



On the Road With The Herald Traveler

(JOHN O. BAYNE)

Monday morning early we started out on our way to the northwest part of the county, and will say that we never drove over any county that looks more prosperous than does Box Butte at the present time. The winter wheat is being harvested and is making a splendid crop. We have seen fields that will make forty bushels per acre, and the crop is good all over the county. Some of the spring sown grain is about ready for the sickle. There is some talk of smut, but not enough to figure in the total yield for the county. The corn is making a rapid growth, and is in good condition. The spuds are coming fast to the front. There is some complaint of poor stand, but most of the fields are in fine shape and with the present weather conditions, Box Butte county will harvest the largest crop of everything in the history of the county. The farmers are busy, but happy, for they can see where they are coming out this fall.

The first stop was at the home of Fred Nikont, who lives southwest of Hemingford and owns ten hundred and forty acres, with seventy acres to oats, fifteen to millet, six of corn, eight of spuds and ten of spelt. He has twenty head of cattle, thirty horses and ten hogs. Fred says that this is the easiest place to own a farm he ever saw as one can buy and pay for a farm out of the proceeds in a short time, as they can raise anything that can be cultivated here. He believes in mixed farming and stock. Fred came here without a dollar.

From Nikont's we drove over the hill to see Hans Wiese, who owns seven hundred and sixty acres. Hans came here from Sarpy county twelve years ago and says that he likes this county better than Sarpy, for the reason that their health is better, farming is easier, and he can make more money here, and he says the climate is a great deal better here.

By the time we got to J. S. Kaper's it was feeding time and we were invited to stay, which we did very willingly. Mr. Kaper is one of the old-timers here, having lived in the county for thirty-four years. He owns twenty-five hundred and sixty acres of land and has good improvements. He has sixty acres of wheat, thirty of oats, forty of barley, one hundred of corn and sixty of alfalfa, seventy-five head of cattle and fifteen horses and about one hundred hogs. Mr. Kaper says that corn, hogs and alfalfa and winter wheat have done the best for him, but that anything that he plants here does well, and that for a poor man to get a start this country cannot be beaten.

Joe Jansa came here from Minnesota four years ago and owns one hundred and sixty acres. He has thirty acres of wheat, thirty-five of oats, twenty of corn and twelve of spuds. Joe says that Minnesota is all right for a rich man, but this country is the poor man's friend, for he can buy land here and soon pay for it and have a home of his own.

W. W. Dyer came here one year ago from York county and owns six hundred and forty acres and is operating eleven hundred and twenty. He has one hundred and ten acres of wheat, forty-five of oats, twenty of rye, forty of corn, twenty-six of spuds and twenty of cane and millet, thirty-seven head of cattle and twenty hogs. Mr. Dyer says that a poor man has a much better chance here than in York county and that they can grow anything here that they do there.

Emmett Johnson came here from North Carolina thirty-four years ago, and owns 3,000 acres of land that is all good and level. He has 120 acres of wheat, twenty of oats, fifty of corn, fifty of spuds, and ten acres of alfalfa. Mr. Johnson says that this is the best poor man's country in the world and that he has seen land that would produce enough in one year to more than pay the price of the land and he has seen it do this several times. He has 130 head of horses, forty head of hogs, eight cattle, and 400 chickens. He has twenty-five miles of barbed wire fence on his ranch.

H. S. Keane came here twenty-seven years ago from Richardson county and owns 800 acres of land. He has forty acres of wheat, forty of oats, forty of corn, sixteen of spuds and sixty head of cattle, seventeen horses and twenty-three hogs. He says he doesn't know much about any other place, but is well satisfied here. He says that anyone can buy a farm here and make the payments out of that farm.

Louis Barta came here from Omaha thirty-six years ago and owns 1,600 acres of land eighteen miles west of Hemingford. He has seventy-five acres of good wheat, forty of oats, sixty-five acres of corn, fifteen of spuds, ten of millet, thirty of alfalfa, and eighty head of cattle, sixty horses and fifteen hogs. Louis thinks this is the best place for a poor man to get a home, as he can buy a farm and pay for it with the profit in a short time. Mr. Barta came here without a dollar and has accumulated enough for one man.

