

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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ARTHUR LE SUEUR, FORMER MINOT MAYOR, FLAYS LEAGUE LEADERS BEFORE BIG CROWD

Arthur Le Sueur, former mayor of Minot, who for years worked in the interests of the Nonpartisan League, gave a wonderful address at the high school auditorium Monday evening to a crowd of nearly 1500 people, a large number of Nonpartisans being in the audience.

Le Sueur more than two years ago broke with the leaders of the League, although he is just as favorable to the original program as ever.

For more than an hour he held his audience spellbound and gave a very carefully thought-out address. He flayed Townley, Lemke and other League leaders for taking advantage of the rank and file of the organization and starting our state well along the road to ruin for their personal benefit. Le Sueur has been on the inside of the transactions of the league leaders and remained with them only until he saw that their program as carried out would lead to most certain ruin. He told of a conversation A. C. Townley had with him shortly after the war broke out. Townley sent for Le Sueur and remarked that during war time it was almost impossible to stop a conviction on a charge of disloyalty. "I want to make a deal with you to keep us out of jail," Townley told Le Sueur. Le Sueur said he undertook the job and managed to keep Townley and several others out of jail.

Townley asked Le Sueur to take charge of the preliminary legislation at Bismarck. Le Sueur framed the famous bank bill, but not as it was passed. The way he drew the bill the money would have been safeguarded. The bill as enacted permitted the league leaders to get their hands on the funds for personal use, which has been done to the extent of hundreds of thousands of dollars, he said. Le Sueur did not want a bank bill enacted at that session of the legislature, preferring to try out the regular league program, but Townley insisted on it. Le Sueur told of a conference between himself and Townley and one or two others in the McKenzie hotel in Bismarck which lasted until four o'clock one morning. Le Sueur tried to discourage the bank plan, but finally Townley remarked: "We might just as well wreck the state than see the control of the bank out of my hands." Le Sueur told Townley he was drunk with power. He stated he worked so hard to see that the original league program was put across that his health was wrecked. He wrote Townley a letter setting forth his objections and pointing out just what would happen, and it has come out just as Le Sueur predicted.

Twenty-five or a hundred prominent men who were former league leaders have left the organization. They have been branded as liars, traitors and crooks. He branded Townley as a man with a small mind and ambitious spirit.

Le Sueur told of Lemke's being connected with 38 corporations although Lemke had sworn that he was interested in but three, and at that he said he did not have the controlling interest. Le Sueur charged that instead Lemke held a controlling interest in the 38 corporations. "In the rottenest of them all, the Consumers United Stores Co., he held 70 per cent of the stock," Le Sueur declared.

He told of Brinton's arrest on an embezzlement charge and how he was discharged, even with four good league men on the jury. Brinton had charged the league leaders with embezzling \$250,000 and Le Sueur says that an investigation of the records show that the amount was \$437,000.

Le Sueur estimates that not less than \$2,000,000 was taken and squandered. "What they did will bring its own punishment. They will reap what they have sown. Townley's harvest is now about half in," he said.

Le Sueur said he pleaded guilty before his old Minot friends for the part he had taken in the league. It was hard to part company with the men he had considered were his friends, but they became too "strong" for him. Le Sueur evidently was holding no brief for the bankers and other businessmen. He said the reason the farmer followed Townley was because the business interests had treated the farmer just like the leaders of the league are now treating the farmer. He criticized the opponents of the league for calling the farmers "six-dollar suckers" and for referring to the league members as anarchists, outlaws and free-lovers. They had no other place to go—they had to go into the camp of the opposition, the speaker said. "You planted the spirit of hatred when you ought to have been sympathetic." Le Sueur stated that he had not only been a "six-dollar sucker," but an "eight-dollar sucker," multiplied several times. "I was at the very headquarters of the sucker list."

Le Sueur's address was very well received. He was frequently applauded and he impressed his audience as being very sincere in his efforts to bring about a change for the better.

Le Sueur spoke at Odd Fellows hall in this city Saturday night before a fair sized audience.

