his office effects into the new quarters on Wednesday of this week.

The new law firm of Fisk, Murphy & Nash is comprised of men who have already attained celebrity in their profession. Charles J. Fisk was formerly judge of the First judicial district, maintaining offices in Grand Forks from 1897 to 1907, when he was elected to the Supreme bench. He was a member of the State Supreme court from 1907 to 1917, the last two years

Judge Fisk in the practice of law. During his incumbency in office at Bismarck he was identified with many suits which figured prominently in the legal annals of the state. Mr. Murphy has gained an enviable position among the members of the bar as a successful trial lawyer and his services have been in great demand on this account. At the present time he is identified with the investigation of the report of Bishop, Brissman & Co., as special counsel, having been retained by the House of Representatives.

Dudley L. Nash for the past 15 years has been identified either directly or indirectly with most of the important litigation that has transpired in northwestern North Dakota. For two terms he was states attorney for Ward county, attaining a record in that capacity that has never been



DUDLEY L. NASH

## REPORT SHOWS HOME BUILDERS DEPT. AND MILL-ELEVATOR ASS'N HORRIBLY MISMANAGED

The report submitted by Bishop-Brissman & Company on the audit of the Bank of North Dakota and the other state institutions has naturally been the center of interest among the lawmakers and everybody else in the capital during the past week. Two special investigation committees, one from the house and one from the senate, are considering the report but as it is both a lengthy and complicated affair it will at least take another week before any official statements are forthcoming.

A preliminary survey of the findings of the auditing firm shows however, that careless management and gross irregularities have been the order of the day at the various state industries as well as in the bank. Every charge made by the critics of the present state administration has been more than borne out by the report. Large sums of money have been wasted and a large and important part of the "farmers' program" has been run into a hole.

The grand prix for criminal carelessness in the management of its affairs must be divided between the Homebuilders' department and the Mill and Elevator association's managers. The state has built in all twenty houses and work has been started on forty-two others, mostly for the benefit of rich people in the larger cities, but nobody knows what these buildings cost. There has been kept no individual accounts for each house. In this manner \$376,699.08 of the tax payers money have been used. The department has overdrawn its available funds to the tune of \$10,752.52 after having borrowed \$227,000 in the Bank of North Dakota.

After the report of the state mill at Drake was made public Manager J. A. McGovern, of the Mill and Elevator association, has admitted that the stories published in the League newspapers during the past year and showing that large profits had been made were untrue. Mr. McGovern admits that all the mill can do under most favorable circumstances is to make a profit of not to exceed \$300 a month. He also admits that instead of making a profit in the past it has, as a matter of fact, lost some \$30,000, these losses according to Mr. McGovern, has been incurred largely because the mill management failed to hedge in wheat. In other words the state mill has been gambling in wheat.

On the mill and elevator at Grand Forks about \$650,000 have been spent, but the auditors failed to find any complete itemized accounts of these expenditures.

The affairs of the state bank are not in a much better condition financially, but there has at least been kept books there. The big question before the investigation committees as far as the Bank of North Dakota is concerned is to find out the approximate value of the collateral held for loans. A large percentage of loans past due have not been paid, a fact which does not promise well. It is also worthy of mention that the amortization table for rural credits loan is faulty. Under the plans adopted loans are supposed to be paid back with interest after thirty years in an-

annual payments. The investigation has shown that on the contracts already entered into the state still has \$151,000 coming after the thirty years have gone and it is just possible that the tax payers stand to lose this amount.

**N. D. GREETERS CONVENE FEB. 22**

Prominent Hotel Men to Gather Here February 22.

The North Dakota Greeters, an organization of hotel men and hotel clerks, will hold their next convention in this city February 22. C. E. Danielson, proprietor of the Grand Hotel, is president of the Greeters, and J. O. Dahl, the capable and courteous clerk of the Leland-Parker, is secretary. The arrangements are practically complete for the entertainment of the guests at the forthcoming convention. Many prominent hotel men will be in attendance. Below is given a list of the principal events of the day:

**Program of the Greeters' Convention to Be Held in Minot Feb. 22.**

Breakfast, 9 a. m.  
Business Meeting, 10 a. m.  
Address of Welcome—H. M. Wilson, Pres. Association of Commerce.  
Response—C. E. Danielson, Pres. N. D. Greeters.  
President's report.  
Secretary's report.  
N. D. Hotel History, by C. A. Klaus, Prop. Gladstone Hotel, Jamestown, N. D.  
The Northwestern Hotel Men's Association, by J. D. Bacon, Grand Forks.  
Hotel Legislation, by Earl Byer, Lakota Hotel, Lakota.  
The Modern Coffee Shop, by Fred Bartholomew, Frederick Hotel, Grand Forks.  
The Newspaper as a Civic Asset, by Hal Davies, Daily News, Minot.  
Luncheon, 12:30 p. m.  
Meeting, 2 p. m.  
Hotel Cost Accounting—A. H. Leimbacher, Gardner Hotel, Fargo.  
Relation of Employer and Employee—J. L. Peterson, Grand Pacific Hotel, Bismarck, N. D.  
The North Dakota Hotel Association, by H. R. Mayer, Great Northern Hotel, Devils Lake, N. D.  
Theatre Program, 4 p. m.  
Dinner, 6:30 p. m.  
Theatre Party, 9 p. m.  
Special Invitation Elks Club dance.  
Close with a special midnight Chinese lunch with music and informal party.

