

The Bismarck Tribune.

By M. H. JEWELL.

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Many persons have been receiving sample copies of the Bismarck Weekly Tribune during the past few weeks who are not regular subscribers. No charge has been made, of course. Those who want up-to-date news should subscribe for the Bismarck Weekly Tribune. We also offer extraordinary clubbing rates—see item above. Send in your orders now. All who subscribe now will receive the paper till Jan. 1, 1901.

In speaking of trade conditions, Henry Clews' Weekly Review says:

The most important event of the week was the passage in the senate of the bill declaring for the gold standard, and providing for refunding \$850,000,000 of the national debt into 2 per cent bonds. This bill plants the country squarely on the single standard basis and gives official form to the will of the people declared by the result of the election nearly four years ago. Its effect upon the stock market is not likely to be very pronounced, having been already anticipated. Ever since the defeat of silverism prices have been gradually rising, largely in consequence of that event; so not much additional stimulus can be found in the mere formality of putting into legislative form a decision reached nearly four years ago. Nevertheless, it is an important step gained; and there will now be no backward movement toward silverism, the opposition to which has been finally crystallized into law. The January statement of foreign commerce is another remarkable and encouraging feature. The exports of merchandise for the month were \$117,620,000, which was \$2,100,000 in excess of the same time last year and \$9,200,000 in excess of January, 1898. There was naturally a large increase of imports due to the large buying powers of the country; the total imports of merchandise were \$75,826,000. This was an increase of \$17,600,000 over 1899 and \$25,000,000 over 1898. The excess of exports over imports was however reduced from about \$51,000,000 in the two previous Januarys to \$41,793,000 last January. The returns for the unexpired portion of the fiscal year continue to run on record-breaking lines. During the last seven months our exports have amounted to \$488,402,000, against \$396,743,000 the same time last year. A very considerable portion of this increase, it is gratifying to note, consists of American manufactures, which are competing more and more successfully with other nations. Our imports in this period were \$800,100,000, against \$740,500,000 the year before.

The statement of the First National Bank of Bismarck at the close of business February 13, shows the flattering condition of that institution and reflects credit on its management. The half million mark has been passed and the line of deposits, close to \$100,000, is the largest in the bank's history with the exception of one statement made at the height of the great boom in 1893 when a great deal of outside capital was lodged in the vaults for investment. The First National is rapidly forging to the front and is destined to soon rival the leading bank in Fargo as it already distances all other cities. And this serves to remind us of the rapid increase in the wealth of the western part of the state. The five banks on the Missouri slope and at Dickinson contain one-fifth of the entire deposits of the state.

Mayor Johnson of Fargo—when he isn't off after cannons or other relics—says some pretty good things once in a

while, as, when an editor wrote him to know what was best to do to advance the interests of North Dakota—he replied: In my opinion, among other things that could be done to advance the interests of North Dakota, would be—let the people who contemplate making a change of home, know that we have millions of acres of the most fertile lands in the world that can be had at a moiety, as compared with the worn out lands of the other states, or that can be had free under the Homestead Act of congress—that we have good schools and churches—that we are law-abiding people—that the crime record is lower in North Dakota than it is in any other state in the Union—that life and property are as safe as it is in any part of the world—that taxes are low and investments safe—that our railway facilities are equal to the best, and superior to some of the older states, and that it costs less to transport grain to market than it does the farmers of western Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska—that while the eastern part of the state is the paradise for wheat, flax and other small grains, the western part contains millions of acres of as fine ranges as can be found anywhere westward of the main food, the whole year, and that the beavers, when they reach the great centers, command a premium over range stock from other parts of the Union—that we have an inexhaustible supply of native coal, sufficient to furnish the world for centuries to come, and that, as soon as developed, will furnish cheap fuel for all—that, with less than one-sixteenth of our area under cultivation, we have raised more than 12 per cent of the entire wheat crop of the United States and that—in 1899, North Dakota produced nearly one-half of the entire flax crop of the United States and that—we will continue to do so for an indefinite length of time—that flax and fiber mills and lined oil mills are being located at various points in the state, thus insuring a sure market, not only for the seed, but for the straw as well, and finally, and above all things—confine yourself to the truth as to the wonderful resources of the state.

