

WEEKLY TIMES-RECORD

VALLEY CITY, NORTH DAKOTA

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Senator Ladd has gotten both feet into the McKenzie-McCumber crowd, and is now vociferously howling loud and long for the confirmation of Andrew Miller for federal judge. Senator Ladd is evidently working hard for the farmers by trying to get a corporation judge on the bench so that the farmers of the state will be looked after—nit. What with Ladd's advice on D5 wheat and his advice on the appointment of the judge we should judge that the farmers are holding the sack to get Ladd into the senate and the old McKenzie crowd back in saddle in this state.

Within a year and a half the Treasury will be called upon to retire about \$6,500,000,000 of the public debt. The sum is made up of Victory Notes amounting to \$3,500,000,000 Treasury certificates totaling \$2,000,000,000, and \$700,000,000 worth of war savings certificates. It will be the biggest operation ever undertaken in time of peace but already plans are being worked out by Treasury officials that will bring the least possible disturbance to the country's finances. Victory Notes are being retired as fast as the sinking fund will permit, and new issues of Treasury certificates will spread some of the maturities over a longer period.

The Fargo Courier-News yesterday came out with considerable elation to say that if people wanted to read the news of the Gummer trial up-to-date, they must subscribe for the Courier-News. This is a mighty good stunt of advertising for that paper but it does not hold true. The fact of the matter is that in the Times-Record of Saturday afternoon going to press at four o'clock we carried the full account of the Gummer trial and this same dope was given in the Courier-News of the next morning sixteen hours afterward. The Fargo Forum also had the full account of the trial the afternoon previous.

William Lemke and H. B. Dunbar have gone to New Mexico to make an extended visit and to look over a half million acres of land they have control of down there. It is possible that they will not be back for some time. After the abject backdown of the Courier-News day before yesterday in which the paper acknowledges that it had lied about everything and everybody during the last two primary campaigns we can hardly expect Messrs. Lemke and Dunbar to remain here for awhile. By-the-way, what has become of that twenty-four thousand acres of sisal land the state should own down in Florida?

Gov. Nestos, in a speech before the county commissioners at Jamestown yesterday, emphasized very strongly the need of retrenchment in expenditures of the state and urged the county dads to use every effort to keep expenses down in order to reduce taxation. The governor pointed out that in the last five years taxes have increased from fifty-six and a quarter per cent to one hundred and seventeen and six-tenths per cent. This is an enormous raise in taxation and with the state now at the end of its cash resources on this account the state administration wants the corporation of the various counties of the state to help reduce this taxation. The farmers of the state can not carry such a load with the low price of farm products and the merchants cannot carry such a load with business conditions as they are.

Farmers who desire to take a cash discount of three per cent on their hail warrants can send them to W. F. Reko, care of the farm loan department of the Bank of North Dakota it is stated in the Bismarck Tribune of yesterday. Under the agreement by which a prominent financier in the state agreed to buy \$200,000 of warrants, at 97 per cent of their face value it was agreed that Mr. Reko would have the privilege of office space in the farm loan department of the bank through which to handle the business. Money was placed in Bismarck yesterday and Mr. Reko will pay for warrants he purchases upon receipt of them. This seems to us to be a very fair price at this time for these warrants and if any of our farmers are in need of money they can get some by standing just a small discount which is no more than reasonable. Barnes county farmers who want to cash in their hail warrants should send them in to Mr. Reko.

Gov. Nestos at a meeting of the county commissioners held in Jamestown last week, made a splendid

speech so we are informed along the line of retrenchment for the purpose of bringing down taxes. His speech was the keynote for economy in state affairs and he held that it was no time to go wild over spending millions of dollars at this time particularly for road purposes. While Gov. Nestos is a good roads advocate he is firmly of the opinion that this is no time to ask the people of this state to vote millions of dollars for the purpose of building roads—we should go along careful in these matters. It means many added dollars of taxation to every person in the state and at this time when the tax payers are carrying more than they are able the warning of the governor to go slow on these matters is pertinent at this time. There is no one more anxious for good roads than the editor of this paper but we feel now is the time to go slow. We are going somewhat wild on these matters.

