

Capitol News

STATE GOING CRAZY? NO NEED FOR ALARM

Rate of Insane Increasing—Natural Result of Changing Conditions

North Dakota is not going crazy. The state board of control finds no cause for immediate alarm. Perfect sanity may still be expected from 730 out of every 731 Flickertail folk, which is a much better showing than New York state makes, with only 282 normal people out of every 283. In other words, while one may reasonably expect every 731st person he meets in North Dakota to babble about the pleasure of paying high taxes, in the great Empire state every 283rd person is a candidate for the straight jacket. Whether New York people naturally go crazy or crazy people naturally go to New York, the board's statistics do not reveal. The board of control does know that the rate of insanity in North Dakota, 1.36 per thousand, is one of the lowest revealed by any state in the Union. Not only sound sense, but every-day honesty and decency are found typical of North Dakota by figures with which the board members console themselves whenever some untoward incident seems to indicate that the good old state is going to the demotion bow-wow. In 1914 North Dakota boasted of only one criminal in every 3,349 people. The prosperity of the last two years has been found a trifle too much for some honest people, as the present ratio is one convict to every 3,211 people.

Increase to Be Expected.
The board of control, which naturally makes a study of such things, finds both increases fully justified in the experience of other states. As people become more civilized, more neighborly and more accustomed to ease and luxury, statistics show, they become more prone to go off on a tangent. Our pioneers had no time for such extravagances as insanity, dishonesty and crime; they were of a

hardy stock; lived much out of doors; had little to tempt their cupidity, and, if they had their worries, they also had their work to offset them.

Nation Hitting High.
Arthur Capper's weekly, which has taken up the task of ascertaining "What's the Matter With Kansas," finds that in 17 years insanity has gained 108 per cent in the Sunflower state. H. C. Fowman of the Kansas state board of control says: "Dooze hasn't been sending these people to the asylums. Alcohol has not cut much ice in Kansas in recent years. The insane are increasing because civilization is too much for them. From 1904 to 1910 there has been a 2 per cent gain in insanity in the United States, as compared with a 12 per cent increase in population. In Kansas in 17 years, with a 17 per cent gain in population, insanity has increased 108 per cent. It is a case of the weak surviving and breeding more than the strong. When a country gets full of idle, shiftless parasites, the producers cannot care for them, and the country degenerates."

Consolation to Board.
Indicating that North Dakota has fewer parasites; fewer idle, shiftless people and more producers; that North Dakota civilization is of a more wholesome sort. Mr. Boyman's report brings consolation to the Flickertail board of control, even in the face of the fact that very, very slowly, the percentage of insanity is increasing, even in this stronghold of sound sense.

Inspecting Hospital.
All of which is merely preliminary to the fact that S. L. Olson and James A. Brown of the board of control are home from Jamestown paying a monthly visit to the state hospital for the insane, where a number of improvements and additions are under way. These include a new woman's ward, to cost \$101,264; an office and dormitories, costing \$53,368; new wings to the receiving ward, costing \$51,285, and a dining hall, costing \$16,927, which indicate that insanity is an expensive luxury.

The state hospital at Jamestown dates back to territorial days, having been established May 1, 1857, only two years after the capital was moved to Bismarck. A majority of the present buildings date from 1893.

BAD YEAR FOR STATE HAIL LAW--LOSS BIG

Probable That Not to Exceed 38 per cent Can be Paid on Claims

The present has been a disastrous year for the state hail insurance department. Although the amount of premiums collected is 50 per cent greater than in 1915, the unusually heavy losses, especially in the northern part of the state, probably will cut down the amount to be paid on claims to 38 per cent.

Deputy Commissioner Sheehan is now engaged on his annual report for the year, which closed September 15. He finds that the state department insured 117,257 acres, the risks written totaling \$20,800; premiums collected, \$3,113.79. The losses were \$79,255.76, and the expense of adjusting, \$1,706.96, or 2.15 per cent on the loss. The policies in force numbered 845.

