

NORTH DAKOTA POLITICS

Continued

We have not the space to go at length into other charges brought by Mr. Langer against the leaders of the Non-Partisan League and the State administration. He shows up the State publications act, under which a State official names an official newspaper in every county in which all official publications, including those of county officers, must be made, the object being to cut off income from anti-league newspapers and to build up league papers. Of the power of this organized publicity system in the politics of the State the Attorney-General wrote:

There is hardly a man living in North-Dakota, no matter how honest, square and upright he may be, who can withstand attacks from the socialist crew with their large gang of newspapers, back of which is the money derived from the county printing in nearly every county in the state. In addition to that they have the enormous amount of money collected in the organization of the United Consumers Stores Company, ninety per cent of which they can use for "educational purposes." J. W. Brinton whom they are now seeking to discredit testified that he alone collected one million and one hundred thousand dollars from farmers in the Consumers United Stores Company, and time and time again I have heard Townley ridicule the farmers for being "damn fools" enough to pay \$100 for the privilege of trading at a store they paid for. This is the kind of an outfit which is in control of the State of North Dakota posing as farmers' friends, when as a matter of fact they are their enemies.

He charges that the Bank of North Dakota is run as a political institution, granting and denying favors as such. He charges that breaches of trust on the part of public officials and other gross crimes have been condoned when committed by members of the league, giving names and particulars. He asserts that the State administration is extravagant and that the tax levy for all purposes was increased from \$1,572,256.46 in 1918 to \$3,800,000 in 1919.

Comments by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Dakota, Judge Robinson, who was elected by the Non-Partisan League and has participated in some of the decisions criticized by Attorney-General Langer, has joined lately the ranks of the critics. In some parts of the country it would be considered unusual for the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of a State to volunteer for publication a statement sharply criticizing the General Assembly and branches of the Executive Government, but the interchange of opinion in North Dakota at this time is highly informal, and in some respects very instructive. The situation recalls the famous editorial written by William Allen White some years ago, upon "What's the Matter with Kansas?"

Chief Justice Robinson describes the situation of the Bank of North Dakota in graphic language as follows:

On our Ship of State there is a modern Jonah—the state bank. The lord has sent out a great wind and there is mighty tempest in the sea so that the ship is likely to be broken unless Jonah be thrown overboard. The same Jonah, without any means of his own, has posed as a banker and gotten into his coffers all the public monies from every county and every corner of the State. He has put a large part of the money into long time loans on land, into the coffers of bankers and parties that will never repay, and into buildings, mills and ele-

vators. Now the depositors demand their money and there is no repayment.

Jonah is several millions short and he will neither fish, cut bait, nor go ashore, so the chances are that he will have to be thrown into the sea; but in the treasury department there appears to be a tame whale with capacity sufficient to swallow and liquidate Jonah.

The Chief Justice confirms all that the Attorney-General of the State has written about the increase of taxation. Upon this subject, with a reference to the reverse suffered by the League at the election last year, he says:

The people look to their solons for some relief from the robber taxes which have been levied during the past three years. Most people do not like to be robbed. Under the laws of 1919 the assessments and taxes have been marked up to three times those of any former year. At a special session of the solons in 1920, after the special election in Towners county, the League solons lacked only one senator of having a majority of two to one in each house. Then there was a demand to reduce by 50 per cent the unjust taxes of 1919, but there was only a reduction of 25 per cent from the state taxes. The result is that at the present session the League solons have no majority.

The Chief Justice denounces not only the excessive assessments but the new State income tax and a system of license taxes which has been inaugurated. He says about these:

A person having a constitutional right to live must have a right to obtain the means of living—a right to work, eat, drink sleep and use the toilet without paying a tax. The tax system of 1919 must pull down and send to grass any person who stands for it. Excessive taxation is robbery and it has always been the greatest curse of every state and nation.

The Bank of North Dakota.

The Bank of North Dakota was designed to be the financial agency for carrying out the League program of State-owned industries, State loans on real estate, etc., and to insure the financial independence of the State, free from the domination of Wall Street, the Money Power, et al. Deposits in the Bank are obligations of the State of North Dakota. The capital was to be \$2,000,000, supplied by the sale of State bonds. The bonds were turned over to the Bank but have not been sold. The capital therefore is not available for banking purposes. In order to provide the Bank with funds, all public monies, belonging to counties, municipalities, school districts or any sub-divisions of the State, were required by law to be kept on deposit with it. The local banks organized under the State banking system were required to keep reserves with it; in short it was to be a central bank and reserve bank for the State, independent of the Federal Reserve system. The total deposits of the Bank at the close of June, 1920, were \$26,500,000.