J. J. Hastings, notorious North Dakota financier, seems to be imitating "off again, on again, gone again, Finnegun". Press dispatches detail the difficulties the Seattle police are having in keeping track of Hastings and attempting to serve a warrant which they hold for his arrest in connection with the looting of the Scandinavian American Bank of Fargo. It seems that they took his word that he would appear when they wanted him. There are a number of people in this state who have intimate knowledge of the value of the word of Hastings. However, it is to be hoped that they will succeed in their efforts to take him into custody and bring him before the court to answer to the charge against him. It is also hoped that the authorities will make every effort to see that every person having a hand in the looting of this bank be brought to trial, regardless of their social or business standing. A great many people, who could ill afford a loss at this time, have lost considerable sums in the failure of the bank and the parties responsible should be made to answer for their prostitution of the trust imposed in them.

President Harding has gone on record as being in favor of the Great Lakes St. Lawrence waterway project which is now before congress. The president in taking this step is likely to incur the displeasure of the easterners, particularly the New York bunch who are fighting the project for all they are worth. New York of course realize that if this Great Lakes project is put through—and it is going through without any question, that the port of New York is going to lose a lot of business that they are now getting, but those who have given this project consideration and have the welfare of the country at heart, are in favor of it. This waterway project would mean the saving of millions of dollars to the farmers of the west and middle west in freight rates, it being estimated that it will save from eight to twelve cents per bushel in grain freight to get the produce of the farm to the Liverpool markets. Hasten the day when this project shall become a reality. Mr. Harding may secure the displeasure of New York and other eastern republicans but his advocacy of this measure will also secure for him a great deal higher admiration of the farmers to the proposition and while the New York millionaires may try to head this legislation off we do not think they will succeed.

The senior class of the High School held a class party at the K. of P. hall on Monday evening. Just why should it be necessary for the members of the various classes of the high school to go to the expense of renting a public hall for their parties when the high school gym could be used for the purpose? At the time the new high school was built there was considerable agitation as to whether the students were to be allowed to use the gym for dances and other school activities. Questionnaires were sent out to the parents of the students attending high school asking for their opinion as to whether the gym should be used for that purpose and we are advised that the majority of the parents were opposed to the proposition. Consequently students are denied that privilege. However, we can see no consistency in refusing the gym to the students and allowing them to hold their parties in a hired hall. The gymnasium has been used by people outside of the school for basket ball games, public dances and political speeches while the gym is barred to the students for school activities, and class parties and dances are as much a part of the school activities as the course of study provided. The parents opposing the proposition can have no serious objection to their children attending these functions as all members of a class are present whenever any such party or dance is given, and their attitude in opposing the use of the gym is merely adding expense to the students whenever they want to have a party. Of course

there is the expense of heating and cleaning the gym after a party, which is covered by a charge to outsiders for the use of it, but surely this added cost would not be a burden to the tax payers if the students were allowed the same privileges as outsiders. We, as taxpayers, think the students should not be denied the privileges that are accorded persons having no connection with the school.

All this discussion concerning the rewriting of American school histories should be productive of desirable results. For one thing, it will make selectors of school histories more careful. It will also make parents, and American citizens generally, take a personal interest in the character of the text books placed in the hands of children. We have among us one class of people who are opposed to all governments, the United States among the rest. We have others who profess an internationalistic spirit which usually manifests itself by the placing of America last in their intermore thoughts. We have still others who reside among us but still retain their loyalty to some other country—they are not internationalists, but are nationalists with a very definite and permanent affection for some other nation than our own. With all these un-American inhabitants, we must cope. The open and avowed anarchist may, in fact, be the least dangerous of our enemies, for the anarchist works in such a way as to make himself directly responsible for his acts. The internationalist, who claims equal concern for the welfare of all nations but is least active in the interest of our own, is a sort of man without a country—he wouldn't be welcome in any other country and ought not to be welcome here. The hyphenated American, not as numerous as formerly, is perhaps less dangerous than the professed internationalist, for we learn to guard ourselves against him, as we do against the anarchist. The internationalist and the hyphenated American are the classes who would corrupt the minds of our youth by craftily smuggling in to our school histories a distortion of facts calculated to weaken the spirit of patriotism and destroy pride in the achievements of the founders and defenders of the nation. It will be well if loyal American citizens take the trouble to examine school histories with care and see that there is discontinuance of any text books that fail to convey to the student a fair conception of the circumstances and difficulties under which this nation was founded, the principles upon which it was established, and the heroism of those who have given to it the "last full measure of devotion."

