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### HALF MILLION DOLLAR DEAL

Ferguson Elevators Have Been Sold to Updike

Lincoln Man Retains But a Few of His Houses in Grain to Protect His Mills.

W. H. Ferguson has sold a string of about seventy elevators to the Updike Grain company of Omaha. Most of the elevators are in Nebraska. It is understood that the purchase price is not far from a half million dollars. Out of his holdings Mr. Ferguson saved a few elevators to protect his milling interests. Several of the best houses in the best part of the Nebraska grain belt were retained. Mr. Ferguson owns three mills, one at Aurora, one at Hampton, and one at Wray, Colorado. The big elevator at Lincoln, the largest in the string, is included in the deal with the Updike company. The next largest, located at McCook, was also sold.

"I disposed of these elevators," said Mr. Ferguson last evening, "because I had more business than one man can attend to profitably. I desired to go into the exporting business at St. Joe and Kansas City and to be relieved from the country station business. I will continue to make my home in Lincoln.

"Of course members of the Updike Grain company do not live in Lincoln, but the sale will in no wise hurt the grain interests of this city. More and more grain will go through Lincoln. Grain must eventually go the direct routes. There is no reason why grain should be hauled over round about routes to get rates, and I believe rate adjustments of the future will obviate the necessity for this."

Of this deal the Omaha Bee said last evening: "One of the largest elevator deals ever transacted in the west was consummated in Omaha Friday by the Updike Grain company, which bought the Ferguson line of elevators on the Burlington in the South Platte country, seventy-five in number, from W. H. Ferguson of Lincoln. These elevators are situated in Nebraska, except one at Fort Morgan, Col., and will add tremendously to the business of the Omaha Grain exchange as the Updike company is strictly an Omaha concern with head office in Omaha. The Updike company increased its capital stock January 1 to \$1,000,000 with a view of acquiring additional elevators in Nebraska, and has been negotiating for some time with Mr. Ferguson, who will retire from business. The Updike company has been broadening out since the first of the year and has outgrown its present quarters, so that on March 1st it will move into the first floor of The Bee building. J. A. Kuhn, formerly assistant general freight and passenger agent of the Northwestern, with jurisdiction over the lines west of the Missouri river, has joined the Updike Grain company, giving that company an experienced grain rate and railroad man."-Lincoln Journal.

#### PERU NORMAN NOTES.

The Bible study classes gave a rally and social, Saturday evening in Philo Hall. Light refreshevening spent.

of Charlotte" is soon to be given in the new chapel under the direction of Prof. Hewitt.

The Y. M. C. A. has elected a delegation of twelve members to attend the state convention at Fremont the last of this month. The normal quartette will furnish some of the music and Mr. Reimond sings several solos.

The seniors in the model school have been organized into three in the midst of dire poverty. In "Lovey sections for lectures in separate Mary," by Alice Hegan Rice, Mrs. lines. Superintendent's section Wiggs' cheery philosophy still pervades under Miss Goshen. Miss Krebs has the grammar grade section and Miss Kelley the primary.

The normal cadets will give a play, "The Fall of Vicksburg," Tuesday evening in the chapel, under the direction of Prof. Beck, former deputy state superintendent and adjutant on Bryan's staff in the late war. The normal band will furnish music.

Washington's birthday will be celebrated by the normal school. The program will be given in the new chapel and be participated in, not only by the normal students but the entire model school. Rev. Welden of the Baptist church will give a short address.

Prof. G. W. Sievers has been elected as director of manual training and physical culture in the normal. He comes to Peru from the Sturgis, South Dakota, schools and is a graduate of the Western State Normal school, Kalamazoo, Mich. He has had special work in in the university of Michigan, and under Yost, the foot-ball coach.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARY NOTES.

The magazines for March are coming. Don't forget the new rule for loaning the magazines. After we receive five, one ments were served and a pleasant | may be taken for two days only. Also keep in mind the rule for loaning the The famous cantata "The Lady new fiction,-a new book of fiction may be taken out for one week only, and cannot be renewed. There is a slip in the front of each book which tells the length of time the book may be kept.

There are some good books for boys and girls from the age of ten to sixteen, and some older people enjoy them. "Men of Iron," by Howard Pyle, a boy's story of the time of Henry IV of England, who, with the men of his court, are the "men of iron."

"Mrs. Wiggs, of the Cabbage Patch," by Alice Hegan Rice, is a bright, cheery story showing the good in human nature the Cabbage Patch, where Lovey Mary, the tender-hearted orphan-heroine, and Tommy, her three-year-old protege, find a home. "Black Beauty," by Anna Sewell,-the best book published to cultivate a spirit of kindness for horses 'The Bird's Christmas Carol" by Kate D. Wiggins,-a story of mixed pathos and fun; the pathos in the life of an invalid girl: the fun in the amusing performances of a large family of small, poor children whom she befriends, "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm," by Kate D. Wiggins. An original, attractive child is adopted out of a large, poor, happy-golucky household by two maiden aunts. The child's natural capers and the elderly aunts' dismays and disapprovals are told to a pleasant ending.

If you have a book or books you would like to give to the library don't be afraid you will insult us by giving them to us, for you won't; we will be only too glad to get them.

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