

THE WARD COUNTY INDEPENDENT

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—by—
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When the new official newspaper bill, which has been introduced in the legislature, becomes effective, fully half of the smaller newspapers of the state will be put out of business. Only one newspaper in each county will be eligible to publish county commissioners' proceedings, the abstract of votes, or any other legal publications and that paper is to be selected by a popular vote at the next general election. Under the present law, there are three official county newspapers, selected by the board of county commissioners at the first meeting in January of each year. The plums are usually passed around, giving the small paper a chance to exist. Naturally a good sized howl has gone up from the press of the state which for the most part is not in favor of such a bill. It looks like the little newspapers will have to go. These publications published in the smaller towns of North Dakota may look rather small and unimportant as compared to the metropolitan newspapers, but they cover their limited field more thoroughly than the larger newspapers and have been very important factors in the development of North Dakota. Many of them have had a hard time to exist even when getting a share of the legal business. While they have not always had an opportunity to feast on custard pie, it begins to look like a large number of them will have to subsist on snow balls or get out of business.

According to a Bismarck report, it is estimated that the North Dakota tax bill for the next two year period will be at least \$70,000,000 or \$35,000,000 a year. This would amount to \$50 per capita in 1919, compared with a per capita tax of \$30 in 1918. In addition, plans are made to bond the state for \$17,000,000, representing three bonding bills. This means a per capita debt of \$25 on the basis of \$700,000 population. Direct increase of approximately 33 1-3 per cent in taxes paid for local purposes is the present prospect. North Dakota collected about \$18,000,000 in direct taxes in 1918. Railroads and public utilities paid about \$2,000,000, leaving \$16,000,000 which was paid directly by the people. Under bills that have been introduced, such as the railroad bill, which takes all taxes

collected from the railroads and gives them to the state, about one per cent of the taxable property of the local taxing units is removed.

The Children's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor is urging the return to school of an army of a million or more children between fourteen and sixteen years of age who march away from the school doors every year. The child is often given employment at wages good for a beginner but the wages do not increase much as the child grows older because the work itself requires little training or development.

Of all evils prevailing among young men we know of none more blighting in its moral effects than the tendency to speak slightly of the virtue of women. Nor is there anything in which young men are so thoroughly mistaken as the low estimate they form of the integrity of woman—not of their own mothers and sisters, thank God, but of others, who they forget, are somebody else's mothers and sisters.

The Independent has been informed that a great many war savings stamps are being cashed at the Minot post-office. The government will cash your stamps on ten days' notice, but one must consider that it is his loyal duty to keep these stamps if possible. They are drawing a fair rate of interest, probably not quite as much as could be secured in some other ways, but the security is gilt edge. A great many people who cash in their stamps will fritter their money away. Keep them by all means if you can and get ready to invest in some more. Join a war saving society during Savings Society week, February 17 to 24. You will be all the better citizen for having made some little sacrifice in keeping your stamps and in investing in more of them.

Ward County Sunday School Column To the Sunday School Workers of Ward County, Greeting:

The Sunday Schools of Ward county should wake up. The Secretary has sent out blanks for the report of every school. From these reports the statistics are made out for the year. In order to have these accurate, and give a correct idea of the magnitude of the Sunday School work it is very important that every school sends in its report, and on time.

In every line of work reports are interesting. Banks send out their yearly reports. From these one gets a line on business conditions. Organizations of various kinds send out yearly reports. The summaries of Public Schools and Normal Schools are always of great interest to the public. Sunday School reports are no less interesting, and as these are complete or incomplete so is the summary that goes forth to all the world. Your County or your State is judged according to the record. Let us all help to make it the very best record possible. If your own Sunday School has not made as good a record this year as you could wish (and whose Sunday school has?) that is no reason why you should fail to send in the report to the Count Secretary. Send in the report, and then get busy and see that your Sunday School is improved right away.

