

# Devils Lake Inter-Ocean

AND DEVILS LAKE FREE PRESS.

VOL. XXVI.—NO. 49.

DEVILS LAKE, NORTH DAKOTA, FEBRUARY 26, 1909.

\$1.50 PER YEAR.

## ARMORY RINK IS IN ASHES

### Burned to the Ground Wednesday Night Making a Total Loss

#### STOTLAR & YOUNG WERE OWNERS—BUILDING AND CONTENTS PARTLY COVERED BY INSURANCE

About 11:15 Wednesday evening Grover Laing and William Nimmo discovered the roller rink to be on fire and turned in the fire alarm, to which the department responded promptly, having water playing on the building in about ten minutes. Owing to the construction of the building, which was entirely frame and dry as tinder, it was impossible to save the building and inside of an hour and a half it was nothing but a smoking pile of tinders.

Realizing that it would be impossible to save the rink the fire department put all their efforts toward saving adjoining property. On the west of the rink and very close to it was the residence of G. W. Turner, one of the finest residences in Devils Lake. Adjoining this was the fine residence of J. M. Thompson, and for the fire to get a good start on the Turner residence would have been an almost certain loss of both these elegant residences. On the south of the rink, just across the alley, stands the Christian Science church. The fire department kept a constant stream of water on these adjoining buildings and managed by dint of careful generalship on the part of the chief and energetic work on the part of the fire ladders to keep the west wall of the building sufficiently soaked so that it stood throughout the fire as a protection to the Turner residence. Several times the roofs of the dwelling houses were found to be on fire, catching from the burning pieces of wood which fell on them in a constant stream, but as fast as they caught they were promptly quenched, so that the damage done to these buildings is very light. The same was the case with the church which was not damaged other than the scorching of the paint on the side of the building, and the cracking of some of the windows, in all about \$50, fully covered by insurance.

It is the general impression from the location of the fire when first discovered that it started near the stove on the east side of the building near the stage.

Owing to the rapidity with which the flames spread it was impossible to save anything contained in the rink, and the contents was a total loss. The building and contents were partly covered by insurance.

Messrs. C. A. Stotlar and Ray Young purchased the armory last fall, and had a fine hard wood floor put down, making one of the finest roller rinks in the northwest. They purchased a large number of the best roller skates that they could obtain and have conducted a first-class roller skating rink all winter. It was their intention to

move the building to another location this spring as the lots on which the armory was located are to be used for the new Carnegie library which is to be built this summer. Whether they will rebuild or not has not been determined, although it is hardly likely.

The front part of the building up stairs was used by Prof. Cramer as a music studio, in which the junior band has been practicing, and several of the instruments were there at the time of fire. Other instruments and the music being used by the band that has been furnishing the music for the rink were in the other end of the building. None of these were gotten out and it is estimated that the band has lost equipment which originally cost about \$400. This property was uninsured and is a total loss, and a heavy one for the band, as it leaves the organization in a very crippled condition.

The loss to Stotlar & Young for the rink building and contents is estimated at \$8,000, with \$5,250 insurance as follows: In the Sun Insurance Co. of London, \$1,000 on fixtures, skates, etc. In the Middlewest Insurance Co., \$625 on building and \$375 on contents. In the Citizens Insurance Co. of Missouri, \$2,000 on the building. In the German Alliance of New York, \$1,250 on building.

#### MOVE FOR NEW TRIAL

##### Attorneys for Mrs. Wright Will Ask New Trial

The attorneys for Mrs. Wright have filed notice of their intention of asking for a new trial in the cause of her conviction of manslaughter of her foster daughter, which was tried at the beginning of the present term of the district court.

In their notice they cite several instances of erroneous procedure, the most momentous of which is their allegation that the court erred in its instruction to the jury, inasmuch as it did not instruct as to manslaughter in the second degree.

It is expected that the argument in favor of the application for new trial will be heard soon.

#### A PAGE OF PROGRESS

##### Increased Attendance in City Schools Shows Steady Growth During Past Few Years

In view of the recent expressed comment upon the test which should be applied to the efficiency of school attendance, it is interesting to see the steady progress which the local schools are making in this line. During the past three or four years the

percent of attendance in the city schools has been steadily going up and the figures for the present year are gratifying indeed. Not only is the percent of attendance increasing but the percent of children of school age not in school is being cut down materially. In every city in the state there are large numbers of children, especially between the age of 14 and 21, not attending school. In this particular Devils Lake is very fortunate, the percent of children not attending being cut down to a remarkably low figure.

This speaks well for the efficient work of Superintendent Godward, who has brought the present satisfactory state of affairs about, with the cooperation of the school board and teaching force, and it is earnestly hoped that the good work will be continued. In this line Devils Lake stands second to no city in the state, and the splendid school system we have should be a source of pride to every citizen of the city.

