

# RAILROAD FACILITIES ARE LINCOLN'S GREAT NEED

## Progressiveness Can Come First Hand in Hand With Increased Outlets For Lincoln County

The Herald has from time to time urged upon the people of Merrill the necessity for more and better transportation facilities, so regly the stand of this paper is well known and we hardly need to repeat here what we have said so often before, but like all live questions this one is never settled until it is right—that is until another railroad outlet is secured for this city. Merrill cannot hope to prosper and grow as rapidly as her varied resources warrant until better railroad facilities are secured. Progressive manufacturers do not care to locate in "one road towns." It is not the question of competition in rates, as service. Modern business demands prompt service. From the smallest retailer to the greatest manufacturing institution service counts for much. One road towns are liable to be let to get along as best they can in times of stress in the transportation business—just the time when manufacturers demand service.

When the market is good is the time to ship. Without prompt service shipments will be retarded and profits diminished or lost altogether. Manufacturers and shippers must be so and do not care to put themselves under the mercy of just one line of railway service.

Then another important proposition is extended market facilities. This can only be secured through more transportation facilities. Chicago would not be the great manufacturing and distribution point as it is today if she had to depend upon one, or a half dozen railroads. Chicago is a railway center as well as a great distribution point. Railroads are the arteries of trade. We cannot have commerce without transportation facilities to inland cities that means railroads transportation facilities. While this is an elementary proposition and well understood and realized by progressive business men, it is recalled here to call the attention to the very great importance of more and better railway transportation facilities for Merrill.

Not alone depends the progress and prosperity of Merrill upon this vital proposition, but the agricultural development of Lincoln county depends upon the same thing. In fact more so. The farmer today is liable to suffer must be close to market. That is, the market that take his products. The twin cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, with their great milling institutions and cattle markets furnish to the farmer of this section of the country the best market for his kind of articles and products. A direct line to the twin cities by way of Athens will put the agricultural interest in touch with this best market, as we are much nearer to those cities than to Chicago, the only other market we have as near as to any other in the northwestern part of Lincoln county then are as vitally interested, etc., deliberately, because we contend that the development of any part of Lincoln county must in the nature of things benefit the whole county. Raise the value of land around Merrill and the price of land will go up in the remote parts of the county. About three-fourths of the farmers of Lincoln county and the farmers of the northern section of Lincoln county do not market their produce in Merrill. And a larger number would if Merrill had better transportation facilities. So then, as we have said, that from the agricultural viewpoint better railroad facilities are of the highest importance to its full development. In our opinion, and we believe we are right, no Lincoln county farmer, be he a

resident of the town of Scott or of the town of Somo, looking to his material welfare can afford to oppose the new railway proposition, because in one way or another he will surely be the beneficiary to a greater extent than the small additional cost. In fact we do not concede that the bonding of the county to aid the new road will be any additional cost. Another railroad for Merrill will surely bring new manufacturing institutions and new farmers to develop our undeveloped land, and these newcomers and new concerns will be more in taxes than the bonds with interest will amount to. When we consider this proposition from an economic standpoint, only the shortsighted can fail to see that better railway transportation facilities for Merrill will benefit only Merrill and the southern tier of towns. All the people of Lincoln county will share in the great benefit from such an undertaking. It is a mistake to conclude that only part of the people will be benefited. As we have said the development of the water powers and agricultural possibilities of any part of Lincoln county will benefit the whole, besides the enhancement in the value of all property developed or undeveloped will more than counter balance the cost of such new transportation facilities. In plainer terms, the new comers will more than pay the cost. All this is so plain and apparent that argument is hardly necessary to convey to the intelligent mind the great value to all of the people of the county from more and better transportation facilities for Merrill, the capital city of the county.

Time has demonstrated that we are situated—hampered in between friendly railway corporations—that the only way to secure more and better railway facilities, is to do just what is proposed, to build the road ourselves. We have imported railway officials to extend their lines to Merrill for years without result. These have been shown the importance of Merrill as a freight producer and commercial center from time to time, only to be pleasantly turned down.

