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R.O.C. Messenger: August 15, 1949

Republican Organizing Committee

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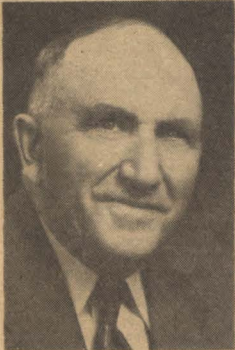
R. O. C. MESSENGER

Dedicated to the Cause of Good Government

BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA, AUGUST 15, 1949

Vol. 2, No. 7

Five Men Named to Study ROC Statement of Principles



STRAND



CONNOLLY



JOHNSON



LONGMIRE



DAHL

Policy Holder Wins

High Court Backs Alert Commissioner Who Ruled Laws Must Be Obeyed

BISMARCK—While it now is understood generally throughout the state and in insurance circles elsewhere, that Otto Krueger, North Dakota insurance commissioner, earned a clearcut and sweeping victory thru the recent state supreme court ruling in the Farmers Union Life association case, it often is overlooked that there was another party to the long litigation who emerged victorious.

He is the policy holder, the man who has taken out life insurance in the association.

Who Said F. U. Life Company Won In Court?

Bismarck—Let's look at the record and keep the facts straight, says Otto Krueger, state commissioner of insurance, in referring to the recent judgment of the state supreme court in the action of the National Farmers Union Life association vs. Krueger as insurance commissioner.

The concluding paragraph in the order for judgment on remittitur as entered by District Judge Harvey J. Miller, after high court decision reads:

"It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed that the license of the plaintiff therein, National Farmers Union Life association, BE CANCELLED OR A RENEWAL THEREOF BE DENIED unless the said plaintiff within a reasonable time to be fixed by Commissioner of Insurance for the State of North Dakota, Otto Krueger, shall furnish to the defendant commissioner satisfactory evidence that it is doing business in accordance with the laws of this state.

"Dated this 27th day of July, 1949."

No attempt to twist the facts, no effort to claim a victory for the insurance association, says Krueger, can affect the sound judgment of any intelligent person who reads the supreme court decision.

The judgment ruled clearly that the license of the company be CANCELLED or renewal thereof be DENIED by the commissioner, unless the insurance company furnish to him satisfactory evidence that it is doing business according to state law.

Up to date, no such evidence has been furnished and consequently no license has been issued, the commissioner reports.

Requirements of Law

Thus the present status of the insurance company before the in-

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Krueger's role in the proceedings was that of protector of the men and women in the state who invest their savings in insurance—his insistence that every safeguard should surround their policies is regarded by the commissioner merely as one of the many duties of his office.

Efforts by some leaders of the opposition to charge "politics" in the insurance suits are refuted by Krueger in his simple statement:

"I have only done my duty as commissioner of insurance to protect the people of this state. I do not hold anything personal against the association or anyone connected with it, but as long as I hold this office of trust, I intend to do my duty and make all insurance concerns obey all our laws.

"The supreme court resolved some matters in favor of the association and I am pleased to get the court's interpretations in that connection but the fact still remains that the main questions in this lawsuit were decided in favor of the commissioner. I will do my very utmost to see that the association meets the legal requirements for admission into North Dakota and follows the law as laid down by our supreme court.

"Whenever the association produces evidence satisfactory to me as directed by the supreme court I shall be very glad to issue it a license. I surely will do my part if the association will do its share. Other Farmers Union insurance companies have been licensed by me after making a proper showing and consequently it cannot be truthfully said that I am in any way prejudiced against any Farmers Union concerns."

The insurance company has obtained permission to present evidence to the commissioner Aug. 19 which the company believes will convince the commissioner that the legal objections to issuance of a license have been removed, and certain corrections made.

After study of the exhibits, the commissioner will take action on the application for a license.

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BILLJAY BREEZES

Radio speaker declares acceptance of subsidies destroys the dignity of our citizens . . . but many of us seem willing to accept a little indignity if accompanied by cash.

This is a year when issues between political factions, not candidates, are the subjects of discussion . . . next year will bring out the candidates. Fortunate is the group which has a wealth of capable, popular candidates willing to run for office . . . less fortunate is the faction which has to hunt the high-ways and byways hunting for men who can be persuaded to run with the heavy handicap of a defeatist complex.

As pointed out by an ROC chairman recently, the reason for ROC success is that the party represents all groups of our population, from farms, cities and small communities—the ROC works for good government and prosperity for the whole state, not for a particular segment of our citizenry.

Pet dislike: The radio interviewer who casually chats (via recording) with a personage . . . and gets in his own 5,000 words while the interviewee is hard-pressed to get in his 500.

London dispatches tell of 7,000 soldiers unloading ships during a dock workers strike . . . under the socialist Labor government.

The Boettigers are divorced; Franklin, Jr., to marry again; perhaps the wellknown four freedoms should have been five.

Herbert Hoover at 75 regains much of former popularity, after pendulum swings back toward center from forced deviation into leftist sector . . . many great Americans didn't live to attain deserved recognition, like tragic Billy Mitchell.

Quarrels between columnists, aired in their daily tirades, may be amusing to the public; for instance that Pearson and Pegler bout . . . but such exposures do not help their racket.

Tourists from New York city visiting in Bismarck say Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., is being groomed to run for mayor of New York . . . and they are afraid they can't beat him.