Mr. Le Sueur was introduced by his former law partner, E. H. Bradford, who paid the speaker a very high compliment in that he was a man whose word was never doubted by those who knew him.

PETITION SIGNERS MAY VOTE FRIDAY

Fargo, N. D., Oct. 26.—Having failed in their effort to exile the voters with ghosts of various kinds and thus get a following the league leaders are now endeavoring to keep the independent voters away from the polls by threatening to bar those from voting who have signed recall petitions prior to the Devils Lake convention. Inform all workers that every citizen has a right to vote. Any voter that is challenged can take the ordinary voter's oath and the election officials must under the laws of the state permit such party to vote. If any voter is refused the ballot, the attention of all who are in the polling place at the time should be called to the fact so that they may be witnesses in later court action. Instruct workers to keep careful record of all who are challenged or denied ballots. Inadvertent signing of two recall petitions bars no one from voting. Use telephone to inform workers.

Joint Campaign Committee.

NESTOS - JOHNSON - KITCHEN

Miss Gertrude Severson Injured By Auto

Miss Gertrude Severson, daughter of Ole Severson, a farmer residing 12 miles north of Minot, suffered a fractured thigh bone, cuts on the head and bruises about the body when she was run over by an automobile, driven by Dr. J. R. Pence, in Eastwood Park, Saturday evening. Dr. Pence was driving at an ordinary rate of speed when Miss Severson stepped out from behind another car and before the doctor could stop his machine, one of the front wheels had passed over her. The young woman's injuries undoubtedly would not have been so serious but for the fact that a grocery truck traveling closely behind the Pence car struck the car and forced the hind wheel over the girl's body. Dr. Pence took the young woman to the hospital and has been doing everything in his power for her. She is recovering nicely and it is expected that she will eventually recover completely.

Miss Severson has been living at the home of Dr. J. C. Jackson and attending school. Dr. Pence is held blameless for the accident, it being one of those regrettable occurrences that could not possibly have been avoided under the circumstances.

—VOTE "YES" TEN TIMES—

Wednesday Was Minot's Best Dollar Day

Wednesday was Minot's biggest and best dollar day, thousands of shoppers from various sections of the Northwest coming here to secure their share of bargains offered by our merchants. The people of the Northwest have learned that Minot merchants deliver the goods just as they advertise and the Independent, interviewing many of the stores hears the same story everywhere—the very best dollar day they have ever enjoyed. One merchant up to noon today still had four more truck loads of groceries to deliver, as he was unable to complete all of Wednesday's transactions in one day.

—VOTE "YES" TEN TIMES—

"Woman" Juror Is Man

"There ain't no such woman as Julia Schultz at Foxholm, N. D.," said Julius Schultz, who appeared before Judge Lowe when the Grand Jury convened. Considerable excitement was caused when a woman's name—Julia Schultz—was drawn to sit on the Grand Jury. The subpoena was sent to the "woman," but Julius Schultz answered, asserting that his name had been mistaken for a woman's.

—VOTE "YES" TEN TIMES—

Nearly 300 Cases In District Court

A term of district court will open Nov. 1 and the jury will report Nov. 2. The court calendar is still in the hands of the printer. It will contain a list of 233 civil actions and thirty criminal cases.

Clerk of Court Henderson states that district court will be held almost continuously from now until March 1.

—NESTOS - JOHNSON - KITCHEN—

Woman Moonshiner Jailed

Mrs. Christian Fleet, living 14 miles northwest of Towney, was arrested charged with the manufacture of intoxicating liquor. She waived preliminary examination and bond was fixed at \$1,000. Fifty-five gallons of mash was found, the officers said, and also one and one half gallons of the finished product, which was secreted in a bed.

—VOTE "YES" TEN TIMES—

Jail Breaker Goes to Missouri

Deputy Sheriff Leo Athertch and A. Percell, of Maryville, Mo., arrived in Minot yesterday and took into custody Irvin Swearingen, who has been held in the Ward County jail on a charge of embezzlement. He is wanted on a charge of jail breaking, grand larceny and robbery, the officers said.

