

# The Pioneer Express.

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PEMBINA, PEMBINA COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, FRIDAY, JULY 21st, 1922

NUMBER 6.

## PRESENT LOSS GREATER THAN PROPOSED AID

SHIPPING BOARD CHAIRMAN DECLARES ADMINISTRATION'S PROGRAM FOR UPBUILDING MERCHANT MARINE WOULD MEAN ACTUAL SAVING OF MONEY; LOSS NOW \$50,000,000 ANNUALLY.

Note: This is the third of a series of articles on the Merchant Marine by the Chairman of the Shipping Board.

### ARTICLE 3.

The completion of the Government's shipbuilding program found it with the following fleet:

Material	No.	D. W. T.	No.	D. W. T.	No.	D. W. T.	No.	D. W. T.
Steel	47	526,135	8,779,702	237	872,941	9	6,500	48,783
Wood	1,461	10,153,980	252	872,941	9	56,253		
Passenger and Cargo	47	526,135	8,779,702	237	872,941	9	6,500	48,783
Tanker	83	756,907						
Refrigerator	13	81,183						
Tugs	30							

Through the agency of the Emergency Fleet Corporation (whose stock is owned by the Shipping Board, representing the National Government), the ships originally intended for war purposes were, at the conclusion of the war, under mandate of Congress, immediately put into operation by the Government, to meet America's peacetime needs.

### Wood Ships Colossal Error.

At the height of its operations, October, 1920, the Shipping Board had 1,317 steel ships plying between our shores and those of foreign markets. With the decline which has come in world trade, we are now (July 1), operating 437 steel ships, of a total of 3,509,485 deadweight tons, and have 993 steel ships, of a total of 6,644,445 tons, tied up.

For the purposes of the future, in surveying the Government's fleet, we may eliminate the wooden ships, the creation of which, to my mind, was a colossal error that even war cannot forgive. Certainly the then Administration had ample warning through General Goethals of the tragedy of waste the wooden-ship program entailed.

Thus, the Government's problem of temporary operation and ultimate disposition is involved in the 1,430 steel ships which it possesses.

When Shipping Board operations were at their height, American vessels carried 45 per cent. of the value of our in-and-out foreign commerce. Today, with business depressed, we are carrying but 25 per cent.; this due largely to the fact that in time of our depression, the nations with either old or both old established lines and lower standards of living make it hard for us to compete.

However, the 447 steel ships the Government is today operating are covering practically every trade route in the world, insuring constant access to the markets available for the product of America.

Fleet Kept Freight Rates Down. Immediately after the close of the war, had we not possessed the Government-owned fleet, there is no doubt that freights would have soared ever higher than they did; and today were America's Government-owned tonnage withdrawn from the seas, our trader would pay increased tolls to foreign owners. So we must remember that while the operation of the fleet is costing us millions, it is saving us millions in freights and insuring us continuous relations with our customers.

The Shipping Board, including administrative expense, cost of tie-up and maintenance of its unused fleet and the operation of over 400 ships—being run at a cash outlay of the Treasury approximating \$50,000,000 annually. This does not take into account the cost of the ships and conse-

## H. B. King Has Close Call In Cyclone

H. B. King who is connected with the Federal Seed Loan department of this state with head office at Grand Forks was in the city Wednesday. He informed a representative of the Pioneer Express that they have lent out for seed in this state this year over four million dollars, mostly in the western part of the state and he thinks that every dollar of it will be collected this year. All over the territory he travels, which is nearly the whole state, the crop looks good and there will be no trouble in collecting the seed money advanced.

Mr. King was at Maxbass the time the cyclone struck that town several weeks ago, and he said he does not want any experience like that again. It was about two o'clock in the morning when the tempest struck the place and the first thing he knew he was hit by a scolding while lying in his bed in the hotel. Before he had a chance to realize what had happened everything about him was demolished and lumber and other debris lay scattered all about him. There were about a dozen houses destroyed in town and it was the same cyclone that swung north and went into Canadian territory and did so much damage.

Mr. King was here to see how the crops he is interested in are getting along and he expects to come down and spend several weeks during harvest.

### INITIATED LAWS ALL PASSED

Voters of North Dakota decided against a minimum teachers' salary of \$720 per school year in the state in the recent primaries, return from 22 counties indicate. There were 48,435 votes for repeal of the law and 34,933 against. In the same counties they favored amending the constitution to permit the limit of bonded debt, possible for promotion of real estate loans, from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000 by a vote of 44,572 to 29,276.

An amendment to the constitution changing requirements of electors received a majority of 52,074 to 18,657 in the 22 counties.