The plan of government for Puerto Rico as recommended by the senate committee, which will probably be adopted by the house also, provides for a civil governor to be appointed by the president for four years, and to be confirmed by the senate. Such a governor is to have all the power exercised by governors of territories, and is to be assisted by an executive council, consisting of a secretary, an attorney-general a treasurer, an auditor, a commissioner of the interior, a commissioner of education and five other persons of good repute who shall be native inhabitants of Puerto Rico, appointed by the president and confirmed by the senate. These officials shall perform such duties as are usually assigned to similar officials in the United States, the commissioner of the interior having charge of public works. There is to be a legislative assembly of thirty-five members, elected biennially, to be called a house of delegates, to be voted for by such persons as possess the qualifications of voters under the laws and military orders in force on Feb. 1 last. No person, however, shall be eligible unless he can read and write the Spanish and English languages and is possessed of taxable property situated in Puerto Rico. The governor has a veto, which may be overcome by a vote of two-thirds of the house of delegates and the executive council, but congress reserves the power, if deemed advisable, to revoke and annul all laws and acts passed by the legislative assembly.

Every year's developments seem to justify the assertion that this is a "billion-dollar country." The year 1899 brought our foreign commerce for the first time past the two billion dollar line, and the month of February, 1900, shows our money in circulation for the first time as more than two billion dollars. Thus by a curious coincidence the announcement of two billions of foreign commerce and two billions of money in circulation are made within a single month, the totals indicating that the two billion dollar line had been crossed in our commerce for 1899, having been only completed by the Treasury Bureau of Statistics of January 14, while the Treasury Bureau of Loans and currency on February 1 announced that the total money in circulation had also crossed the two billion dollar line, while gold and gold certificates alone had crossed the eight hundred million dollar line. The total foreign commerce for the year 1899 was \$2,074,345,242, while the total money in circulation on Feb. 1, 1900, was \$2,003,149,355.

Proceedings in the condemnation cases now in court, to obtain right of way under the law of eminent domain for the Bismarck, Washburn & Great Falls railway, indicate that a great many property holders still entertain the illusion of boom values for out-lots and unproductive acre property. Many have refused to even talk with the committee in charge of the proposition to obtain a right of way, and either decline to place a value on their property or demand such an exorbitant figure as to remove all possibility of a satisfactory compromise compensation. Thus it happens in many instances that a better proposition from the committee has been made the owner for right-of-way than the jury grants on the evidence rendered by witnesses. Non-productive out-lots are really of little value now as compared with the inflated ideas of boom days. The valuations placed by the various juries in these condemnation cases show it.

The issue in the next U. S. senatorial campaign in South Dakota will be well defined. Lieut. Col. Lee Stover of the

South Dakota volunteers is a candidate against Senator Pettigrew, and the gaze of battle was thrown down in a Lincoln day address by Col. Stover on the Philippine question. Regarding the claim of Senator Pettigrew and others that the Tagalos were recognized as allies, and that we, in violation of all civilized warfare, fired upon them and are now trying to destroy them, the speaker said:

"At that time Aguinaldo had his headquarters in Cavite, and there was every communication between the officers and troops of the different commands. The Filipino troops, as well as their officers, were quartered at Cavite, within our line. I met General Luna, afterwards assassinated by Aguinaldo's personal guard, and I distinctly recollect his asking me, in the course of our conversation, if America would hold the islands. He said then that the hope and wish of the Tagalos was that America would hold the islands, remove the Spanish and destroy the power of the church and give the Filipino people a chance to live under American rule. Nothing whatever was said about a republic. The question of self-government never was mentioned. The only fear he seemed to have was that we would give the islands back to Spain. Before we left Cavite, I met General Aguinaldo. I had more or less conversation with him, and never was the subject of a Filipino republic mentioned; never was there a hope or wish expressed as to the future of their race, other than that the United States would hold the islands."

Paying his respects to Aguinaldo, he said: "I have personally seen and examined a copy of Aguinaldo's proclamation, issued at this time (Feb. 4, 1899), ordering his troops to kill every white face in the city, to spare no one, not even the Chinese, promising his troops that they should loot the city and divide all the foreigners' property among themselves. So far, I have yet to find the first officer or soldier who served in the American army in the islands but that feels it is a personal insult to him, to his uniform and his flag, when any man says that we started the fighting, that we provoked it, or that it was anything but intentional and premeditated on the part of Aguinaldo and his troops."

