

The Open Letter

BY DICK MESSERLY



The Colonies List the Grievances

The American colonies were pretty much ignored by the British for the first 150 years.

The main connection Britain had with the colonists was as a supplier of resources, labor, and innovations. As far as its industrial leaders were concerned, the American colonies were there for exploitation.

However, the colonies relationship with Britain changed because of the British, Seven Years' War with France coming to an end.

The war left Britain deeply in debt.

The American colonies then became the target of King George III to bring in needed tax revenue to pay the debt.

As British hostile pressures increased, the Founders wanted the restoration of liberties they had enjoyed: that is freedom without the constant annoyance and hindrance of foreign imperial rule.

The Declaration of Independence outlines the next steps the Founders knew they had to take.

"But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is

their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security."

The Founders established in the Declaration of Independence the standard of measurement and condition under which men need to act.

They then presented a list of grievances to King George III.

Among them: He has erected a multitude of New Offices and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislatures.

He has been affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws.

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us.

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world.

For imposing Taxes on us without our consent. Independence is the cry!

"In the Arena"

Back in my Day...

5 Years Ago
April 20, 2021

Two cities void of Mayoral Candidates

When area cities conduct elections to fill vacancies during the June Primary, at least two communities could find themselves without a mayor. Those cities are Garrison and Coleharbor. Following the April 17 deadline for nominees, nobody has indicated an interest in serving as mayor. Allen Beierle currently holds the city's top position.

Beierle said, "The truth of the matter is, I do not have the energy it takes to complete four more years."

20 Years Ago
April 14, 2006

Restrictive Fire Ban imposed

McLean County residents have been put on notice that for the time being, a ban on fires within the county has been imposed.

Todd Schreiner, County E-911 Coordinator, told county commissioners Tuesday at their regular meeting that Burleigh County emergency officials had contacted him, regarding implementing a fire ban within McLean County.

Schreiner said that after the conversation, he polled county fire chiefs who told him that it would be to the county's advantage if it declared a burning ban, thus joining five other central North Dakota counties (Burleigh, Emmons, Sheridan, Kidder and Morton) who have imposed a burning ban.

Dakota Datebook

BY JILL WHITCOMB

Beuchner and Orth

From the late 1880s to around 1925, architecture took a turn for the opulent. The Beaux Arts style was in full swing throughout America.

Beaux Arts, which simply means Fine Art in French, had its roots in l'Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. Many American architects studied at the Parisian school, and brought what they had learned back to America. Beaux Arts architecture is known for its formal design, elaborate details and symmetry. It's a combination of classical Greek and Roman architecture, with a bit of Renaissance thrown in. The architectural style was most often used for museums, libraries and courthouses.

Charles Buechner and Henry Orth were one of the most successful architectural teams in their day. Their firm specialized in movie theatres and courthouses throughout the upper Midwest. Norway-born Henry Orth made his way to America in 1866, and eventually settled in St. Paul, Minn. Charles Buechner,

who was born on this day in 1859, hailed from Darmstadt, Germany. Buechner was educated in Switzerland, France, and Germany. After making his way to America and meeting Henry Orth in St. Paul, the Beaux Arts Dream Team was born.

From one corner of North Dakota to the other, you'll find 12 courthouses designed by Buechner and Orth.

The Pierce County courthouse in Rugby is one creation by the Dream Team. Its massive copper front doors open wide, giving way to marble flooring inlaid with cube mosaic. Stained glass ceilings decorate the 20-foot rotunda. Inside the large silver dome atop the roof, intricate paintings depict local prairie scenes: buffalo grazing, settlers homesteading in covered wagons, and farmers plowing with "new fangled" traction engines.

The Grand Forks County courthouse is another Buech-

DATEBOOK
continued on page 7

McLean County approves Falkirk mining petition after public hearing

Commission authorizes limited surface mining activity near county roads following March 17 hearing

BY KELLI AMELING
Associate Publisher

The McLean County Commission approved a petition from The Falkirk Mining Company following a public hearing held March 17 at the McLean County Courthouse in Washburn.

Chairperson Curt Olson opened the public hearing at 9 a.m. to consider Falkirk's request to conduct surface coal mining operations within 100 feet of public road rights-of-way at several locations in the county. The petition was submitted pursuant to North Dakota Century Code and North Dakota Administrative Code governing surface mining operations near public roads.

The areas included in the petition are:

The east side of a section line road located north of U.S. Highway 83 near the section line

between the northeast quarter of Section 17 and the northwest quarter of Section 16, Township 146 North, Range 82 West.

The east side of the section line between Section 30, Township 146 North, Range 82 West, and Section 25, Township 146 North, Range 83 West.

The east side of the section line between Section 31, Township 146 North, Range 82 West, and Section 36, Township 146 North, Range 83 West.

Commissioners noted the required notice of hearing had been properly served and published in accordance with state law. It was also determined that the commission has jurisdiction over the petition and the affected public roads and rights-of-way.

Falkirk Mining representative Adam Ourada told the commission that he had received no comments or concerns regarding the petition prior to the

hearing. Following discussion, the commission found that the interests of both the public and affected landowners would be protected under the terms of the request.

The resolution approved by the commission allows Falkirk to conduct surface mining operations — excluding actual coal removal — within 100 feet of the specified road rights-of-way.

Commissioner Steve Lee moved to approve the resolution as presented, with a second by Commissioner Steve Cottingham. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote, with Lee, Cottingham and Olson voting aye.

The approved resolution, along with the petition and affidavits of publication for the notice of hearing, will be filed with the McLean County Auditor.

Western North Dakota Honor Flight announces 9th mission to Washington, D.C.

Flight will take place April 26-27 from Bismarck

COMPILED BY KELLI AMELING
Associate Publisher

Veterans from McLean County will partake in the Western North Dakota Honor Flight as it launches its 9th trip to Washington, D.C., April 26-27.

The flight will carry the veteran group from a number of counties to visit the national memorials dedicated to their service and sacrifice. The two-day journey provides Veterans with the opportunity to reflect, connect with fellow servicemembers, and experience the nation's capital in their honor.

"Our mission has always been simple: to give our Veterans the recognition and gratitude they deserve," said Patience Mos-

brucker, President of the Board of Directors. "Each trip is a powerful reminder of the courage, commitment, and service these men and women gave to our country. We are honored to accompany them as they visit the memorials built in their honor."

Counties that have veterans participating in the flight include Adams, Billings, Bowman, Bottineau, Burleigh, Burke, Divide, Dunn, Emmons, Golden Valley, Grant, Hettinger, Kidder, Logan, McHenry, McIntosh, McKenzie, McLean, Mercer, Morton, Mountrail, Oliver, Renville, Rolette, Sheridan, Sioux, Slope, Stark, Pierce, Ward, Wells and Williams.

The Western North Dakota Honor Flight continues to serve

Veterans from the World War II era, Korea War Era, and Vietnam era by providing an all-expenses paid trip to Washington, D.C. The upcoming mission will include visits to the World War II Memorial, Korean War Veterans Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and other significant sites.

The public is invited to welcome the Veterans home at Bismarck Airport on April 27 at approximately 7 p.m., where a large crowd is expected to greet the returning group with appreciation and support. Bismarck Airport is offering free parking for those attending the welcome home.

Good Old Days



BHG press crew flashback

The "Press Crew" at BHG, Inc. back in 1990. From left, **Wade Kolden, Delair Kaas, Paul Kolden and Jeff Rustad.** (Submitted by Karen Krzmarzick)