

THE DEVILS LAKE WORLD

AND INTER-OCEAN

FIRST SECTION

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OLD TIMER PASSES AWAY

Oliver J. Stirk, a former resident of this city, but for the past two years living at White Bear, Minn., recently passed away. He has a host of friends here who will be sorry to learn of his death. At one time he was connected with the police force of this city, and was the father of Mrs. Chas. E. Taylor, now of Fargo. The White Bear Press has this to say regarding his death and funeral:

"Taps" were sounded in the home of another Civil War veteran last Wednesday morning, at 5:30 and Oliver J. Stirk answered the "roll call" on the mighty camp ground of the Great Beyond. The sudden demise of Mr. Stirk came as a shock to his many friends and neighbors as well as to the family, as it followed an illness of pneumonia of but three days' duration. The deceased gentleman was born in Neshaniny, Bucks Co., Pa., Sept. 27, 1840. In 1883, Mr. Stirk moved west settling in Devils Lake, N. D., where he lived until 1912, when he moved to Willow City, N. D. After two years' residence at that place he and Mrs. Stirk came to White Bear located at White Bear Beach which has since been his home.

During the Civil War he enlisted in Co. A, 104th Pa. regiment, and served with that regiment during the war. In the years since that time he has taken an active interest in the work of the G. A. R. He was Past Commander of the G. A. R., Post at Devils Lake, and was honored with being elected to that position in E. B. Gibbs Post No. 76, G. A. R., of our village which position he held at the time of his demise.

The funeral will be held from the home next Sunday at 1 o'clock, services in charge of Rev. Biller, and it is hoped the members of the G. A. R., Post will attend in a body in which case the G. A. R. service will be conducted at the house.

The deceased is survived by the widow and one daughter Mrs. Chas. E. Taylor, of Fargo, N. D. Mrs. Taylor was notified of the serious illness of her father in time to reach his bedside and be able to assist caring for him during his last hours.

Harold Judson, grandson of Mrs. Stirk, who is attending the military academy at Owatonna, is home and, because of Mr. Stirk's interest in military affairs and at the request of those having charge of the funeral, he has consented to wear his military uniform and blow the "Taps" at the conclusion of the G. A. R. service.

Others expected from out of town are Charles E. Taylor, of Fargo, and T. W. Henry of Buffalo.

A CLOSE CORPORATION

A. C. Townley and A. E. Bowen are the two men most responsible for the existence of the Non-partisan League, Townley is the brains, push and pepper; Bowen is the noise. Townley is a skilled promoter, shrewd and unscrupulous, deceptive and dishonest. A politician himself, he leads a movement warning others to beware of politicians. He calls others crooks, while he owns around one hundred and fifty thousand dollars in the shape of unsatisfied judgments and chattel mortgages. He is against political fakirs, and engaged himself in faking thru a scheme intended to make him political boss of the state. He brands newspapers as unreliable and lies as to a circulation of forty thousand. He is for free speech, and suggests boycotting newspapers which speak against the League. He says farmers have always been fooled by politicians and expects farmers to trust him. He wants to be their terminal and do their thinking. He wants a packing plant, and all packed in one party. He wants a recall law, and he wants to do the recalling himself. He wants single tax on farm lands and he wants to tax farmers nine dollars to tell them how to vote. He wants rural credit but he does not want to pay what he owes. He wants to mix No. 1 hard Republicans with No. 4 soft Socialists to raise the grade. A failure himself, he wants to show the farmer how to succeed.

A. E. Bowen, thru the courtesy of the Commercial Club of Bismarck, made his last speech in their hall in Feb. 1915, wherein he advocated class organization against class, the farmer against the business man. For the past eight years he has been a Socialist organizer, speaker and office seeker. If he has a dollar today, he did not get it by hard work. He got it out of socialist collections or League donations.

D. D. Coates is an imported politician, an editor of a now defunct socialist paper. He is not a citizen of this state or property owner. The evils he complains of, he has never suffered from. He was imported because of his class hatred and known cause his class hatred and known ability to stir up class against class.

Mr. Thompson was called to his present work as one of the editors of the Leader from Minot, where he held down the editorial chair in the Iconoclast, the official paper of the socialist party in this state. He has for many years been an editor and agitator in the Socialist movement. He is a shrewd, clever writer and versed on promoting class hatred.

None of the above men have succeeded in life, and none are possessed with worldly goods; none are farmers; none are satisfied with the way any nation on earth has ever been run; none have a membership in any church—all are professional promoters, professional politicians, professional agitators and chronic kickers.—Public Opinion.