Early August heat ripened grain, brought severe storms . . . and brought that story about an alligator being at large in the Park river.

Two Farmers, Rail Worker And Young Republican in Group Appointed by Brant

BISMARCK—Five men from various parts of the state have been named by State Senator E. H. Brant, chairman of the ROC organization, to prepare a draft of a proposed 1950 statement of principles for the Republican Organizing Committee.

The statement of principles, out of which is expected to come a comprehensive and forward looking platform for the 1950 campaign, will be submitted to state committees of 61 men and 61 women for their study, consideration and suggestions, before submission to the state ROC convention in the spring of 1950.

Will Invite All Legislators

BISMARCK—All ROC members of the legislature, both senators and representatives, and all ROC county chairmen will be invited to attend future meetings of the state committees of 61 men and women, it was ruled by the state executive committee at an August meeting here.

Large crowds of enthusiastic ROC members attended a statewide meeting in Minot in April and an overflow throng was present at the first official meeting of the committees in July in Bismarck.

"All key workers in the organization should have the privilege of attending such meetings and sharing in the exchange of ideas and other benefits which accrue," said committee Chairman E. H. Brant in discussing the motion to extend the invitations. The motion was carried unanimously.

Leo Sticka Follows Play Too Closely; Gets Broken Foot

NEW ENGLAND—Leo Sticka of Scheffield, state representative from Stark county, always calls 'em close. In fact, as umpire in a recent ball game he was a little too close to the play. A base runner coming into second base hit the popular arbiter as Leo nosed in to watch the play, and the umpire came out of the mixup with a broken foot. At last report, Leo was hobbling about and in considerable pain.

Sticka is president of the Queen City league, says the Hettinger Herald, continuing:

"The ironic part of the accident was the fact that he at first refused to umpire because he is president of the league and on the arbitration board. However, the Halfway team had no umpire and liked his work in previous games so they waived the rules and he worked as the Halfway umpire—that is he worked part of one inning as the accident occurred in the first."

Appointed by Chairman Brant to the important task are two farmers, one representative of organized labor, an attorney and former legislator who was one of the founding fathers of the ROC, and a man who has been very active in the Young Republican federation, also an attorney.

The committee:

State Senator Emil Strand of Fryburg, farmer of the Slope area. Frank Connolly of Dunn Center, farmer and large scale rancher. H. C. Dahl of Jamestown, longtime railroad employe. Vernon Johnson, attorney of Walpato, George Longmire, state's attorney of Grand Forks county, prominent in Young Republican circles.

Appointment of such a committee for preliminary preparation of the statement of principles was directed by a meeting of state committees of 61 at a well-attended meeting in Bismarck in July.

The next meeting of those committees tentatively is planned for late autumn, after fall farm work is completed, at which time discussion of the proposed platform-statement will take place. Chairman Brant points out that only the convention itself can adopt the platform.

Senator Strand, who farms 880 acres near Fryburg, has been a resident of Billings county since 1907. He never ran for county or state office until 1948 when he was elected state senator, but long had been active in township and school district affairs. The Fryburg farmer has been on the school board continuously since 1914, serving 25 years as treasurer. A popular and progressive citizen, Senator Strand for a number of years served as justice of peace.

Native of State

Frank Connolly, native of Dickinson, is a member of the second generation of a wellknown ranching family. In addition to operating his own farm Connolly with his brother, J. L., and his sister, Marian, run the big Connolly ranch six miles north of Dunn Center. Farming and ranching ever have been his

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Policy Holder Wins; High Court Backs Alert Commissioner In F. U. Insurance Lawsuit

(Continued from page one)

Four points in the supreme court decision sustained the commissioner. Quoting the decision:

"Summarizing our conclusions, we have found that the commissioner should be sustained upon four of the findings upon which he bases his decision to refuse to renew the association's license. They are:

"(1) That the United States government has been made a beneficiary or assignee under the association's patronage group contracts in violation of the statutes of North Dakota; (2) that the association has made allocations to death benefit reserves upon a basis which is neither in accord with its contracts nor permissible under the laws of North Dakota; (3) that the association made one loan to its officers and another in connection with a transaction out of which its officers made a profit; (4) that the association had made an unauthorized investment in industrial stocks in the sum of \$6,980."

Under N. D. Law

On the first point—the commissioner contended that the U. S. government was a beneficiary in certain contracts in violation of the statutes of North Dakota. The supreme court said:

"The first contention has been settled adversely to the association . . . the laws of the state of North Dakota require foreign fraternal benefit societies to conform to the laws of this state regulating domestic societies with the single exception of the regulation of investment of assets and that the state of North Dakota has the power to require such conformity."

As for the second point, the court said in part:

"As to the second contention, we are satisfied the association is in error. It is true that the person or persons who are explicitly denominated beneficiaries in the insurance certificates are within the statutory limitations, but under the contract, part of the death benefits are made directly payable to the United States government. To the extent that the government shares directly in the proceeds of the insurance it is either a beneficiary or an assignee . . . In effect the contract assigns an interest in the insurance benefits to secure a debt due the government. Such an assignment is contrary to law."

