

North Dakota News

MURDER THEORY IS ADVANCED

Officials Believe That Ruzicka was Killed and load of Coal Fired.

(Herald Special Service.)
Mandan, N. D., Dec. 12.—That the strange death of John Ruzicka, a farmer, on November 4, may cause a murder investigation is the intimation today by attorneys interested. Ruzicka, November 4, was in the city and started for home, driving a team and hauling a big load of lignite coal. What happened is unknown, however, automobile parties four hours later found Ruzicka dead, his lower limbs burned off, and his body generally terribly burned. It was presumed that he suffered an attack of heart trouble, dropping his pipe in a bundle of hay in the front end of the wagon, that this caught fire and ignited the coal, thus causing the burns.

It has since developed that Ruzicka had incurred the enmity of a neighboring farmer, that Ruzicka's first wife eloped with another man, and that Ruzicka won the wife of a neighbor over, she securing a divorce and marrying him. Threats alleged to have been made have been reported to the state's attorney who has begun an investigation.

EDGLEY MAY HAVE BIG CHEESE MILL

Bismarck, N. D., Dec. 12.—Now that the Swiss cheese industry is all shot to pieces, the big cheese producing holes of unsuitable dimensions, the North Dakota cheese industry is developing strength, and cheese mills are the latest evolution of the cooperative movement.

E. H. Pierce, assistant dairy com-

North Dakota Still Money In Bank With Bills All Paid

Bismarck, N. D., Dec. 12.—North Dakota still has money in the bank, with only a month of the old year left and with 1918 taxes payable in a few days. December 1, the state treasurer's report shows, North Dakota's cash in the general fund was \$143,726.16, with all current bills paid, as against \$42,553.39 one year ago, with many accounts held over from as early as August. In all funds, the balance December 1 was \$1,054,647.98, as compared with \$519,896.21 one year ago.

Comparative Statement.

An interesting comparative statement follows:

	1918.	1917.
Balance October 31	\$1,184,613.15	\$547,969.71
November collections	314,987.47	365,951.45
Total	\$1,499,600.62	\$913,921.16
November payments	\$444,952.64	\$314,024.96
Balance, December 1	\$1,054,647.98	\$599,896.21

General Fund.

The general fund, from which current expenditures of the state government are made, shows the following:

Balance October 31	\$2,637.80	\$32,714.47
November collections	159,500.85	117,299.24
Total	\$162,138.65	\$150,013.71
November payments	\$107,449.39	\$107,449.39
Balance December 1	\$54,689.26	\$42,564.32

Plenty of Money. There is sufficient money in the general fund to meet all current expenses, payrolls, etc., to the end of the year and leave a tidy balance.

missioner, is home from Edgeley, where he attended a meeting of farmers interested in establishing a cooperative cheese foundry. A census has been taken which reveals 200 cheese cows within a radius of four miles of Edgeley, and it is believed that an even greater number will be developed. An old creamery is to be remedied for the cheese, and there are excellent prospects of its success. Many of the most progressive agriculturists and dairymen of the district are backing the movement.

Many Weekly Papers Have Raised Prices

(Herald Special Service.)
Mandan, N. D., Dec. 12.—Giving as their reason the increasing cost of print paper, seventeen different weekly papers of western North Dakota have this week announced raises in the prices of their publication.

HANGS AX ABOVE SCHOOL DOOR TO "GET" TEACHER

(Herald Special Service.)
Fossenden, N. D., Dec. 12.—When Bertha Miller, young lady teacher of the Edgemoor school district No. 3, entered the door recently an ax suspended above the door dropped striking her on the shoulder. On a blackboard was written "if the ax don't get you I will." Ashes from the stove were strewn about the floor, a dictionary and globe, blackboards and chair cut and mutilated, and other damage done. Before she had an opportunity to report to the officers some one entered the room a howling, scolding, scolding her teacher's certificate, private papers, tearing up a photograph of her, and doing other damage. Detectives have been engaged to probe the matter. Miss Miller has pluckily refused to resign.