There is no fencing on the part of the republicans regarding the expansion issue, however the democrats may squirm. At the Lincoln day banquet in New York Attorney General Griggs said:

It is hard to understand why the presence of our flag anywhere on the face of the globe should give offence to some Americans, especially when all the rest of the world seems content about it. * * * The truth is that the world perceives, and has perceived sooner than some of our own people, that the United States of America has become a great world power, not by any special process of election or choice, but by growth, development and an extension of her domain of territory, as well as of trade, into regions where we must encounter the rivalries and at the same time shall claim our share of the privileges that pertain to the dominant powers in administering the affairs of the Orient.

Senator Davis of Minnesota said in an address on the same day: "No party that the American people will ever vote into power will evacuate those islands (the Philippines), the acquisition of which will be chronicled by historians as the best and wisest achievement of the greatest administration since that of Abraham Lincoln."

The passage of the financial bill by the senate practically eliminates the currency question from the present campaign, and Mr. Bryan and all his free silver followers will waste their time in attempting to bring the money question to the fore. What is better for the business interests of the country, the question is settled for at least six years. For, should the democrats succeed in securing control of the lower house and elect their president, the senate will remain republican for many years to come. If every seat in the upper branch of congress becoming vacant between this time and March 4, 1906, should be filled by a democrat—which is scarcely in the range of possibilities—still the democrats would be in the minority in that body and unable to pass any radical party measure. Thanks to the McKinley wave of prosperity, we have established a rock foundation, and the superstructure is in no danger.

The reports from South Africa continue to be brighter for the British. The relief of Kimberly and the retreat of the Boer army have completely transformed the whole aspect of the war. The entire Cape-Orange border, from the Orange River to the Vaal, is practically cleared for Gen. Macdonald has gone around the west side of Kimberly to clear away any forces that may be lurking in that quarter. In a short time, at the present rate, the line will be open from the Cape clear up to Mafeking and beyond. The fighting is now transferred from British to Boer soil. The invasion of the Orange State and the advance on Bloemfontein have actually begun. Similar action toward the Transvaal and Pretoria may follow, or may be undertaken at the same time.

Never before in the history of Bismarck and Burleigh county have taxes been paid so promptly as those of 1899—the receipts in January eclipsing any previous month since the organization of the county. The wisdom of compromising and adjusting all old taxes—some extending back to the boom days of inflated values—was a wise move. The delinquencies hereafter promise to be few and the financial condition of the county correspondingly satisfactory.

Spain lost 125,000 soldiers in Cuba. The revolution cost 500,000 Cuban lives. Jose Marti raised the flag of independence in February, 1895. American intervention occurred in April, 1898. Ameri-

occupation began January 1, 1899. The figures of this shocking mortality are reached officially. It is known that Spain sent to Cuba to crush the revolution 225,000 soldiers. Capt. Walter B. Barker had charge of the repatriation of Cuban soldiers from Santiago and Ceinfuegos after the capitulation. From Santiago he shipped to Spain 763 officers, 20,974 soldiers, 213 priests and 706 women and children. These included the garrisons brought from Manzanillo, Guantanamo, Baracoa and Sagua de Tanamo, as well as the troops surrendered to Shafter at Santiago. From Ceinfuegos Capt. Barker shipped 804 officers and 22,960 men. The total shipped from Santiago and Ceinfuegos was 45,501. Repatriation was from only two other ports of Cuba. From Havana the Spanish troops embarked for Spain numbered 35,000 and from Matanzas 10,000. The best obtainable figures show that during the three years of revolution Spain sent home 15,000 soldiers, incapacitated for duty. The total army losses to Spain therefore were between 120,000 and 125,000. Capt. Barker was the consul at Sagua la Grande during the period of the revolution and only left Cuba when war was declared between the United States and Spain. He has been watching the progress of the census and says: I think that the census when completed, will indicate that 500,000 Cubans lost their lives in the three years.

The Grand Forks Herald rejoices—with the Forum—that North Dakota now has an able and harmonious delegation at Washington—that all are sound and influential and the state occupying an enviable position at the nation's capital. And then the Herald, in the same paragraph urges the acceptance by our senators and congressmen and other republicans of the rankest kind of populist doctrine—beginning with referendum and direct legislation. The Herald is bound to chase rainbows, even on clear days.