### quent capital charges.

It is true that overhead would not be greatly increased if the operator of more ships were needed to take care of America's trade. But my experience as Chairman of the Shipping Board has caused me to realize, as never realized before, that Government operation is as poison ivy in the garden of industry.

I do not want to be understood as insinuating that the Shipping Board is not today making a very good operation of the ships it is running. In its early history, however, because of the vast fleet it had to run without a properly trained organization, the results obtained were by no means those produced by private ownership; and no one will so argue.

### Present Losses Amount To Subsidy.

But I aver that under the Harding Administration the Shipping Board's operation has become comparable to the best operations of privately owned ships. The point I wish to emphasize, though is that Government ownership is not building up for the future, and is overly costly in its operations at all times.

While we are losing \$50,000,000 annually in cash in operation, we are wearing out the fleet, and in the course of a few years it will be of no worth. Nowhere have I heard any voice suggesting that the Government build further merchant ships, and only through private ownership can we see hope of renewals and additions that will be needed. So while at the moment we are not only justified, but our national need demands that we continue the sad losses of operation of the Shipping Board until we can work out a national policy which will insure the passage of the fleet into private hands, we have no excuse for not immediately tackling our problem and solving it.

The main factors of our problem are, what kind of merchant marine do we require for war needs; what types do we require for business needs; how can we use the Government-owned fleet as a nucleus in private hands for the meeting of these needs? President Harding has offered to the Congress a program of legislation which will provide the solution.

In my next article I shall discuss our war needs in a merchant marine.

### HAY LAND FOR SALE

I have a number of hay land quarters for sale. Good stumpage and head. E. F. ANDRUS, Joliete, 3-5

## News of Long Ago

From the Pioneer Express, June 23rd, 1882

\$1.10 per bushel, barley 80 cents and oats 80 cents.

"If you want to double your money in three months buy Dimock town property." Dimock was a townsite laid out four miles north of St. Thomas.

Brother Getchell starts tonight to join the press excursion for St. Louis.

Repute No. 35,040 under contract of J. M. Sailsbury, from Pembina to Fargo was taken up in Washington this week.

Wm. Moorhead's house has been moved to make room for his new hotel.

F. W. Sparling of Seafarth, Ontario is visiting in the neighborhood. Henry Boulding and Albert Black traveled a hundred miles west of Brandon, Manitoba and found but little good land.

Cavalier Correspondence: The run to the mountains continues.—Buggies have been numerous in town.—Dr. Appel of Fort Pembina was in town this week.—The mill is humming night and day with lots of work.—J. F. Rickby left last week for Ontario accompanied by his family.

Drayton Correspondent:—A drove of 250 cattle went through here this week.—School opened Monday. New patent seats have been put in recently.—Mahoney & McBean have their grist and saw mill humming.—Rev. R. A. Edwards of Brainard preached here Sunday.—Our Minnesota side trade is increasing.—Surveyor Lynn is through surveying Wallace addition and is now plating A. W. McCrea's on the west side.

Hamilton Correspondence:—Irwin Armstrong bought a quarter section for \$1,350 from W. H. Armstrong.—Isaac Campbell has been appointed as assistant assessor in this vicinity.—D. W. Wright old his 160 acres to Tom Connell for \$1,200.

Joliete Correspondence:—M. B. Purdy, Wm. Tait, R. Smith, M. Youmans and R. Ford are back from the mountains. Messrs Smith and Ford have started back to Ontario.—There will be services at the school house by Rev. C. Bristol next Sunday. The house of N. Youmans where the post office is located had a close call from fire on Sunday.

Pembina Mountain Correspondence.—E. H. Bergman has added a stock of groceries to his farm machinery.—A contractor of the Northern Pacific was through here last week.—He has a full gang of men working south of Garfield. The road is contracted to be finished to Walhalla by next November.—The settlers are elated over the U. S. government having surveyors in the mountains surveying the land. Grader is soon to have four mails a week; two from Grafton and two from Pembina.

The Chicago InterOcean said that the Democratic platform will be very short this year. Resolved, first that we will have free whiskey; second, we want no Sunday.

Grand Forks is to have a system of water works costing \$15,000. The Canadian Pacific between Prince Arthur's Landing and Winnipeg is completed.

### 30 Years Ago—From the Pioneer Express, July 21st, 1892

A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Conny on Friday.

The Methodists and Presbyterians had a union picnic.