COMMERCIAL CLUB HOLD MEETING

Monday evening there was an important meeting of the Commercial Club, and after the business meeting was over there was a lunch and smoker. After the meeting was called to order by Vice President Howard Maher, President Hyland being absent, Mr. R. Hovde gave a short report on the work of the committee appointed to aid in the work of cleaning up and beautifying our city. The next matter to come up was the matter of the building of a high school building and its location. This brought out considerable oratory on the part of some of the members. The ball was started rolling by M. R. Hovde, who, in a well written and well delivered address, opposed the locating of the new building at the north and in the rear of the present Central school building. He offered many objections, and after he was through F. P. Mann gave a nice talk relative to the matter and pointed out some of the possible defects and also some of the benefits which would arise from the proposed location. Siver Serungard was there and as he is a member of the school board, he was called upon for some remarks, and as is usual with Siver's speeches, considerable sarcasm was immediately forthcoming. After he got through Col. J. M. Kelley spoke at length of the future of our city and the many possibilities before us and advised that if a High school building was erected that it should be in a good location with plenty of ground for a playground. Before the meeting wound up a motion was passed appointing a committee of three to join with the school board in an attempt to find a proper site for the new building. The local band, was present and furnished several fine selections under the direction of Dr. Ecklund.

WINEMAN WINS IN FINAL BOUT

The case of Johnson vs. Sam Wineman has been decided in Supreme court in favor of Wineman. This was a case wherein Johnson filed a lien on the Wineman block in this city, for wages. Mr. Wineman claimed the charges were too much and the case was tried in District court here, Wineman winning out. The case was appealed to the higher court and Wineman gets the decision.

THE YUCATAN SISAL MONOPOLY VS. THE AMERICAN FARMER

One big and significant fact has thus far been developed by the Yucatan sisal monopoly investigation now in progress at Washington before a sub-committee of the United States Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

This fact is that the sisal monopoly which has been in full control for only about six months, has already imposed a tax of from \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000 a year on the American farmer and has the power further to increase that tax.

Organizers, officers and beneficiaries of the combination have admitted that they have an absolute monopoly. They claim exemption from the Sherman Anti-Trust Law because the combination to control the sisal market was formed in Yucatan and not in the United States.

The sisal monopoly is supported by backed by the Carranza government of Mexico. Thru the Commission Reguladora del Mercado de Henequen, of Reg. the military governor of Yucatan, relating Committee, it absolutely controls the sisal production of that Mexican state. It is financed by a small group of American bankers and their associates who have agreed to lend the Regulating Committee up to \$10,000,000 at one time—enough to carry and withhold from the market an entire season's sisal crop. Besides current interest on all such loans, with ample security, these few financiers are getting a commission, as indicated by the testimony, of not less than \$400,000 a year, and possibly \$1,000,000 a year on a capital investment of \$1,000,000.

Sisal fiber constitutes eighty-five percent of America's raw material for binder twine, and the monopoly now fixes the price as it pleases. It has already advanced it from an average of 5 1-2 to 7 3-8 cents a pound f. o. b. New York. Some twine makers have been informed of the sisal monopoly's agents that the price will be 9 cents a pound by July. It has been publicly declared by an officer of the regulating Committee that it can raise the price to ten cents a pound if it chooses.

Directly and solely as a result of the increases in the price of sisal made by the monopoly, American manufacturers have been or will be compelled to make corresponding advances in the price of binder twine. The Kansas penitentiary has announced its twine price for 1916 at 9 1-2 cents a pound as against 6 3-4 cents last year—an increase of 2 1-2 cents a pound. Upon this basis the farmers of Kansas alone will pay nearly half a million dollars more for their twine this year than they did in 1915.

The promoters of the monopoly declare that their one purpose is to benefit the "poor planters" of Yucatan. Their own testimony shows that while the peons, or day laborers, may have been receiving small wages, many of the Yucatan planters are very wealthy. The entire sisal crop of Yucatan is raised by about 200 planters. Its annual value is approximately \$20,000,000.

The monopoly's attack on the International Harvester Company are made merely to divert attention from the actual facts and to deceive the American farmer and the public generally.

It was charged at the hearing that the Company had financed a revolution in Yucatan. Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick, President of the Harvester Company destroyed that falsehood with an explicit public denial.

It was charged that the Harvester Company had attempted to intimidate certain banks from participating in this monopoly, and that it had closed its account with one such bank. The officials of this bank themselves deny the charge.

