

# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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This Issue 12 Pages

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

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## LANGER GAVE TOWNLEY \$100 TO DEBATE AT SALINA, KAN.

More than 800 people heard the Townley-Langer debate at Salina, Kansas, Tuesday afternoon. The question debated was: "Resolved, that the Nonpartisan League program, as carried out by the leaders, has not been for the best interests." Langer opened the debate with attacks on political affiliations of the league organizers, charging them with being "reds and radicals of various groups".

At the outset, Langer offered Townley \$100,000 which he claims he has been offering him for two years but which proved only a post dated check due in two years. He charged that this was the kind of money Townley had expected the Bank of North Dakota to accept.

Langer put his O. K. on the league program in North Dakota by stating his approval of previous laws of the same nature which he said had been enacted in the state by referendum. Langer stated that farmers had been robbed year after year by grain gamblers of Minneapolis. He reviewed the fact that in 1916 farmers of the state had cooperated with lawyers, bankers and politicians in passing a mill and elevator law. He stated that the legislature had provided Dr. Langer with an experimental flour mill with which he could prove the farmers had not been getting a square deal from the gamblers. Townley was charged with having acted in the interests of the socialist party and attempting to line up farmers for that party. He appealed to his hearers to have nothing to do with league leaders as some of them had been jailed. Claims were made that Townley had secured organizers thru an advertisement in the Appeal to Reason and had brot them to North Dakota. Special mention was made of Russell, Le Sueur and Walter Thomas Mills. The presence of A. E. Bowen, league organizer in the audience, seemed to fire the ire of Langer and reference was made to Bowen's connection with the socialist party. Townley was accused of controlling the legislature, with owning a newspaper in every county in the state to be used for the purpose of carrying elections. He charged Townley with wrongly using these papers to discredit Langer and the speaker said he was a strong friend to the farmers instead of being a traitor. He said Townley had robbed the farmers of North Dakota. He said the league leaders had formed associations with radical "reds" and I. W. W.s. "Won't you lawyers, bankers, doctors and businessmen go out and warn your people against such people as I am telling you about," Langer said. The speaker referred to the failure of the league program in North Dakota, the banking situation, the failure of the state mill, state home building association and other projects.

At the close of one hour, Townley took the platform and said he would have to get out of the hole Langer had put him in, by one of two methods—either show that the hundreds who are in the league and were organizing for the league were not socialists and "reds" or he would have to admit that they were all socialists and that more had been done in two years under the administration of the "radicals" than had been done in 100 years, before by the republicans and democrats. He referred to Langer's challenge for debate and says the reason he waited two years was to give Langer a chance to build himself up and acquire a standing sufficient to allow him, Townley, to notice him.

Townley said he was going to drag Langer from ocean to ocean until he is thru or until the people know the facts about the nonpartisan league.

Townley referred to the 400 North Dakota farmers who went to Bismarck in 1915 to ask the legislature to put the grain gamblers under control and says the legislators told them to go home and attend to their business.

"In 1912, at Beach," he said, "I was farming and put in over 5,000 acres of flax, the seeds for which cost me \$1.00 per bushel. I sold the flax at 80 cents. The price I received for my crop was not sufficient to pay the merchant for screw drivers and monkey wrenches it required in the operation." He said that Bowen, a North Dakota homesteader, had gone thru many hardships on his homestead. "I was born in Minnesota, but lived for many years in North Dakota and know what is to farm," he said.

Referring to the early work of organizing the league, Townley said: "I was the first man to go out in a Ford after memberships and I enrolled the first 79 memberships we secured. We knew what organized farmers would do to the men of this type," pointing to Langer. "I am thankful that this man was not in office when we started to organize the league for if he had been we would all have been in jail and there would have been no Nonpartisan league in North Dakota or Kansas. He referred to Langer's work with the league and said he had turned traitor. Townley admitted that the league had made some mistakes and said that "some crooks had succeeded in getting their hands in the pie."

