

THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

"Water, water, everywhere, nor any drop to drink." This is about the situation all over the United States at present, only it isn't water that we refer to, but money, spelled with a capital M. Whoever heard of such a condition of affairs before? How long is it going to last and what is the cause of it all? These are questions asked the Independent editor every few minutes, and we can only make a guess as to the time that the situation will clear up, and the business run along in ordinary channels. Everyone is looking upon the situation in a calm, conservative manner, and business seems to be running along smoothly. Naturally, business will be affected by the situation some, but we all have hopes of a change coming soon enough that this little money flurry will soon be forgotten. Conditions were never so prosperous in North Dakota, generally speaking. There's plenty of work at top notch wages. We've had a fair crop, and until a few days ago, the farmers were able to dispose of their flax, oats, wheat, etc., at higher prices than were known for years. True, the two mills of this city are buying wheat now and paying cash for the same, but cannot buy the farmer's flax. The farmers merely have to be patient, the people they owe must remain patient, and the wholesale houses that our merchants owe, must "keep their coats on" and consider that the condition is the same all over the United States, and will remain so until enough currency can be thrown into circulation in the east to relieve the west.

There's a clog in the money market, the New York banks refuse to ship any currency to the Chicago, Minneapolis and other western banks, because they have none to spare. The Minneapolis banks refuse to ship any currency to the Minot banks, and the Minot banks must follow suit and hold onto their currency, hoping that there will be plenty in sight within a few days. Elevators find that they cannot obtain currency to pay for the grain and the farmers must wait. We all must wait. This condition is not the fault of the banks at all, as a matter of fact the Minot banks have been making all kinds of money, and at the same time have done a most conservative business. One of the bankers said to the Independent editor, "The people are behaving most admirably for they are clear thinking and understand the situation." While the banks have not the power to hand over all the currency that is on deposit, they are advising the depositors to pay off their bills by means of check which is being done in all cases. There's absolutely no danger of any of the depositors losing a cent of their money, and the deposits are crawling up quite rapidly in the banks, which shows that the people are not afraid in the least. Small checks are being cashed, all pay checks are cashed the same as before, but currency is being handed out sparingly.

The government has come to the rescue with several millions of dollars, which has relieved the situation in the east somewhat, and ought to make a showing in the west soon. The people in the business world use very little currency anyway, only seven per cent of the business of the country being done with currency anyway, and 93 per cent is done with checks, drafts, etc., even in ordinary times. We can readily see that there is something radically wrong with our financial system, which will be remedied at the earliest possible moment.

John Lang, a Devils Lake janitor, is in jail for 20 days for beating his wife.

Has No Use For Canada.

Wm. Crowder, a prominent Ross farmer, returned from a trip thru the Canadian Northwest where he went to look at land, with the intention of investing some of his spare cash. Mr. Crowder was never so disgusted with any country and returned home more satisfied than ever with North Dakota.

"From Moosejaw on to Medicine Hat, there seems to be nothing but alkali, altho they ask from twenty to thirty dollars an acre for most of the land. Everything seems high in Canada. It takes fifteen or twenty cents to get a good cigar. Smoking tobacco that we pay 25 cents for three packages here, is sold for 25 cents straight in Canada. Farmers get paid but a little for their crops. For instance, just as soon as you cross the line, you get eight cents a bushel less for your wheat than you do in the states. The morning I left Medicine Hat, I saw a farmer come in with a load of wheat which the elevators refused. They told him rather than lug it back home—twenty miles distant—they would give him an offer, a very low offer indeed, and the fellow had to take them up." Mr. Crowder says that you can see the effects of the early frosts all along, with the light crops that were threshed.

The Independent has a "bunch" of prosperity stories this week, secured by talking with our farmer friends. North Dakota is prosperous, and while the farmers have reason to feel a little blue over not being able to sell their crops readily, the situation bears signs of clearing nicely, and the Independent hopes to be able to report being conducted along the old lines within a short time.

A man once told a farmer's son, that he had too good a business head to remain on the farm. The boy took the advice, and is now half starving in a large city earning but a small salary. If there is any place on earth where a business head is needed, it is right on the farm. Successful farming demands an intelligent knowledge of the character of the soils, fertilization, the selection of the proper kinds of seeds, the rotation of crops and hundreds of other things that are vitally important. The farmer with the business head—the man who plans his work well, is making the money, and the Independent is glad to note that there is a growing tendency for the farmers of Ward county to better fit themselves for their work. The winter will soon be here and there will be ample time to study the various phases of farm work and methods, which will mean dollars to the tillers of the soil in the years to come.

The Coteau Sentinel advertises that it will take butter, eggs and potatoes on subscription.

It seems that at last air ships are practical. In the balloon race which started from St. Louis, the German balloon won out over the nine immense balloons which entered the race, landing at Asbury Park, N. J., traveling a distance of 880 miles. The French balloon landed not far from the German ship, traveling 875 miles, and remaining in the air 44 hours. The aernauts could have gone farther, but had to come down on account of approaching the Atlantic ocean. A third German balloon came third, landing near Dover, Delaware, and the American ship was fourth, coming to land not far from Hamilton, Ont. The English balloon was last in the race. The balloons struck various upper currents of air, which were responsible for the diversity of directions that they went.

