

LYNN J. FRAZIER

Interesting Sketch of Newly Elected Senator From North Dakota.

LEARNED OF ELECTION THREE DAYS LATE

Non-Partisan League Now Has Three Senators In Office—Farmer Vote Has Welcomed With "Workers."

The recent election was three days past, candidates from Texas to Michigan and from New York to California had been showered with congratulations or condolences, and even the anti-Volstead celebrants were beginning to get back to normalcy, when a farmer in Pembina county, North Dakota, up near the Canadian line, in the valley of a river that flows "the wrong way," came in from the barnyard to put in a long distance call over the rural party line, writes Herbert Gascon in the New York World.

He talked to a newspaper 150 miles away at Fargo, inquiring the result of the election for United States senator. He had "been about the place" and had heard no news since election day.

"Why, you've been elected, Governor," was the response, and the figures available up to the time were given to him.

The incident illustrates not solely the imperturbability of Lynn J. Frazier, the new senator-elect from North Dakota, though that quality is among his most conspicuous traits. It illustrates also the way of election returns in the state where they grow principally hard northern spring wheat and that in greater quantity than in any other state in the Union.

North Dakota is no place for a nervous man to run for office. He may die of heart failure before they get the returns all brought in from the remote districts and counted. In that state the town vote, which is comparatively quickly checked up, is no index of what the farmers are going to do, particularly since the "great revolt" which began in 1915, with the organization and first campaign of the Non-Partisan League. Many a candidate has had the satisfaction—rather hollow, perhaps—of being "elected" for a day or two, but defeated by the country returns. They came through this time for Frazier, but it was three days after the polls closed before his election was certainly known.

In the next congress there will be three senators who owe their election directly to the Non-Partisan League movement, although it undoubtedly influenced the election of others of the insurgent group in the west whose faces will be seen in Washington for the first time. The three will be Senators Frazier and Ladd from Minnesota, and Shipstead from Minnesota.

It is interesting to note that while the league movement was mainly to obtain greater representation for the farmer in public affairs, but one of these three is what is known in the west as a "dirt farmer." This expression owes its meaning to the fact that in a strictly rural community in a state whose economic interest is almost exclusively agriculture, nearly everybody is from the farm or owns a farm or has some interest in one. Every banker is a "farmer" and so is every lawyer. When they are running for office they admit it.

But a "dirt farmer" is one who lives on and gets his living from the farm, who has no living unless he gets it from the soil. Frazier is one such. Dr. Ladd is a scientist and educator, a food and agricultural chemist and former president of the North Dakota College of Agriculture. Shipstead is a dental specialist, an oral surgeon, who moved from a small community in Minnesota to Minneapolis in order to establish a more highly specialized practice.

The two new senators from the adjoining states will offer a contrast in appearance and temperament. Shipstead is tall—well over six feet—slender and intense, a man capable of making an impassioned plea. He is a student of literature and of government, a man of sensitive nature and artistic impulses. He is of the type one might expect a "radical" or a reform crusader to be.

Frazier is broad and heavy and sturdy—a rock of a man. He went to North Dakota university more than twenty years ago, and there he was the center rush for two years on the university's football team. He has a centre rush physique. He is a silent man, but generally friendly. In office as governor of North Dakota he was known as an executive who likes to hear advice, but was a hard man to move, when he made up his mind.

For nearly thirty years—he is 47 years old—Frazier has been a successful farmer. He owns close to 1,000 acres of fertile Red River valley land. It was not his own inability to make a success of farming that led him to take up with a movement which in a large measure has been a protest against conditions which have made it impossible for the average farmer to make a fair living in recent years. His situation has been a protest against condition on the average.

Frazier is one of the comparatively few boys of his generation of American birth and parentage and of American ambition who choose to stay on the farm. But in his case it was rather Fate that chose, for it had been the family agreement that he was to be a physician—the farm boys of those days ran heavily to the professions. But a brother died after his father's death and he stayed to continue the task of the pioneers.

He was living quietly on the farm, never having sought any office in his life and never having been elected to anything of wider scope than school director, when he was selected by the organizing scouts of the Non-Partisan

League in 1916 as a likely candidate for public office.

Carried In by League.

