

The Cooperstown Courier.

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THE COURIER.

By Percy R. Grubbs

As executive commissioner of the St. Louis World's Fair, Lieut-Gov. Bartlett has to furnish a \$25,000 bond to be approved by the governor. Mr. Bartlett has executed and forwarded his bond with four sureties that collectively represent over a million dollars worth of property. That ought to be a pretty good bond.

Senator Money roasts President Roosevelt and says that the south hates him. The hatred of the south is more than offset by the admiration of the north, east and west, and the fiery southern senator will find it out next year. Mr. Roosevelt has the courage of his convictions and does not cater to these southern fire eaters or anybody else. He is discharging his duties in an able, fearless and independent manner that appeals to all classes of American citizens who love justice and equality.

This is the way the Fargo Forum see it: Woman's suffrage seems to have proven decidedly beneficial in educational matters in North Dakota. It is right that the ladies should have some say in school matters since education is so closely connected with the home and with society. The same holds true in regard to the matter of the prohibition of the liquor traffic. It is as important in connection with the home life and society as the matter of education and it is fully as important to the fair sex. The ladies should be permitted to vote in the final settling of the liquor problem. They are more vitally interested than the men.

Gov. White is being criticized by the Fargo Call for vetoing a bill asking for an appropriation for the children's home at Fargo, while he approves of a \$50,000 appropriation for the St. Louis fair. Now the COURIER is not going to discuss the merits of the St. Louis appropriation at the same time he might be right on his veto in one way, yet at the same time it would not have cost the state very much and would have helped out a worthy cause. What would have been better on his part would have been to veto that carriage appropriation and have given that \$1,000 to the children's home. Our governors have got along all right with their own carriages in the past and could do so now.

The St. Louis exposition commission has engaged Hon. David Bartlett to take charge of the exhibit to be made by this state at the St. Louis fair next year. This is indeed a compliment to Mr. Bartlett and to Cooperstown. His successful handling of the Buffalo exhibit convinced the commission that he was the right man to handle the St. Louis exhibit. The tax payers can rest assured that the appropriation will be handled wisely and well and we predict that there will be no deficit to meet when the fair is over. Mr. Bartlett turned a good sum back to the state from the Buffalo appropriation which is rather a novelty in these strenuous times, as it is usual to spend every cent and call for more.

The anthracite coal commission has handed its report to the president and the report has been made public. Both sides are looked after and the award of the commission is generally satisfactory to both sides. The commission recommends a

general increase of wages amounting in most instances to 10 per cent; some decrease of time; the settlement of all disputes by arbitration; fixes a minimum wage and a sliding scale; provides against discrimination of persons by either the mine owners or the miners on account of membership or non-membership in a labor union, and provides that the awards made shall continue in force until March 31, 1906. The commission discussed to some extent the matter of recognition or non recognition of the miners' union, but declined to make any award on this matter.

An exchange knew what it was writing about when it published the following: The trade territory of a town is not at all dependent upon the distance to neighboring trading point. The territory depends upon the enterprise of the merchants and the residents of the town. If a town does not reach out after the trade it will only come as fast as it has to and the town will only grow as it is forced to. But if the merchants go after the business in the surrounding country, advertise in every possible way, and make good every word of their advertising, the trade will come from ever increasing radius and the town will gain a reputation for being awake and it will forge to the front. It is the men in the town and not altogether the men living within a certain number of miles from town that are good or good for nothing.

An effort was made to induce the North Dakota legislature to adopt a primary election law similar to that in Minnesota. The opponents claimed that the "old political system" cannot be easily improved upon "until the average man is persuaded to take a great deal more interest in things remote from his daily life than he does now." If the opponents of the primary election law really desires to bring about that result they would have favored the Minnesota primary election plan, because it has been demonstrated in this state that it tends to persuade men to take a great deal more interest in things remote from their daily life than they have taken heretofore. Up to date the largest benefit derived from the direct nominating system in this state is the "larger interest in politics" which it has undoubtedly developed among "average men."—Minneapolis Journal.

The proposed electric light franchise published in the papers last week seems to be a very fair proposition. There are a few slight changes to be suggested, one of the most important of which is fixing the price as to watts. 20c per 1000 watts is considered too high, a majority claiming that 15 to 16c being sufficient. However this matter could be remedied. The flat rate of 50c per month for 16 candle power lights is considered very fair. The company desiring the franchise has plenty of capital and compose some of the oldest and most reliable citizens of the state. They expect to start in with a \$15,000 plant at this place if granted a franchise. The town has nothing to lose nor does it have to use a single light unless so disposed neither does any citizen and the company is willing to put its money in here give the town an up-to-date lighting plant and we see no reason why the town of Cooperstown should not grant the franchise which appears to us to be a very

fair and liberal one for all concerned.

