

# Some Interesting Things About the State in Which We Live

There is perhaps no one better acquainted with the resources, climate, weather, crops, the people and the possibilities of the state of Nebraska than Will M. Maupin, the publisher of Mid-West Magazine. Mr. Maupin was at one time Secretary of the State Railway Commission and his activities in and about the state and his desire to make "A Better Nebraska" have made him familiar with every part of the state and with the conditions and industries incident to the different parts of the state as a whole. The following letter is his reply to a request for information relative to the resources and possibilities of the state and its desirability as a place to live, especially from the view point of the farmer who wants to locate on medium priced land and pay for it and improve it out of the crops he grows with a view of making it his home.

Omaha, Nebr., July 21, 1915.  
E. A. Miner, Sec. First Trust Co.,  
Loup City, Nebr.

My Dear Sir: I have your communication of July 19, in which you ask me for some facts concerning the State of Nebraska—government, crop reports, banking statistics, literacy, etc. To make reply in full, and to the extent that Nebraska deserves, would exhaust your patience and my physical and mental strength. Nebraskans have every reason to be proud of their state, for no other state can equal it in those things that make for the welfare of mankind. Let me enumerate some of the things of which Nebraskans may, with pardonable pride, boast:

It has the lowest percentage of illiteracy among the states, and it has the largest permanent school fund, figured on a per capita basis, among all the states. It has more money per capita invested in public school property—including the State University and the four Normal schools—than any other state. In other words, no state is taking more interest in education than Nebraska.

Speaking of healthful climate, the death rate per 1,000 of inhabitants is lower in Nebraska than in any other state, with the single exception of North Dakota. While the average of all the states is slightly more than 15 per cent, the Nebraska average is 7.75 per cent.

Very recently the Agricultural Department of the National Government issued a bulletin showing the agricultural productivity of all the states. In total volume of agricultural wealth produced in 1914 Iowa led, with Illinois, Kansas, Texas and Nebraska following in the order named. In other words Nebraska was the fifth-largest producer of agricultural wealth in 1914.

But this is not a fair statement of the real facts. While Nebraska was fifth in total production it was first in per capita production. This productivity is evidenced by the latest available banking reports, which show that Nebraska has the largest per capita bank deposits of any state west of the Mississippi river, and excelled by not more than four states in the entire Union. Incidentally it might be mentioned that Nebraska produces more wheat per acre and per capita than any other state, also more corn and more oats per capita and per acre than any other state. It is the fourth largest wheat producing state, and the youngest of the four. It is the fourth largest corn producing state and the youngest of the four. It is also the third largest alfalfa producing state, and the youngest of the three.

The per capita wealth of Nebraska is the largest of any state west of the Mississippi river, with one exception, and that exception—Iowa—must be credited with a diminishing population and Nebraska with an increasing population. Nebraska's wealth per mile of railroad exceeds that of Iowa or Kansas. Our per capita bank deposits excel those of Kansas by nearly 60 per cent. The average value of Nebraska farms is \$14,000 while the average value of Kansas farms is \$10,500.

The total wealth of Nebraska is, according to government reports, \$3,759,000,000, an average of \$3,110 per person. This is \$20,000,000 more than the average of all the states.

To get a comprehensive idea of what this means it must be borne in mind that Nebraska has been a state for less than fifty years, and has only been in progress of development thirty years. As a matter of fact, no other state in the Union can equal

Nebraska's record for either development or productivity, and recorded history shows nothing to equal it when the element of time is taken into consideration. Agriculturally, Nebraska leads all the states.

You ask me for some facts regarding Custer county. As well ask me to write fully of some European country within the limits of a letter. A volume would not suffice to give all the facts about that magnificent county. In area it is the second largest county in Nebraska; in population it is the third largest. In wealth production it is entitled to recognition, for in 1914 it produced agricultural and live stock wealth in excess of \$12,000,000, nearly \$400 per capita and about \$2,000 per family of five. It produced more corn by 30 per cent in 1914 than any other Nebraska county. It was the largest alfalfa producing county. It produced more oats per acre than the average of all the state by nearly two bushels to the acre. It was the third largest rye producing county, and the fourth largest producer of wild hay. This last item deserves especial emphasis because it shows that Custer possesses a large area of uncultivated land that is ready for the hand of the tiller.