He refused to grow excited. He took it good humoredly. He developed into a quite effective, matter of fact, straight from the shoulder, unfringed campaign speaker. The league fight carried him into office and the anti-league fight carried him out at a recall election last year, after he had twice been re-elected. Through it all he had been energetically in the fight, never very much agitated, never alarmed and always with a watchful eye on the farm.

This year he has enjoyed keenly a vacation from his five-year public responsibility, which he has spent at the congenial task of planting and harvesting a few hundred acres of grain and caring for his livestock—horses and cattle.

Dr. Shipstead, like former Governor Frazier, is a native American, but of Norwegian parentage and proud of his heritage in both lands. The double heritage gives him a background of history and he reads the literature of the cold north as well as the Anglo-Saxon. His parents were among the pioneers of Northern Minnesota—for this country was late in its development. Gold attracted the first adventurers, and then timber, and the purely agricultural regions of the Northwest waited for the coming of the land-hungry from northern Europe. In their early days in Minnesota, Dr. Shipstead's parents saw members of the tribe of Chippewa Indians more often than they saw white neighbors.

Worked Way Through School. Henrik Shipstead, one of the twelve children, saw little to hope for on the farm. Besides, he loved a book better than he did a plow. So he struggled away from the plow. He began to earn his living at 14. He put himself through a normal school and by waiting on table and the usual odd jobs, coupled with farm work in the summer vacations, he finished a course of training in the dental college of Northwestern University at Chicago.

He has held two public offices. He was mayor of the town of Glenwood, Minnesota, in which he practised his profession until he moved to Minneapolis two years ago, and he served one term in the legislature. He was a candidate for congress in 1918 and was defeated, and in 1920 was the unsuccessful candidate for governor, both in the Republican primaries and as an independent in the fall election, of the Farmer-Labor forces.

Living on a picturesque body of water in the heart of the lake region of Minnesota, Dr. Shipstead could scarcely escape being a fisherman. He is something of an expert at casting for bass, and one of his favorite annual outings is a hunt for big game in the northern woods of Minnesota.

Welding of the Vote. The election of Frazier and Shipstead, particularly that of Shipstead, are witnesses to a unique feature of this year's political overturn in the west. That feature is a welding of the farmer vote and what is ordinarily known as the "working class" vote. This is the most important effect brought about by the organization and campaigns of the Non-Partisan League. In Minnesota these two groups at length have built up a majority variously classed as "independents," "progressives" and "radicals."

In North Dakota the labor vote is negligible. What there is of it usually has been with the Non-Partisan League. In Minnesota no candidate could win on the farm vote alone. There are two political organizations, one known clumsily as the Working People's Non-Partisan Political League and the other, the farmers' organization, simply as the Non-Partisan League. Their dual endorsements made possible Shipstead's victory. The Rev. O. J. Kvale, the Lutheran minister, who defeated Volstead for congress, has twice been their candidate.

The accomplished fact of this Farmer-Labor alignment in the west is something that is giving genuine cause for speculation on the future course of American political affairs. The same alliance has been attempted and the attempt has failed in other states. In Minnesota and in the northwest generally the soil has been deeply tilled.

Politicians are likely to watch the future of this development with a great deal of interest.

AGRICULTURAL CREDITS.

Farm Bloc Will Press For Financial Relief.

Favorable action at the earliest opportunity is to be sought by the farm bloc on legislation for more flexible rural credits, as proposed in bills pending in senate and house.

The Norris bill for creating the farmers' and consumers' financing corporation, introduced in the senate Wednesday, was laid before the house Thursday by Representative Sinclair (Rep., N. D.), who announced that a hard fight would be made for it and that the special interests had been helped enough.

"Probably 70 per cent. of the small grain farmers are facing bankruptcy and ruin," he declared. "From time to time congress has been called upon to assist business interests and has pretty generally responded. The railroads have been 'stabilized' by the passage of the Transportation Act and are licensed to charge a rate that will yield a fixed income on their investment.

"Manufacturers have been 'stabilized' also by the enactment of the highest tariff law in the history of the country. Financial institutions are taken care of through the Federal Reserve Act.

"Enactment of this legislation will do much to put farming back on a paying basis. Surplus products will be disposed of immediately and unreason-

able profits by middlemen, speculators and handlers will be cut out. The effect will be to increase the price received by producers on the total crops raised and to lessen the cost to consumers."

