

**THE WARD COUNTY
Independent**

Published Every Thursday.
By TRUAX & COLCORD

MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA.
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1914



COUNTY DEVELOPMENT.

Agricultural development is possible only through the combined efforts of all of the many industries dependent upon it for their prosperity. Most of them have recognized this dependence and have already attempted to help the farmer towards bigger crops and greater prosperity. This co-operation must not, however, be based on any narrow self-interest, if it is to be of real value to the farmer and to the industry which is offering it. It must be based on the principle that everything that helps the farmer in the long run helps the industry.

The banker should make a careful study to devise some system of rural credits, adapted to American conditions that will reduce the cost of money to the farmers and thus make them better able to use additional capital when needed and to pay it back again. The transportation company should aid to find better markets and more economical shipping methods, so that the farmer will be able profitably to ship more of his products. The fertilizer companies should educate the farmers to the proper and economical use of their fertilizers; the implement manufacturer should instruct the farmer not to overload himself with equipment and should guide him into buying only what he can use economically.

A true co-operation between the farmer and these various business will result in more money to the farmer and more prosperity to the business men.

What shall we do with the beaver in North Dakota? This is a question that the game board is trying to solve. The beaver is a mighty busy animal and in many instances does a great deal of good, also some damage. Since the beavers have been protected from the hunter and the trapper the year around, they have become quite numerous along the streams in North Dakota. It is now unlawful to shoot or to molest them in any way, and if the game board hears any complaint, the only way the trouble can be remedied is by moving the beaver family from one locality to another. This would require a good deal of expense, and there is no money for the board to spend for this purpose at the present time. Our game wardens have investigated a number of complaints where beavers have cut down trees to use in constructing their dams. Usually the young trees are selected and this makes the owners peeved. In many cases the beavers have actually proved to be a benefit to the farmer. In one instance, a Bantry farmer had 300 acres of hay flooded by a beaver dam and last year cut an enormous crop of hay. On the other hand, south of Williston, there are several hundred acres of land practically ruined by being flooded because of the beaver dams. The game board heard recommendations at its meeting Saturday, and several favored an open season for beaver. This, however, was discouraged by many on the grounds that were the beavers allowed to be killed, they would soon become extinct, because their fur is very valuable and the trappers would lose no time in making plans to capture the animals. It is possible that a game preserve will be established in connection with the state fish hatchery at St. John and in this event, beaver will be caught and removed to that place.

A Chicago man, a leader in the commercial life of that city, is quoted as saying: "Among the men I hire, nine out of ten are better workers at 45 years of age than are the men of 25 or 30." This man firmly believes that the man of 45 or thereabouts is at the prime of life, physically and mentally. He also holds that men of mature years are more reliable and less apt to become restless after a year or two in a position and to seek new fields. The average young man, he says, is seeking a "soft snap," and is not the sort of employee who will stick by his employer through thick and thin until his services become highly valuable and, in many cases, indispensable. We often hear young men complain of their inability to get settled. That is largely because they do not settle, do not seek to adjust themselves to their work and make the most of their opportunity. Opportunity seldom knocks at our doors. We must knock at the door of opportunity and be prepared to push the door a little if necessary.

Collier's gives some good advice in the following: "On visiting the sick do not ask them how they feel. It is an insult to them, for if they feel well, they would not be sick, and it is also a reflection on your intelligence, for if you will look around you a little, you will be able to see how they feel. Be of some service and cheer, if possible, and get out. There is a time later when folks need company, but sickness is essentially a non-social occupation. It is a merit to visit the sick, when you help them, but to beat them over their enfeebled heads with your robust personality is a peculiarly careless crime."

Better still, send a nice bouquet, stay away and give the sick an opportunity to get well. Many people desire to be left strictly alone when ill.

S. N. Putnam of New Rockford, republican candidate for state treasurer, visited Minot Monday. Mr. Putnam is well known thruout the state for the excellent work he did while a member of the legislature. He was a member of the lower house for several terms and later was elected to the senate. In both of these bodies, he gave very efficient service and was a member of several of the most important committees. As a member of the appropriations committee, he proved a friend to the Minot Normal school in a time of need, giving this institution what it deserved. Mr. Putnam is a very strong candidate and with two others in the field, his chance for election appears very bright.

We think Bryan over-reached himself on the Colombia treaty. What do we want to pay the "Bluff Republic" twenty-five million dollars for, unless it is for the pleasure of acknowledging we were wrong in making the original treaty with Panama for the canal? Columbia has been running a bluff all along, but we were never so faint-hearted before as to swallow their bait, hook and line. The aspect of our foreign relations on this continent is not inviting when Mexico and Colombia can both pull the wool over our eyes.—Lisbon Free Press.

