

# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

This Issue 16 Pages

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

First Section

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## CARNIVAL ATTACHE KILLED BY POLICEMAN; OFFICER WOUNDED

Archer C. Poole, of Delaware, O., employed on the Seaplane device with a carnival company that showed in Minot last week, was shot and instantly killed by Officer J. Sharar, Minot policeman, after he had opened fire on Sharar, wounding the officer twice, one shot passing thru the fleshy part of his left leg midway between the knee and the thigh and the other shot striking him in the right leg, the bullet lodging near the bone, just below the hip. The affair occurred at 4:15 o'clock Friday morning.

Poole was shot just above the left temple and never uttered a word after he fell. The tragedy occurred in the West hotel, on First Ave. S. E. in the hall and near the doorway of Room 7, on the second floor, which was occupied by Poole and Mrs. L. G. Middleton, aged 19, the wife of a local drayman.

Mrs. Middleton's elder sister, Miss Nellie Sprague, aged 21, occupied a room in the West hotel on the floor below, with Jesse Gibson, 26, another employee of the carnival. This couple were sound asleep when the shooting was going on, but were awakened by the police and taken with Mrs. Middleton to the city jail. The trio now occupy cells in the Ward county jail, facing a charge of immorality.

Mr. Middleton, who is a hardworking man and respected, complained to the police, that his wife had been out with someone connected with the carnival during the previous night or two. The police were on the watch, and it was learned that the quartette had gone to the West hotel where Poole and the Middleton woman registered as Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Poole.

Officers J. Sharar, S. P. Nielson and M. D. Shockley were dispatched on the job and they proceeded to the West hotel. Sharar went to Room 7 on the second floor, the other officers standing guard below. Sharar rapped on the door and aroused the couple, informing Poole that he was an officer and came for him. Poole got out of bed, put on his trousers and secured his gun, a .32 calibre German Erfurt. Sharar heard him loading the gun and pulled his own weapon, a Smith & Wesson, .32 high power gun. Poole opened the door and started firing. He had pulled but two shells in his gun and both of these took effect in the officer's legs. Sharar fired twice, the first bullet striking the door jamb and was deflected, passing into the wall of the room. Altho he could see but a little of Poole's head sticking out from the edge of the door, he aimed true and got his man thru the left temple and in a heap and died almost instantly.

Mrs. Middleton, as soon as Poole started shooting, cried: "Don't shoot, honey," but her partner paid no attention to her entreaties.

When Mrs. Middleton saw Poole lying on the floor dying, she displayed more than ordinary nerve by getting out of bed and wiping up the blood with the bed sheets. When she was taken to jail she inquired: "Is this all over me?"

As soon as the officers below heard the shooting, they rushed up stairs to aid Sharar, but the fearless officer had done the trick without assistance. He was taken to St. Joseph's hospital where he is recovering nicely. The bullet was taken from his leg the following morning. One of the bullets from Sharar's gun was found that morning later at one of the hall where it had spent its force.

The occupants of the hotel were alarmed by the shooting and pandemonium reigned for some little time after the affair.

The quartette had been seen going into the hotel at 1:25 that morning and the shooting occurred at 4:15 o'clock. The West hotel is owned and operated by A. M. Thompson.

Archer Poole, the dead man, had been with the carnival company since May, joining it in Washington, D. C. His associates declare that he was a very quiet sort of a chap and he was well liked by his co-workers, none of whom suspected that he ever carried a gun or would use one under such circumstances. He was an overseas man.

His body was taken to Van Fleet's undertaking parlors.

Sharar is given much credit for his good work Saturday morning. Poole's display of artillery and the shooting of the officer was entirely uncalled for. Sharar merely told Poole that he was an officer and wanted to talk with him.

the witnesses and Coroner R. W. Pence was in charge of the inquest. W. E. Pratt, general manager of the Seaplane outfit with which Poole was connected, told of a conversation he had with Poole a short time before, in connection with Poole's "stepping out" with married women. Poole said he understood that Middleton was "carrying a cannon for him."

Dr. T. N. Yeomans told of being called to the scene of the shooting and of an operation performed in hopes of saving Poole's life.

