

## By W. P. Davies

APPEARANCE OF A. C. TOWNLEY at the Nonpartisan League convention at Bismarck and his announcement of intent to be a candidate for United States senator regardless of convention indorsement, brought again into a certain measure of prominence a man who was once a political power in North Dakota, but who had dropped almost completely from sight. Townley's public career, which began 30 years ago, was marked by spectacular episodes in which he appeared for a time as the invincible leader only to see the structure which he had built crumble around him or the power which he had wielded wrested from his hands.

ABOUT THE END OF THE FIRST DECADE of the present century Townley was a member of the Socialist party which had a small membership in some of the western counties of the state. Active and contentious, he came into sharp conflict with other members of his group, severed his connection with the organization, and thereafter played a lone hand. Doubtless his entrance into state-wide politics was hastened by his own unfortunate business experience. For some reason he had become convinced that there was big money to be made in growing flax, and, although he had little experience in that branch of agriculture, he plunged into flax growing on a grand scale. His operations were conducted on credit; his crops failed; and he abandoned agriculture for politics.

HE BEGAN HIS INTENSIVE POLITICAL work in 1915. For some time grain prices had been low and there was a wide-spread feeling that the farmers were being victimized by grain dealers in Minneapolis and Chicago. Demands for the building of a terminal elevator by the state had been met by the legislature with what proponents of the plan considered dilatory and evasive measures, and the smoldering resentment which existed created an ideal opportunity for the agitator and organizer.

TOWNLEY SAW THAT OPPORTUNITY and made prompt use of it. He launched a movement for the creation of the "Farmers' Nonpartisan Political League," which was to operate in complete independence of all political parties and to give its support to such candidates of either party as would agree to accept the principles and carry out the policies of the League. The central feature of the program related to the marketing of wheat. The original idea of a terminal elevator was expanded into one for the building of numerous state-owned elevators and mills in which the state should grind its own wheat and manufacture its own flour and thus be independent of outside grain interests.

THAT, HOWEVER, WAS ONLY A part of the program, which was quickly enlarged to include the building of state-owned factories of many kinds, the establishment of the state-owned wholesale and retail stores and the financing of home-building by loans from a state bank of which there were to be branches in every community. The program was, in short, that of the complete industrial and financial socialization of the state.

TOWNLEY ADDRESSED HIMSELF vigorously to the task of enrolling members in his organization. He organized groups of solicitors in every district and conducted classes for their training. He solicited in person, driving from place to place, often presenting his plan to a farmer in his field while his assistant drove the farmer's team. His local solicitors were instructed to work with equal intensity.

THAT WORK WAS CARRIED ON SO successfully that in the election of 1916 the entire slate of candidates indorsed by the League, headed by Lynn J. Frazier for governor, was elected and the League won control of the state house of representatives. Control of the senate by the Independents prevented adoption by the legislature of the League program at the following legislative session, but in the next election the League gained control of the senate and Townley was in supreme command.

TOWNLEY WAS AN INDEFATIGABLE worker with a passion for organization. During the years of his greatest activity the League had so many subsidiary organizations or bodies related to it that probably Townley himself did not know how many there were or what were their relations to each other. The territory covered was so great and the official personnel so numerous that conflicts became frequent. There were acts of rebellion by Townley's lieutenants and he lost control of the organization which he had founded.

HE UNDERTOOK THE FORMATION of another group for control of wheat prices, but that movement fell flat. He engaged in an oil enterprise the details of which were shrouded in mystery, and that evaporated, seemingly leaving no trace. In his statement at Bismarck the other day Townley said "There was a day when I could have gone to the senate or to congress by a mere turn of my hand." Probably there was a limited time of which that was true. But it was Townley's fate to have control of each of his enterprises slip from him. Notwithstanding this, he was able time after time to command the personal following of many who had witnessed his failures and to obtain financial backing from men who had already burned their fingers in the same fire.

THE RECENT DEATH OF SENATOR McNary, Republican leader in the senate (for many years, doubtless has reminded many residents of the Northwest of the McNary-Haugen bill, a measure which aroused great interest in the wheat growing states some 20 years ago, and which at that time was the subject of spirited controversy. Senator McNary sponsored that bill in the senate, and Representative Haugen of Iowa in the house. It has not been generally known that the McNary-Haugen bill grew out of suggestions made by a resident of the Red river valley, V. L. McGregor, of Crookston, who was then engaged in banking and is now secretary-treasurer of the Crookston Building and Loan association.

AS HAD BEEN THE CASE FOR many years, disposal of the nation's surplus wheat presented a difficult problem to the American farmer. The demand for food in World war I had stimulated wheat production not only in the United States, but in practically all the wheat growing countries of the world. Great areas of new land had been broken up and planted to wheat and total world production had been greatly increased. Countries that formerly had consumed large quantities of American wheat required less than they had done, and financial conditions abroad had impaired the ability of purchasers to buy. The United States had a larger surplus than usual to sell; foreigners needed less than usual of that surplus; and they had less money with which to pay for it. The result was low prices on the world market.

AMERICAN TARIFF LEGISLATION provided for substantial duties on importations of foreign wheat, but as the United States had far more wheat than it could consume that "protective" tariff was of little benefit to the American farmer. The surplus must be sold abroad at the world market, and the price at which the surplus could be sold fixed the domestic price. Many efforts were made to devise a plan which would enable the American farmer to realize the benefit which he was intended to receive from the import duty on that portion of his crop which was sold for domestic consumption while permitting him to dispose of his surplus for whatever it would bring on the world market.

FROM HIS INTIMATE CONTACT with the farmers of his own community, Mr. McGregor understood the difficulty of their position, and after much study he developed the plan which in its main features was given form in the McNary-Haugen bill. That plan was in substance to collect a small tax on all wheat offered for sale in the United States and from the proceeds of that tax to pay an export bounty on all wheat sold abroad, the bounty to be sufficient to cover the difference between the protected domestic price and the world market price.

AS THE QUANTITY OF WHEAT available for export was never more than a small fraction of the total American crop, it was calculated that the net price (after payment of the tax) received by the American grower would be only a little below the world price plus the import duty, and the grower would thus receive substantial benefit from the protective duty. A further feature was that the program would be self-sustaining, no funds being required from the federal treasury, the export bounty being paid by the farmers themselves out of the better price received for their wheat.

MR. MCGREGOR BEGAN TO ADVOCATE his plan in 1922. He corresponded with many business acquaintances and public officials concerning it, among them Representative O. B. Burton of Grand Forks, then a member of the house, who became a vigorous supporter of the plan. Secretary of Agriculture Wallace, father of Vice President Wallace, who succeeded him as secretary; Herbert Hoover, then secretary of commerce, and with many others conspicuous in public life. Meetings were held in Washington and the McNary-Haugen bill was put into shape. There was a meeting at the White House at which the plan was discussed with President Coolidge. The bill did not become a law, but its introduction was instrumental in influencing the attitude of several men who have since been conspicuous in the public affairs of the nation.