A cordial welcome is extended to all North Dakota hotel and restaurant men to be present.

**"Only One Minot, and That's in North Dakota"**

J. A. Roell, for many years a resident of this city, writes from Minneapolis, where he recently established headquarters as general agent for the Lincoln National Life Insurance Co. He writes: "We are enjoying California weather. Very little snow. Cars are running every day. Some-thing like 25 families from Minot are located here, so we feel quite at home. I miss Minot very much. There is only one Minot and that is in North Dakota."



CHARLES J. FISK

of his term being Chief Justice of the court. At the end of his term of office he removed to Minot and has practiced law in partnership with Francis Murphy here since that time.

Francis J. Murphy, upon his admission to the bar, located in Kenmare, afterwards removing to Minot, where he was assistant states attorney, 1907-8. In 1915 he was chosen as assistant Attorney General under Attorney General Henry J. Linde, which position he held for two years, or during the Linde regime. Upon his return from Bismarck he located in Minot and for several years has been associated with

equalled by any successor since relinquishing the office. His record of convictions is still treasured as one of the great accomplishments of that important office in Ward county. His marked legal and professional learning and versatility have won for Mr. Nash one of the most distinguished positions among the legal fraternity in the state.

The new legal firm of Fisk, Murphy & Nash, make their initial bow to the public under the most auspicious circumstances. Their success as such is already assured.

## FATHER AND SON BANQUET FEB. 8; BOY WORKER SPEAKS

The Third Annual Father and Son Banquet will be given at the high school auditorium Tuesday evening, Feb. 8, at 6:30 o'clock under the auspices of the Minot Rotary club.

The tickets which are one dollar, permit one man to take one boy to the banquet. One may either be accompanied by his son or some other boy or boys. Two tickets costing \$2.00, will enable one man to take three boys. Plans are being made to entertain 1,000 fathers and sons.

A box lunch will be served by the Y. W. C. A. who have offered to turn the profits for the evening over to the Boy Scout Summer Camp fund.

A vaudeville entertainment will be given during the banquet period after which moving pictures of interest to Boy Scouts will be shown. E. C. Walcott, General Secretary of the Y. M. C. A. with headquarters at Sioux City, Iowa, will deliver the address that evening. He makes a specialty of Boys' work and is willing to deliver an address before the student body of the Minot school and to the boys of the school alone during the afternoon.

**Four Veterans Attend W. R. C. Meeting Tuesday**

The W. R. C. held an interesting meeting at the Sons of Norway hall Tuesday. The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Ida Youngman, the president. Martha Stewart was installed as vice president and Mary Lytle as Patriotic Instructor, the two having been absent at the installation in January. Maud Leuhe, Maud Mouch and Florence McKenzie, were initiated.

The charter of the W. R. C. was draped in honor of the late Mrs. Olivia Ellison and that of the G. A. R. for Jasper Baker, whose death occurred Monday.

T. C. Conklin, member of the G. A.

R. read the following beautiful lines in honor of Mr. Baker's memory: Life's stars that sink into the west, As one by one we seek our rest, The columns brave and steady tread With banners streaming overhead, Will still keep step as in the past, Until the rear guard comes at last. Ah, yes, as stars o'er take our flight, And whisper one by one good-night, Yet in the light of God's bright day, Triumphant each will say, 'Hail Comrade, here has life begun, The battle's fought—the victory's won.'

The following members of the G. A. R. attended the meeting: J. D. White, T. A. Calahan, H. C. Bemis, and T. C. Conklin.

The hostesses were Mrs. Wm. Murray, Mrs. Wm. C. Hunter, Mrs. C. F. Truax and Mrs. James Johnson.

**FORMER MINOT NEWSPAPER MAN DIES IN SOUTH**

Word has been received in Minot of the death of William M. Bowen, former Minot newspaper man, who died at Galveston, Texas, after a brief illness. He was 63 years old.

Mr. Bowen came to Minot from the south in 1916 and joined the staff of the Minot Messenger, then published by L. D. McGahan. He later served with the Minot Daily News, going to Billings, Mont., for a time. He returned to Minot and was identified with the Des Lacs Western Oil Co. as salesman and then returned to the south. At one time he was owner and publisher of The Jamestown Daily All at Jamestown, N. Y.

**Marriage Licenses**

Marriage licenses issued over the week end by Judge Murray were for William C. Larson, 24, Minot, and Miss Rlice P. Slystad, 21, Minot; Fay C. DeWitt, 25, Minot, and Miss Clara Ramstad, 25, Minot.

## JOHN COLLIER, KENMARE MURDERER, GETS LIFE SENTENCE

**MINOT NORMAL DEFEATS HARVEY**

The Minot Normal School basketball quint journeyed to Harvey last Friday where they met the Harvey high school team. The Normal five emerged victors by a score of 46-21. This marks the fifth straight victory for the Normal team.