In arranging the debate, Townley wired Langer that he was willing to enter into a series of joint debates to which Langer replied:

"Will debate you morning, noon and night, anywhere and everywhere except Russia. Consider yourself engaged at Salina next Tuesday and from then on as long as the court will let you, except for time out for me to appear as witness in my libel suit against your Courier News. Will pay you \$100 I offered you on platform at Salina."

Wm. E. Langer was former attorney general of North Dakota, elected by the Nonpartisan league. He broke with the league because of differences with some of the leaders, and especially President Townley, but has always claimed to be in sympathy with the league program, but not with the way the leaders have attempted to carry it out.

### 10-MONTHS OLD BABY BURNED

Violet, the ten-months-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Van Hook, was burned to death at 11 o'clock this forenoon at the home, 520 First Ave. N. E.

Mrs. Van Hook had lighted the kerosene stove and went to a neighbor's leaving the babe at home asleep in the bed. She remained a little longer than she expected and soon saw the small house a mass of flames and smoke. She rushed to the burning building but could not get inside. The fire alarm was turned in and it was necessary to turn on the water and cut a hole thru the side of the house before the babe could be rescued. Max Johnson entered the building thru the hole and brot out the child who had been burned so badly that she died soon after. The clothing had nearly all been burned from the babe.

The father is employed as a switchman in this city. The couple have one other child, a son of two years.

Guy Humphreys accompanied P. J. McKone on a motor trip to New Rockford and other points east of Minot the first of the week.

## MINOT WELCOMES DR. BEELER; LOVING CUP GIVEN DR. CLARKE

The Faculty members of the Minot Normal school invited a number of Minot men and women to a banquet given at the dormitory dining hall at 6 o'clock this evening, to meet the new president, Dr. Levi H. Beeler. The dinner was a very prettily appointed affair. From each table colored streamers extended from the tops of miniature May poles to unique place cards in the form of bright colored paper dolls, the work of the art class. The service was in charge of the students of the Normal and was most pleasing.

Dr. Wm. F. Clarke, superintendent of training, acted as toastmaster. W. M. Smart, president of the city commission, responded to the toast: "Minot as an educational center." He assured Dr. Beeler that he could depend on the hearty co-operation of the citizens of Minot. He likened the institution to a ship making a voyage to a more favored land and said the people of Minot desired to accompany that ship and to get a glimpse of that land thru the Normal school.

H. M. Wilson, president of the Association of Commerce, spoke of the attitude of the business interests toward the Normal. Minot deeply appreciates the great benefits received from having this institution in our midst and wants to do all she can for the school.

F. E. Lambert, vice president of the Minot park board, gave an interesting talk on the Minot parks. He said this city has 108 acres of parks or one acre for about every 80 of our inhabitants. He referred to the part he took in securing the Lincoln park property just south of the Normal grounds.

Miss Margaret Greene, city librarian, responded to a toast in a very pleasing manner telling how for years the public library has co-operated with the Normal school, sending books to the Normal, the Model school and even the residents on the north side may avail themselves of this feature. Miss Julia McDonough, member of the faculty since the organization of the school, responded for the faculty, displaying some enjoyable bits of wit.

Supt. L. A. White of the city school, responded to the subject "The Normal and the Public Schools". Mr. White pointed to the fact that on the average every other teacher in America is untrained, many of them young and inexperienced and told of the needs of Normal schools. He predicted that some day the Minot normal school, instead of graduating classes of a hundred will bring the number up close to the thousand mark.

C. W. Mason, editor of the Daily News, chose for his subject, "The Public". He told some rare stories and stated that the Minot newspapers could always be depended upon to back the Normal school. He pointed out the excellent advantages for publicity for the institution thru the columns of the newspapers.

Dr. Beeler was announced as the final speaker. He proved himself to be an excellent after dinner speaker. His delivery is excellent and he tells a story well. His main thought was the service of himself and his institution for Northwestern North Dakota. Dr. Beeler made a very favorable impression and with the splendid attitude he has taken cannot help but receive the co-operation from everyone.