The deposits were largely re-deposited with local banks about the State, although substantial balances were kept in central cities outside the State. With the growth of dissatisfaction last year a measure was proposed by petition, under the act providing for the system of initiative and referendum, repealing that portion of the State Bank act which required the treasurers of local subdivisions of the government to keep public funds with the Bank, and this measure was carried at the election last November. This change seriously impaired the whole plan, for it deprived the Bank of a large part of the funds with which it was expected to do business. Moreover, it involved a withdrawal of re-deposits in local banks and of funds placed in investments from which in some instances they

could not be readily withdrawn. The situation has been made more difficult by the fall in prices of farm products, which greatly reduced the value of last year's crops and also made the farmers disinclined to sell and caused money to be very tight within the State. Undoubtedly it has been an unfavorable time to shift deposits, and the embarrassment of the Bank has been increased by this fact. A large number of small banks have had to suspend payments. The Bank of North Dakota will meet all its obligations eventually no doubt, for it has the State of North Dakota behind it; but if it was required to meet them as other banks are expected to do it would have to close.

An Erroneous Plan.

The plan of making the State of North Dakota a self-contained unit financially was fundamentally erroneous. A well-balanced bank is one that serves so many different kinds of business that all its patrons are not calling upon it for help at the same time. A bank, as we have often pointed out, is not a source of wealth in itself; it is a reservoir and clearing house for the community that it serves. The whole theory of banking is based upon the assumption that normally about as many people will be wanting to put money into a bank as to draw money out. Some lines of business and some localities will need credit at certain seasons while in other lines and other places the demand will fall most heavily at other seasons. The service of a banking system is to make idle funds available where they are wanted. A single bank with an office in one town accomplishes this in a degree, a bank which serves a larger area of territory and a greater variety of business accomplishes it in a larger degree, while banks that have customers in many lines of business, and in all parts of the country and in foreign countries accomplish it in still greater degree.

When the Federal Reserve system was organized the idea of regional independence was urged very strongly and the first thought was to make the twelve banks absolutely independent of each other. This policy was opposed, and some of the individuals who opposed it have been since falsely represented as opposing the whole measure. Fortunately in the last days of consideration the change was made giving the Federal Reserve Board authority to require one reserve bank to re-discount for another, an amendment which practically unified the system and broadened the base under every bank.

The State of North Dakota is mainly devoted to one industry, agriculture, and largely to one crop. Money is easy or tight in all localities of the State at one and the same time. For this reason the State does not make a well-balanced economic or financial unit in itself. Moreover, North Dakota is a comparatively new State; it has always used outside capital to its advantage and can continue to do so. The idea of corraling all the loose funds at the capital of the State, and of getting along without aid from outside was a mistake.

Conditions in Past Six Months.

As a matter of fact the banks of North Dakota during the past six months have borrowed heavily from the Reserve bank at Minneapolis, of funds deposited with it by the banks of other states, and also very heavily of correspondent banks in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Chicago and New York. The Reserve bank of Minneapolis also borrowed largely of the Reserve banks of the East, so that the resources of many states have been drawn upon for the assistance of the farmers of North Dakota.

These funds, as already stated, belong in the last analysis to individual depositors throughout these states, and when these de-

positors, in the course of their own business, wanted to use them, and the banks which originally held them called upon the Reserve banks and the banks of North Dakota for them, a great protest went up that the banking system of the country was oppressing the farmers of North Dakota. Other sections also, which were actually using large amounts of capital belonging elsewhere but placed at their disposal temporarily by means of the country's interlocked banking system, have made similar complaints, all due to a want of understanding of fundamental banking principles—a mistaken idea that banking institutions can be organized to create credit and that credit can be made to take the place of capital to almost any desired extent. The whole conception is erroneous and every attempt to put it into effect results in trouble.

