

GOVERNOR ASKS TOTTEN AND CAHILL TO RESIGN AT ONCE

Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 8.—Demand for the resignation of J. I. Cahill and George B. Totten, Members of the state board of administration, charged with the management of the educational, penal and charitable institutions of the state, was made today by Governor R. A. Nestos.

Unless the resignations are forthcoming formal charges will be filed against the two men, hearing held and removal made by the Governor if held justified.

Governor Nestos declined to make public the detailed charges against the board members, but it was learned that they will be charged with "misconduct, malfeasance and misdemeanors in office" if formal charges are filed.

The basis of the charge against the board members is understood to be in part based upon contracts let for supplies for the various state institutions, it having been alleged in reports to the governor that the state's interest has not been concerned in the letting of contracts, some of which have been let to highest bidders. Higher prices have been paid for supplies than is held necessary, it is charged, and "gross incompetence" will be charged.

No answer was given to the demand resign but it has been reported that the two board members, expecting to be removed, has engaged legal counsel in advance.

Governor Nestos has previously stated that he would not undertake any removal proceedings of any Nonpartisan or other officer of the former administration that was not amply justified and where the evidence would not stand the test of the courts. His action in demanding the resignation is taken to mean that the executive believes he has ample grounds for demanding the removal, as he has been bitterly criticized in some quarters for not removing several Nonpartisan office holders who had been the subject of many bitter campaign charges.

Totten, a former preacher was at outs with the Frazier administration, it was generally reported, and it was expected that Governor Frazier would have attempted to remove him had he not been defeated in the recall election. Complaints also had been registered against Cahill to Nonpartisan officials, it was rumored, although this is not definitely known.

Governor's Position. There were reports in Capitol circles yesterday that evidence had been submitted to Governor Nestos and request made for removal of several office holders including two members of the fish and game commission.

Governor Nestos, who has steadfastly maintained that he would not begin any removal proceedings until he felt that evidence submitted to him, if any, was sufficient to warrant removal and to stand the test of the courts, when asked yesterday about the reports, said:

"During the first six weeks of my administration, no evidence was submitted for the removal of any appointees that seemed to me to be sufficient to warrant the commencement of an action," said the Governor, "and it is only during the past couple of weeks that the evidence submitted has been such as to make me feel that a removal proceeding would be just, and certain to be sustained by the courts in the event that an appeal was taken. There are at least a couple of cases now where such evidence has been submitted, and where it is likely that action will be brought very shortly."

Reviews Complaints. Reviewing the complaints of many persons who had expected a "house-cleaning" under the new administration, the Governor said:

"I notice that some people and newspapers are inclined to be critical of the administration because they claim that long before this the Governor should have removed certain appointees from the office to which they were appointed by the former administration. I do not believe that this claim is warranted, although of course, it is a question upon which there may be a difference of opinion. Practically all of these appointments were made for a certain definite period of time, such period expiring in the different cases in 1923, 1925 and 1927 and in most cases these appointees are removal for cause only.

"It is true that a general impression exists that abundant cause exists in many of these cases and apparently this impression seemed to be well founded in the right of the reports of the general activities of these appointees and their qualifications for the position they hold. "I have announced it as my attitude however that I have seen no occasion to change my mind that I will commence none of these proceedings until the evidence produced before me appears to me to be sufficient to warrant the removal and such as would be legally sufficient to sustain my order of removal in case an appeal were taken therefrom to the courts of the state."

USED RUSE TO SEE TOWNLEY, SAYS LANGER

EXPLAINS VISIT HE MADE TO NONPARTISAN CHIEF IN JACKSON JAIL.

Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 8.—William Langer, former attorney General, who engaged in a series of debates with A. C. Townley in Kansas, Nebraska and Minnesota last summer, today explained the visit he made to Townley in Jackson county, Minnesota early in December. A story published in a Minnesota paper was called to Mr. Langer's attention.