The game was fast and clean thru-out only two fouls being called during the game.

The first half was very close. At the end of fifteen minutes playing the score was tied 14-14. The score at the close of the first half was 22-14 with the Normal team leading.

At the beginning of the second half Nichols took Zaharee's place at forward. The Normal team "hit their stride" at this period scoring twenty-four points to their opponents' seven. The final score gave the Normal school a victory 46-21.

Holden, forward and captain was the star performer for the Harvey quint while Greenfield and King scintillated for the Normal five.

The lineup and summary follows:

Harvey	Pos.	Minot Normal
Schmidt	F	Zaharee
Wolden (Capt.)	F	King
Kafton	C	Greenfield
Bentz	F	Leighton
Greenwood	G	Opland (Capt.)

Field Goals: Wolden 7; Greenwood 3; Greenfield 10; King 7; Nichols 6. Foul Goals: Wolden, 1 out of 2. Time of halves: 20 minutes. Referee: G. F. Mueller, Minot Normal School.

John Collier, the Kenmare miner known as "Oklahoma Jack," who shot and killed John Reynolds, another miner, at Collier's shack four miles from Kenmare, a week ago, appeared before Judge John C. Lowe in district court in Minot and entered a plea of guilty to murder in the first degree. He was sentenced to life in the state penitentiary at Bismarck. He received his sentence without giving evidence that he cared.

Collier was drinking hard cider strengthened by yeast a week ago and it made him quarrelsome. He entered into an argument with A. Hanson, mine lessee, and shot at Hanson with a rifle. Thomas O'Neill, partner of Hanson, prevented a fatality by grappling with Collier and taking his gun away from him after he had shot twice at Hanson. Collier proceeded to his shack while Hanson and O'Neill went to town with the intention of having Collier arrested. On their way to town they met John Reynolds and told him to keep away from Collier as he was drinking and had a gun. Reynolds disregarded the warning.

Collier went into Kenmare the next morning and gave himself up to authorities, stating that he had killed a man. Reynolds' body was found near Collier's shack with four bullet wounds in it. At first Collier said he killed Reynolds in self defense when they quarreled but later admitted his guilt.

**Ramstad DeWitt Nuptials**

Miss Clara Ramstad, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Ramstad, was united in marriage to Fay C. DeWitt, at the Bethany church Tuesday morning at 10:30 o'clock, Rev. O. L. Jensen officiating. The bride has lived here all her life. She is a graduate of the Minot high school and the Park Region College at Fergus Falls, Minn. For several years she was connected with the G. N. offices here. The groom is wire chief for the Northwestern Bell Telephone Co. and came here three years ago from California. The couple left for a week's honeymoon.

**Remains of Jasper Baker Buried With Masonic Honors**

The funeral of Jasper Baker who died Monday, was held from the Masonic Temple at 2:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon. It was largely attended by members of the Masonic lodge, under whose direction the services were held, and by the W. R. C. and the Jasper Baker Camp, Sons of Veterans, who marched to the Temple in a body. Seven Civil War veterans and many old friends attended the services.

The Masonic Ritualistic services were in charge of the Worshipful Master, V. E. Stenersen, and other officers of Star in the West Lodge. Rev. P. W. Erickson, pastor of the First Presbyterian church delivered the funeral address, paying a beautiful tribute to the memory of Mr. Baker. A Masonic quartette composed of E. S. Person, J. H. Colton, Carl Danielson and Leon Ellithorpe rendered several appropriate selections. The remains were taken to the Rose Hill cemetery where they were laid to rest with Masonic honors. The pall bearers were C. F. Truax, L. A. Corey, Henry E. Byorum, S. J. Rasmussen, Martin Jacobson, and John Nelson.

**WHEELER GOES TO BISMARCK: WILL PROBE HIGH TAX**

H. E. Wheeler, city assessor, left for Bismarck Wednesday at the request of Minot taxpayers to ascertain if there are not some means by which the tax burden in Minot may be reduced.

The taxes on the Leland hotel jumped from \$4,000 to \$12,000 in three years and Minot property owners decided such an increase must have some explanation. Mr. Wheeler will try and find just what it is.

**Featherweight Champion Wants Bout**

"Jock" Mungavin, featherweight champion pugilist of the Northwest, is endeavoring to get an engagement in Minot soon, enroute to the west where he has signed up for several bouts. His manager is N. F. Tierney, Fargo, N. D. Mungavin has had bouts in Italy, Paris, New Orleans, St. Louis and St. Paul. Mungavin has signed to meet Baird, featherweight champion of the Pacific coast in an eight-round preliminary to the Jack Dempsey championship battle should it go thru.

**Date for Hearing Set**

According to an announcement made today by Clerk of Court T. N. Henderson, the next naturalization hearing will be held in Minot May 9. Persons expecting to receive a hearing at that time must have their petitions filed on or before Feb. 7.

**Awarded S. D. Contract**

Bartelson & Ness, Minot contract for the construction of a new \$70,000 ors, have been awarded the contract high school building at McIntosh, S. D. There were 30 bids received from contractors in North and outh Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa.