

THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT



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MEMBER N. D. P. A.

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TRY A SELF-ANALYSIS.

(From a Business Circular.)
 Before I can be honest with anybody else, I must be honest with myself:
 Who am I? What am I? Where am I? Am I where I am because of what I am?
 Being honest with myself, I propose to ask myself the following questions: and, taking my time to do it, answer them honestly:
 What is my name?
 What is my age?
 What is my occupation? Am I making a success of it?
 Am I ahead of, or behind, the majority of those with whom I started life?
 How much do I know?
 How did I acquire this knowledge?
 Am I using what I know in connection with what I do?
 Am I still learning?
 What is my character and reputation?
 What do men think of me?
 What do I think of myself?
 What of my habits? Am I cleanly? Punctual? Courteous?
 Do I drink? Am I profane?
 Do I use dope?
 Where do I spend my time?
 And how?
 Have I any definite object in life?
 Am I on my way?
 Have I a "life plan"? Am I working at it?
 What am I worth in dollars and cents?
 How did I acquire this?
 Do I save something of my income systematically?
 What of my home life? Am I a good son (daughter)? brother (sister)? husband (wife)? father (mother)?
 Who am I socially?
 Why am I what I am morally?
 Why am I where I am financially?
 What of my religious life? Am I God-fearing? Clean? Helpful?
 Do I realize that I am a part of God's great world-plan?
 Am I working to make the world wiser? Better? Happier?
 Take your time in answering these questions! Read over, think over, every question before you answer any. Show the answers to no one!
 Six months later go over your answers to see what progress you have made; and again at the end of the year.
 Try to make a showing!

THE CROPS.

Wheat cutting will start the latter part of the week in many places, fully two weeks earlier than usual. The wheat which has matured so early is not the very best and many such fields will not average more than eight or ten bushels, with quality shriveled and inferior. There will be other fields, on summer fallowing and on the earlier plowed fields that will yield better, but the present indications do not place the average for the entire crop at above eight or ten bushels per acre. Barley and oats, where sowed in good season, will make fair crops. Some barley has been harvested. The rye

crop is fair. This crop has about all been harvested. The average will run up around ten or fifteen bushels per acre. The corn crop looks to be very good. This crop has made a great growth during the hot days of July. Flax looks excellent. Potatoes will be very scarce and will command a very high price. There is a great crop of vines, but the potatoes are small and not very numerous. Garden truck of all kinds will not yield well according to reports the Independent has received from many localities. Conditions could be a great deal worse, but the farmers will not have more than half the crops they grew a year ago.

Denmark owns three little islands in the West Indies. St. Thomas has about thirty-three square miles of hilly surface and about 11,000 inhabitants, mostly colored descendants of former slaves. St. Croix or Santa Cruz, as it is often called, is more than twice as large, with about seventy-four square miles and 18,000 inhabitants, also the descendants of former slaves, of American origin. The third island, St. John, is insignificant in population and smaller than either of the others. The three taken together have an area of about 188 square miles.

It is evident that such possessions can have little value to Denmark. For such a country, with no other territory in the same part of the world and with no great traffic to watch over and guard in the West Indies, they are nearly worthless. There is scant room for white colonists and the Danes sensibly refuse to go there to earn a living. English is the language most spoken on these little patches of ground, under the Danish white cross flag.

For the United States the islands which Denmark is said to have agreed to sell if this country will pay \$25,000,000 for them, have a very different importance. St. Thomas is not fifty miles from Porto Rico. The Danish islands lie in the pathway of commerce between Europe and the Panama canal. They have harbors which might be of much value to the United States navy, in case of war. But what is of vastly greater importance is the fact that if they were bought by this country there would be one less source of possible international complications in the vicinity of the Panama canal. One small European state would practically disappear from the list of nations of the old world still retaining possessions in this hemisphere. Greenland does not matter. There would be an end of the talk of possible designs upon the Danish islands in the West Indies by some great European power.

"Such a change would make for the serenity of life in America," is the argument of those favoring annexation. It would help to insure the peace of the new world. For that reason alone, if Denmark will sell her little islands in the West Indies for \$25,000,000 the investment will be well worth making. It will be another step toward the complete Americanizing of America."

The Independent congratulates the various stock breeders of northwestern North Dakota and particularly those living in the vicinity of Minot, upon the excellent showing made at the state fair at Fargo and the big fair at Grand Forks. Major Person took everything in sight with his splendid herd of full blooded Guernseys. Chester Phifer won the sweet-stakes and numerous other premiums with his herd of Duroc Jersey hogs. B. B. Mueck, a breeder, who has been in the business but a short time, made a very satisfactory showing with his Guernsey herd. A. H. White of Kramer, breeder of Percheron horses and Shorthorn cattle, put northwestern North Dakota on the map in fine shape. This section of the state is excellent in stock breeding. Red river valley farmers no longer carry away all of the blue ribbons.

Twenty thousand gallons of pickles have been ordered for use of the soldiers along the Mexican border. Presumably these will be found useful for the numerous cases of love sickness over the girls who were left behind.

The Independent is pleased to note that thru the efforts of the Association of Commerce, hitching racks for farmers' teams will soon be provided on a space 100x150 feet on Soo property just north of the Minot Motor Sales property on Third street northeast. The good work will not end here for some other places will be provided soon. The city will put in the hitching racks. Farmers have been kicking for some time because there have not been adequate places provided for them to hitch their teams. Minot is making an effort to get the farmers' trade. We want it and appreciate it. There is nothing too good for the sturdy farmers upon whom we depend largely for our prosperity. The Association of Commerce wants the farmers to register complaints. Minot will make an honest effort to remedy any conditions that are faulty.

