

REDUCING THE
PRICE OF FOODS

High prices for food tend to create high prices on everything else. The cost of producing any article is largely determined by the cost of subsistence of the workers that create it. When food prices are high, the ultimate result is to check consumption on the part of large classes of people who have not had corresponding advances in wages. Export trade is restricted, construction work held up, business suffers, and unemployment results. So to relieve the present unparalleled high cost of living, the first thing to do is to produce reasonable food prices.

Some people think government price fixing will do it. It may help in extreme cases. Yet in the long run you can't beat the law of supply and demand. The supply is at present insufficient for the demand, aggravated as this and will be by the disorganization of European industry.

The farmer's interests must be considered. In the past the small farmer profit did not fairly compensate him for his effort and investment. If he is not able to secure a fair return people will not stay on the farms. So either production must be made more economical on the present aggregate of product, or a greater product must be turned out on the present level of expense.

It will take the best scientific and organizing ability in the country to solve this problem. The ordinary observer, however, can see many respects in which the work of food production is not efficiently organized.

The past fifty years have seen a complete revolution in most lines of industry. Labor saving machinery, systematic organization of great units of production, technical education for managers, training of workers in scientific methods, efficiency systems, these have kept down the cost of factory production. Labor is paid a great deal more than formerly, but in many cases production costs less than it did 50 years ago.

Can these modern efficiency methods be applied to the business of food production? A leading agricultural authority said the other day, that if the farmer could have the same access to the markets for capital and labor that other industries have, the production of food in this country could be increased four times. Even half of that result would enormously improve living conditions. A little series of editorials to follow will endeavor to suggest how this could be done.

N. D. ENGINEERS
IN SESSION HERE

The North Dakota Society of Engineers was called to order Thursday morning at the council chambers, by E. J. Thomas, president, the city engineer of Minot. About 30 are in attendance, including city engineers, county surveyors, men from the office of the state engineer, and the other leading engineers from every part of the state. Programs of technical papers and talks on engineering questions, and especially on their application in this state is being carried out. There will be a banquet at the Rudolf hotel at 6 p. m., and a lantern slide lecture later in the evening.

NEW HIGH SCHOOL
WILL BE BUILT

The board of education is confronted with serious lack of school room. This is not a new problem. The need began to be felt about five years ago, but war influence held building in abeyance. However, two years ago the need impelled action in spite of war's handicap, and plans were then quite well matured for building, when our own declaration of war placed final obstacles in the way. With the enforced delay the need has grown much more acute till the only way seems to be to build immediately.

The lack of room pertains to both grades and high school, but the greatest pressure is in the high school. A new high school building will solve the immediate problems of both organization and room all along the line. No other plan will give the necessary relief. The high school has been run beyond the capacity of the building for several years, with a gradual and regular increase of attendance. Last year it was thought the war would cut down the enrollment, but instead it was increased. This year it was regarded unavoidable that the attendance would fall off, but on the contrary again there was a large increase. At present the high school enrollment is 50 per cent over the capacity of the building, and with war's relief one can imagine what the cumulative increase will be next year.

The shortage of room manifests itself in many ways. There are overcrowded rooms, corridors and stairways, with attending problems of hygiene, discipline, fire-hazard and immense waste of time in moving from room to room every forty minutes. There is the necessity of using rooms not designed for class-rooms, which are unsatisfactory from the standpoint of health, instruction and administration. Throughout the system no less than eight basement rooms are used for regular class work, with their varying inadequacy of light and ventilation. With 14 high school teachers and but ten recitation rooms under the high school roof, the questions of peripatetic teachers and of private help indis-

pensible to the pupil's success, become embarrassing indeed. Many high school classes are sent to other buildings for recitation, involving exposure wasted time, administrative difficulties, and the use again of unsuitable rooms. Dramatic work, public musicale, athletic contests, commencement programs, etc., have to be held in unsuitable rented rooms—when even these are available, and with constant threat that such use may be wholly withdrawn—at a cost that would pay the interest on about \$10,000 of bonds, and with much consequent curtailment in such work.