Loans To Officers

About the third point, quoting the opinion:

"The commissioner found that the association had made loans in connection with the transactions in which some of its officers were directly interested and out of which they made a profit. The association concedes that this finding is correct as to one transaction. The record shows that in 1943 Mr. Huff and Mr. Patton, officers of the association, borrowed from it for the

Sturgis Will Speak At Engineers' Meet

Bismarck—Brig. Gen. S. D. Sturgis, Missouri division engineer for the corps of engineers, will be principal speaker when Western State Engineers meet here Aug. 22-25 in their 22nd annual convention. Gen. Sturgis will speak at the banquet Aug. 24, says J. J. Walsh, North Dakota state engineer who is president of the Western Engineers.

Other speakers will include Gov. Fred G. Aandahl; Col. J. S. Seybold, Garrison district engineer; Harry Polk of Williston, president of the National Reclamation association; Senator Milton R. Young and Dean H. L. Walster of the NDAC.

JOBS FOR STUDENTS

Grand Forks—Jobs will be available for state university students who want and need employment, said Lloyd Stone, alumni director. The U employment office works with the state employment office and the alumni. Last year about 500 students procured jobs.

purposes of purchasing a tract of land. The loan was criticized by the examiners in 1944 and it was immediately sold without recourse to another Denver Life Insurance company. Later, Mr. Huff and Mr. Patton sold the land to one Fritzier who financed his purchase in part by a loan through the association. There is no complaint that the loan is excessive or that it was made upon inadequate security. It is contended by the association that these loans are legal in all respects for the reason that the laws of Colorado governing fraternal benefit societies do not expressly bar such loans. This contention cannot be upheld. The funds of mutual benefit societies are trust funds . . .

"It is well established that trustees may not place themselves in a position where their personal interests will conflict with their duties as trustees. They may not make loans to themselves under cover of investments. Both the loan to themselves and the loan to Fritzier were transactions in which Patton and Huff had an interest adverse to their duties as trustees. As such they were improper even though in these specific instances the society and its certificate holders were amply protected."

Krueger Right Again

Score another point for Otto. The association at all times contended that nothing was improper with such loans.

As for the fourth point, the court says:

"Finally we reach a consideration of the finding that the association has carried as admitted assets an unauthorized investment of \$12,980 in industrial stocks. The conference examination report lists the amount invested in industrial stocks by the association and states: 'The first item includes stocks in two nationally known corporations and are included at the purchase price therefore. The market value on June 30, 1946, was \$7,490.22. While Colorado statutes do not list stocks as investments for capital and reserves of an insurance company, they have, however, been allowed as surplus at the market value thereof. The difference of \$510.62 has been entered as and non-ledger asset.' It appears therefore that the amount invested in industrial stocks was \$6,980 rather than \$12,980 and that the commissioner's examiner concurred in allowing this investment as an admitted asset. The investment is, nevertheless, one which is not permissible under the Colorado law and it should not have been carried as an admitted asset or allowed by the examiners as one."

The supreme court laid down a number of other principles of law which uphold the stand of Commissioner Krueger.

The court ruled that "under North Dakota laws, all adult insured members of fraternal benefit societies must be initiated." Association officers, says the insurance commissioner, "do not appear to have records showing whether such initiations have been held, adding that he is glad the court has held such initiations necessary as he has contended."

Trust Funds

Commissioner Krueger expressed pleasure that the supreme court held:

"The funds of fraternal benefit societies are trust funds," and also that:

"Officers of a fraternal benefit society may not make loans of the society's funds to themselves or in connection with any business transaction in which their personal interests conflict with their duties as trustees."

And so, the policy holder is victor in the famous insurance case—his policies are protected better, his savings made more secure, by the activities of an alert state official who saw his duty and did it. With the court's support of his contentions, he strengthened the safeguards about the policies held by North Dakotans.

Who Said F. U. Life Company Won In Court?

(Continued from page one)

insurance commissioner, whose stand is buttressed by the final judgment of the supreme court, remains the same as it was when Krueger originally refused to issue a renewal of the association's license to do business in the state.

The reason then given by the commissioner was that the association did not comply with the requirements of the law and he feels that his decision in the argument now bears the stamp of approval of the highest court in the state.

It was following his refusal to renew the license that the F. U. Life association appealed to the district court and a hearing was held before Judge Miller, assigned to the case. Judge Miller's ruling virtually ordered the commissioner to issue a license to the association, upholding Krueger on only one of thirteen counts.

The decision was appealed to the state supreme court by Commissioner Krueger. On July 1 of this year the high court handed down its judgment upholding the commissioner on the chief points in the action and ordering Judge Miller to modify his decision. Technically, the high court ruled the association was remiss on four points of contention.

Thus it is apparent to any unbiased mind, says the commissioner, despite any false information which may be given out by Farmers Union leaders or others with political bias, that the insurance company still lacks a license and will continue to do so until evidence is presented that the laws of the state will be obeyed.

"If a man is tried on several counts and acquitted on some of them while found guilty on several charges," says Krueger, "he does not go free."

"One of the angles of the case is the attempt by selfish leaders to misconstrue the facts, when the entire proceedings are a matter of record, and misled their followers into believing the judgment against them was a victory. How long will intelligent persons follow such leadership, which wanders so far from the path of truth?"

Third War Looms Unless U. S. Wakes

Thief River Falls, Minn.—A third World War looms unless the United States and Canada abandon their complacency, Col. Ernie Miller of Brainerd told American and Canadian veterans assembled here at a convention of the International War Veterans Alliance.

