

THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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

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GEORGE H. STILLMAN, MINOT ATTORNEY, FOUND DEAD WITH BULLET WOUND IN HIS HEAD

The body of George H. Stillman, prominent Minot lawyer, was found in his Chalmers car on the Lookout, at the point on the North Hill which overlooks the city, at 4:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon, with a bullet wound thru the head. It is believed that death had occurred nearly 24 hours earlier.

Although scores of cars had passed the spot, several driving to within a few feet of the car, the fact of his death remained unknown until Joseph Rowan, Minot undertaker, who was on his way to the city from the north in his car, saw the body of a man lying huddled up in the front seat. Mr. Rowan, thinking the man asleep, went over to the car and shook the body to arouse him and discovered Mr. Stillman's body cold in death.

Clasped in his right hand, so tightly that the weapon was removed only with considerable effort, and with the second finger of the hand pressed tightly against the trigger, was a small .32 calibre U. S. Bulldog revolver, apparently new and unused, with two chambers of the revolver empty. There was but one wound, which was caused by the bullet which entered the head just above the right ear, the bullet plowing its way clear thru the head, coming out at the opposite side. Death must have been instantaneous. The body was found lying on its right side, huddled up in the car. Mr. Stillman wore a derby hat and this remained on his head. There was blood all about the front seat of the car, on the floor, running board and on the ground.

Mr. Rowan notified the coroner, Dr. R. W. Pence, who after investigating the scene, ordered the body taken to the morgue.

A coroner's jury consisting of A. B. Dill, Geo. Hoover and E. W. Almy, was summoned, and started its investigation Monday morning. An adjournment was taken until 10 o'clock today, evidence concerning the case being secured in the meantime.

Bert McEwen, of the Auto Mart, was the last person to see Mr. Stillman alive, so far as the evidence shows at the inquest. At about four o'clock Saturday afternoon, Mr. Stillman drove his Chalmers car, the one in which his body was found, to the Auto Mart, and had Mr. McEwen make slight repairs on his car.

Mrs. Stillman last saw her husband at 1:30 o'clock that day. At that time, he was called to the phone by H. E. Schlegelmilch, of Eau Claire Wis., president of the Union Mortgage Loan Co., for whom Mr. Stillman had handled considerable business. Mr. Stillman was asked to call at the Leland hotel, but while Schlegelmilch waited all afternoon, he did not call. H. S. Strandness and L. J. Wolfe of Eau Claire, representatives of the same company, arrived by auto Saturday evening. Mr. Stillman had been advanced considerable sums of money by the company at different times during a period of years to pay the taxes on the land upon which they hold mortgages and it had been his custom to pay those taxes and to look after the foreclosure of mortgages whenever necessary to do so. Mr. Stillman had always been very punctual in looking after the interests of the company and was noted for being very methodical. The representative of the company stated that they have every reason to believe that Mr. Stillman had looked after their interests carefully. He had planned on leaving for Plentywood, Culbertson and other points in Montana early this week to look after their business and also

interests of his own and had appeared in his usual jovial mood, both in his home and with his business associates.

A large number of Minot people had noticed the car standing on the hill. Mrs. Frank Taylor and children drove up onto the hill Saturday evening at 8 o'clock. The car was there then with the body in it. The occupants of the Taylor car thought the man was sleeping and it was suggested by one of the children that they awaken him, but Mrs. Taylor disliked the idea so drove on. Dr. R. W. Pence and wife drove in from the country quite late that night and saw the car. W. J. O'Rourke saw a car on the hill at 4:30 Saturday afternoon and it is very likely that it was Mr. Stillman's.

No note was found at the office, which was in the Jacobson block. Mrs. Stillman, however, on Monday forenoon received an envelope from the postoffice, addressed to her evidently by Mr. Stillman and postmarked at 3:30 Saturday afternoon. The letter contained a blank letterhead of Mr. Stillman's but no writing. Carefully folded in the letterhead was nearly \$100.00 in currency and a check, the sum aggregating approximately one hundred dollars.