Have you a live Superintendent? Is he interested in the school seven days in the week or only one? Does he subscribe for Farm Journals, Trade Journals, the County paper, Dailies and forget all about a good live paper to help him become a better superintendent? Does he believe in keeping strictly up-to-date as a superintendent, as well as being up-to-date as a farmer, merchant,

banker, or professional man?

If he is not a good live Superintendent what can you do about it? Has your Sunday School fallen into a rut, and if so are you content to stay there? Did you do things in the same old way fifty two times each year, and then wonder why things are so dull? Or do you occasionally vary your program, using a missionary story, a class song, a new exercise, something to break the monotony? If not, how about trying something of the sort for next Sunday.

What is your Sunday School doing in the organized class work line? Have you organized classes in the Secondary (12 to 22 years) department, or in the adult department? If not, WHY NOT? An organized class is the same old class plus organization. It is organized for definite service. The organized class does things. It is not the teacher's class; it is OUR class. Each one has an interest in making it the best class possible. Each member has some definite part in the work of the class, something for which he is responsible.

Organization keeps the class before the mind of the member seven days of the week instead of one day. Organization is very important in young people's classes, for young people are bound to do something. If their interests do not center around the Sunday School they will center around something that will perhaps mean a very great deal less in their lives. Give them something to do. Work with them instead of for them. If your Sunday School has not an organized class see what YOU can do about it.

What about your Primary Department? Have you any help—blackboards, curtains, separate room, equipment of any kind? If not, WHY NOT? No, it does not matter whether it is a town or a country school. One of the very most progressive Sunday Schools of Ward County is a country school. Have the kiddies something attractive to draw them to Sunday school? Do the teachers greet them by name and with smiles? If you are a teacher, do YOU smile? If you are not a teacher, do YOU greet any of the boys and girls, and do YOU smile? days, and how much a smile meant to you? If so, see if you can not reconstruct those days, and recall how much a bit of recognition means to a little child. Make your school the very best possible. Make it a homey place, where people will be glad to come. Tell others about your Sunday School. It pays to advertise. If a place is interesting to you it will interest others. Advertise your school and then expect results. Let your town, your county, your state know of your school. Send in your report to your county secretary at once. Do not make him ask you half a dozen times for it. His time is just as important as yours, and he is using it freely for the Cause. Do not make him write and write again for your report. The address of the secretary for Ward County Sunday School Association is Burlington, N. D., his name, Fred W. Groninger. Any questions in reference to the work he will gladly answer. Anything pertaining to the Secondary Division or young people's work will receive the attention of the Secondary Superintendent.

Ward county had a wonderful record along Sunday School lines a few years ago, because our Sunday school people all worked together. Can we not get back to the old familiar footing now that the war is a thing of the past and do some splendid work again—not to advertise our county, but because the work is so well worth doing? If each one would do his share we could do really wonderful things. Will YOU do your part?

Sincerely yours,
KARA A. DICKINSON,
Secondary Division Superintendent.

Death of Prominent Nurse

Miss Nellie Morrison, a nurse died of pneumonia Monday following an attack of influenza. So far as known there were no immediate relatives of the deceased. The remains were shipped to Crystal, N. D., Tuesday. Miss Morrison was the nurse employed at the Normal school and it was probably owing to overwork while there engaged that she contracted the disease.

METHODS OF MARKING MONEY

Officials Trap Peculators Who Dip Nefariously Into the Cash Drawer.

In their surveillance and apprehension of suspected persons government secret officers often find it necessary to "mark the money" handled by such persons. There are various methods of so marking the national currency, one of the most novel of which is the pin-prick.

The note to be marked is, say, the \$5 silver certificate bearing the vignette of an Indian chief in full regalia of feathers and trappings and presenting a full-face view. With the aid of a pin the secret service man makes two punctures in the bill directly in the pupils of the Indian's eyes. To the casual and sometimes even critical inspector of the note these pin-pricks are invisible. If raised to the light, however, the bill will distinctly reveal them.