### LEFT FOR GRAND FORKS TODAY

J. A. Wilkins, G. H. Moris, A. B. Purdy and Welford Bourgeois leave this morning for Grand Forks where they go to represent this district at a meeting called by the management of the Federal Land Bank to discuss the eradication of the sow thistle in the valley counties. The meeting will be presided over by President Quamme of the Federal Bank. We understand that it is the intention of government to withdraw from these companies if steps are taken to eradicate the noxious weeds. It seems to us that if the Federal Land Bank questions the stability of the Red River Valley counties they might as well withdraw from the state altogether, for the value raises more grain early than the rest of the state does altogether.

For Sale—5,000 lbs. of Sweet Clover seed. J. H. EMERSON, Joliete, N. D. 42tf

L. E. Booker sold 2,000 head of cattle at his ranch lately

Charles Edwards now runs the Drayton post office and George McQuinn clerks it.

Attorney Bangs and Judge Kneeshaw made a good pair to draw to at last term of court.—Langdon Republican.

The Pioneer Express celebrated volume 15 and thought itself quite old considering other things around here.

"The Crystal Call said the country has been in the hands of an incompetent crew who have steered it by a false compass; that the true compass is the Democratic platform."

Dr. Harris reports two babies this week. The girl will call deputy treasurer, McBride, papa by and by, and the boy will be a railroad man like his father.

The tax levy is two percent. The court was in session and some Neche people were interviewed on eyeless pork. One skipper and two houses under injunction.

We have three machine firms in town. E. D. Booker handles the Champion binder, Wilbur Loomis represents the Minneapolis binder and Commas and Hunter the Buckeye.

Sheriff O'Connor returned yesterday in company with young Gould and a number of stolen articles.

H. R. Vaughn and family left on Wednesday for Walhalla where they will enter the Bellview hotel. D. Duffy, James Bellman and D. Meyers were in town Wednesday and each took a quarter section of school land home with him.

Lewis Short and Miss Lillian Short of Dansville, Illinois are here visiting relatives.

William Rene gave notice that a caucus of the Independent party would be held in Kittson Hall on Wednesday.

The Northern Pacific picnic was held on the Saturday previous and the town was full of employees of the company.

Neche Correspondent:—Landlord O'Hara made his wife a present of a \$175 phonograph.—Wednesday morning Thomas Treibbreath and Miss Sarah Rose were married by Rev. Morrison.

### From the Pioneer Express, July 18th, 1902

Miss Mildred O'Connell of St. Thomas was run over by a cook car and was killed.

July 16th, 17th and 18th the Pembina county fair at Hamilton. 129 Icelandic immigrants landed at Winnipeg.

Hogs reached the unprecedented price of 8 cents last week.

Emerson had a big day on the 12th. A special train from Winnipeg was filled with Orangemen.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Wilkins arrived at Drayton this week and are expected here today.

### From the Pioneer Express, July 19th, 1912.

The Pioneer Express questioned the advisability of flying machines becoming anything but a mere toy. Hamilton fair July 6th, 7th and 8th.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. S. Florence of Asotin, Washington, were guests of Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Thompson this week.

The Winnipeg beach excursion was advertised.

### SECURITIES IN THE HANDS OF LEAGUE ARE WORTHLESS

It will be remembered that several years ago a state bank refused to accept Nonpartisan unsecured farmer notes as assets for the Scandinavian bank and the bank was temporarily closed; later the state government and some court proceedings again opened the doors, though the bank failed later. The question of the value of such security was answered at the Nonpartisan meeting at Bismarck last week when one of the leading men said that from \$120,000 to \$140,000 of such securities in the hands of the league were worthless, which statement was acknowledged by Mr. Townley as true.

Why bother with dinner Sunday when you can get chicken dinner at the Pembina Cafe, (at the old Pembina House)? Price 40 cents. Dinner served from 12 to 2 and 5 to 8 o'clock. Cakes, pies and doughnuts on sale all the time. 8tf

### Treasurer's Report

Report of treasurer of School District No. 64, county of Pembina, state of North Dakota, for the year beginning July 1, 1921, and ending June 30, 1922.

