

SHOP-LIFTERS NABBED.

Bowden & Mayers' store certainly was the center of attraction Wednesday morning. The program consists of an attempt at theft, a free-for-all fight, blood shed, damaged goods and other specialties too numerous to mention. The play ran like this: Two hobos entered the store and one purchased a can of tomatoes. Aleck Iverson and "Sank" Newberry were alone in the store. Sank was busily engaged in the front end of the store when one of the men said he wanted to look at some pantaloons. Aleck and the two men went to the back end of the store and one tried on a pair of pantaloons, engaging Aleck's attention—but Aleck had his weather eye busy. Just at this moment Chris Mayer and his brother, Fred, entered. When Aleck turned his head he saw No. 2 slide two pair of five-dollar pantaloons under his coat. He called him down but the hobo picked up a rock which was used for a door-prop, and attempted to throw it at Aleck, but was hindered by Fred Mayer catching his arm. At the same instant Aleck dealt him a terrific blow with his fist knocking him through a pile of shoe boxes, landing him behind the counter. The fellow attempted to defend himself but Aleck's sledgehammer blows came so thick and fast that the fellow didn't have time to guard. In the narrow alley back of the counter amid a conglomeration of hats, shoes, dry goods, etc., which had been knocked down in the scuffle, Aleck punished the poor fellow until he called for mercy. His partner who was trying on the pantaloons made a rush for Aleck. Chris "pasted" the fellow one and at the same instant the fellow landed a sound lick on Fred's eye. Sank grabbed a shotgun and with a swipe as if striking at one of Aleck's curves, floored the man. By this time several other parties entered and the two men were securely bound with their arms behind them. One of them becoming loud-mouthed on account of a stomach overloaded with booze was taken out back of the store and tied to a hay loader. The other fellow—Aleck's victim—was more quiet; his face was badly lacerated by getting too near Aleck's fist.

All this time Aleck had his revolver in his left hand but his good judgment forbid his using it.

About an hour later Constable Chris Gilbertson in company with Chris Mayer, A. Y. More and Dr. Pease, started overland for Valley City with the "naughty robbers."

The fellows arrived on the freight train and came straight to the store, but before the train pulled out they were under arrest. They evidently intended to make a quick job of it and get out. They claimed to have come from Enderlin where they had been working for a Mr. O'Brien, near there.

SIDE NOTES.

Bowden umpired.

Both men had a little money.

Upon being tried at Valley City the prisoners were sent up for fifteen days.

Bowden treated the crowd to watermelon after the excitement was over.

Before leaving for Valley City a supply of watermelon and canned tomatoes were taken aboard for the trip.

Aleck says his hand is a little sore by the deal. His thumb and one finger are badly torn and he thinks the man bit him.

Just before leaving one of the prisoners begged of Bowden to use what influence he could to make it light on him. He said it was his first offense and that he was sorry for it. That he had come out here to make some money to help his mother and plead for her sake.

The joke is on Bowden and Fred Mayer. When Fred entered the scene of battle he had a neat little pipe in his mouth. During the melee the pipe fell on the floor and lay unnoticed. After the men were tied one of them seeing the pipe asked Bowden if he would pick it up and put in his (the prisoner's) pocket. Archie did so, thinking it belonged to the fellow. Fred supports a

new pipe and an occasional smile creeps out from under Bowden's big moustache.

The dry goods, hats, etc., that were trampled under foot and somewhat disfigured in the "tramp" melee at our store Wednesday will be sold at wonderfully reduced prices.

BOWDEN & MAYER.

HAIL LOSSES ADJUSTED.

Sanborn Enterprise: Mr. E. M. Sanford concluded his task of adjusting the losses sustained by the Alliance Hail insurance Co. in this county by the storm of the 26th of July. The result of his work shows that the reports of the severity of the storm were not exaggerated; but on the contrary, to use Mr. Sanford's own words, the half was not told. The losses to the Alliance company as returned by the adjuster were \$35,000 in the country tributary to Sanborn; in the vicinity of Wimbledon, \$6,000; making in all a loss of \$41,000 to the company, and which amount is to be paid to the farmers. Besides the losses by the storm of the 26th ult. the company sustained by a previous storm a loss of \$12,000, or a grand total of \$53,000 in this county.

To meet these liabilities the company has insurance on 224,000 acres at 30 cents an acre, less \$11,000 expenses, leaving a sum of \$55,200 to be paid out to those who were hailed out, so that with reasonable success in making collection, and allowing a fair percentage for uncollectable paper, and provided it meets with no more heavy losses, the management believes it will be able to pay up in full, which will be good news to those who hold policies.

CLIVE.

Mr. Larson, who carries on a general mercantile business in this town, is enjoying a fine trade.

Quite a little excitement was caused in this vicinity Thursday of last week by the burning of Chas. Stark's barn about two miles north of here. The two small children of Mr. Stark's were playing in the barn with matches, and as a natural consequence a conflagration followed which consumed the barn and a valuable horse. For some time the children were thought to have been burned also, and searching parties were at once sent out over the farm to see if the missing children could be found. Later they were discovered in a secluded spot where they had taken refuge for fear of punishment.

Misses Gracie Lea and Jennie North, the two belles of this vicinity, were in the city Saturday.

Agent George Hunt will move to Leal soon where he will have charge of both the station and the elevator. His many friends are sorry to see him go.

Harvesting in this vicinity is almost done. Wheat will average from 20 to 25 bushels; oats 40 to 60; barley about 40. Early flax is quite good but late flax and also late oats will be light.

X. Y. Z.

This game law is always in effect in North Dakota, codes or no codes: "Book agents may be killed from Aug. 1 to October 1; spring poets from March to July; scandal mongers from January 1 till December 1 inclusive; umbrella borrowers from February 1 until May 1 and from August 1 to November 1. Open season all the year round on on life insurance agents and the fellows who borrow their neighbors' papers.—G. F. Herald.

The meanest man living is said to be a resident out west. He sold his son-in-law one half of a cow then refused to divide the milk, claiming he sold only the front half. The son-in-law was compelled to provide feed for the cow and to carry her water three times a day. Recently the cow hooked the old man, and he is now suing the son-in-law for damages.

Newsy, the News office pup continues to thrive. After getting in the ink the other night he slept in the editor's valise which happened to be open and ruined the only "biled" shirt the poor pencil pusher had. The day of execution has not yet been named!