

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF WARD COUNTY AND THE CITY OF MINOT

# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

This Issue 12 Pages

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

This Issue 12 Pages

Vol. 20; No. 2

Minot, Ward County, North Dakota, Thursday, April 21, 1921

Subscription \$2.00 Per Annum

## PRES. SMART MAKES PLEA FOR ECONOMY AT FIRST MEETING

The old board of city commissioners with President Shaw and Commissioner Householder absent, held their last meeting Tuesday morning and approved of the minutes of the meeting the day before, whereupon the new board went into session.

On motion of Commissioner Bratsberg, seconded by Com. Gross, the new board was organized as follows: Fire and Police—F. Otto Gross. Finance—D. W. Bowker. Streets and Public Improvements—G. D. Shaft. Waterworks and Sewer—Skels Bratsberg.

Com. Bratsberg was named vice president of the commission. The commission decided to make no appointments until the meeting Monday at 4 p. m. as they want time to select the employees.

A letter from E. E. Stewart was read in which he recommended that Geo. Warchow be reappointed as superintendent of waterworks, stating that a saving of from \$4,000 to \$7,000 a year can be made by such contract. "I do not believe that an immediate change, without investigation, will be to the best interests of the city, or the welfare of the department," Mr. Stewart states in his letter.

President Smart's message follows: As the new city commission is about to take the management of city affairs, it might be proper for me as president of the commission to outline to you some of the policies that I believe that we should pursue, and I offer these recommendations not in a dictatorial spirit, but in a spirit of co-operation, realizing that to get the best results for Minot all measures of importance affecting this city should be decided upon by the commission as a whole and not by the president alone.

I believe that the people of Minot are supremely interested in two questions: One of these is the question of economy and efficiency in the management of city affairs. The other is the maintenance of order and the enforcement of the law.

### Economy

A preliminary survey convinces me as I believe it does all of you gentlemen that considerable sums can be saved in each department without decreasing efficiency. These reductions in expenditures are variously estimated at from \$250 to \$500 per department per month. To this saving may be added large amounts that may be saved through the purchase of supplies. If the city of all departments will co-operate in this undertaking, I believe that large sums can be saved in running expenses. I do not believe that we should pursue a niggardly policy in the matter of expenditures, but I see no reason why the city of Minot should pay higher salaries for the same kind of work done than the business and financial institutions of the city pay nor should we pay more for what we buy than the average large consumer. I believe that the funds should be guarded with as much care as the funds of any Minot business institution. Furthermore, every employee of the city from the lowest to the highest should give the city the same service both as to time and energy as he would give any private employer. Only necessary help should be employed, but the employees should be treated fairly and squarely and should not be asked to work for less than the customary pay given that particular class of work on the basis of the present cost of living.

### Law Enforcement

No city official who has any regard for his own office can object to a strict enforcement of city ordinances and state and federal laws against all offenders, whether high or low, rich or poor. If the people do not want the laws enforced they should repeal them.

## TEACHERS MEET OPENED IN AUDITORIUM THIS EVE.-PROGRAM, RECEPTION

Many teachers have arrived today for the annual convention of the Northwestern N. D. Education Association, to be held here this evening, Friday and Saturday. It is estimated that 700 teachers will attend, the attendance will be cut down some by the rainy weather. The Association of Commerce rooms are being used as headquarters and the visitors are being placed in various homes about the city, to relieve the congestion of the hotels. Minot Boy Scouts are on the job to assist in directing the visitors.

The opening session was held this evening in the high school auditorium. The high school orchestra under the direction of Prof. John Howard gave a fine entertainment of half an hour. Prof. Simley of Rugby, president of the association, delivered his address, which was followed by an address by Prof. M. V. O'Shea of the University of Wisconsin. A reception for the visitors was held later by the instructors from the Minot schools and the Minot Normal. The sessions Friday morning and afternoon will be held at the Minot Normal. State Supt. Minnie J. Nielson speaks Friday afternoon. Dr. Jos. Kennedy of the N. D. State University and Prof. O'Shea will deliver addresses at the H. S. Auditorium Friday evening.