Mrs. Perket of the faculty, created some surprise by appearing as a "post-script" speaker, her name not appearing on the program. She reviewed the fine work of Dr. Clark during the eight years he has been with the institution and bespoke for Dr. Beeler the same hearty co-operation from the faculty members as Dr. Crane and Dr. Clarke have received. On behalf of the faculty members Mrs. Perket presented Dr. Clarke with a beautiful silver loving cup, suitably engraved. In responding Dr. Clarke stated that he was placed in a most embarrassing position and assured Dr. Beeler that he had no idea the meeting was to countenance such a thing as honoring himself. Dr. Clarke remarked to the writer later that the cup was the finest thing he had ever received in his life. "My dear old mother is 84 years of age and I'm going to take that cup with me back to Indiana this summer to show her," he said.

## OSCAR NELSON; SLEEPING SICKNESS VICTIM, TAKES OWN LIFE

### Flaxton Farmer Elected President of Group Banks

R. H. Farmer, of Flaxton, president of the First Bank of Flaxton, was elected president of the Northwestern group of bankers at their meeting in Minot Tuesday. H. W. Taylor of Stanley was elected vice president and C. H. Zehring, vice president of the Union National Bank, was elected secretary-treasurer. E. Sevard of Velva, retiring president, was named to the state executive council and F. A. Keup, of Columbus was elected the group's representative on the state nominating committee with W. E. Berget of Flaxton as alternate.

A banquet was held Tuesday evening at the basement of the St. Leo's Catholic church, and was attended by 200 bankers and businessmen of Minot. A. H. Kurth, cashier of the Citizens Bank of Minot, president. Speakers at the banquet included Chas. H. Greenfield, G. N. immigration agent; N. D. Gorman, county agent; Mrs. McDougall of Temple, the only woman member of the association; Frank Collins, Soo immigration agent; Wesley C. McDowell; H. B. Beckwith, Fargo; president of the State association.

Chas. Ouradnik, Burlington, president of the Ward County Farm Bureau; R. A. Nestos, of Minot, Dr. Levi H. Beeler, new Minot Normal president and Curtis L. Mosher, of the Federal Reserve bank, Minneapolis.

Mr. Ouradnik gave the farmers some excellent advice about planting clover and alfalfa on the farms which they control, giving them a very sensible talk along scientific lines. He pointed out that bankers should be slow in urging farmers to go into dairying unless they like to milk cows, recommending that the farmers be permitted to choose either beef or dairy grades.

Mr. Mosher urged the bankers to insist on prompt liquidation of paper, the limit being 90 days for businessmen and six months for farmers. He said many farmers' notes can be considered as maturing just when the farmers get ready to pay them. He said that if all of the money carried by farmers was placed in the banks, the deposits would increase 20 percent, he estimates. The farmers' credit has been very easy, he said, and he does not pay as promptly as the businessmen. North Dakota has gone beyond her basis of credit with the Federal Reserve bank, to the expense of about a million dollars, he said. Any state bank can take a membership in the Reserve bank and retain all the rights under the state law and enjoy all the rights of a National bank as well. Something should be done to give the North Dakota farmers the right prices for their wheat.

### Community Band Gave Sunday Concert—Deserves Support

The Community band made its first appearance at the Auditorium on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Thirty-five men were on the platform and gave a program of worth while music. The band has been in training for several months and under the able leadership of John E. Howard, has made real progress. Mr. Howard has developed much musicianship and has brought the band to the front in a short time.

The community is behind its new band. It is an institution that will become permanent if the same spirit and character which is now evident, will continue. The band men are contributing to the musical interests of the city by building a fine band and there is no reason why the institution should not receive support in a liberal way.

## DETECTIVES KILL TWO MEN, INJURE THIRD AT JAMESTOWN

Two men were killed and another seriously injured as a result of a gun fight between two Northern Pacific detectives at Jamestown, N. D., and three transients in the N. P. yards Sunday afternoon.

The two dead are Fred Johnson, 35, of near Valley City and James Harrison, of J. Carlson, about 22, Chicago. Walter Harrison, the third man, worked in the Mandan machine shops, until laid off about five weeks ago, since when he earned his board by working in Mandan restaurants.

Harrison was shot thru the head and thru both legs and may die. He was partially regaining consciousness, but cannot talk well enough to tell his side of the story and the left side of the body is paralyzed.