(To be concluded)

Sprühfunken

(Gesucht für den St. Peter's Bot)

Es gibt kaum einen Stand der so reich an lästigen Dingen ist, wie der der Mutter und Hausfrau. Wie viel Herrschaft über sich selbst, wie viel zur Bewohntheit gewordene Tugend gehört dazu, um alle diese kleinen Unannehmlichkeiten, welche die Führung des Hausholles und die Erziehung der Kinder mit sich bringt, mit Gelassenheit hinzunehmen. Ohne Zeichen des Humores sich in der Arbeit stören zu lassen, freundlich zu antworten, geduldig anzuhören, gleichmütig die Arbeit wieder aufzunehmen, das sind Merkmale einer Seele, welche sich selbst und Gott ihr eigen nennt. Wie viel Gutes wirken solche Seelen, aber ach, wie selten sind sie!

Es hat jede Nationalität das Recht, sich geltend zu machen und ihre Eigentümlichkeit zu wahren. Aber jede hat auch die Verpflichtung die gleichen Rechte jeder anderen zu achten.

Des Menschen „Grille“ ist kein Himmelreich.

Du mußt präjudizieren, nicht so gleich den Schluß spielen.

Der Hauptfehler des Menschen bleibt, daß er viele kleine Fehler hat.

Gib deinen Händen zu schaffen, wenn die Gedanken dir zu schaffen machen.

Der Diamant wird durch den Schliß durchsichtiger, der Mensch undurchsichtiger.

Wer die Pflichten gegen die Gesellschaft vernachlässigt oder verletzt, macht sich der Vorteile der Gesellschaft unwert.

Was der Gesamtheit schadet, darf keiner als seinen Augen und sein Recht betrachten. Denn wir sind Glieder unter einander, wie in der geistlichen so in der natürlichen Welt.

Je widerwärtiger eine Medizin schmeckt, desto mehr Vertrauen flößt sie dem Kranken ein.

Während man dem Geist immer mehr Nahrung gibt und die Kräfte erhält, löst man nicht selten das Herz erkalten.

Immer jagst du Morgen, morgen, Weißt du denn, daß Gott wird morgen?

Wer Christ sich nennt und ist doch voll Von Worten bloß, an Werken hohl, Ist wahrlich halb ein Heide.

Die größte Familie hat der Satan. Sie ist über die ganze Welt verbreitet. Denn aller Lügen Vater ist er.

Eine Lüge verrät sich meistens durch überhöfliche Beteuerung.

Man kann den Wind nicht nach der Mühle, aber die Mühle nach dem Winde drehen.

Der Mensch soll sein wie ein Adler, der sich über alles erhebt, aber er soll nicht Alles in die Krallen nehmen.

Christliche Jungfrau!

Willst du nicht Ordensschwester werden? Willst du nicht mitwirken an der Rettung unsterblicher Seelen und dabei deine eigene Seele retten? O, wenn du es erfassen würdest, welches Glück deiner im Kloster, im Ordensstande barrt, ohne Jögern würdest du alles verlassen, alle Hindernisse überwinden, um dich dieses Glückes teilhaftig zu machen.

Was für Bedingungen werden an eine christliche Jungfrau gestellt, falls sie Ordensschwester werden will? — Sie muß sich entschlossen sein, die Welt um Gottes willen zu verlassen und sich ganz seinem Dienste zu weihen. Sie muß eine gute, christliche Erziehung genossen haben, gute Gesundheit und vor allem guten Willen besitzen.

Welche Papiere sind notwendig? — 1.) Taufzeugnis, 2.) Firmungsschein, 3.) eine Empfehlung von einem Priester.

Wie lange dauert es, bis eine christliche Jungfrau Ordensfrau wird? — Ungefähr 6 Monate nach dem Eintritt empfängt sie das Ordenskleid und einen Klösternamen; damit beginnt das Noviziat. Nach Ablauf des Noviziates, das bei den ehm. Ursulinen zwei Jahre dauert, legt sie die Gelübde der Armut, der Keuschheit und des Gehorsams ab. Dann ist sie im eigentlichen Sinne Ordensschwester.

Was ist eine Ordensschwester? — Sie verbringt ihr Leben im Dienste Gottes. Sie tut alles aus Liebe zu Gott. Ihr Leben besteht in Gebet, Arbeit und Erholung.

