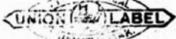


# THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

Samuel G. Blythe, in the Saturday Evening Post, shows up T. Roosevelt as he appears to the public today, about the best we have ever seen a public man vivisectioned. The American people are peculiar. They can make an idol of a man, place him on a pedestal, and then within a few short months grow weary of it, and smash it to smithereens. Maybe this is what has been done with Roosevelt. Perhaps not. The fact is that Roosevelt is giving us the silence treatment and it may do him some good. Roosevelt, upon his return from his trip abroad, was given the greatest ovation of any American who ever returned to his native land. He might have been content to remain the people's idol for the time being at least, for he showed the poorest kind of judgment by getting into the New York fight. The results, we all know. Roosevelt's candidate, Stimson, was given a terrible drubbing, and nearly every candidate that the ex-president supported the country over was defeated. Roosevelt became soured after election and for days shut himself in, giving no statement to the public. He just now seems to be recovering himself. He didn't believe the people could use him so badly. For seven years he had been floating in the clouds, and when he was pulled back to earth, just like any other ordinary individual, he landed hard. There are just three things that Roosevelt can do. He can try to organize the insurgent elements of the republican party, or head a new party, to advocate the New Nationalism theory, or be satisfied to be just an editorial writer.

If he does the first, he will have to down La Follette and Cummings who have aspirations of their own. He can't expect any support from Taft, who is a man with ambition himself, though he does not always seem to be. The people may not take kindly to the new party idea. One thing is certain, Roosevelt will be in the thick of the fray somewhere, though it seems too bad that he could not have had enough foresight to keep out of a political battle, which would mean little for him, even though he might have been successful. Had Roosevelt waited till now, he might have been heralded as the redeemer of the republican party, and goodness knows we need a redeemer.

The eastern part of the state has never acted as though it considered that the western part of North Dakota was more than a mere cow country, very sparsely settled and developed scarcely at all. But the result of the census must have caused our friends in the valley no little amount of uneasiness, for they can see the hand writing, in the figures just compiled. The census will give us a third Congressman. It is too bad that he too cannot come from the valley, but this will hardly happen. Fact is, the state must be redistricted. Just how the valley can retain the two Congressmen, is what is troubling the minds of the wily politicians of the valley counties. Make one division in the extreme western end of the state, and divide the eastern part into two districts, each extending through the valley, and this feat can be accomplished. But there are those in the western part of the state who believe that the three districts should run parallel giving representation to the eastern, central and western portion of the state. This matter will be considered by the legislature in January and there promises to be a lively time. At the present time both Congressmen come from the valley as do both Senators, the latter living in the same city, Wahpeton. Both Senators to be elected by the legislature, McCumber and Gronna, live in the valley, and both Congressmen elected, and who will take their oaths of office March 4, come from the valley. It is high time that western North Dakota comes into her own, and it appears now as though the time is not far away.

Note the Independent's free offer of a 31 piece set of dishes, in the advertising column of this issue. The Independent hasn't gone into the wholesale crockery business, we have merely closed negotiations for a consignment of dishes right in our office for your inspection. Don't think because the offer is liberal, that there must be something cheap about the manufacture of these dishes. Far from it. We might easily have made the requirements much greater, but we want to induce those of our subscribers who are in arrears, to pay hence make this liberal offer. Now it doesn't matter one iota to the Independent whether you take advantage of the dish offer or not, but we should like to have our subscriptions paid up, and it was for that reason alone, that we decided to offer special inducements. If you do not get a chance to see the dishes before you send in your order, don't hesitate for fear that they might not suit you. The Independent thinks so well of the value that we are offering, that we are willing to send the dishes to you, with the understanding that if you are not satisfied, your money will be refunded. The Independent will keep its word. Whether you want the premium or not, we must ask you to pay up your subscription if you are in arrears.