About the cleanest campaign we have ever seen is now on in North Dakota. We have seen no dirty newspaper attacks. The press boys seem to have adopted the plan of saying nice things about their favorites and letting the other fellows strictly alone. That's the better plan and one that will prove the most effective. No matter whether one writes well or ill of a candidate for public office, he is getting just so much publicity. As far as the Independent is concerned, we intend to follow this course. Of course our news columns are always open for paid political matter.

John Worst's candidacy for the U. S. Senate, has lent considerable interest to the campaign, since this is a three-handed fight. John Worst is strong with the farmers and others and it will not surprise his friends any

if he wins. He will not be able to make much of a campaign, but will hardly find this necessary. Everybody knows John H. Worst and those who will support him will do so of their own volition.

Down in Chicago the women distributed doughnuts and coffee from booths on election day and won over many votes, yet not enough to oust "Bathhouse John" for alderman. In North Dakota, the law will most likely be construed so that it will be contrary to the statute to give away as much as a wafer.

Editor Holbein of Lansford, candidate for Commissioner of Agriculture, says he is about as busy managing his paper and conducting his campaign, as a one-armed paper-hanger with the itch. Thad Michaels of Willow City remarks that "Bill" shouldn't worry; that he should keep right on hanging paper for his friends will do his scratching for him.

Women voting for the first time in Illinois township elections, closed the doors of more than 1100 out of 2652 saloons, adding 16 counties to the 20 already dry and barring the sale of intoxicants in 200 of the 300 in which local option was an issue. Their victory included eleven of the larger cities of the state, among which is Freeport, where saloons have been flourishing for a half century. The ballot allows the women to hit their old enemy, whiskey, a telling blow.

This is clean-up week in Minot. Let's make every week a clean-up week hereafter. No sense of allowing dirt and filth to accumulate where it breeds flies and disease, and proves offensive to the smell and most unsightly. A large percentage of our citizens are making an honest effort to beautify the city, but there are others, some of our most prominent people, who don't do their duty. Let's make our old town shine.

Mrs. W. C. Gilbreath, wife of North Dakota's Commissioner of Agriculture and Labor, passed away at Bismarck Thursday from cancer of the stomach. During the past year she was operated upon twice and about a month ago her husband took her to Rochester, Minn., but nothing could be done to prolong her life. The remains were interred at Minneapolis. Mr. Gilbreath has the sympathy of many friends thruout the state.

WILL THE LIGHTS BE WHITE?

"Old Cy" Warman is dead. The veteran engineer and writer died in Chicago at the age of 60. Twenty-seven years ago "Cy" was running an engine on the Union Pacific and writing an occasional poem for the Rocky Mountain News of Denver. Here is one he framed one day after a strenuous run that has caused many an old railroad-er to laugh and cry:

Of when I feel my engine swerve,
As o'er strange rails we fare,
I strain my eye around the curve
For what awaits us there.
When swift and free she carries me
Through yards unknown at night,
I look along the line to see
That all the lamps are white.

The blue light marks the crippled car,
The green light signals "Slow;"
The red light is a danger light,
The white light, "Let her go."
Again the open fields we roam,
And, when the night is fair,
I look up in the starry dome
And wonder what's up there.

For who can speak for those who dwell
Behind the curving sky?
No man has ever lived to tell
Just what it means to die.
Swift toward life's terminal I trend;
The sun seems short tonight.
God only knows what's at the end—
I hope the lamps are white.
"Cy" remarked a short time ago that it seemed but a day since he was feeling the throb of his big locomotive and wiping the oil from his hands on his overalls. This was the lesson of his swift and useful journey towards life's terminal to this bright spirit. The "run" did seem short, and his friends now voice the prayer of the last line of his beautiful poem, the dirge of thousands—"I hope the lights are white."

SOME MARRIAGE RECORD.

Mrs. Georgia McMillan, aged 35, recently married for the sixth time at Fort Worth, Tex. Her new husband is J. H. Matney, to whom she had been married twice before and divorced from twice. "But this time," asserted the bride, "it was a case of love at first sight. When I saw him in the street, so big and handsome, I remembered that I may have been to blame before, so I am giving him another chance. Yes, it's the third Mrs. Matney, who when 15 years old married W. O. Sandel!" She lived with him four months and then got a divorce and married J. W. McMillan. She married and divorced McMillan twice. Both of the former husbands are living here and are friends.
Her last divorce was February 16,

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