—NESTOS - JOHNSON - KITCHEN—

CANDID PIONEER DROPS DEAD

Cando, N. D.—John Dungan, aged 80, pioneer resident of this community, dropped dead in the road while crossing from his own home to that of his aged mother, who had seen him start from his home and set waiting for him. When he did not arrive, she went out and found him lying in the road.

Guard Honest Election Is Last Plea of Independents

Fargo, N. D., Oct. 26.—The Independent State Headquarters this morning issued a last recall election message to the voters of the state, warning them against campaign ruckus, wholesale election frauds contemplated by the administration forces, intimidation from the attorney general's office and other sources and the many and various similar last hour tricks resorted to by unscrupulous politicians and their tools. The statement reads:

"At the end of seven months of active campaigning every one of the charges of official wrongdoing cited by the independents as reasons for invoking the recall against Gov. Frazier, Atty. Gen. Lemke and Commissioner Hagan, stand not only unanswered but confirmed, intensified and intensely augmented by later developments. Every conceivable thing, and many things that honorable men and women would not think of, have been done by Frazier, Lemke and Hagan and their supporters to get the people to think and talk about other topics than how the affairs of our state have been handled during the years that these men have had control of our state government.

"They have persistently misrepresented and cold bloodedly lied about what the independent program provides for; they have told the most unjust and damnable falsehoods about the independent candidates and leaders; they have threatened or petted citizens in every walk of life for the purpose of gaining political prestige; they have used hundreds of public employees and thousands of Bank of North Dakota stamped envelopes, and imported more than a dozen men and women known thruout the United States to be advocates of common ownership of all property. All of this for the purpose of befuddling the voters and leading their minds away from the charges of graft, wastefulness and abuse of public confidence.

"Failure to refute these charges puts North Dakota in the position of having men in the highest public offices who have violated the laws they have undertaken to enforce and pilfered public property which they were elected to guard.

Lies Everywhere

"It is to be regretted that the imported propagandists, who would like to live in luxury at the expense of the taxpayers of this state, have been able to so excite thousands of our well meaning people over irrelevant matters that they are not able to see what is at stake in this election—for the state, for themselves and for posterity. There are thousands, however, who have paid so dearly for having believed the stories told them by the league leaders and their glib-tongued organizers that the league bosses cannot possibly get a majority to vote in favor of continuing to keep North Dakota in the bad repute in which it now is, if those who have seen thru the scheme to loot the state and swindle the farmers out of their savings will do their duty again on election day.

Look Out for Steals

"The only way that Frazier, Lemke and Hagan can get approval of their official acts Oct. 28, is to steal the election outright by means of dishonest judges or fraudulent counting and compilation of returns. An overwhelming majority of the voters are, however, inherently honest. They realize that we must have honest elections, or popular government cannot endure. Independents and Nonpartisans alike will see to it that we have a fair and square election regardless of the efforts of the league leaders to encourage wholesale violation of the election laws, and to prevent honorable, law abiding citizens from voting. They will not be scared, stampeded or surprised by last minute lies, bluffs or threats.

"The one thing to remember on election day is that all persons over 21 years old have a right to vote whether they are registered or not, and every man and woman must insist upon exercising that right next Friday.

Vote for Nestos

"Vote for Nestos, Johnson and Kitchen, and vote 'Yes' on the constitutional amendments and on the initiated laws. 'If every man and woman will do their duty at the polls next Friday it will mean the routing of the grafters out of North Dakota, and the restoration of public and private credit, general confidence and good will between men.'

NESTOS' ELECTION PREDICTED BY 15,000 TO 20,000 MAJORITY; FRAZIER STRENGTH DWINDLES

In the general elections last November Ward, Renville, Burke, Divide, Bottineau and McHenry counties gave Gov. Lynn J. Frazier a majority of 4,656 over J. F. T. O'Connor, Independent candidate, which was larger than Frazier's majority of 4,642 in the state. An eleventh hour survey of the political situation in these same counties today reveals that Frazier's advantage will be cut to approximately 3,000. Political observers who enjoy statistics contend that if 1,500 can be whittled from the Nonpartisan League advantage in the some 30,000 votes expected to be cast in the counties in question, greater inroads will be made in league strength in other sections of the state where radicalism is less general and R. A. Nestos, Independent candidate for governor against Lynn J. Frazier tomorrow will be elected by a majority ranging between 15,000 and 20,000. Should the apparent apathetic interest in the election in many rural sections result in a small vote being cast, it is held very probable that Nestos' majority may reach 25,000.