"Former County Auditor Wm. E. Vadnais, of Divide county, was in the state prison," Langer said. "He asked me to help him get out. I investigated circumstances and was convinced that Vadnais, who had been the I. V. A. chairman in Divide county, had been railroaded to prison by Nonpartisans. They had promised him suspended sentence if he pleaded guilty to charges of misuse of funds but instead put him in prison. None of Vadnais' political friends were helping him.

"Vadnais had no money and his family was in hard circumstances. I acted as his lawyer without pay. I got a writ of habeas corpus from the supreme court realizing him but Bratlein threatened to push other charges and it was necessary to get him a pardon.

"I wanted Townley to use his influence to call off Nonpartisan attacks on Vadnais. I had told him during debates in Kansas that if he went to jail I was coming to see him. He replied he would not let me in. So I went to nearby town, telephoned Townley's secretary, told him I was Senator John Jorgeson, of Iowa, and that I wanted to see Townley. I went to Jackson to keep the appointment and the sheriff let me in. I spent an hour with Townley but got no definite promise and went back again to talk over Vadnais' case. We also discussed physical culture which Townley was much interested in. I did not get a definite answer from Townley but some of the opposition to a pardon disappeared and Vadnais was pardoned. I went there as an attorney representing a client, and after the interview I told the sheriff who I was."

Inventive Genius Is Abundant At Granville, N. D.

Granville, N. D., Feb. 8.—Only a few days ago press dispatches carried the news that W. Clark of this place, had completed arrangements with a large firm to manufacture a grain shocking machine recently perfected by him.

Now come the news that Halsey Abram, also a resident of Granville, perfected a device to prevent water from freezing in automobile radiators. Mr. Abram's invention consists chiefly of an electric coil, it is said, and is claimed to be past the experimental stage and patents have been applied for.

LAND BUSINESS IS PICKING UP

Harry McPherson, who had been in the mercantile business at St. John up to three years ago, and has since that time been in the real estate business covering a territory all over the lake region, and parts of Montana, was in the city over Sunday visiting at the home of his niece, Mrs. A. Thorson. While here Mr. McPherson visited The World office and in conversation with us said that he was receiving more inquiries for land during the past few weeks than he had for a year or more in the past, and that eastern people were asking more about Lake Region farms than they were about any other territory. The

land values here were not inflated like they were all over Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, and other agricultural states, and people who are unable to buy land at high prices at which it is being held there are turning their attention to North Dakota, and especially the eastern part where they know they would take very little chances on suffering a loss. The continual drop in prices of farm products also had a lot to do with the land business remaining at a standstill, but since grain, live stock and dairy products started going up in several weeks ago the farmers in the east who had been thoroughly disgusted with farming during the past few years, and taking an interest in it again, according to Mr. McPherson, and want to get into the game again.

PIONEER WOMAN IS FOUND DEAD

Mrs. Isabel Arnett, a pioneer in Devils Lake, and well and favorably known to everyone residing here, passed away some time last Thursday night at the home of John Powers, for who she had been keeping house, the cause of her death being heart failure. She went to bed the evening before apparently in the best of health, and it was not known that anything was wrong until the following morning when she was found dead in bed. Because of her sudden death Coroner Toomey was called to make an investigation, and he decided that no inquest was necessary, and that death came from natural causes.

The deceased had been a resident of Devils Lake for a great many years, coming here with the earliest settlers. Her maiden name was Isabel Buske. She was married a number of years ago, but her married life was apparently not happy, and her husband deserted her about three years ago and left for Seattle, Wash., where it is understood he married again without going through the formality of obtaining a divorce. It is also understood that the authorities at Seattle were about to prosecute him, when he left the country, and his present whereabouts are unknown. She was always a hard working woman, had the respect of all who knew her, and in spite of having a hard row to hoe she did her best to make her own way through life instead of calling on outsiders for assistance. When her husband deserted her she sold her residence property here and left for Canada where she spent a year with a sister, and then returned here to Devils Lake. She worked at several places before finally obtaining a steady position as housekeeper at the John Powers home and lived there until death.

