

## The I. V. A. Convention Builds Platform For 1920

We, the Independent Voters' association, in convention assembled at the city of Grand Forks, N. D., do hereby adopt the following platform enunciating the principles of representative government and advocating the abolition of the present un-American, despotic and socialistic system of state government, and reaffirming our fealty to safe, sound and sane constitutional government in the interests of all people.

### Representative Government

We reaffirm our belief in the principles of representative government that have obtained in the United States since the birth of our nation. As American citizens imbued with the spirit of democracy we condemn the actions of a few self appointed leaders and agitators who have fastened themselves on the body politic of this state and who through coercive, autocratic and un-American methods have divided the people of this state into two classes and installed a Russian soviet form of government.

### Governor Condemned

We condemn the acts of the governor in refusing to allow the people of the state to exercise their constitutional rights to initiate measures as provided for by the constitution, and also the action of the Nonpartisan League legislators in attempting to over-ride the constitution by enacting a law providing for the placing in operation all laws passed within ten days after adjournment without having received the necessary two-thirds vote upon the emergency clause.

We are opposed to the extension of the executive power in the state believing it to be against the principles of representative government and productive of perpetuation of political power. We are also opposed to the right of the governor to remove any officer without just cause.

### School Funds

We are sensible to the fact that the school fund of the state is under our compact with the Federal government a sacred trust fund to be used for educational purposes only and should not be used for political or socialistic enterprises.

### Bank of North Dakota

We believe that the State Bank of North Dakota as organized and managed is a menace to the financial welfare of the state. Past experience has proven that banks organized upon such principles have uniformly become failures.

It is therefore recommended that the present banking law be so modified as to become a real rural credits bank, so as to furnish loans at a minimum interest rate to the farmers of the state and that the same be placed under strict regulation and examination by at least two elective departments of the state and that school districts, townships, villages, cities and counties shall be restored to the right of administering their own funds.

### Radical Laws

We believe that the laws creating a one man tax commission, the official newspaper law, the law creating a state sheriff, the special investigating committee law and all laws affecting adversely the rights of citizens with reference to their persons or property should be repealed.

### Homebuilders' Law

The homebuilders' law as carried out at present is unnecessary and uncalled for in this state. During forty years of pioneer life the farmers and people generally of this state have built their own homes. There are no large industrial centers in this agricultural region that cannot and do not take care of themselves. It is unfair to burden the people of this state with complex and expensive machinery for seizing land and levying taxes to take care of people who may not even be residents of our commonwealth. Such a principle carried out would result in a helpless and undesirable class flocking in. Accordingly we condemn this law and recommend the enactment of a measure that will wind up its affairs and relieve the state from the tyranny threatened by the present homebuilders law in the hands of unscrupulous political selfseekers.

### State Library

We deplore the prostitution of the morals and intellect of the youth of the state by the insidious circulation of debasing and demoralizing literature through the state circulating libraries and also the employment of non-residents and radicals in any official capacity.

### Workmen's Compensation

We recommend that the workmen's compensation law be so amended as to give employers a rational rate and the employees prompt and adequate compensation for injuries and that it be extended so as to cover all labor in the state.

S. S. McDonald, of the workmen's compensation board is in the city today holding hearings in regard to woman minimum wage. The meetings will be held at the court house today and tomorrow. All employers and em-

**Property Rights**  
We are unalterably opposed to granting the right to seize private property without due process of law in times of peace as violating the constitutional rights of the people and contrary to the principles of good government.

We favor the prudent investigation of the undeveloped natural resources of the state and conserving them for the benefit of all the people.

### Taxation

We believe in just and uniform tax and assessment laws so that all property will bear its just and equal share of the expenses in conducting the affairs of the state.

### Education

We favor good and wholesome laws for the promotion of educational system of the state, the upbuilding of rural and consolidated schools of the country to the end that equal opportunity may be afforded to the children on the farm with the children in the cities.

We believe in immediately restoring to the superintendent of public instruction all powers granted under the constitution, instead of placing such powers in the hands of appointive boards and officers who are not directly responsible to the people and believe that to place more power in appointive officers than elective is not only dangerous but un-American in principle.

### Market Bureau

We recommend to the next legislative assembly the passing of an act providing for a Bureau of Markets to co-operate with the Bureau of Markets of the department of agriculture of the United States and other marketing organizations of the various states of the United States in the fixing of fair buying and selling prices.