A gain of 1,500 for the Independents strength in Ward, Renville, Burke, Divide, Bottineau and McHenry counties, which seems conceded in many league centers, can be traced to two major causes. They are the popularity of R. A. Nestos in his home section and the damaging drive against the Nonpartisan League candidates made by Arthur Le Sueur over the past week end. While better working organizations having charge of the Independents campaign in this section and the failure of the Bank of North Dakota to function, coupled with the inability of the league to perfect as efficient organizations as in the past, will contribute to the gains made by the Independents, Nestos' personal acquaintance with thousands of farmers in this vicinity and Le Sueur's unanswered charges against the three members of the industrial commission and the league leaders have been of tremendous assistance in the effort to have the farmers "think things over."

Minot and Ward county, as may be expected in view of Mr. Nestos being a resident of this city, will show a greater gain for the Independents. Despite all efforts to discredit Mr. Nestos, the sturdy farmers who have known him for years cannot be made

to believe that he will not serve in their interests if elected. At times during the campaign, featured by wild charges against the state's attorneys office with which he has been affiliated for a number of years, became so vituperative that saner members of the league brot pressure to bear on those responsible with the argument that it was causing members to quit the Nonpartisan League standard. In the general election last November J. F. T. O'Connor secured 2,752 votes in Minot as compared with 1,038 for Frazier, a majority of 1,714 for O'Connor. It is held altogether probable that Nestos will have a majority of 2,000 or better in Minot tomorrow. In Ward county the majority went to the Independents, the first time since the league entered North Dakota politics. O'Connor led Frazier 5,331 to 4,891 in this county, a majority of 440 for the Independents. Langer lost Ward county by 151 in the primaries last year, the vote being Frazier 2,444 and Langer 2,293. When Arthur Le Sueur stood before a Minot audience Monday night and addressing himself to his old socialist colleagues in Minot, declared that he had come back to "tell the truth so I can sleep at night," he occasionally assured that the socialist vote in Minot will not be solid for the league tomorrow. To Minot socialists Arthur Le Sueur was their sage. They may not vote for the Independent ticket tomorrow but when Le Sueur warned them against keeping Frazier, Lemke and Hagan, it is more than likely that they will not go to the polls.

In Renville county the Independents believe they will reduce Frazier's majority of 1,011 last November to 750 or 775. The figures in November were Frazier 1,968 and O'Connor 958. The elements were favorable in a few sections of Renville county this year and with some of the farmers getting back on their feet financially they are not quite so susceptible to the arguments that "Big Biz" is responsible for the several lean years. The league has had practically no organization in Renville county this year and the league paper, the Renville County Farmers Press, printed at Mohall, has not taken on the aggressive work as have league papers in other counties. It is edited by John R. Brinton, a brother of Job Wells Brinton. The Independents might

A. C. TOWNLEY MUST SERVE 90 DAYS IN JAIL; SUPREME COURT REFUSES TO REVIEW HIS CASE

have made greater inroads in the league strength in Renville county had they a working organization functioning during the past six weeks. An organization was not perfected until the latter part of last week and it is now working overtime to make certain that every Independent vote goes to the polls.

"We were a little late getting started but our organization is going now and we'll clip about 250 from the league's majority in this county," W. D. Keenan of Mohall said last night.

Burke county has had so many political developments since the election last November that it is probably the most uncertain county in the state. Almost every kind of a court action, both civil and criminal, have been started. Two Independent county commissioners were ousted, the former county treasurer is facing a criminal charge of embezzlement because he refused to permit the county's funds to go to the Bank of North Dakota and deposited them in local banks and every time E. R. Sinkler of Minot, the league's favorite attorney, goes to Mohall further developments are expected. The I. W. W.'s had a clash with county officers and it has not helped the league cause any.