We are mighty pleased that the jury now trying the Gummer case is composed wholly of men, no women having as yet had their names put in the jury box of Barnes county. We talk very much of equal rights and a lot of women loudly proclaim that they should be allowed to do jury duty, but those of finer feelings and culture do not want anything of this nature. Take the case in court for instance, it cannot help but be nauseating to hardened men, whose feelings and sense of modesty are not so fine as that of womankind. The disgusting details that must come out in a trial of this kind must be a source of embarrassment and annoyance to many men whose feelings are built upon finer lines than those who are the principals of a case of this nature. Equal rights may be what most women want but we cannot see where any woman would want to be mixed up in the average jury duty. We know very well we would not want our wife or daughter dragged into the jury box to listen to what they would have to at times. The Arbuckle case is another dirty mess that some women have to listen to as members of the jury. The argument may be brought out that what is all right for the men is also all right for women, but it does not hold true. Men are built of rougher material than are women and can put up with a lot of this stuff that modest women would shun. At the trial now on in our Barnes county courthouse women are striving to get in to listen to the rotten mess that will be presented to the jury and court and there is going to be some rotten testimony brought out that should bring a blush to the cheeks of those who are sitting there listening to it. The editor is not claiming to be an angel or anything of that sort in writing thus, he is just simply telling what he feels about this jury system and the connection that women will have with it in the future. Personally we are not going to listen to this case or any similar one, although as a newspaper man whose mission is life is to give that sort of news that will appeal to people we perhaps would have a license to go up there and report the same did we so desire, but we have no inclination to do so. The public demands the news and we are going to give it to them under certain restrictions—all testimony that

is not fit to print will be left out of our reports. This editorial is inspired to show what a lot of morbid curiosity there is in a criminal case of this nature and we read time and time again where women get so "daffy" over a man who is awaiting trial for similar offenses as this defendant is, by sending flowers and candy up to the jail as a token of appreciation to him for the diabolical work and crime he is supposed to have committed. When people get to such a state of mind as that there is something wrong with them. Prisoners charged with heinous offenses should be given every opportunity to prove their innocence but this sending candy and flowers to them is rather sickening and decidedly silly.

GREAT WATERWAY A POSSIBILITY

The approval by the International Joint Commission of the project for connecting the great lakes with the ocean by a waterway through the St. Lawrence river and a ship canal, means, of the United States and Canadian governments also approve of the project and make appropriations therefor, that the ocean will be brot within 650 miles of Beach and the Golden Valley, for the project contemplates a waterway that will permit sailing ships and steamers to dock at Duluth and Superior.

Everybody knows that water rates are much less than rail tariffs, and the completion of such a waterway will mean directly millions of dollars in the farmers pockets and better times for everybody. But there are powerful influences at work against this project, notably the congressmen and senators from the eastern states and the people of New York to man. The newer route would greatly lessen the business and importance of the Erie canal, and remove from New York a large part of the terminal business that city now enjoys in the grain trade. None of us want to do anything to injure that great city or the good people of New York state, but charity begins at home, and we must ever strive for those things that will build up our part of the country and spread prosperity more generally over the land.

This project is one of the most essential things to northwestern welfare and we are for it with all our might, and there ought not to be a dissenting voice in the west.—The Beach Advance.

THE COME-BACK OF MIXED JURIES

There are no social gains that do not carry with them some social losses. Women now serve on juries, for example, as a part of their duties and privileges as citizens. Late reports indicate, however, that many women find jury duty very unpleasant, if not forbidding. They are not only called upon to handle and deal with the seamy side of life, but they are compelled to do this in mixed company.

The possibility of loss in the situation may be gathered from one or two illustrations. If a man or woman, at a dinner party or in a polite society, should bend the conversation unduly to the Arbuckle case, such a one would be regarded a little off color. The host would have the right to feel aggrieved. Yet men and women, unknown to each other, are today expected to consider together loathsome details of any case.