It was generally believed that the deceased was a poor woman, and in want during part of the time, but was found not to be the case after her death. We learn that she had certificates of deposit to the amount of \$1700 issued by local banks, and that she had left this remain intact since 1909, adding the interest to the principal each year. So far as is known she has no relatives that can be located, and the chances are that her husband who deserted her is the only heir to her savings.

The funeral was held this morning.

MOHALL BANKERS OUT UNDER BAIL

PRELIMINARY HEARING FOR THREE ALLEGED EMBEZZLERS NOT SET.

Mohall, N. D., Feb. 8.—The date for the preliminary hearing of J. C. Peter, F. W. Wiebe and W. W. Bergmar, president, cashier and assistant cashier, respectively, of the Mohall State bank, now closed on a charge of embezzlement of \$106,000,000 has not been set. They are at liberty on \$10,000 bonds each, following their arrest yesterday.

They were previously charged with embezzling \$9,000, but this charge was dismissed on request of Francis Murphy of Minot, special assistant attorney general, and a new complaint filed charging the larger embezzlement. The State intends to ask for a change of venue if the men waive preliminary hearing and are bound over to the district court. The men were first arrested nearly a year ago when the state bank examiner made an examination of the records of the institution and closed it.

Mohall, N. D., Feb. 8.—Since the filing of the original charge against the three Mohall bankers a year ago the affairs of the closed bank have been under investigation, and when the new state administration came into office a few months ago Mr. Francis J. Murphy was appointed as special assistant general to handle the case.

Accommodation notes, etc., are said to have been used by the accused men in accomplishing the alleged embezzlement and the evidence in the case is said to be of a far-reaching nature. A charge of making false reports as to the condition of the Mohall State bank is also pending against the three defendants.

Mr. Murphy filed his motion for the dismissal of the former charge of embezzling \$9,000 Wednesday, and at the same time filed the complaint charging the larger embezzlement. The arrest of the three bankers today resulted.

BIG SEND-OFF FOR WORLD EDITOR

BOWBELLS TURNS OUT EN-MASSE TO SAY "GOOD-BYE" WHEN EDITOR GOES

Bowbells Tribune: "Good-Bye Stef" was not merely the expression of a few individuals, but it became the expression of the entire community on Saturday evening when Bowbells and vicinity turned out en-masse to say "goodbye and good luck" to their friend the editor, who was about to leave Bowbells after eleven years of good and faithful work in their midst.

When it was learned that Mr. Stefanowicz had purchased the Devils Lake World and was preparing to leave Bowbells for a larger field, the community spirit asserted itself and it was decided to give him a rousing send-off. For this purpose Fraternity Hall was engaged and an elaborate

program of instrumental music, singing, readings and speeches prepared. The entire community was behind the move and practically all the people of the town turned out to shake the editor by the hand and wish him success in his new field.

The program included music by Mr. and Mrs. Harry White, singing by Mrs. Donovan and Mrs. Hilgendorf, readings by Helen Bogus, Marie Speer and Irene Kopriwa and several excellent selections by Melby's orchestra.

Rev. Father Otto Weisser was chosen to deliver the speech expressing the community's appreciation of the departing newspaper man. He said that Mr. Stefanowicz had helped to carry the mutual civic burdens here for eleven years, and that he had found in him many traits to admire. He referred to the old truth that often we do not fully appreciate our friends until they are gone. A life is like a wonderful painting, said the reverend father—if we get too close to it, it looks like a dab, and we have to stand off and view it from a distance in order to appreciate its real worth. In closing, he extended the community's wishes for future success, and for the same measure of friendship and good-will that has always been manifested here.

In reply, the editor expressed his deep appreciation of what had been done for him, but as he wasn't quite able to control the vibration of his voice, the speech was cut rather short.