Following is a comparison of the attendance figures of the present year with those of 1907, showing the facts as given above:

First grade—Enrollment 1909, 131, making 95 per cent; enrollment 1907, 66, being 90 per cent.

Second grade—Enrollment 1909 53, 92 per cent; 1907 90, 92 per cent.

Third grade—Enrollment 1909 96, 96 per cent; 1907 47, 92 per cent.

Fourth grade—Enrollment 1909 105, 96 per cent; 1907 52, 86 per cent.

Fifth grade—Enrollment 1909 75, 93 per cent; 1907 48, 81 per cent.

Sixth grade—Enrollment 1909 71, 91 per cent; 1907 45, 95 per cent.

Seventh grade—Enrollment 1909 53, 95 per cent; 1907 48, 92 per cent.

Eighth grade—Enrollment 1909 46, 95 per cent; 1907 29, 95 per cent.

High school—Enrollment 1909 130, 96 per cent; 1907 97, 94 per cent.

Total enrollment 1909, 806; average, 94.3 per cent; total 1907, 532; average, 90.6 per cent.

Increased attendance in 1909 over 1907, 274. Increase average over 1907, 3.7 per cent.

Number of persons between the age of 6 and 21 years of age in Devils Lake, 912, of these 806 have enrolled in the schools.

#### MISS SPEISMAN GETS SECOND

##### In Contest Conducted by St. Paul Daily News

In the contest which has been conducted by the St. Paul Daily News, Miss Belle Speisman of Devils Lake, was awarded the second prize, \$100 worth of merchandise. The first prize, a piano, went to Miss Alma Mittlestaad of Waseca, Minn. The third prize went to a Wisconsin lady.

While it had been the hope of Miss Speisman and her friends that she would be the winner of the first prize, still when it is taken into consideration the distance she is from the city in which the drawing is held, and the number of contestants in the field, she is to be congratulated on standing so well in the contest. She has not only the satisfaction of receiving the prize but also the consciousness of work well done.

Miss Speisman is entirely worthy of the support she has received in the contest from all parts of the state and her many friends congratulate her on her achievement.

It is Miss Speisman's desire that we publicly thank those who have assisted her in her effort to make North Dakota show up as it has in this contest between the four states of Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin and South Dakota.

#### MARRIAGE LICENSES

For the week ending Feb. 24: Thca. Halverson, age 34, Devils Lake, to Myrtle Mae Naylor, age 24, Devils Lake.

Elias G. Amot, 27, Grafton, to Anna V. Kuhn, 27, Edmore.

Thomas H. O'Brien, 40, Hampden, to Miss Mary Ann Goldsberry, 31, Hampden.

#### DISTRICT COURT

The adjourned January term of the district court convened in this city Wednesday morning. The first case disposed of was that of Albert Oimstad vs. Fred F. Walz and the Bank of Ege-land. Anderson & Traynor appeared for the plaintiff and Burke, Middaugh & Cuthbert for the defendant and reported that the case had been settled outside of court.

The State vs. Elmer Engebretson was called up. D. G. Duell, state's attorney, appeared for the state, and Burke, Middaugh & Cuthbert and P. J. McClory for the defense. Mr. Cuthbert for the defense moved that the case be stricken from the docket on the grounds that the case had not been properly brought before the court, inasmuch as the case was brought directly into the district court when it should have first been taken into justice court in order to determine whether there was sufficient evidence to hold the case to the district court. Mr. Cuthbert cited several authorities in defense of his contention and Judge Cowan took the case under consideration until the following day.

Up to the time of our going to press the court has made no decision on the case.

#### Grand Harbor Mask

The masquerade ball given by Holmes & Strand on the evening of Feb. 22 was an entire success. At about 9 o'clock the crowd began to gather and by 11 about 120 people were present. At 11:30 judges were chosen from the spectators and prizes awarded as follows:

Lady's best represented costume—Cow Boy Girl, Miss Amanda Jacobson. Gent's best represented costume—Mr. S. M. Strand.

Lady's most comical costume—Indian Squaw and Papoose, Chas. Dacus. Gent's most comical costume—Indian Buck, Ole Gilje.

Many others were also very well represented. After masks were removed an elaborate supper was served by Mrs. Strand, after which each and every one tripped the light fantastic until the wee hour of four. Then all returned to their happy homes feeling as though they had passed an evening well spent.

#### LIKES SPOKANE

##### Miss Mead writes that She is well Pleased with her New Location

In a letter to this office ordering the Inter Ocean sent to her Miss Maud Mead writes that she is well pleased with her new location. She says: Spokane, Wash., Feb. 21, 1909.

This is a dandy city. We are enjoying weather at present that we would enjoy in North Dakota in the month of May. The lawns are all getting green. The falls are beautiful, and there must be some very picturesque scenery here during the summer.