## By W. P. Davies

UNDER THE TITLE "THEY WORK for Tomorrow" The Associated Press and the Fleming H. Revell Co. have just issued jointly a book of their forceful expressions, written, spoken, or both, designed to aid in charting the course toward a better world. In his foreword the author, Robert M. Bartlett, says:

"THEY WORK FOR TOMORROW" forms a cross-section of America's leadership today. It is made up of recent interviews with these men and women who are making definite contributions to the present crisis. The story of their life and work is presented in brief form, and with it the reflection of their opinion on such current issues as the American way of life, democracy, the future of civilization, and post-war reconstruction.

"THE THOUGHTS EXPRESSED BY these Americans are divergent; they do not present a specific program. But I hope they may help us formulate a way out; that they will challenge to think clearly and act promptly. For there is an underlying unity in their ideas and efforts. They all believe in democracy and in the application of democratic principles to the affairs of the world. They all believe in humanity and in the future. They are all, not on the side lines, but in the thick of the fight."

AS EVIDENCE OF THE CORRECTness of that summary it is necessary only to list the names of the persons who have been interviewed and of whom the author has recorded his impressions. They are in the order given in the book: Wendell L. Willkie, Igor I. Sikorsky, Louis Adamic, Pearl S. Buck, Cordell Hull, Charles E. Wilson, Mordecai W. Johnson, Henry A. Wallace, Philip Murray, Charles P. Taft, Herbert H. Lehman, John Foster Dulles, William H. Kilpatrick, Gladys Talbot Edwards, Pitirkin A. Sorokin.

IN THAT LIST ARE REPRESENTED many points of view as expressed by persons who have been conspicuously active in the fields of political, industrial and social life. Each has emphasized some special feature of the many problems which confront the world, and while the articles are only slightly biographical, there is given in each a sketch of the background of the person interviewed.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO MANY North Dakotans will be the chapter devoted to Gladys Talbot Edwards, a former resident of Stutsman county and daughter of the former president of the North Dakota Farmers Union. The chapter is entitled "The Co-operative Way of Living," an appropriate title because of the activity of Mrs. Edwards in the cooperative movement to which her father devoted so many years. Mrs. Edwards says that her interest in the betterment of farm conditions was stimulated by her recollection of her mother's labor in carrying water to keep alive roses which she had brought with her to North Dakota from the family's former Missouri home.

WHEN SHE BECAME OLD ENOUGH she engaged in teaching, then married, and has since moved to Denver. She has been active in promoting the cooperative movement, especially among farmers, by means of published articles, through voluminous correspondence, and through educational work among farm children. In this educational work she has sought to establish mental and moral foundations upon which the finest kind of home life could be built and upon which could be securely anchored a citizenship truly democratic and progressive.

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NEXT WEEK THERE WILL BE A Special session of the North Dakota legislature to act on legislation making it possible for North Dakotans who are members of the armed forces of the nation to vote in the election-of next November. Contrary to a belief often rather casually held, the right to vote is not inherent in the individual. It is a privilege conferred by each state and the manner in which it shall be exercised is determined by the legislatures of the several states, except for the constitutional prohibition of discrimination on account of "race, color or previous condition of servitude," or of sex. Subject only to those prohibitions each state fixes the conditions under which its citizens may vote.

THE FIRST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION in which North Dakota voters participated was that of 1892, the state having been admitted to the Union in 1889. Grover Cleveland, having been defeated for re-election by Harrison in 1888, was in turn about to defeat Harrison, who was a candidate for a second term. Someone discovered that although two sessions of the North Dakota legislature had been held, no provision had been made for the election of the presidential electors, and in the absence of such provision North Dakota could have no representation in the electoral college despite the fact that it was a full-fledged state.

GOVERNOR ANDRES H. BURKS called an extra session of the state legislature to be held June 1, 1892 for the purpose of remedying that omission. The session lasted only three days. When the legislature is once in session, no matter for what purpose it is assembled, it can take up any subjects which the members wish to consider, but the members of that legislature established an admirable precedent in confining themselves to the emergency matters for which they were called together, namely, to make provision for voting for presidential electors, to correct certain omissions in procedure for election of state and county officials, and to make provision for participation in the Columbian Exposition which was about to be held in Chicago. The World's Fair discussion precipitated a fist fight on the floor which resulted in only minor casualties. The emergency business completed the assembly adjourned.

WHILE NORTH DAKOTA THUS HAD representatives, three in number, in the electoral college following the 1892 election, the state might as well have had no representation at all, for the three North Dakota electors voted for three rival presidential candidates, their votes thus canceling each other. Then as now popular votes are cast, not directly for president, but for the electors who are to elect the president. In the 1892 campaign there were three tickets and in North Dakota there were three electoral candidates pledged to Cleveland, three pledged to Harrison and three to Weaver, Populist. Many voters, instead of voting for all three of their party candidates, split their votes, unthinkingly casting part of their votes against their own presidential candidate. The result was that the high man on each ticket was elated, and in the electoral college one North Dakota vote was cast for Cleveland, one for Harrison and one for Weaver.

WHILE IT IS A FACT THAT IN every state presidential electors are elected by popular vote, there is no constitutional requirement to that effect. The federal constitution says "Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled . . ." That is all that is said on the subject. There appears to be no reason, therefore, why electors could not legally be named by the state legislator, or by the governor, or in any other manner that the legislative might choose.

THE , FORTHCOMING SESSION OF the state legislature is called for the purpose of making such additional provision i as may be necessary for the voting of those in the armed services and the governor has urged that the session be confined to that subject and a few other emergency matters. If that is done the session should be a short one. The legislature that met in 1892 set an excellent example, barring the fist fights.

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NOBODY KNOWS JUST WHERE OR When St. Patrick was born, but the authorities seem to agree that he was not an Irishman by birth. It has been fairly well established that he was born in Britain, though that does not indicate that he was an Englishman, a fact which probably is pleasing to those Irish who detest the English. There were no English in Britain until the Saxon migration, which was not until some time after Patrick's birth. It is considered certain that Patrick was born in Wales and that while employed as a shepherd he was captured by a band of marauders who took him to Ireland.

THERE HE REMAINED IN SLAVERY to his captors for some six years, when he escaped and made his way to France. There he began his religious studies. After some years he returned to Britain, his former home, but he felt the call for service in Ireland, and there he went as a missionary, and there he performed the work which has caused his name to be venerated and because of which he became Ireland's patron saint.

