

# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

VOLUME 8, NUMBER 38

MINOT, WARD COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1909

SUBSCRIPTION \$1.00 PER ANNUM

## Warden Hellstrom On The Twine Trust

### Says The Monopoly Has a Corner On All Sisal Twine and is Urging Its Agents to Recommend Only This Kind of Twine

Warden Hellstrom of the North Dakota penitentiary has sent out the following statement:

"The twine trust, who own and control an absolute monopoly on sisal fibre of the world, are strongly advocating that all of their agents insist on their customers using sisal twine. The twine trust, in a circular letter recently issued, announces a cut in prices of one fourth cent in order to partially meet competitors' prices. They also lay particular stress on the following point, which is quoted from their letter:

"We suggest that you caution your customers to be on the lookout for mixed twines, and insist that their 500 foot twine be made of sisal fibre only. Five hundred foot twine made from Manila fibre can be distinguished by its peculiar color and by the fact that it is usually much rougher and more uneven than twine made from sisal."

"There is little wonder that the twine trust should be anxious to convince the people that sisal is the better fibre for the manufacture of twine, for the reason that they own and control an absolute monopoly on the raw material of the world, and of course, if they can convince the public that sisal is the better product for the manufacture of twine, then they are in a position to levy tribute. But the farmer who will seriously consider the proposition that sisal is better fibre than Manila must indeed be an unsophisticated fellow, and know very little about the quality of different fibres and twines. The only objection to the use of pure Manila has been lowered and this taken into consideration with the fact that the trust is attempting to raise the price of sisal has brought the two twines so closely together in price that the pure Manila twine is by far the cheapest twine for the farmer to use. Standard twine measures 500 feet to the pound and pure Manila measures 650 feet to the pound. It will be readily seen that taken foot for foot the standard twine

at 7 3/4 cents per pound is more expensive than pure Manila at 9 cents per pound. Besides, there is a great deal more satisfaction in using the pure Manila twine than the standard it is quite evident that the result of this year's business will, in a large measure, determine whether or not the twine trust will in the future control the twine market, through the ownership of the raw material. Every farmer that has his own interests at heart will turn a deaf ear to the sisal argument. First, because it is contrary to common sense and reason and second, because to fall in line with that argument would mean to help bind himself hand and foot for all time to come to pay the twine trust whatever tribute it might see fit to levy.

"A glance at the following table will show that it takes 1,300 pounds of standard twine to equal 1,000 pounds of pure Manila twine in length. It is quite evident that the binder twine trust expects tribute:

Pure Manila, 650 foot Twine
"One thousand pounds, 650 feet per pound, equals 650,000 feet.
"Six hundred fifty thousand feet or 1,000 pounds, at 9 cents per pound, equals \$90.00.
"Six hundred fifty thousand feet or 1,300 pounds of Standard costs the consumer \$101.75.
"Saving the used of pure Manila \$11.75.
Standard 500 Foot Twine.
"One thousand pounds, 500 feet to the pound, equals 500,000 feet.
"Five hundred thousand feet, or 1,000 pounds at 7 3/4 cents per pound equals \$77.50.
"Difference in length between Standard and pure Manila 150,000 or 300 pounds.
"Three hundred pounds at 7 3/4 cents per pound equals \$23.25.
"Excess freight on 300 pounds average rate 33 1/3 cents per 100 pounds \$1.00.
"Total \$101.75."

## A COMFORTABLE, CLAIM SHACK

An exchange tells of a new plan for the inhabitant of a shack to withstand the rigors of cold weather. He says he would suggest to our hundreds of homesteaders who have nothing between them and the elements but an inch board siding, to buy a stack of straw somewhere, bale it securely and pile this up around the

house. It will not take many tons used in this way to make the dwelling frost proof and this will pay in the saving of fuel and in the genuine comfort it will afford the housewife. Straw is a dry material and will make warm, windproof walls. A house of this kind will be equal to a house built of logs.