The Herald would a tract of timber which would produce as much business as another railroad at Merrill could get here in one year, some of our nearby railroads would build into it instanter. But ask these officials to build into Merrill, and show them the possibilities for business here, and these same officials will smile blandly and tell you they are not extending their lines just now. But it is just now we want better railway transportation facilities. The people of Merrill, and Lincoln county, are not content to stand and see our natural resources shipped away to help build up other communities. We want manufacturing institutions ourselves to convert our raw material. Our water powers shall be developed here in this county and sent away over transmission lines to other communities. We want our wild undeveloped land put into productive farms. The soil is as good as any. This is an ideal country. More settlers will reduce the taxes. More farmers will produce a better and larger variety of farm products. More manufacturing institutions will give employment to labor; more laboring men will mean more business for the merchants, "the butcher and the candlestick maker."

But to get these things we must build a railroad east and west to connect with other transportation lines. The time for railroad talk is past. The time for action has come. Let every progressive man and woman in Lincoln county appoint himself or herself a committee of one, to house the construction of the Minneapolis, Merrill & Marinette railroad.

### TRADE WITH HOME DEALERS

Every reader of the Daily Herald is urged to give his or her patronage to local merchants, regardless of inducements offered by mail order houses and organizations. When a proposition is made to you by outside houses or their representatives, carefully weigh it before making a move that binds you to the payment of a single penny, submit it to your dealer and ask him if he can order the goods you want. The merchant will gladly undersell mail order houses on large quantities, and quality considered sells you regularly just as cheap as do outside houses.

Self interest as well as your pride in your home town indicates that you should buy from mail order houses. The money spent at home may come back to you; the dollar sent away will never reach you again. Remember this when you get an advertising circular from the mail order houses. The mail order house wants your dollar at once; your home merchant wants your good will and your continued trade. Give it to him, he deserves it.

Don't be misled by any such proposition; buy of your local merchant when you know you can trust. Let the mail order houses do business where they pay taxes.

# GOOD WILL WILL COME BY BOOSTING MERRILL

We take pleasure today in sending broadcast over the community thousands of copies of THE MERRILL DAILY HERALD'S Chamber of Commerce Edition. There is no question but what Merrill needs to be advertised, and this is an advanced step along these lines. THE HERALD believes in Merrill of the present and Merrill of the future. This issue of THE HERALD contains twenty-four pages, in three sections. Mechanically, this office has about double the facilities of its nearest competitors. It is, therefore, able to give such an edition without in any way interfering with the regular routine of issuing an eight page daily paper and without additional charge to its subscribers. A copy will be distributed to every household in Merrill, and thousands of extra copies have been mailed right and left. We are anxious to help boost Merrill and there is no men with the equal resources in Merrill that will do more to help Merrill advance than will the publishers of THE HERALD.

We repeat, we believe in Merrill of the present and the future. THE HERALD has made no particular effort to publish an "edition beautiful." The paper is simply issued to show what Merrill has in the way of industries, men and things—that others may see us as we do. For Merrill it is a sort of souvenir. We must admit that it requires effort to get the good things and after we get them it requires effort to hold them. The fruit that falls from the tree before it is ripe is either rotten at the core or has a worm in its vital regions. The fruit of greatest value is that which requires an effort to preserve it and have it ready for future use. The Lord has quit sending quail and mutton to our doors and feeding the multitude from baskets. He has placed all of the good things of the earth within the reach of man, but He doesn't shovel gold into our pockets nor connect us with nursing bottles. The man who now waits for the ravens to feed him will go hungry seven days of each week. And we must not only work for what we get, but we must work together and render and receive assistance from those about us. The man who goes it alone nowadays will get nowhere and accomplish nothing. Success in any undertaking requires a common effort, and it is only through association, united action and unity of purpose that men progress.

And this is true of communities. It is true of Merrill. The growth of Merrill depends absolutely upon the efforts put forth by our own people. It has required effort to build our city and it will require effort to preserve it and make it grow larger. Without effort our city would soon return to primal forest and swamps and become a biding place for chipmunks and polecats. Whenever the citizens stop pushing, the city will stop moving, and whenever the city stops moving it will immediately become affected with dry rot. And in pushing Merrill there must be unity of purpose and action. There must be team work, with every man doing his best. The old command of log-rolling days, "A long pull, a short pull and a pull together," could well be adopted as a rallying cry by our industrial captains, and made to do service in pulling Merrill out of the mire. "Every fellow for himself," may look good to the old buzzard who sits around waiting for the town to die so he can devour it, but it will never lay a brick or drive a nail. It is "now or never" with the present generation of men in Merrill and there has never been a time in the history of our city when there was greater need for patriotic and united effort. It requires effort to get the good things that Merrill needs. So that, in expressing the hope that this edition will be accepted as an honest effort to advance the welfare of the community along all lines at a time when our prospects seem the brightest, THE HERALD desires to extend its sincere thanks to the business men and others whose enterprise and public spirit have made this edition a success. Of our readers, we ask a thoughtful and careful perusal of these pages, feeling they will find therein much interesting and profitable information which should serve as an incentive for a stronger and nobler public spirit, and which, if sent to others, may induce them to come to our city and become a part and parcel of our prosperity. If you have a friend interested in Merrill, send him one. Send a copy to the wholesale houses you deal with and to those that buy of you. Let the people know what and where Merrill is.