Stale Hendrickson of Coteau claims the Independents will break about even with the league in that county but other Independents seem more conservative. In November Frazier secured 1,970 votes while O'Connor secured 1,272, a majority of 688 for Frazier. At the same time Independents running for county officers were close enough to league candidates to be declared winners when 21 votes were declared illegal in an election contest. George H. Phelps of Bowbells believes the Independents will cut the league advantage from 688 to about 500. Minot men who have made business trips to parts of Burke county during the past month declare Nestos will come within 200 of carrying the county. Phelps' figures are considered when the claim is made that the league advantage in the counties named will be reduced by 1,500.

In Divide county in November Frazier received 2,134 and O'Connor 1,185, a majority of 939 for Frazier out of a total of 3,329 votes. In the primary election last year Frazier had a majority of 699 over William Langer when 1891 votes were cast. These figures would seem to indicate that the Independents are gradually reducing the league advantage and with splendid crops in most sections of Divide county, and the farmers accordingly more satisfied with their lot in life, political observers contend the league's majority will be cut at least 250 tomorrow. One man who has helped the Independents altho on the league payroll is R. W. Frazier, clerk of court and managing editor of the league paper in Crosby. Frazier is an energetic and partly educated farmer who seems to appreciate the sound of his own voice. He hit a financial snag in organizing an elevator at Crosby and is frank in admitting that when the bankruptcy court completes its consideration of the court he will be "cleaned." While good natured to the extent of being somewhat of a bore in endeavoring to develop an acquaintance, he has a faculty for keeping the political war going on in Divide county 12 months in the year and many leagueurs have been compelled to quit the organization in disgust because of his connection with it. He has had several open breaks with more intelligent leagueurs in Divide county and since then the men who clashed with him have not been considered "faithful leagueurs." If the league suffers a severe setback in Divide county tomorrow, Frazier will be blamed. The good natured to the extent of being somewhat of a bore in endeavoring to develop an acquaintance, he has a faculty for keeping the political war going on in Divide county 12 months in the year and many leagueurs have been compelled to quit the organization in disgust because of his connection with it. He has had several open breaks with more intelligent leagueurs in Divide county and since then the men who clashed with him have not been considered "faithful leagueurs." If the league suffers a severe setback in Divide county tomorrow, Frazier will be blamed. The good natured to the extent of being somewhat of a bore in endeavoring to develop an acquaintance, he has a faculty for keeping the political war going on in Divide county 12 months in the year and many leagueurs have been compelled to quit the organization in disgust because of his connection with it. He has had several open breaks with more intelligent leagueurs in Divide county and since then the men who clashed with him have not been considered "faithful leagueurs." If the league suffers a severe setback in Divide county tomorrow, Frazier will be blamed.

Bottineau County returns should be watched with careful consideration. Since Le Sueur, Youmans, Durocher and other Minot socialists became separated from the league, Bottineau county has taken Ward county's place as the main contributor to the ranks of the state's bread line. Figures on the primary and general elections last year would seem to indicate that despite the personal following Bottineau men now on the state payroll have, the league is losing strength there. In the primary election 2,678 votes were cast and Frazier led Langer by 850. In the general elections when 5,465 votes were cast Frazier led O'Connor by 1,383. Many Independents claim the league's advantage in Bottineau county will be cut down to 600 tomorrow because of the splendid work which has been done by the Independents during this campaign. In the writer's judgment Bottineau county will show a gain of about 200 tomorrow.

McHenry county gave Frazier 3,259 and O'Connor 2,183 in November, a majority of 1,076 for Frazier. Frazier's majority was 670 in the primaries. D. J. O'Connell, Tower attorney, identified with the Independents' cause, claims a gain of 500 for the Independents. He declared the Independent organization has been functioning and its work will show results. When the statement concerning the gain of 1,500 in the six counties was decided upon, McHenry county Independents are given credit for gaining 250.

A. C. Townley, president of the National Nonpartisan league, today lost his "last ditch" fight against the jail sentence imposed on him in Jackson County, Minnesota, more than two years ago. The United States supreme court refused to review the case, according to a dispatch from Washington.