There is a struggle for world domination between two ideas of government, said Miller who survived Bataan and the March of Death. He reminded the veterans that in the past both Canada and the United States always have "awakened to find themselves at war."

The two philosophies of government, said the colonel, are individualism and collectivism.

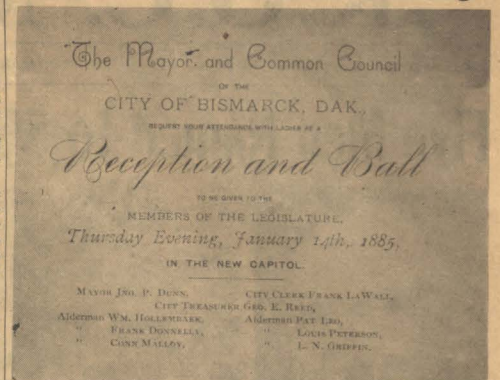
The peoples of the free nations, said Miller, have more than all the other nations put together and the reason is the incentive of private gain to spur people to accomplishment.

"Freedom can endure in this world only when there is peace," Miller was quoted by W. B. Allen in the Grand Forks Herald. He asserted this world does not offer any free rides and people will have to work for what they get, and the thought that government can provide for all the people will lead only to the loss of individual freedom.

TO START EXCAVATION

STANLEY—Excavation is slated to start Sept. 1 on the proposed \$125,000 community hospital here. It is hoped to get the basement walls up and covered this fall to permit winter work inside.

Legislators Were Guests 64 Years Ago



—Courtesy of Beulah Independent.

An interesting link with territorial days is the invitation card which appears above—asking members of the legislature to attend a reception and ball "in the new capitol". The big social event found the mayor and council of the city of Bismarck serving as hosts on Jan. 14, 1885, in the days long before motorcars and planes when horsepower was measured on the hoof. It may be noted that Jno. P. Dunn was mayor.

The card, reproduced in the Beulah Independent, was found in the attic of an old cabin on the Flora mine property near Elliston, Mont., where the Sinerius brothers, once of the Beulah-Zap vicinity, mine silver and lead. Fred Sinerius used the engraved card. Associated with him are five brothers. Mrs. Rosina Sinerius of Zap, mother of the mining family, brought the souvenir card to Beulah after a visit with her sons.

Two Farmers, Rail Worker, Young Republican Included in Group For Study of ROC Statement

(Continued from page one)

chief interests. He was Triple A chairman in his county for four years.

H. C. Dahl of Jamestown, for many years has been active in legislation, not only in general but with special reference to labor. He has lived in the state for 40 years, 30 of which have been spent in Jamestown. Since 1917 he has been employed by the Northern Pacific railroad as agent, telegrapher and dispatcher and in the entire period since that date has been a member of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers. He has been active in civic affairs, serving on the school board, and for eight years was Republican county chairman in Stutsman. In Stutsman during that time a particularly strong Republican organization was built up with representation of farmers, railroad labor and businessmen.

Vernon M. Johnson, attorney of Wahpeton, is a former legislator long prominent in the ROC. Popular with all factions, even the opposition, his ability to analyze situations and get to the heart of the subject under discussion has resulted in his counsel being widely sought in ROC circles. He is senior member of the firm of Johnson and Milloy, Pat Milloy being a past state commander of the American Legion.

George Longmire of Grand Forks where he is state's attorney, is a native of Tennessee, having picked North Dakota as the best place to live. He is immediate past president of the Young Republicans in the state. For three years he was a special agent with the FBI both in this country and abroad. The study of government—good government—is one of the young lawyer's hobbies.

Named by Chairman Brant as ex-officio members of the committee are Mrs. Ethel Cooley of Minot, Republican national committee woman, and W. H. Johnson of Bismarck, ROC publicity director.

Horse Show Planned With Jaycee Frolic

Garrison—A horse show, complete with contests and parade, will be an added feature of the annual Jaycee Fall Frolic here Sept. 16 and 17. Youngsters as well as adults may enter in various classes. The horse show will be held Friday, Sept. 16, say Eddie Wretling and George Barrows, in charge of that event.

State Is Tops In Agriculture

North Dakota's top rank as an agricultural state is demonstrated sharply in figures prepared by the Greater South Dakota association from compilations by the department of agriculture. In 11 categories for 12 midwestern states, North Dakota ranks first in five important classifications and second in six; the table refers to grain production and cash income.

States considered were North and South Dakota, Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Michigan.

Especially noteworthy is the state's pre-eminence in cash farm income increase, retail sales per family, per farm production of wheat, North Dakota ranks second in the U. S. in total flax production.

In income per farm over a five-year period, the state is exceeded only by Illinois; the same state has a slight advantage in per capita buying income; South Dakota alone leads North Dakota in average farm rye production; Minnesota alone produces more flax; only South Dakota farms are higher in hay production. (The total barley yield for the United States shows the state second only to California.)