#### Receipts

Cash on hand, including sinking fund, at beginning of school year, July 1, 1921..... 1,379 68

Total amount received during year from apportionment of state tuition fund ..... \$346 42  
Total amount received during year from apportionment of county tuition fund ..... 382 69  
Amount received during year from taxes levied by district school board ..... 751 46  
Amount received from other sources:  
Interest ..... \$52 36  
For goods sold, etc 41 50  
Total receipts for year.... 1,574 43

Grand total receipts for year, including cash on hand July 1, 1921..... 2,964 11

#### Expenditures

Amount paid during year for school houses, sites and permanent improvements ..... 1,512 98  
Amount paid during year for apparatus .. 38 00  
Amount paid during year for teachers' salaries less teachers' retirement fund) .. 896 00  
Amount paid during year to county treasurer on account of teachers' retirement fund 6 80  
Amount paid during year for salaries and expenses of school officers ..... 66 00  
Amount paid during year for transportation of pupils ..... 131 22  
Account paid during year for tuition of pupils sent to other districts. 57 63  
Amount paid during year for text books .. 21 73  
Incidental expenses 173 90

Total expenditure during year ..... \$2,904 26

Cash on hand, in hands of district treasurer) including sinking fund at the end of year, June 30, 1922 ..... 49 85

Grand total expenditures and cash on hand to balance above total receipts ..... \$2,954 11

JOHN K. JOHNSON,

Treasurer of School District No. 64.

Approved this 11th day of July, 1922.

By order of the District School Board,

Attest: T. H. STEINOLFSON, President. SVEINN JOHNSON, Clerk.

### Clerk's Statement of Indebtedness of District

Total amount of warrants outstanding June 30, 1922 ..... \$4 80

Total indebtedness of district June 30, 1922..... 4 80  
Approved this 11th day of July, 1922.

By order of the District School Board:

SVEINN JOHNSON, Clerk.

### CHURCH NOTES

Grace Church: Morning prayer and sermon, every Sunday at 11 a. m. (weather permitting) until further notice.

Infant Baptism at above service, notice to be given beforehand to minister. J. deB SAUNDERSON, Minister in Charge.

### McCABES MOTOR FROM MINNEAPOLIS TO WINNIPEG

Mr. and Mrs. George McCabe and son motored through here Sunday enroute to Winnipeg. The McCabes live in Minneapolis while they are interested in real estate and grain business in this county. Mr. E. D. Morden, father of Mrs. McCabe is in London, Ontario, we learned and he has retired from active life. Mr. Morden was deputy sheriff and jailer in this county for many years and later worked for the Standard Oil Company, traveling out of Walhalla. Mrs. Morden died several years ago.

## Touring From Florida to City Of Winnipeg

Tyson L. Harris, accompanied by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Harris, of St. Petersburg, Florida spent Tuesday night in town. They were on a motoring tour and were headed for Winnipeg and other Canadian points after which they will return south through the western part of North and South Dakota. They left St. Petersburg in their Olds six cylinder automobile June 15th and have been averaging about two hundred miles a day when running. But they made stays at several places. The Harris are natives of Indiana but have been living in the south for ten years. It is their first trip this far north and they expressed themselves as being surprised at the crops in this country, especially Minnesota and North Dakota. The trip had been made without a mishap and they have encountered no bad weather to speak of since they left home.

### THE WHITE HUSSERS SINGING BAND

The White Hussers Singing Band will give a concert at the Walhalla chautauqua next Sunday, July 23rd, at 2:30 and 8:30 p. m. This musical organization of eighteen members appeared at Walhalla last year and received an ovation that no band ever did before. They will arrive at Noyes in the morning and a number of automobiles from Pembina have been engaged to take them right on to Walhalla. After the concerts they will return here and take the morning train for points south. If you have any way of going there, be sure to spend next Sunday at the Walhalla chautauqua and take in this band concert.

### COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CLOSED WEEK'S SESSION

The county commissioners closed a week's session at the county seat Saturday, having spent most of the time wrestling with equalizing the assessment of the townships and towns. It is a big task for the state board has the nal say. In many instances they lowered the assessment as returned by the assessors. Complete report will be published in these columns next week.

### GASOLINE 28-1

The City Service Filling Station at St. Vincent sells best Pennsylvania gasoline at 28-1 cents per gallon in any quantity. Bring your automobiles and have them filled. 4tf

Mystery, love and adventure in the land of Croyle delight!

## The Mardi Gras Mystery

By H. BEDFORD-JONES

If you love dear, old New Orleans—and who that has ever spent much time there does not?—you have a treat before you in this story; for in addition to a pleasing, pulse-quickening romance which introduces the gayeties of Mardi Gras and the most charming characteristics of a people of Latin descent, you are taken into the inner life of the modern city.

You see a city which has changed in outward form with the times, with its aristocracy in lineal descent from chivaliers of France and dons of Spain, one might almost say princes of the blood, graduated into merchant princes and men high in the professions—the prideful, boastful, loveable Creole as a man of affairs.

The author has written an enchanting tale which we take unusual pleasure in reprinting as a serial for the readers of The Pioneer Express—first installment this week.