It was charged that an official of the Harvester Company had left the country to avoid testifying. This falsehood was promptly disposed of by the statement of the Chairman of the investigating committee that the witness referred to had left the country on business, with the Chairman's knowledge and consent. He has since returned and is ready to testify when called.

When the hearing is resumed, further evidence will be presented refuting these and other like charges and insinuations. Officials of the Harvester Company, none of whom has yet been heard, will then have a chance to testify, and it is probable that representatives of other twine manufacturers, as well as of farmers' organizations, will tell of the effects of the sisal monopoly.

The issue before the Investigating Committee has been rather adroitly confused by false and sensational charges, so as to keep the American farmer from finding out that the real controversy is between himself and the Yucatan monopoly. Whatever amount the monopoly adds to the price of sisal, the twine manufacturers must add to the price of binder twine—all the increase necessarily comes out of the farmer. No matter what the Committee may recommend, or what Congress may do, the manufacturers cannot make twine without a reasonable profit. Sisal is the chief item of cost, and the price of binder twine is fixed by the cost of the fiber.

Therefore, it is the farmers, and not

TO DISTRIBUTE 12,000 BIBLES

IN A SINGLE DAY THIS MANY TO BE SENT TO HOTELS TO BE PLACED IN ROOMS.

Fargo, N. D., March 27.—As a climax to their work of placing a bible in guest rooms in hotels in North Dakota, the North Dakota Gideons, at their annual meeting concluded here last night, laid plans whereby on a single day, they would distribute 12,000 bibles, completing their big movement.

Geo. Powell of Minneapolis was made chairman of the committee in charge of the arrangements for this spectacular stunt and he will also be charged with the responsibility of raising a \$5,000 fund for the purchase of the bibles. These will be shipped to Fargo and will be redistributed from this city to points throughout the state, with centers of distribution being established at Grand Forks, Bismarck and Minot.

The Gideons also laid plans for the formation of new locals at Bismarck and Minot. Their present local corps within the state are located at Fargo and Grand Forks.

A mass meeting was the concluding feature. Rev. Frank Hollett and several traveling men participating in the service.

Officers elected follows:
President—Courtwright Hawley of Fargo.

First Vice President—S. L. Montgomery of Forest River.
Second Vice President—Walter L. Kishaber of Grand Forks.

Third Vice President—H. M. Pfennig of Mandan.

Fourth Vice President—C. N. Bristol of Velva.

Fifth Vice President—H. B. Borneman of Hallock, Minn.
Secretary—W. D. Gilispi, Fargo.

Financial Secretary—James Grimley of Fargo.
State overseer—H. R. Gladding of Fargo.

State Chaplain—N. L. Redman, of Fargo.

the twine manufacturers, who are and will be the principal sufferers from the sisal monopoly. This is the case of the Yucatan Sisal Monopoly versus the American farmer.

Spring seems to be with us. The snow is nearly all gone and the geese have begun to fly northward. With the right kind of weather, farmers will be in the field by the tenth of April.

Hans Westgard left Tuesday for Williston, where he will spend a few days attending to business matters.

BI... DAY NO PACIFIST.

is a God of war as well as of peace. We must fight as well as pray. If it hadn't been for war we would be singing 'God Save the King' instead of 'My Country, 'Tis of Thee,' if it hadn't been for war the bloodhounds would be chasing the black men through the swamps and canyons today; if it hadn't been for war Spain would still be tearing at the heart of Cuba; if it hadn't been for war the flag of Mexico would be flying over Texas, New Mexico, Nevada and California. Yes, I believe in preparedness; I believe in battleships and submarines, and if any of the nations across the sea should care to find out whether the American people believe in the Monroe doctrine, let them start something. If they do, I would like to be colonel of a regiment.—Billy Sunday, the Evangelist.

The United States covers considerably less than 6 per cent of the earth's area, and contains only about 5 per cent of the earth's population, but official records show that the United States produces:

- 76 per cent of all the corn grown in the entire world.
- 70 per cent of all the cotton.
- 72 per cent of all the oil.
- 59 per cent of all the copper.
- 43 per cent of all the pig iron.
- 37 per cent of all the coal.

STAY DENIED IN BONDING ACT CASE

Bismarck, March 27.—Chief Justice Fisk today denied a stay asked by Attorney Aubrey Lawrence of Fargo, for the bonding companies seeking to set aside the bonding act passed by the last legislature. The federal district court will now be asked to order the state to refrain from putting the state bonding department in operation until the United States Supreme court has passed upon the constitutionality of the act creating it.