One of the greatest deficiencies of the high school is its dearth of specially appointed rooms. The heart of a high school is its library, yet our high school has no room it could use as such, and consequently has but a small and inaccessible library. There isn't in the high school building a place left where a janitor may sit down or hang his broom, a place for the storage of teacher's or janitor's supplies, a teacher's rest room, a vault for records of priceless value, a place of privacy for consultation with principal or superintendent without intrusion, or a museum, dark-room, or apparatus room so essential to a science department. There is not even a place to hang the wraps that pupils carry to school.

Another serious but growing difficulty lies in the fact that special equipment cannot be sufficiently spread out. Typewriting and bookkeeping classes may need to recite at the same time but their equipment has to be kept in one room. This also affects in a serious way the science, manual training, home economics and physical training departments. These embarrassments vitally affect the school by limiting the flexibility of the daily program, and consequently the course of study and the very method of teaching, and thereby the pupil's chances.

The last few years, culminating in the period of the war, have brought new ideas and methods and immense new responsibilities to the American high school, during the very period Valley City has gradually become incapacitated for that added requirement. With the war over, Valley City must not retrograde but rise to her responsibilities.

G. W. HANNA, Supt.

SAYS THE LEAGUE
WILL DISINTEGRATE

Former Justice Andrew A. Bruce of the supreme court of North Dakota, one of the principal speakers at the mid-winter banquet of the Illinois State Bar association tonight, said he did not believe the Nonpartisan League would endure. Judge Bruce who spoke on "Government by Law as Opposed to Government by Man," discussed the agrarian movement in his own state revealing itself in the Nonpartisan League.

"Though many of the ideas of the League will remain in our permanent law," said Judge Bruce, "the organization itself must sooner or later fall to pieces for the simple reason there are no points of common interest between the farmer and the Socialist and the farmer and the laboring man, and these today must be united."

TEACHERS' EXAMINATION

The regular examination of applicants for teachers' certificates will be held in Valley City, Thursday and Friday, February 13 and 14, 1919, in the Courthouse beginning promptly at 8:30 a. m.

NELLIE B. WHITCHER,
Supt. Barnes County Schools.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to thank the many friends and neighbors for the kindness shown us during the illness and death of our mother. Also for the many beautiful flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Moe,
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Moe,
Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Martin,
George Moe,
Louis Moe,
Alma Moe,
Ethel Moe
Otto Moe. 1td-1w

NEW STATE BANK
IS ORGANIZED

We mentioned some time ago that the American National Bank had been purchased by the league. Yesterday the stockholders held a meeting and elected the following officers:

President—William Olson.
Vice President—Henry S. Nelson,
J. J. Hastings, S. A. Zimmerman.
Cashier—A. C. Thorkelson.

The new concern is to be known as the American Exchange Bank and is associated with the Scandinavian American Bank of Fargo.

The paid-up capital stock is \$200,000 and the surplus \$30,000. "The action of changing a national bank into a state bank," said Mr. Hastings last night, "is significant of the confidence the farmers have in the new state bank law, especially at this time when some of the old line state banks are threatening to become national banks."

O. P. Enerson left last night for Pasadena, Cal., to join Mrs. Enerson, who has been there for some time. Mr. Enerson will return here about the middle of March and while his vacation this winter will not be very long he figures that six weeks rest from the humdrum of farm life will do him good. It will. Here's hoping he will have a good time.

JAMESTOWN GETS
NORMAL'S SCALP

The Jamestown basketball team accompanied by a couple of hundred rooters arrived in the city about 7:30 last night on a special train. They came with the avowed intention of hanging the scalp of the Normal school team on their belt, and they got it. The Jamestown College team is a good one and they played well together which accounts for the victory. We are not saying that the Jamestown bunch can do that again for we believe that the Normal school team with a little more practice in team work will be able to reverse the decision in some future game. It was a fast game from start to finish and the excitement on both sides was great.

It was a stand-off on the yell proposition and the Jamestown bunch more than found its match when it came down to the yell proposition. There was an indication at the start on the part of one or two of the Jamestown players to be rough but that was squelched immediately and from that on the game was all right. The score was 34 to 25 in favor of the visitors. The star players for the home team were Cook and Sad, for Jamestown it was hard to say who were the stars, as all of them played a great game. The Jamestown bunch brought a band along with them which helped to liven things up.

C. O. Easton, the insurance man, has moved his offices from over the City Drug store to rooms over the American National Bank.

