

THE INDEPENDENT HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY WEEKLY PAPER IN THE STATE

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STIRUM MAN MURDERS BABE WITH SCISSORS

**ROBERT G. SINCLAIR, DEPRAVED
YOUNG MAN, KILLS HIS ILLE-
GITIMATE CHILD AT WARPE-
TON HOTEL.**

A two-weeks-old baby girl, born under the stigma of illegitimacy, lies buried in a cemetery at Wahpeton, having been murdered by a depraved father, Robert G. Sinclair, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Sinclair, who operate a hotel at Stirum, N. D. Sinclair has confessed to the crime and lies in the Richland county jail. It is believed that the mother was not implicated in the crime.

The mother is the daughter of highly respected parents, farmers living in the vicinity of Stirum. The woman seems to have been under the complete influence of Sinclair, a worthless fellow. The couple took their babe to Wahpeton and registered at a hotel as man and wife, under assumed names. The man promised to place the babe on a door step. He got the girl to go into the bathroom on some pretext, when he murdered the babe by stabbing it in the head several times with a pair of scissors. Placing the body in a suit case, he carried it to an outhouse vault, depositing it there. After he had confessed, the remains were found where he said they were placed. The couple when questioned, said the child had been sent to the home of a relative at Terry, Mont., but when examined separately, the young woman said that the father had taken the child and placed it on some one's doorstep. Later the father confessed but he did not appear to realize the enormity of his crime. He will undoubtedly spend the remainder of his days behind the bars.

MINOT LAD WITH THE ALLIES.

George Graves, a former Minot school boy, is now fighting with the Allies in the trenches at Verdun. George is the son of F. E. Graves, former Minot real estate dealer, now of San Diego, Cal. He is a soldier of fortune. He has an adventurous spirit. He has traveled widely in Mexico and South America.

NEW ROCKFORD MURDERER GETS TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

Nicholas Chernos, the New Rockford murderer, was found guilty of killing his employer, George Rittle, Feb. 10, and sentenced to serve 25 years in the penitentiary.

Chernos had hoped to go free, the defense being insanity. Rittle, while lighting the kitchen fire, was shot three times by Chernos, one bullet penetrating the liver, and the other two lodging near the heart. A report was given out that Rittle had shot himself. A doctor was not called until in the afternoon.

PLAN TRIP TO INAUGURATION

**J. M. ANDERSON, EQUITY HEAD,
 TELLS OF MOVE TO DEMAND
 FEDERAL GRAIN EXCHANGE.**

J. M. Anderson, president of the Equity Co-operative Exchange, has returned to St. Paul from Minot, where he attended a meeting of the North Dakota Society of Equity and secured the adoption of a resolution to charter a special train to carry from 500 to 1000 northwestern farmers to Washington in time for the inauguration of the president next year.

"The idea is to impress upon the officers of the Federal government the importance of the open market," said Mr. Anderson. "We hope to have delegations from Illinois, Kansas and Nebraska as well as from Minnesota and the two Dakotas."

"The specific measures we propose to advocate are federal control of grain exchanges to prevent monopoly; Federal aid for the establishment of laws to prevent discrimination on the part of the grain exchanges such as the Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce practices against the St. Paul Grain Exchange and ordinary business courtesies."

"The time has arrived when the St. Paul Grain Exchange will want to be represented on all the big grain exchanges of the country, and we want it made impossible or at least illegal for these big exchanges to give us a cold deal such as we received in Minneapolis."

We hope to impress upon the people in Washington the fact that the farmers are in earnest in demanding an open market for all their products."

Farmers' Club Will Buy Merchandise.
A meeting of the Eureka Farmers' Club was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Brown Thursday. The following officers were elected:

A. C. Erb, president; John Lee, vice president; Vitus Carlson, secretary-treasurer. The officers are to constitute a business committee to purchase twine, formaldehyde and gopher poison in large quantities for the club. The club will meet once a month, the next meeting to be held at the home

of H. A. Monagin, the third Thursday in March.

The club expressed gratification at the way the Bergseth Fish Co. treated them. The club won the 200 pounds of ludefsk during the Mid-winter Fair and the company allowed them the privilege of taking out the fish as needed, insuring a fine fresh quality.

JOINT CIVIC IMPROVEMENT MEETING.

The Minot Park Board and the Minot Art Club will hold a joint meeting at the Library Saturday evening, to which the general public is invited. The meeting is in the interests of improvement of homes and other city property. Beautiful views of what has been accomplished in this respect, elsewhere, will be shown on the screen.