ST. PATRICK WAS BORN ABOUT the year 389, A. D., and the 17th of March has long been observed as the anniversary of his birth. Just how that date was chosen is not known, as there is no definite evidence on the subject. The subject is treated in the following humorous poem by Samuel Lover, a well-known Irish poet:

### THE BIRTH OF ST. PATRICK.

On the eighth day of March it was, some people say, that Saint Patrick at midnight he first saw the day;  
While others declare 'twas the ninth he was born, and 'twas all a mistake between midnight and morn;  
For mistakes will occur in a hurry and shock, and some blamed the baby and Home blamed the clock—  
Till with all their cross-questions sure no one could know, if the child was too last or the clock was too slow.

### NOW THE FIRST FACTION-FIGHT

in old Ireland, they say, was all on account of Saint Patrick's birthday;

Some fought for the eighth—for the ninth some would die, and who wouldn't see right, sure they blackened his eye;

At last both the factions so positive grew, that each kept a birthday, so Pat then had two.

Till Father Mulcahy, who showed them their sins, said "No one could have two birthdays, but a twins."

### SAYS HE "BOYS DON'T BE FIGHTIN'

for eight or for nine, don't be always divided, but sometimes combine;

Combine eight with nine and seventeen

is the mark, so let that be his —— "Amen," says the clerk.

"If he wasn't a twins, sure our history will show, that at least he's worth any two saints that we know."

Then they all got blink drunk, which completed their bliss, and they kept up the practice from that day to this.

IF THE LAST TWO LINES ARE LIBelous the responsibility is the poet's, not mine. And Lover was as Irish as Blarney castle. He was born in Dublin and became widely known as poet, novelist, painter and musician. Nearly all of his work is devoted to the presentation of Irish subjects. He had a rollicking humor which is expressed in both his prose and his verse, and with it went deep sentiment and love of beauty. He was the friend of Moore, Ireland's greatest poet, and at a dinner given to Moore he sang one of his own songs which was warmly praised by Moore. It is many, many years since I read his "Handy Andy" and laughed over some of the ludicrous experiences through which he led his hero.

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MANAGER MACE OF THE TELEphone company presented many interesting facts at the meeting of the Kiwanis club the other day concerning the difficulties surrounding telephone service in war time and incidentally told something of the early history of the telephone in Grand Forks. That part of the address carried my mind back to the days when there were no telephones, a condition which many now living cannot remember at all, and which the rest of us recall only with difficulty.

WITH TELEPHONES AS NUMEROUS as they are in the United States their use has become so much a matter of course that it is a little difficult to imagine what life would be without them. Through telephone calls occupying but a few minutes each questions are asked and answered and business matters settled which would have consumed hours without the phone. The housewife calls up her next-door neighbor and asks for a cake recipe instead of going for it in person. While not every residence has a telephone, the service reaches into every corner of the city, and in an emergency one usually can reach even a non-subscriber through an accommodating neighbor.

RURAL TELEPHONE SERVICE HAS been an important element in improvement of farm conditions, and long distance service which enables one to communicate directly with others at the ends of the earth has become commonplace. Yet it is only a few years since there was no such service. If one business man down town wished to talk to another a few blocks away there was just one thing that he could do—go in person to the man's office and take a chance on finding him in.

WHEN I BEGAN WORK ON THE Herald we had a telephone in the editorial room, but it wasn't of much use, for there were only a few other phones in town, and a telephone is of no use to one unless the other fellow also has one. The telephone did save us some shoe-leather, but much of the work that is now done by phone had to be done by personal calls. That wasn't very important so far as it concerned calls in the business section, but there were times when it was necessary to get into contact with someone at the other end of town. There were no street cars, buses, taxis or private automobiles. It cost at least a quarter to hire a hack, and the office didn't have any quarters to spend. One had a bike, of course, which answered well enough when the going was good, but there were no paved streets, many localities were without sidewalks, and snow or mud often made bicycling impossible. Then there was nothing for it but to hoof it, and that took both time and energy.

IN THW EARLY DAYS TELEPHONES were not numbered, or if they were nobody paid any attention to^the numbers. One rang the bell and asked for the First National bank, the Hotel Dacotah or Peter Olson and the operator did the rest. Then phones became so numerous that was necessary to call by number. That brought many protests. It was most inconvenient to have to look up the number in a book when the operator ought to know all the numbers and be able to call them without all that useless formality. There was a strong feeling that the telephone people were going high-hat.

THEN THERE WAS THE TIME when we had two telephone systems in town. There were grievances, real or imaginary, and it was argued that with only one telephone system the city was in the clutches of a monopoly. To break that monopoly there must be competition. Accordingly a local company was organized, obtained a franchise and strung lines which practically duplicated those of the Northwestern. The new company presently sold out to the Tri-State company, which operated here for a few years. Business houses had to take both services in order to reach persons on both lines. That meant doubled telephone bills. Two persons in the residence district, both of whom had phones, could not call each other because one was on the Northwestern line and the other on the Tri-State. Everybody was relieved when the Tri-State company disposed of its property to the Northwestern and retired from the field.

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MOST OF US COMRADE STALIN is an enigma as baffling as one of those arithmetical puzzles which is full of unknowns and variables, to which many plausible solutions present themselves, but which no attainable solution can be made to fit. We have a fairly complete record of Stalin's public record. When we wonder what Stalin will do next we can look over the record, add up the several items and decide that, in the case now under consideration, Stalin will do thus and so, that course and that only being consistent with his previous performance. Then Comrade Stalin shocks us by doing precisely the opposite of what we had expected, making it necessary for us to go over the whole problem again and work out a new system of equations.

THAT HAS BEEN EMBARRASSING, and sometimes irritating, to those of us who have observed Stalin with certain detachment, regarding him as an element of considerable importance in the shaping of the world affairs in which we are all interested, but not feeling bound in any way to accept his philosophy or follow his leadership. We have watched him from a distance, sometimes with intense interest, for each of us has his part in the great drama, but we have not thought it necessary to change the length of our stride in order to keep in step with him.

GREATLY DIFFERENT HAS BEEN the experience of those American Communists who have derived their inspiration from Russia and accepted Stalin, representation of Russian Communism as their guide, philosopher and friend. The Russian revolution of 1917 was a part of what was proclaimed as a world revolution of the proletariat in which the working millions were to destroy capitalism, overthrow existing governments and establish working Communism throughout the world.

MOST OF THE AMERICAN COMMUNIST leaders considered themselves part of the Russian revolution, accepting Lenin as their leader, and as far as possible following the course in the United States which he prescribed for the people of Russia. The Russian revolution had been achieved by violence, and, within the limits of personal safety they did their best to apply the policy of violence to the United States. There was much travel between the United States and Moscow, party leaders going to Moscow to absorb the political atmosphere and returning with instructions on how to maintain the party line.

LENIN PASSED ON, TO BECOME the patron saint of Communism, and Stalin took over. More realistic than Lenin, he launched ambitious programs of internal development and apparently became more interested in the practical than in the theoretical aspects of the policies which he inaugurated. As a working device he restored some of the abandoned practices of capitalism and found that they contributed to the progress which he desired.