Mrs. L. G. Middleton, the woman who was in the room with Poole at the hotel, testified that she together with her sister, Miss Nellie Sprague, had met Poole and Jesse Gibson, another sea plane outfit employee, at the baseball diamond, and that they had hired a taxi and gone to the West hotel, where she and Poole secured a room under the name of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Poole, and Gibson and Miss Sprague also registered as man and wife. About 4 a. m. Mrs. Middleton testified, they heard a rap on the door. She got up and started dressing, she said, and Poole slipped on his trousers, picked up the gun and started toward the door. As soon as the door was opened, the shooting commenced. The witness testified that she thought it was Poole who fired the first shot, and estimated that three or four shots were fired. No shots were fired after Poole was hit, she thought. When Poole was hit, he reeled and fell to the floor. When the first shot was fired, Mrs. Middleton said she cried, "Honey, don't shoot."

She helped Poole onto the bed after he fell to the floor, and she said that he murmured something which she could not understand. The policeman was placed on a bed across the hall by another policeman. Mrs. Middleton had been "out" with Poole before she said, and had told him that she did not want to live with her husband. Poole asked her, she said, what her husband would do if he found them together, and she replied that she did not know.

Testifying regarding what the officer said when he rapped on the door, Mrs. Middleton said that she thought he asked them if they were from the carnival company. She thought at first perhaps it was her husband, she said. The policeman said "don't shoot," the witness said, after the first shot was fired, and then another shot was fired, and the police said "don't shoot" again. Mrs. Middleton was not very clear in her memory of what the officer said when he rapped on the door.

**Miss Sprague Testifies**  
Miss Nellie Sprague, her sister, corroborated her sister's testimony regarding meeting the two men at the hotel, and going to the hotel, where they all registered. She testified that she did not know anything about the shooting until the policeman who arrested them, told them about it.

Jesse Gibson, a "buddy" of the dead man, as he termed it, told of meeting the women at the park, and of going to the hotel, and also told of an argument which he had with Poole before leaving the carnival grounds, about Poole carrying the pistol along with him. Poole seemed to think, Gibson testified, that "there was something wrong" and he didn't "want to take any chance on getting bumped off by this woman's husband."

Jay Sharar, the officer, has been on the force for about a month and a half. He comes from the Sawyer country and has shown conclusively that he is made of the right kind of stuff.

Sharar will be out of the hospital in a week or two. In order to get the bullet out of his leg, it was necessary for surgeons to chisel away quite a portion of the bone, where the bullet had lodged.

**Mack Traynor Heads State Legion**  
Mack Traynor of Devils Lake was elected state commander of the American Legion at the annual convention held last week in Devils Lake, defeating Geo. Russ of Bismarck, who moved Traynor's election by acclamation.

Jack Williams was re-elected adjutant defeating Wm. Upshaw, 192 to 80. Philip Bangs, retiring state commander, was named national committeeman, to succeed Maj. M. H. Sprague.

M. M. Campbell of Bottineau, was elected vice commander. Other officers elected were:

Treasurer, Roy Baird, Dickinson; Historian, Bill Jones, Lisbon; Chaplain, Bill Upshaw, Jamestown.

Fargo, the home of Jack Williams, who opposed Upshaw for state adjutant, gave Upshaw 21 votes for chaplain.

Wahpeton was chosen the convention city for 1923. There was no opposition.

Ensign and Mrs. Sherping, formerly with the Salvation Army here, will return in two weeks from Mitchell, S. D., where they have been for two years. Commandant Martin of this city has been appointed to Huron, S. D. Commandant and Mrs. J. M. Hile of Minneapolis are in charge of the work here temporarily. These good people were overseas for 18 months. Mrs. Hale served doughnuts to the soldier boys in Verdun while that city was under shell fire and both Com. Hale and his wife had narrow escapes.