The two detectives, William Wyant and Henry Kearns, were held in the county jail pending the inquest by the coroner.

The coroner's jury returned a verdict that the killing of the transients was felonious. Testimony was introduced that Fred Johnson, before he died, stated that the shooting was unprovoked and that he and his companions did not return the fire.

The bank at Tuttle, N. D. had been robbed of \$7,000.00 Friday night and officers were on the lookout for robbers. The officers thought the men might have been those or others, who attempted to hold up a train near Bismarck. One of the men killed had \$1,800.00 on him.

The detectives say they saw three men standing along the right-of-way with their hands in their side coat pockets. Wyant asked: "Which one of you men has the gun?" and says one man pulled a gun from his pockets and started firing at the officers. The bullet passed thru Wyant's raincoat near the heart. The officers returned the fire. Johnson was shot twice thru the body and once thru the arm, dying at 7:40 p. m. He was conscious and asked that his brother, a farmer near Valley City be notified. The youngest of the trio was shot thru the head, dying at midnight. Johnson has \$1,800 in his clothes, \$400 in gold.

Walter Harrison, who is still alive, is a machinist and according to his card, had worked in eight places since June, 1918. His card showed he was paid up in the union until April. Johnson had worked at the pressed brick factory at Hebron for over a year and recently cashed his savings.

There is considerable feeling against the detectives over the killing of these men who are believed to have been law abiding citizens.

### New Normal President Guest of Minot Rotary

Dr. Levi H. Beeler, the newly elected president of the Minot Normal school, was the guest of the Minot Rotary at luncheon today, accompanying Dr. Wm. F. Clarke to the meeting, over which Mr. Clarke presided. Dr. Beeler stated that he had come

to North Dakota with no strings tied to him and free to do his best in building up one of the very best normal schools in the west. "I heard about Minot and her spirit before I came and I covet with deep interest your co-operation in making the school better and shall call upon the Minot Rotary from time to time to assist me. My thot in coming here is to administer to the needs of the schools of the state. I am coming to stay and hope to own my home in this city in the near future." Dr. Beeler created a very favorable impression on the members of the Rotary and can count on them for the hearty co-operation which he has asked.

Ray Miller, president of the Minot Auto club outlined the plans of the club, one of the pleasing features of which is to furnish the members with a service which will appreciate, viz: In case a member becomes stranded within 15 miles of Minot, by telephoning the secretary, a service car will be sent out free of charge, carrying gas, oil, tires or repairs, or the occupants of the car will be brot into the city.

Chas. Olson was introduced by Mr. Danielson, as a former Minot man, who as a small boy made his first trip to Minot in an ox cart. Mr. Olson has traveled in nearly every country in the world, having at one time been treasurer of one of the provinces of the Philippines, and is now living at Lima, Peru.

Solos were contributed by Lufe Platen and J. H. Colton. The Rotary extended a vote of thanks to John Howard and the Community band for the splendid work they are doing.

President A. D. McCannel gave an address on modern surgery which was intensely interesting.

### J. M. Devine Removed as Head of Training School

J. M. Devine, who was appointed superintendent of the Training School at Mandan six years ago by Governor Hanna, has been removed by the board. Ole Lund, employed by the board, has been placed in temporary charge. A younger man, a special worker among boys, is to succeed Supt. Devine. Mr. Devine's resignation was requested some time ago but he refused to step out, claiming there was no ground for his removal. He claims his removal is due to the fact that he does not agree politically with the administration.

Mr. Devine is a former governor of the state and a former superintendent of public instruction. He resided in Minot at the time he was appointed superintendent of the training school.

The McGee-Anderson Co., stock and bonds, of Fargo, has started an action against H. G. Knutson, a Cass county farmer and former member of the company for \$20,000 damages for alleged slander.

