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THAT PACKING PLANT.

Minot never yet went after a thing she did not get. This city is in real earnest in trying to land that packing plant to be located at some point in the state by the Equity. Minot will have plenty of good competition and it behooves every one of our citizens to use his influence in securing it. It appears to the Independent that it should be an easy matter, however, for the Equity committee to decide on Minot. The members of that committee ought to be and no doubt will be governed in making their choice by the city advancing the best reasons why such a plant should be located there. If it comes to a point where the committee will weigh every reason, Minot ought to win easily. There are so many reasons why Minot should be selected, that it would fill a page of the Independent in giving all of them. Here are just a few:

Minot is properly located as far as railroads are concerned. We are on two transcontinental lines with numerous branches and other roads about to build to this point. We tap a greater territory than any of the other cities that are after the plant. We have a vast country to the north. Wipe out the imaginary Canadian boundary line and note how far one has to travel before a packing plant is reached. Look toward the west. Think of the great expanse of territory in western North Dakota and Montana before such a plant is reached. Every day train loads of cattle and hogs from the west pass thru Minot that could be stopped right here if we had that plant, saving a total of \$1.50 per hundred freight rate, figuring the rate on the stock to St. Paul plus that of the butchered product returned.

We have the coal fields at hand that will furnish cheap steam and electricity.

We have the natural drainage that many of the other cities lack. East of Minot a mile or two lies a site that can be procured right, and prevailing winds will insure our citizens that there will never be an offensive odor.

Minot stands ready to join the Equity in this movement. While we do not know that any financial assistance will be asked, this city stands ready to meet the organization half way and then some. Of course the plant will be a good thing. It will add a couple of thousand people to our population. It will enhance the value of our city property, the farming property thru-out the northwestern part of the state, will prove a fine thing for the smaller towns in the state and will make the price of live stock better by offering greater competition. Minot is going to have a packing plant within a short time anyway, and the Independent would like to see the Equity consider our proposition favorably. In this wish, we are joined by every citizen of Minot.

Buy it at home this Christmas and be a loyal citizen.

"PAY UP WEEK."

Newspapers in a number of sections of the country are taking a leading part in the furtherance of "pay-up week," which each community arranges for itself. The idea is to settle all debts and accounts that are overdue and the merchants of every community will no doubt appreciate such action by the newspapers, which themselves will benefit to a great extent, if everybody in the community joins in the letter and spirit of the occasion.

In inaugurating such "pay-up weeks" the communities are improving upon the century old custom of the Chinese, who, as is well known, will not enter upon a new year with the slightest debt hanging over them.

The co-operation of an entire community in such an event should do much to cement friendly feelings between all classes of merchants and consumers. It will be particularly gratifying to publishers to see the dollars come rolling in from delinquent subscribers and from other sources which are on the debit side of the books. The best explanation of what "pay-up week" really means to all concerned is contained in an article in the Red Oak (Ia.) Sun, which says:

"Next week has been set aside as pay up week. 'You pay me and I pay you' is the spirit of the occasion. It is to be a general clean-up week for all those little affairs that are put off from one time until another. It is not a one man movement for the benefit of a few, but a community institution for the welfare of all. The idea is that a dollar started rolling during a period of six days will wipe out a lot of charges and be responsible for a great number of credits. This is the time of the year when people generally think of the little things they owe and when the notion of paying is strong. A little concerted effort will wipe the slate clean and produce a feeling of satisfaction in almost every one. In many communities in Iowa the feeling and the results have been very satisfactory. Many communities are going in to the affair as an annual event on account of the beneficial effect to everyone. Des Moines and vicinity is observing the same week as Red Oak and vicinity. The windows of Red Oak business houses contain placards reminding people of the community of "pay-up week."

There is not the slightest doubt that pay up week will be of great benefit to those who need it most in every community. It is a good work and ought to be helped along.

During the past two years, there has not been a great deal of money to be made in hog raising. Ward county farmers have thousands of porkers, mostly full blooded animals of the various breeds, but at the price offered in the local markets, they can scarcely come out even, considering the price of feed. It is not necessary to raise corn in order to grow porkers, the this has been done very successfully in Ward county. Farmers have learned that by feeding ground oats, barley and rye, the finest kind of hogs can be produced. Considering the present market price for these products, it does not pay well to feed these hogs. The Independent understands that in Minot, butchers and shippers are offering five cents a pound for porkers, which figure will not only fail to pay for the feed in most cases, but leave nothing for the care of the animals. With Swift's Premium bacon selling for 35 cents a pound, it appears that there is something radically wrong with the business. A packing plant will undoubtedly do much towards solving the problem and every farmer ought to join hands with the businessmen of Minot in securing the plant which is to be located at some point in the state.

Becoming weary of life back on the farm near Forest River, N. D., two girls, sisters, sixteen and seventeen years of age, whose names we withhold, arrived in Minot recently, seeking employment and a good time. They had worked hard all summer.