## Sen. Thompson on Important Committees

Washington, Dec. 13—Senator Thompson of North Dakota, was today made a member of eight senate committees, other democratic senators having relinquished their membership in these bodies in order to make the places for the North Dakotan. Mr.

Thompson's committees are those on the Mississippi river, conservation of national resources, industrial exhibitions, railroads, transportation and sale of meat products, Cuban relations, Indian affairs, and Pacific Islands and Porto Rico.

## A PROLIFIC VELVAITE

Last Saturday Rev. O. J. Akre united in marriage at the home of the groom's parents, three miles south of Granville, Alfred Storhaug and Rosa Plumberg, popular and well known young people of that community. The groom is the oldest of thirteen children all of whom are living with the exception of one. Mr. Storhaug, Sr., is only

forty-five and is growing up with his family and may live to count his grandchildren by the score. Mr. Storhaug has rented the M. J. Doyle farm two miles north of Velva and will start in at once to build a home and fortune for himself and young bride. —Velva Journal.

## PREACHER WANTS JEFF TO WIN

"Billy" Sunday recently hesitated in his election campaign long enough to remark that James J. Jeffries will put Jack Johnson on the "has been" list. Jeff'll lick him so quick he won't

know what his name is," said Sunday from the pulpit. "I tell you when you knock out old Jim you'll have to put a Missouri mule in the ring against him and it's no 100 to 1 shot then."

## Must Keep Roads In Good Shape

The Fourth assistant postmaster general has issued an order permitting local postmasters to suspend rural free delivery service for a period of thirty days when the carrier reports habitual neglect of roads by

any patron, overseer or trustee. If the road is not made good in thirty days the local postmaster is requested to recommend that the bad portion be permanently withdrawn from the route.

## Must Keep Stations Open

The state board of railroad commissioners have promulgated a ruling forbidding the closing of a station without permission of the board. This means that the railroad will have to

show to the satisfaction of the board that the station proposed to be closed is not doing the business required by law. The commission is keeping in close touch with the fuel situation.

Ryder wants a shoemaker and a Register of Deeds Peterson of Bottineau county, is very low at the hospital, and it is feared that he will have to undergo a third operation.

## Great Future For Western Beef

### The Ranges Are Becoming Smaller While the Demand For the Healthy Grass Fed Animals of the West Has Become Greater

Western beef is coming into its own. Not over a decade ago eastern buyers purchased range-bred steers only when they were unable to fill their feed pens from other sources, and usually offered a much lower price for this class of stock than they were willing to pay for that secured from other sources.

Experience has taught these buyers however, that western range-bred steers are usually in the very best of health. They have a splendid frame upon which to build, are well muscled, and boned, and being accustomed to the rigors of the western climate, continue to put on flesh in the eastern feed pens when cattle from other sections being fed under identical conditions, are losing flesh on account of the inclement weather conditions. This western steer only demands that he be given plenty of good fresh water and sufficient feed so that he may never be hungry and he will always give a good account of himself and return many dollars in profits to the feeder when he is sold for the block in the spring.

These steers shed early under favorable conditions, and when they have reached the stockyards they show an exterior finish that other cattle, lacking the same health and ruggedness, fail to show. This makes the western steers ready sellers on the market, and after they have been butchered the percentage of the weight of the dressed carcass over that of other steers under the same conditions is so perceptible as to immediately attract the attention of those keen far-sighted men who handle the yard end of the business.

The settlement of the West is rapidly reducing the amount of available range and is forcing the cattle to go higher and higher into the hills in search of forage. This is greatly increasing the importance of freely utilizing the ranges within the National Forests and every endeavor is being made by the Forest Service to

open hitherto inaccessible ranges by the construction of trails and bridges and unused arid ranges by the development of water. In these higher elevations the grass is usually much finer in quality and more nutritious while the climate is much more rigorous; both of which conditions result in the animals being in better health and having more solid flesh when placed on the feeder markets in the fall. This fall has seen large numbers of the range-bred steers most of which come from ranges within National Forests, topping the feeder markets at all points where feeder steers are sold.