The editor down at Lidgerwood says, "They may cuss the Broadaxe, but they all read it."

Don't be afraid to do your duty because someone ridicules or opposes you. A man who has opinions of his own and the courage to advocate them will be sure to have opposition in this world because he runs across or contrary to other peoples' opinions but just keep right ahead if your cause is right and your conscience clear. Don't worry about what other people say; life is too short for that. Some will abuse you through envy, others for the want of principle and some because they honestly differ from you; but if you keep right on openly, manfully and intelligently and with your proper dignity of character, honesty of purpose and respect, those who differ from you will respect your opinions.—Ex.

An escaped lunatic who worked for Devils Lake farmers and told stories of how they were mistreating their wives, is being sought for.

One distillery company in Kentucky turns out every seven days 1,208 barrels of sweet mash whiskey. The output for a year would be 62,400 barrels. The cost of all this to the manufacturer may be fairly estimated at \$374,000 and they receive from the wholesalers a profit of from \$1 to \$2 per barrel. The government comes in for a nice little rake off, but the fellow who has to pay it all, including transportation charges, government and local license fees, salary and barkeeper, and rent of building is the man before the bar, for 62,400 barrels of booze he lets go of \$24,661,678 and then goes home and beats his wife because supper isn't ready.

It is rumored that Fargo is to have an Independent news paper. The papers that are there now are good enough—but seem tied hand and feet—bought up by government jobs.

The farmer readers of the Independent no doubt know long before this, that the bottom dropped out of the price of grain last week, wheat falling in price eight cents in one day and flax eleven. The price has gradually been raising since—tho no one wants to make a guess as to whether the price will go up or down. The tightness of the money market is responsible for the fall in price. There seems to be a clog in the eastern money market, and little money is available for the handling of the crop.

He told his twelve year old son to milk the cows, feed the horses, slop the pigs, hunt the eggs, feed the calves, catch the colt and put him in the barn, split the kindling, stir the cream, pump fresh water in the creamery after supper, and be sure to study his lessons before going to bed. Then he went to the farmer's institute to discuss the question: "How to keep the boys on the farm."

The farmer who rides on an eighty dollar load of grain, should not pass up the fact that perhaps he owes the editor a dollar or so, and even tho the amount is small, there's a good many such accounts and the money will come hanty to the newspaper man, who has to pay his bills. The Independent does not wish to put any of its subscribers to any inconvenience, but will appreciate all the financial help that can be given.

Why doesn't the Sate Board of health send out a correct statisti-cs or quit the attempt all together. The table is way off, some counties have reports and some have not, and the report is worse than no report at all. Often counties are given credit for one or two births when everyone knows that twenty-five would be nearer the right number.

THE PUBLIC
DRUG STORE
SERVICE

CLEANLINESS

Without fear of successful contradiction we boldly assert that we have the Cleanest Drug Store in Minot. By that we particularly mean clean stocks, Stocks that are free from old and worthless drugs and medicines with which so many stores are stocked. We handle only salable goods that are potent because fresh, pure and of the highest quality. Combining these advantages with our popular prices you have every reason for dealing at THE PUBLIC in preference to the ordinary store.

THE PUBLIC DRUG CO.

Retail and Wholesale

MINOT, NO. DAK.

Mitchell's Opening Week

The first week in November will be **Mitchell's Opening Week**, when the new store in the new Masonic Temple block will be opened to the public with the swellest line of Men's and Boys' toggery and shoes for everybody, you have ever had the pleasure of inspecting in the northwestern part of the state.

Our business is going to be conducted in a way that the name **Mitchell's**, will be a synonym for swell toggery.

Our stock will be the largest of the kind in Western North Dakota and will consist of Hats, Caps, Furnishings, Neckwear, Gloves, etc., for men and boys and shoes for everybody.

Shoes

Our shoe stock will be a revelation to the buyer of fine goods in this line and the stock will be so large that the most fastidious can be satisfied and every one guaranteed a perfect fit.

You'll be pleased with our prices.
You'll like our method of doing business.

We want to get acquainted with you, and there will be no better time than during our opening week.

E. M. Mitchell

Masonic Temple Block Minot, N. D.



MACHINES \$10, \$22, \$40
LARGE SUPPLY OF RECORDS

A. P. SLOCUM,
MINOT, DRUGGIST NO. DAK.

Stomach troubles; heart and kidney ailments, can be quickly corrected with a prescription known to druggists everywhere as Dr. Shoop's Restorative. The prompt and surprising relief which this remedy immediately brings is entirely due to its Restorative action upon the controlling nerves of the stomach, etc. At A. P. Slocum, the druggist.

IN NEW HANDS

The European Restaurant is now conducted by

Houghton & Verdon

and has been thoroly overhauled. When you want a short order, or a first-class meal, don't pass up this place. Every effort will be made to please you.

North Soo Track Main St. Minot, No. Dak.

John Lynch,
Real Estate
Loans and
Farm Insurance

Sale Bills printed at this office on short notice