The figures:	N. D. Rank
Increase in cash farm income 1948 over 1940, 514%	1
Average 5-year cash income per farm, \$8,213	2
Retail sales, 1948, per family \$4,102	1
Production of wheat, 1948, per farm, 1,964 bushels	1
Per capita 1948 buying income, \$1,419	2
Average wheat production per acre, 1937-1948, 1,756 bushels	1
Average 1948 barley production per farm, 797 bushels	1
Total 1948 barley production, 63,756,000 bushels	2
Average 1948 rye production per farm, 66.98 bushels	2
Total 1948 flax production in 10 top states, 14,896,000 bu.	2
Average 1948 per farm hay production, 42.79 tons	2

STORE CHANGES HANDS

Lakota—The Lakota Supply store has been purchased by Arthur J. Hill who has taken possession. A. Z. Hayter, former manager will continue in the employ of the new owner.

Protection for Farmer

Young Republicans Favor Home Rule Conservation, Tax Reform

GRAND FORKS—The American farmer should be protected, as is the factory or office worker, from outside economic disasters over which he has no control.

That thought was indorsed and underscored at the national convention of Young Republicans at Salt Lake City and stands high on the worksheet in that federation's program, says Tom Miller, North Dakota chairman of the YR. Miller, a Minot man, now concluding his law course at the state university, was one of a delegation of five from the state to attend the convention.

The convention discussed a score or more of issues facing U. S. voters today, among them problems of agriculture, conservation, business and government administration. Concerning agriculture, the convention said:

"We are confident that the farmer seeks no privileged position and no special favors.

Oppose Destruction

"We approve in principle strengthening the American market for agricultural goods thru the device of flexible parity price supports. We stop short, however, of

the apparent excesses of the so-called Brannan plan, believing that such a plan would soon bankrupt the nation and furthermore we believe that parity prices should be administered so as to permit a gradual realignment between supply and demand, as contrasted to maintaining high prices from year to year on commodities so overpriced as to require the destruction of food to permit parity payments."

Regarding conservation, the YR convention took a decided stand against increase of federal powers, saying in part:

"Proposed Democratic legislation calling for the creation of 'valley authorities' would deprive the states of jurisdiction over the distribution and use of the waters within their boundaries; prevent the making of compacts between states governing the use of such water; drastically interfere with the basic agricultural economy of many states and unnecessarily and unwisely centralize in autonomous federal agencies, powers and duties that can be administered more efficiently and economically by the states and existing agencies of government.

Concerted Action

"We believe that regional needs for greater hydro-electric power and development and conservation of natural resources can best be achieved by concerted state action undertaken with existing federal agencies long experienced in and familiar with regional conditions."

Strict restriction of the tendency toward monopoly and encouragement for small business is urged in the YR statement on business problems which states:

"In order to retain high American standards of living incentive and ingenuity thru competition and to prevent the tendency of monopoly to stifle and impede business, we recommend that the federal government continue policing monopoly industries in the spirit of anti-trust laws; that the federal government actively encourage new and small businesses through the facilities of the department of congress; the modification of tax policies to meet their special problems; and the sympathetic appreciation of these problems in regard to tax collection, payroll deductions and compliance with the demands of bureaucratic routine."

Taxation Reforms

The Young Republicans urge that past U. S. presidents serve as non-voting senators, look with favorable eyes on the Hoover commission reports, and recommend tax reforms, saying:

"We recommend that: (A) Past presidents of the United States be seated in the U. S. senate as non-voting senators at large.

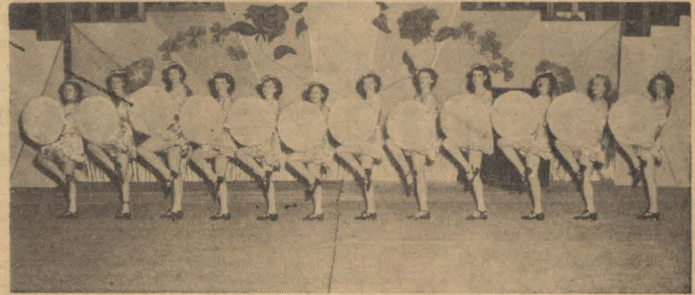
(B) That the Hoover commission reports on the reorganization of the federal government should be promptly enacted by congress.

(C) In order to create an economic climate most conducive to achieving maximum productivity, we urge the following reforms:

"1. Reduction in the present initial rate of individual income taxes; 2. elimination of all excise taxes except those on liquor; 3. elimination of the double tax on corporate dividends; and 4. simplification of the present restrictions on allowances for depreciation."

North Dakota's delegation to the convention, which was very active on the floor and in committees, included: Chairman Miller, LeOtis Vaaler of Kenmare, Jack Stockman of Grand Forks, Phil Hoghaug of Devils Lake, and Ray Towne of Bismarck.

Unrivalled Community Spirit Makes Rolla Home Talent Revue Success



* * *

Folks living in northern North Dakota, in a half-dozen cities from Langdon west to Minot, have had an opportunity this summer to view an outstanding attraction—"A Bit of Heaven", a home talent platform show, a revue presented by the community of Rolla.

There have been two outstanding attributes of the show, which have brought rare comment in news columns and editorials—the excellence of the production and the amazing community spirit displayed by Rolla, a town of about 1,000 situated up near the Canadian border in Rolette county. Both resulted in part from the ability of the producer and coach, director and sparkplug, Albert J. Bateson, to inspire his home city in the venture, and the confidence which the community reposed in the director.

\$60,000 In Hurry

Of course, the extraordinary successful enterprise started with the original backing of three women's clubs—faced with a problem. The community wanted \$60,000 as quickly as possible to increase school facilities and that ambition became a project of the Women's club, the Study club and the Twentieth Century. And so the town and the surrounding territory went to work.