The Shells bill for the regulation of the sales of liquor by druggists has been signed by the governor and will go into effect at once. It is claimed that the bill will be likely to put some druggists in the state out of business, where drug establishments are maintained largely for the sale of liquor, as is the case in some parts of the state. The Shells bill has an emergency clause so that it will take effect as soon as it is signed by the governor. It requires the signatures of eighty per cent. of the free holders and seventy per cent. of the women in the town or village or ward of the city in which the drug store is maintained to obtain a liquor permit. The present law requires the signatures of twenty-five free holders and twenty-five women to obtain a permit. In some parts of the state the provision requiring this large percentage of signatures will make the law practically prohibitory. The affidavits have been changed so that the applicants for liquor must give their residence and street number if in a city and the quarter section, township and range if in the country. This provision is to prevent the sale of liquor to "dummies" as is complained of in some cases. And to cap the climax, the amount of liquor that may be sold to any one person in twenty-four hours is limited to a half a pint.

In addition to this law, the legislature passed a law authorizing the payment of a reward of \$50 to any person furnishing information that will lead to the conviction of a blind pigger or person violating the prohibition law. As this law will probably encourage the presence of a large number of "spotters," persons violating the law will have to be exceedingly wary if they escape the toils of spotters and private detectives.

RACING CIRCUIT.

Secretary Brown of the Fair Association Working up a Racing Circuit.

J. N. Brown last week visited Hope and other places in the interests of a racing circuit and the prospects are good for a favorable wind-up of negotiations. We clip the following from the Fargo Call:

It is up to Fargo to say whether she will or will not be in a racing circuit this season. That the spirit of the true sportsman is rampant in the city goes without saying. Whether she will step to the front and assert her position, is at question. That the northern portion of the state has lined up for a series of meetings is a matter of record. There is plenty of room in the southern portion for a fine series of meeting without interference. In consonance with this spirit J. N. Brown of Cooperstown and A. J. King of Hope are in the city, as representatives of their town to see what can be done in the matter of forming a circuit. After consultation with local horsemen the gentlemen express the opinion that the outlook is the best.

The proposition, as expressed by them, is to organize a circuit to include Cooperstown, Hope, Page, Buffalo, Fargo, Mayville, Portland and possibly Brown's Valley and Sisseton.

Certainly Fargo horsemen will be in line with the proposition and do their portion toward the

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New Dress Lining. Just getting in a large stock of the Gilberts celebrated dress linings.		
		
Silk Monte Carlo and Silk Jackets. We have only a few and there are no two alike. The Monte Carles are made of good quality Black Taffeta Silk, unlined, cream colored, lace applique collar. Just as nobby and pretty little garment, as you can wish for and the price is only \$6.50. The Silk Jackets are made of Peau de soie black, trimmed with small black buttons, and stitched with black and white. No collar, the new large sleeves with cuffs. A beautiful garment. The latest thing there is on the market, and it's yours for the reasonable price of \$8.00.		
CORNER BURRELL AVENUE.	John Syverson.	COOPERSTOWN, N. D.

movement. And there is every reason in the world why Fargo should be in line. The question of the location of the state fair is still a live issue. Fargo is a candidate for honors. All over the state there is and will be springing up county fairs and race meetings. From among the number will appear candidates for state fair honors. Here is where Fargo should shine. It is up to Fargo.

A GOOD SHOWING.

March 20th marks the close of the first year's business of the Iowa-North Dakota Land Co., in Cooperstown. The COURIER editor has gleaned the following facts from the members of the firm which shows up what rustling and "get there" qualities will do. The business transacted by this firm for the first year is certainly very gratifying to them. Their books show that they have sold 12,680 acres, amounting, at the price sold at, to \$245,280.00 or an average price of \$19.34 per acre. Of this amount \$83,972.00 was paid in cash when the deal was made and the balance divided up into yearly payments and mortgages assumed. Most of this land was sold in the spring with another payment due in the fall so that the amount of money brought in from the outside is considerable more than the amount of the first payments. The lowest price per acre was \$7.50 and the highest obtained was \$31.50 for M. F. Washburn's farm a mile and a half east of town.

From present indications and the number of inquiries received almost daily, now at the opening of the season, they think there will be considerable business done this summer. There are a few things not quite as favorable as they might be such as the great rush to Canada and the high rate of interest asked here by the seller. The latter is the worst enemy we have to contend with and we think it about time some of the land owners are awaking to the fact that they are standing in their own light and holding back the country by asking a high rate of interest. As long as land can be bought for less than it is really worth the eastern speculator will not kick on paying two or three rates, but when it gets up to what it is worth or about that it drives them to other localities. A lower rate of interest and optional payments on mortgages is the crying need of this country.

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