Legislature Passed Law.
The last legislature passed a law creating a state bonding department, to be under the supervision of insurance commissioner. Certain bonding companies doing business in the state started action in court in an attempt to have the law declared unconstitutional, lost in the state courts and have appealed to the United States supreme court. It will take about two years before that tribunal can pass upon the case.

Lack Enough Funds.
In the meantime the law will be in operation in North Dakota, and Commissioner Taylor has decided to put it into effect at once. The legislature failed to appropriate enough funds to star it out with but after a consultation with State Treasurer Steen, the commissioner announced that the treasurer will honor warrants for necessary supplies up to \$1,500, enabling the new department to begin business right away. All township, village and city officers can now be bonded by the state upon application.

S. L. Wineman is negotiating for a high class pedigree Holstein bull, which he will put on his farm near town, and will begin the laying the foundation for a herd of thoroughbred holsteins. The Holstein breed of cattle take the lead in the dairy class, and Mr. Wineman feels that there is going to be a great demand for stock of this breed.

HAIG AND STADE PART OF ESCORT

A. V. Haig and Andrew J. Stade attended the meeting of the St. Alder's commandery at Grand Forks Monday evening, and these gentlemen the escort who performed the work. The commandery was inspected by Sir Knight H. E. Proctor, of Jamestown, who was the regular inspecting officer. After the commandery closed there was a fine banquet at which all present thoroughly enjoyed.

SWEET CLOVER A GOOD CROP

If you need something on your farm to help keep up the fertility, furnish very good hay and pasture, that will grow where and when nothing else does, early in the spring, late in the fall, on alkali, wet, dry, stony or gumbo spots try Sweet Clover.

Sweet Clover has long been known as an outcast among plants, growing by the roadside and in waste places, often being cursed, except by the bee keepers, but it never has really bothered in the fields except occasionally in the meadows. It seems now that, like many other things that we at first rejected, it is finding its place among the valuable crops on many farms. It may be that you have a place for it on your farm. Read what it is doing for others in the Northwest, and at least be neutral until you have tried it.

Sweet clover seed may now be secured from nearly every seed house, but care should be taken to specify the kind you want, and to ask the dealer if he knows what he is selling. In general sweet clover may be seeded the same as red clover or alfalfa. On the I. H. C. Farms, we seed early in the spring with small grain and have had excellent success, using either oats, wheat or barley. We prefer Marquis wheat, and seed only about three-fourths of the ordinary seeding. Marquis is early and does not shade the ground as much as some of the other varieties.

In sections of less rainfall or shorter seasons than eastern North Dakota, the sweet clover doubtless should be seeded alone as early as possible in the spring. Sweet clover, like alfalfa, must have a firm seed bed. Corn or potato land, disked in the fall, and harrowed lightly as soon as possible in the spring, the seed sown broadcast or drilled in shallow would be the best preparation possible to make. Spring or late fall plowing is too loose, and usually results in a loss of seed.

Sweet clover seed is often very hard, the seed coats being so thick and impervious that the seed is very slow to absorb moisture and germinate. Sweet Clover naturally reseeds itself in the fall. The seed is subjected to freezing and thawing during fall and spring, which results in the seed germinating as soon as warm weather comes in the spring. We have seeded our sweet clover as early as possible. Freezing after it is up apparently does no harm.

We have used the clean hulled seed in the grass seeder, allowing the sweet clover seed to be sown broadcast in front of the discs. We have also drilled it in with the grain, and have always had good success. We have always sown on good solid land, not recently plowed, and have seeded early.—J. G. Haney, I. H. C. Farms, Grand Forks.

WORLD HAS A NEW MACHINE

The World has recently installed a new Portland Multiple Punching machine. This is the latest and best thing in the line of a punching machine which can be bought. The World is growing and the management believes in keeping abreast of the times, and in order to do this the office is being equipped from time to time with the most improved machinery.

BIG EVENT HELD AT BERNT ANDERSON HOME.

Most of the people of DeGroat and vicinity met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bernt Anderson, Tuesday evening for an informal box social given under the auspices of the Chain Lake Lutheran Synod church. This was the first of a series of events to be given, the proceeds of which are to apply towards the erection of an addition to the church. The baskets sold at an average price of \$4.50 apiece. The highest bid was \$8.00 which was the basket belonging to Miss Stai. A total of \$114.00 was realized on the sale. The evening was spent with music and games. Miss Holton favored the audience with a number of vocal and instrumental selections. The next social will be a fish party to be given at the Rushfeldt home March 34th.—Churchs Ferry Sun.

CORNERING A PORCUPINE MAY BE EASY. BUT GRASPING HIM IS DIFFERENT.

