

THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

JOHNSON, JOHNSON AND JOHNSON

Jim Johnson has formerly announced himself as a candidate for the republican congressional nomination. C.A. Johnson's friends will now have an opportunity to return the support?—that Jim gave the republican gubernatorial nominee last fall. And they will undoubtedly do it—With usury—Souris Republican.

This is about as true as Editor Matt Johnson gets things. It is well known that before the primaries James Johnson who was closely allied with the Progressive movement in Ward county did not entirely sympathize with C. A. Johnson's position, who was a stalwart, but after James Johnson had been elected chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, he gave C. A. Johnson, the Republican gubernatorial candidate his honest support, being a true blue republican. C.A. Johnson's defeat cannot be laid at Jim Johnson's door. Why not be honest, Bro. Matt Johnson? If you have a favorite Congressional candidate, you cannot further his chances by making base insinuations.

Occasionally a North Dakotan, making a tour of inspection in Canada, will find things which do not appeal to him on the other side of the line, and returns with the story that the country is not fit for a human being to spend the remainder of his days and the local newspaper man will tell its readers in glaring headlines that "Canada does not look good to Bill Smith." There are many who are doing well in Canada Canada, no doubt has her good qualities, and if a man is making a living over in King Edward's realm, that is the place for him to remain. It is well that we don't all want to live in the same locality. There might be danger of confusion. North Dakota, however, offers inducements to the man who wants to get along that are hard to equal, no matter where you go, and it always looks like a poor business venture to the Independent, to see a man who has done well here, who having come here a few years ago with a little or nothing, and acquiring a few thousand dollars, getting in a position to live in an independent manner, dispose of his farm, sell off his stock and give up a certainty for an uncertainty. Many who are leaving N. Dakota this year, will live to rue the day they left. Others will do well in their new homes. It pays to be cautious in making a change of location.

Governor Burke makes an explanation why he considered the appointment of a Senator, for so long. His excuse is interesting and we print it:

"The criticism that I am weak and vacillating because I did not name, at once, a senator to fill the vacancy, comes from those who had candidates that they wanted appointed immediately to make sure of their favorite. A coward afraid to face the situation, would have done this to escape the bombardment that he knew would come by delay; but as long as I am governor of this state, every citizen, that so desires, will get a respectful hearing upon any subject connected with this office before the same is closed, whether it is embarrassing to me or not. In making this appointment I considered that I was not acting for myself, but for the people of the state. To act for them it was necessary to delay the appointment so that I might get their sentiment. For nearly three weeks I received information from all over the state by telegram, by telephone, by letters and by personal interviews, and from all the information thus gained, it is my judgment that the appointment of Judge Thompson will meet with more general satisfaction among the democrats of the state and the people generally than would the appointment of any other candidate."

Pembina Pioneer Express: There are many honest well-meaning voters who say party is nothing, and person is everything—in local offices.

We are just now having an example of what it means to elect a governor on that theory. Perhaps it doesn't make much difference whether a democrat or a republican rules the state affairs—but a senator is surely a partisan office if there is one—and your democratic governor is sure to select a democrat for appointment as senator.

This works out the same in many minor offices. When you vote for a democratic governor you are also voting to fill all appointive offices with democrats.

Chas. U. Pierson, president of the A. S. of E., takes exceptions with an editorial from a recent issue of the Valley City Times Record, in which he is accused as Secretary of the Society, of employing a stenographer in the state union to send out McCumber matter. The President says that the Society while not entering partisan politics, will not fail to commend any member of congress who works in the interests of the farmer.

Secretary of State Blaisdell is in a quandary concerning the manner in which he will place the U.S. Senatorial candidates' names on the official ballots, for the June Primaries. Two senators are to be elected, one for the six year term to fill McCumber's place, and one for four years, to fill the late Senator Johnson's unexpired term. The Secretary is contemplating arranging the ballots thus:

United States Senator, "Long Term" (vote for one only) and United States Senator "Short Term," (vote for one only; or he may decide to adopt the combined group plan, placing all the names in one column, allowing the voter to select his two favorites from the group. In either instance, in case no one received forty per cent. of the votes, which is not at all likely, the second contest would come up in November, the four highest at the June primaries to be the November candidates. The highest man would be selected for the long term and the next highest, for the short term. The supreme court may be asked to decide which of the methods the Secretary should adopt for the ballots.

Twenty of the imprisoned miners in Cherry, Ill., coal mine, have been rescued and there are hopes of saving more. The men saved themselves by excluding the smoke from one of the chambers, and quenched their thirst by squeezing the water from the damp coal, lying at the bottom of the chamber. The disaster was one of the most horrible that could visit any city, and those imprisoned in the mine as well as those on the outside conducted themselves like heroes. James Taylor, mine shaft inspector for the state of Illinois, who by the way is a brother of a farmer living not far from Minot, Chas. Taylor, deserves great credit for the rescue of these miners. Altho he realized that he might meet death face to face, in company with other heroes, he descended the shaft on the seventh day after the accident, and the survivors who had about given up all hope, were rescued more dead than alive.

Of all the samples of grain sent to Bismarck, to eventually be exhibited at the National Agricultural Exposition at Omaha not one single grain was sent from Ward county. The real estate dealers lost a beautiful chance to advertise our county. Our commercial clubs should have shown their usefulness in arranging for a nice exhibit from the localities where commercial clubs exist, but they were simply lulled to sleep, and passed up a golden opportunity. The farmers could have undoubtedly won some nice cash premiums, medals, etc., had they gone to the trouble to send in the exhibit. The Great Northern had announced that they would charge no transportation. Are we not just a little bit easy?

Minot may possibly have four candidates for congress, tho this is not probable. James Johnson has already made his announcement. Atty. C. A. Johnson, Atty. Sinkler and Alfred Blaisdell are considering entering the race. With Judge Davis out for the gubernatorial chair, and Treasurer Bickford up for re-election, Ward county seems to be in it. Our county is big enough to fill all of the offices. Of course we may not be able to make the voters in the other sections of the state see it this way.

"Are men really moral beings, or are they a lot of cheap hypocrites?" asks Arthur Aull. "In private conversation few citizens would deny that they would be sorely disappointed if the white champions do not whip the negro prizefighter. Everybody wants the bout to take place. Yet there are laws in nine-tenths of the states prohibiting such a fight. The legislator who would vote against such a law would be defeated by the votes of the very men who want the bout to occur. Is this morality or pretense?"

The annual pilgrimage to Scandinavia has begun, twenty-seven residents of La-Moure county leaving for New York in one day bound for the land of the midnight sun. The North Dakotans have been unusually prosperous this year; and the exodus to the old country this year promises to be larger than ever.

The Cando Herald thinks that had Alex. McKenzie been governor instead of Burke, he would have named Johnson's successor within fifteen minutes after the death of the late senator, and thereby saved himself the danger of defeat at the next election.

The Rugby Optimist wants the Grand Forks Herald to re-publish some of its opinions on Gronna from six years ago. That is not a fair proposition. How many of the newspapers of the state would like to stand on their records for the past decade?

"The people of North Dakota are getting cranky," said a politician the other day. "They are actually insisting that their congressmen should talk and act, while in Washington, the same as they do at home."

The interview of Senator Thompson in the Minneapolis Journal reads all right, and shows that the man is a thinker, and can express himself clearly.

The National Geographic Society gave Peary a medal. They ought to have given him a "meddle."

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