### Soldiers' Bonus

We recommend the amendment of the soldiers' bonus act so that all North Dakotans who served the United States during the world war and who have received honorable discharge or are still in the service can receive the full benefits without restrictions as to its use. And we call upon these men now to assist in perpetuating our representative government by the ballot as they have in the past by force of arms.

### School Matters

We believe that the control of educational matters should be returned to the state Superintendent of Public Instruction, and that the management of the penal and charitable institutions should not be joined with the management of the schools and to that end we believe that the law creating the board of administration should be repealed.

### Absent Voters' Law

We acknowledge our debt to the women of North Dakota for their support and their earnest endeavor to inculcate high ideals in our schools and churches and we believe that the right of suffrage should be given to women the same as men, but should be safeguarded in every manner possible and that the present absent voters' law applying to women should be repealed as being a violation of the right of secret ballot.

### Mill and Elevator

The people of North Dakota having voted in favor of the principle of a state-owned mill and elevator, we are in favor of having such an institution built and operated within the state. But realizing that such an industry as a state owned institution, is still in the experimental stage, we are in favor of limiting the amount to be expended for such purpose to two million dollars. Further, we believe that the money so appropriated should be safeguarded to the extent that it would be used only for the purpose of erecting and operating such mill and elevator. Further, we are in favor of having such institution built and operated under a law that is self-governing and workable and not contingent on any other law for its functioning. Further, we are opposed to jeopardizing the state's credit or resources for experimenting in any other state owned industries.

### No Politics

We believe that the management and control of all state industries should be removed from political influences and should be managed by permanent overlapping boards of directors, with a separate board for each industry; such boards being responsible directly to the legislature and subject to all the regulations affecting private industries.

### Rigid Economy

We recommend the most rigid economy consistent with the proper and efficient administration of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of the state government to the end that the state taxes shall not become a burden upon the people and further enunciate the principle that the people should benefit to the extent of all revenues paid and we recommend to the people thrift and economy in private affairs as well.

We most earnestly invite all people regardless of political affiliation who now feel that their political and property rights are being placed in jeopardy to join our organization and aid us in our efforts to rid the state of socialistic domination.

Members are cordially invited to be present at these meetings. Mr. McDonald is an old time lighthouse machinist and paid the boys of the T-R a pleasant visit this morning.

## MEN LIKE THESE WOULD RULE YOU



TYPES OF COMMUNIST AGITATORS DEPORTED BY U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

**ADOLPH SCHNABEL**,  
Leader of Union of Russian Workers, a powerful, anarchistic organization in America.  
**ALEXANDER SCHATZ**,  
Leader of Communist group in this country.  
**JOHN EUBOFF**,  
Active organizer of Communist group in Elizabeth, N. J.  
**NICHOLAS MICHAÏLOV**,  
Violent agitator among anarchists in America.

## Farmer's Account Books

They're here and ready for delivery to farmers, free of charge. You are invited to call and receive your copy while the supply lasts.

They're better than our 1919 book, one improvement being their greater simplicity. The information is also better classified and better indexed. If you had one last year, you surely will want a copy for 1920.

Call for your copy the first time you come to town.

## Bank of Valley City

## NEWS FROM THE STATE CAPITOL

Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 10. — Miss Minnie Nielson, state superintendent of public instruction is recovering from a very serious operation performed about ten days ago when a tumor was removed from her abdomen.

Her friends declare that she is not only relieved by the removal of the tumor but as greatly relieved at the removal of the N. C. McDonald cancer from the school system of the state. McDonald has tendered his resignation but it has not been accepted, one member of the board of administration being in Florida, another in a hospital in Fargo and Miss Nielson in the hospital at Valley City. Many reasons are ascribed for the McDonald resignation. It is rumored that A. C. Townley hates him and gave orders to the governor to see that Neil was relieved; then McDonald was slated by Totten as director of the extension service of the University, (which would permit of splendid opportunities for dissemination of socialistic propaganda.)

A strike of 95 percent of the student body of the University of North Dakota is forecasted by local students who are at home pending the raising of the ban against classes during the prevalent flu epidemic.

"President Thomas F. Kane of the University of North Dakota is a man, a teacher, an American citizen. He is competent, capable, a gentleman and refuses and has refused to be cajoled, George A. Totten system of socialistic propaganda," said one student.