Church groups and lodges, Legion post and Homemakers, farmers and businessmen, the Commercial club and boy scouts, school children and their teachers and above all the rank and file men and women of Rolla centered their efforts in raising funds.

By far the most spectacular and perhaps the most successful financially of all the money-earning ventures was "A Bit of Heaven." The show project in its grand conception might have daunted residents of towns much larger than Rolla—training, costuming and transporting a cast of 90 performers; arranging for the countless details of scenery and lighting, not to forget the printing and billing and box-office angles.

Best Of Its Kind

Talent was interested, management was volunteered and under Postmaster Bateson the "Bit" project emerged, applauded as the finest show of its kind which ever toured the grain-heavy northland.

Outside towns visited by the production included Langdon, Bottineau, Rugby, Minnewaukan and Minot, where demand brought a repeat performance at the state fairgrounds. And of course, appearance in Rolla.

So now a fine start has been made on raising that \$60,000 which eventually will relieve overcrowding in the school and add some edu-

Two of the dance numbers in the much applauded extravaganza, "A Bit of Heaven", are pictured here. Upper, the kiddies' act, one of a dozen specialty features; lower, the older girls strut their stuff in a dancing ensemble. Singing acts are interspersed with the dance numbers while the show curtains with an impressive grand finale.

cational advantages which have been forced out due to lack of space.

And the fame of Rolla's community spirit has spread throughout much of the state.

Some of the comment about the Rolla production:

"Many a spectator used to seeing all kinds of shows throughout the country, claimed they couldn't recall top flight professionals staging anything more impressive," said the Pierce County Tribune.

"They have achieved seemingly the impossible, putting forth a professional-like stage show with amateur talent," the Bottineau Courant reported.

"Persons who saw the show applauded the entertainment numbers and must have been of one mind in astonishment over the achievement of the Rolla folks," the Minot Daily News reported.

"People of Dunseith and vicinity and almost everyone else in Rolette county attended the musical revue . . . and everyone came home saying: 'It's the best I have ever seen.'" was the reaction seen by the Dunseith Journal.

Lots of Luck And All of It Bad

Marmarth—Hard luck beat a rugged trail to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Laurel Collins in a recent week. Collins upset a truck when he met a combine; a high wind blew off barn doors and did other damage; fire destroyed a new brooder house and a number of ready-to-market fryers; then hail leveled most of the crop.

Danger At Grassroots

Robert Kasnayer, the well known lecturer and commentator, recently made a penetrating observation on our internal weakness. He said:

"The real danger in the U.S. today lies not in Washington but at the grass roots. Governments have always intended to usurp more and more power unto themselves. In every free organization there is the seed of tyranny. That's why eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. The real danger in the U. S. lies with the millions who are apathetic. Democracy is going by default. Men and women are being promised by their government things—things which that government cannot deliver, not over any protracted period of time—for no government can go on promising more and more people more and more of everything, without telling anyone that someone has to pay the bills. Lulled into a false security by these promises men are exchanging their liberties, their initiative, their dignity, their heritage as free men, for a bunch of theories, most of which are imported from countries which are already dependent on the U.S. for supports."

There's no sense in kicking at the government, as if it were something separate and apart from us. The government is what we make it by the public servants we elect to office. In late years there has been a disgraceful increase in the "gimme" attitude indulged in by individuals, by local governments and by various groups, all seeking special favors and benefits. This represents the "get something for nothing" psychology in its worst form. And it is exactly the kind of thing which starves freedom and fattens tyranny.—Velva Journal.

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EXHIBIT AT FAIR

Fargo—Material from all schools and departments of NDAC will be included in an exhibit at the Fargo fairgrounds during the Red river valley fair, Aug. 29-Sept. 3. The exhibits now are established in Festival hall on the campus.

Something For Nothing?

That something for nothing is a phony is truth long established, but still many people refuse to believe what they don't want to believe.

So says the Chicago Daily Drivers Journal, as reported by the Co-operative Shipper. The article continues in part:

"In Britain the people are finding out the hard way. Sir Stafford Cripps, their chanceller of the exchequer, doesn't mince words in telling them what they are up against.

"Their 'purposeful policy' of redistribution of wealth has been carried out, he tells them, but the cost of social services in 1949 is not the end . . . We must . . . recognize the unpleasant fact that these services must be paid for and they must be paid for by taxation, direct or indirect."

"He warns them further that: 'Total taxation, local and national, is now more than 40 per cent of the national income, and at that level the redistribution of income entailed in the payment for social services already falls, to a considerable extent, upon those who are the recipients of these services.'"

"And as they undertake to meet this ruinous rate of taxation the so-called common people are finding that the cost, for what was projected as coming "free" from the government, is actually much higher than the same services privately provided. Nor is the cost limited to cash, for there is the little item of freedom involved, as regulations are piled upon regulations.

"They might have known that something for nothing is a phony if they had studied history. They are at least again demonstrating that history teaches that people learn nothing from history."

To Dedicate New Stone At Amidon

AMIDON—A memorial stone to Slope county men who died in service in World War II will be dedicated here Labor day, Sept. 5. A monument originally was erected to honor the dead of World War I but it was enlarged and a stone was placed on the south side of the monument bearing the names of those who died in the second conflict.