The markings are complicated by the following process: The pinpoint is applied in the "twist" of the large figure 5 of the two upper corners of the note. These tiny twists do not appear on the "necks" of the two figures 5 that are on both sides of the bottom of the note. The note is now pierced again, this time at the ends of the scrolls on each side of the word "five" in the lower center of the bill. The marking is now complete. In secret it is exhibited to one or more persons for purposes of identification and is then placed in the till or money drawer to which the suspected person has access.

It is said that the pin-pricks will remain perfect for some time. When such bills are produced in court and their markings are explained under oath conviction is practically certain. —Literary Digest.

RED, EMBLEM OF DOMINATION

Has From Time Immemorial Been Significant of High Authority—Blue Called Cloak of Heaven.

Of all bright colors red is the favorite among primitive peoples. It excites to violence in flags and uniforms. Red is the emblem of domination in politics and religion. The cardinal and the doctor of divinity have their red robes.

On the other hand, red has replaced green in one respect as a restful color. At great state functions out of doors in India, such as a durbar, red umbrellas are preferred to green as an effective sunshade.

Blue has a minor influence. Curiously enough, it appears only to affect the cat in the same way that red affects other animals. Humanity has a respect for blue, which is the cloak of heaven, in legends and fairy tales it is the good little boy, destined to achieve success in life and marry a princess, who is described as clothed in blue, while a red blouse serves for the bad boy.

Ireland's Round Towers.

No one knows exactly when or why the round towers in Ireland were built, but some believe that the druids erected them as watch towers and places to which to go for safety in time of danger. A good many of the towers have the tops broken down and those which show the cone tops intact have mostly been restored. There is no door on the ground, the doors being purposely built at about 10 or 15 feet from the ground and were reached by ladders.

After the people had climbed inside they drew their ladders up after them and thus were out of reach of the Danes who frequently invaded the country. The tiny windows of these towers are far up toward the top also. About 80 round towers remain in Ireland, but only a few of them are perfect. According to one authority, they were probably built between the 9th and 13th centuries.

The Word Squaw.

The word squaw, the term for an Indian woman, is said to have been taken from the language of a band of Indians in New England known as the Narragansets, and is probably an abbreviation of the word eskwaw. Years ago the word was carried over the length and breadth of Canada and the United States, and came to be used even by the Indians on the western reservations, who have taken it from the whites. A "squaw man" is an Indian who does woman's work; also a white man married to an Indian woman and who lives with her people. After the squaw have been named, squaw berry, the partridge berry; squaw flower, the plant known as trillium erectum; squaw mint, the American pennyroyal; squaw winter, used in parts of the Canadian Northwest to designate a mild beginning of winter.

Cockneys Adaptable.

The adaptability of the London girl to farm work is equalled by the adaptability of London youth (particularly the real Cockney type) to almost any work and any circumstances.

I have known a Cockney, entirely ignorant of machinery, to learn all about a thrashing machine inside a week, and to be in sole control of it on the eighth day.

And it is well known that some of our smartest cavalrymen are Cockneys. Young fellows who were never on a horse before become expert riders in an incredibly short time. Whatever else the Cockney may or may not be he is nearly always observant, quick in the uptake and useful with his hands. —London Chronicle.

ROMAN INVASION OF BRITAIN

Good Reasons for Setting August 27 as the Date on Which Julius Caesar Landed on the Island.

The 27th day of August, 55 B. C., may, upon good grounds, be set down as the day on which Caesar invaded the Island of Britain. It is interesting to learn the method by which a painstaking and ingenious inquirer determined the date as given—Caesar himself tells that he proceeded on his expedition when little of the summer remained—when the people of the south of Britain were engaged in their harvest—and we learn that he returned before the equinox. Thus, the day must have been in August. He further tells us that the full moon occurred on the fourth day after his landing. The full moon of August in that year, as given by astronomical tables, occurred at 8 a. m. of the 31st. Hence, Caesar landed on the 27th.