Kane on Friday was requested to tender his resignation as president of the state university. The request came from George A. Totten, Sr., and Robert Muir of the Board of Administration and is presumably the result of Kane's refusal to appoint Neil

C. McDonald as director of the university extension course department.

Perhaps the attitude of President Kane (by the way an appointee of the administration) which first aroused the enmity of Frazier, McDonald, Totten, et al., was his first refusal to stand for the foisting upon Miss Nielson of certain holdovers from the McDonald administration of the state school office. The board of education attempted to oust by its usual arbitrary methods, certain appointees made by Miss Nielson. President Kane acted the gentleman and refused to be a party to dirty political work and insisted on the securing of an opinion from Attorney General Langer. He won his point but he won also the enmity of the powers that be.

Now is he charged with being inefficient, irresponsible, morally degenerate and incompetent. He is charged with having spread the flu epidemic at the University in 1918; charged with having permitted certain fraternity members to put on a wild party and not suspend the charter. The occasion of young Schmidt, being ducked by the students in English coulee is cited. Schmidt was a reporter at the capitol for the Grand Forks American, a pest, and a type such as no real newspaper man would recognize.

And Dean Squires, who has been with the University for twenty years is also slated for the axe. He too is an American—not a Bolshevik.

"If that resignation is forced the university won't have twenty students left," said one of the student body. "Strike? You bet we'll strike!"

Over 500 delegates are expected to attend the annual convention of the North Dakota Dairymen's association which will convene at Mandan February 17 and 18. An attractive program has been arranged including features entirely new. Some interesting prizes are offered in the butter contests, and Mandan citizens are preparing a reception which long will be remembered.

## Resolutions Passed by I. V. A. Convention

Resolved that we tender a vote of thanks to the city of Grand Forks for the courtesy and hospitality extended our convention by its officers and people generally through the mayor, Dr. Wheeler, and we further want to express our appreciation to the hotel men of the city for the uniform courtesy extended and for the many favors extended in supplying our committees with the various rooms in which we could meet and work for the general endeavor on the part of owners and those working for them, for the good service performed.

Resolved that we extend a vote of thanks and confidence to the officers of the Independent Voters association, its president, E. W. Everson, its secretary, Theo. G. Nelson, its treasurer, O. L. Engen, the executive committee and all their fellow workers who had the foresight and courage to launch the Independent Voters association and who have handled its affairs in such an open, above board and efficient manner that it stands today as the unifying and leading organization of the state in the fight against socialism. Its principles and work will destroy the socialistic barnacles that have disturbed the peace, progress and good will to the people of our young state.

We condemn the persistent efforts both of the underhanded bellying kind and of the public browbeating brand whereby the socialistic forces controlling the Nonpartisan league are trying to drag all grades of our schools into the political whirlpool and proselytize them for their hair-brained theories instead of permitting the youth of our state to pursue its studies unmolested and free from the hate and disturbance and propaganda of agitators was attacking the moral foundation of our churches, homes and schools.

We take note of the well known public fact that heads of our educational institutions no longer are rated for their efficiency as educators but are marked for reward or punishment according to their qualities and services as cringing henchmen of political agitators and self-seekers. We recognize the ex-Reverend Totten as the principal offender against public decency and justice in this matter, and, unless the governor, who is responsible for his appointment, desires to share the shame of his performance, he should order his removal at once.

Be it resolved that we snap to attention as we recognize the great work done by our soldier boys in the great world's war. As an outgrowth of that war has come the American Legion whose strong Americanism and activity in the land is going to help

very materially in keeping the Star and Stripes, the greatest emblem of liberty and justice unsullied and heralding to the world that Bolshevism, anarchism, socialism and free love have no place in our country. We are proud of the members of the American Legion and all those who served on land or sea to uphold the integrity of the greatest nation in all the world, and it shall be our care and duty to stretch forth a helping hand to those who have been unfortunate among them and as far as possible compensate them for the loss and sacrifice they have suffered in protecting their country.

Resolved that the I. V. A. in convention assembled recognizes in the early death of Senator A. S. Gibbons a great loss to the state of North Dakota because of the honesty, integrity and true Americanism that characterized his public services in the state senate. His manhood and love for fair play and all that is clean in private life as well as in public service will always be an example to our young people of what is best and most worthy in a good man and a good citizen.