Surrey Man Raised 300 Bushels Potatoes on 3/4 Acre

David Mower of Surrey informs the Independent that he raised 300 bushels of fine Early Ohio potatoes on three-fourths of an acre of ground last year. He brot samples of them to this office Saturday and they are as solid as rocks. He kept them in his cellar during the winter, taking care that the temperature should remain at from 35 to 38 degrees. Mr. Mower keeps his soil free from weeds,

but as long as they are on the statute books they should be enforced.

The theory of the commission form of government is that the work of the city management is divided into the several departments, at the head of each of which is placed a commissioner. This commissioner is held responsible for the work of this department. If we are to hold each commissioner responsible for his department we must give him authority to select competent employees who are in sympathy with the program outlined. The commission as a whole having decided on the policies that it will pursue will hold the policies laid down to a strict accountability and will interfere with the management of the several departments only when the commissioner deviates from the policies laid down or, in other words, fails to get results.

On the question of public improvements, I believe our policy should be: Under present conditions we should not force permanent improvements on the public and we should be very careful not to go ahead with large expenditures except where they are absolutely necessary and in the case of special assessments no work should be done except in extreme cases of necessity and emergency, unless the property owners against whom the charges will be made petition for such improvement in writing. When financial and crop conditions are improved it may be well to adopt a more liberal policy in this regard.

### Ex-Service Men

Minot has many ex-service men, many of whom crossed the seas and fought on Flanders field. These men have won our admiration, and respect, and we owe them a debt that we can never repay. I sincerely hope that as you commissioners select your employees for the several departments, you will consider carefully among the sons of our soldiers. Realizing that first of all you must insist on efficiency, I believe that you should give the service men a square deal and that their service to our country should carry weight with you in the selection of employees.

### Boys and Girls

I have intentionally left the most important matter to the last. This is the program that I believe we should carry out for our boys and girls. In the hum drum of every day existence, we often think of economic and financial matters of greatest importance but this is not right. The greatest asset that Minot has is not its brick blocks, its residences, its paved streets, its waterworks system or its financial institutions. Our greatest treasure is our boys and girls. They hold the destiny of our city, and the future welfare of Minot depends on how good care we take of the boys and girls. If we can save considerable sums in various city expenditures, would it not be well to invest a part of this in some constructive measures for the welfare of the young. We commissioners have not had time to think through these various plans for boy and girl welfare, but from the talk I have had with all of you gentlemen, I am satisfied that we can cooperate along this line to a splendid degree. A municipal playground with a playground instructor or some city assistance for a paid Boy Scout instructor as well as a plan for supervision of dance halls and places of amusement are merely some suggestions that we may well consider at some future time.

Let us ever remember that Minot is the best city in the world and that the interests of this city and its people should be paramount at all times. Our tasks are many and difficult but if we undertake them in a spirit of faith, courage and enthusiasm, we cannot fail.

The endurance record at Granville was broken last week when the E. P. Meyer family was released after being under quarantine for nine weeks for smallpox and scarlet fever.

The postoffice at Pleasant, Renville county, has been discontinued, the mail now being handled at Tolley.

## CITY APPOINTMENTS ARE MADE; LARRY BRYNE CHIEF OF POLICE

The city commission met at 7:30 o'clock this evening and made the various appointments of city employees as follows:

City Attorney—John J. Coyle. City Auditor—Mrs. Kara A. Dickinson.

Chief of Police—Capt. Larry Byrne. Supt. of Waterworks—W. W. Peterson.

Waterworks Auditor—Robert Gillespie.

City Engineer—Wm. F. Gettleman. City Treasurer—Mrs. Scofield.