It is well known that Caesar met with greater difficulty in landing and making good his first footing on the island than he expected. The southern Britons were a people well advanced in civilization at the time. It was only about a century after this that London, by its present name, was a city crowded with merchants and of world-wide celebrity.

History repeats itself. England, even in those early days when Caesar made war on the Veniti, to the west of Gaul, the Britons sent a fleet of ships to their assistance.

SEIZED CAPE COLONY TWICE

Peace of Amiens Nullified Britain's Capture of Holland's South African Territory in 1795.

Early in the wars of the French Revolution Holland was forced to become an ally of Great Britain. A British fleet appeared off Cape Town in August, 1795, and the colony surrendered on September 16. For seven years Britain held the country, spending fully eight million dollars in improving it. Monopolies were taken off trade, torture was abolished, and prosperity prevailed, whereas before the colony had been on the verge of ruin. In 1802 the Peace of Amiens secured for Napoleon a breathing spell, which he used in preparing still greater attacks upon the liberties of Europe. By this treaty Cape Colony was restored to Holland. War was resumed in 1806, with Holland an ally once more of France. Again the British captured Cape Colony, and when peace was definitely settled in 1815, after Waterloo, Britain retained South Africa, paying Holland six million pounds sterling, the colonies of Demerara, Essequibo and Berbice being included in the sale. The population consisted of 26,700 whites, holding 29,300 slaves, and 17,650 free Hottentots. Britain suppressed the slave trade and in 1834 the slaves were emancipated by the British government.

Snaring Snakes.

For sheer, downright danger the work of snake catching in the Australian bush compares very favorably with anything one might imagine. It is also an exceedingly profitable method of earning a livelihood—that is, if you survive.

The snakes are collected for the sake of their venom, a substance that, like radium, is valued by the grain, a pound of it being worth about \$500. It is in active demand by chemists and is obtained, as far as Australia is concerned, from only three species of snakes—the death adder, the brown adder and the tiger snake.

The reptiles must be caught uninjured, and it goes without saying that the business demands considerable skill and agility on the part of those following it.

Tiger snakes are the best, for they carry most venom; and they are still numerous in the more remote parts of the seldom-visited interior.

Switzerland's Gipsies.

Just 500 years ago, writes a correspondent of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung, our forefathers in the city on the Limmat had a new experience. A motley army of people came into Switzerland from the east and camped just outside the walls of Zurich for two weeks. They numbered some 14,000 persons, men, women and children. These swarthy wayfarers, according to an old chronicle, were commonly known as gipsies or heathens. They said they had been driven out of Egypt. Their clothing was miserable, but they wore many ornaments of gold and silver, maintained perfect order and discipline, and paid punctually for all they ate and drank. After seven years' wanderings they are said to have returned to their original home. This was the first appearance of gipsies in Switzerland.

Peculiar Beauty Treatment.

A musical-comedy actress, who prides herself on the beauty of her limbs, suspends herself daily from a cord fastened across her room, and suffers a sister professional to work her legs pumphant for ten or twelve minutes. This treatment is beneficial in several ways, exercising the muscles and imparting strength and hardness—both essential to a burlesque dancer. Artists' models undergo similar treatment.

A Parisian beauty specialist achieved reputation and riches by inventing a round-shoulder cure. Hundreds of afflicted beauties placed themselves under his care, spending hours daily in a prostrate position, and wearing a peculiar backboard with an ingeniously formed neckpiece. —Erechana.

TOWN THRIVES ON TOURISTS

Oban, Scottish Summer Resort, Practically Supported by Enthusiastic Visitors Who Buy Souvenirs.

