

NEBRASKA'S LIVE STOCK INTERESTS

BY JOHN W. THOMAS, Herald Live Stock Editor

ALL ROADS LEAD TO OMAHA

"All roads lead to Rome," it was once said. It may now be said that all Nebraska roads, and a good many of other states, lead to the Omaha live stock market. There isn't a railroad in this state but what reaches Omaha or is a branch of a road that does.

The artist had the right idea in making the drawing from which the plate was made for this department head, representing as it does, on a small scale, the Omaha union stock yards and market with trains approaching from all directions.

RIGHT AND WRONG SPIRIT

In the matter of price regulating, either directly or indirectly, by the government, stock growers and farmers should be treated liberally in order to stimulate production and increase it as quickly and as much as possible. It is right and proper for them and their representatives to demand consideration and action by officials that will produce the desired and necessary results, but it does no good to knock on everything done by the government, right or wrong.

Some farm and live stock publications pursue the policy of finding fault with everything, always demanding more, and never expressing appreciation of anything—a sort of bolsheviki in th's particular. It's the wrong spirit and does no good. If they would follow the plan of frankly criticizing only matters that are faulty and commending those that are right, they would accomplish more good.

Other agricultural and live stock papers that serve their constituents just as earnestly and more efficiently, commend the well-directed efforts of the administration to improve conditions, and when they point out where greater improvements can be made what they say has weight and influence.

The following editorial from a recent number of the South Omaha Journal-Stockman is a specimen of the letter:

"While the government disclaims any attempt at fixing the prices of cattle or beef for the country at large, the establishment of maximum prices for beef for the army and navy as well as for the allied governments will naturally have a tendency to establish values of the cattle on the hoof. There is no disposition in market circles to quarrel with the prices as announced by the government but it is plain to be seen that there will be times when either the government or the civilian population will have to go without beef. In the main, however, the impression in market circles seems to be that these prices are liberal enough to exercise a stimulating influence on beef production and this is a consumption devoutly to be hoped for."

CATTLE WINTERED WELL

Nebraska sand hill cattle wintered well and grass is starting fine on the range. The following from this week's Monday Journal-Stockman gives a statement from a Box Butte county ranchman on this point:

"H. A. Allison, of Hemingford, was here last week getting a line on market conditions and reports that cattle came through the winter in better shape than for several seasons past and they are in exceptionally good spring condition.

"It was a favorable winter in most respects and although stockmen had provided more hay than usual they did not begin to use it all," said Mr. Allison. "There will be more hay left over this spring than ever so that no fear is felt for the late spring storms.

"I think there are more cattle in our part of the sand hills country than at any time during the past ten years. Thousands of southwestern steers have been shipped in while there has also been a big increase in the native stock. There has been lots of moisture this spring and grass is starting early so that prospects are favorable for a good season.

"The potato growers around Hemingford were hit pretty hard the past winter and thousands of bushels of spuds have been allowed to rot. A sharp freeze just about harvest time

spoiled a lot of the potatoes in the field and a good share of the crop that was gathered was held for higher prices that did not materialize. Poor transportation conditions further complicated matters so that most growers have suffered heavy losses from one reason or another."

MARKET CONDITIONS IN THE MEAT TRADE

Wholesale Prices are Unevenly Lower on All Carcass Meats at the Big Eastern Markets

The weekly review of meat trade conditions for the week ending April 26, by the Bureau of Markets, United States department of agriculture, is as follows for the eastern markets:

Boston — The higher dressed meat cost during the past two weeks is now being reflected in a lighter demand from the consuming trade; and wholesale prices are unevenly lower on all carcass meats.

New York — Trade was slow this week. No one has shown any desire to buy except for current needs, so that little action has been seen.

Philadelphia — Supplies of western dressed meats were not received as promptly as has been the case in recent weeks. Some expected cars are still en route. There will be sufficient for the demand in all cases and a surplus in some classes.

Washington — Prices ruled to \$2 higher than last week on everything except veal, but trading was very slow and draggy. Retailers bought sparingly at all times with wholesalers forcing many sales on account of the poor quality of their offerings.

BEEF

Boston — With receipts for the first four days of the week slightly in excess of the total for the previous week and a light movement to freezer the market has been more generously supplied. Steer prices held steady until Wednesday when a heavy accumulation of ribs and loins forced the market on these cuts a full \$2 per cwt. lower, resulting in a decline in the carcass price of around 50c per cwt. The quality of the cows offered has not been equal to that of several weeks past and prices remained practically unchanged on a basis of grade. Buyers seemed inclined to prefer cows and anything having weight and a fair amount of flesh finds ready sale. The bull market has been dull and draggy with prices today a full \$1.50 per cwt. lower than Monday. Koshur beef trade continues good at steady to firm prices with demand about equal to supply.