CANTONMENT GRAFTERS

Government Wants to Get Back Twenty Million Dollars.

Civil suits to recover more than \$20,000,000 alleged by the government to have been fraudulently expended in the construction of Camps Upton, Jackson, Sherman and Funston, were instituted Friday by the department of justice against the contractors who were in charge of each project.

The suits were said in official circles to be the initial step in a campaign at war against war-time contractors who are suspected, on the basis of auditor's reports, to have gone beyond the intent and purpose of the authority given them by Federal departments.

Additional actions are in prospect, it was said at the department of justice, as soon as complete reports have been made by the special force of auditors which has been engaged for 15 months in an analysis of construction records. Whether criminal action would be taken in any case, it was said, would depend to a degree upon the results of the civil suits.

Unofficial estimates place the toll which might be expected to be recovered from all the construction cases at between \$70,000,000 and \$80,000,000. In the cases filed Friday, the government alleged that the Hardaway Contracting company spent an excess of \$6,500,000 in building Camp Jackson, S. C.; the Thompson-Starrett company, \$6,000,000 at Camp Upton, N. Y.; A. Bentley and Sons company \$5,000,000 at Camp Sherman, Ohio, and George A. Fuller & Company \$6,000 at Fort Riley, Kansas. The suits were filed at Charleston, S. C.; Brooklyn, N. Y.; Columbus, O.; and Topeka, Kansas, respectively.

Identical bills of complaint were laid in each case, the principal accusation being that the contractor violated "a direct and intimate relationship of trust and confidence" in executing this contract, while it was impossible, because of the existing war emergency, for the government to exercise normal supervision and inspection of the work. As a result, it is alleged, the contractor stands indebted to the government for money in the sums set forth and for great quantities of material, declared to have been purchased on government credit and misused.

The bill filed against the Bentley company at Columbus charges there was "great and unconscionable waste" of the material purchased for Camp Sherman and that the contractor, "sold to and also purchased and resold to the defendant at a profit" much material that was not needed in the project. Further charges were made that "large amounts of useless and unnecessary work was done" in such manner that construction was retarded and that workmen "employed without reference to skill, experience or other capacity" were paid the same scale of wages as skilled workmen and artisans.

As a result of delay in completion of Camp Sherman, the government alleged, the cost was not only enhanced but "sickness and death of some soldiers ensued."

Charges of mismanagement against this contractor included also accusations that he "permitted continual loafing, misdirection of effort and sabotage" permitted, advised and caused large quantities of lumber, cement, hardware, tools and other materials and equipment to be destroyed, and that portions of the project were sublet to other parties and the cost added to the bills submitted to the government.

Attorney General Daugherty said every means would be used to hasten the trial of the four suits.

"The amounts sued for," he said, "represent what those who have been continuously engaged in the work of investigation and preparation believe conservatively the government ought to recover. What should be recovered will now be a matter for the courts to determine.

"The suits filed Friday represent work on the part of the department of justice which was begun about 15 months ago.

"The work could not have been completed any earlier than it has been."

Mr. Daugherty declined to discuss the additional cases which were reported to be in prospect. Study of war contracts—of which there were several hundred thousand—will be carried forward, he said, and action taken in each case as the facts seem to warrant.

England's Bottomless Pit.—Far from habitation on a hillside in the moors of Derbyshire, England, lies a dreadful chasm in the rock. The chasm is of no great width, but has a sheer descent of a tremendous depth. This is the bottomless pit of "Elden Hole," regarded for centuries as unfathomable. The gap is surrounded by a low stone wall, and a projecting ledge at one end enables the adventurous investigator to peer down into the gloomy depths. For ages the chasm was regarded as a terrible place, popularly supposed to lead directly to infernal regions. A gruesome story relates that 300 years ago a man was lowered into the cleft to a depth of 800 feet. When the unfortunate fellow was hauled up again he was a raving maniac, and died eight days later. For centuries the place was regarded with superstitious awe and no real attempt was made to find the bottom until 1709, when one writer stated that half a mile of rope had failed to reach it.

As the whole district is honeycombed with holes and crevices, it is probable that the chasm of "Elden Hole" leads to a maze of underground passages.

FARIES SENTENCED TO CHAIR

(Continued From Page One.)