The coroner is endeavoring to ascertain facts concerning the revolver. It appears to be a new weapon. It had a cost mark written on the handle, also the selling price, \$5.00. It is possible that the revolver may have been purchased some time ago and kept unused in a drawer. It has not been proved that Mr. Stillman owned this revolver and no Minot dealer can be located who sold it. Mrs. Stillman states that her husband did have a revolver in his possession at one time. While living at Carrington, a negro servant who was afraid to sleep alone, asked for a revolver, and Mr. Stillman bought him one. Mr. Stillman had this revolver in a drawer at his home for some time afterwards but Mrs. Stillman could not say that this is the revolver. The jury at this writing is endeavoring to establish beyond a question of a doubt whether or not Mr. Stillman ended his own life. There are friends in Minot who fear that he may have met with foul play but it cannot be determined that he had an enemy who could be suspected of doing such a deed.

The funeral was held from the Episcopal Church Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. The simple, impressive services were in charge of the Rev. Dr. J. Gallagher. Members of the Ward County Bar Association, the Elks lodge and the Blue Lodge and Chapter, Masonic bodies of which he had been a member joining with many other friends in the service. Interment was made in Rose Hill cemetery.

Mr. Stillman was about 55 years of age. He was born in Council Bluffs, Iowa, and for many years was in the U. S. Army service being connected with a cavalry unit in Arizona. Failing eyesight caused him to leave the army when he entered the legal profession. He practiced for a time at Des Moines, Iowa, and practiced for several years at Carrington, N. D., coming to Minot about five years ago. He was regarded by the legal fraternity as an authority on commercial law. He leaves a wife, a daughter, Eleanor, 18, attending school at Vermillion, S. D., and a son, John, 19, who is attending the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis. A brother, Walter Stillman, is a practicing attorney at Council Bluffs, Iowa.

DR. JOHN A. DUNCAN, NOTED SURGEON, FOUND DEAD AT HOTEL

Dr. John A. Duncan, who was a practicing physician and surgeon at Upham, N. D., ten years ago, passed away at his room at the Great Northern hotel in this city some time Tuesday night, his body being found dead in bed late Wednesday afternoon.

The remains were taken to the Van Fleet undertaking parlors and they will be shipped to the former home, Toronto, Can., today. Mrs. Duncan, who is now at Toronto, was notified concerning the death of her husband and wired to have the body forwarded to Toronto.

Dr. Duncan arrived from the west Tuesday afternoon. He has been in poor health and went to a drug store where he secured some medicine. He called for a glass of water, which was taken to his room and this is the last time he was seen alive.

A coroner's inquest was ordered by Coroner Pence, the jury deciding that he came to his death from a heart attack.

Dr. Duncan was about 44 years of age. He was born at Elora, Ont., where he attended high school. He was a classmate in high school with Dr. Archie D. McCannel of this city. As a boy, Dr. Duncan worked in a carpet factory and paid his way thru the medical and surgical department of the University of Toronto, graduating with high honors in 1905. He came to North Dakota and practiced at Churchs Ferry, later locating at Upham, N. D. He showed a wonderful ability for surgery and soon

built up a tremendous practice at Upham. Altho the town was rather small, patients came from long distances.

Seven years ago he located at Havre Mont., forming a partnership with Doctors McKenzie and Allmas, the Great Northern surgeons and soon became noted thruout the state of Montana for his wonderful surgery.

Dr. Duncan is survived by his wife, one child, a little girl, passed away five years ago.

Wm. Early "High Jacked" — Loses Cadillac Roadster

Wm. Early, prominent Montana oil man, who has made his headquarters in this city for some time, reports to the police that he was "high jacked" out of his \$3,000.00 Cadillac roadster Tuesday night. Mr. Early had been out riding with a lady friend and had taken her home when he met two men, both strangers. Mr. Early believes that they must have doped him for he remembers little of what happened afterwards. He was found lying unconscious in the brush on Eighth street N. W. early Wednesday morning. His car was gone and the "high jacker" had taken the key to the car from his pocket. They were not after money for they did not take the \$31.50 that Early carried in his pockets. The police are investigating.