New York — Many cars were late in arriving but at no time was there any shortage. The better grades re-

mained fairly steady but the demand was so poor early in the week that sales were made of the poorer kinds a little lower than Monday's opening prices. It appeared that the edge was off the market, but this was due more to the slow trade than to other conditions. Poor stuff, both steers and cows, suffered somewhat. Bulls remained steady. The Koshur market was off badly Monday and Tuesday, but strengthened considerably later in the week. City dressed hinds and ribs weakened slightly and because of the very poor demand accumulated on the rails.

Philadelphia — The light supply of heavy and choice cattle was sold out upon arrival, while the light and medium grades were a close second. The common varieties lagged but eventually moved at prices a little lower than Monday's opening. Hinds and ribs were in great demand and brought 28,000 for western dressed and no difficulty was experienced in moving the battlers at \$20. A little better demand for bulls was noticeable and good prices were obtained. Koshur chucks and plates brought \$20, and \$22 and hinds and ribs from these cattle sold up to \$30.

Washington — With the heavy carry-over from last week and receipts this week about the same as last, the market was glutted at all times. Most of the offerings were common and medium and hard to move. Because of the reluctant buying by the retailers stocks accumulated in the coolers and many cars were held on the tracks at times for lack of room to unload. Wholesalers refused to make any concession but held firm at prices about \$1 higher than last week on all grades. Good hinds and ribs continued in good demand and brought \$26 to \$28. Forequarter meat was slow and very draggy. Some choice light handy weight steers sold as high as \$25 and some heifers of the same quality brought \$24. Most of the cows offered were very rough and common and sold slowly. The few common bulls on the market were a hard sale at \$16 to \$16.50.

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E. Pibel, of Bartlett, Nebr., was in the city last week looking over this part of the country with the view of locating here in the concrete and construction business. He left this afternoon for the North Platte valley.

The Alliance high school debating team made up of Miss Corinne Mollring, Messrs. William Coutant and Mowat Bennett, after winning the district championship at Bayard last week, will go to Lincoln about the middle of the month to take part in the interstate high school contest.

Blaine Clutter and Miss Eutoka Porter, of Antioch, were married by Judge Tash last week at the court house, also Miss Iina Halley, of Alliance, and Lee F. Campbell, of Gresham. The latter couple will make their home at Gresham.

Glenn Watson, who for the past year has been combination man at the Nebraska Telephone company, has been promoted to manager of the Ogallala exchange. He will take up his new position at once.

The sophomore class at the high school entertained the balance of the

school in a program at assembly Tuesday morning. This follows out a regular program as the juniors furnished the same entertainment last week. The juniors' interpretation of "Lil' Liza Jane" was appreciated for its comedy.

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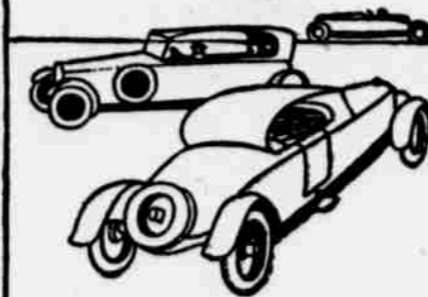
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INTERESTING LIVE STOCK STATISTICS

The report of the Bureau of Markets, United States Department of Agriculture, on the live stock situation at the different markets and shipping points, for the months of March, 1917, and March, 1918, are well worth considering. The reports covering the markets to which western Nebraska stock is shipped, are as follows:

| Market | Receipts | | Shipments | |
|-------------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|
| | 1918 | 1917 | 1918 | 1917 |
| Chicago | 8,086 | 11,111 | 8,196 | 11,095 |
| Denver | 1,840 | 1,143 | 1,248 | 845 |
| Kansas City | 11,544 | 14,235 | 11,421 | 15,447 |
| Omaha | 2,261 | 2,229 | 1,865 | 2,850 |
| St. Joseph | 5,156 | 2,958 | 5,119 | 2,924 |
| Sioux City | 2,110 | 3,061 | 2,226 | 2,961 |

| Market | Shipments of Stockers and Feeders—Cattle | |
|-------------|--|--------|
| | 1918 | 1917 |
| Chicago | 36,194 | 16,521 |
| Denver | 15,867 | 11,994 |
| Kansas City | 65,250 | 48,620 |
| Omaha | 35,106 | 33,689 |
| St. Joseph | 7,754 | 6,144 |
| Sioux City | 29,180 | 24,308 |

| Market | Live Stock Receipts—Cattle and Hogs | | | |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | Cattle | | Hogs | |
| | 1918 | 1917 | 1918 | 1917 |
| Chicago | 370,474 | 228,290 | 975,169 | 627,825 |
| Denver | 35,808 | 28,355 | 43,710 | 39,152 |
| Kansas City | 178,605 | 132,396 | 275,229 | 185,851 |
| Omaha | 150,912 | 109,469 | 393,347 | 294,189 |
| St. Joseph | 64,311 | 37,281 | 204,414 | 160,056 |
| Sioux City | 76,912 | 49,020 | 300,371 | 196,295 |