Most of the appointments were according to schedule, but in the case of city auditor, the appointment was a complete surprise to practically all of the citizens of Minot as Mrs. Dickinson's name had not been considered by the commissioners until this morning. Mrs. Dickinson's name was presented by Com. Gross and seconded by Com. Shaft. President Smart voted with the above. Com. Bratsberg had presented the name of Clair Tompkins and Com. Bowker had presented the name of A. D. Hagenstein, for re-appointment, but these were voted down.

Mrs. Dickinson is one of Minot's most prominent women, and we might say one of our most popular citizens. She has taken a very active part in club, church and political work in the city, is an able speaker and ought to make a very good capable city auditor. She intends to begin upon her duties May 1. Her salary will be \$175.00 per month.

Atty. John J. Coyle, the newly appointed city attorney, is one of the pioneer lawyers of Minot. He's capable and will undoubtedly fill the position in a very creditable manner. His salary is \$125.00 per month. He received the unanimous vote of the commission.

Capt. Larry Byrne, the new chief of police, was presented by Commis-

sioner and Police Gross. President Smart and Com. Shaft voted with Gross. Com. Bratsberg presented the name of the old chief, Geo. McDonald, and Com. Bowker voted with him. The chief of police receives a salary of \$2,500.00 per year. Capt. Byrne is an old time court reporter. He was associated with Judge Leighton for years before going to war and of late had been court reporter with headquarters at Napoleon, N. D. Capt. Byrne has a host of friends here who predict that he will make good.

Commissioner of Waterworks Bratsberg presented the name of W. W. Peterson for superintendent of Waterworks, and Mr. Peterson was chosen by the board. His salary is \$200.00 a month. Mr. Peterson has been assistant city engineer. He is an electrical and civil engineer, a graduate of the University of Minnesota and an ex-service man.

Commissioner Bratsberg states that if he is given a free hand, he will save the city five or six thousand dollars a year in his department.

Robert Gillespie has been named waterworks auditor to take the place of Soren Hagen. Com. Bratsberg advised against selecting a waterworks auditor, as he had planned on having this work done by the man who takes the trouble calls, and hoped to save the city \$125.00 a month here.

Somewhat of a surprise was sprung when Wm. F. Gettleman, assistant city engineer, was named city engineer, taking the place of Evan Thomas, who has held this position for many years. Mr. Gettleman is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, a very capable man, well liked and an ex-service man, having seen service in France. His selection was unanimous on the part of the board. His salary is \$2500.00 a year.

Mrs. Ray Scofield was re-appointed city treasurer without opposition.

## STYLE SHOW GREAT SUCCESS; AN INSTRUCTOR IS ASSURED

The Community Style Show, given at the high school auditorium, Wednesday evening under the direction of the Y. W. C. A. was attended by a very large crowd and a good sized sum raised which will be used in furnishing a playgrounds instructor for the kiddies of Minot two months this summer.

A large number of little boys and girls, older girls, young women and Minot matrons appeared on the stage in the very latest spring and summer fashions, the garments being furnished by the New York store, Fair Store, Wilser & Co., J. C. Penney Store and Leland Department store. The writer doesn't know very much about styles, but we claim that Minot has a finer looking lot of young girls (and older girls as well) than any other city for its size in the country and they appeared to excellent advantage in the smart spring suits, gowns, coats and hats, which they wore Wednesday night.

Miss Eulalie Church, of the extension department of the A. C., described the styles and fabrics; explained the benefit of wearing the low shoes so many sensible women are wearing today. One of the interesting exhibits was a group of dresses worn by four Minot high school girls, gingham creations, made on simple dress lines by the sewing class of the Minot high school. Quite a large number of men accompanied their wives to the show, and while apparently enjoying it very much, appeared uneasy at times, fearful no doubt that they would be "touched" for the price of a new gown or two on the morrow.

A number of ancient gowns owned by Minot people were shown. The antique creations added much to the show.

Evangelical Lutheran Pastors Give Fine Concert

The pastors of the Evangelical Lutheran churches from this district held a conference at Flaxton April 12-14, which was one of the most successful in the history of the organization. Among those from this section attending were Rev. F. E. Brauer of Minot; Rev. A. H. Grumm, Garrison; Rev. A. Schroeder, of Kongsberg, and Rev. A. Pera of Stanley.