I have made a study of Nebraska conditions and I am prepared to assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that Custer county affords greater possibilities along dairying lines than almost any other Nebraska county. With her wonderful alfalfa, hay and corn production, there is no earthly reason why Custer county should not have a half-million milk cows giving their wealth of butterfat for the enrichment of her people. The number of milk cows in Custer in 1915 was less than 15,000. Right here is afforded a golden opportunity for the poor man who seeks employment upon a little

patch of God's footstool. Intelligent and intensive farming, coupled with dairying, will not only develop Custer county, but will enable thousands of people to build homes of their own and lay by a competency against old age. Too much emphasis can not be laid upon this special phase of opportunity in Custer.

I know that many people are obsessed with the idea that Custer is in the "sandhill country," and that it is deficient in rainfall. Custer has 2,600 square miles of area, and it is only natural that in such an immense area there should be some waste land. But I know, from personal knowledge, that Custer has less waste land in proportion to area than almost any other Nebraska county, while the fertility of the whole is far above the average. This is proved by the statistics of crop production. As to rainfall, the twenty-year period ending with 1914 shows the average annual rainfall of the state to be 23.33 inches, while the annual average in Custer county for the same period was 25.35. It should be impressed upon the mind of the average homeseeker that it is not the amount of rainfall per year that counts so much, but the actual conservation of the rainfall itself. Modern methods of farming—and Custer county farmers are in the front rank—make it more easily possible to raise good crops now on a minimum annual rainfall than it used to be to raise them with a maximum rainfall.

Climatically Custer county is ideal. Two thousand feet above sea level, it escapes in large measure the torrid heat of low-lying states, and enjoys the average winter conditions.

Of social conditions there is much to say in favor of Custer county. It has the largest rural school population among Nebraska

counties, and more rural schools. Church conditions are ideal, and from a somewhat cursory investigation along religious lines I am inclined to believe that Custer has a larger church going population than any other county, total population considered. With ample school and church facilities, telephones everywhere, rural mail delivery, ample transportation facilities and a number of good market towns, Custer holds out to homeseekers splendid inducements. With these things coupled with a fine climate, fertile soil and resources as yet only scratched upon the surface, I unhesitatingly recommend this particular section of the great west to those who are seeking farm homes or opportunities for investment.

It has been my good fortune to know many Custer county people, and to have been the recipient of the hospitality of many Custer county homes. Settled by men and women who had the courage to brave the frontier, and coming up through great tribulation, they may be termed the "salt of the earth," and I know from personal knowledge that a better or more liberal-minded people may not be found anywhere.

You will pardon me for answering your communication at such great length, but if you knew how much I have in mind to say of Custer—and of all Nebraska—you would wonder at my moderation. Of all good things Nebraska produces the most; of all evil things the least. And this splendid average is due in very large measure to the up-standing, God-fearing, intelligent and industrious citizenship of good old Custer.

Trusting that I have in some measure, at least, complied with your request, I am,  
Very truly yours,  
WILL M. MAUPIN.

## HORSE SALE

### 50 HEAD OF WESTERN HORSES

will be sold at the Union Pacific Stock Yards in Loup City on

**Saturday, Sept. 18**

This stock consists of some two-year-old, some unbroke stuff and some thin mares

**This Will Be the Biggest Sale this Season**

**C. A. KETTLE**  
C. G. ARLSON, Clerk

## AK-SAR-BEN FESTIVITIES OMAHA

SEPTEMBER 29th to OCTOBER 9th

Bigger and Better Than Ever, for Ak-Sar-Ben Moves Forever Forward  
AUTO FLORAL PARADE, OCT. 5. Every past King and Queen of Ak-Sar-Ben will take part in this parade.  
ELECTRICAL PARADE, OCT. 6.  
BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, OCT. 7. This great musical organization will appear at the Auditorium.  
CORONATION BALL, OCT. 8. The West's greatest social event.  
WORTHAM'S COMBINED SHOWS  
On the Carnival Grounds every afternoon and evening. Admitted the largest, best and cleanest Carnival Attractions in the world.  
NEBRASKA'S GREATEST EVENT  
Ak-Sar-Ben has spread the fame of Omaha around the world. Samson decrees that YOU enjoy the festivities of 1915.

Patronize Northwestern Advertisers—They're Safe

### ROUTE TWO.

H. A. Woody is working at the Westcott home.

Albert Snyder's barn is almost completed.

Ed Tucker visited at Roy Conger's last Sunday.

Miss Churchill is teaching in the Hawk district.

Mr. Psota had his stack threshing done last week.

Miss Amelia Hansen is boarding at E. J. Pugsley's.

The grange met at the home of W. Rutherford this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Howard visited at Art King's Sunday.

Carrier lost a pocket knife the day of the picnic at the park.

Pete Rowe shingled John Kociemba's new barn last week.

Carrier and family visited at Roy Conger's last Sunday.