Mrs. Mae West left Wednesday for a two weeks' visit in the Twin Cities.

ROTARIANS-KIWANIANS MEET ON DIAMOND FRIDAY, 6 P. M.

THE CHALLENGE
Minot, N. D., Aug. 10, 1921.
Dr. J. C. Jackman,
Secretary Minot Kiwanis Club.
Dear Doctor:

Kindly convey to the members of the Minot Kiwanis Club the sad news that they are hereby challenged to a game of baseball to be played with a selected team from the Minot Rotary Club, at the baseball park in the city of Minot on Friday afternoon at 6 o'clock, Aug. 12, 1921.

Confidentially, I know of none of our members who are able to put up much of an exhibition in the great national game, but we have quite a number of Rotarians who think they know a good deal about the game as it ought to be played and who in their younger days were able to handle the horsehide sphere with more or less credit. At that, I firmly believe that the Rotarians know more about the game than any team you Kiwanians will be able to pit against us, and in consequence we defy you to accept our challenge.

I would suggest that we charge "two-bits" a ticket, select committees to sell to the masses who are always hungry for entertainment, the fund to be used by the two organizations for boys' work. Trusting that you Kiwanians will display the usual nerve you are credited with having, and that you will not be too slow in accepting our challenge, I remain,

Most sincerely and cockily yours,
Glenn D. Colcord, President.

THE ACCEPTANCE
Honorable Glen D. Colcord,
President Minot Rotary Club.
Dear Glen:

The Minot Kiwanis Club hereby accepts the challenge of the Minot Rotary Club to a game of baseball to be played at the baseball park at 6 o'clock, Friday August 12, 1921.

We not only accept your defy, we welcome it with all its stipulations, conditions and limitations. It is difficult to understand why you should labor under the mistaken belief that any of your members even know how the great American game should be played, and if you don't back out between now and the time set, this belief is due for a rude jolt.

If you will trot out on Friday evening, your collection of crockery, glass and ivory exhibitors, we will demonstrate to the entire satisfaction of yourself, your members and the public at large that your belief is but a deluded dream.

It will be your painful duty, at your regular Monday luncheon next week, to break the sad news (mentioned in your challenge) to your members that "Rotary" means "rout".

We will proceed with the slaughter at 6 sharp Friday, as per schedule. Don't weaken!

Most sincerely and modestly yours,
Sam Morgan, President.

C. A. GROW-H. E. JOHNSON FORM REAL ESTATE PARTNERSHIP

Messrs. C. A. Grow and Attorney H. E. Johnson have formed a partnership and will enter the real estate and general collection business on a large scale. Attorney Johnson has moved his offices from the Smart block into a handsome suite of offices in the Citizens bank block and these offices will be used by the new firm. Attorney Johnson will, however, maintain his regular law practice. Mr. Grow being in active charge of the real estate and collection department.

The Grow-Johnson Co. have inaugurated a campaign for the sale of lots at Rice Lake, Minot's popular summer resort. Plats and blue prints, showing 87 desirable lots facing the lake with the best of shore line, gravel and sandy beach making most desirable sites for summer residences.

Many Minot people are purchasing lots with the idea of erecting cottages which will be used during the heated term for rest and recreation and during the hunting season for shooting lodges. Rice Lake and the surrounding country, as every hunter knows, is one of the best hunting districts in this section of the state, hundreds of small lakes and sloughs covering several townships out there. According to present plans but 87 lots will be platted, 37 of these being assigned for sale to residents of the Berthold Reservation and fifty retained for sale to the people of Minot and this section.

Rice Lake is the only lake in this vicinity where the water is always fresh. Fishing is excellent. Many fine catches of perch have been made this season and when present plans are fully matured Rice Lake will be stocked with wall-eyed pike and bass in addition to the perch now there which will give this favored spot an added attraction as a resort. There are already several sail boats on the lake and with the immense number of row boats and motor boats maintained by the management of the dancing pavilion hundreds of campers and resorters will be found at Rice Lake which is but an hour's drive from the city.