One of the pleasing features of the conference was the concert given by the ministers, twelve singing in the chorus. Rev. R. G. Messerli of Flaxton, a violinist of much ability, and Rev. Schroeder of Kongsberg, one of the most capable organists in the west, contributed much to the concert. Plans are being made to hold a concert in Minot next winter. Rev. Mr. Schroeder has toured the United States as an organist where he has won considerable fame.

Rev. A. Pera, of Stanley, who was born in Persia, and whose father has been a missionary in that country, gave an address, telling many interesting things about the conditions of that part of the earth. His father and family had to flee for their lives recently, and sought refuge in the land of Georgia.

show. Mrs. S. J. Rasmussen was in charge of this section and did herself proud. It is hard to give all of the people proper credit for the success of the entertainment as this was strictly a community affair and scores of people worked hard and effectively for its success. Mrs. Rasmussen has eight gowns in her own possession on display, and three shawls, several being considered unusually rare. One of the gowns was made by a famous Paris Modiste. One gown was displayed which is more than 150 years old. It is owned by Mrs. J. B. Brokaw and was worn by her great, great, great-grandmother as a girl, back in Geo. Washington's time. It is of cross-bar sprigged muslin material trimmed in net lace and has the little hard black enamel buttons found on gowns only of that period. It has the first leg of mutton sleeves. A miniature locket, a present from her grandmother to her grandmother 80 years ago, was worn with the gown.

A white shawl from Mrs. Rasmussen's collection, has a story with quite a romance. A young man was engaged to a young woman who died. Before she died she gave the beautiful crepe shawl to a sister of her fiancé, Mrs. Rasmussen's mother. This was 50 years ago. A Persian shawl from Mrs. Rasmussen's collection, was born in Europe by her uncle, about the time of the civil war.

Musical numbers were contributed by the Boys' and Girls' Glee Clubs, directed by Miss Grace Kramer, with Grace Boyer at the piano; a violin solo by Miss Emily Martin with Mrs. J. E. Howard at the piano; a piano solo by Maurice Johnson, a high school student, who displays rare ability. Miss Crocker, Y. W. C. A. secretary, reports \$203.00 net receipts.

Guernsey Calf Club to Meet at Person's Stock Farm April 23

It has been decided that a meeting of the Ward County Boys and Girls Guernsey Calf club will be held at Major Person's farm, two miles west of Minot on the Burlington road, Saturday, April 23rd at 7:00 P. M.

The purpose of the meeting is to hold a dairy stock judging contest with the aim of forming a judging team which shall consist of three members, to represent the local club. There will be several rings of cattle judged and the members will be chosen on their placings with oral reasons.

The team will have their expenses paid to the State Fair at Fargo where they will compete with other teams. Prizes will be awarded by the Fair association and the American Guernsey Cattle club will send the winning team to the National Dairy show. It is important that all members be present and make an earnest effort to become a member of the team.

A prairie fire starting in the hills southeast of Minot at noon Monday called out the fire department. The fire gained such headway before it was extinguished that a number of homes along Hiawatha street were endangered.

