

Political Gossip Around the State Capitol

Bismarck, N. D., Oct. 26.—Bismarck has been the Mecca of politicians since the opening of the Exposition last week. Political "Barkises" have been here comparing notes with other political "Barkises" and endeavoring to ascertain just what demand might be manufactured for their respective candidates for office.

Warren Some Traveler

R. A. Nestos was before the supreme court this week telling them how Ex-County Superintendent of Schools Warren of Ward county had collected more than seventeen thousand dollars for mileage actually traveled in twenty-nine months of his incumbency. It appears from the argument of State's Attorney Nestos that Mr. Warren habitually charged more for mileage for every month during the twenty-nine months than any superintendent of Morton county had ever charged for the entire year, although Morton county has fifty-three more schools than Ward county. It appears from the argument that either Mr. Warren was the champion traveler of the world, having traveled far enough to have gone around the world more than four times in twenty-nine months, or else it has been exceedingly easy to separate the people of Ward county from their money.

A Willing Sacrifice.

The fact that Nestos was here trying to interest the supreme court in recovering back the money of the people of Ward county which unlawfully found its way into the coffers of the county superintendent of schools, was not the most interesting fact in connection with his visit. In strict confidence he imparted the secret to many of his friends that he was willing to be sacrificed on the altar of public welfare as a candidate for the United States senate. He believes that he is the one person ordained by fate to rid the state of both Hanna and McCumber, at one stroke. He believes that the strength of Hanna and McCumber is very evenly balanced and that the progressives of the state number considerably more than one-third of its entire strength. The progressives of the state will vote for him en masse,

therefore his election is assured. Q. E. D.

Paul Won't Run.

Senator Paul Kretschmar, who was Treadwell Twichell's retriever during the session of the late lamented Fifteenth Legislative Assembly, was also a Bismarck visitor during the week. Last winter it was all arranged that Paul was to become a candidate for state auditor. Since the legislature has adjourned and Paul has been scouting among his German friends, for some unexplainable reason, he has changed his mind. Either his candidacy has not met with very cordial reception or else the Hanna machine has found other uses for the candidacy of this particular position. Paul announces emphatically and finally that he is not a candidate.

Linde May Be "It."

There has been considerable talk about the capitol for some weeks that Attorney General Linde will not be a candidate for re-election, but instead will be the stalwart candidate for governor instead of Colonel Fraine of Grafton. Alex McKenzie has been in the city for some time and it is said on excellent authority that Alex does not look upon the candidacy of Colonel Fraine with complacency. Alex thinks the Colonel would be useful and all right, but that he would make such a consummate mule of himself before the public that the result would be very dangerous to the machine which he is helping Hanna to tinker up. Moreover, without opposition and with the most thorough and painstaking personal campaign at the last election, Fraine run ten thousand behind the other Republican candidates for Lieutenant Governor. This indicates that he is a weak man and could not possibly beat Burdick. The purpose of Linde's candidacy, if it should develop, is said to be two-fold. First. That Linde is strong with the Scandinavians of the state, especially with the Lutheran clergymen, and would be useful to the Hanna McKenzie machine. Second. Linde has served well during his short term of office, especially in the Equity suit, and that he should be relieved from the defeat which seems to stare him in the face for re-election. To be

defeated for a second term as attorney general on his record would be a crushing blow, but to be pushed into the gubernatorial race by his friends would be an easy let down. There can be no question but that both McKenzie and Hanna are seriously considering such a move.

Langer Looming Large.

The shadow of "Bill" Langer, the aggressive and radical state's attorney of Morton county, is causing Linde and the organization no little uneasiness. Langer has been selected, seemingly by common consent, by the anti-machine forces in all parts of the state as the man to beat Linde for re-election. While Langer has not consented to become a candidate, it is believed by his close friends that if sufficient pressure is brought to bear upon him he will get into the field, although it will be with great reluctance. In the four years he has been in Mandan he has built up a splendid business which is increasing very rapidly and it is conceded by his worst enemies that he cannot be defeated for state's attorney. He has done much toward cleaning up the county, but he has just inaugurated a war on the grafters of the public treasury by a suit to recover money illegally secured by a member of the board of county commissioners. Morton county has been notoriously infested with grafting officials for years and this is Langer's beginning to rid the county of them and to recover back into the treasury large sums of money which have been illegally expended. This campaign will not lessen his political shadow which now falls athwart the councils of the Hanna-McKenzie machine and beclouds their deliberations.

Hanson Afraid of of Equity.