The Rotary Neversweats have challenged the Kiwanis Invincibles to a game of baseball to be played on the local diamond Friday evening, Aug. 12, at 6 o'clock. The challenge has been duly accepted and both teams are preparing for a fight to the finish.

An admission of 25 cents will be charged and the fund will be used for Boys' Work by the two organizations which are devoting considerable attention to this program for the welfare of the Minot boys.

A parade will take place on the principal business streets promptly at 6 o'clock and the players and other members of the two organizations will proceed to the ball park. The Minot Community Band has kindly consented to head the parade and play the Kiwanian funeral march and will play some lively music during the game to instill some pep into the players. At the conclusion of the game, the band will play the Victory March in honor of the Rotarians.

Several fearless umpires have been engaged. Doc Hamilton, it is thought will hold out for the first few innings. Judge Palda will relieve him should anything serious happen to the umpires. Joe Belanger, mounted on an I. H. C. truck horse, will be one of the umpires for the outfielders.

R. A. Nestos and Dave Phillips have been appointed special police and excellent order is guaranteed. Judge Lynch will be high commissioner, a la Landis, to settle all disputes.

Chief Byrne and the police patrol will be in attendance. Dr. R. W. Pence has ordered a five gallon jar of lemonade and a five gallon jar of pure water for the players who do not indulge in lemonade.

A "Hoosgow" is being erected on the grounds and it may be necessary to use it.

The following is the line-up for the Rotary Neversweats:

Catcher—Bob Barron.
Pitcher—Roy Pence.
First base—Stanley Colbourn.
Second base—Verne Tompkins.
Third base—Francis Murphy.
Shortstop—John Morrell.
Left field—Bob Graham.
Center field—Dick Mills.
Right field—Leslie White.
Bat boy—Glenn Colcord.
Substitutes—Mike Mulroy, Herb Colton, Bill Borene, Clarence See, Ray Miller, Frank Taylor, Carl Danielson, Harold Foss, Marvin Solien, Dave Mair, Bill Smart and plenty of others.

The Kiwanis Invincibles are:

Catcher—Larry Byrne.
Pitcher—K. E. Leighton.
First base—F. L. Blume.
Second base—Chas. Davy.
Third base—F. A. Brugman.
Shortstop—Ira Rush.
Left field—Ernie Maughan.
Center field—Jake Hofto.
Right field—Tom Murphy.
Substitutes—Bert Balerud, Doc Allen, Roy Van Duzee, John Corbett, Tom Henderson, Doc DeMotts and 29 others.

Honorary Pall Bearers—Ed Person, Henry Wilson, Archie McCannel, Geo. Walker, Fred Upton, and Jim Smallwood.

MISS ESTHER LONBERG LOST LIFE IN MOUSE RIVER; FOUR OTHERS HAVE CLOSE ESCAPE

Miss Esther Lonberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sever O. Lonberg, 445 First Ave. N. W., was drowned in Mouse river, at the P. Peterson farm, three miles west of Minot Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock in an effort to save her younger sister, Lillie, aged 15, whom she believed to be in danger of drowning. The body was recovered three hours later in 15 feet of water.

Four other young women, all members of a picnic party, would undoubtedly have been drowned, but for the presence of mind and timely help from Miss Helga Kvalstad, who is employed as bookkeeper at the Jacobson & Fugleso hardware store, who secured a long pole with which she was instrumental in their rescue.

Nine young women, all members of the Zion Lutheran Sunday school, left for the Peterson farm Sunday immediately after Sunday school for a picnic long planned. Those in the party were the Misses Helga and Laura Kvalstad, Lillie and Esther Lonberg, Mae Balerud and Tille, Elsie, Amanda and Nettie Peterson. The party had finished their picnic dinner and two of the members, Mae Balerud, who is an expert swimmer and Lillie Lonberg, who cannot swim, donned their bathing suits and went into the Mouse river. The other young ladies had taken off their shoes and stockings and were preparing to go into the river to wade, none of them being able to swim. Miss Balerud had ventured out into the deeper water, accompanied by Lillie Lonberg. Miss Balerud had hold of Miss Lonberg and declares she was in no danger of drowning. Lillie's sister, Esther, sat on the bank and when she saw her sister taken off her feet by the water, became frightened and cried out: "Lillie, Lillie, save Lillie!"