WHIRLWIND CAMPAIGN FOR MONEY IS STARTED

(Herald Special Service.)
Mandan, N. D., Dec. 12.—Rev. Oliver C. Johnson, representing James-town, N. D., collected today started to raise \$115,000. Half a dozen other representatives of the Presbyterian school are working in other parts of the state. The late James J. Hill of St. Paul and E. P. Wells of the Wells-Dickey company, Minneapolis, agreed to give \$75,000 and others in various parts of the nation agreed to donations of other sums, bringing the total up to \$115,000, as an endowment fund for the college, providing the school board raised enough to make a total of \$200,000 by January 1, 1917. The fund is just \$15,000 short and this must be secured within the next two weeks, hence a whirlwind campaign started today.

TEAM PERISHES IN PRAIRIE FIRE

(Herald Special Service.)
Fort Yates, N. D., Dec. 12.—When a prairie fire came sweeping toward his place, Sam Gayton, farmer near Fort Yates, was riding his team and got beyond control, saving the life of Frank Parsons and a team belonging to the latter was caught and smothered by smoke. Gayton will pay Parsons for his loss.

Loan Associations Already Organized

Carson, N. D., Dec. 12.—Farmers of Morton county and the newly organized county of Grant are enthusiastic about the loan associations. Already two loan associations have been organized under the provisions of this law and applications have been made for loans aggregating \$135,000.

The Loan association has applied for the \$35,000 and theleigh Loan association for \$20,000, and together they have applications for additional loans to the amount of \$80,000.

No Money Needed at Big Celebration

Bowman, N. D., Dec. 12.—Free meals, free lectures and institute work will be featured of "Appreciation day" which has been set for December 15. The business men of Bowman will be hosts and their guests will be the farmers and their families of this section. Every farmer, his wife and all the kiddies have been invited and the invitations read "leave your pocketbooks at home."

The celebration is an appreciation on the part of the merchants of the prosperous conditions which have existed during the last season.

Flicker Tales

Velva—Ellen Wilson, 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Wilson, was killed by a bullet discharge of a .22 caliber rifle, held either by Ronald Wilson, a brother, or Gerald Wessoe, both 9-year-old boys. Each boy claimed that the other held the rifle when the bullet struck. The baby received the bullet in the side, and it passed entirely through her body.

Edinburg—Following the recent destruction of their elevator by fire, the directors of the Farmers' Elevator company have completed the arrangements at Minneapolis for the purchase of the Imperial elevator.

Williston—Eighteen of 27 cases listed for trial before the district court at the session grew out of alleged violations of the North Dakota prohibition law. That the number of liquor law violations has slumped to a marked degree when Montana goes dry, thus removing the immediate source of supply of the local blind-piggers, is the belief of authorities.

Ambrose—Cattle rustlers are operating in northeastern Montana, and numerous ranchers and homesteaders have reported to the loss of one or more head of cattle. Montana officials, investigating the cases of cattle rustling so far reported, have in several instances recovered the cattle, but they have been unable to locate the operatives.

Williston—A well, sunk by the Pioneer Oil and Gas company which is probing the possibilities of gas and oil production in the region just east of Williston, has been driven to a depth of 400 feet, so far without results. The company has imported an elaborate well drilling outfit, and expects to make a thorough survey of the entire situation in a few days, counteracted at a depth of 400 feet, caused considerable trouble.

Lebon—Charles Nelson, his clothing in flames as he was pinned under his overturned automobile, escaped death through the rapid rescue work of witnesses to the accident. Nelson split his head as he was crossing the railroad right of way. He was caught under the wreckage, in a moment the machine burst into flames. To women companions were thrown clear of the car.

Fargo—Municipal playground for children, and municipal direction of amateur sports, were urged upon the Fargo Commons club by Arthur Morrison, recreation commissioner of Winnipeg, as effective measures of preparation.

Bowman—Pushing Deputy Sheriff Chris Holm back over a table in his cell, James Worth, serving a sentence for participation in a gun festival at Amidon, made an almost successful attempt to escape, the deputy sheriff's fleetness of foot, and the threat to shoot Worth at close quarters, broke up the prisoner's game. Holm's suspicions had been aroused when he entered Worth's cell to find him wearing his hat and coat. It was hardly prepared for the suddenness of the attack, though he quickly gave chase and overcame the man.

Unmistakable way to know the ordinary married man at sight: Coat a bit shiny at the elbows, bottoms of trousers a bit frayed.