THAT COURSE CAUSED EMBARRASSMENT to the faithful on this side of the ocean. They found it difficult to effect a right-about-face, and there was some grumbling in the ranks. The outbreak of the war had a unifying influence on American Communism, and differences were forgotten in the face of the fact that Stalin had entered into a working agreement with Hitler. Thereupon our Communists became vigorous opponents of the granting of aid of any kind to the fighting democracies and insisted that Hitler was merely fighting a war that had been forced upon him by malignant capitalists.

THERE WERE EMBARRASSING moments after Hitler attacked Russia. Within a few days it became necessary for our Communists to change their entire attitude toward the war. Hitler suddenly became the enemy of civilization and the party leaders became enthusiastic advocates of unlimited support of his enemies. That transition was made, however, and the western powers were urged to establish immediately that, second front, no matter with what imperfect preparation or at what cost in lives and treasure.

WITHOUT WARNING STALIN ORDERED the dissolution of the Comintern and even the writing of a new national hymn, abandoning the international revolution and launching a movement for the development of a truly national Russian spirit. Our Communists, who had consistently been denouncing nationalism as only evil, followed suit as quickly as they could catch their breath.

AMERICAN COMMUNISTS HAVE denounced the American and British governments for months for dealing with Badoglio and for purely military reasons permitting him to exercise temporary administrative control in certain areas in southern Italy. Badoglio, they say, was the representative of a decadent Fascist regime and should at once be deprived of all authority and made a prisoner of war. Again without warning Stalin announced complete recognition of Badoglio as the legitimate ruler of Italy.

THE AMERICAN COMMUNISTS seem not yet to have adjusted themselves to that startling change. Doubtless they will do so. If Comrade Stalin has a sense of humor, which he may have, concealed beneath a somewhat forbidding exterior, he must derive grim amusement from the frantic efforts which his American would-be followers make to keep pace with his sudden and unexpected movements.

## By W. P. Davies

THE PROBLEM OF KEEPING IN touch with the young men and women of a community who are in the armed services of the nation presents itself to those who remain at home, and many attempts have been made to solve it, with varying success. Of course to the service man nothing quite takes the place of the family letter, written by those of his own kin and containing those intimate things that none but kinsfolk could write and which would be of no interest to others. Such letters are priceless to those who receive them.

BUT NOT ALL OP THOSE WHO ARE away can be reached often, or at all, by the family letter. Some of them have no near relatives, and some of the relatives may be unskilled in letter writing. Service men, too, like to hear from friends other than those of their own families find to get bits of home-town news with which the relatives may not be familiar, or which they may overlook. To meet the very real need that exists the Pembina Civic league has developed a plan entirely original and spontaneous, and which had yielded excellent results. In the thought that the plan may be found useful in other communities I am quoting from the description, of it given in a letter just received from Mrs. B. A. Humphrey, secretary of the Pembina Civic league.

TWICE A MONTH A LETTER TO the service men is prepared by a committee of the league selected for that purpose. The letter contains bits of local news, records of sports events, jokes and other matter certain to be of interest to those far from home. When the text is prepared it is passed on to the school for typing by the boys and girls who take instruction in that work. There enough copies are made to provide one for each of the more than 150 service men from the Pembina area and a copy is sent by mail to each person serving abroad and by regular mail to each one serving in the United States. Care is taken to keep the list of addresses up to date, and in this the League has the co-operation of the families interested who send in new addresses as changes are made.

INNUMERABLE REPLIES TO THOSE letters have been received, and without exception the recipients tell of the keen enjoyment that the letters have given them and of their desire for more. One feature that has been found useful is to include in the letter occasionally the list of addresses of those serving from the Pembina area. That feature is welcomed by the service men, some of whom find that they have friends in near-by camps and thus are able to write to them, and perhaps to meet them. Others may wish to get in touch with intimate friends serving on the other side of the world. When the addresses are included the budget of news is restricted so as to keep the letter within the regulation weight.

THIS SERVICE DOES NOT COST much money, but it does cost something, for postage, paper and envelopes. Provision is made to meet that cost by keeping in several public places milk bottles into which contributions may be dropped. Each bottle is decorated with a poster explaining the purpose of the contribution, and in this way enough money is usually on hand to meet necessary expenses. If the fund becomes exhausted a note in the local paper always brings the desired result. Use is also made of the bottles as receptacles for new addresses.

LETTERS FROM THE SERVICE MEN who come addressed to the league, are read with interest by the home people, and in order that they may be available to all they are posted from time to time in the barber shop where they may be read by all comers. Occasionally, also, they are published in the local paper for the benefit of those out of town who have not an opportunity to see them previously. The letters received are read, also, at the regular meetings of the league while refreshments are being served, and Mrs. Humphrey says they are "a joy to receive."

TO ME ONE OF THE ESPECIALLY interesting things about this admirable enterprise is the manner in which, without great cost or complicated organization, it helps to tie together in interest and sentiment the entire body of home people with those who are serving them in distant fields. When those Pembina service men return they will feel that they are really coming back home.

# Recalls World Fair Trip

By W. P. Davies

MY REFERENCE THE OTHER DAY to the extra session of the state legislature in 1892 recalled to Fred L. Goodman some incidents growing out of that session, although he was not a member of the legislature and was not present at the session. The session was called by Governor Andrew Burke to correct some omissions in the state's election laws and to make provision for state representation at the Chicago world's fair. The election part of the program was completed without difficulty, but a vigorous minority objected vigorously to an appropriation of money for the world's fair. It was in the course of debate on this latter subject that the fist fight occurred to which reference was made in the previous column.

AT THAT TIME GOODMAN WAS living at Hillsboro, but while living in Fargo a little earlier he had become well acquainted with Governor Burke, and when the legislative session was over he was notified by the governor of his appointment as a member of the world's fair commission of five that had been ordered. H. P. Rucker of Grand Forks was another member, and another was Col. W. C. Plummer, whom I have often mentioned before. Colonel Plummer was not a mere person; he was an institution. Brilliant, witty, and an accomplished orator of the spellbinding type, he was in demand wherever public gatherings were held, and no Republican state convention would have been complete without his presence. He could, and would, when sufficiently persuaded, speak glowingly and convincingly on any side of any subject, and he could reverse himself in the middle of a speech without batting an eye or skipping a syllable. And, as usual with men of his type, he was in a chronic state of financial embarrassment.

THE WORLD'S FAIR COMMISSIONERS met at Fargo to go on in a body to Chicago. They expected to pay their own expenses and have the money refunded out of the legislative appropriation, all but Colonel Plummer. As usual, he was dead broke and the commission's departure was delayed until a requisition on the state treasurer had been made and honored. In Chicago, the party registered at the Palmer house, looked over the fair grounds and selected a site for the state building that was to be built.