Aldrich Stumpf came here from Bohemia thirteen years ago and is operating 320 acres of land that belongs

to his father. He has thirty-two acres of wheat, thirty of corn and twenty-five of spuds. He likes this country better than any place he ever saw, and says one can make plenty of money here if he will work.

Joseph Stumpf came here from Bohemia thirteen years ago and owns 1,600 acres of land. He has fifty-two acres of wheat, one hundred of oats, sixty of corn, five of barley, thirty of spuds, and eighty head of cattle, fourteen horses and fifty hogs. Joseph landed here with one dollar, a wife and five children, and has made all of this in thirteen years. He likes this country better than any other place he ever saw.

Joseph W. Barta was born in this county and has lived here all his life. He owns three hundred and twenty acres of land that he is getting nicely improved with new buildings that he was giving a bright coat of paint while we were there. He has thirty-five acres of wheat, twenty-six of oats, twenty-three of corn, ten of spuds. He is operating 800 acres. Joe says this is a good place to make money and that any one that is willing to work can come here and get a home and pay for it in a short time, with mixed farming and cattle raising.

Frank Stransky came from Minnesota ten years ago, and owns 320 acres of nicely improved land. He has thirty acres of wheat, twenty-five of oats, twenty-seven of corn, thirteen of spuds and six acres of millet and fifteen cattle and thirty-five hogs. He likes this country much better than Minnesota, and says it is a better place for a poor man than any he ever saw.

Ed Shimek has lived in this country all his life and owns 480 acres of land. He has fifteen acres of wheat, twenty of barley, thirty-five of corn, twenty of spuds and twenty of alfalfa. Ed says this is the easiest place to farm that he knows of and one can grow almost anything here, and for him spuds and corn have done the best.

Joseph Sokol came here ten years ago from Bohemia and owns 320 acres of good land. He has thirty-six acres of wheat, twenty-five of oats, thirty of corn and five of spuds and five cattle and ten hogs. Joe says that he can raise anything that he plants, but believes in early seeding and says that hogs, corn and cattle are the best for this part of the country. Joe says that one can easily pay for a farm from the proceeds of the farm.

Vincent Sokol came here fourteen years ago from Bohemia and owns 640 acres of land. He has thirty-five acres of wheat and thirty acres of oats, twenty of corn, six of millet, and ten of spuds, and ten cattle and twenty horses and five hogs. He says he would not leave this country for any other he ever saw.

Rolla Shetler came here from Sherman county thirty-two years ago and is operating 1,280 acres of land. He has thirty acres of oats, ten of corn, three of spuds and eight of millet. He is pasturing 175 head of cattle and thirty horses. Rolla says that one can make a living easier here than any place that he knows of, and that corn, hogs and cattle are the best and easiest money.

Raymond Kaper came here from Iowa fifteen years ago and is operating 800 acres of land that belongs to his father. He has thirty-two acres of oats, sixty-five of corn, fifteen of spuds and thirty head of cattle. Raymond says that he has traveled over seven states and this is the best place that he has found, and that spuds and corn and oats are the surest crops for this country. For a young man to get a start, he thinks Box Butte county can't be beaten, as one can start farming cheaper here than any place he ever saw.

James Plansky came here from Boone county thirty-four years ago and owns 880 acres of land. He has fifty acres of wheat, thirty of oats, forty-five of corn, ten of spuds, ten of millet, and twenty of alfalfa. He has fifty head of cattle, fourteen horses and twenty-two hogs. Jim says that this is a good country for a poor man as they can grow anything here, and that spuds is the sure crop, and if one is not too far from town, is the best crop to raise. We happened to be at Mr. Plansky's at the noon hour and was invited to stay to dinner and was served one of those old-fashioned chicken dinners with lemon pie and all the other good things that go toward making a good dinner.