Be it furthermore resolved that in the death of Senator Andrew Kirkide, the foremost champion of the defenders of our constitution when attacked by the socialistic supporters of H. B. 44, this state lost one of its noblest pioneers and ablest public servants. It is the duty of every true American who loves our state to treasure his memory and honor him for the work he accomplished.

Every good man reveres the word Mother. The honor and respect accorded Mother and womanhood generally in the homes of a nation determine its place in the scale of civilization.

For this reason we condemn the efforts put forth by Governor Lynn J. Frazier in behalf of Kate O'Hare, an intemperate socialist lecturer who deliberately insulted the mothers of the soldiers of our state.

We feel ashamed and humiliated by the fact that our chief magistrate should feel that the interests of the national socialist party and their gad-about lecturer were greater than his appreciation of the honor, respect and reverence due to the motherhood and womanhood of his own state.

Resolved that the independent press of the state be requested to publish these resolutions.

Signed,  
J. G. HALLAND,  
P. R. TRUBSHAW,  
GEO. O. GILMORE.

An amendment proposed by L. L. Twitchel of Fargo and unanimously carried calls for a change in the present soldiers' bonus law so as to make the bonus funds available for all service men of the state.

## I. V. A. CONVENTION IS WELL ATTENDED

Grand Forks, N. D., Feb. 6.—Delegates from nearly every county in North Dakota were in Grand Forks yesterday for the opening session of the state convention of the North Dakota Independent Voters' association, which continues through today. Means of combatting the Nonpartisan league were considered in convention, and from the sentiment expressed by delegates, it is not expected that the association will undertake to nominate or endorse candidates. The whole purpose of the convention, according to delegates and officers, will be to give consideration to the main issue of ridding the state of socialism as represented by the leadership of the Nonpartisan league. A statement by the executive committee of the association, read at the opening session yesterday morning was adopted and becomes the working basis for the convention. J. T. Nelson of Glen Ullin asserted that action taken in this convention would unquestionably be a great force in freeing the state of socialism. He praised Representatives Burtness and O'Connor of Grand Forks for their work as minority members in the state assembly, and he praised, too, the stand taken by the entire minority in the legislature.

League promises, he declared, were misleading, and were never expected to be fulfilled as they were made in bad faith. The war record of socialist leaders of the league was condemned. Mr. Nelson asserting that socialists at no time tendered support to the president, and that they had no word of sympathy for the mothers nor word of commendation for the soldiers themselves.

The unity of all forces opposed to the Nonpartisan league, said Nelson was essential if socialism as represented by the league leaders, is to be defeated in the state.

There was some discussion of the manner of conducting the meeting and it was voted to declare all sessions open; only members of the association, however, will have a voice in determining its policies.

The morning session was held in the city hall, which proved inadequate and the afternoon session was held in the Grand Forks auditorium. Prominent democrats and republicans are in attendance without respect to party alliances.

## FARMERS INS. CO. DIRECTORS MEET

On January 6th the board of directors of The Barnes County Farmers Mutual Insurance Company held its regular stated meeting for the purpose of hearing reports of officers and closing up the business for the year 1919.

The directors present were: J. H. Whither, W. W. Smith, William Olson, Carl King, James Brimer and Thomas Gudmestad.

At this meeting Secretary G. S. Karsbuer submitted his report, which showed that the insurance written in 1919 amounted to \$703,738, and that the total insurance in force up to December 31st, 1919, amounted to \$3,041,204, a net increase for the year of \$104,603.

The disbursements for the year, including loss claims, amounted to \$10,268.35, and the cash balance on hand December 31st, 1919, amounts to \$5,208.28.

The auditing committee, appointed each year, also submitted its report, showing that the books, records and accounts of the treasurer and secretary had been carefully examined and found to be correct; all monies received during the past year having been accounted for.

The directors were well satisfied with the continued success of the company as shown by the various officers' reports, which indicated that the company's affairs were in a healthy and stable condition; the material increase in insurance written during the year being evidence that the farmers of the county appreciate the reduced cost of their insurance by placing same with The Barnes County Farmers Mutual Insurance Company.

The revival services conducted at the Salvation Army are gaining in interest, and are full of the old time revival spirit. Commandant and Mrs. Hale are full of faith for an outpouring of God's spirit in our midst. Commandant Hale spoke on the subject: "Behold I Stand at the Door." He in a very forceful way showed that Christ was standing ready to enter the hearts of men and women if He only got a chance. A service to-night full of interest is awaiting you. Come praying and believing for a good time together.