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W. L. DE CLOW Cedar Rapids Jack Farm CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA.**Common Business Honesty**

Continued from page 32

a hundred dollars a share—and if I know anything about mines, our great grandsons will be drawing dividends from it as well as ourselves. Come, old man, you won't turn me down on this?"

Then, as Tweed still did not raise his head, Dane forced the papers into the man's outstretched hands.

For a moment Tweed looked up. "Thank you, Dane," he said; then he dropped his head again and wept. The others stood silent and watched. Tweed turned with a sudden attempt at bravery.

"I'll take it, Dane," he said. "I can't pretend to be proud—after—the humiliation of this hour. I swear to you men—maybe you can't believe it, but I swear—that in all my life until now I have never once done a dishonest thing—and then—in an hour—to be exposed as a swindler and a traitor and a hypocrite. I—I can't afford to be proud. I—I wouldn't have believed it of myself an hour ago."

Dane, with a sudden inspiration, strode vigorously to the head of the table and rapped upon it for order.

"Gentlemen," he said, with a faint smile and in a voice of authority, "Let us take up the business of this meeting."

That evening Casper Dane sat in his library, reading in the evening newspaper of the singular gyrations performed by Valdez mining stock—of its astonishing plunge in one hour from forty-five down to fifteen, and of its upward shoot, following immediately upon the dividend declaration, to fifty. The antics which for a brief time had thrown the "street" into such consternation were regarded as inexplicable, the only surmise being that someone, not an "insider," had become scared at the last moment and thrown over a huge block of stock, regardless of sacrifice. While Casper Dane perused the financial writer's sapient comments on the demoralizing episode, his daughter Helen sat on the other side of the lamp. The maid appeared at the door and announced, "Mr. Paul Herrick."

As Helen rose, her father laid down his newspaper and looked up at her; she responded with a shy and hopeful glance.

"Helen," he said, holding out his hand, "tell the young man it's all right. I'm sure he's straight."

"Oh, father," she murmured, with her arms around his neck and her face against his cheek, "I know he is; I've always known it. Oh, I'm so glad! And I'll bring him right up to you now."

So serenely happy was she that she never guessed how awkward was that meeting for both the young man and the old. Paul Herrick stood before Dane in the same attitude of deference and with the same bright-eyed defiance with which he had confronted the older man that morning. And Dane read in Paul's face a proud antipathy and distrust.

Late that evening Helen came in to the library where her father sat alone and thoughtful. He smiled up at her radiant face; he gave a sigh of contentment when she perched herself on his knee and stroked his hand. And looking at his fair-haired girl, with the shining eyes and gentle lips and the profile so like that of the other dear woman, no longer of this world, who had seen the truth clearly when he had often blundered, Casper Dane recalled her answer,—"Why, of course, I've always known."

"Have you been sitting thinking all the evening?" asked Helen. "What have you been thinking?"

"A funny thing for me," he answered. "I was thinking that with human beings it's better to have faith than to experiment for knowledge."—Leslie's Monthly.

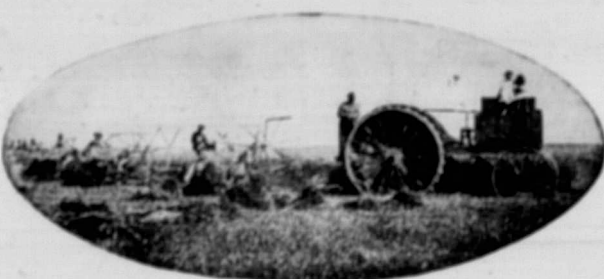
DAMAGE IN SOUTH DAKOTA

A Duluth, Minn., dispatch of June 27, said: "According to a statement made today by A. D. Thompson, the grain situation in the Northwest, especially in the Dakotas is unusually serious. Reports received here today bear out the pessimistic declarations of Thompson and other grain men. Wheat, it is estimated, will not be over half a crop, and oats, too, have suffered severely from drought. Flax and other grains are in better shape but continued lack of rain will have serious effect on them. The

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elevator situation in Duluth is the worst in twenty-five years and predictions of an easy manipulative control of the market are general. Expert business is declared already out of the question and the retrenchment policies, already adopted by eastern banks, are being considered by Western institutions.

"The Duluth Herald's estimate of the South Dakota wheat crop is sixty-eight to seventy per cent., as compared with the government estimate of June 1 of ninety-two per cent. In Minnesota the estimate shows deterioration of eight to ten per cent. with greatest loss in Western counties. The situation is generally conceded to be the worst in many years."