Addresses will be given by Mrs. C. E. Davis of the Art Club and by Will O. Doolittle, superintendent of parks.

Youmans Writes from Washington.
The Independent received a postal card from Grant S. Youmans, who was sent by the North Dakota Society of Equity to Washington, D. C., to lead the fight against the Moss rural credit bill. He says he is busy lining up the forces for attack and hopes to kill the bill in the Senate.

NORTH DAKOTA RANKS FIRST AMONG AGRICULTURAL STATES

**NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF
AGRICULTURE GIVES PALM
TO SUNSHINE STATE—RE-
CORD BREAKING STATISTICS.**

For some time it has been known that North Dakota led all other agricultural states in the matter of the five principal grains for the year 1915, but it remains for the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture to go a step further and make a recapitulation of all the agricultural production, including live stock. The Association of Commerce has just received a copy of the recapitulation and it sure reads good.

For instance, the total value of all products of the farm give North Dakota \$327,073,000, while our nearest competitor, South Dakota, rambles along with only \$310,691,000. Nebraska is next, and then comes Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Missouri, Texas, etc.

In the matter of grain crops, this report gives \$372 for every man, woman and child in North Dakota, or over \$1.00 a day for each inhabitant.

Our leading four crops is given as being valued at \$191,153,000, thus showing that with less than half of the plowable land under cultivation, we have much to be proud of.

Our live stock statistics show up exceedingly well, when it is taken into consideration that North Dakota has only been doing intensive farming for approximately five years. At the rate the farmers are going into diversified farming in this state, in five years more North Dakota will give a mighty good account of herself in this particular.

In the old cattle days much ado was made over the fact that 4,000 carloads of cattle were shipped off the ranches of the state a year, while in 1914 over 13,800 carloads were shipped out of the state, thus showing that the good old cattle days were not in it.

It should surely be an easy matter for the land men of this state to do business this year, for they have so much to talk about in the way of actual results, which, together with our tremendous resources, can not fail to attract new settlers from the older states, where land values are all out of proportion to the agricultural production.

This year—1916—should be a banner year for our great state, and everybody should get their shoulder against the wheel and push hard.

FLIM-FLAM ARTIST BROT TO MINOT

**J. A. MEYER, DEVILS LAKE JAIL
BIRD, ARRESTED BY WARD
COUNTY OFFICIALS AND BROT
TO FACE SERIOUS CHARGE.**

J. A. Meyer, who completed a term of 30 days in the Ramsey county jail at Devils Lake for issuing worthless checks, was met at the door of the jail by a Ward county deputy sheriff and placed under arrest charged with doing a like stunt in Minot. He was brot to this city where he is lying in the county jail awaiting his hearing. Meyer is the big fellow who flim-flamed his friends in more ways than one in Minot and if he does not get a jail sentence in Minot, those who he has imposed upon will always believe that it is another case of miscarriage of justice.

Senator Englund of Kenmare was in the city Tuesday on his way to McKenzie county, where he has interests.

WILL EXHIBIT PLAIN STOCK CHASSIS

**DODGE BROTHERS APPRECIATE
WONDERFUL SHOWING MADE
BY NORTHWEST MOTOR COM-
PANY.**

At the Minot Auto Show, Dodge Brothers, of Detroit, will exhibit the plain stock chassis which has been exhibited at all the eastern shows as a mark of special favor to the Northwest Motor Company, their distributors throughout this territory.

The Northwest Motor Co. was organized for the purpose of distributing Dodge cars in northwest North Dakota and eastern Montana and today the concern ranks second to Minneapolis in the number of cars actually sold, a record remarkable from the fact that Dodge Brothers have the best sales organization of any automobile company in the world.

The purchaser of a Dodge car has the advantage of doing business with a concern carrying a complete stock of parts and accessories, a service which comparatively few owners of automobiles enjoy, as the manufacturers of many cars make no provision for supplying the needs of the purchasers of their cars. The Northwest Motor Co., thru their various agencies, maintain 53 service stations for the convenience of their patrons.

This concern established their headquarters in Minot one year ago and up to July 1, 1915, had sold fifty-four Dodge Brothers Motor cars, when a new contract was signed for the 1916 cars. The contract called for 500 cars, but that number has since been increased to 600. To date the Northwest Motor Co. has sold and delivered 363 cars, valued at \$306,735. A conservative estimate of the business for this year places the valuation of the cars sold at one-half million dollars.