"The refusal of the court to consider the case was stated by Chief Justice William H. Taft, who gave no explanation," the dispatch says. "It is one of the numerous cases in which the court today refused to permit an appeal."

Will Begin Sentence Soon

Mr. Townley will begin serving his 90 day sentence as soon as the machinery of the courts grind out the necessary commitment papers. He is in the Twin Cities, stopping at the Sherman hotel in St. Paul, but could not be reached after news of the supreme court action was received.

"That is all there is to it," said Vince A. Day, one of his attorneys, on hearing the news. "Mr. Townley will begin serving his sentence probably within a month, according to the time it takes for the papers to get back to the district court." He had no other comment to make.

It has been nearly three years and a half since Mr. Townley was indicted for the offense, for which he now to serve the three months in jail at Jackson. Mr. Day and the other Townley attorneys, George Hoke of Minneapolis and George Nordlin of St. Paul have exhausted all legal remedies. Backed by the financial resources of the Nonpartisan league, Mr. Townley has been able to keep out of jail for three years and six months.

Commitment Papers Waived

Though the legal fight is lost and the sentence must be served, it was pointed out, Mr. Townley cannot begin serving his sentence until the district court has issued commitment papers. That cannot be done until the papers in the case have been sent by the United States supreme court back to the state supreme court, and by the state supreme court to Judge E. C. Dean of the district court, who tried the case. Joseph A. Gilbert, former manager for the Nonpartisan league is a co-defendant in the case, and the action today applies to him. He is still serving a sentence of one year in the Goodhue County jail at Red Wing, under conviction for making a seditious speech at Kenyon. When he has finished the Goodhue County term next February the 90 day sentence at Jackson remains for him.

—VOTE "YES" TEN TIMES—

MILLION SAVING SEEN ON NEW WHEAT RATE

Fargo, N. D., Oct. 24.—While approximately 60 per cent of the North Dakota wheat crop has been sold, there remains 13,000,000 bushels which will be affected by the reduction in freight rates on wheat, hay and coarse grains, announced by the interstate commerce commission, according to Usher L. Burdick of the North Dakota branch of the United States Grain Growers, Inc. Mr. Burdick says that if farmers can hold their wheat until the order goes into effect, it will mean their saving of nearly \$1,000,000 alone on wheat. The cut will mean a reduction of from 3 to 6 cents per 100 from North Dakota points to Minneapolis and Duluth, and an even greater saving to Chicago, farm and traffic experts say.

—VOTE "YES" TEN TIMES—

Severe Wind Storm Does Damage

A sixty mile gale from the west blew all day Friday, doing considerable damage in the city and thruout the country.

W. M. Smart reports about \$400.00 damage to his block in this city from broken windows and doors and damage to roofs. Other windows in the city were broken.

In the country hay stacks were scattered about the fields and roofs were taken from barns. Everett Cline reports that a machine shed 16x30 feet was picked up at his farm south of the city and blown clear over his granary. Many plowed fields suffered damage, the dirt being blown to other fields. In some places the dust in the air was so dense that auto drivers had to put on their lights in the middle of the day. The housewives found their homes filled with dust after the storm.

—VOTE "YES" TEN TIMES—

Sanish Crops Were Good

Mrs. Mable Templeman writes from Velva that she has returned from Sanish where she was employed for 54 1/2 days by Peterson Bros., who had a crop of 1,000 acres. Their wheat graded No. 1 and averaged from 17 to 24 bushels. The crops around Sanish were better than around Van Hook. The Sanish land is rolling but soil good. Peterson Bros. operated a threshing outfit, doing excellent work.

—NESTOS - JOHNSON - KITCHEN—

STOLE MOHALL MAN'S FORD FROM UNDER HIS NOSE

Fred Nolting of Mohall was in Minot Tuesday trying to get a trace of his Ford car which was stolen from Main street in Loraine. Nolting was standing in a store not twenty feet from where his car was stolen. The thief must have pushed the car away first without starting it, for Nolting did not hear the engine running.