BROTHERHOOD
PUTS ON GOOD TIME

Monday night at 6:30 p. m. the members of the M. E. Brotherhood and their invited friends met in the basement of the Epworth church for their regular monthly supper. About 35 men were there and partook heartily of the good feed provided by the ladies of the Ideal Circle. Then followed a short program which was directed by the president, Dr. S. A. Zimmerman. He expressed gratification because the men present represented the country, the city in its business life and the professions, educational and otherwise. Dr. C. E. Allen, president of the Normal school, spoke the honor guest. J. W. Rodewald spoke briefly yet pointedly on what the business life of the city expects of the Normal school and showed how it contributes materially and spiritually to the welfare of the community. Dr. J. S. Wilds showed what influence the Normal school exerts in the church life of the city as to attendance and as to what may be called the maintenance of "church morale" if such a term is permissible. Dr. Allen responded earnestly expressing his appreciation of the words of friendship and cooperation and gave assurance that the Normal school wished to do its part in the making of a bigger and a better Valley City. The Y. M. C. A. quartet sang several numbers which pleased the listeners very much. This meeting was a very successful one.

Born—To Mr. and Mrs. George B. Smith, Jan. 27, a girl.

STEADY GROWTH

Is the best indication of a
HEALTHY CONDITION

OUR TOTAL RESOURCES ON—

December 31st, 1914 were	\$282,702.42
December 31st, 1915 were	\$34,497.78
December 31st, 1916 were	\$461,398.27
December 31st, 1917 were	\$491,428.59
December 31st, 1918 were	\$571,342.89

BANK OF VALLEY CITY

WHY NOT SIGN
YOUR OWN NAME

The editor of the Times-Record is amusing himself by writing articles in his editorials about the high cost of everything in Valley City, first blaming the retail dealers for keeping the prices up and when he was called on the carpet for it, and to crawl out of it, exonerates the retailer and puts the blame on the wholesaler.

We are not taking anybody's part in particular, and do not attempt to defend either the retailer or wholesaler, but as a retail merchant we are interested in the world's markets with its changes in prices and naturally watch it very closely, and if our editor would have taken the time to get posted on prices as we do, perhaps the two articles would not have appeared in his editorials. For it is a fact, and we can prove it, that merchants in Valley City are buying from their local jobbers goods from 5 to 15 per cent cheaper here than from the east also is it a fact that the people of Valley City are paying from 5 to 15 per cent less for what they buy (of course there are exceptions). Our editor very likely read the butter and egg market which showed a decline of 5c but did he take the trouble to find out at what variance our prices here were from those in the east on those two commodities for the last ten months? For the benefit of those who do not know, we will say that when butter was 75 to 80c per pound in the east we bought butter at 50 to 55c per lb., and eggs from 15 to 20c per dozen cheaper (at all times). As for fruit, candy, groceries, yes, and even wearing apparel and other commodities just take the trouble and read the Minneapolis and St. Paul ads, and compare them with the Valley City prices and you will notice a great saving right in our own town.

So Mr. Editor if you can't boost your own town merchants don't knock him.

A RETAIL MERCHANT

Secretary I. J. Moe is making a big drive for membership in the Commercial club. A town with a live wire Commercial club is a live town because there is always something doing and the club with the backing of the business men of the town, are often able to land good things in the way of new enterprises, conventions, etc., that could not be secured only through a live club and live city. Remember this and send in your check for membership and help support an institution that is of much benefit to the city.

A LETTER FROM
A. E. F. TO AMERICA

The Rhineland, Christmas, 1918.
Dear America:
Your sons are coming home. The task you set before them is nearly done, and now, day by day, week by week, month by month, your ships are bringing us home.

If we have done well, it was for love of you. Dimly we understood that we had been sent forth to slay something which, if it thrived unchecked, would one day reach out across the seas and destroy you. Very clearly we understood that by ourselves would you be judged among the free peoples; that the hour had struck for us to show mankind the mettle of our pasture. And believe this—there was not one of us who did not walk a little straighter, live a little cleaner, work a little better, fight a little harder on that account. "Mammy," a Stevedore wrote in his Mothers' Day Letter last spring, "I want folks to see your raising in me." America, it was so with every one of us. We wanted all the world to see your raising in us.