Life in the regular army is not what its cracked up to be. The last issue of the Cosmopolitan publishes the confession of a deserter from the army, a tale full of the most horrible incidents imaginable. The article undoubtedly is only too true, and you wouldn't believe that the atrocities practiced in the army of this great country, could be possible. You might possibly believe that the soldiers of Russia might be treated in this manner, but of free America—never! The deserter tells of seeing one of the alluring pictures in front of a recruiting office, the He told him by the officers, the mental tasks which he was compelled to perform, the cursing by the superior officers, and the brutal treatment by the petty officers over him: the jealousy that exists, the rotten food that the soldiers are fed, and the deceit that is practiced when the inspecting officers are at hand. If the story is but half true, there's ample reason for an investigation. No wonder 50,000 men have deserted from the regular army during the past twelve years.

The Ben Franklin Club, an organization composed of the printers of the state, is proving of vast benefit to the members of the craft. The secretary of the club, R. T. Porte, the Fargo printer, offers to give expert advice on any piece of machinery that a printer wants to buy, telling just what that machine will produce in an hour, and at what cost. A North Dakota printing establishment recently bought a machine from a type foundry which was guaranteed so much capacity. It has failed to meet the requirements, and the printery has started suit for damages against the company selling the machine. He will be backed up by every member of the Ben Franklin club. Time was when a printer did not dare to say his soul was his own, but with the assistance of this club, he has a powerful ally. Every printer in the state should join at once.

A bill creating a county assessor to take the place of a village city or township assessor, will be introduced in the legislature in Minnesota. Why should not such an arrangement be just the thing for North Dakota? There is something wrong with the results obtained by our assessor. They are no doubt doing their very best under the present system, but there is too much difference in the values estimated in the various townships. Then too, but a fraction of the personal property is assessed. Under the present system, there is little opportunity to ascertain just what is the value of an individual's personal property. A bill providing for a tax collector in each township might also be considered.

There is something radically wrong with North Dakota's tax law and the legislators will try to remedy it at the coming session of the legislature. The poor man is paying more than his just share of taxes. It was ever thus, but now more so than ever. Suppose a poor man buys a house and lot for \$1,000. He has only a hundred dollars to pay down, and gives a mortgage for the balance. He is taxed for the \$1000 worth of property. Chances are that the man holding the mortgage does not pay a cent's worth of taxes on that mortgage. All mortgages ought to be taxed. It should prove an easy matter to ascertain the names of the mortgagees. This is but one instance where the poor man pays more than his just share. We might mention many more.

One of the subscribers of the Velva Journal, who became indignant because he received a subscription statement, told the editor what he thought of his paper, and the editor was mean enough to publish the letter, bad spelling and all. If you have a grievance against the editor, it's sometimes just as well to forget it. The Journal editor has concluded that he can publish his paper better with this subscriber paid up, and his name off the list, than he could with the name on, and the fellow owing for several years. Sometimes though you will find a subscriber who thinks the editor pays his bills with wind and dines the surplus.

The sub committee of the Senate has found that Senator Lorimer of Illinois won out with a majority of three "honest" votes, therefore gives him a clear bill of health. The committee admits that several of the Lorimer votes were bought, but ignores them because the big boss had a majority anyway. There is no question but that Lorimer committed a grave offense, or his underlings did it for him, in buying votes by the wholesale, and this white-washing does not go down very well with the masses.

The editor of the Fairmount News is "in bad" with the postal department, because he has not insisted upon his subscribers paying up. Uncle Sam means business when he says that no paper should be sent as second class matter if it is more than a year in arrears. The other North Dakota papers will have to be careful and they too may be raked over the coals. The Independent is mailing statements to all of its subscribers. Please don't pass these up. Kindly forward the amount you owe, and do so as soon as possible.

Advertisers who can give real values will have no trouble making their advertising "pay." All others will.

### Minot's Big Barber Shop

Nine Chairs. Light and Airy Rooms.

Only the best barbers employed. Particular attention paid to Sanitation. The service is perfect. Our shop was recently enlarged and thoroughly overhauled. Plenty of obliging attendants.

Turkish, Russian and Plain Baths. Specialists in charge. Your patronage solicited.

A. N. Eckler, Prop. Opera Barber Shop. Under Union National Bank. Minot.

# OLIVE OIL

IS

## Nature's Greatest Food Medicine

The Olive Oil we sell is imported and is the best produced.

It is a rich, full flavor, nut-taste oil of superior grade.