Well, See Who's Here



## 40 YEARS OF WARD COUNTY HISTORY DEPICTED IN PAGEANT IN MINOT JULY 21, 22

Forty years ago this summer—in 1882—the first white settlers came to northwestern North Dakota and made their homes in the Mouse river valley. To fittingly observe the anniversary of their arrival, the Minot Association of Commerce is planning the presentation of an elaborate historical pageant in Minot Friday and Saturday July 21 and 22. And officers of the association, in announcing their plans for the big spectacle, declare that no expense will be spared in making it the biggest event of its kind ever attempted in the state.

The Association has secured the cooperation of the Playmakers of the University of North Dakota, the Minot normal and city schools as well as professional producers, including Melvin B. Johnson of this city who has been identified with the John B. Rogers Producing Co. of Fostoria, O., and who is spending a few weeks at his home here this summer. It is planned to select a cast of some 400 people from all parts of northwestern North Dakota and make the pageant of interest to the entire district. Every effort is to be made to have re-enacted several of the important events in the development of this section of the state and to make certain that justice will be done to all of those events, the pageant will be presented in a natural amphitheater and will be presented in the evening when lighting effects are possible.

The pageant will be prepared by Mr. Johnson and Mrs. S. Milloy, secretary of the Minot Association of Commerce who has written the history of northwestern North Dakota. They will be assisted by Leslie A. White, city superintendent of schools, and Mrs. John B. Cooley of Grand Forks, who has been identified with the Playmakers of the North Dakota University. Miss Lulu Potts of the Minot Normal school will assist with the dancing numbers and many of the cast will be selected from the Normal school student body. Many of the pioneers who arrived in 1882-83 will assist in preparing the pageant and will take part.

A parade to show the progress of 40 years will be held each afternoon at 2 p. m., July 21 and 22.

**P. I. Thingstad Hauled Family of 13 in Ford and Wins Prize**

Rain interfered with the attendance at the Free Ford Day entertainment staged in Minot Friday under the auspices of the Westlie-Charbonneau Co. Rain continued to fall until eleven o'clock and made the roads almost impassable, so the crowd attending was small.

Those who did attend were well repaid. They enjoyed free movies, free lectures, free prizes, free coffee and free lemonade. No attempt was made to sell Fords that day, for Friday was set aside for pure educational purposes and for entertainment.

During the forenoon the splendid garage and salesroom of the Westlie-Charbonneau Co. were inspected. Several families enjoyed a basket picnic at Riverside Park. The moving pictures were shown in the Grand Theatre and addresses were given on practical farming, Ford policy, and slides were shown pertaining to the Ford automobile and the Fordson tractor. Col. Shupe was one of the lecturers.

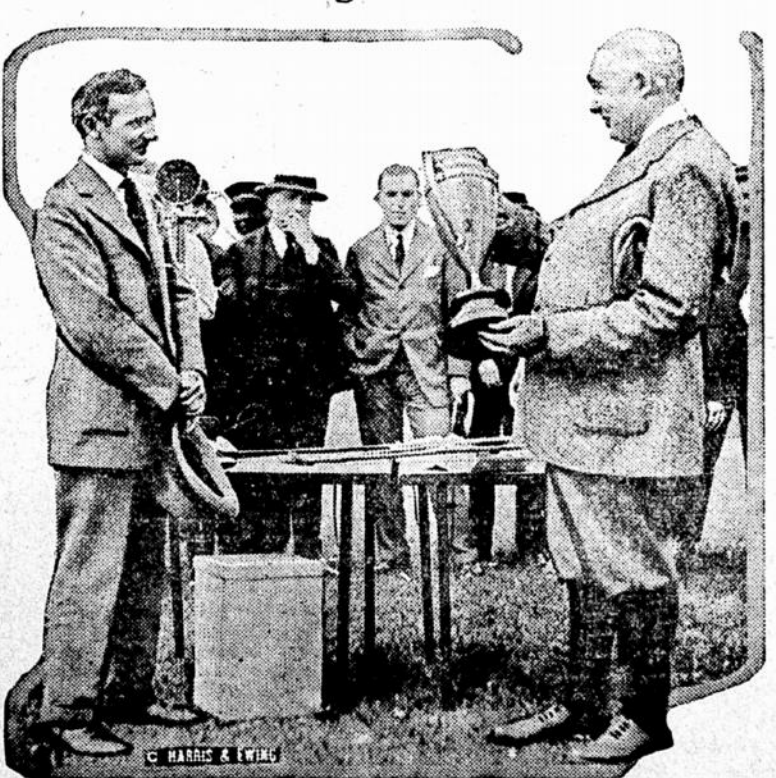
P. I. Thingstad, a south prairie farmer, was given the \$10 prize for hauling the biggest family into town. He had just 13 in his Ford, driving ten miles over muddy roads. His family comprised himself and wife and eight children and his wife's sister, Mrs. Parker of Pembina, N. D., and her two boys. P. I. packed the youngsters in like sardines and the standing room was about all taken up. The trip paid him well, however. The trip was made in his 1913 Ford.