So great has become the demand for cattle of the quality mentioned that hundreds of stockmen throughout the West are selling their bunches of stock cattle and are beginning to handle steers exclusively. On the old ranges where a few years ago one was accustomed to see large herds of cows and calves you will find today equally large bunches made up entirely of steers, some of which may perhaps have come from Old Mexico, some from Texas, while Arizona and New Mexico usually furnish their quota. These steers are brought into these western ranges at from eighteen months to two years old. They become acclimated the first year, while in the second and third years they become sufficiently mature so that they may be taken to market.

The demand for cattle of this kind is greater than the supply, and as in all other cases where the demand is greater than the supply the price received on sale must constantly increase. That this is true of the steer business, one can easily ascertain through conversation with any one of the western stockmen who make this a business. They will tell you that they have made more money in the last two or three years in handling steers than they made in ten years in handling strictly stock cattle.

## A ROMANTIC WEDDING

### Editor Egan of Tagus Mirror Weds Young Woman From Streator, Ill., Whom He Courted Mostly By Mail

The Streator, Ill., Free Press gives the following account of the wedding:

"As a culmination of a long standing courtship, Miss Beulah Sandry of 1104 E. Bridge street and Mr. Howard J. Egan of Tagus, N. D., yesterday secured a marriage license at Ottawa.

A few years ago Miss Sandry visited Grand Ridge and at the home of a mutual friend met Mr. Egan who was visiting in the village from North Dakota. The their companionship on this occasion was necessarily brief, the personality of each impressed itself upon the memory of the other.

When they had parted at Grand Ridge and Mr. Egan returned to his west home, he wrote a letter to Miss Sandry. This was a number of

years ago but that letter opened a correspondence and as the moon brightened and waned and other lovers wandered through shaded lanes or sat together by dreamy firesides, the missives flying between Streator and Tagus grew warmer and traveled faster.

Wednesday Mr. Egan arrived in Streator. It had been two years since he had seen Miss Sandry but the arrangements had all been made and yesterday the license to marry was secured. The couple will leave after the wedding for the groom's home where they will reside.

Miss Sandry is a prepossessing young lady and is very popular in this city.—Streator Free Press.

## The Mysterious Mr. Raffles

Butte, Mont., Dec. 16—E. Douglas, "The Mysterious Mr. Raffles," was captured by the police here today as he was preparing to leave the city upon advice from the officers of Douglas, N. D., where he is wanted for victimizing the gullible of that city.

Douglas' scheme is unique. He requires payment down from those answering newspaper advertisements upon promise of employing the young men as managers for a "Mysterious

Fluffy Ruffles" in the service of the newspapers, holding forth as an additional allurement the companionship of a charming and beautiful young lady. To the young ladies answering the advertisement he promises the position of "Fluffy Ruffles."

Fifty dollars is exacted from each victim upon signing a contract. He caught two Butte girls and a half dozen aspiring young Butte men before the detectives became aware of his operations.

Lansford is burning gas. A remarkable record, for it was only about three months ago that the Bales gas well, four miles from that town was sunk. The capacity of the well is five million cubic feet, pressure of the well, 73 pounds and pressure at Lansford 50 pounds. The Gas Co. has capitalized for \$50,000.

The First State bank building at Eckman burned. The cashier succeeded in getting his books and valuable papers in the safe, though he was somewhat overcome by the smoke. A new brick building will be erected. John Mostad, who left Minot a few months ago after doing considerable business, has returned for the winter in Wisconsin.