Dodge Brothers have a unique method, or rather policy, in their relations with owners of Dodge cars. They keep in touch with every owner and stand ready at any and all times to render him service by way of advice, or suggestion, that may be of value in matters pertaining to his car. The Northwest Motor Co. is in entire sympathy with the system and co-operate heartily along those lines. They sell the Dodge on its merits, offering no special inducements to customers and holding forth no alluring promises. Quality, not price, is the watchword. The Dodge car "speaks for itself."

LADD PRES. OF AGRI- CULTURAL COLLEGE

**THE MAN WHO GAVE NORTH DA-
KOTA PURE FOODS IS ELEVAT-
ED TO HIGH POSITION, WHICH
HE HAS ACCEPTED.**

Dr. E. F. Ladd, for a quarter of a century a member of the faculty of the North Dakota Agricultural College, has been made president of that institution, in place of John H. Worst, who was removed by the Board of Regents. Ladd has accepted the position.

The board wants it strictly understood that Ladd is to be the head of the institution and that he is to continue his work with pure foods for the state. He is to be given such assistance in the chemistry department as he desires.

Ladd is one of the state's best citizens and a better man for the position could hardly have been secured.

KENMARE MAN PLEADS GUILTY.

Albert Butler, of Kenmare, charged with forging a check, pleaded guilty in district court to forgery in the third degree. He will be sentenced later.

WATERFORD FARMER FOR COMMISSIONER

**M. M. POWELL WILL BE CANDI-
DATE FROM SECOND IN PLACE
OF B. J. ANDERSON.**

M. M. Powell, a prominent farmer from Waterford township, will be a candidate for county commissioner from the Second district. B. J. Anderson, the present incumbent, will not be a candidate for re-election, but instead will be in the race for clerk of court.

Mr. Powell is a successful farmer. He has the time to give to the work and is going to retire from the farm anyway. Mr. Powell has resided in Ward county for the past fifteen years. He was formerly in the milling business in Minnesota. He will make a thoro canvas of the district.

Dickinson has already been figuring on securing the 1917 summer meeting of the North Dakota Press association.

SETTLEMENT IN LOAN CO. CASE DISPLEASES

**WARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ASKED TO RESCIND ACTION
SETTLING CASE OF THE STATE
LOAN CO. FOR TAXES.**

Petitions were circulated in this city and in other parts of the county the latter part of last week which will be presented to the county commissioners asking them to rescind the settlement of the case of the State Loan Co., against Ward County, by which settlement the county accepted \$3,000 in payment of taxes aggregating \$11,000. The settlement was made under the authority of a law passed by the last legislature which has since been found unconstitutional.

In the petition, the commissioners are asked not only to rescind such settlement, but they also are asked to institute proceedings against the State Loan company, for the recovery of all taxes originally assessed.

The settlement between the county and the State Loan Company was made after the loan concern had started suit against the county to have the assessment set aside as excessive and illegal.

Settlement was perfected by the county under a provision laid down by the last legislature, since declared unconstitutional, by which provision the legislature attempted to create a basis for the settlement of all old assessments which might, at that time, have been placed in jeopardy through litigation.

The provision was made a part of the moneys and credits act of the state legislature, since declared unconstitutional, and in its decision of this issue, the supreme court took occasion to score quite roundly the inclusion of certain features of the law.

Under the provision in question, the counties were authorized to accept 25 per cent of the moneys and credits taxes that might be tied up in litigation, and it was such settlement that Ward county made. This settlement, it is now contended, was illegal and without warrant of the law, in view of the fact that the measure under which it was made has been since declared illegal.

Mansfield May Be a Candidate.

A park commissioner is to be elected March 21, the date of the presidential primaries. W. E. Mansfield is being mentioned as a candidate.

FRANKLIN KAUFFMAN SURPRISES FRIENDS

**ADVERTISING MANAGER OF THE
OPTIC-REPORTER HIES HIM-
SELF AWAY TO STANLEY
WHERE HE WEDS CHARMING
ST. PAUL GIRL.**

Franklin Kauffman, advertising manager of the Optic-Reporter, surprised his many friends by stealing quietly away to Stanley, where he was married Wednesday morning to Miss Ida Bertossi of St. Paul. The ceremony was performed at St. Joseph's Catholic church, Rev. Father Joseph Mahusir officiating. The couple were attended by Miss Mary Doran and Walter G. Hohn of Stanley. After a short honeymoon, the happy couple will return to Minot to receive the best wishes and congratulations of many friends.