Oban is a Scottish town that exists almost entirely for the benefit of the tourist. Every other house in Oban is a boarding house or a hotel, and buildings that have escaped this fate are used as shops where the traveler is enticed into buying a beautiful plaid tartan for which he has no use, or Scotch pebbles which are guaranteed to be highly ornamental in the parlor cabinet.

If you have a Scotch ancestor Oban is the place to resurrect him. All the plaids of Scotland and a few besides are in the Oban shops. If your ancestors cannot be located in the Scotch "Who's Who" of the past, any obliging shopkeeper will unblinkingly produce a plaid which fits the name of your kinsman and which matches your library carpet.

If you stroll through the quiet streets to the top of a hill you can see Oban at its best. The water of the bay is so shinningly blue that you at once resolve to take a trip to one of the tiny islands dotting the smooth expanse. The roads that climb the Scotch hills so easily are edged with close-trimmed hedges, and the cottages are cloaked in glossy and picturesque ivy.

Off to one side is a great circular edifice not unlike a Roman circus. This, your hostess informs you on your return, is "McCaig's Folly." If you are still curious you will be told the story of old eccentric McCaig, who had this useless, antique-looking structure built at great expense to himself and to the vast amusement of his fellow citizens.

Winter is the quiet time in Oban. Then there are no enthusiastic strangers to buy expensive souvenirs or to hire boats for trips around the bay. The town is gloomy and deserted. The women are indoors weaving plaids for the coming summer, and the men are out on the bay hard at work with the fishing fleet. —Chicago Daily News.

GOT BEST OF ARMY OFFICERS

Leader of Pickaninny Band Showed Himself Fully Capable of Dealing With Emergency.

An itinerant pickaninny band halting from an orphan asylum in the South struck up lively airs in one of the streets and attracted attention, according to a Saratoga Springs correspondent of the New York Evening Post. The doughty little drum major, dressed in an imposing collection of colors, rested between airs and suggested to bystanders that they make contributions for the good of the cause. Four army officers stopped and bawled the leader until his soul grew vexed. Suddenly he had an inspiration and turning to his dozen jazz musicians he raised his baton and gave the signal for the "Star-Spangled Banner," which the darkies played with earnestness and drew out as long as possible.

The officers, of course, immediately came to salute and remained in that posture until the grinning drum major brought down his baton on the snail note. The officers appeared a bit red in the face and proceeded along their way without attempting to "spoo" the band any further. They appeared to be making remarks sotto voce.

The Reward of Kindness.

The unusual feature of an individual devising all his effects to his business partner to the exclusion of his children, and not preserving any estate to devise is contained in the will of a Chicago citizen, which was admitted to probate recently. The testator left all he possessed to his partner. In explanation of his action the testament reads: "My reasons for this are that what worldly possessions I have are due entirely to the generosity of my partner and I feel that I only have a life interest. Although it would be a pleasure to leave my children something—in other circumstances—as I am I must be just. They are young and able." The petition accompanying the document states, however, that the decedent, a Hebrew, left no estate.

How "Black Watch" Got Name.

In the old days the regiments of the British army were known by the color of their uniforms, as the White regiment, the Blue regiment, or the Red regiment, and so ad infinitum. It is quite possible, therefore, that there was a Black regiment, from whence came the Black Watch. The Red regiment, incidentally, was Cromwell's Ironsides. But the term "Black Watch" was also used for the Guards of the Dominions or Black Frigs, and came to be applied also to the scullions in the kitchens of the great houses, whose business it was to look after the pots and pans.

Curious Coconut Crab.

The coconut crab of Christmas island earns its name by the way it makes its living. Except for its annual visit to the sea, it lives in a hole in the ground lined with coconut fibers and climbs up the coconut trees to procure its food. According to American Forestry, this "robber-crab's" method of carrying coconuts is to strip them of their husks and then to hold the nut under some of its walking legs, while it retires, raised high on the hips of those legs not used for this purpose. After removing the husk from the coconuts the crab "hammers" on the round depressions at one end till entrance is effected.

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