A better table and food oil it would be hard to get.

Makes tasty delicious dressings for vegetables, salads, meats.

As a medicinal oil it is first always.

That is the purpose for which we selected this particular brand of Olive Oil.

It is a natural food and tissue builder. The greatest medicine for emaciation and rundown constitutions.

Builds up after bad colds and coughs and fine for incipient consumption.

A safe medicine to take--or to eat--whether you are sick or well.

Half Pints 40c. Pints 75c. Quarts \$1.25

# Public Drug Co.

Cor. Main and 2d St. PROGRESSIVE DRUGGISTS Minot, No. Dak.

The man who runs a store account several months buying in small quantities, should never go away from the store that accommodated him, in case he should have \$20 or \$30 to spend, and then come home with the purchases and say he can do better at some other place than at home. It is always to be presumed that a man who is making large cash purchases can drive a closer bargain than one who makes small purchases on time. We do not believe there is a town anywhere in the state where goods are sold on a smaller margin than in our city.

North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin and certain other western states will obtain increased representation in the lower house of congress following the reappointment act that will be passed following the completion and work of the census bureau for 1910. At present Minnesota has nine members, Wisconsin eleven, and North and South Dakota each has two. The chances are that Minnesota, Wisconsin and the Dakotas will be entitled to increased representation, dependent altogether upon the ratio of increase in population of the states named.

Publishers will have to be careful from now on, how they criticize our superior courts. Leroy Sanders, publisher of the Seattle Evening Star and his managing editor, will have to go to jail, because the Star criticized the superior court, in connection with the granting of a temporary injunction to the Puget Sound Electric Railway company. And still you will find a person occasionally who remarks that this a free country.

The Bowbelle Bulletin and the Flaxton Times are faring rather slim—at the hands of the county commissioners. We don't know the commissioners of Burke county, but if they are anything like Arne, Jens, et al., the editors of those papers might get a little recognition if they'd be willing to crawl in the dust and lick the fingers of the rulers occasionally.

The Independent has a number of excellent correspondents, but we have not half enough. We would like a good live correspondent in every community and if you can spend a little time each week, jotting down the happenings of the week, we should be pleased if you would call or write to us and get the proposition which we have to offer. We will be glad to furnish stamps and stationery upon application.

The store that pays a lot of money for space in which to say something to you must believe that what it says is important to you.

At last the Socialists have elected a member of Congress, Victor L. Berger of Milwaukee. This is the first time in the history of our country that a Socialist has been given this honor and the earnest workers declare that it will not be the last. The Socialists are a factor that must be reckoned with, as is shown by the ever increasing vote of that organization.

"Little Mac" of the Flasher Hustler came back last week to greet his many Minot friends. The brilliant little editor tells us that he's going back to Flasher after the first of the year, take his coat off and divide the county, and make a rip roaring city of Flasher, with paved streets, street cars and electric lights within six months, and he'll make his word good too. Watch the Hustler flash.

A few weeks ago the St. Paul Pioneer Press published quite a story about Wm. Black, North Dakota's "millionaire" cattleman. The story was well written, and although Mr. Black is well-to-do, he is far from being a millionaire. The story was written by "Average Jones," who formerly reported for the Optic in Minot, who merely wanted to give his old friend a good send off.

It is reported that Congressman Hanna will favor San Francisco for the place of holding the Panama exposition in 1915, as against New Orleans, the "logical" point. It would seem that Mr. Hanna might consult his North Dakota constituents in the matter, most of whom no doubt would favor New Orleans, because it is more centrally located.

We are proud of North Dakota. Since 1900, the population of the state has increased 80.8 per cent. Our splendid state has 577,056 people and we can look for her to arrive at the million mark during the next decade. The increase was brought about largely through the vast immigration, and then there's no race suicide here either.

In the beginning God created heaven and earth and all therein. He then created man and woman and left the loafers on the corners, and in due time they multiplied and spread into the depot, postoffice and store, where they sit and explain state and national problems.

In Minnesota, the conservationists want a law passed to tax Christmas trees. They'll be taxing the little fellow's stocking next.

# "Alias Jimmy Valentine"

—WAIT FOR HIM—