DURING THE FEW DAYS SPENT IN Chicago, Colonel Plummer enjoyed himself hugely. The legislator who had led the opposition to the world's fair bill was a resident of Stutsman county, and to him Colonel Plummer addressed a characteristic letter describing the wonderful time the commissioners were having in Chicago. With the letter he sent a picture of the palatial Palmer hotel and a menu card listing the dainties served at the hotel table. The colonel's idea was to make the recipient's blood boil, and 5 probably he accomplished his purpose.

THAT WORLD'S FAIR COMMISSION was short-lived. I have Goodman's word for it—and he is an honorable man—that the commissioners attended industriously to their job in performing the preliminary work and spent no more of the state's money than was absolutely necessary. But there were others who had supported the appropriation in the hope that they might be named on the commission and be able to help in spending the money. From those and their sympathizers there came such a flood of criticism of the original commissioners that all five resigned and a new commission was appointed. However, those few days spent with Colonel Plummer gave those commissioners something to remember for the rest of their lives.

POLICE IN MIAMI RAIDED A GAMBLING place and gathered in 25 or 30 men, one of whom was Pat Cannon, a Miami politician. The charge was loitering in a gambling place. It has been commonly understood that gambling is regarded quite tolerantly in Miami, but it appears that if one loiters in a gambling place there he is likely to get into trouble. And why should one loiter in such a place? Let him play or keep out is what I say.

## By W. P. Davies

QUITE OFTEN ONE RUNS ACROSS the idea that if anyone obtains a patent on an invention he is certain, if not to gain a fortune, at least to realize highly satisfactory financial returns. Probably those who entertain that belief are not aware that only one patented invention of many thousands ever yields financial returns to the inventor or anyone else. When the government issues a patent It does not certify that the article patented is likely to prove so useful that people will want to buy it.

A PATENT MERELY GRANTS TO the holder for a limited time the exclusive right to make commercial use of the invention patented. A patent is issued only for a "useful" invention, but that term is so liberally construed as to admit gadgets so fantastic that it is impossible for an unbiased person to imagine any possible use for them. The patentee pays his fees and then takes his own chances. Many articles are patented which would really be useful but for which the demand would be so limited and the price at which they must be sold so little above the cost of manufacture that it would not pay to produce them. Some useful inventions, too, remain off the market because the patentee has not sufficient funds to acquaint the public with them and others who could finance a publicity campaign have other use for their funds. For these and many other reasons obtaining a patent does not necessarily place one on the high road to wealth.

HERE ARE BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS of a few inventions for which patents were recently issued:

First on the list is a treatment for wrapping material for foods containing fatty substances. Bakers have found that foods such as butter, cakes, cookies, cheese, etc., tend to become rancid quite quickly when wrapped in ordinary paper. The patentee incorporates in the paper phosphoric acid which he believes will retard deterioration. He might be right.

ANOTHER PATENT IS FOR A DEvice for controlling humidity. Coils containing lithium chloride are used to absorb moisture when the air is too humid. When the air is too dry the coils are electrically heated and the moisture is discharged into the room. The device is automatic, electric current being turned on and off by a control actuated by the degree of humidity.

A PANAMA CLERGYMAN GETS A patent for a hydraulic built-in jack for automobiles or trucks. A separate jack is provided for each wheel, and when a tire becomes flat the jack belonging to that wheel is lowered into place by means of a dash control which sets into action a complicated mechanism that operates the jack and raises the wheel by means of fluid pumped by the engine. If the thing works as described it should be away ahead of operating a jack by hand on a hot day.

AMONG THE NOVELTIES PATENTEd are: A foot guard, by Harry N. Wasser of Ellwood City, Pa. It is a metal body shaped to fit over the toe and instep of a shoe and to be tied around the heel of the shoe. Inside the protector is a spring arrangement to keep the guard off the shoe and floor by holding it slightly raised. Should something fall on the foot the bottom edges of the protector would drop to the floor and provide a strong shell over the foot, thus preventing it from being mashed.

A window blind, by Jose Manuel Novoa Alturas de Almendares, Marianao, Cuba. It consists of slats built into the window casing and somewhat wider than those of a standard Venetian blind. Each blind works on pegs extending from the slats which would fit in holes in the casing.

AN ILLUMINATED KNITTING NEEDLE, by Samuel Shapiro of Brooklyn, N. Y. The needle is made of plastic able to transmit light. At its blunt end is a small tubular device containing a flashlight bulb connected by a cord with a battery in a holder attached to the knitter's arm or anything else handy.

A TRICK BIRD FEEDER, BY PAUL B. Pueschel of Glencoe, 111. It is intended to bar squirrels or other small animals from stealing food intended for birds alone. It hangs from a tree or limb by a cord and its top consists of a rather large disk-like piece, underneath which is a narrow round platform from which radiate pegs where birds can alight. The platform holds the food.

## **By W. P. Davies**

DR. GOTTFRIED HULT, OF THE U. N. D., who has become widely known for his translation of Ibsen's "Peer Gynt" and numerous original poems and plays, has recently completed the translation of all of Ibsen's lyrics, a task to which he had devoted six years—and he has enjoyed every minute of the time. In a recent chat on the subject, Dr. Hult referred to the statement sometimes made that Ibsen was not a great reader. That statement is flatly denied by Dr. Hult, who says that Ibsen was an omnivorous reader, a fact of which there is abundant evidence in his works which are described as full of allusions impossible to one who had not become familiar with them through diligent reading.

IBSEN DID NOT LIVE TO SEE THE beginning of World war I, much less to see his country invaded by Hitler in World war II, but if he had lived in either period he would not have been surprised by the course of Germany. He had lived in Germany, and he had followed closely the course of events leading to and accompanying the Franco-Prussian war, and his unfavorable opinion of German characteristics and policy is set forth with strong emphasis in several of his works. He didn't approve of Germany and he did not hesitate to make his opinion known.

THERE ARE TWO DATES IN MARCH which will long be remembered as anniversaries of great storms. On March 12, 1888, occurred the greatest blizzard that the city of New York ever experienced, and on March 15, 1941, came the most sudden, violent and fatal blizzard ever known in the Northwest.

THE NEW YORK BLIZZARD WAS the cause of the death of Roscoe Conklin, former United States senator, who became exhausted in fighting his way through the storm on the city's streets, and never recovered. The recent anniversary, as usual, brought forth many reminiscences of the great storm. A rather unusual one was that of a man who thinks that the severity of the storm has been greatly exaggerated. He writes that on that day he walked many blocks through the storm and didn't find it as bad as many others have described it.

CONCERNING A STATEMENT THAT during the storm New York's East river was frozen over brought an expression of doubt from Dr. Vilhjalmur Steffansson, famous Arctic explorer and U. N. D. student. Another writer testifies that the East river was actually frozen over during the storm and that his father walked across the ice from Brooklyn to Manhattan. However, the river, he says, did not freeze in quite the way that rivers usually freeze. He explains that because of peculiar combinations of wind and current the lower river became choked with packed ice. Snow fell on the ice and then the whole mass froze, forming a solid surface capable of bearing considerable weight.