Wharton Barker, in his American, the leading populist organ of the country, takes this view of the Kentucky assassination: "William Goebel has attempted to steal the governorship of the state and has been shot for his attempt. It is a bitter thing to say, and in saying it we in no way condone the cowardly assassination, but it is the truth." Mr. Barker is the populist candidate for president on the ticket with Ignatius Donnelly, who is running for vice-president.

The reduction of state passenger rates to three cents a mile by the Northern Pacific—helps out the travelers considerably. It knocks \$2 off the price of a ticket to Fargo, and makes corresponding reductions along the line. The Great Northern and Soo will probably follow with a three-cent rate—which is the one prescribed by the maximum rate schedules of the railroad commissioners, which the courts knocked out.

The enforcement league has dropped the cases against the express agents in the valley, now that the roads have agreed to drop the C. O. D. business. The officers of the league are said to be hot at the papers—for giving information of places where detectives had secured evidence and raids were intended—but if the detectives—hadn't talked too much, like the parrot, the papers might not have known anything about it. A commendable feature of the Devils Lake Inter-Ocean is a series of letters published from residents of that vicinity telling how they have prospered. The letters are from men who came to North Dakota poor and achieved independence from tilling the soil. The letters are valuable, as showing the possibilities of farming, and the readiness with which North Dakota soil yields to the industry of energetic farmers.

An alliance is reported between the Northern Pacific, Burlington and Union Pacific, which will permit the Burlington to run through trains from St. Louis to the coast, partly over the N. P. tracks, and shut out the Great Northern from much of its coast business, and at Portland and Tacoma. In return the Northern Pacific gets important concessions from the Union Pacific.

A body blow has been administered to "star route" mail contractors. Hereafter speculative bids will not be considered. There will be no sub-letting hereafter. No bid for carrying the mails on these western "star routes" will be considered except those from persons living contiguous to the route and who will give the service personal attention.

A Grand Forks correspondent says that Editor Winship's candidacy for governor is being too seriously considered. He says the Grand Forks reformer has not made an attempt to secure a delegate to the convention. Perhaps Editor Winship is too busy pushing that pop referendum measure to give attention to his personal ambitions.

The three national banks on the Missouri slope—at Bismarck, Mandan and Dickinson—contain one-fifth the total deposits in the national banks of the state—not one-fifth of all the deposits of all the banks, state and national, as has been heretofore published. The financial condition of the whole state is excellent, and is attracting universal attention.

A Washington dispatch says: According to the Indian appropriation bill as it

passed the house all government aid for Catholic and all other sectarian Indian schools will end July 1 of this year. Consequently an agitation is to be carried on throughout the country during the glorious campaign of 1900. Bishop Shanley of Fargo has already commenced holding meetings at which collections for the private maintenance of the Catholic Indian schools are taken up. His first one was held in the Catholic parish of Philadelphia, February 4, where a large audience heard him and contributed.

A Dickinson dispatch says Hon. L. A. Simpson is to be a candidate for the state senate from the Thirty-first—and that C. C. Young is to come home to take part in the campaign. It is said also that Frank Lish, the independent member of the last house from Stark, will run again.

Senator Clark of Montana spent \$115,000, he says, trying to purify Montana politics. From the testimony down at Washington, we don't believe they are \$115,000 purer than they were before he started. Another \$25,000 invested in chloride of lime might help some.

Governor Lee of South Dakota says that if England has been tampering with Consul Macrum's mail, we should have war with England right away. This merely proves that the governor of South Dakota has lost none of his capacity for making a fool of himself.

Twelve inches of snow fell in New York, Saturday night. Snow is a white substance, congealed moisture, descending from the air, which the oldest settlers report as having seen at intervals on the North Dakota prairies.

There are more honors said to be in store for Hon. Bartlett Tripp, of South Dakota. He did his work so well as a member of the Samoan commission that he is slated for a position on the new Philippine island commission.

Down in South Dakota they speak of Senator Pettigrew's forthcoming political retirement. The good people of South Dakota don't want to make it a retirement. They want to make it a good, old-fashioned drubbing.

The Lisbon Free Press is sorry for Rev. Willey—thinks he would be a power for good—if his talents were rightly devoted. And Willey—down in St. Paul—says he doesn't need sympathy—just wanted spending money.

If the democrats want a vice-presidential candidate, what's the matter with Macrum? He seems to be in charge of the bogie man and straw scare-crow department of the democratic campaign supply bureau.

The anti-trust convention in Chicago closed its session in a whirlwind of excitement over a Winshipian resolution—pledging the delegates to vote for no party that did not stand for direct legislation.