And this is written just to tell you that those ships will bring back more than 2,000,000 men, every one a better citizen than when we sailed away. Better citizens, because we know each other better. Rich and poor, high and low, rough and polished, East and West, North and South—the war has mixed up all together. Alabama and Iowa have joined to form a single brigade, and what a brigade! Oregon has fought shoulder to shoulder with New York and means more to New York than ever she meant—than ever she could have meant—before.

Better citizens because of us—almost a million of us—have, for a time dwelt in that community spirit which nowhere in this workaday world is quite so animate as it was in that strange, simple country which was called the front.

Above all, better citizens because you, America, mean more to us than ever before. For one thing, we have had to learn what it is to do without you. Some for a little while others for interminable months, we have been obliged to do without you. Of course, the whole A. E. F.—though we have tried to hide it in our letters—has been as abysmally homesick as the most jealous mother could have wished. But surely that was no bad thing.

Then, too, we have seen such shining things done in your name. We who were at Chateau-Thierry and northwest of Verdun have seen men in olive drab and forest green beside

us showed themselves made of such stuff as taught us a new wonder for the land that could breed them. There were some of us who had t oset forth from our own front gate and journey all the way to the Marne to discover America.

We of this generation had come to take our country for granted. We had come to take our liberty as a matter of course, like the air we breathed and the unfeeling sun. It was not so with the generation that wrung the first homesteads from the wilderness. It was not so with the generation that conceived the nation liberty and dedicated it to the proposition that all men are created equal. It was not so with the generation that fought a civil war to prove whether that nation, or any nation, so conceived and so dedicated could long endure. But we—we of the easy spring of 1917—were like the idle sons of some rich man, inheritors of a fortune which only he could value who had by toil and sacrifice amassed it. Now we have done more than inherit the treasure. We have earned it. We were children of a great state. We have added to it.

And so, dear America, we write you from the Rhine. In the name of those who cannot return, in the name of the Marne and the Ourcq and the Vesle and the Aire and the Meuse, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. The American soldier sends you his love.

A. E. F.

HIGH SCHOOL
WINS ANOTHER

Valley City was again returned victorious Saturday night defeating LaMoure 34 to 12. The game was more evenly matched than the score indicates. During the first half both sides played evenly and the session closed with the score 8 to 3 in Valley City's favor. In the last half the local boys got down to work and piled up a large score with some fine team work. The game was rather rough from start to finish. Bowen played his usual star game and was rivaled only by "Spike" Thayer who is sure playing a good game of basket ball. Riley for LaMoure seemed to be the best man although the whole team was well balanced and played well. Following is the line up:

Valley City	LaMoure
Thayer.....	f.....
Bowen.....	f.....
Budickier (capt.).....	Juberg
DeLancy.....	Cottam
Willson.....	Duden
Field baskets.....	Gallahu
Budickier 2, Wilson 3, Riley 3, Juberg 1, Cottam 1. Free throws: Bowen 2, Riley 2. Referee: Sad and McFarland.	

CIVIL SERVICE
JOBS FOR THE BOYS

Washington, Feb. 4.—The United States civil service commission is perfecting arrangements whereby men who are about to be discharged from the army and navy may receive first-hand information concerning opportunities for the employment in the federal civil service. The commission has received authority from the secretary of war and the secretary of the navy to appoint its representatives at all establishments where enlisted men are assembled in considerable numbers. These representatives are now being appointed. They will be prepared to inform the men fully concerning positions which are open, to supply them with application blanks, to assist them, if necessary, with the execution of their applications and to advise them relative to civil service matters generally. It is the plan of the civil service commission to entrust this work to educational directors of welfare organizations already operating at the camps, cantonments, etc. The representatives of the commission who are appointed from the personnel of these welfare organizations will have the benefit of the advice and assistance of the commission's local boards of examiners at nearby cities, in addition to the instructions received from the commission.