D. D. Whaley of Minot received the \$10 prize for exhibiting the oldest Ford. It is a 1909 model, and has been recently painted. Its brass shines like a darkey's heel and the engine sings like that of a Cadillac. Mr. Whaley has driven it over 100,000 miles and has covered 13 states with it. The car number is 11,875, while that of the next oldest car driven in the 90,000's. The 6,000,000th car was built in Detroit in May.

Al Fox of Norwich was given a \$10 prize for the best ten line testimonial in the Fordson tractor.

"Why Not Minot?"

## Golfer Harding Presents the Prize



President Harding presenting Lowell Mellett of the Washington News with the McLean cup, as winner of the second annual tournament of the Washington Newspaper Golf club. President Harding won fourth place, receiving as a prize a dozen golf balls.

## BUSINESSMEN GIVE PRIZES FOR JULY FOURTH CELEBRATION

\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* Rye Will Average 25 Bushels \*  
 \* Orlando Brown, farmer from \*  
 \* 4 miles east of Minot, brot sev- \*  
 \* eral heads of rye from his 160 \*  
 \* acre field to the Independent of \*  
 \* five Tuesday. The heads are 5 \*  
 \* inches long, perfectly filled to \*  
 \* the very tips and each contains \*  
 \* 52 grains. Mr. Brown estimates \*  
 \* the yield at fully 25 bushels per \*  
 \* acre. This field is no better \*  
 \* than thousands of other fields in \*  
 \* northwestern North Dakota. The \*  
 \* rye acreage is fully as big if not \*  
 \* bigger than the wheat. The \*  
 \* wonderful rains have done the \*  
 \* trick, bringing out in great \*  
 \* shape fields that two weeks ago \*  
 \* had started to turn white. Noth- \*  
 \* ing but hail can cheat us out of \*  
 \* the greatest rye crop in North \*  
 \* Dakota's history. \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

Arrangements have been completed for events to be held in Minot next Tuesday, July 4, according to announcement made today by the Minot Association of Commerce. Every effort is being made to have the parks of the city patronized that day and events arranged will be held in the parks.

At 10:30 a. m. the boy scouts of the city will meet and march thru the business section of the city to Riverside Park where flag raising exercises will be held at 11 a. m. The exercises will be under the direction of Scout Commissioner D. D. Riley. From 11:15 a. m. until 12:30 o'clock there will be a series of swimming contests at the swimming pool and afternoon an hour's recess to enable those present to have a picnic dinner, a program of athletic events will be run off. The swimming and athletic events will be under the direction of O. Bridgford, recreational director affiliated with the city parks.

The Association of Commerce has received ready response from business firms of the city for prizes for the events. The list of contests and prizes are as follows:

**Swimming Events**  
 20 yards, free style, boys: first, swimming suit by Anderson Drug Co.; second, flashlight by New York Furniture & Hardware Store.

20 yards, free style, girls: first, silk stockings by Samuelson's Shoe Store; second, box of candy by Campbell-Tompkins.

50 yards, free style, men: shirt by The Men's Shop.

Cracker race for boys, swimming suit by Leland Drug Store.

Cracker race for girls, fancy swimming cap by Leland Drug Store.

20 yards for women: first, hand bag by The Fair; second, toilet water by Benno Drug Co.

20 yards, fat men, shirt by The Shirt Shop.

