

# SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST LEADING STATE OFFICIALS STILL REMAIN UNANSWERED

On Friday next week, October 28, the voters of North Dakota will sit in judgment on the three most important members of the state administration—the Governor, the Attorney General and the Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor, who are all ex-officio members of the Industrial Commission and directors of the Bank of North Dakota and as such vested with more power and authority than any other state officials in the Union.

It is the first time in the history of our country that the recall has been used for such purpose and no set of officials have ever been charged with such grave misconduct in office as have the governor, the attorney general and the commissioner of agriculture and labor in North Dakota.

## THE NORTH DAKOTA INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION



John N. Hagan, Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor. Lynn J. Frazier, Governor. William Lemke, Attorney General.

### SOME OF THE CHARGES

Among the charges made against these men are the following: Taking advantage of the almost unlimited power given them by the Industrial Commission Law, they have misused \$6,223,660.58 of public money in addition to millions of store money, newspaper money, bank-stock money and other private funds with the one object of building a political machine with which to perpetually keep themselves and a horde of imported and domestic radicals in luxury at the expense of the taxpayers.

They have placed \$1,939,394.04, or an average of \$52,416.05, in thirty-seven politically "friendly" banks, while the average placed in seven hundred and eleven banks was only \$5,000.

They have used public money for farm loans and the building of homes for themselves and thereby violated laws that had been wholesomely respected by all state and minor officials since North Dakota became a state.

Because of their subtle suggestions that notes and mortgages need not always be paid and their unscrupulous tampering with tax laws affecting property titles as well as with the courts of the state more than \$50,000,000 that was formerly loaned to the farmers and businessmen of the state have been withdrawn, and conservative men estimate that at least \$100,000,000 that would naturally have come to North Dakota has been withheld for the same reasons.

They are now using the Bank of North Dakota in the interest of their own re-election by permitting Bank of North Dakota stamped envelopes to be used for mailing out campaign propaganda.

They have used their official positions to delay, hamper and prevent a public examination of the public industries that was ordered by the people with a majority of 10,000 at the last general election.

In spite of the fact that official records now show that the operation of the Drake mill resulted in a deficit of \$35,627.45, they have deliberately misled their supporters and the public in general by claiming prior to the investigation a profit of 83 per cent for the Drake mill and an average profit of 32.5 on all industrial experiments.

Governor Frazier reappointed O. E. Lofthus as bank examiner in spite of the fact that he had previously publicly admitted that he had personally helped to deceive the supreme court and the public by making a false report on the condition of the Scandinavian-American bank.

Attorney General Lemke appealed to the people for funds with which to pay the cost of prosecuting certain lawsuits which the state had pending last winter. The expenses in those suits have been paid out of the public treasury and Lemke has made no accounting of the funds collected by him for that purpose.

Commissioner Hagan ruthlessly brushed aside the applications of 1,183 farmers who had already applied for loans from the Bank of North Dakota when he decided to help himself to a loan out of the public treasury by means of that bank.

These men have by their own testimony not only admitted that they are guilty of all of these charges but that they are determined to continue their recklessness as long as they are retained in office.

### THE INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES



Joseph A. Kitchen, Candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor. Ragnvald A. Nestos, Candidate for Governor. Sveinbjorn Johnson, Candidate for Attorney General.

These men have a splendid record in public service and as private citizens. They are pledged to put into operation a set of proposed laws that will reduce the unsecured bonded indebtedness from \$12,000,000 to \$7,500,000. That will restore to all political subdivisions all funds belonging to them; that will safeguard public funds against misuse by public officials; that will take the Industrial Commission out of politics and give it power and funds with which to complete and put into operation The Grand Forks Mill and Elevator project and clean up the Home Building mess; that will close the Bank of North Dakota and establish in its place an immediately workable rural credit system with which to take over the farm loan business of the Bank of North Dakota; that will provide separate ballots for county, state and federal candidates, county and state ballots, to permit party candidates but not party designation, standard party ballots for primary election and one-column ballots for general election for the nomination and election of party officials and members of congress and the United States senate.

These men are also pledged to stop swindlers and confidence men from getting rich on the savings of the pioneers of North Dakota by means of fake stock selling schemes and to immediately after they take office dismiss all needless state employees and otherwise economize in the administration of public affairs.

When the polls close on October 28th the people of North Dakota will have chosen one or the other of these sets of candidates to be at the head of state affairs.

If the set that is representative of the highest type of citizenship is chosen conduct and who propose to continue along the same line, then a blot will have been put upon the state which will not only blacken its name but injure its people, even its innocent children, for years to come.

If the set that is representative of the highest type of citizenship is chosen then North Dakota and North Dakotans can again do business among themselves and with the outside world on the basis of business merit. Our mistakes will be forgotten and our good name restored.

Don't shirk your duty to your state, your fellow citizens and yourself in this serious situation. Go and vote Friday, October 28th.

Vote "Yes" on the Constitutional Amendment and on each of the six stated measures.

