

The Bismarck Tribune.

BY M. H. JEWELL.

THE DAILY TRIBUNE.

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THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE.

Eight pages, containing a summary of the news of the week, both foreign and local; published every Friday, sent postage paid, to any address, for one year \$2; six months, \$1; three months, 75 cents.

The Weekly Tribune is the oldest paper in North Dakota and the aim is made to make it a perfect encyclopedia of Dakota affairs.

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LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATION.

The subject of legislative representation is one that should now be discussed and carefully considered by the people of North Dakota. We do not want a legislature too large, neither do we want it too small.

The South Dakota constitution limits the number of members of the house to not less than 75 nor more than 135, and the senate to not less than 25 nor more than 45.

Several suggestions as to the legislative apportionment have been made—the Fargo Argus of the 23d inst. having a couple of schemes—and the TRIBUNE has a couple also.

In such an apportionment the representation would be as follows:

- Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7—Pembina, population 11,510—5 members. Districts 8, 9 and 10—Cavalier, 5,029—3 members.

bered that the small counties will not always be small. They are the counties in which the most rapid development will take place.

The TRIBUNE believes that representation should be given each county in the lower house—if two houses there must be—and as near representation from each county as possible in the upper house, without making that body too large and unwieldy.

The TRIBUNE's scheme is to give one representative in the lower house to each county and one additional for each 3,000 population or major fraction.

This would make the representation as follows:

- District 1—Pembina county, population 11,510—5 members. District 2—Cavalier, 5,029—3 members. District 3—Towner, 366—1 member.

It will be noticed that this apportionment divides very few counties and gives to nearly all the organized counties representation in both bodies.

HARMONY PREVAILS.

The constitutional convention met yesterday promptly at 12 o'clock and effected a temporary organization by the election of Mr. F. B. Fancher, of Stutsman, president.

A GREETING.

President Fancher, of the constitutional convention, thoughtfully wired the following greeting to the conventions of South Dakota, Montana, and Washington Territory:

To the Constitutional Conventions at Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Helena, Montana, and Olympia, W. Ter. The constitutional convention of North Dakota sends greeting and bids you good speed in your advance movement towards statehood and full American citizenship.

wealth of our nation; while the Dakotas will bring wheat and corn to feed the people of the world.

F. B. FANCHER, Pres.

SPEAKING of the series of defeats which prohibition has recently received, the St. Louis Globe-Democrat sees strong evidence that the tide has set in against political prohibitionists.

MR. JOHNSON, of Lakota, made many, many friends at the republican caucus yesterday. He not only gracefully withdrew his name as a candidate for president of the constitutional convention

THE Minneapolis Tribune throws out some excellent hints to the four new states now preparing for admission to the union.

The growth of corporate influence among the forces that control a state has been significant. It has developed into a political force, setting up one man and pulling down another, as was deemed best for the interests of the corporation.

The building of a line of railway parallel to another line, which is already receiving from the contributing territory an amount of business sufficient for but one, is not a blessing but a curse to the people.

THE organization of The Scandinavian Union of North Dakota was effected at Fargo last week. Its proceedings were characterized by the introduction and adoption of a very strange set of resolutions.

possible that Scandinavians generally will endorse the third plank, which declares that an unprovoked war has been waged against them in North Dakota by their fellow citizens.

JAMESTOWN has seen Devils Lake and gone her one better. The members of the constitutional convention are now receiving the following communication from the metropolis on the Jim:

DEAR SIR: The citizens of Jamestown intend to invite the constitutional convention to adjourn to this place and hold its sessions here.

The above may have been an attempt at a joke, but as Jamestown is an aspirant for capital honors, it is looked upon as a serious proposition.

ONE of the first resolutions that should be introduced and adopted in the forthcoming constitutional convention for North Dakota is one reading about as follows:

RESOLVED, That the constitution provide that the legislative authority of the state shall vest in a single body, to be called the Legislative Assembly,

There is now no good reason for two bodies. The conditions are entirely different than they were a hundred years ago. The time has long since passed when one body was a check upon the other.

THE rain Monday night came in time to save the crops of the Missouri slope from destruction. It was not, however, from a lack of rainfall, that the crops were suffering but from winds heated to a blighting degree from their passage over the drouth stricken regions, east and south.

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cheap this fall. Considering the discouraging reports from other portions of the territory as well as other states and territories, the farmers of the Missouri slope have reason to feel thankful that they are favored.