## O. R. ROELLIG, EXALTED RULER MINOT ELKS, DIED AT LA CROSSE

President of City Commission is Capable Musician

W. M. Smart, president of the Minot City commission, is an accomplished pianist, tho he seldom "works at it" in public. Pres. Smart is one of Minot's busiest men. In addition to managing the Northwestern Supply Co., dealers in paints, auto tires, etc., Mr. Smart looks after twenty or thirty residences which he rents in this city, besides the Virginia Flats, the three-story Smart block, the Flatiron building and the old Smart block on West Central avenue. When he runs out of work, he hikes out into the country where he owns numerous farms. He moves around so lively, that the Independent predicts that if anyone wants to confer with him relative to the city affairs, he'll have to get him on the wing. Mr. Smart finds time to attend all of the Rotary luncheons, the Town Criers meetings and the Association of Commerce affairs and is never too busy to go out with committees and sell tickets or circulate subscription lists for some worthy cause. He no doubt found time dragging on his hands when he decided to make the race for president of the city commission. He attends church regularly and spends his evenings at home, mostly with his wife and six splendid children. He finds time to do a good deal of reading, after most folks go to bed and the neighbors say he can be heard playing Wagner and Mozart productions most any morning around two o'clock. He's up with the chickens and at his office at 8:00. Mr. Smart is an old time newspaper man and perhaps there is where he learned to love hard work. The Independent suggests that should any friction occur at any of the meetings of the commission, the president might install a piano and soothe the other city fathers with a lullaby or two.

Wm. Gillespie has been named waterworks auditor to take the place of Soren Hagen. Com. Bratsberg advised against selecting a waterworks auditor, as he had planned on having this work done by the man who takes the trouble calls, and hoped to save the city \$125.00 a month here.

Somewhat of a surprise was sprung when Wm. F. Gettleman, assistant city engineer, was named city engineer, taking the place of Evan Thomas, who has held this position for many years. Mr. Gettleman is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, a very capable man, well liked and an ex-service man, having seen service in France. His selection was unanimous on the part of the board. His salary is \$2500.00 a year.

Mrs. Ray Scofield was re-appointed city treasurer without opposition.

### Sewage Disposal Plant May Not be Completed This Year

Geo. W. Kemper, who is in charge of the building of Minot's \$285,000.00 sewage disposal plant, will be unable to proceed with the work this season unless the additional \$135,000.00 bonds are sold. The state University department bargained for the bonds and has already advanced \$150,000.00, but at present seems unable to furnish the additional money. Mr. Kemper could easily have the plant working by fall could he keep on with the work. He has advanced considerable of his own money already, but naturally there is a limit.

In the meantime, the farmers down the river can continue to hold their noses at certain seasons of the year.

### Sunday Baseball Game Stopped in Riverside Park

Following rules laid down by the Park Board, Supt. W. O. Doolittle stopped a baseball game in the park Sunday afternoon. The players have appealed to the board, claiming that they have as good right to play Sunday baseball in the park as the tennis players have to use the park on that day. Supt. Doolittle was merely following the instructions of the board.

## SYDNEY FERRO, PROMINENT GT. NORTHERN OFFICIAL, DIED AT SIOUX CITY

Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Hall Return to Minot

Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Hall have returned from Washington, D. C., where Mr. Hall interested himself in securing the \$2,000,000 loan for the needy farmers of North Dakota, Montana, Idaho and Washington, with which to buy seed. Mrs. Hall has been of much benefit to her husband in his business successes. She is a stenographer of ability and frequently spends sixteen hours a day at the typewriter. Mr. and Mrs. Hall are to be found at Room 167 of the Leland Hotel and Mr. Hall states that they are apt to remain in Minot and vicinity all summer. Their home has been in California for a number of years. Mr. Hall was one of the pioneers of Renville county, establishing the townsite of Mohall where for several years he published the Mohall News and conducted a real estate and loan business. He has always worked most energetically for the success of Northwestern North Dakota.

### Printers May Strike for 44-Hour Week

There is apt to be a big strike among the printers of the United States on May 1, unless the employers accede to their demands for a 44-hour week, permitting them to have Saturday afternoons off. The strike will not affect Minot, the employers having already signed the 44-hour a week scale. It is understood that the Grand Forks and Fargo printers are to walk out. The 44-hour week does not effect daily newspapers, but only job printing plants, weekly newspapers and magazine publishers.

The Missouri river at Sanish is open for navigation, Capt. Seneschal making regular trips with his ferry. The river did not go over its banks this year.