# REIGHART'S Christmas Announcement

Every year styles seem to improve and every time the Christmas season rolls around we can say, with all honesty, that our stock is more attractive than the year before. Our Christmas stock is now complete. The following list gives just a suggestion of a few of the many attractive gifts to be selected at our store:

<b>Popular Jewelry</b> <b>Locketts</b> Gold and gold filled, plain, engraved, or stone set. \$1.00 to \$50.00	<b>Jewel Boxes</b> In Ormulco gold, silver and brass finishes. <b>50c to \$15.00</b>	<b>Cut Glass</b> All American cut and on the finest blanks. Berry bowls, Compots, Bon Bon dishes, Nappies, etc. <b>\$1.25 to \$25.00</b>
<b>Dutch Collar Pins</b> <b>\$1.00 to \$5.00</b>	<b>Bed Room Clocks</b> Cased in Mahogany, gold and silver, with reliable movements. <b>\$2.00 to \$18.00</b>	<b>Umbrellas</b> <b>\$3.75 to \$20.00</b>
<b>Diamond Jewelry</b> The quality of our Diamonds easily recognized, especially when comparison is made	<b>Souvenir Spoons</b> Plain and fancy styles. Our stock in all represents several hundred different patterns, at a range in price from <b>75c to \$3.00</b>	<b>Watches</b> For Men, Women and Children, in gold, gold filled, silver, nickel. <b>\$4.50 to \$100.00</b>
<b>Links</b> Plain Signet, hand engraved, fancy and stone set styles, <b>50c to \$10.00</b>	<b>Neck Chains</b> Fancy Stone Set Pendants, bead chains, etc. <b>\$1.25 to \$30.00</b>	<b>Silver Plated Articles</b> Shaving sets, napkin rings, child's cups, baking dishes, and many other useful articles
<b>Watch Fobs</b> Hibben and gold <b>\$1.25 to \$10.00</b>	<b>W. H. Reighart</b> Minot's Exclusive Jeweler	<b>Other Articles</b> Candle sticks, trays, smoking sets, book racks, tie racks, in gold and brass. <b>50c to \$15.00</b>

## North Dakota Wheat the Best

It seems that the proof of the pudding is no longer in the eating, according to the verdict of the judges who recently awarded to Wisconsin the sweepstake prize for the best peck of wheat raised in the northern zone. North Dakota people claim that the true test of wheat is its milling qualities, while the friends of Wisconsin assert that the only way to

judge wheat is by the size and color of the grain. If they really think so, they should take a trip to Palestine and try a diet of Dead Sea apples for a time. Size and color appeal only to the eye, which has no sense of taste. A high percentage of fine, white, health-giving, tone and muscle building flour, however, has something tangible, tastable and digestible to offer to the actual consumer, and is the true criterion by which every bushel of wheat grown must sooner or later be judged. The North Dakota wheat offered in competition was of the hard Scotch Flie variety while the Wisconsin offering was winter wheat. Three of the judges were from winter wheat states and two from spring wheat states, which probably accounts for the decision.—Palladium.

**ORDERED FAST PRESS**  
The Minot Independent has ordered a new cylinder press—a No. 7 Babcock Express—and will now be able to turn out papers at the rate of 3,000 per hour. Their list of nearly 6,000 copies, which by the way is the largest circulation of any weekly paper in the state has made the ordering of this new equipment necessary. Well, here's hoping that it will increase enough so they will have to put in another one in the near future.—Granville Herald.

**Letter "F" to be Dropped**  
Hereafter "R. F. D." will be simply "R. D." The government has issued orders that the use of the word "free" be dropped and that the service be known as plain "rural delivery." The service has become so general that there is no longer any use of using the "free" part of the name.

**W. H. Winney, the Lansford hotel man, is preparing to heat his entire building with natural gas.**

**TO DAIRYMEN.**  
I have a full blood Bates Shorthorn bull for sale. 18 months old, registered No. 31590. He is a beauty. This is the milk strain of the Shorthorn variety. Will sell cheap as I have sold my dairy cows and do not want him. Call Frank W. Youngman, 100 South Reishus St., Minot, N. D.