Walter Rock put up hay on V. T. Westcott's place this week.

Miss Adell Mickow is teaching the Obermiller school this term.

Frank Wagner and Elmer Hand took the freight east Monday.

Art Haller is now running Fritz Bichel's new eight plow tractor.

The carrier has a robe which was found at the park after the picnic.

Horace Casteel looked after his father's farm while he was at Lincoln.

Ernest McFadden has been hauling hay from out on the divide this week.

The butcher shops have not sold as much bologna since the route parade.

Clark Allman and son Lloyd helped Vern Allman put up hay last Saturday.

Carl Mickow is putting in one hundred acres of wheat on V. T. Westcott's place.

George Wagner and Elmer Hand put up hay on Lars Nielson's place this week.

John Peterson and Will Behrens were grading north of Spotsanski's Monday.

I have a few route two papers left. Anyone who hasn't one can have one for the asking.

We are glad that the schools are running again. Route two looks more cheerful.

Fritz Bichel went to Lincoln Sunday, returning Monday in time for the route picnic.

A jacket was found the day of the picnic. Owner can have same by calling on the carrier.

Will Mason, Will Graefe and Mr. Chandler were hunting chickens on route two last week.

Vic Swanson, Joe Smalley and I. L. Conger hunted chickens on route two last Wednesday.

The ball game at the picnic was won by Johnny Paulsen's team of the Upper Wiggle Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Casteel and daughter Bernice got home from the big state fair last week.

Harry Lyhne came home Monday from Boelus, where he had been visiting for several weeks.

Chris Jensen lost a watch fob the day of the picnic. If you find it, please give it to the carrier.

The parties who are defacing the signs in the country had better look out or they will be in trouble.

Mr. and Mrs. Rainsforth and family autoed over to Loup City from their home near Litchfield last Saturday.

The Prairie Gem school district had a well put down at the school house last week. They have less feet to go for water now.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Grow and son visited at Roy Conger's the past week

## PHOTOGRAPHS

Owing to steady advance in price of photo materials I am compelled to make an advance of 25 per cent on some of my grades.

## ELSNER STUDIO

and several prairie chickens suffered during their stay.

Miss Belle Vance got her finger badly bruised and the finger nail torn from one of her fingers with the stacker rope last week.

Cal Brown, Alvina Blaschke, Elsie Oltjenbruns, Vera Wilkie, Russel Wilkie, Lloyd Allman, Cecil Draper and Fred Daddow are attending school at Loup City this term.

Fritz Bichel and Art Haller plowed over fifty acres of ground last week.

After watching Mr. Bichel's tractor work, several other farmers on route two are talking of purchasing tractors.

Hans Deitz has traded his farm to Robert Dinsdale for the farm east of John Kociemba's. Mr. Deitz will build a fine home near where the old buildings were. We would like to see him build closer to the road.

Be sure and put your indian suits away for next year. Fold them up and put them away now before they are spoiled. I have a part for you to take next year. All of you who purchased bunting and plumes should also keep them for next year.

I have the program most all arranged for next year. So many liked the fifty years ago scene. I have something as good or better for next year all planned out now. Be sure and put down your thought for next year's float. Hang your thoughts on a nail.

Districts on route two: Will you please burn the tall weeds and grass on the sides of the road on route two before the snow comes. Hundreds of dollars were spent last winter for shoveling snow through the country and a great deal of this could have been saved had the weeds been cut or burned. The best way is to burn them.

The carrier has a fine rosewood piano case organ for sale. It is al-

most new and cost \$60. If taken at once will sell for thirty dollars. The reason for selling it is that the party has bought a piano. This organ has not been hurt five dollars worth and is easily worth forty dollars.

The Wiggle Creek farmers, institute will be held at the Wiggle Creek church on Saturday, November 13th. Let us begin to work and make it a good institute. We would like for the committees to begin to study on this. We would like to have a good display of school work from three or more schools. We are going to have a display of cooking and fancy work from girls under sixteen years of age. Let us begin to work. Mrs. Fannie Burt, president. Mrs. Alice Jorgenson, secretary.