Vote for Nestos, Johnson and Kitchen and you vote for HONESTY, EFFICIENCY, OPEN BOOKS AND RESTORED CREDIT.

### From Thursday's Daily

J. E. Orman and wife, of Columbus, Mont., are Valley City visitors today.

Mrs. N. J. Olson was down from Sanborn last night attending the Old Settlers doings.

G. L. Isensee is up from Fargo and is looking after business matters in this neck of the woods.

Herbert Schafer, formerly of this city, was in the old town today greeting friends and looking after business interests.

Judging from the number of yellow badges seen on the streets yesterday and last night the spirit of the early pioneer days was abroad in the land. The old timers were in evidence several hundred strong.

A number of business men of the city are forming a telephone company for the purpose of organizing a real independent telephone company and will go before the city council and ask for a franchise to operate the same in the city.

J. J. Engen dropped into town again last night and is visiting old time friends here. Mr. Engen has just returned from a trip into Idaho, Wyoming and other points in the west. He is with the Flick Sales Company.

T. Melvin Lee recently returned from Rochester and St. Paul, Minn., where he had been getting the once over from some of the doctors down there. He says he has to have a minor operation or two after which he will be all right. Mr. Lee has been on the sick list for some time but it able to get around and follow his usual pursuits.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Standish and baby of Fargo autoed to the city Tuesday and spent the night at the home of their cousin Mrs. John Neustadter and aunt, Mrs. Smith. They left Wednesday morning for New Rockford to visit with friends.

J. W. Brinton is to be in Valley City to deliver an illustrated lecture next Tuesday night at the Rex theatre, we are informed this morning. Mr. Brinton has one of the finest illustrated lectures showing the glories of the new day that was ever shown on the screen. It is illustrated with documents that cannot be refuted. You will want to hear this as it is worth the price.

Judge M. J. Englert recently returned to the city from Manning, N. D. of which place he had been sitting on the bench in place of the district judge of that district, who was disqualified to sit in some cases being tried in the district court. Court Reporter Grantham also returned with the judge.

Sheriff Larson phones the Times-Record that the Ford car stolen from Leal day before yesterday has been located at Forman, N. D., in Sargent county, but the man stealing the same have not been apprehended. The sheriff or someone from his office will go after the car.

Guy Peterson, who was a member of old Company G, and who has been away from here since the war is back to Valley City again, and is working for Frank Green in the barber shop under the Liberty Cafe. Guy is a real barber and has many friends who will be pleased to see him back again. He is a brother of Levi Peterson, of the Embertson & West Company.

Cashier Olaf Burseth, of the State Bank of Binford, was in the city this morning, en route home. He had recently been down to the Twin Cities to get some money to loan out to farmers. He was told that under present conditions he could get none, but if he would go home and clean up the state, there would be lots of money available. That is the situation in a nutshell.

Notices are being mailed out to patrons on the city carrier routes calling attention to the necessity of providing suitable mail receptacles and having their residences numbered, and it is expected that all those who receive a notice will at once take steps to supply mail boxes, and correct numbers for their houses. The expense entailed in furnishing receptacles and numbers is small compared to the marked improvement it will make in delivery of your mail.

While up at Cando the other day delivering a speech and illustrated lecture, Mr. Brinton was accosted by a fellow who wanted to know if his name was Brinton. He replied in the affirmative and the fellow asking the question immediately hit Friend Brinton in the eye, decorating that optic in a dark blue color. The assailant was Carl Nelson, formerly editor of the league paper at Cando and now in the employ of the state. Brinton refused to prosecute but some of his friends did so for him and it cost Mr. Nelson \$50 for that one punch.

Ben Pfusch was minus his Ford car this morning and has no idea where he can locate another. He claims to have left it in front of his house last evening and was sure it was turned off because he took three of the coils out. But this evidently did not stop the car thieves as they took the car and apparently had little trouble in getting away with it. In the first place this idea of saving the trouble of putting a car in the garage by leaving it standing in the street is poor policy and gives car thieves little trouble in getting away with it. Then to it might have been some of these all night joy riders who saw the car standing in the street and seeing that Ben was so good as to leave it there took it for a joy ride. Ben claims they did not get very far with it because the most it can make is ten miles without stopping. Ben says anybody that took it to get it back as it was a sort of keep-sake.

# League Leaders Make Many False Charges

Attempts to Get Away from the Issues Necessitates Volleys of Lies and Misrepresentation

## Independents Answer Every Charge Squarely

It is to be regretted that it shall ever become necessary in a political campaign for one side to say of the other that it is lying for the purpose of fooling the people, but when it is a fact there is no other way out, if the voters are going to get a fair chance at the polls. The inner circle leaders of the Nonpartisan League now seem to think that they can stampede the voters into voting for their candidates and against the Independent laws by keeping up a continual barrage of vituperation against Wall Street and by lying about the contents of the proposed laws. They apparently hope that the voters will get so mad about something foreign to the issues in the election or as a results of untruths that are told them that they will go and vote against their own welfare without first finding out the truth for themselves by reading the laws. Here are some of the untruthful statements that are made by Frazier, Lemke, Hagan and their supporters and the Independent answer to each one:

### The League leaders say:

"If these amendments and measures carry there will be no Bank of North Dakota."

