

# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT.

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## Rode Writes of California

Comments on the L. B. Tracy Interview—Says Men are Now Wearing Straw Hats at San Diego—The Crokats Visited There

My Dear Editor:

Pardon me for again encroaching on your space but in a recent issue of the Independent you published an account of my friend Mr. L. B. Tracy's trip to California and his record breaking return to North Dakota, and I can not resist the temptation to make a few comments on the statements Mr. Tracy makes. It may be all as he says, as far as Tulare is concerned but I know that those conditions do not prevail in this part of California. Of course it may get rather chilly at times but a large portion of the people never wear gloves nor overcoats while quite a good many do so at times even in the summer. Many boys run barefooted all winter and some men wear their straw hats yet, today being Dec. 23. A great many houses here have no fires nor other provisions made for the keeping of a fire and the consequence is that when a little cold spell does come along, one feels anything but comfortable in the house.

As for ourselves, might say that we burned last winter, one load of mill wood which cost \$5.50 and all the stove we had was a little air tight sheet iron affair that cost \$1.50.

Now, please don't misunderstand I don't wish to say that one might not spend more money for fuel if the house is very large and has an elaborate heating apparatus, etc.

I do believe that the variation in climatic conditions in California is

great owing no doubt to the proximity of the ocean on the one side and the mountains on the other.

Everyone with whom I have spoken upon the subject so far, say that they would not live at Tulare for anything, as it is hot in summer and cold and rainy in winter. Of course, it is impossible that everybody should like the same place, nor is it at all desirable, but it equable temperature, entire absence of electric or any other storms, practically no fogs (even by the ocean), a small amount of rainfall and a consequent large portion of bright, health giving sunshine coming from a sky so clear that we can at times see a star in the heavens at broad day light means anything to the comfort and well-being of mankind, southern California, and more particularly the extreme southern part of the state, has a claim to be seriously considered by every one who is looking for a home in the west.

Sincerely yours,  
J. W. Rode.

P. S.—Have just had the pleasure of a visit from Dr. and Mrs. Crokak. They left today, Jan. 10th, for Pasadena and Rialto, where they expect to spend about a month, before returning to their home in Tacoma. They are seriously considering locating permanently in southern California. Mrs. Crokak has completely recovered from her recent illness.

## NEGRO PUGILIST DIES

Walter Whitehead, Formerly From Minot, Dies From Injuries Received in a Stabbing Affray in Duluth

Ralph Jones, who inflicted wounds on Walter Whitehead, the negro pugilist, from which he died, at one time lived in Minot, and while here acquired a gash from which he derived his Duluth nickname, of "Gashmouth" Jones. Jones while here got into a scrap one night with a musical negro, who was well known here. The affray resulted in a wound for Jones and the assailant skipped out leaving

his trunk and guitar behind. Friday when he heard of the death of Whitehead and the arrest of Jones he returned to the city to claim his property.

Jones, while here, was of a scrappy nature, and was involved in several of the disturbances. Whitehead, the account of whose death is given in another column, was also well known here.

## BABE'S NARROW ESCAPE

Langdon, N. D., Jan. 14—A nine months' old babe was saved from death by a two year old child Thursday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Mealy of this city. The little fellow had become inquisitive when his mother left a boiler of water on the kitchen floor, and climbed over the

side. The next moment he was in the water. His little sister who was in the room and realized that something was wrong called the mother. When the little one was removed from the boiler he was already unconscious but was finally brought back to life.

## VISITED A BLACKSMITH

J. T. Louderbach and his steel shoes were in Minot last Saturday. Mr. Louderbach attracted a good deal of attention as he went clikety-clik along the cement walks, but managed to get along fairly well by sticking to the middle of the street most of the time. The Judge says that the shoes

actually keep his feet warm, and if they should become a little chilly all he has to do is to stand on a red hot stove for a few minutes. After visiting a blacksmith shop where one of the calks were sharpened, he left for home.

## HAD A VERY SLIM MEAL

Peter Riley, who has leased the Robert Evans farm southwest of the city had an upset with his sleigh load of household goods and provisions when within three miles of the place Thursday. He went on to his destination that night, leaving most of his load

by the roadside and unfortunately forgot to take any of his provisions along. He found some tea and some stale crackers in the house and managed to keep body and soul together until the next day.

Charlie Wills the editor of the Sawyer Clipper was in Minot Friday looking for a printer. Charlie was ready to go to press but his printer quit, and he didn't want to take the job of pressing any forms himself so waited until the new printer arrived from Adams, N. D.

Editor Disney has disposed of the Williston Herald to George Farrer, a well known newspaper man from Courtenay, N. D. Mr. Disney will locate in the west. He has given Williston a good, clean newspaper and will be missed from editorial circles in this part of the state.

L. O. Higley, the register of deeds of Williams county, has turned into that county during 1909 \$8,760.17 besides paying the running expenses of the office. Not a bad record.