At that she plunged into the stream followed closely by Tille and Elsie Peterson. From then on what happened is not clearly recorded in the minds of those who remained on the bank. At one time all five of the young ladies in the river were under water. The current seemed to carry them around and around in the river and Miss Helga Kvalstad states that all she saw was the tops of their heads out of the water. Miss Helga Kvalstad and Miss Amanda Peterson grew frantic and screamed for help, knowing it would be useless to try to get to the Peterson home, quite a distance away in time. Little Nettie Peterson started for the water and would have jumped in, but was held back. It is fortunate that Miss Helga Kvalstad remained on the bank for thru her presence of mind she was able to save four of the young women. With a long pole, Miss Kvalstad pulled Miss Mae Balerud and Miss Tille Peterson to shore. Miss Balerud had attempted to save the others and she was held under the water until she was nearly drowned. She clung to Tille Peterson and was thus able to save her and Miss Kvalstad pulled Miss Balerud in. When out on the bank, Tille Peterson took the pole and saved her sister Elsie, by dragging her to shore. Elsie had gone down for the last time when Tille reached her just in time to save her. Elsie had turned blue about the body and was unconscious when pulled out, but those on shore gave her first aid treatment, rubbing her body and she was revived.

Esther and Lillie Lonberg drifted to the opposite side of the river and both went down. Lillie, who was older, until she realized that it was useless, then came to the surface. She came up close to the branches of a

tree and the young ladies on the opposite side of the river cried to her to grab the branches. She did this and pulled herself up onto a log which had fallen out into the river. Mrs. J. N. Johnson, attracted to the scene by the cries of the young women, managed to remove Lillie from the tree and took her to her home, where she was given attention.

After Miss Balerud had been taken out of the river, she attempted to go back in for the body of Miss Esther Lonberg but was restrained as her condition was serious. Miss Balerud now at her home, has been in quite a serious condition since the affair, but is recovering.

Mr. and Mrs. M. O. Eide arrived from the Eide farm and took a number of the young women to their home where they were given attention before being moved to their homes. Albin Peterson, son of P. Peterson arrived with his auto shortly after the tragedy occurred, but he was unable to render much assistance as he is just recovering from a kick by a horse. Mr. Peterson drove to the Peterson farm and phoned to the fire department for assistance, and the firemen not receiving clear instructions drove to the Peterson farm. It was some time later that Wm. F. Gettleman, member of the department located the scene of the tragedy and before the body could be recovered, it was necessary to bring Miss Mae Balerud back to the place of the drowning, where she directed Mr. Gettleman. At 6 o'clock, three hours after Miss Lonberg was drowned, the body was found at the bottom of the river, in a 15-foot hole, one of her hands clinging firmly to the root of a tree. Mr. Gettleman recovered the body. The firemen had the pulmotor but it was not used as the body had been too long in the water.

Miss Lonberg, was 19 years of age and she had been employed by the Minot Grocery Co. as stenographer for the past four years. She is very highly spoken of by her employers, having been a most capable conscientious worker.

The Lonberg family came to Minot five years ago from Hillsboro, Minn. Mr. Lonberg being employed as a repairer with the Great Northern Ry. The victim of Sunday's fatality attended school in Hillsboro and after coming to Minot attended the Minot College of Commerce. Her parents, five sisters, Mrs. Anton Strom of Williston, Mrs. G. A. Otterness, 408 Sixth avenue northeast, Mrs. M. O. Ankarberg, Fort Clark, N. D. Mrs. F. L. Larson, 13 Fifth street northwest, and Lillian Lonberg and two brothers, Albert and Oscar, at home, survive. Miss Lonberg had charge of a Sunday school class at Zion Lutheran church, and was a warm friend of many young people in the city.