Faries had said that despite the fact he had reported the matter to the town authorities they had done nothing. "Faries told me," said Dr. McGill, "that if the authorities did nothing then he was going to do it."

Little Girl Tells Story.

Viola Deas, 14-year-old girl, testified that she had the 4-year-old baby of Mrs. Tom Perry on her lap in the Perry home when she saw William Faries shoot Newton Taylor. At that time the Taylor boy was doing nothing, she testified. She saw no more shooting until she saw Faries shoot Fred Taylor. On cross examination she said that she saw in the Taylor home at the time of the shooting, Mrs. Taylor, Misses Dolly and Lela Taylor. She denied she heard Claud Johnson, one of the four victims, use a vile epithet after Newton Taylor had been shot and said: "Let me get hold of the gun."

She heard some one in the Taylor house make such a remark, but didn't know who said it. Miss Gertrude Taylor testified that she heard two shots before she was shot and slightly wounded. She was canning fruit at the time of the tragedy. She saw her brother Newton fall wounded and saw Faries shoot her. She denied that there were any blue steel pistols among members of her family.

Magistrate Tells Story.

R. E. Love, magistrate for King's Mountain township, testified that Faries had come to him a short time before the tragedy, complaining about the alleged conduct of the Taylor family. Faries had complained that he saw some of the Taylors sitting on the Taylor porch cleaning a blue steel pistol for him. Magistrate Love testified further that Faries could furnish no evidence of threats against his life and that he had therefore refused to place any of the Taylor family under a peace bond. Before leaving, the witness said, that Faries had remarked: "If there is no law for it I'll make one and you need not be surprised at anything you hear of me doing."

Magistrate Love identified several buckshot taken from the door of the Taylor residence and also two shells loaded with buckshot which he had taken from Faries' double-barreled gun, the shells and shot being offered in evidence.

Defense Witnesses.

Mrs. William C. Faries, wife of the accused man, was the first witness for her husband. She testified that about a week before the killing she had seen Newton Taylor with a small rifle in his hands. After a policeman had visited the Taylor home at the request of Faries, she said that Mrs. Taylor had called to her and dared her to come out, saying she would shoot if I did and that she would put a ball through Mr. Faries if he opened his mouth. On cross examination she admitted she did not go to the door and therefore she could not say whether Mrs. Taylor was armed or not. She admitted further that she did not know the exact nature of the children's quarrel.

Faries Tells His Story.

William C. Faries was the final witness to testify in his own behalf on Friday afternoon, court adjourning an hour earlier than usual, after he had told his story. He admitted killing the boy, Newton Taylor, and he said that he killed him and the other three victims because all of the Taylors were armed; and in defense of his own life. He told his story in a calm manner. Occasionally he requested that questions put to him be repeated. "If I had been in possession of my senses I would not have done it for the world," he said. "I thought my little boy had been seriously hurt and the thought ran me crazy."

He said that he had gone to Mayor Isaac J. Campbell and to Policeman John Jackson with his complaints against the Taylors and they had done nothing to help him while "things kept getting worse."

On the day of the shooting, he said, the Taylor children had thrown out a bucket of water he had drawn from the well. On the morning of the shooting he had seen Claud Johnson and Newton Taylor in the nearby barn with a shot gun and a rifle and a short time previously he said that Mr. Taylor had stood on his porch and threatened to put a ball through him and his wife. At that time, he swore, Mrs. Taylor was armed with two blue steel pistols, one in each hand.

"Just before the shooting one of my boys came to me and told me that Johnny had been hit with a rock by Newt Taylor. Then I asked Newt what he meant by it. I saw Mrs. Taylor peeping through the vines in her house. I heard Claud Johnson say 'shoot,' and I thought if there was any shooting to be done I might as well do it. I don't remember much what happened after the first shot."

Changes Story.

But on cross examination the killer changed his story. He described in detail to Solicitor Spears the shooting of his several victims. He even described in detail the shooting of Fred Taylor, the sixth of his victims after he had stopped to get water when he had finished with five. He insisted, however, that all of the Taylors were armed, although he admitted that none of them had attempted to shoot him.

Two Witnesses Saturday.