C. C. Banks has been appointed postmaster at Lansford. The Westhope Commercial club will give a smoker for the farmers. Not a bad idea. The hard working old boys will appreciate it.

## Short State Stories

Items of Interest  
Boiled Down for  
Busy Readers

A meeting of the A. S. of E. of McHenry county, was held at Granville Saturday.

Frank Bobbolax, convicted of rape on a girl under sixteen years of age, was found guilty at Grand Forks, and received a long penitentiary sentence.

A fellow bound for Montana stepped on the train at Williston to buy a lunch. The train left without him, and he was a sorry spectacle, standing hatless and coatless.

Since the Missouri has frozen up, thousands of loads of grain being hauled across the ice to Williston.

The houses of ill fame in the Jamestown red light district have been closed and several of the inmates arrested.

It is reported that the Devils Lake Inter-Ocean will change from a weekly paper to a morning daily.

Isadore Mazahomni was convicted at Minnewaukan of the murder of Peter Adams and sentenced to serve 25 years in the pen. Both men were Indians.

Senator Thompson is reported quite ill at Washington, D. C. He fell on the steps of the capitol building and injured his knee badly, and has been suffering from other causes besides.

Jack McCune, a prominent Cando horseman, shipped a carload of choice draft horses by express to Seattle recently. The car is fitted up with nineteen stalls and the horses go through without much shrinkage. This is the first car of horses shipped from Cando in that manner. North Dakota is beginning to ship horses out, instead of shipping them in. Good work.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Lord of Cando left for a trip around the world. The North Dakotans are great globe trotters.

Alfred Blaisdell, if deciding to become a candidate for congress, will make his campaign as a Republican and nothing else. Evidently, the secretary does not see where he will profit by lining up with either the insurgents or the stalwarts.

A Bottineau woman sued for a divorce, but Judge Burr granted the decree to the husband and charged the wife up with the costs.

Geo. J. Simon, a well known Westhope farmer, bought two bushels of clover seed from a Fargo seed house last spring for \$7.00 a bushel. When it came up, he says it was the loveliest patch of mustard one ever saw, and believes that half the seed was mustard.

Ben Whitehead in the Williston State refers to Marshall and Gronk as the "Twelve Per Cent Twins."

The Williston State is boosting Percy Cole of Kenmare for governor.

Ben Whitehead wants to know why Sam Clark does not give an editorial review of Geo. W. Wilson's candidacy for governor.

The Pierce County Tribune has installed a linotype machine, and we may expect Bro. Anderson's English-German papers to shine.

The state supreme court has declared that the sale of malt is illegal whether it is intoxicating or not. As yet, no ban has been placed on the selling of pop.

Speaker Burdick of the last legislative assembly has announced himself a candidate for the lower branch of congress.

Andy Miller has decided not to become a candidate for the senate and instead will make an effort to be re-elected to the office of attorney general.

A Devils Lake man caught a white rat in a trap.

Thirty-five Elks at Devils Lake have signed a petition asking that they be allowed to organize an Elk's lodge in that city.

The Police at Devils Lake will stop the pilfering of coal from the Great Northern cars. It is said that people will be able to buy their own coal, are filching it.

A boiler maker at Devils Lake, who was unusually attentive to his landlady was adjudged insane. If the authorities would continue their investigations half the population of that city would more than likely go to Jintown.

A small cyclone tore off the room of a Harvey farmer's residence on New Year's morning.

The Harvey Herald says that Alphy Blaisdell has joined the "Anvil Chorus" referring to his recent prohibition article.

The Mohall Tribune tells of a hen being carried up into an elevator by the buckets, and shot down the grain spout. The elevator man that the grain was not running out fast enough and investigating, found old Biddle, little the worse for her experience.

A farmers' co-operative store has been organized at Sherwood. It has a capitalization of \$25,000 with 97 stockholders.

The W. E. Slavens trial will be on at Towner this week. Slavens a Grandville attorney, is accused by his biographer of attempted rape.

There are eighty consumers of city water at Velva and the plant will soon be on a paying basis.

The six Velva young men who were charged with breaking the seal on a box car and confiscating a quantity of wet goods, were found not guilty. The boys opened the car door all right, and secured some of the amber fluid. The trial will prove a good lesson to them.

I. L. Berge, the Velva grain dealer, was locked in Muus Bros.' store one night recently. He used the telephone and was let out by one of the proprietors. Berge doesn't say whether he was asleep or just forgot to leave when the lights went out.

John Brown, an employe at the Murray mine near Velva, froze his ear so badly on his way to Velva, that he is under the care of a physician.

The Fosberg farm home near Velva was burned Monday morning. While the family was eating breakfast, the gas that accumulated in the stove exploded and the house was a mass of flames before anything could be done.