MANY YEARS AGO A FRIEND TOLD me of an adventure of his own in crossing a river, an adventure which he would not care to repeat. He and a companion, traveling on foot, reached the west bank of the Mississippi on their way east. They had expected to reach Hastings on the Minnesota side of the river by daylight and to remain there over night. They had been delayed and it was quite dark before the river was reached, but the lights of Hastings were clearly visible, and as it was midwinter and all the rivers along their course were safely frozen, they started without hesitation to cross on the ice.

A STRONG WIND WAS BLOWING, which made it difficult for them to keep a straight course, but though they meandered somewhat, they struggled toward the lights and presently arrived at the other shore. Presenting themselves at a hotel and engaging accommodations they were asked casually from what direction they came. When they replied that they had come from the west side of the river and had just crossed on the ice their statement was received with evidence of incredulity. When the men in the lobby became convinced of the correctness of their story they were amazed. They told the travelers that the ice at that point was full of airholes, some of which were frozen over just enough to make them treacherous, and that the trail of safety among these openings was so winding that only those familiar with it dared to attempt it at night. When daylight came the travelers were scared stiff to see what they had done.

## By W. P. Davies

A BREEZY LETTER COMES FROM Joe Rabinovich who left Grand Forks a year or two ago to take up work at the American Legion national headquarters in Indianapolis. Joe sends greetings to Grand Forks friends and writes that in addition to his regular work he has been serving for several months as secretary to the Legion's commission on post-war America and finds that work most interesting. Members of the commission are men nationally known in public life, in business and in the professions. North Dakota is represented on the commission by Tom Whelan of St. Thomas.

JOE WRITES THAT HE RECEIVES the Herald regularly and is thus able to keep more or less in touch with happenings in the old home town. He also strives diligently to impress on his associates the fact that North Dakota has produced some really important people, and he fears that at times he may bore his friends by telling them about John Hancock, Steffansson, George Bangs, Jefty O'Connor and other North Dakotans who have really done things. Now that Judge O'Connor is conducting the trial of Charlie Chaplin, Joe will have further material for conversation. More power to him.

MY TULIPS ARE WELL ABOVE THE ground, and I notice that those of my neighbor's unusually fine bed are also showing. Probably that is true of tulip beds all over the town that have southern exposure. My tulip bed was quite bare most of the winter, and shortly before that last snow storm I noticed the spikes were not yet showing. Then came the storm, which piled a .big drift all over the bed. Part of the drift is still there, but wherever it has thinned out the tulip shoots are poking themselves through the snow.

I NEVER ACQUIRED ENOUGH SCIENCE to understand just why plants behave as they do. I suppose the botanist and the bio-chemist derive great satisfaction from their knowledge, but I hope it doesn't deprive them of the sense of wonder. That would be an irreparable loss. I never tire of contemplating the mystery that surrounds life in all its forms, and it seems to me that human life would be drab and monotonous if there were nothing left to discover or to wonder about.

A TULIP BULB, FOR EXAMPLE, IF left on the surface of the ground will freeze solid in winter, and then it is ruined. When it thaws out it rots. But the same bulb, planted six inches deep will freeze just as solid, and in the spring up it comes and produces its regular crop of blossoms. Why? I don't know, but I like to wonder about it.

I HAVE READ SOMEWHERE THAT certain Alpine plants will send their shoots through hard frozen earth and even through inches of ice without waiting for the spring thaw. That has been explained on the ground that when the right time arrives, chemical reactions are, set up in the bulb and that these generate heat which thaws a narrow path for each growing shoot. Perhaps tulips act in a similar way.

SOMEONE MENTIONED THE CUSTom of leaving parsnips in the ground over winter to be dug for use in the spring. I was reminded of the belief that I have encountered that parsnips so left become poisonous in the spring. That belief may have originated from the fact that certain wild plants, popularly known as wild parsnips—which may or may not be of the parsnip family—are poisonous, and sometimes cause the death of cattle. I think it is not generally known that the common garden parsnip is not poisonous at any stage, and that its flavor is improved by being left in the ground over winter.

NORTHERN HOME GARDENERS are sometimes disappointed to find that plants described in the catalogues as perennial do not live over winter in their gardens. The reason is that some plants, though naturally perennials, are not sufficiently hardy to withstand the severe freezing and other unfavorable conditions of our northern winters. Occasionally I have had such plants live over, while sometimes they have winter-killed.

# ***Must Win Hard Way***

By **W. P. Davies**

THE STATEMENT IS OFTEN MADE, and seldom contradicted, that if the Germans had continued just a little longer the bombing of Great Britain that they began in 1940, Britain would have been obliged to yield and make the best peace possible with the victors. There is no way to prove or disprove the accuracy of that statement. The engineer knows that a steel beam will bend or break if subjected to certain stress. In such a case, where all the factors are known, the result can be calculated almost exactly, but when the problem involves such imponderables as human resourcefulness, endurance and determination the question when the break will come, if at all, must remain forever a matter of speculation.

IN THE DARK DAYS OF 1940 BRITAIN was in dire straits. Only a part of the army that had been sent to the continent had been brought home after the French debacle, and it returned almost with bare hands. Almost all of its equipment had been left in the hands of the enemy. At home there was next to nothing left with which to outfit it afresh. Many of Britain's important cities had been mercilessly bombarded from the skies; great manufacturing plants had been reduced to rubble; the British fleet was outnumbered four to one. Without question the outlook was desperate.

THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE REASON to doubt that if the bombing had been continued much longer Hitler could have invaded Britain, but there is a difference between invasion and occupation. British coast defenses were not then what they are now, but even then they were strong enough to make the landing of an enemy army an extremely hazardous and costly task. The invading forces would have been obliged to run the gauntlet of a powerful British fleet. And the British had husbanded their scant supply of fighter planes. Heavy toll would have been taken of the invading army before it had gained a real foothold and its lines of communication and supply had been established.

ASSUMING THAT THE GERMANS had been successful in establishing a competent fighting force on British soil, we come to the question: What would have followed? That question must remain unanswered, but we have before us many facts which suggest certain possibilities. Germany launched against Russia the most powerful army that one nation ever sent against another. The invading army fought its way triumphantly hundreds of miles into the interior, wrecked Russia's railroads and industries, laid siege to her greatest city and approached the gates of the capital. According to all the rules. Stalingrad was doomed, but there the invasion was checked, not by mechanical superiority, but by the Russian determination not to yield, but to fight on, no matter how great the odds. As a result of that determination Hitler's broken armies' are trying desperately to escape from the onrushing Russian forces.