Two witnesses were heard Saturday morning and the testimony of each was brief. One was introduced by the defense and the other by the state. Mrs. Fannie Brackett, testifying for the defense, said she had known Faries all of her life. She told of hearing a quarrel between Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Faries about ten days before the killings. Mrs. Faries on that occasion said something to Mrs. Taylor and then left after saying, "Go back into your house

or I'll get my gun and put you back." Mrs. Taylor, the witness said, had replied: "I've got guns too." She said that on one occasion she had heard Mrs. Taylor call Mr. Faries a "cooter hunting."

Overtures Made.

John A. Jackson, police chief of Clover, testified that a short time before the killing, James M. Taylor had made overtures of friendship to Faries. He did not testify whether or not those overtures were accepted. All the testimony in the case was in by 9:25 Saturday morning and arguments were immediately entered into, those arguments consuming exactly three and one-half hours.

The Predatory Wasp.—A convict, who wanted more than the regular prison fare, once made a complaint in rather ingenious terms. An inspector entered the man's cell and found it very hot and stuffy.

"Why have you your ventilator closed?" he asked.

The prisoner answered plaintively, "Well, inspector, the last time I had the ventilator open a wasp flew in, you see, and carried off my dinner while my back was turned."

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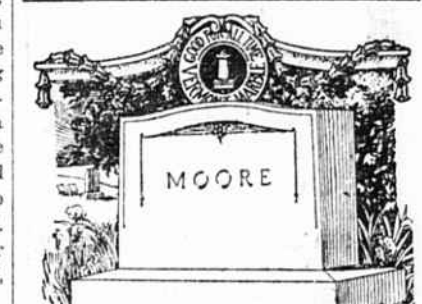
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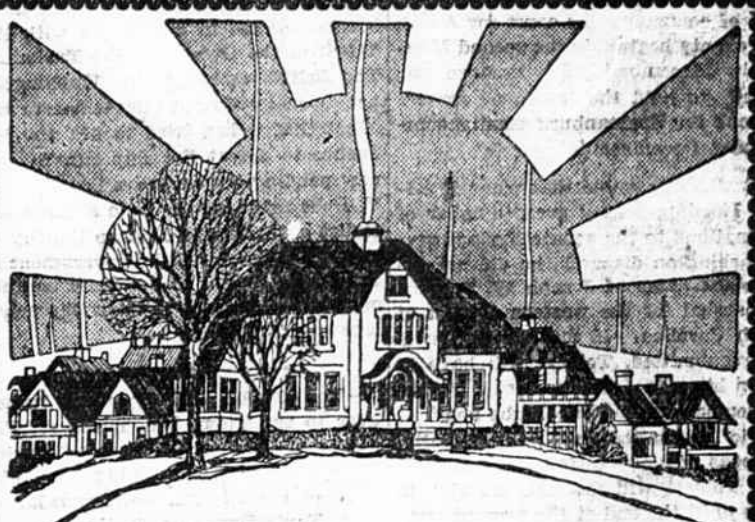
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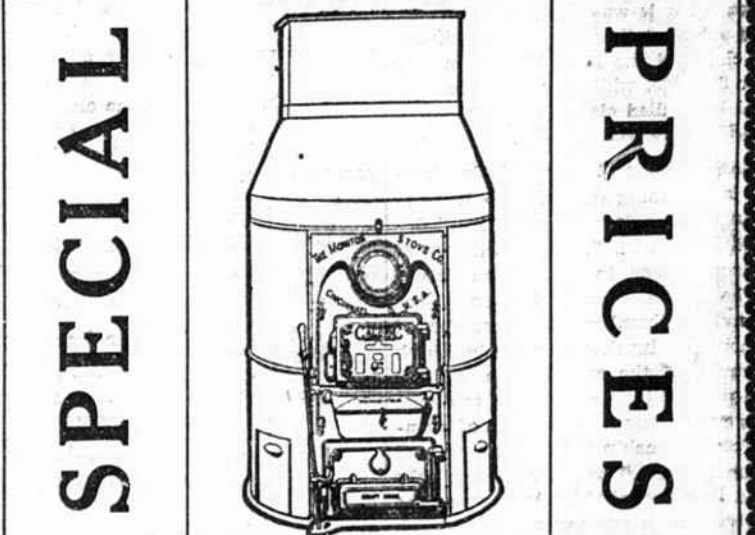
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