A number of years ago, the National Humane Alliance of New York, thru Louis Seaver, presented Minot with a beautiful \$1200 water fountain. This stood for years on the square near the Elks Home, until it had to be removed on account of the congestion of traffic. The fountain is now lying useless in a field at the northern edge of the city. The Independent believes that permission could be secured from the Alliance to place the fountain at some new location. John Renz, one of the farmers living north of town, says he is willing to donate \$5.00 towards the expense of installing the fountain providing it can be placed along Ward street. There are several places where the fountain would be very welcome. We suggest that the matter be taken up at once by the Secretary of the Association of Commerce and Street Commissioner Lee.

According to an estimate made by R. F. Flint, commissioner of agriculture of North Dakota, the state will harvest a 75,000,000 bushel wheat crop this season. Last year, this crop aggregated about 150,000,000 bushels, which was much greater than the average. The wheat average for North Dakota for a 10-year period has been 12 or 13 bushels per acre, and this or thirteen bushels per acre and this year the average will fall back to eight or ten bushels. These figures are not so bad, for they mean that there will be many fields that will average away above that amount. Conditions in North Dakota, while not perfect by any means, are much better than those of any of the other states of the middle west.

The great loss by hail to the crops in the district north of Minot Tuesday night, demonstrates the fact that North Dakota's state hail insurance law ought to be amended so that every farmer is protected. We believe that Canada has a compulsory hail insurance law. A slight tax is added to each property owner and he need not worry when a hail storm wipes out his entire crop. Hail damage in North Dakota, as a usual thing, is not so extensive that by such an arrangement each man's taxes would be increased to any noticeable extent.

The police department will stop the parking of autos on Main street in the block between Central and First avenues south, and along Central avenue from the viaduct three blocks east. Cars will be allowed to park for twenty or thirty minutes while the owners are transacting business, but no longer. The merchant who has been parking his car all day long in front of his store, will select a place on some other street. This will be a good thing for the merchants and the customers as well.

Seven miles of good roads are being built with the county graders southwest of the city, beginning at the Aurland farm, and extending west and south as far as Drady. A first class grade has been made with an engine and if the roads are dragged at the proper time, they will be among the best in the county in a short time. This has been one of the worst roads in the county, but the right method has at last been adopted.

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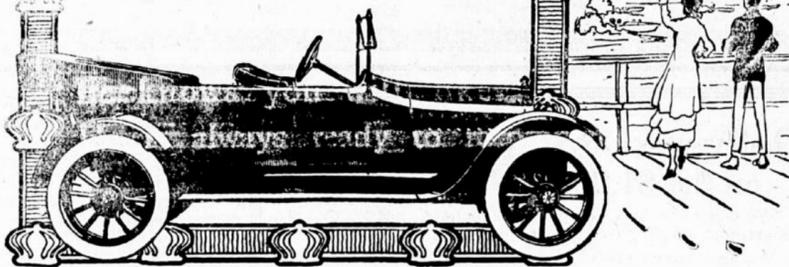
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Rare Violins.

The rarest violins in the world are those which were made by Guarnerius del Gesu, only about forty of them being known to exist. One of these instruments was purchased by Ysaye for \$30,000. Two famous Stradivarius instruments which were used by Sarasate during his great concert tours were sold. One of these, the Boissier, is in a museum at Madrid. It is valued at \$50,000. The other is in a museum in Paris. There are only twenty-nine Stradivarius cellos in the world. Of the 300 Stradivarius violins that were made more than 200 have been bought and sold by one dealer.—Argonaut.

Imitation Gold.

By combining ninety-four parts of copper with six parts of antimony and adding a small quantity of magnesium carbonate to increase the weight, a substitute for gold is produced. This alloy, it is said, can be drawn, worked and soldered much the same as gold, and it also takes and retains a gold polish. It can be made for about 25 cents a pound when its constituents can be bought at normal prices.—Houston Post.

Wig Wearing Very Old.

The ancient Egyptians all wore wigs, and the early Christians from A. D. 427 to A. D. 917 considered a false head covering a badge of distinction—this, too, in direct opposition to Tertullian, who in vain declared them devices and inventions of the devil.

Little Words.

Out of the 267 words in Abraham Lincoln's immortal Gettysburg speech 196 are words of only one syllable. It isn't the big words that count.—New York Herald.

Fine Chance for Homesteaders

Under the Non-Contiguous law, which recently went into effect, and which allows all those who have taken up and made proof of 160 acres under the homestead laws where there was only quarter section homesteads allowed, may now take up an additional 160 acres under the new law, if they file within twenty miles of their former homestead they are not compelled to make residence on it providing they are now and will reside on their former homestead, otherwise they are obliged to live on it and make the other necessary improvements the same as the original or former entry. This will allow all those who have not taken only a quarter section thru-out North Dakota, as well as elsewhere, to take up another homestead if they wish to do so. This applies to lands which are open for filing under the enlarged homestead act, or 320-acre homesteads. There is still some homesteads

which can still be had on the Ft. Peck reservation, and some southwest of Nashua and south of Glasgow. Anyone wishing further information regarding this land we will gladly help you all we can, either in helping

you to get located or answering all inquiries. Have some all level deeded farms for sale at \$12 to \$15 per acre. The Humphrey Land & Loan Co. 7-27-27 Nashua, Mont.

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