

# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

### OPPORTUNITY FOR LABORERS

North Dakota is teeming with opportunities for the laborer who has been the victim of the late financial stringency. There is many a farmer in Ward county who is looking for a trustworthy and faithful man to hire for the season or the year. If the out-of-work in the east would come west at this time instead of just before harvest, he would find steady employment at good wages for the season or perhaps for the entire year. The state can use thousands of steady, sober men. During the past the farmers of North Dakota have been at the mercy of the transient laborer, the lumberjack and the boe. We want a better class of labor and must have it. The east has what we want and thousands of the best men are out of work.

The only problem is to get the man and the opportunity together. It might be well for the commercial clubs or the farmers' organizations to advertise in the east for men of this type and take steps to get them west. In this way better men could be obtained at a lower wage and the state would not be terrorized by all of the toughs of the northwest from middle summer until the freezeup.

### DON'T KILL THE BIRDS.

Reports come to this office of destruction of thousands of birds by farmers in clumsy attempts to poison gophers. That poison is about the only efficient means of destroying the troublesome little gopher is well known, but it is not necessary to scatter the poisoned grain broadcast over the fields and along the highways in order to eradicate these pests. Experiments have shown that careful placing of a few poisoned grains deep enough in the holes to be out of the reach of birds is a more effective method of getting rid of the festive flicker-tail than leaving the grain in exposed places, and while it may entail a little extra labor, the effects will be so much more gratifying that every farmer who tries it will feel himself repaid for the extra toil.

The writer of this article recently saw and counted twenty-three dead prairie chickens on and alongside one wheat field of less than half a section, together with a large number of smaller birds, while a careful search failed to discover a single dead gopher, although many live ones were in evidence. In other fields dead chickens were seen, in one place seven being counted around a single gopher mound.

North Dakota has stringent laws for the protection of birds from wanton destruction especially at this season of the year and maintains an expensive army of game wardens to enforce the laws, all of which is of little avail if a few farmers in each locality persists in the wholesale destruction of our feathered friends in a vain attempt to poison a few gophers. If there is no law on our statute books against the scattering of poison promiscuously around, some such provision must be made as soon as possible or prairie chickens, meadow larks and other birds will soon become extinct in Ward county. Don't kill the birds.—Flaxton Times.

### YOU SHOULD PLANT TREES

In fifty years we shall have whole states as bare as China. The Appalachians will be stripped to bedrock. The Rockies will send down vast floods, which cannot be controlled. The Canadian forests north of the Great Lakes will be swept away. Our Middle West will be swept bare. The Yazoo Delta will be ripped apart, because no levee will be able to stand the floods of those days. We shall be living in concrete houses, and at double the rent we now pay. We shall make vehicles of steel, use no wood on our farms. We shall pay ten cents for a newspaper fifty cents for a magazine, as much for a lead pencil. Cotton will be immensely higher. Beef will be the privilege of the few. Clothing will cost twice what it costs today. Like Chinamen, our children will rake the soil for fuel or forage or food. We shall shiver in a cold, and burn in a heat, never before felt in this temperate zone, meant by God as a comfortable growing place for splendid human beings—UNLESS WE WAKE UP—Emerson Hough in Everybody's Magazine.

The western part of the state made such a remarkable growth in the new decade that it is natural there should be a desire on the part of the people in all of this great section to see a western man in the United States senate. It is familiar with the needs and desires of such counties as Ward, Williams, McKenzie, Bottineau, McHenry and all parts that go to make up this western empire in the senate of the United States from North Dakota. Such a man is C. B. Little, the only candidate for the United States senate from the western part of the state. Mr. Little has put in twenty-five years in the western part of North Dakota. For twenty years he has been a member of the state senate. He has been identified with the business and political life of this section for a quarter of a century and he has always made good. He is not a trimmer or a trader. He is a successful business man and a square toed Republican. He is loyal to his friends and to his party. His platform should appeal to every Republican voter. It is agreed now that Little is in the lead in the senatorial race. The united support of the western part of North Dakota will mean that it will have in the United States senate a typical representative of the western country—a broad, liberal, energetic and able citizen of the state. This is of importance to this section, in view of the coming development of Ward and surrounding counties. A recent political review of conditions in the state shows that Little has a quiet, active and hustling lot of supporters, who are putting him in the lead in the race. It is generally agreed that Hansbrough and Marshall are losing rather than gaining strength and that Little is the man the great western empire will unite on as its candidate for United States senator.

In this issue of the Sun appears the announcement of Mr. O. M. Champlin, of Surrey, who is a candidate for the office of Clerk of Court. Mr. Champlin we can say, without fear of successful contradiction, is one of the whitest and squarest men of the political contingent now in the political arena of Imperial Ward asking the suffrages of the people. He is a farmer and is at present secretary of the Surrey Farmers' Grain Assn., and withal he is a fearless, conscientious, honest and efficient citizen wherever you find him. That he would fill the office with ability and give the people an economical administration, there is no doubt. Mr. Champlin is deserving of your support and recognition.—Stanley Sun.