Money was raised by donations and enough was subscribed to lay sidewalks near the stone. The county commission appropriated funds to complete the sidewalks.

American Legion posts of New England, Amidon, Rhame, Bowman and Belfield have been invited to attend in uniform and a parade with colors and firing squad will precede the dedication ceremony.

FARM UNITS BIGGER

Brookings, S. D.—The average farm or ranch unit in South Dakota now is 626 acres, almost double the 1910 figure of 335 acres, says the state college agricultural station. Many farms are still too small, says the report.

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Krueger Still Has The Hill

Many years ago the British thought they had won a rather decisive engagement known far and wide as the Battle of Bunker Hill.

But today, 174 years later, the Americans hold the hill. Strange stories have been told and presumably heard that the Farmers Union Life association won in a recent judgment by the state supreme court concerning the company's application for a license to do business in the state. However, the company still must make application and convince Insurance Commissioner Otto Krueger that all points covered by state law have been complied with.

In other words, despite any victory claim by the opposition, Otto still holds that hill.

Can You Hear The Guns?

Ground troops, battle-wise sailors, too, know the sound—the distant music of the guns, beating out a symphony of death. The dough-boy, in a momentarily quiet sector, hears the mad melody to his right or left or both, and knows what the overtone signifies—that soon he too will be engulfed in a world of noise and flame. Next will come the basso rumble of the big boys in the rear, probably followed by the staccato chatter of the machineguns on his flank, and then the entire front will erupt in roaring thunder and flashing lightning and the end of the world will seem close.

A soldier marching grimly toward the front, miles and hours away, hears the reverberating murmur of the guns growing louder in his ears as the distance between him and the inferno is lessened.

The cold war continues, the Atlantic pact is signed, the U. S. takes on new military commitments.

Can you hear the guns?

Promises of Security

The most vicious current definition of security is that it resides in political power, or in government.

"Vote for me," the candidate says, "and I will see that you are taken care of, no matter how much it hurts someone else."

But tomorrow there are other elections, other candidates, other promises. Security is not the product of political power.

People who think it is should remember the French woman who said to her king: "After us, the deluge."—Dickey County Leader.

Birthplace of Heroine

It may be of some interest to people around here to know that congress recently appropriated \$275,000 for the erection of a statue to Sakakawea somewhere in Wyoming where Sakakawea supposedly died.

What makes this particularly interesting to us is the fact that Sakakawea's home town—the place where she was found by Lewis and Clark—is located just outside of Stanton and isn't marked with so much as a wooden stake to indicate that this was the home of North Dakota's first heroine.—Hazen Star.

Promises Being Kept

Sargent county commissioners have now secured their right-of-way in that county for the new No. 11 which will start east in Dickey county two miles south of Oakes. It does seem that all is well and that our highway department is living up to its every promise.—Oakes Times.

Aggradation and Bunk

Ever hear of "aggradation"? If you haven't, it is probably because the word wasn't commonly used until Congressman Usher L. Burdick dug it up to fit his arguments against the 1850 foot level for the Garrison reservoir.

The dictionary defines aggradation as "modification of the earth's surface . . . by deposition, as in a river bed."

As applied to the Garrison reservoir by Mr. Burdick, aggradation would result in building up silt at the west end of the reservoir until the water around Williston would be much higher than at the east end of the reservoir.

"It is inevitable then," Mr. Burdick says, "that no matter how high the dikes are built, the displaced water will eventually overflow. We would then see the countryside near Williston flooded and the damage then would be wholesale."

So, aggradation is really much more simple than it appeared to be. In a dishpan, for instance, the water will rise only at the end where the dishes are deposited, when Mr. Burdick's aggradation takes over. Here in the Garrison dam area we are apparently doomed to see a day when water will no longer seek its own level; when taking a bath will become a matter of sitting in the end of the tub where the water has piled up.

On his next trip to the dictionary, Mr. Burdick should move into the B's to look up the definitions of "halderash", "bunk" and "baloney."—Hazen Star.

Benefits for Majority

It is refreshing to note that 100 farmers in the Oliver-Mercer county area recently voted unanimously in favor of the 1850 foot level for the Garrison dam, rather than for the 1830 foot level. Personally I have always been in favor of the 1850 foot level because it will bring greater overall benefits to the state, and more particularly to the farmers. Our growing need for water for irrigation and electric power for our REA setups is reason enough for the higher pool level. I feel that Congressman Usher L. Burdick and William Lemke are doing a disservice to the people of the state in advocating the lower pool level. I consider too that the newspaper, the Leader, in its zealous attempt to discredit the reclamation service and the army engineers in favor of the MVA, has ignored the needs and benefits of the farmers of the state in advocating the lower level.—Adams County Record.

Marker at Site of Trading Post Built at Walhalla in 1801



—Courtesy of Walhalla Mountaineer.

The second of three markers, commemorating events in Pembina county, the state's oldest and perhaps most historic county, was dedicated recently at Walhalla, as pictured above. The marker, on a cement base, is a natural boulder bearing a bronze plate. It is situated on the site of the trading post established in 1801 by the Northwest Fur Trading company. In the picture the boulder and plate are being unveiled by Mrs. Edward Clairmont of Walhalla on the site of the old Allan Andrews farm. The property was donated by A. O. Tetrault.