THE following is the platform of the Farmers' Alliance of North Dakota, adopted at the Fargo meeting:

All public necessities so far as practicable should be owned and controlled by the government and managed in such way that no class should be allowed to exact unjust rates for the use thereof.

Our railroads should be so controlled by the government as to be run in the interest of the people upon an actual cost basis.

Remembering the principles of the Alliance as laid down in Farmers' National Territorial Alliance, and pledging renewed allegiance and fidelity to those principles.

HON. H. B. BLACKWELL, editor of the Woman's Journal, Boston, and one of the most active members of the Woman's Suffrage association of the United States, is in the city and will remain until the organization of the constitutional convention, after which he will proceed to Montana and Washington territories.

HE asks the constitutional convention, not for woman's suffrage, but for the adoption of a plank leaving the question to future legislation—a plank worded about as follows:

THE legislature may make further extensions of suffrage to citizens of mature age and sound mind not convicted of crime, but no restriction upon the suffrage shall be made without a vote of the people.

MR. Blackwell comes with excellent endorsements and letters of introduction from the leading men of the nation, and should be given a respectful hearing by the members of the constitutional convention.

THE SIOUX FALLS Argus Leader says: "Our prohibition friends may not have thought of it, but the repeal of the prohibitory amendment in Rhode Island was by far the most serious blow their cause has yet received."

MINORITY system of voting is a scheme whereby the minority hope by some means or other to become equal or more powerful than the majority. This is the whole question in a nutshell, else there would be no advocates of the scheme.

SPEAKING of the duties of the constitutional conventions now in session in the four great territories, the Minneapolis Tribune says: "The principal difficulty to be encountered will be that of doing too much."

IN the Illinois constitutional convention pro tem were elected the first day. A roll call of the members was also had and the usual oath administered. The temporary organization held until the third day when permanent officers were elected.

AND now comes Michigan with an endorsement of ballot reform. The final act of the legislature of that state was the passage of the ballot reform measure.

HON. M. N. JOHNSON of Nelson county is the first delegate to arrive in the capital city. Mr. Johnson is probably the most pronounced candidate for president

of the convention in the field, and his candidacy is backed up by ripe experience in legislative affairs, having served two years in the lower house and four years in the Iowa state senate.

IT is becoming evident that woodchucks will be numerous in the constitutional convention. A clause frequently inserted in constitutions provides that in all counties where the county seat has never been settled by a vote, the question shall be submitted to the people at the next general election.

THE idea of but one branch to the legislature for the new state of North Dakota seems to be a very "taking one" with a great many, and if the constitution makers can fix it in that way the TRIBUNE believes they will be able to rejoice over their own wisdom in the future, and the people will thank them for their departure from an already too much worn and useless rut.

THE TRIBUNE does not know of any candidate for official stenographer of the constitutional convention, but it does know that Editor Tuttle of Mandan is a stenographer thoroughly competent for the place.

THE school census for the present year in Independent school district, city of Bismarck, just completed, shows an increase of children of school age over last year of eighty-four. This is doing very well for hard times.

PRESIDENT LOUKES' extremely radical position may echo the sentiment of South Dakota's Alliance, says the Fargo Republican, but he is several steps in advance of the average North Dakota farmer in his radical ideas.

THE school census for the present year in Independent school district, city of Bismarck, just completed, shows an increase of children of school age over last year of eighty-four.

THE Fargo Republican says: "President Loukes is kind to the newspaper fraternity in conceding to them the auditorship of North Dakota; but the Republican is of the opinion they are not desirous of recognition on the state tickets."

THE fact that the Rev. Mendenhall, editor of the Grand Forks Plaindealer, has been elected president of the Jamestown college, gives color to the rumor that the Plaindealer is about to change hands.

THE Aberdeen News is now owned by George Slosser of the Dakota Ruralist. Slosser—who is all right himself—succeeds a couple of bright, energetic newspaper rustlers—Messrs. Starling and Torrey.

THEY had a firemen's tournament down at Yankton, in South Dakota, but somehow the papers fail to report any world's record-smashing events.

THE Farmers' Alliance at Fargo has resolved in favor of holding state conventions between the 1st and 15th of September.

DAKOTA will have three instead of two census supervisors. Still the TRIBUNE is for Maj. Edwards for one of 'em—unless it would break the harmony in Cass county.