The county patronage in Walsh county has been given to three democratic papers. What else can be expected from a county that rolls up democratic majorities? To the victors belong the fruits.

Secretary Root estimates the total number of men in the United States available for military duty, but unorganized, at 10,343,150. The organized militia of the country foots up 106,339.

The North Dakota Blue Book—full of statistics and political information—will be indispensable in this coming campaign and can be had by sending 50 cents to the Bismarck Tribune.

CHOICE BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCK



Cockerels for sale from \$1.50 to \$3.00 each. Eggs in season, \$1.50 per setting. Prize winners wherever shown.

W. A. FALCONER, Bismarck, N. D.

[First publication Feb. 23, 1900.] Notice of Final Homestead Proof. Land Office at Bismarck, N. D., Feb. 21, 1900. Notice is hereby given that the following named settler has filed notice of his intention to make final proof in support of his claim, and that said proof will be made before register and receiver at Bismarck, N. D., on April 3, 1900, viz:

AUGUST F. ANDERSON, for the sec. 14 in township 142 N., range 79 W., 5th E. M. He names the following witnesses to prove his continuous residence upon and cultivation of said land, viz: Morris C. Anderson, Victor Coleman, John Molin, John W. Fryklund, all of Slaughter, N. D.

A. C. MCGILLIVRAY, Register.

FARM AND GARDEN

PRACTICAL FORESTRY.

How to Make Woodlands Profitable. Waste in Ordinary Lumbering. The importance of good forestry in this country is becoming more appreciated not only in connection with extensive timber tracts, but with the smaller wood lots upon farms. Practical forestry in the Adirondack region as recently carried on by forest owners under advice from government experts serves to illustrate methods of management that are most profitable and equally applicable elsewhere on either a large or a small scale. It appears from the report of their work that



SPRUCE STUMP CUT EIGHTEEN INCHES TOO HIGH.

losses through ordinary lumbering are considerable in the aggregate. Some of the items connected with unnecessary waste are as follows:

Where the lumbering is done under the system of contracts and subcontracts, the temptation for a jobber to do careless work is very great. Unless carefully watched he is apt to cut unnecessarily high stumps, to leave large tops in order to avoid the trouble of trimming off the branches, to leave trees lodged in hard woods and otherwise to fall below the standard of good lumbering.

The principal loss arising from careless lumbering is occasioned by (1) needlessly high stumps, (2) large tops, (3) skids left in the woods, (4) valuable timber used in leveling roads and (5) destruction of small growth in felling, skidding and hauling.

When the trees are felled by chopping, the stumps are cut at the point at which the ax naturally falls when the chopper stands erect. This is usually about three inches above the ground. The majority of trees, however, are somewhat lower, averaging about 30 inches in height. The sawyers protest against cutting low stumps, because it tires their backs to stoop over. Experience by careful lumbermen has proved that such high stumps are entirely needless.

Where lumbering is done under contract it has been the usual custom in the Adirondacks to cut only logs which will scale six inches at the top end. Where timber is cut for pulp smaller logs can be used, and many companies which operate their own camps compel the choppers to cut logs as small as five and often four inches. The average size of the top log is nearer eight inches. There are in some cases 4 to 12 feet of wood left in tops which is fit for pulp and which is actually so used by many companies.

The point will at once be raised that the tops are of inferior quality. The reply is that many companies use this material and that the total amount is so great that it would pay to utilize it even at only one-fourth the price of the rest of the timber.

The majority of skidways are built of spruce. It is the custom to leave the skids in the woods, and the owner loses not only the stumpage value of the timber thus wasted, but also the advantage of future increment which the trees would take on if left standing.



SPRUCE CUT AND LEFT BY TEAMSTERS.

brush to check the speed of the sleds. It often happens that all the young spruce left standing by the choppers near such steep roads are cut to supply the brush for this purpose, and the stems are left lying on the ground to decay.

The Sheepyard. Not every farmer keeps sheep, but those who do are often tempted in winter to wish the cows were all sheep. They need no milking, no grooming, no cleaning out of stables, but they do need to be well fed in winter with good hay, a little grain and some roots, and they want pure water where they can go to it as they please. The sheepyard may be as cold as all out of doors if it is only kept dry and supplied with clean bedding, and the sheep will be better for a run out of doors in all pleasant weather if the ground is not covered with snow.