"If these amendments and measures carry there will be no rural credits bank."

"If these amendments and measures carry there will be no mill and elevator association."

"If these amendments and measures carry there will be no home building association."

"All party lines will be obliterated in state politics."

"The primary election for the nomination of federal officials and congressmen and the election of national party officials will be set in the dead of winter instead of in summer as is now the case."

"Congressional primary is wiped out by proposed measure."

"The proposed depository law lowers the rate of interest on daily balances and time deposits."

"The Independents are trying to distract voters' attention from the program by false charges of inefficiency and graft and hinting at crookedness on the part of the farmer-worker state officials."

### The Independent Answers:

That's correct. By means of the Bank of North Dakota and affiliated banks more than two million dollars of public money has been used in political graft, the taxpayers will have to make this good by paying increased taxes for years to come. It is a useless middleman charging tolls from both sides in almost every transaction. It performs no legitimate service that cannot be handled thru the state treasurer's office. Thirteen states have, to their sorrow, experimented with a state bank. They not only abandoned it but changed their constitution afterwards so as to never again try it. Why not profit by the experience of others?

There will be a rural credits system patterned after one of the most successful rural credits systems in the country. The issuance of rural credits act without any further legislation. In addition to this provision is made to take over the farm loan business of the Bank of North Dakota and all of the ten million dollar series now authorized by law. No other bank service is needed for this than can be furnished by the state treasurer's office.

The Mill and Elevator association will be embraced in the Industrial Commission as it is now. Provision is made for the use of \$2,500,000 if that much is needed for completing and putting into operation the Grand Forks mill. That is a half million dollars more than Frazier, Lemke and Hagan asked the bankers to raise for that purpose last winter.

There is no Home Building association now. Nobody knows what the houses that have been built cost. Those who thought they were joining a home building association, do not know where they are at now. The Independents propose to straighten out this mess and put everybody concerned on a business basis and then quit doing any more such haphazard business.

Not true. Nothing in the first election law prevents parties from nominating a full set of candidates for state office by a convention or other means prior to the primary election or from having the name of such candidates upon the primary election ballot. This law will make it impossible for Socialists and I. W. W.'s to ride into office as Republicans or Democrats by merely wearing a Republican or Democratic label.

Not true. The presidential primary at which national party officials are now elected is held on the third Tuesday of March in every presidential year. This is township meeting day, which is fixed at the request of the farmers. More farmers turn out to attend the township meetings in March than the number who go to the polls on general election day in November. North Dakota has had more storms during the first week in November than the third week in March.

The proposed measure will not wipe out the congressional primary. It provides for a separate primary ballot for each party to be used by the party voters for the purpose of nominating party candidates for members of congress and the United States senate and for the election of national party officials. Those who say that this law will destroy parties and congressional primaries are mistaken.

It does not. The law provides that the same rate of interest shall be paid on public funds as is paid on funds deposited by private persons and that in no case shall it be less than 2 per cent on daily balances and 4 per cent on time deposits.

Aside from the Independent program proposed in this election there is no program unless it be the Lemke idea of "get your hands on all the cash you can no matter who it belongs to." The Independents are not only "hinting." They make those serious charges openly and earnestly against Frazier, Lemke and Hagan and many of those that they are responsible for and they dare not make denial because they know that the minute they do the Independents will prove every charge to be true. The proof will be in the form of admissions made by Frazier, Lemke and Hagan and minor officials working under their orders.

The League leaders are not worrying about the mill and elevator business, the home building association, rural credits or welfare of the Republican and Democratic parties. They do not like the idea of being disconnected from the public treasuries or being prevented from promoting any more swindling schemes among the farmers. They tell the truth when they say "the Bank of North Dakota is the keystone \* \* \* " They know that to order all the public funds assembled in one bank and then use their control over that bank for the purpose of parcelling out public funds among political friends, is the softest snap that political grafters have ever struck anywhere in the United States.

The people are not going to be fooled, however. They are going to read with their own eyes what the proposed laws provide for. The official ballot title, which sets out in substance what each law provides for will be printed on the official ballot and on the Independent sample ballots. The full text of each law will be printed in the Publicity Pamphlet, which the Secretary of State will send to every voter if the county auditors have sent him a complete voters list of their respective counties. If you have not received one send postal card request to Thomas Hall, Secretary of State, Bismarck, North Dakota. Read the laws yourself and you will soon find who is telling the truth. Having found that, do your duty as a citizen. Go to the polls on October 28th and vote for HONESTY, ECONOMY, EFFICIENCY, OPEN BOOKS and RESTORED CREDIT. Vote "Yes" on the constitutional amendment and on each of the six initiated laws. Vote for Nestos, Johnson and Kitchen.

# Do Your Public Duty--

## Vote On October 28