OTTO HEMP
PASSES AWAY

Another pioneer citizen of Barnes county, one who was born and raised in the county, has answered the final summons, this time it is Otto Hemp, who passed away in this city yesterday afternoon, about two o'clock, after an extended sickness. He was afflicted with cancer of the throat and during the past year had had two operations and had also taken the radium cure, but all to no purpose, the dread disease getting such a hold on his system that he succumbed to its ravages and he passed away as stated. Mr. Hemp is the brother of Mrs. N. P. Hanson, of this city, and his home was at Wimbledon. He has been identified with the development of Barnes county all his life and was one of the pioneer citizens who had done his part not only in the development of the county but of the state. He was much respected by those who knew him and his demise will be regretted by a large circle of friends and acquaintances. The funeral will be held from the home of Mrs. Hemp, 815 Woodland avenue, this city, at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Andrew Wogsland, one of the prosperous farmers from near Walum, is in the city today, visiting his daughter and other friends.

PROBLEMS FOR OUR
VALLEY CITY PEOPLE

Our boys are coming home from the war and they will have new ideas; the old home town will not be to them just what it was before they went away. We must face this great problem. "How to Conserve the Soldier Boys for our Community."

To expect them to be satisfied after having seen the lights and sights of the great cities is a most dangerous policy to follow. There will of course be a warm welcome but will that be sufficient?

The job on hand will be to hold them as permanent residents. To accomplish this we must meet them with large civic plans, plans of the rehabilitation of their home town, new buildings, e. g., office, factory, public, residential, a city landscape plan for a city twice our size and this must be explained to them by some influential body of citizens. Who shall be this influential body of citizens to lead the home coming soldiers boys to the top of the mountain to view Canaan land, The Greatest Commercial Club Possible to Organize. It must be so powerful, so efficient there will be no doubt in the minds of the boys who have witnessed the power of army organization that it can and will be accomplished. The soldier has learned the lesson never to be forgotten that organization is the game to win with and he will want to go WHERE THE GAME IS PLAYED TO WIN.

Are the people of Valley City going to lay down on the job and let the old town remain the old town and run a chance of losing our boys, or are you willing to get into the game and make our old town THE GET THERE TOWN, something doing for all of the boys and aid them to stay with us satisfied and happy boys. Part of this work is your work, if the community fails it will be because you and I have failed, we have failed to do our part. Are you willing to do your part, if so do it now.

HOUSE BILL NO. 183

Introduced by Harris by request

A BILL
For an Act making it Unlawful to visit or be entertained outside the bailiwick of any soldier at the time of his induction into the Service.
Be it Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota:

Section 1. This Act shall be known as the Military Compulsory Act of the State of North Dakota.
Section 2. The governor by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Representatives, proclaims that each and every returning soldier shall be compelled to pay an unlimited amount of attention to each any every unmarried lady between the ages of seventeen to forty-five inclusive.

It is Further Provided, That the widow of former soldiers shall have the same status as single women, and shall enjoy the same rights and privileges.

Section 3. Each discharged soldier shall first be compelled by this act to give his financial standings, property holdings, amount of insurance if any, and pension if any.
Section 4. Whereas, It will be unlawful for any ordained minister, Clerk of Court or Justice of the Peace to issue a passport to said discharged soldier for further inspection in other fields.

Providing, He can file affidavit showing that he has been honorably discharged from the U. S. Army, discharged from quarantine and that he has sufficient money to pay auto hire, theatre bills, dinner bills and such necessities of the present way of living.

You Will Take Notice, That a man after attaining the age of sixty years, and not incumbered with a wife and family, shall have each and every privilege, and be on the same standing as the Honorably discharged soldier, providing that he abides by Section 3 of this Act.

Section 5. Emergency. Whereas, it is necessary for the preservation of the population, public peace and safety, that this Act become effective without delay, in that the efficiency of our public schools need encouragement at this time.

Therefore, This Act shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor.
Referred to Committee on Temperance.

HOLD THEIR
ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Peoples Cooperative Trading Company was held yesterday. There were about two hundred farmers in to the lunch at the store after which the meeting was adjourned to the city council chambers where it could be held more comfortably and the crowd taken care of. Three directors were elected as follows. Henry Henry Bruns, S. E. Harper and Peter Hanson. The directors then elected the following officers: President, George A. McFarland; vice-president, John McIntyre; treasurer, S. E. Harper; secretary and manager, Harvey Taylor. The reports of the various officers were read to the gathering and the year's business gone over. We understand that it was a very good meeting and the showing made of the business for the past year very satisfactory.