According to the Berthold Tribune, the birth of a baby boy at that place last week, caused the daddy to swear for joy.

The Independent is pleased to recommend to its readers, S. H. Elliot, of Mohall, for the Republican nomination for county auditor. A man particularly fitted for this office, Mr. Elliot, will make good at every turn of the road, after he is elected, and elected he will no doubt be. We have nothing personally against the present incumbent, Mr. Fabrick. He has always done the best he could, but it is a well known fact among those who are in a position to know, that Mr. Fabrick is a very ordinary sort of an official. He has held the office two terms or four years, and while he has made plenty of mistakes, the Independent has always tried to overlook them, and we do not believe that we have ever had one word to say about them. However at this time, we cannot endorse him for re-election, because we believe that he has held the office long enough. Unless a county official is particularly adapted to his work, and is running the affairs of the county in a better manner than any other man who could be elected to the position, we believe that two terms is long enough. Mr. Fabrick should step down and out of his office, well pleased with all past favors that have been shown him. Mr. Elliot, will look after the affairs in a careful manner. He is well educated, is a hard worker, and honest. He has made a splendid record as county commissioner and at the present time holds the honored position as Chairman of the board. He is a farmer, owning a large farm near Mohall which he tills with success. We believe that the farmers should have something to say when it comes to electing county officials, and in nominating M. Elliott, you will be working for a man interested in reasonable taxes, and one who will do what he can to further their interests of the farmers of the Northwest.

Mayor Clark seems to be fulfilling the promise that he made to the citizens of Minot when he was a candidate for mayor. He has closed up the gambling dens and they will never open again, at least they will never be run wide open. If they ever do open, they will be run behind lock and key. He has closed up practically all of the blind pigs in fact if there is any beer being sold in Minot, we do not know where it is. He has stopped the wholesaling of beer, and hereafter if you want a nice case of Lager, you will have to order it from East Grand Forks or Milwaukee. The friendless women have been segregated and are under police surveillance. They are kept off the streets for the most part, except during certain days of the week. There has been a noticeable decrease of "dress-making" establishments and several rooms are adorned with "For Rent" signs. The city is being cleaned up well. The back alleys, as well as the streets present an improved appearance. Mr. Clark declares himself for municipal ownership of the water works system, and while ten of the twelve aldermen voted to send Peter Vandenoever east to investigate private propositions, we predict that Mr. Clark in all honesty to the voters who elected him will veto any private ownership measure which the council may introduce. Sam Clark intends to "make good." He realizes that there are better things in store for him politically if he does so. As Little Mack of the Stanley Sun declares, "Mayor Sam Clark, while not turning Minot into a vestibule of heaven, is giving the city of Minot such good administration, that even the Optic sits up and takes notice."

There is absolutely nothing to Gunder Reishus' candidacy for the nomination for Register of Deeds of Ward county, and it will not really be necessary for Mr. Reishus to turn over his hand to get the nomination by an overwhelming majority. And why not? Mr. Reishus is particularly capable as Register of Deeds, he's a gentleman in every sense of the word, and it would be utterly foolish to turn him out for an untried official at this time. Mr. Reishus is always found right at his post. He puts in more hours working for the county than he would if he were conducting a business of his own. He rarely makes a mistake and the work is done with great dispatch. He is actually making money for the taxpayers. Last year this office turned over to the county the nice little sum of \$17,488.40 after all of the expenses of the office were paid. Think of it. Elect such men as Gunder Reishus to office, and you will see lower taxes.

"William Black is all in" is the way that one of Black's close friends sizes up his candidacy for the sheriff's nomination. The Independent has not been making any fight on Mr. Black, yet we realized right from the start that his case was hopeless. The fight lies between Swanson, Sorenson and Scofield, with Swanson away in the lead at the present time.

A. V. Swansen always has stood square-toed for the rights of his constituents, and if elected sheriff, will do it again. He is a man of the people, for the people and will stand by the people. Anyone can look upon his record and it will bear inspection.—Kenmare Journal.

The Glenburn Advance is supporting Swanson, Sorenson and Black for the sheriff's nomination. Gilbertsen ought to include Scofield, Steinhof, George Hecker, McHugh and a few more of the candidates, and no doubt he would be able to pick a winner.

A beer wagon was "arrested" by the police the other night and several cases of the glorious refreshment juice were not confiscated. If you want to be in line in Minot, you'll have to ride on the water wagon.

A "Card of Thanks" artist took up half a column of valuable space in Bro. Carroll's paper, the Carpio News. The Carpio News is urging the candidates to place their announcements in the county papers.

The Berthold Tribune does not want to see the Mouse river dredged until after the June primaries, because the editor considers that enough mud is being slung as it now is.

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