Real estate is quite high, although it can be bought on very easy terms. Living expenses are about the same as in North Dakota. Spokane is a very busy place. Everyone seems to be full of life, and a "rustler." Money is not as scarce as we find it in North Dakota towns. There are all kinds of amusements here and many show houses. All seem to be doing a big business.

I have a dandy location for a millinery store, a good spacious room and have met several from Devils Lake who drop in to get a peep at the Inter-Ocean. Everyone I have met here from North Dakota seem to look contented and I think I will agree with them, that the Inland Empire is good enough for me to live in. I remain,

Respectfully,  
Maude M. Mead,  
902 1st Ave. Spokane, Wash.

#### GARSKE

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Duft were Devils Lake visitors this week. Also Mr. John McBride.

Mr. P. Fiem and Miss Newgard were Devils Lake visitors.

Rev. Father Morris had services at St. Peter and St. Paul's church, Sweetwater, Ash Wednesday.

Miss K. A. Baker was home between trains Saturday from Doyon.

A very enjoyable party was given at Mr. John McBride's Monday evening. All report a very pleasant time.

#### CITY DIRECTORY

##### Work Proceeding Rapidly—will be Issued in April

The Devils Lake Directory Co., consisting of E. H. Howe and C. D. Mills, both of Devils Lake, are hard at work compiling a city directory of this city, and expect to have the book ready for distribution about the middle or last of April.

The directory will contain about 150 pages on fine heavy book paper and bound in a substantial cloth binding. It will contain a complete list of names of every resident of the city over the age of eighteen years, their occupation and place of residence. In addition to this there will be a classified business directory, a church and society directory, a list of city and county officials and a goodly amount of other information that will be of assistance to our residents and visitors in locating business places and residents of the city.

Devils Lake is in much need of a work of this kind, but it has never been in a position to have one until lately, when the houses were numbered.

The compilers are using every effort to make the work as complete and authentic as possible and will spare no pains to have it a credit to the city and of much benefit to its inhabitants.

#### JOHNATHAN MILLER PASSES AWAY

##### Former Devils Lake Citizen Dies in Sunny South

J. N. Miller, a former well-known citizen of this city, died at Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, at 8 o'clock a. m. on Washington's birthday—Feb. 22. The funeral was held yesterday, the remains being buried at Bay St. Louis.

The deceased resided at Devils Lake many years prior to his removal to Bay St. Louis three years ago. He was sixty-eight years of age at the time of his death, and is survived by a wife and three children, viz: Mrs. C. W. Cleveland of this city, and Orville, Arthur Miller of Lewiston, Montana, and T. C. Miller of Spirit Lake, Idaho. There are many people in Devils Lake and this part of Ramsey county

who will sincerely regret to learn of Mr. Miller's death. For many years he conducted a dairy here, and owned the property where Senator Fred A. Baker now resides, north of the School for the Deaf. He was a particularly agreeable man and made warm friends of all those with whom he became acquainted. Mr. Miller served his country with distinction during the war and while here was an active member of the G. A. R. post.

#### HALVERSON-NAYLOR

An unusually pretty wedding occurred Saturday at high noon at the home of Mr. C. E. Burgess of this city, when Miss Myrtle Mae Naylor and Thomas Halverson were united in the holy bonds of matrimony. The bride is a cousin of Mr. Burgess and has but recently resigned from a position in the Minot public schools. She was one of the most popular young ladies of that city and will be missed. The bridegroom has been for some time a special traveling salesman in the northwest territory for the J. I. Case Threshing Machine Co., and has a host of friends throughout the state.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. Ketchum of Rugby. Mr. Marius Erickson of Rugby, acted as the best man, while Miss Emily Fingerson of Minot, was the bridesmaid. The wedding was attended by a small group of relatives and very near friends. The home of Mr. Burgess was tastefully decorated for the occasion with white streamers inter-twined with green smilax. The bride wore an empire gown of white taffeta trimmed with Irish point lace. The couple presented a very attractive appearance during the ceremony and both are to be congratulated. After the union was effected a seven course dinner was served to the party in Mrs. Burgess' most attractive style. The bride and groom left on No. 6 Saturday for the twin cities and the east, and they carry with them the blessings of their many friends who wish them unbounded happiness in their new venture. After the honeymoon the happy couple will return to Rugby where they will make their future home. They will be at home after March 10.

You've heard them talk about the knee pant suits sold at the New York Cash store? It's prices that count. The prices remain the same as during our clearance sale. Come and let us attend to your needs at once. Holbrook Merc. Co.

**KELLEY AVENUE**

**Remember**

Us this spring, when the sick season come on, you need drugs and Medicines. We are dispensers of pure wholesome drugs. All other Necessities kept in stock.

We invite your trade.

**Devils Lake Drug Co.**  
Successors to A. E. Hodgkinson  
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