Mr. Kauffman and bride have been friends for years, meeting in St. Paul, the former home of the groom. Mr. Kauffman has been connected with the Minot newspapers for the past ten years. He is one of our most successful young businessmen. The Independent wishes himself and his charming bride the best that life affords.

BELIEVE VAN HOOK MAN WAS MURDERED

**FRANK MOREHOUSE, AGED 25,
FOUND DEAD AT HOME OF
FRANK KACZOR, NORTH OF
VAN HOOK.**

Frank Morehouse, a farmer living eight miles north of Van Hook, was found dead at the home of Frank Kaczor, who lives four miles north of that town, Feb. 19. At first it was believed that he committed suicide, a bullet hole being located behind his right ear.

According to a report from Stanley, Morehouse was the victim of foul play. The victim was to have been married in three weeks and it is known that he had a considerable sum of money on his person in anticipation of the event. No money was found on the body. An investigation by the coroner's jury found that the man was murdered.

It is said that Morehouse had gone

to Van Hook that day for medicine and becoming ill, had stopped at Kaczor's house. It was reported that he had been despondent and this is the reason that it was believed at first that he had committed suicide. The man was 25 years of age and highly respected.

10 YEAR OLD ALFALFA.

In 1905, Grimm Alfalfa was sown at the Dickinson Sub-station. The stand is good yet. There is no indication of the older plants having died. A field of Grimm Alfalfa was also sown at the Edgeley Sub-station the same year; it is still doing well and has shown no sign of winter killing.

U. C. T. BOOSTER BANQUET.

A booster banquet will be given by the U. C. T. at the Savoy Saturday night. More than a hundred will sit down at the feed. Officers of the organization will be elected. Plans for the entertainment of the crowds to attend the big U. C. T. convention next summer will be discussed. Secretary Holbein will be one of the speakers.

Sent Wife Wireless Message.

Mrs. Phil Myers, who is enroute to Honolulu with two of Mr. Myers' brothers and their wives, left San Francisco Tuesday. Mr. Myers sent his wife a wireless message Wednesday, which was delivered to her on board the steamship.

WILLIAM BOKOVOY NOT GUILTY

**VILLAGE MARSHAL AT KIEF,
CHARGED WITH KILLING JAS.
BLACK, GOES FREE AT TOWN-
ER.**

Towner, N. D., Feb. 28.—The jury in the case of the state against William Bokovoy, charged with murder in the first degree, brought in a verdict of not guilty this morning. The case had been on trial for several days in the district court, with Judge A. G. Burr presiding. The accused was defended by Attorney E. R. Sinker of Minot, and the state's attorney, John Thorpe, was assisted by Judge L. J. Palda of Minot, a former judge of this district, and by Assistant State's Attorney, Horace Bagley.

Bokovoy, who was the village marshal at Kief, was charged with killing James Black last October. Over forty witnesses were summoned in the case and both sides fought with desperation.

The jury which tried the case was composed of the following: A. J. Engelhart and W. E. Ebersole of Upham; George Keller and W. J. Shinn of Bantry; John Thomas, A. P. Carver and Ben Habeck of Granville; John Theda of Willow Creek township; Theo Rom of Denbigh; Wm. Fralinger of Velva; C. H. Wilkinson of Deering and August Nelson of Normal township.

W. J. Rigg With Western Sales Co. The Minot branch of the Western Sales Co., distributors of the Stutz, Madison and New Era automobiles, have recently made a further addition to their local force in the person of W. J. Rigg, a former Minot man who recently returned to the city. Mr. Rigg has followed the automobile game from its inception and has kept himself informed on the various changes and improvements which have taken place from time to time, and he do doubt realizes that with the line of cars mentioned above, a successful season is assured.

Roell's Big Fire Sale Starts.
The big fire sale of the Roell Hardware Co. started this morning in the basement of the new Jacobson block. A vast amount of tools, cutlery, aluminum ware and much other merchandise that was taken from the basement after the fire is on sale at but a very small fraction of its former price. The merchandise that is offered for sale is practically as good as new.

HULSE AWARDED CONTRACT FOR PLANS

**HUTCHINSON, KAN., ARCHITECT
WILL FURNISH PLANS FOR MI-
NOT'S PROPOSED NEW \$85,000
HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING.**

Architect Hulse of St. Paul, Minn., and Hutchinson, Kan., was awarded the contract to furnish plans and specifications for Minot's new high school building at a special meeting of the board Saturday night. The plans submitted were all excellent, but those of Mr. Hulse from the start seemed to meet with the favor of the board.