For the rest of the evening the men took charge of the editor and put him on the grill, telling him what a moose of a fellow he might have been if it wasn't for his shortcomings. In this line of persiflage "Stef" sustained his reputation and was more than able to hold his own.

Coffee and lunch were served by the ladies and the card tables were set going, but a bit after the young folks shooed the card players off the main floor and spent a delightful hour in dancing.

DRINK, FIGHT, ONE STABBED

Amidon, N. D., Feb. 8.—Fred Demcheck is being held here by authorities pending the outcome of wounds received by his partner, Pete Ewtichuk, who told authorities that they were inflicted by Demcheck. The wounded may say he and his partner had been drinking and that they got into an altercation. When they went to bed, Ewtichuk says Demcheck drew a knife from beneath the pillow and stabbed him four or five times, Ewtichuk put up a fight and managed to get away to summon help. Both men are unnaturalized Russians.

Bank of North Advances First Money On Farm Loans

Bismarck, Feb. 8.—The making of farm loans has been started by the new administration.

Manager W. B. DeNault of the farm loan department said today that \$14,000 had been advanced by the Bank of North Dakota and paid out by the farm loan department of the bank closing up loans.

Several emergency loans will be taken care of by the farm loan department between now and the middle of February, when bond sale money is expected to become available.

MAY TRY COUNTY SEAT REMOVAL

Watford City, N. D., Feb. 8.—The county seat of McKenzie county, now situated at Schafer, three towns, Watford City, Alexander and Arnegard, will enter the race for the county seat site, and perhaps one or two more. All but two of the candidates will be eliminated at the primaries and the real removal election will be held the following November.

In order to move the county seat it is necessary to get the names of 60 per cent of those who cast a vote at the last election to a petition.

Delegates of the Alexander and Arnegard Commercial clubs met at Watford City with the board of directors of the Watford City Commercial club and thoroughly discussed the matter.

The meeting was called primarily for the purpose of deciding whether or not the towns that are candidates for the county seat would agree to co-operate in getting the necessary signatures providing the sentiment in favor of removal is general.

Arnegard and Alexander Commercial club delegations reported that it was their belief that the sentiment is not in favor of it, and that the expense at this time would be too great.

It has been arranged to notify the voters of each township to discuss the question of county seat removal at meetings subject to their call and decide either for or against it and instruct the delegates to the county convention accordingly.

All delegations have agreed to stand on the verdict reached at the county league convention.

Schafer, the county seat of McKenzie county, is situated four and a half miles east of Watford City and the same distance from a railroad.

GILBERT GETS OUT OF JAIL; INTO ANOTHER

Red Wing, Minn., Feb. 8.—Joseph Gilbert, former state organizer for the National Nonpartisan League in Minnesota was released from the Goodhue county jail today after serving a sentence of one year for violation of the state espionage act. Immediately upon his release Gilbert left for St. Paul. He expects to visit with his family in St. Paul until Tuesday night when he will leave for Packson, Minn., to serve a 90-day sentence in the jail there.

His Jackson county sentence was for violating the state espionage law on the same counts that resulted in conviction of A. C. Townley, who has just completed a sentence there.

To Have Regular Truck Service

Devils Lake will next summer have one of the most efficient long distance truck services to be found in the state. Frank's Transfer and Storage, which firm now owns two two-ton trucks, will have two more three-ton trucks just as soon as the roads are in condition for travel in the rural districts, and will make a specialty of long distance hauls. A regular schedule will be adopted and regular trips will be made to all the surrounding cities within a distance of 100 miles. Stops will be made between towns to pick up any freight that farmers might want delivered at any city along the route, and in most cases deliveries can be made by this service as cheap as they can be made by the railroad. The service will be much more satisfactory than can be expected from the railroads for the reason that the truck freight is to be moved and delivered to the exact point where it is wanted, and does it in much less time than can be expected from a railroad. The breakages are not numerous, and the service will save the farmers many trips to town during the busy season. Later this firm expects to purchase a regular moving van, and will then be able to move furniture for any distance at a lower rate than can be done in any other way and deliver it in the best of condition. This firm will have at least four big trucks at work all the time in addition to a number of dray teams, and will make regular trips at least once a week to Starkweather, Cando, Churchs Ferry, Cray, Warwick, Tokio, Minnewaukan, Brinsmade, Edmore, Lawton, and Lakota, and regular trips will be made every day to the Chautauqua grounds.