Much the same thing is true of the Stokes case, or of many others that might be mentioned. In all these instances, matters which would be shunned in the thought and conversation of polite society, are given to mixed juries, these days, without the slightest reserve or compunction.

Such a procedure surely carries certain dangers and losses, with what ever gains it brings. Native reserves are necessarily cast aside, and there are not honorable points of ignorance left or allowed.

One of the finest elements in history and in human life has been a certain deference and reserve that men have instinctively borne toward women. This native chivalry prompts a man to doff his hat, when meeting a woman, or to show other courtesies that mark the gentleman.

This chivalric attitude toward women has been one of the strongest factors in keeping men up to high level. The rudest kind of a man is hardly without some sense of this idealization. What will happen to what is left of this chivalry, when men and women, totally unacquainted with each other, follow and discuss together incidents and details that would be barred out of any decent family circle?

Not all of the new things in the new social order are of unmitigated good. Some of them have yet to prove just how good they are. The problem of gaining freedom, while retaining the values of chivalry, has not yet been solved in modern society. In some instances the losses may eventually prove to out-weigh

the gains. At least there already appears to be some come-back from mixed juries.—Minneapolis Journal.

THE GUMMER TRIAL

(Continued from Page 3)

call which she was expecting. The witness left the hotel at 11 o'clock and returned to his duties at the store. When he left the defendant was behind the desk in the office. He returned to the hotel between 5 and 6 o'clock in the morning and stated that Gummer was in a chair behind the of the hotel to phone regarding a sick desk when he came in. The witness further stated that several days later he made a test of certain sounds alleged to have been heard by Mrs. Van Vorst. He made this test in company with Captain Welch and another man whom he did not know.

Sounds Demonstrated

The tests consisted of Mr. VanVorst walking on the roof of the annex while Mrs. Van Vorst, Captain Welch and the other man stayed in the apartment and listened to the sounds produced. The witness stated that there was a window in the apartment on the ground floor which was open. This was used by Mr. Van Vorst and the children in leaving the apartment at times owing to the fact that the outside door had been padlocked by Mrs. Lawrence. Under cross examination the witness stated that this door had been locked for at least two weeks prior to the night in question. The witness also stated under cross examination that when he had returned to the hotel between 5 and 6 o'clock of the morning following the tragedy the defendant Gummer had been seated in a chair behind the desk and was apparently dozing. Under re-direct examination the witness stated that when making the experiment on the roof of the annex he found that the roof was of graveled construction and that he had seen no sign of any tin.

Mrs. Van Vorst was next called to the stand and substantiated her husband's testimony as to his movements that night as far as her knowledge went. She stated that on the night in question she had expected a call to the home of a sick friend and had arranged for Jack Smith, a taxi driver, to call for her and take her to this friend. When she returned to the hotel with her husband about 10:25 she had asked Gummer if anyone had inquired for her and had left word that she be notified if anyone did call. She returned to the lobby from her apartments within a few minutes to try and phone but the line was busy and she waited for a few minutes. While waiting Arnold Rasmussen and Marie Wick came in and Miss Wick registered. Mrs. Van Vorst returned to her apartments and had lunch with her husband and returned to the lobby about 11:40. She stated that Gummer was at the switchboard at this time but that she paid no attention to his conversation on the phone. She was in the lobby about ten minutes and while she was there Fred Lawrence came in and spoke to Gummer. She then returned to her apartment and waited downstairs until 12 o'clock when she took her baby upstairs and put her to bed, retiring herself at 12:30.

Noises Awakened Her

The witness stated that she was asleep within a few minutes but was awakened shortly after going to sleep by some noise that sounded like a base ball being thrown against the wall intervening between her room and room 30. She stated that the floor of her apartment was considerably lower than the floor in room 30. After being awakened she heard a noise which sounded to her as though someone was walking on tin and led her to believe that there was some one on the roof. She then heard a sudden noise which sounded like some one jumping and resembled a heavy thud. She stated that she had taken part in the experiments conducted by Captain Welch and a detective with Mr. Van Vorst walking on the roof and that the noises made by Mr. Van Vorst did not resemble the noises she had heard on the night in question. She further stated that certain experiments made with Deputy Sheriff Milligan in room 30 sounded similar to the noises she had heard resembling walking on tin, throwing a ball against the wall and jumping.