## PROMINENT FARMER TELLS HOW HE ALWAYS RAISES GOOD CROPS

Frank Linha visited the Independent office Monday and stated that he had 500 acres of wheat sown, and all up and looking fine. Mr. Linha is a very successful farmer and it appears that he not only works hard but employs the proper methods. Last year his wheat crop averaged 13½ bushels while the wheat grown on his summer fallowed land averaged 20 bushels and that on the corn ground, 15½ bushels. Mr. Linha not only summer fallows his land, but he summer tills it. Before the weeds get much of a start on the land, he disc it, then plows early before the weeds get an opportunity to use up the moisture and fertility from the soil. Mr. Linha, who has 1,700 acres under the plow, thinks so much of summer fallowing that he treats about 500 acres every year in this manner. By keeping the weeds down and working the land frequently to conserve the moisture, he obtains better results from summer fallowing than from growing wheat on corn land. Mr. Linha always grows considerable corn and has obtained excellent results from this crop.

For years, he has made it a practice to drag his wheat, just after it comes up out of the ground, continuing to drag it until it is four inches high. The drag pulls up an occasional wheat plant and the ground looks a little tough after the drag has gone over it, but Mr. Linha assures us that this will do the crop much good, in the way of killing the weeds and breaking up

the cracks in the soil which permits the moisture to escape.

Mr. Linha is going to test out the I. H. C. Cultivator, by using it on a field of his wheat, going over the field after the seeding is done. By comparing the yield of this field with one not so treated, he will be able to determine whether such a tool will pay him to use. He says he always drags his winter rye fields in the spring.

Mr. Linha has a large elevator on his farm and has 6,000 bushels of wheat left from last year. He could have made money by selling but like thousands of other farmers held the crop, holding to get what it was really worth and now that he has waited this long, is hanging on a little longer.

### Minot Young Man Honored

Iowa papers contain the information that Loren Upton, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Upton, of this city, who is a student at the Iowa State University, has been chosen a director of the Iowa College Press association.

This young man has made a remarkable record this year as advertising manager of the Daily Iowan, the University paper, and in recognition of his services the management have elected Loren as business manager of the paper for the coming year. This is a position entailing greater responsibilities and carrying a salary of \$1200 per annum.

## M. J. MADDEN, WHISKEY RUNNER, KILLED AT JAMESTOWN

Jamestown, N. D., May 6.—An inquest was to be held this afternoon by Coroner DePuy over the body of M. J. Madden, of Sioux City, Iowa, whiskey runner, who was fatally wounded by officers south of the city yesterday.

Two others alleged to have been with Madden were captured after a long chase, the Ford car which they stole from a farmer becoming stuck in a bog. The men took to the hills but were rounded up. They gave their names as James Smith, 23, of Mitchell, S. D., and Ed Johnson, "home nowhere".

They may be taken to Bismarck by the officers.

Two armed men last night guarded the Cadillac car taken from the booze runners. Johnson maintained he was not one of the booze runners but happened to get with them when they and the officers had a battle.

Madden lived at Scotland, S. D. where he has a wife and two children. Mrs. Madden arrived in Jamestown to claim the body of her husband.

The men were caught in the "little hills" near Gackle where mud stopped the progress of the car they had taken from the farm yard. Johnson disclaims any connection in the affair and said he was sleeping behind a rock pile when the whiskey runners came along and ambushed themselves behind the rocks. Johnson said he was

walking along the country road and became warm so lay down behind the rock pile to take a nap. When he woke up he was looking into five or six guns, he said. Johnson at first said he was a former service man, but when closely questioned, admitted that he was not. He also gave Ed. Duffy as his true name.

The younger man said his father, J. W. Smith, lived at Mitchell, S. D. Madden after being shot by officers thru the groin, was left at the farm house where the Ford was stolen, dying there later. Madden was well known in Minot where he had made his headquarters for almost two years.

Duffy, alias Johnson, and Smith had their hearing yesterday and were both bound over to the district court. Duffy was placed under \$4,000 bonds and Smith \$1,000.

### Commandery Holds Last Meeting of Season

De Molay Commandery held their last meeting for the summer Monday evening, the Temple degree being conferred. At the conclusion of the work a luncheon was served and with the Commander, Fred V. Dale, acting as toastmaster, a number of responses were given.

E. E. Mayo, well known Surrey farmer, is receiving treatment in St. Joseph's hospital for an infection in his hand. He is reported as recovering.