Mrs. G. C. Brown of Lawton is visiting Mrs. Joe Belding this week.

STEPPED INTO BLOW HOLE ON RIVER

Williston, N. D., Feb. 8.—Somewhere under the ice in the Missouri River at a point directly south of Hofflund lies the body of William Hefenbrack. It is believed that he stepped into a blow hole in the ice Sunday and was drowned.

William Hefenbrack lived alone in a small house on the river bank at a point directly south of Hofflund, some farmer neighbors called at the place Sunday afternoon to visit with him and he was not there. They noticed that his water pail was missing also and presumed that he had gone to the river to fill it. After waiting some time for his return they went in search of him.

The men found his cap and mittens frozen into the thin coating of ice that usually covers blow holes. The tracks and other indications on the surface surrounding the hole seemed to indicate that the unfortunate man had fallen in. Coroner E. C. Stratton of Ray was called and made investigations. He concluded that an inquest was not necessary and that Hefenbrack had gone to his death by accidentally stepping into the hole. It is believed that he came up once and probably made some effort to get out of the freezing water. The body was not recovered.

At the house a letter that had been written Sunday morning by Hefenbrack to his mother was found. In this letter he told of plans that he was making to visit her in the near future. Other circumstances in the house seemed to indicate that the owner had been there during the morning but it is presumed that the accident occurred several hours before the visitors who discovered it came to the house.

William Hefenbrack was about 35 years of age. His people live at Coopersville, Wis., and they have been notified of the accident. He was not married and had lived on his claim for some time.

Watford City Town Treasurer Charged With Embezzlement

Watford City, N. D., Feb. 8.—Charges of embezzlement against O. L. Casady, treasurer of the village board of this village, have been made by the chairman of the board. A warrant of arrest was issued on the complaint but before it could be served by the sheriff into whose hands it had been delivered, Mr. Casady made his appearance in court before Justice of the Peace W. S. Shirk, and the preliminary examination set for Feb. 10. Bonds for his appearance, fixed at \$2,500, were furnished.

The complaint alleges that the embezzlement of village funds to the amount of \$7,600 by Mr. Casady in his capacity as treasurer of the village board, and that the shortage covers a period of more than two years. Mr. Casady was for the last ten years a mere cashier of the McKenzie county bank, which was closed by the state examiner last July and was recently placed in the hands of a receiver.

FIRE DRIVES FAMILY INTO FIERCE STORM

Dickinson, N. D., Feb. 8.—Driven into the blinding blizzard with his family at 3 o'clock in the morning when fire destroyed the small frame house which they occupied, C. C. Roshaven, manager of the Zenith Lignite Mines at Zenith, carried his two youngest children, aged six weeks and two years, nearly a half mile through the storm to a neighbor's in his night clothes and bare feet, while his wife and five other children, almost as scantily clad, struggled along behind. The origin of the fire is unknown. It is believed, however, that the blaze was caused by an explosion from a heating stove or a defective chimney flue.

WEHE TO GET BACK SALARY

Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 8.—The workmen's compensation bureau has decided to pay the salary of L. J. Wehe, member of the bureau, for four months ending April 1, 1921, being a part of the period during which Mr. Wehe was out of office by removal by Governor Frazier. Wehe claims salary for other months and action on this claim probably will await determination of a suit now pending. The four months salary was paid in compliance with court order.