### BOOM THE TOWN!

This edition, if carefully read, or kept for reference, will serve as a first class guide book to all of the money saving stores of the city. Every farmer can, by the use of this paper, become familiar with the city and save himself much valuable time, thus enabling him to do more business in less time while in the city. The publishers of THE HERALD sought to thoroughly cover the business and professional field of Merrill. Every business interest had an invitation to come in. Everyone was asked to come in and cooperate with THE HERALD in the enterprise so important to the future of the city. Those who neglected to join in the enterprise missed an opportunity to put a shoulder to the wheel of Merrill's progress. It was not an expensive venture to the citizens of this community, as the burden of the cost of the enterprise falls upon the Merrill Publishing company.

Several thousand copies of this edition will go into many new channels of circulation and it is believed results for good will follow. We hope the public generally will feel satisfied with the edition and that it will serve the purpose for which it was issued.

WE WANT MERRILL TO BE ON THE MAP!



HON. AUGUST H. STANGE

### HON. AUGUST H. STANGE.

It is a most difficult task, in a short newspaper article, to do an even fair like to the personality of a man like Hon. August H. Stange. Coming to Merrill as a young man, Mr. Stange has achieved phenomenal success in the business world. Starting life on the lowest rung of the ladder, by energy and steadfast climbing, he has mounted to the top and stands today in the prime of life as one of the great industrial captains of Wisconsin. Though born in Germany, Mr. Stange can be termed a Wisconsin product, as his parents emigrated to America when he was about twelve months old. Settling in Watertown, this state, Mr. Stange's parents were only able to give to their children such education as the common schools of that town at that time afforded. When a boy in his teens the young man commenced his future successful career as a common laboring man. His first employment being in a lumber yard and planing mill. From there the young man went to Racine where he formed the acquaintance of the late Hon. Henry W. Wright. When the latter moved to Merrill in 1881, Mr. Stange came with him. Later he acquired an interest in the H. W. Wright Lumber company, which he soon disposed of to enter upon the manufacture of lumber, sash, doors and blinds on his own hook, having purchased the old Millhill plant, then in the hands of a receiver. By careful methods and careful attention to every detail of the business, Mr. Stange prospered from the very start. In 1895 the A. H. Stange company, with Mr. Stange as the dominant figure, was organized, with a capital of \$250,000. The company, which manufactures lumber, doors, sash and blinds, has kept pace with the parent institution and today it is one of the largest manufacturing plants of its kind in the United States, and its products find their way to European countries, even into darkest Africa. That it has required ability of a high order to attain this eminence in the business world goes without saying.

house and the Badger hotel was undertaken, not so much because Mr. Stange thought these institutions would prove profitable enterprises, but because of his public spirit—he thought that Merrill should have an opera house and a hotel that would be a credit to the city, and today these institutions have vindicated their far-sighted sponsor. For years it was Mr. Stange's dream that Merrill should have a public park, and that the park should be created now while the opportunity was present, so he donated forty acres of land just east of the Prairie river bridge, and the handsome Stange public park was the result. But this is not all of Mr. Stange's philanthropy of a large character. He gave the grounds and provided the means for the building of the German Lutheran church, which cost about \$35,000, and the German parochial school, which cost nearly \$20,000.

Mr. Stange has always been a firm believer in the future of Merrill, and has been one of the foremost men in the furtherance of every project for the upbuilding of the city. When the Chamber of Commerce was organized he was elected its first president and saw this booster organization firmly established.

### USE THE TELEPHONE.

When you have a news item of importance, relatives from a distance visiting you, surprise parties, birthdays and marriage celebrations, accidents and news of public interest, use your telephone and give The Herald a "tip" and we will do the rest.

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The erection of the Badger opera