O. R. Roellig, Exalted Ruler of Minot Lodge No. 1089, B. P. O. Elks, passed away at 2 o'clock this morning, April 21, at the home of his mother at La Crosse, Wis., after a long illness from heart trouble and dropsy. Bro. Roellig left Minot shortly after the first of the year to receive treatment in a St. Paul hospital under a specialist and while everything that human hands could do for him was done, he failed steadily until the end. During all of his sickness, his faithful wife was at his bedside and he was under the care of two nurses. His many Minot friends awaited anxiously for weeks word of some hope to come but must now gain comfort in the thought that he was called by the Grand Exalted Ruler of the Universe, to that Home not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. Every member of Minot Lodge No. 1089 will join with the hundreds of other friends of Bro. Roellig in extending their sincerest sympathy to the bereaved wife and other members of the family, in their irreparable loss.

O. R. Roellig was born at La Crosse, Wis., and was about thirty-five years of age at the time of his death. When but a youth he came to Grand Forks and was employed in the offices of a large wholesale house. From there he went to Williston where he was employed as bookkeeper for the Bruegger Mercantile Co., remaining there two years. While living in Williston he met Miss Mabel Hall of Mondak, Mont., whom he married. Twelve years ago, he came to Minot, and for six years was employed in the offices of the J. B. Reed Transfer Co., since which time he was employed as general sales manager of the Minot Auto Co., in which concern he became interested financially. He was an energetic, capable young businessman and the city of Minot loses one of its very best citizens. He was a member of the Odd Fellows lodge, the Knights of Pythias Lodge and the Minot Lodge No. 1089, B. P. O. E. of this city. He had filled the stations in these three lodges being elected Exalted Ruler of the Minot Lodge of Elks at the last election. He has taken great interest in the work of the Elks lodge and had done as much for advancing the interests of Elklod as any other man in the lodge.

He is survived by his mother, four brothers and four sisters, who reside at La Crosse, Wis. He was taken from the St. Paul hospital to La Crosse Wis., that he might spend the few days left on this earth with his dear old mother. The funeral will be held at La Crosse Saturday, April 23rd, where the remains will be interred.

Secretary O'Rourke of the Elks, has notified the Elks lodge at La Crosse, of the death of Bro. Roellig and it is expected that the La Crosse brothers will be in charge of the last sad rites. Mr. O'Rourke, representing the Minot Elks and A. M. Compton, Chancellor Commander of the Minot K. P. lodge, left this afternoon for La Crosse to attend the funeral.

J. Norman Ellison of the Fair store, left for the east the first of the week to buy merchandise.

## SYDNEY FERRO, PROMINENT GT. NORTHERN OFFICIAL, DIED AT SIOUX CITY

Eighteen Great Northern railway men from Minot and many from other points in the state attended the funeral of Sydney Ferro, Master Mechanic of the Sioux City division, which was held at Grand Forks Thursday. Mr. Ferro passed away at Sioux City from pneumonia. He was severely injured two or three years ago and had never fully recovered. The funeral was held from the Masonic Temple in Grand Forks and a very large number of friends of this popular old time Great Northern official attended. The remains were interred in Grand Forks where Mr. Ferro and family had made their home for several years. Among those who attended the funeral were several prominent officials of the Great Northern from St. Paul, including M. J. Flannigan, General Master Mechanic.

Mr. Ferro was 47 years of age and is survived by his wife, and two children. Chas. Ferro of Minot, a Great Northern engineer, is a brother of the deceased.

Mr. Ferro resided in Minot for a number of years and until five years ago was traveling engineer out of Minot. He was one of the Great Northern's most valuable employees. Among those from Minot attending the funeral were Fred Almy, Wm. Himes, Herman Mechiehr, J. Greenhalgh, Ed English and Geo. Elise. Chas. Schumacher and Bud Bruegger of Williston represented that city at the funeral.

Cream Goes as Baggage  
As a result of a new ruling going into effect the first of April, cream shipments on the Soo Line are now handled as baggage instead of express. The rates remain the same.

The village of Sanish has adopted a dog license ordinance.