MORE AMERICAN PRODUCTS SENT OUT OF COUNTRY

Increase in Exports of Manufactured Goods—Imports Fall Off.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Unprecedented growth in the foreign trade in the United States has been accompanied by a beneficial change in its character, according to the annual report of Dr. E. E. Pratt, chief of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce. The most important feature pointed to is an increase in exports of manufactured goods and a decrease in imports of the same class.

Dr. Pratt predicts that America will be in a better position after the war than now to develop foreign trade. Of uneasiness over the growing imports he says:

"There is no reason for anxiety. The increase has been unprecedented but it has been of a most satisfactory character. For the most part it is of materials not produced at all in this country or not produced in sufficient quantities to meet the needs of our domestic manufacturers. Before the war a considerable quantity of this material was used in Europe to manufacture finished goods for sale to us.

"Conditions have so changed that we find it not only profitable to do this manufacturing ourselves but actually have engaged in manufacturing some of the material for re-export to Europe. I have no doubt that when normal conditions are restored we shall continue much of this direct importation of materials that formerly reached us indirectly, manufactured or unmanufactured, by way of Europe and shall even continue to manufacture some of the material for re-exportation to Europe.

Figures are presented to show an actual decrease of \$134,000,000 for the year in imports ready for consumption and a decrease of \$257,000,000 in crude material exports, despite increases in both exports and imports.

"In connection with the changes in the character of our foreign trade," says the report, "it is interesting to note the imports of goods on which no duties are collected. The increase for the period ended June, 1918 was \$265,000 over the same period in 1914. Dutiable imports show a decrease of \$81,000,000 for the same period. Imports of free goods formed sixty per cent of our total imports in 1914 and in 1918 they had increased to sixty-eight per cent, the highest percentage in the history of the country. If the provisions of the Payne-Aldrich act had been complied without change to the present time the imports of free goods would form 58.88 per cent of our total imports."

Export activities during the year, the report says, have been greatly stabilized. There has been less unproductive agitation, it says and more actual development.

"I believe it is absurd to contend that European nations will be able to do more after the war than they did before," Dr. Pratt concluded. "I believe that domestic wants will have to be met here. European nations can seriously under take foreign trade. I have yet to find the practical man largely engaged in exporting who believes he will do less business abroad after the war than he did before."

ETERNAL CITY MAY BE TARGET FOR AVIATORS

Countless Works of Art May be Jeopardized by Austrians.

Rome, Dec. 12.—Notwithstanding the presence of the pope, standing for or fear of whom is supposed so far to have saved Rome from aerial attacks, it is now taken for granted that the Eternal City with her countless monuments and works of art may soon be attacked by Austrian aviators.

The Italian military authorities have been actively engaged for several months preparing to protect the city from a raid, with an elaborate signal system arranged by William Marconi to warn the defenders of the city of the approach of enemy aeroplanes. The Roman newspapers recently published notices that the alarm would consist of five cannon shots, with the usual ringing of church bells as a signal that the danger was over.

While so far it has proven impossible to prevent sporadic attacks on



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Arbitration Ends Friction Between Holland and Portugal

The Hague, Netherlands, Dec. 12.—Negotiation and arbitration, the preferable alternative to a colonial war, have finally removed what was for many long years a source of friction between Holland and Portugal. These two small countries, so famous three or four centuries ago as colonizing pioneers and who still hold important colonial possessions, concluded a boundary treaty as long ago as the year 1904 for the settlement of long-standing frontier disputes in the island of Timor, but the terms of the treaty have only just been put into execution by the transfer to Portuguese hands of the district of Maucatur, and on the other hand, the cession of the Noinuti, Tahakay and Tamiru Alile districts to the Netherlands East Indian government.

Timor, which is situated due south of the Philippine Islands, in the Malay Archipelago, is owned, half by the Portuguese and half by the Dutch, and the existence of such features as the Portuguese enclave of Molmuti, and of the Dutch semi-enclave of Mamstar, has at times led to armed collisions between the respective local authorities. These anomalies are now done away with by the definite mutual transfer telegraphically reported by the governor general of the Dutch colony. The long delay in the carrying out of the treaty was largely due to fresh differences that arose in the work of frontier delimitation, which was at due course agreed to submit to arbitration. The permanent court of arbitration nominated M. Lardy, the Swiss minister in Paris, as arbitrator, and his decision fell in favor of the Netherlands.

David goes into the lion's den these days with some big hunks of meat trust product and a big stick, and gets away with it.

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