Under cross examination the witness stated that she had never been advised that Jack Smith had been at the hotel that night. The witness stated that she told her husband the morning following the tragedy that she had thought some one was on the roof but that her husband had told her that she was mistaken as there was no tin on the roof. She believed it, however, until the experiments by her husband and police officers had changed her belief.

J. T. "Jack" Smith, taxi driver of Fargo, stated that he was at the Prescott Hotel between 10:40 and 10:50 on the night in question, being called there to get Mrs. Van Vorst but stated that he did not go into the hotel but waited outside about five

minutes, and as no one showed up he left. He stated that while he was there he saw a young man and young lady come to the hotel and stated that he later identified the young lady at the morgue as being the same person he had seen. However under cross examination he admitted that the slight glance he had given her when she came to the hotel was not sufficient to enable him to identify her after death.

Captain William Welch under examination, stated that he in company with McDonald, another police officer, conducted the experiment on the roof of the annex and stated that Mr. Van Vorst had walked on the roof but that he himself had not been on the roof. Objection was made to Captain Welch testifying as to the statements made by Mrs. Van Vorst and the objection was sustained. After a few minor questions by counsel for defense, the witness was excused.

At this point Attorney Wattam asked for adjournment until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning and his request was granted, adjournment taking place at 11:45.

BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB WORK PAYS

While the financial benefits of boys and girls club work is one of the least important of its advantages, the work rewards the club members financially, it is indicated by the report of the property owned, made by the boys and girls attending the annual state boys and girls achievement institute at the Agricultural college late in December. The summary of the reports was made public today by Harry E. Rilling, state club leader.

Sixty seven of the boys and girls own an average of \$203 each in property of various kinds, the report show. The property consists of liberty and other bonds and war savings stamps, bank accounts, livestock including poultry, implements, furniture and miscellaneous articles. The youths own 31 bonds, mostly liberty bonds, having a par value of \$1,002, and 288 war savings stamps with a value of \$911. The total value of the bank discounts is \$4,791.

The livestock includes heep, pigs, cows and calves, and poultry, and totals \$4,317. The total value of the farm crops grown by the boys and girls is \$1,031. The boys own implements and other property valued at \$192, while the girls own furniture and other property valued at \$480.

This average of property does not include the value of the canned vegetables and fruits, baking and sewing done by the members who reported. The total value of the canned products was \$1,681. The total value of the baking done was \$671, and of sewing \$767.

Sixty seven of the 94 delegates made the report. Of these, 20 were in club work for the first year, and the same number for their second year; 14 were doing their third year of club work, seven their fourth year, four the fifth year, and two their sixth. Of the 67, nearly three fourths or 51, were attending the institute for their first time; 12 for the second time; three for the third time, and one for the sixth.

GETCHLL PRAIRIE ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bonde and Cornell Cresap enjoyed Friday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Martin.

Mr. and Mrs. Varlynn Ayres returned to their home Tuesday from Marmou, N. D.

Mahlon Ronzheimer spent the week end at home, returning to Fargo Sunday evening, where he is attending the A. C.

Mrs. J. H. Deskin of Rosfelt, Minn., mother of Mrs. Jay Rogers, spent the week end visiting at the Rogers home. Mrs. Deskin left Monday morning to visit two other daughters at Velva, N. D.

Mrs. Chas. Whiteche spent Friday afternoon with Mrs. W. W. Harper of Valley City.

Herman Hoffman and Lester Cresap were visitors at Wm. Hill's home.

ROGERS NOTES

Torkel Umden, Andrew Walen, Will Martin and Levi Etzell motored down to Valley City last week and spent the week in attendance at the Gummer trial that is now under way there.

Levi Etzell reports a very good time at the Odd Fellows hall in Rogers on Monday night. There was an old time dance, the music being furnished by a voluntary orchestra, and was an enjoyable affair. Dick Bezley was called on for a couple of songs and to dance for the crowd and he responded promptly. Mr. Bezley is a real dancer for a man of 80 years. E. McGarry and Miss Alice Farrel rendered a very nice duet. The hall was well filled in spite of the inclement weather and the party did not break up until 4:30 a. m.