DOWN IN ITALY THE LITTLE CITY of Cassino was an obstacle in the way of the northward progress of our Allied forces. Other methods being ineffective it was determined to blast the city out of existence. The city was bombed until not a building was left standing. Yet after many days our men have been engaged in hand-to-hand combat with Germans who use the very ruins as shelters from which to continue the fight. We might have expected the bombing that was done to remove that possibility, but it did not.

WHEN, IF EVER, BRITAIN WOULD have been obliged to surrender if the German bombing had been continued no one now can say with any degree of certainty, but there is a fatal fallacy in the argument that because Britain must soon have yielded, Germany, which has been far more severely punished than Britain was, must now be at the very point of surrender. Along her western front Germany has the most formidable defenses ever constructed by man. While her armies on the Russian front are retreating they are retreating toward home, toward a strongly fortified frontier where they will be nearer all their sources of supply. In Italy they still hold two-thirds of the peninsula where, if forced back they can retire from mountain to fortified mountain and exact from the Allies a high price for every foot of ground gained.

HAVING ALREADY OCCUPIED Hungary, the Germans appear to be about to take over the entire Balkan area, making it a bulwark of defense against attack from the Southwest. And with all this, the German forces have abundantly demonstrated their possession of the will to fight. It is conceded that at any moment there may be an explosion which will cause the whole German edifice to crumble, but we cannot shape our course in expectation of anything of the sort. What we have gained thus far has been gained the hard way, and we must be prepared, day by day and week by week, to fight out along that line, no matter how long it takes or what the cost

**By W. P. Davies**

NOT LONG AGO I TOLD SOMETHING of the excellent work being done by the Pembina Civic league in maintaining contact with local service men both in domestic camps and in service abroad. That, I understand, is a community enterprise in which residents of the city and of the rural districts alike participate. Another method of maintaining that most beneficial contact is followed by a public spirited group in East Grand Forks.

SPONSORED BY THE "MR. AND Mrs." club of Mendenhall Memorial Presbyterian church, women of the organization, assisted by the pastor, issue each month a news sheet called "Inklings," containing bits of news and other material likely to be of interest to those far from home. Copies of "Inklings," accompanied by a religious leaflet, are mailed monthly to more than 100 service men. In return numerous letters of appreciation have been received, and it is felt that the enterprise is beneficial both to those who receive and those who send.

A CORRESPONDENT OF THE NEW York Times refers to an editorial in that paper entitled "Declamation day" in which the editorial writer discussed Macaulay's "Lays of Ancient Rome," and asked "Did any human boy learn or speak the whole of it?" The letter writer responds promptly "I did." He tells of learning "Horatius at the Bridge" at the age of 13 and putting most of a school district audience to sleep as he declaimed it.

I DIDN'T SEE THAT EDITORIAL, but I suspect that the writer had in mind something more than the writer of the letter thought. I can't imagine that the writer of the editorial had any doubt that several boys have committed and declaimed "Horatius at the Bridge." Few boys with declamatory tendencies have escaped that experience, for the poem was stock material in the schoolbooks through several generations. I haven't forgotten all of it yet.

IF THE EDITORIAL REFERRED TO the entire series of poems included in the "Lays," that is a different matter. Included in that list in addition to "Horatius" are "Virginius," "The Battle of Ivry," and several others, all in heroic form and well suited to purposes of declamation. The list is much longer than most boys would be likely to commit to memory.

READERS WHO WROTE EXPRESSING the desire that the crossword puzzle be continued in the Herald will be glad to note that in accordance with their wishes the puzzle has been restored, at least for the time being. An effort will be made to economize in space in some other direction. Just how that is to be done requires some figuring.

ONE READER ASKS "WHY NOT drop the comics?" Imagine the riot there would be! To drop even one comic would bring protests from many readers, for each strip has its fans who follow faithfully the adventures of its characters, day by day, and the devotees of that particular strip would feel that a gross injustice had been done them if it did not appear with its accustomed regularity. To attempt the elimination of all of them would entail consequences too awful to contemplate.

I SUPPOSE THAT IS EQUALLY TRUE of the sketches and other entertainment features on the radio programs. The listeners may not care a whoop for the characters, but listening to the sketches in which they appear becomes a part of his routine and to interrupt its sequency would appeal to him as a personal injury.

WHAT BECOMES OF THE CIRCUS man when his circus days are over and it becomes necessary for him to retire from the road? One thinks at once of P. T. Barnum, most spectacular of all American showmen, who, retaining a considerable portion of his latest fortune, though he had won and lost many, spent his last years in dignified and happy retirement although he remained a showman until the last and still retained his interest in what he had made the "Greatest Show on Earth."

THERE WERE THE RINGLINGS, too, who, having built up their own little show to mammoth proportions, bought the Barnum and Bailey property and combined it with their own. They continued their activity in the personal direction of their vast enterprise until death called them one by one, leaving the show to be managed by their kin of the next generation.

THERE WAS "LORD" GEORGE Sanger, contemporary and rival of Barnum, who was to British showmanship what Barnum was to the American industry, and who sometimes boasted that even the great Barnum had borrowed from him some of the tricks of the trade. Sanger was often the proud entertainer of Britain and continental royalty and treasured letters of appreciation which he had received from Queen Victoria. He amassed considerable wealth, much of which he devoted to works of public benevolence and he founded a showmen's league which did much to raise the standards and promote the interests of British showmen. Sanger sold his circus interests, spent a few years in comfortable retirement and died at the hands of an employe who had suddenly gone insane and attacked his master with a hatchet.

BUT THERE HAVE BEEN HUNDREDS of circus owners, once well known, who, after spending many years in that form of entertainment, have dropped from sight, leaving no trace that the public could identify. Many of them made large sums of money, only to lose it as the wheels of fortune turned against them and some of those spent their later years in straitened circumstances if not in destitution. Others retired in comfort, to farms or quiet city lives, remaining interested observers of the pageant in which they once were active participants.

IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE Billboard, the familiar entertainment magazine, is a sketch of the Campbell brothers, who were once prominent circus men, but who long since dropped from public view. The six Campbell brothers were not all Campbells, nor were they all brothers. In addition to the four real brothers there were a "brother-in-law and a nephew, both of whom assumed the family name for professional reasons. Of this sextet only two of the original brothers, Ed and Virg, are now living.

THE CAMPBELL CIRCUS EXHIBITED in Grand Forks perhaps 35 or 40 years ago. At that time it was a sort of second-string show, not comparable to Ringling's or Barnum's, but several marks ahead of some of the fly-by-night shows that toured the country. It was sold in 1915, presumably to be absorbed by one of the bigger shows.

WHEN THE CAMPBELL BOYS were small the family moved from Illinois to a farm in Kansas. Drouth and other unfavorable conditions caused the boys to turn to another field for a livelihood. For their own entertainment they had developed considerable skill as acrobats and this skill they now turned to account. Assisted by some neighbor boys they organized a company of entertainers. Costumes for their show were made by their mother, and they have their first public entertainment at Haddam, Kansas, on July 4, 1889.