Earl Long came here from Red Willow four years ago and owns 640 acres of land. He has forty acres of oats, seventy of rye, ten of millet, seventy of corn, thirty of spuds, and five of alfalfa and twenty cattle and seventeen horses and forty hogs. Earl says this is a better county than Red Willow. When we asked him why, he said: "Because it is a better place to make money, the seasons are better and the crops more sure." Earl thinks that spuds and rye are the best crops to raise.

J. M. Wanek is one among the oldest settlers in Box Butte county, hav-

ing come here thirty-five years ago from Madison county. He owns 1,200 acres of good land with good improvements. He has 100 acres of wheat, fifty of oats, fifty of corn, twenty-five of spuds, and twenty of rye. Joe says the spuds is the surest crop and that they have never failed for him. He likes this country much better than Madison and thinks this country is a poor man's friend. Mr. Wanek was postmaster at one time at the Lawn postoffice, and was on the board of commissioners of this county, and helped to build the court house.

C. Klemke came from Dodge county thirty-six years ago and homesteaded the place on which he now lives, and has lived continuously there ever since. He has one among the best improved places that we have visited in this county. The house is modern except light and he has one of the best built dairy farms that we have seen. It is equipped for twenty cows. They are milking twenty cows at the present time. He owns 1,600 acres of good land, and owes no man a dollar. When he came to this country thirty-six years ago, he had a yoke of oxen, one cow and \$25 in money. The first season he lost one of the oxen, but he broke his cow to work and worked her till he could buy another ox. Mr. Klemke says he believes in summer fallowing, and thinks it pays big. He says with that mixed farming with corn, hogs and alfalfa, with cattle raising, anyone can make good money here. We were invited out to see the garden on this place, and will say that it was one of the best that we have seen in the state, with all kinds of small fruit, such as gooseberries, currants, raspberries, strawberries, plums, apples. We were told that two years ago they canned 500 quarts of fruit from this garden. He has seventy acres of wheat, thirty of oats, sixty of corn, thirty of spuds, twenty-five of alfalfa, 105 head of cattle, twenty-seven horses and twelve hogs.

Bert Lance came here from Gosper county two years ago and owns 320 acres of good land, and who was called on him he was cutting the best field of rye we ever saw. He has 125 acres of winter wheat, that looks as tho it would make twenty-five bushels to the acre, forty acres of good oats, eleven of rye, fifty-five of corn, thirty-five of spuds, twenty of cane and millet and ten acres of alfalfa. Bert says he likes this country better than any place he has ever lived, for one reason that the nights are cool in the summer time so folks can always get their rest.

(Continued on Page 7)



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A majority of the Nebraska posts will stage the drive in characteristic army style. Commander Robert G. Simmons has ordered the advance to begin at 4:35 a. m., when the Legionnaires will swarm over the top and take as many prisoners as possible. Prisoners will be taken before a military court-martial, and sentenced to a year's membership. A green sash will distinguish the recruits for the day, and a banquet or other social function

will mark the end of the campaign. Out of not quite 55,000 men in service during the war, the Nebraska Legion now has a membership of 18,000. State leaders are confident that the drive will net at least two thousand new members, in which case Nebraska will take the first rank. State departments in the order of their standing at the present time are Iowa, New Hampshire, South Dakota and Nebraska. The three other states have

already staged their annual membership drives. It may be that the girls cover their ears so they won't hear so much of what is being said about what they don't cover up. One very difficult thing to do is impress a small boy with one front tooth out that spitting is a dangerous pastime.

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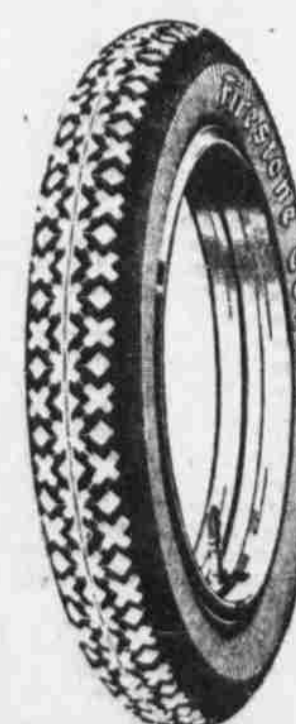
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