Plunge for distance, men, Box Roi Tan Cigars by Stone-Ordean-Weils Co.

Plunge for distance, women, Cinderella locket and chain by H. L. Winters Co.

Underwater swimming for distance, men, box of Chancellor cigars by Gamble-Robinson-Minot Co.

**Athletic Events**

50 yard race, boys under 12: first, pocket knife by Jacobson & Fugelo; second, baseball bat by Taylor Drug Co.

50 yard race, girls under 12: first, stockings by New York Dept. Store; second, stockings by Leland Department Store.

75 yard race, boys under 16: first, hat or cap by B. & R. Store; second, baseball by Minot Hardware Co.

75 yard race, girls under 16: first, silk stockings by Leland Department Store; second, silk stockings by New York Department Store.

20 yard three-legged race for boys under 15, hose by Boston Store.

20 yard boys' sack race, baseball by Ward Drug Store.

50 yard sack race for fat men, any tie in M. G. Olson Co.'s store.

40 yard race for ladies, Kewpie doll lamp by Walker's.

400 yard relay race for boys' teams under 20 years, caps by J. C. Penney Co.

Watermelon eating contest for boys under 15, watermelons donated by Ward Fruit Co., prize, five tickets to "Reported Missing" by The Strand Theater.

There will also be two special events for boy scouts. One will be a relay swimming contest and the other a tug-of-war. Each troop is urged to enter a team and special prizes will be given the winning troops.

The Association of Commerce has arranged to furnish free ice cream for the smaller children at Riverside Park. The Elks have been asked to furnish a committee to pass out the ice cream cones.

**The Baseball Games**

The Minot baseball team plays two games at home July 4, the Northern Pacific Ry. team from St. Paul being the opposition. One game will be at 3:15 p. m. and the second at 6:30 p. m. The Minot Community Band has been offered a share in the gate receipts of the evening game to play a hand concert between 6 p. m. and 6:30 p. m. in the baseball park.

Park board officials expect several hundred families to motor to Minot and picnic at Riverside Park July 4.

**Hail Damaged Sawyer Crops Sunday**

It did a great deal of damage to crops northeast of Sawyer, doing almost total damage to a strip five miles long and from half a mile to 1 1/2 miles wide. The damage started about three miles northeast of Sawyer and extended east. Guy F. Humphreys, representing the Paper Supply Co., traveled along the damaged area the following day and says that even the corn was broken to the ground. Two storms met at that point.

**Ed E. Danielson Again Heads Association of Commerce**

At a meeting of the directors of the Association of Commerce Thursday, the following officers were re-elected: President, C. E. Danielson; vice president, Lee H. Piper; treasurer, W. J. Gerding.

This is Mr. Danielson's second year as president, his first year bringing the finest kind of results.

**Horse's Kick May Prove Fatal to Young Lad**

Berthold, June 22.—Kenneth Johnson, an orphan nephew of Burr and Ray Johnson who has been making his home here for some time past, had his skull crushed this afternoon by a kick from a horse. The injured boy and his nephew were returning from a trip to town with a load of grain. They had purchased a toy pistol while in town and doubtless the noise from this had made the team somewhat nervous and when the boy, in his play, fell out of the wagon, one of the horses started a kick, hitting Kenneth in the forehead. A doctor was summoned immediately. A hasty examination revealed the seriousness of the injury and the boy was taken to the Minot hospital where a more thorough examination was made. It was found that the skull was badly crushed, and the hospital surgeons say that the boy cannot possibly recover. He is about 14 years of age and has been attending school in this city.

John F. McGuire was chairman at Monday's Rotary meeting. Francis J. Murphy gave a three minute talk on Rotary Education. Wm. P. Stevenson, delegate to the Rotary International Convention at Los Angeles was to have read a lengthy report of the convention, but instead will have the floor next Monday. A violin and vocal duet by Otto Ellison and Lafe Flaten was particularly pleasing. An electric fan donated by James Milloy, secretary of the Association of Commerce, was won by C. D. Sec. Judge K. E. Leighton was a guest, speaking on "Minot, the Park City."