Three monuments to center attention on the early history of the area, in extreme northeastern North Dakota, are projects of the Pioneer Daughters, Pembina county chapter. First was a marker dedicated at Mountain where the first Icelandic Lutheran church in America was established in 1864. Third will be an enduring tribute to the pioneers at Pembina city.

Mrs. A. F. Hall, president of the Walhalla unit of the Pioneer Daughters, presided at the outdoor ceremony when the marker was dedicated. She told of the troubled early days in the Walhalla region, where white settlers had located long before the time of Lewis and Clark.

Adolph Zaek of Morden, Man., president of the Pembina Hills Historical association, sketched the history of the region and discussed documentary material which has been revealed in diaries and journals.

History students have pointed out that with proper development the northern route across North Dakota could offer to visitors superior attractions reached by short side trips from the federal highway—Pembina historic sites, the International Peace Garden, Sully national park and old Fort Buford near the Montana line. Then, also—Garrison dam and beyond the state boundary, Fort Peck and Glacier park. Besides, Canadian lakes and parks are accessible easily from No. 10.

Quotes: What Folks Say in or About North Dakota

"There are those who believe that a new philosophy is overtaking the American people. The new philosophy is a wide departure from the spirit of rugged individualism that has built this country in the past. The new philosophy, socialistic in nature, seeks to have the government take care of the individual from the cradle to the grave. All of this has to be paid for by someone and that someone is the worker. He pays in proportion to the amount he is willing to work."—Bowbells Tribune.

"Bismarck has always tried to do things bigger and better than Mandan. We will grant that half the time they have been successful. Take for instance the hailstones. They were even bigger than those which fell on Mandan. Here we talked about the hail being as big as marbles but in Bismarck they were as big as walnuts and golf balls. They also had bigger wind, too."—Tostevin in Mandan Pioneer.

"A large crowd visited the Blum well near Des Lacs Sunday on invitation from Henry Johnson, manager of the Des Lacs Western Oil Co. Water was pulled out of ND's deepest hole and also there are 3,600 feet of water in the hole, plenty of oil was found on the surface to indicate there is a supply of oil down in the bowels of the earth." (Dated July 31, 1924.)—Ward County Independent.

"Out here (in California) the fruit growers think the grain farmers are getting all the breaks from the government. They complain there are no parity or support payments for them as for the wheat men. One fruit grower said his kind are going to be heard from

and they'll demand benefits similar to those received by grain farmers."—Gjije in Foster County Independent.

"Not every town has a civic booster like Senator Joe Reinke, who moved to Hankinson and now literally lives for the town . . . Hankinson is indeed fortunate. Every time we see Joe, he has some plan on the fire for the betterment of his town. Incidentally, the senator is busy these days harvesting another bumper crop."—Skrjide, Richland County Farmer-Globe.

"My old friend, Harold C. Bowers, formerly of Regent and now of Bismarck, visited in Hettinger. He surprised me by shaking hands with so many oldtimers. The reason he knew so many soon came out, however. Harold first settled in North Dakota at Hettinger along about 1910 or 1911 and worked in a bank here. He is manager of a larger bank now. He is head of the Bank of North Dakota."—Shults in Adams County Record.

"So very many people have been critical of the action of the city commissioners of Towner. There's to be a special election called for the purpose of electing a new president of the commission. Now is your opportunity to run for that office and to get things done your way."—Mouse River Farmers Press.

COMES TO ELLENDALE

Ellendale—O. A. Finney, Storm Lake, Ia., has bought a jewelry store here from Mr. and Mrs. William Munson. The Munsons will return to Forman to operate a similar store there. Finney for a year has been employed in Lisbon.

POETIC INJUSTICE

Harvey—"REA is here today," said a note which was found with a portable electric light plant which had been missing since spring from the Harvey Flying Service hangar.

Lyman Delameter of the flying service welcomed the return of the light plant but said he could write his own rhyme about the repentant thieves.

No More Me-too Candidates, Says Congressman

BY WILLIAM LEMKE

Washington—The Republican party has been kept out of the White House for 20 years. . . . Their candidates in the last three elections were me-too candidates. In the last election the Republican candidate claimed he could give our country away faster than his opponent could. He, too, was a one-worler.

Eighty per cent of the Republicans demand as their standard-bearer one who believes in the fundamental principles as proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence and established by our constitution. They demand as their candidate a man who will follow in the footsteps of Theodore Roosevelt, Abraham Lincoln, Madison, Monroe, Jefferson and Washington. They demand a candidate and platform that will stop our disastrous foreign policy of depleting America of its natural resources and making it a fifth rate nation.

Independent Thought

The American people demands as a whole that we again become the America that we knew—the America of fearless, independent thought, the America that will not continue to give silent approval to the liquidation of other nations' peoples and the theft of their territory and property. The performance of our nation for the past 17 years has not been an honorable one. The weak-kneed, knock-kneed me-too candidates that the Republicans attempted to elect in the past three elections were doomed to defeat before they got started.

Expert Skips Data On Own Application

Devils Lake—Phil Hoghaug of Devils Lake, as Ramsey county veterans service officer, checked or notarized 1,400 applications for state bonus payments, including his own. One of the last ones mailed, his own came back to him for more information. He had failed to include papers showing he had received the Purple Heart and other commendations. Hoghaug is department commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.