THE SHOW EXPANDED INTO A medicine show, a wagon circus, and finally into a full-fledged railway-borne circus. It had its usual list of ups and downs, but in the main it was successful. Virg Campbell, one of the two surviving brothers, now operates a farm near Fairbury, Neb., where the Campbell circus exhibited 45 years ago. One of the relics of old days which he still retains with pride is a mule that was born on the road with the show 33 years ago. His brother Ed and a sister who was a great help in the early days of the show, live in Fairbury. Both brothers own dogs which they have taught numerous tricks, and they still enjoy being showmen if only in a small way.

## By W. P. Davies

ILLUSTRATING THE "CORDIAL" feeling that exists between Germans and Rumanians just now this episode in a railway carriage in the Balkans is described:

In the compartment are a bright old lady, her attractive granddaughter, a German major and a Rumanian lieutenant. The train enters a long, dark tunnel. In the darkness is heard the sound of a kiss, followed by the sound of a slap.

The grandmother thinks: "What a good child she is. I really have brought her up well. Such good manners. Such Strength!"

The girl thinks: "Why did grandmother Slap the man? After all, she is pretty old, and I should not have thought she minded a kiss. I did not think she was capable of such a hard slap."

The German thinks: "Pretty smart fellows, these Rumanians. Not only do they know how to steal kisses, but they also manage to get their neighbors slapped for what they do."

The Rumanian lieutenant thinks: "What a brilliant fellow I really am! I kiss my own hand, and then I sock the German officer."

A RUSSIAN SCIENTIST HAS DISCOVERED a method of treating flowers so that honey gathered from them by bees will be strongly impregnated with vitamin C. Also, by varying the treatment various fruit flavors can be imparted to the honey. The remarkable job of fighting that the Russians are doing seems not to interfere with their scientific work. In almost any article on scientific discovery one finds the names of Russian scientists listed for their valuable contributions. This is not something that has been developed since the revolution. It dates away back into the days of the czars. It appears to be a Russian habit.

AMONG THE NUMEROUS PLANS suggested for simplification of income tax forms there is merit in one just made for the elimination of the cents column from the plank, with amounts to be stated only in even dollars. Compared with other changes that ought to be made this would not amount to very much, but it would help. The people who make the regulations ought to get it through their heads that a very large proportion of those who make tax returns have little occasion to deal with figures, and that to them, no matter how simple the problem, a mass of figures is forbidding and confusing. Some of them don't bother to report cents anyway. Nobody should be expected to. The difference in the tax paid would be imperceptible.

THE SPRING WEATHER THAT they have been giving us is perfectly all right for the time of year. Of course we enjoy a nice warm, sunny day after any kind of winter, but there's really no hurry. It is quite true that in this area wheat has often been sown in March, but usually nothing has been gained by such early seeding except that so much work has been got out of the way a little earlier. But sometimes wheat sown so early has rotted in the ground, and at other times the tender plants have been killed by hard freezing. While some of the moisture from snow that falls on frozen ground goes up in the air, some of it stays in the soil, and we can use quite a lot of moisture.

AN INCIDENT WORTH NOTING OCCURRED in a New York court the other day. One Ivar Haug, was to be tried on charges of draft evasion and asked that a Nazi lawyer be appointed to defend him. How he thought that any American lawyer would wish to be known as a Nazi does not appear, but, failing a Nazi, he said he would be satisfied with a Gentile. That brought from the judge these remarks:

"I WANT YOU TO HAVE A FAIR trial, and of course you will. What is more, I want you to know afterward, whatever the outcome may be, that you've had a fair trial. As a judge, and as an American, I know lawyers only as members of the bar—without regard to race, creed or color."

The court appointed Jacob J. Rosenblum, who was long associated prominently with Governor Dewey when the governor was prosecutor. Mr. Rosenblum accepted the duty of defending the accused, and added: "In view of the defendant's expressed desire for a Nazi lawyer and one not of the Jewish faith, I want him to know that my name does not belie my religion and that I am president of a synagogue."

DON V. MOORE, OF CRYSTAL CITY, Texas, has become a great-grandfather, according to a letter just received from him by Mel. Bacheller. The child was born at Del Rio, Texas on March 22. The mother is the daughter of Don's son Lewis, who attended school in Grand Forks when Don's family lived here.

IT SEEMS ABOUT YESTERDAY, OR perhaps the day before yesterday, that Don Moore had his office across the hall from mine in the old Herald building. Come to think, it is longer ago than that; it is something like 40 years ago. Don was a father then, and from the standpoint of years it is perfectly reasonable for him to be a grandfather now. But a great-grandfather!—it just doesn't seem possible.

WHEN I FIRST KNEW HIM, DON was local manager for the Lewis commission company which had offices in the Herald building. When there was nothing doing in his office he would slip across to mine, and while we visited he would listen subconsciously for the click of the telegraph instrument that would fcall him back. Upon the organization of the Commercial club—lineal ancestor of the present Civic and Commerce association, he added to his work that of part-time secretary of that organization. Later he retired from the Lewis concern and devoted all his time to duties as secretary of the Commercial club and the state fair.

HE CONTINUED IN THAT WORK until he left Grand Forks, later to become manager of a large Texas ranch. Occasional letters received from him indicate his continued interest in Grand Forks. He was a hard worker and a genial fellow. Among other things, he was a good singer, and the quartet in which he sang with Norman Black, Do Elton and Ernie Montgomery entertained many a company. Best wishes to him and his increasing family.

W. E. LA PLANTE OF GRAFTON writes:

"Your recent story of your friend who crosses the Mississippi at Hastings interests me, very much. I had an experience similar to this, but one which brings me 'goose pimples' whenever I think of it.

"EARLY IN APRIL, 1939, I HAD A business call to make at a place called Krem, west of the Missouri river. From there I had to go to Garrison. I proposed to drive back to Bismarck and go to Garrison on the regular highway, but was assured at Krem that I could drive over the Missouri on the ice, and was given detailed instructions on how to find the crossing. However, by the time I reached the west bank of the Missouri, it was getting dark, the wind was blowing "half a gale" and the landmarks were indistinct, also the trail over the ice was not very conspicuous. But I decided to go on over. I soon lost my way, and for nearly two hours I drove back and forth and up and down the Missouri, trying to find the east bank and later trying to find a way to get up the bank. I finally saw a light, abandoned my car and went to the farm house where the light was shining, and with the help of the farmer I got up on the bank and started for Garrison. When I told the hotel clerk where I came from, he would not believe me, and next day had me drive him down to the Missouri and showed me that there were large open places in the ice in so many places that I must have driven a "jig saw" course to have come across the river without driving in to one of them.

"Never again will I drive on a lake or river."