Out of the \$3,113.79 collected in premiums must be paid the cost of administration, adjusting, etc., after which the amount remaining is prorated over the losses. The arrangement is a purely mutual one. Last year only \$20,000 was collected in premiums, but the losses were not so severe.

VALUABLE HISTORICAL DATA.
The State Historical library is in receipt of a set of 49 volumes of the publications of the New York Historical society. The data covered, from colonial days to the present, is interesting and valuable. The North Dakota Historical society exchanges with similar organizations in all other states.

RATE HEARING DEFERRED.
The hearing on intrastate freight rates, scheduled for Grand Forks and Fargo this week, has been postponed indefinitely. The Bismarck Commercial club will petition for a third hearing, to be held in Bismarck. Petitions have been filed asking a flat reduction of 10 per cent on rates within a radius of 100 miles, and 15 per cent on rates outside of that area. North Dakota intrastate rates are said to be much higher than those in Minnesota, South Dakota and Iowa.

DEPARTMENTS MAKING UP BIENNIAL BUDGET
The various departments at the capitol, in response to a request from State Auditor Jorgenson, are engaged in making up their budget for the next two years. The task is not so arduous as it was two years ago, as the departments have the benefit of that previous spirit. The present system of making requisitions was adopted by the legislature of 1913. The departments are expected to advise the state auditor of their every need for the ensuing two years, and the auditor makes up his budget from the totals shown. Two years ago some of the departments under-estimated, and emergency appropriations were required.

GENERAL INTEREST SHOWN IN SCHOOL CORN CONTEST
Letters received at the office of Commissioner Flint indicate a generally gratifying interest in the proposed state-wide school corn contest, through whose medium the department of agriculture and labor hopes to assemble an excellent collection of North Dakota corn for the second annual "First National" corn show at St. Paul in December. Among those who have written approving the idea are: F. J. Steffeck of Schafer, superintendent of McKenzie county schools; John L. Brekken of Washburn, superintendent of the McLean county schools, and Miss Anna M. Peterson of Williston, superintendent in Williams county.

SEPTEMBER CORN FOUND TO CONTAIN MUCH WATER
To determine how much evaporation is required to prepare soft September corn for a hard freeze, Commissioner of Agriculture Flint on September 17 picked an ear which weighed twelve ounces and installed it in his office to harden. Yesterday the ear weighed six ounces. The experiment is interesting inasmuch as it proves the desirability of raising early maturing types of corn if seed is desired, as had the corn above remained on the stalk to ripen, the first killing frost would have frozen the moisture-laden kernels and blighted the germ.

20 STOCK BRANDS FILED AT CAPITOL THIS WEEK
As a further evidence of the rapidly increasing stock industry in this state, one has to but consult the stock brand records at the state house under the supervision of Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor R. F. Flint. During the first three days of this week this department recorded and issued 20 stock brand certificates. This means that just that many more North Dakota farmers have recently "seen the light" and established small herds of cattle in connection with their farm operations. Slow but sure diversification is being recognized as the surest and best method of farming successfully.

ENDLESS CHAIN LETTER GRAFT REACHES CAPITAL
The endless chain letter graft emanating from the Twin Cities which was exposed in a recent dispatch to The Tribune has reached Bismarck. There has been turned over to Police Magistrate Dolan a typical letter, written by a Bismarck woman, in perfectly good faith, to her friend. The letters start off with: "You will surely be interested in this extraordinary offer now being made by the National Mail Order Brokerage Exchange, 502 Globe Building, Minneapolis, to introduce and advertise ready-to-wear clothes within the least time. We will give to everyone complying with the conditions

herein stated one of our 1916 spring model silk petticoats, retailing at \$4.75; give size and color desired; make five copies of this letter, and to five lady friends. Send ten cents in silver to the National Brokerage Exchange, with the names and addresses of the five parties to whom you sent copies. You will receive one of these petticoats above mentioned without further delay or expense."