The funeral was held this afternoon at three o'clock from the Zion Lutheran church, the sermon being preached by Rev. Mr. Winter of Climax, Minn., former pastor of the Lonberg family at Hillsboro, Minn. A very large crowd attended the services and followed the remains to the Lutheran cemetery where interment was made. The floral tributes were most beautiful and numerous.

Wife of Harry Keohe is Dead

Word was received in Minot of the death of the wife of Harry Keohe, which occurred at Plentywood, Mont., Tuesday. Mr. Keohe is a Japanese formerly employed at the Leland hotel in this city.

TOWN CRIERS SPEND NIGHT IN FUN AND FROLIC; BIG TIME

The Minot Town Criers held their annual frolic at Oak Park Tuesday evening. About 200 members and guests participated. "Ras" Rasmussen, local architect was in charge of the culinary arrangements. As a chef "Ras" is "some punkins". With a corps of seven assistants, all dressed in striped suits, indicating their recent incarceration in the "Hoosgow", they catered to the "innards" of the hungry Criers with a dexterity that would have done credit to the most proficient "hasher" in the city. As soon as the crowd assembled they were entertained with several selections by the Minot Community Band, after which Playground Instructor Caviness put them thru a course of setting-up exercises that put the keen edge on their appetites.

Major "Bill" Gettleman and Corporal Colcord then took the boys in tow and leading them down to the wading pool all were obliged to peel off their shoes and stockings and take a foot bath in the pool. Naturally in the confusion some of their gear got mixed but when the threads were finally untangled the boys discovered that their commanding officer and Corporal Colcord had overlooked their own extremities and they were both dumped into the drink, shoes and all. After disposing of the collision, Instructor Caviness again took charge and for two solid hours one would have thought the Minot Criers were a bunch of kids.

Prizes were given for the winners of

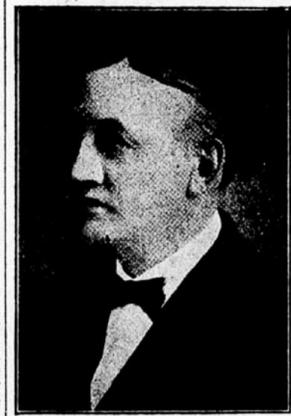
each event, an immense stack of boxes and packages containing the prizes being on the ground in readiness for distribution. The prizes ranged all the way from a Rhode Island Red cockerel to chunks of limburger.

As the evening advanced aquatic sports engaged the attention of the Criers. "Woody", advertising manager of the Fair store acted as "barker" for the exhibition staged by Marie Mansfield, celebrated movie actress who gave the spectators some word, not to say astounding revelations of human figure and movements. With a final round of watermelon, malt (?), limburger cheese and chewing gum, the frolic closed at a late hour, the members voting that this year's frolic far surpassed any similar function ever staged by the Minot Criers.

Good Crop at Wolseith

Ole Grestliovd, Wolseith farmer, was in the city Friday and bought a new Case threshing separator. He grew 800 acres of rye, wheat and other grain this year and reports an excellent yield. While crops not far from his place in any direction are light, he was fortunate in getting a timely rain or two which meant many dollars to him.

Mr. and Mrs. Whittington of Butte, Mont., are visiting with the latter's brothers, Jesse and Everett Cline, enroute home from a visit at their old home in Ohio.



C. A. GROW

The Independent is informed by Mr. Grow that a liberal portion of the sum realized from the sale of lots will be used to beautify and improve the property — planting more trees and constructing boulevards around the lake.

American Association of Engineers Meets in Minot Sept. 5

The American Association of Engineers will meet in semi-annual convention in Minot on Monday, Sept. 5. C. E. Drayer of Chicago, national secretary of the organization, comprising 25,000 members will address the gathering. About 25 of the North Dakota members will attend. At noon the members will attend the Rotary luncheon at which time Secretary Drayer will speak. E. J. Thomas, of this city, a member, is looking after the arrangements for the entertainment of the guests.