They are good girls and intended no wrong and in fact committed no offense, for they were rescued in the niche of time by Miss Marshall, police matron. The girls had found work in a restaurant and one night after their day was done, they sought the pleasures of a dance hall. Here they met two young men and accompanied them to a cafe where they were found in a booth. The young men had told them how beautiful they were and had caressed them and invited them to their rooms, but the girls, who had been brot up well, steadfastly refused to go, saying that they intended to lead pure lives always. Their escorts had not given up hopes of accomplishing their purpose when the matron appeared upon the scene. The girls accompanied her to a room and out of the clutches of the young vagabonds who sought their ruin. They have been sent back to their home on the farm. While these innocent girls committed no grave offense, they had a mighty narrow escape from taking the course that inevitably leads to the Primrose Path.

Uncle Sam, realizing that Indians have no business with whiskey whatsoever is doing everything he can to keep John Barleycorn at a safe distance from his wards. So cautious is he that no intoxicating liquor is permitted to be brot to any of the reservations, where it is liable to tempt the red men. Out on the Berthold reservation, which has nearly all been settled by pale faced brothers and sisters, it is unlawful to keep a drop of alcoholic liquor, even for one's own use. The federal law may be amended as far as the Berthold reservation is concerned, owing to the few Indians in that locality, but until it is changed, it will be well to keep the liquor stored in the darkest corner of the deepest cellars if it is to be retained at all. It may not be generally known, but it is unlawful to even cross any portion of a reservation with liquor in one's possession. To "get in bad" with the government, it is not necessary to be caught selling or giving liquor to the Indians.

Not to be outdone by the other newspapers of the state, the Reflector, published at the state penitentiary, got out a Booster edition during Appreciation Week. The editor says:

"The Reflector was not invited to participate, but to prove that we are a regular newspaper, we decided to get out a 'booster' edition of our own. We have no edition of our own. We have no we are not looking for an increase in population—in fact, we pray the opposite may be true; the rise and fall of the stock market causes neither a shout of exultation nor a groan of despair; but we do feel, and have endeavored to set forth, our appreciation of the Christian and humanitarian treatment which has been accorded us since our advent to this institution by that group of men who hold our destinies in the hollow of their hands."

The Delaware, Lakawanna and Western railroad, whose lines are choked as far back from New York as Scranton, Pa., with loaded freight cars, has instructed its agents to accept no more freight for export until further notice. More than 6,000 cars from the west containing grain, feed, flour, copper and hundreds of other commodities, have turned the terminals into storage warehouses. This may possibly have some effect on the grain market, unless the congestion is relieved at once.

A piano dealer from another part of the state recently advertised his sale in one of the Minot papers. We don't believe that anyone in this section of the state has a good reason for patronizing a firm so far away. There are several dealers in Minot who handle some of the best made instruments manufactured and they are priced right. Before you send your money away for an instrument that may not prove to be what you want, investigate. One doesn't wish to buy a tin pan at any price.

A new weekly newspaper is to be launched in North Dakota, known as the Grand Forks Independent. It will be published by Alice Nelson Page, owner of the Page Printerie, who will devote considerable space to state news and that of Grand Forks county. Mrs. Page is an able writer and her publication will undoubtedly be one of the brightest in the state. For years she was society editor of the Grand Forks Herald, later publishing the Devils Lake Inter-Ocean.

Altho several of the state papers have been devoting columns to Governor Hanna and the senatorial fight, the governor has not yet announced his candidacy and it is not at all certain that he will. True, he is looking the field over pretty well and if he thinks the situation is favorable, it is presumed that he will soon make an announcement. The governor is regarded as the state's most clever politician. He has never yet been defeated for any office he has sought.

Editor Trubshaw of the Valley City Courier, jumped from a moving auto and struck the ground with terrific force. His head was severely injured and he was laid up on the shelf for a week. About the only time that "Trub" gets a rest is when something like the above happens and we hope he enjoyed his enforced vacation to the uttermost.

The chief of police of Winnipeg, declaring that a stocking bank is the safest purse a woman can use, has advised the women of that city to make use of such during the holiday shopping season. From well authenticated reports, it would be wasted effort in many cases for Minot's chief to issue a similar warning.

Henry Ford has chartered a vessel and will make a peace trip across the big pond, in hopes of getting the men out of the trenches by Christmas. Ford's heart is in the right place, but we fear that the only thing he will accomplish will be to secure some additional advertising.

Many girls who have no knowledge of the rules of golf or football games make good housewives.

New Rockford, not being satisfied with making a fight for the state capitol, is going after the packing plant. Editor Olsen ought to warn the energetic huskies of that good town to not bite off more than they can chew.

Ammunition in Germany is growing so scarce according to reports, that copper roofs are being taken off the old castles to be converted into bullets.

The very latest style in Milady's shoes is the kind that laces up the back. Plenty of grounds for divorce for the men who have to lace 'em.

Towner Man Stretched the Truth. An interesting case was tried in federal court at Devils Lake last week, Wm. T. Souder, a Minneapolis loan broker, suing the Bickle, Kylo Co. of Towner for heavy damages. The plaintiff received a verdict for \$250. He was represented by G. S. Woolledge of Minot and D. J. McConnell of Towner, while E. R. Sinkler defended. Souder claimed that he bought a 320 acre farm in the sand hills six miles south of Towner, without seeing it, relying on the word of the defendant. He produced a letter thru which he was informed that the land was owned by a fellow who had been arrested for pigging, and who had to sell immediately at a sacrifice to raise some money. One of the defendants admitted on the stand that he had stretched the truth, but stated that this was frequently done in order to dispose of land.

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