The board hopes to be able to go ahead with the building early in the summer, as the Minot schools are sadly crowded for room. The proposed building will cost in the neighborhood of \$85,000 and will be constructed according to the unit system, so that wings may be added as needed and the finances of the district permit.

Mr. Hulse, while here was a guest at the home of his brother-in-law, C. E. DeNoon.

STUDENTS RESENT SHELVEING OF WORST

**RECORD FOR NORTH DAKOTA
FARM COLLEGE PRESIDENT IS
DEFENDED BY THE SCHOOL
PAPER.**

Fargo, N. D., Feb. 25.—That there is much indignation and still more apprehension among the students of the North Dakota agricultural college as a result of the action of the state board of regents in electing President John U. Worst as president emeritus, which is accepted by President Worst as being "fired" from the institution, is shown by an editorial from The Spectrum, the student publication.

The editorial says: "If the board carries out its policy it means that 'prexy' will be eventually disgraced. Will you see this done?"

Showing that there is great apprehension as to what the ultimate results will be the editorial continues: "He stood by us for over 20 years. He has advanced means by which we could obtain the things worth while in the institution."

"Now we, the students, stand a good chance of having all these things that are worth while taken away from us. The Spectrum, Agassiz, the Little Country theatre, the package library, Bolley and Ladd, are only a few of them. Others are being considered. What do you say to that?"

Further on, some demands are set forth. "Then let the students demand: That if a clean-up is to be made let those professors who could not teach Sunday school go with those who are not in accord with the present powers, that if a new president is to be appointed let him be a man from outside the state—way outside. Let us also demand that he be an educator and that he be interested in agriculture. Let us demand that the Little Country theatre, the Agassiz and the Spectrum, but especially the Little Country theatre, be retained in the institution."

STATE CONVENTION OF NURSES.
The North Dakota State Nurses Convention will be held in this city on Wednesday and Thursday, April 12th and 13th, the sessions to be held in the assembly room of the Public Library.

It is expected that in the neighborhood of 100 nurses will be in attendance, and when the proper time comes the Association of Commerce will ask for some assistance from the citizens of Minot, so that the entertainment feature of the convention will not be the least of the attractions for the visitors.

Miss H. H. Strom of this city, has charge of the local end of the convention, and it is her desire that the delegates are tendered a warm welcome.

Leap Year Party at K. P. Home.
The Pythian Sisters will give a Leap Year party at the K. P. Home Monday evening, March 6. Dancing will begin at 9 o'clock. This is certain to be a very enjoyable affair.

"BETTER BABIES-- BETTER CITY"

**BETTER BABY WEEK CELEBRATIONS
HAVE BEEN ARRANGED--
TAGS FOR THE YOUNGSTERS.**

"Better Babies—Better City"—that is the slogan for Baby Week in Minot. A general outline of the work of Baby Week follows:

Saturday, March 4th, Baby Tag Day.

Sunday, March 5th, Baby Sunday. Monday evening, March 6th, Mass meeting at Presbyterian church.

Friday, March 10th, Baby Day in the schools.

Sunday, March 4th, the babies themselves will assist in the campaign by wearing proudly the tags bearing the slogan of the week. Little girls who have volunteered their services to the work will distribute tags to all babies appearing on the business streets Saturday.

Sunday, sermons on baby welfare work will be preached and talks will be given in the Sunday schools.

Announcement of the work to be done in the public schools will be made later.

The program of the mass meeting to be held at the Presbyterian church at 8 o'clock Monday evening is given below. There will be no admission charged, and all are cordially invited to attend. It is hoped the audience will be in their seats promptly at 8 o'clock so that the children having a part need not be kept up too late.

Mass Meeting Program.
Organ Solo, Mrs. E. S. Person. Playlet, Pupils of City Schools under direction of Miss Eula Miller. Management of Infectious and Contagious Diseases, Dr. J. R. Pence. Vocal Solo, Lullaby, Selected, Mrs. R. E. Barron.

Hygiene of Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, Dr. A. D. McCannel. Care of Children's Teeth—Dr. F. J. Hartl.

Organ Solo—Mrs. E. S. Person. Rev. P. W. Erickson will preside at this meeting, and the Count on Me Girls will act as ushers.