ESTIMATES ON PAVING
State Engineer Bliss is preparing estimates on the relaying and paving of the Capital street car line for the board of control.

WALLACE WILL TALK TO TRI-STATE GRAIN MEN
George R. Wallace of the state tax commission has accepted an invitation to address the Tri-State Grain Growers' annual convention at Fargo. The commissioner will discuss taxation matters relating particularly to the grain growers.

LIBRARIANS TO MEET AT WILLISTON IN OCTOBER
Mrs. M. C. Budlong, secretary of the state library commission, is advised that the eleventh annual convention of the North Dakota Library association will be held at Williston, October 26 to 28. One of the important subjects to be discussed is the duties of trustees, from the librarian's, the trustees' and the library commission's standpoint. An effort is being made to procure the attendance of library boards from all parts of the state. Mrs. Budlong will discuss the subject for the state library commission.

Miss Jeannette Drake, formerly instructor in the Wisconsin library training school, and now in charge of the city library of Des Moines, will have a prominent place on the program. Other participants will be Alfred Steele of Jamestown, Mrs. McVeedy of the agricultural college, Miss Greene and Mrs. Carr of Minot, Miss Paddock of Jamestown, Miss Olson of the Mayville normal, Miss Durand of Grand Forks, Mr. Sumner and Miss Hedrick of the university and President Crane of the Minot normal. The officers of the state association are Alfred Steele, Jamestown, president; Margaret Green, Minot, vice

CHICHESTER'S PILLS
SOLD BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE

president; Lillian Cook, Valley City, secretary-treasurer, and S. Blanche Hedrick of University and Winifred Bucklin of Fargo, executive committee. Mrs. O. F. Bryant and son of Napoleon were state library visitors yesterday. Attorney General T. H. Tharalson is home from Minneapolis.

MAKING GOOD HEADWAY
Work on the nurses' dormitory and training school annex to the Bismarck hospital is progressing nicely, and it is hoped that the building may be occupied by February 1.

Mr. H. A. Tangen, a prominent farmer, near Haynes, N. D., says his wife is well by Dr. Mellenthin's treatment and is thankful. Dr. Mellenthin will be at Bismarck, McKenzie Hotel, Wednesday, October 11. Hours, 9:00 a. m. to 4:00 p. m.

H. L. STAHL
The Piano Tuner and Player Piano Expert
Is in the city on his regular fall tuning trip. He wishes to announce that he has never been directly connected with any local dealer, but having been formerly connected directly with the Stone Piano Co., and now entirely independent. For appointments, leave orders at Grand Pacific Hotel.

Triangle Plays Again

MATINEE AND TONIGHT

JANE GRAY

IN

"The Waifs"

A Thomas A. Ince Production

Fatty Arbuckle in "His Wife's Mistake"

A TWO-REEL KEYSTONE COMEDY. IT'S A SCREAM

ORPHEUM THEATRE

7-REEL SHOW—THE KIND YOU LIKE

SENSATIONAL—POWERFUL—DIGNIFIED and a Distinct Revelation to all the World

"Where Are My Children?"

Humanity's most powerful weapon against the premeditated destruction of the unborn—Played by a brilliant cast headed by that distinguished actor, Mr. Tyrone Power.

For Everyone Over Eighteen Years of Age

AUDITORIUM

October 12, 13, 14

MATINEE 2:30
10c and 15c

THE GRAND
Phone 380.
FRANK WOLF
Mgt.

TONIGHT 7:30-9:00
10c, 20c

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Robt. Edson

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THE FAMOUS WORLD'S
Monkey Jungle Comedies
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Extra Fancy Jonathans, selected sizes, per case . . . \$ 2.00
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PEACHES

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PEARS

Fancy Bartlett, for canning, per case 2.00
The last of the season

Fancy Meats of All Kinds

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