Formerly Ass't State Supt. of Illinois

commerce and business development in Canada—from the Gulf of Mexico

Products to exchange.

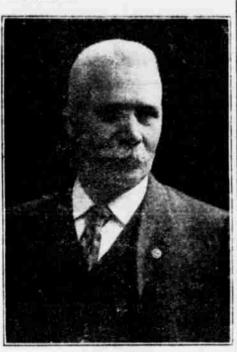
Desire to exchange. Means of exchange

no industrial progress.

A man might dig or find a very valuable diamond, yet valuable as it was it would not be to him food. drink, clothing or shelter, and unless he was able to exchange it for that which would meet his needs he would starve. On the other hand, one might have both the desire and the means of exchange yet if he had no product to exchange he would become an object of charity or starva-

The most important factor of the three is products to exchange, for when one has the commodities he usually can find the means for exchange, and the desire is usually a constant factor.

In the final analysis products must come directly or indirectly from the This is true whether the commodities be agricultural, mineral or manufactured



J. E. BANGS

The most important and fundamental of all commodities are agricultural for without them no life can exist. It naturally follows that that section of the country which can most advantageously produce diversified agricultural products will be the one to forge ahead in real pros-

Our great cities are not made by chance, neither are our prosperous farming sections; both are the result of fundamental principles of produc-

tion properly developed.

The fundamental factors of agricultural production are

Good soil,

Moisture, Climatic conditions.

these fundamental factors in an un- ings, all pulling together for the ultiusual degree and should take advan- mate benefit of all classes and industage of them to produce the diversified products which with its excellent that which benefits one's neighbor means of exchange-railroad trans- must in some way react so as to benportation-will spell great prosper- efit oneself. This being accomplishity for the farmer, the cattleman, the ed we may be certain of abundant merchant and the manufacturer.

gate agricultural conditions to con- Valley.

The three fundamental factors of | siderable extent in this country and to Manitoba and from eastern states to California-and I am pleased to say that the agricultural conditions I find in the North Platte Valley com-Any one of these factors being pare very favorably with most of the wanting there can be no commerce, other sections of the country visited and in fact are superior to many.

Soil-the all important factor-is very good in the North Platte Valley. and responds to intelligent culture with most bounteful crops of grains grasses and sugar beets, which will make the farmers wealthy wherever industry and judgment are used.

On the fertile high level bench lands the soil under very moderate rainfall but intelligent cultivation is producing larger crops of wheat and other grains than lands in some of the more favored eastern sections. while in the valleys under the beneficient sunshine of western Nebraska and the scientific application of water, the crops outrival those of the humid regions.

It is commonly admitted that the North Platte river has more water than the South Platte, the Arkansas and several other rivers combined, and that its water supply is practically inexhaustible. By the construction of the Pathfinder dam and reservoir on the North Platte river in Wyoming where over 1,000,000 acre feet of water are impounded the U.S. government has provided perpetual insurance of crops under irrigation in this valley so that no drouth however severe can affect.

The extension of the government canals on both sides of the river combined with the canals now in active operation will eventually make the North Platte Valley the largest irrigation district in the United States and I believe one of the most prosperous. When we remember that last year the Scottsbluff sugar factory paid the farmers in its vicinity over \$2,000,000, one can imagine that with proper development and co-operation the farmers who come to this valley cannot fail of reaping a rich reward for their labors.

The large areas of ranch and range and on either side of the valley offer the cattlemen and the valley farmers unusual opportunities for co-operative effort-for mutual advantage which opportunities should be utilized by both.

With development of agriculture must come the establishment of manufacturies and better means of exchange through the extension of railroad facilities—the bringing of the producer and the consumer in closer relation which always benefits both. It is no idle dream to see water level through line transportation to the coast established through this valley within a reasonable time by both the great railroad systems now here

The great need of this valley now is more farmers and united co-operation-(1) More farmers who will intelligently take hold and work hard for results that will change the dormant latent resources of this valley into potential realities, and (2) a co-The North Platte Valley possesses operation among all people and call tries, fully recognizing the fact that erchant and the manufacturer. prosperity and real advancement It has been my privilege to investilines in the North Platte

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