Was ist der Lohn, den eine Ordensfrau empfängt? — Hundertfaches schon hier auf Erden, und das ewige Leben im Jenseits. Jesus Christus selbst hat es versprochen. Wie viele christliche Jungfrauen würden sich dem Ordensberufe widmen, wenn sie nur wüßten, wie glücklich eine Ordensfrau ist! Ihr Glück aber hier auf Erden steht in gar keinem Verhältnis zu dem ewigen Lohne, der ihrer wartet in der Ewigkeit.

Christliche Jungfrau, wenn du dich zum Ordensstande berufen glaubst, so wende dich beherz, mündlich oder schriftlich (in deutsch oder englisch) an

Die ehrwürdige Oberin der Ursulinen, Bruno, Sask.

Tapeten!

Wir erhalten gerade unsere neuen Muster in Tapeten, welche alles übertreffen was wir früher vorrätig hatten, sowohl in der Farbe wie auch in den Entwürfen. Wir verkaufen diese neuen Vorräte um nur 10% mehr als die Montreal Preise betragen, wodurch die Fracht- und Verbandskosten gedeckt werden.

Sämereien!

Soeben erhielten wir auch unsere Frühjahrsausgaben in Sämereien, bestehend aus allen Garten- und Blumen-samen, wie auch Timothy, Ungar Weizen, Brombeere, Western Rye, Raps, Alee, Mangel und Beet-Samen, Futtererbsen, Corn etc. Wir haben ein vollständiges Sortiment von Henne's, Steele-Briggs & Co. u. McKenzie's Samen. Treibt Eure Auswahl!

BARBER'S DRUG STORE

Phone No. 8. Hauptlager von G. R. Watson. Humboldt, Sask.

Unterstützt die Geschäftsleute, die hier inserieren!

Feuer- Hagel- Automobil- Versicherungen!

Feuer-Versicherung

Jetzt ist die beste Zeit, sich zu versichern!

Ich vertrete eine Anzahl der solidesten Feuer-Versicherungs-Gesellschaften, sowohl englische wie auch canadische und amerikanische, durch welche Sie Ihre Gebäude, Hausgeräte und anderes Eigentum gegen Feuerbeschaden versichern können. Versichern Sie nicht bei unzuverlässigen Gesellschaften, wenden Sie sich auch nicht an unerfahrene Agenten, vor allem aber schließen Sie keine Versicherung ab mit reisenden Agenten, die Ihnen dielach so unbekannt sind wie die Gesellschaften die sie vertreten. Eine gute, reelle Versicherungsgesellschaft schickt keine Agenten im Land herum, die ihre Versicherung anpreisen. Kommen Sie zu mir, wenn Sie versichern wollen! Ich achte darauf, wenn Ihre Versicherung abgelaufen ist, und lasse es Sie wissen, damit sie rechtzeitig erneuert werden kann.

Hagel-Versicherung

Beachtet Eure Felder, und wenn das Getreide einen guten Stand hat, schützt euch bezzeiten durch eine Hagel-Versicherung bei einer zuverlässigen Gesellschaft. Alle Anzeichen deuten auf einen heißen Sommer mit vielen Schauern. Ich bin Vertreter einiger zuverlässiger Gesellschaften.

Automobil-Versicherung

Es ist gefährlich, ein Auto zu fahren ohne gegen Feuergefahr geschützt zu sein. Die Versicherungskosten sind nur gering und stehen in keinem Verhältnis zu dem Schutz den sie gewahren. Gleich zu Beginn der Saison ist die beste Zeit zum Versichern. Tun Sie es jetzt! Ich kann Sie auch versichern gegen Beschädigung durch Kollision wie auch gegen Beschädigung anderer Autos, Fuhrwerke oder Pferde, ebenso gegen körperliche Verletzungen an Personen. Die Versicherungsgesellschaft bezahlt in diesen Fällen allen Schaden, etwaige Gerichtskosten und dergleichen, so weit Sie verantwortlich sind für Schaden oder persönliche Unkosten, hervorgerufen durch Unfälle an anderen. Wenn Sie eine solche Versicherung abschließen, werden Sie sich erleichtert fühlen, und im Falle eines Unglücks sparen Sie eine Menge Geld.

Ehe Sie irgendeine Versicherung abschließen, sprechen Sie bei mir vor. Ich bin Expert im Versicherungsweien und werde Ihnen gerne kostenfreie Auskunft erteilen.

Stets zu Ihrer Bedienung,

Fr. Heidgerken, Humboldt.