The editor of the Coteau Sentinel reports the theft of a water barrel. Now what any editor needs of a water barrel is more than we can see and probably the thief came to the same conclusion.

Sixteen horses belonging to a New Rockford farmer were killed because they were affected with glanders.

The editor of the Edmore News is glad that Attorney Wehe has moved from that city to Devils Lake.

## Charged With Horse Stealing

Westgard and Delaney Bound Over to District Court Charged With Stealing Valuable Outfit From Donybrook Livery Barn--Sold Effects in Minot

Two young men, Westgard, alias Ludvig, and Delaney, were placed under arrest Friday by the local police, charged with the theft of a team of horses from a Donybrook livery stable. The men were given a hearing and bound over to district court.

Delaney hired a team and sleigh from Kern and Gordon of Donybrook to go into the country to collect some bills. Instead he drove to Minot, where he engaged the services of

Ludwig to assist him in selling the outfit. The team was sold for \$30, the harness, worth \$15, brought \$7, the sleigh, worth \$25, brought \$5, and the robe, valued at \$20, brought a small sum. The action of the men cast a suspicion upon them, and they were arrested by Chief of Police Hyland and Officer Dougherty. Delaney, we understand, has been in trouble before. His parents live at Kenmare.

## Charged With Murder Of Wife and Child

Frank Miki of Walsh County Faces Serious Charge—Man From His Own Story Is Terribly Desperate

Frank Miki, of Perth township, in Walsh county, is charged with the murder of his wife and three year old son. The coroner's jury arrived at the verdict implicating the man. The doctors present claim that death came from suffocation the pressure being from without. Miki's story is not plausible. He says that on Christmas day his little boy became ill

and that both he and his wife carried the child which soon died. He and his wife went to bed, and in the morning he found her cold in death. He remained at the house all day, ate three square meals, and occupied the bed at night with the bodies of his wife and child, reporting their deaths the next day to a neighbor.

## ANDY JONES GUILTY

Rugby Banker Unmoved When Jury Returns Verdict, Though He Had Shown Signs of Nervousness During the Trial--Placed Under \$50,000 Bonds

Fargo, N. D., Jan. 14—Just four hours and thirty minutes after Judge Amidon had completed his instructions to the jury, it returned a verdict of guilty on thirteen counts of the indictment charging Andy Jones, alleged bank wrecker and former cashier of the First National bank of Rugby, N. D., with embezzlement, abstraction and misapplication of funds and with making false entries on the books of the bank. The defendant was unmoved when the verdict was read although he exhibited nervousness during the proceedings yesterday for the first time since the trial began, which was apparent in the quick undecided movements of his hands. His expression however, remained unchanged.

At precisely 4:30 the jury filed into the court room and the spokesman arose and announced that it had found Andrew H. Jones guilty of embezzlement, abstraction and misappropriation of funds, and with making entries false on the records of the bank. Judge Amidon announced that Mr. Jones would be held under bonds until sentence in the amount of \$50,000 and fixed the time for a motion for a new trial on Monday morning at 10 o'clock. If the motion is overruled by the court at that time, Andy Jones will be sentenced then. Many who have followed the trial from the beginning believe that he will receive a heavy sentence. Each of the thirteen counts in the indictment provide a maximum penalty of ten years.

## Sues For Divorce Fourth Time

Lakota, Jan. 12—An interesting divorce case will go to the jury today in the Nelson county district court at Lakota. This is the famous Wagner divorce case, in which Kate Wagner is suing Albert Wagner for divorce for the fourth time. She is claiming non-support this time. The Wagners

lived in Cando originally, but Mrs. Wagner came to Lakota some time ago, and charges that her husband has failed to support her during his residence there. The case has lasted three days and the result is being awaited with considerable interest.

## Farmers Fined Though Not Intentionally Guilty

Fargo, Jan. 6.—Charged with bringing unskilled aliens under contract across the Canadian line to work on farms, Peter Schrag and Chris Garver late yesterday afternoon pleaded guilty in the federal court before Judge Charles F. Amidon. A fine of \$3 was assessed against each, which was paid ending the case.

The defendants operate farms near Munich, N. D. It appears they secured laborers across the Canadian line, contracting with the men to do farm work. They claimed they were not aware they were violating the provisions of any statute, which is responsible for the moderate fine which was imposed.

## Ross Property Holder Not Satisfied

R. F. McAneny, a prominent citizen, was in Minot last week for several days. Mack is doing some tall kicking about the taxes, informing the Independent that they are much higher than before the county was divided, and says that most of the property holders have reasons to strongly object to the payment of them. It is too late to say anything now, and about the only thing that our good friends over in Mountrail county can

do now, is to make haste slowly, and run their affairs in an economical manner, until the tax payers are in a better financial condition. Petitions are out, praying the county commissioners to allow the people to vote on the proposition of taking away the increased jurisdiction of the county judge of Bottineau county claiming that a thousand dollars a year could thus be saved.

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