A. P. Hanson, speaker of the House of Representatives, was an Exposition visitor during the week. Hanson will become a candidate for Lieutenant Governor if Kraable does not decide to enter the race. It is said that if Linde is not very fond to be the machine's candidate for governor, that Fraine will be a candidate for re-election as Lieutenant Governor. In this event, Hanson appears to desire no better pastime than to try conclusions with Fraine for Lieuten-

ant-Governorship. There seems to be but one cloud in Hanson's political sky and that is the enmity of the Society of Equity. He appointed as a committee of conference on the terminal elevator mill tax, Divet, Twichell, and Hendrickson, all opponents of the terminal elevator. Hanson admits that the committee was a bad one, but defends his action upon the ground that it slipped his mind for the moment that Divet was opposed to the terminal elevator and that Hendrickson flopped after his appointment. He says that in view of the fact that he appointed more than seventy conference committees that day that he had ought to be excused. He voted for the bill himself and declares that he was friendly to the Equity, as the rest of his record during the session will show.

Beef Trust Wants Pay.

A letter written to the State Treasurer by Swift & Company indicates the financial straits of the state. The board of control purchases meat of them for the institution for the feeble minded at Grafton. This letter was in the shape of a reminder that the April meat bill for that institution had not been paid. The corporation points out that they sold the meat on a very small margin to the state and that they could not afford to borrow money at 6 per cent and carry the state forever. There are hundreds of thousands of such obligations of the state outstanding.

Alex Mounts the Hill.

Considerable excitement was occasioned on Friday of this week by the appearance in the state capitol of Alexander McKenzie. It has been so long since Alexander actually visited the state capitol in person that the last occasion has been forgotten by even the old timers. It is said that it has been fifteen or twenty years since he actually mounted the hill and visited the state officials. He has spent a considerable portion of the last two months in Bismarck, and the occasion of his visit to the capitol was as an escort to the Minneapolis and St. Paul bankers and the officials of railroads operating through North Dakota.

MORE BIG THIEVES.

New York, Oct. 20.—The federal grand jury has returned an indictment, under the Elkins amendment to the interstate commerce law, charging the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad with failing to charge the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Coal Company the full amount due under the federal tariffs for shipments of coal made by the coal company over the Lackawanna lines.

Twenty specific occasions in which the railroad failed to collect demurrage, which should have been charged for delay in shipment of the anthracite, caused by the holding up of barges at the Lackawanna piers in Hoboken, are cited.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Knox, who drew up the indictment, the railroad has in this way been discriminating in favor of the coal company, which is allowed to bring coal into the Lackawanna terminal and hold it at the piers until a purchaser is obtained without paying demurrage charges required by the law.

This, according to Mr. Knox, gave the coal company an advantage over its rivals not only by the reduction of expenses, but by the expedition on the delivery from time of placing the order.

The shipments to which the government objects were made between October, 1912, and October, 1914, and involve an uncharged demurrage aggregating about \$298. Under the indictment the Lackawanna as a corporation would be amenable to a fine of \$20,000 if found guilty.

A Tale of Two North Dak. Elevators



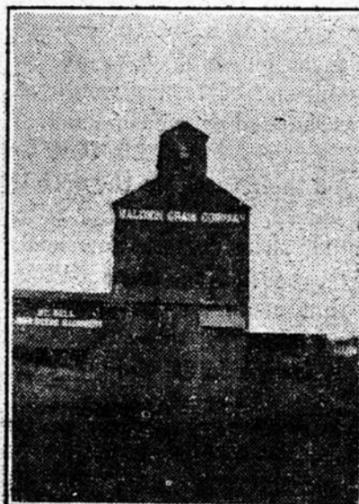
"A"

Farmers' Elevator at Baldwin, N. D.



W. E. LIPS

Manager Farmers' Elevator at Baldwin.



"B"

Company Elevator at Baldwin, N. D.

Elevator "A" is the Farmers' elevator at Baldwin, N. Dak. Elevator "B" is a Company elevator. Mr. Lips is manager of the Farmers' elevator and a farmer.

Here is the record of the two elevators for three days:

On September 22, 1915, elevator A took in one hundred and eleven wagon loads of grain. On the same day the Company elevator took in three wagon loads of grain.

On September 23, elevator A took in sixty-three loads, while elevator B took in five loads.

On September 24, elevator A took in seventy-four loads, while elevator B took in eighteen loads.

On each the days mentioned, elevator B (Company Elevator), offered 1 to 4 cents more per bushel than did elevator A. And still these farmers persisted in using their own elevator. They sensed the trick. They knew that as soon as the "tide" turned the Company Elevator would 'cut under.'

Question: Can the farmers stick together?

Answer: Ask those at Baldwin, Burleigh County, N. Dak.