The third annual route two picnic and parade are again history. What I said last year I again say this year. I appreciate from the bottom of my heart what you have all done. I appreciate what you all did this year more than in years gone by, because you were all up to your necks in work and at least one month behind. I want to thank all who took part and assisted in making the day a success. The Jenner brothers certainly had the park in dandy shape and were always willing during the day to do what they could to please everyone. Harold Chenoweth is the best and liveliest moving picture man in the state we will bet. If the pictures fail to be good it will not be his fault, for he worked hard all day. The success of the day in a big measure belongs to the county papers. It surely pays to advertise. Everyone on route two were in love with Chenoweth, even the ladies. The amount taken in at the ball park was \$20.25. Of course all route patrons and the ladies and children under twelve years of age were admitted free. The dance in the evening made twelve dollars clear, \$32.00 in all being taken in. I took \$30.00 of this and paid for the band, leaving two dollars and twenty-five cents for good roads. It was understood that over and above any additional expenses, all monies were to go to the good roads days we are to have the latter part of October. There were a few more additional expenses, but we thought we would keep the \$2.25 to start the good roads days with. The parade was claimed to be the best ever held. The prizes do not go toward the road days, and the cash has already been paid to those winning. The judges for the day were Prof. J. H. Burwell, J. F. Nicolson and County Superintendent L. H. Currier. The moving pictures cost me over \$450.00. Be sure and come to see them. I will have several thousand feet of pictures were taken besides these. Something over 1800 feet were taken.

Better buy a few sacks of White Satin flour while you can get flour that is made from old wheat. All merchants handle our flour. Every sack guaranteed.—Loup City Mill & Light Company.

and played a game of ball. Although being defeated by the score of 11 to 7, it was a good game throughout, although a few errors being chalked on both sides. We hope for a return game in the near future and there will be a different story to tell. The batteries for Paplin were Tesmer and Zocholl, for Deer Creek, Stobbe and Maciejewski. Umpire Gappa, and scorer S. J. Krance, the Fairview farm.

Elmer Koch is busy plowing west of the Loup river where he rented a 50-acre piece of land.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fletcher of west Loup City, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Koch.

Tony Wezorek and wife attended the Wezorek-Melozenski wedding at Ravenna Wednesday.

Mrs. Mary Slezewski and Mrs. Mieski of Omaha, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Mieski this week.

A team composed of veterans, recruits and stars, representing Deer Creek, journeyed overland to Paplin

and played a game of ball. Although being defeated by the score of 11 to 7, it was a good game throughout, although a few errors being chalked on both sides. We hope for a return game in the near future and there will be a different story to tell. The batteries for Paplin were Tesmer and Zocholl, for Deer Creek, Stobbe and Maciejewski. Umpire Gappa, and scorer S. J. Krance, the Fairview farm.

Elmer Koch is busy plowing west of the Loup river where he rented a 50-acre piece of land.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fletcher of west Loup City, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Koch.

Tony Wezorek and wife attended the Wezorek-Melozenski wedding at Ravenna Wednesday.

Mrs. Mary Slezewski and Mrs. Mieski of Omaha, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Mieski this week.

A team composed of veterans, recruits and stars, representing Deer Creek, journeyed overland to Paplin

and played a game of ball. Although being defeated by the score of 11 to 7, it was a good game throughout, although a few errors being chalked on both sides. We hope for a return game in the near future and there will be a different story to tell. The batteries for Paplin were Tesmer and Zocholl, for Deer Creek, Stobbe and Maciejewski. Umpire Gappa, and scorer S. J. Krance, the Fairview farm.

Elmer Koch is busy plowing west of the Loup river where he rented a 50-acre piece of land.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fletcher of west Loup City, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Koch.

Tony Wezorek and wife attended the Wezorek-Melozenski wedding at Ravenna Wednesday.

Mrs. Mary Slezewski and Mrs. Mieski of Omaha, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Mieski this week.

A team composed of veterans, recruits and stars, representing Deer Creek, journeyed overland to Paplin

and played a game of ball. Although being defeated by the score of 11 to 7, it was a good game throughout, although a few errors being chalked on both sides. We hope for a return game in the near future and there will be a different story to tell. The batteries for Paplin were Tesmer and Zocholl, for Deer Creek, Stobbe and Maciejewski. Umpire Gappa, and scorer S. J. Krance, the Fairview farm.

Elmer Koch is busy plowing west of the Loup river where he rented a 50-acre piece of land.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fletcher of west Loup City, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Koch.

## A SPECIAL FAIR ATTRACTION

**DADDOW THEATER**  
3 NIGHTS STARTING  
**Wednesday, Sept. 22**

THE POPULAR  
**BYERS STOCK COMPANY**

PRESENTING THE BEST OF PLAYS  
OPENING WITH

**"Behind the Scenes"**  
A RIOT OF LAUGHTER

Special Scenery - Feature Vaudeville  
Prices---25--35--50  
Seats on Sale at Swanson & Lofholm's

FOR THURSDAY NIGHT  
**"THE GIRL AND THE TRAMP"**  
FOR FRIDAY NIGHT  
**"THE MAN OF TODAY"**

### DEER CREEK NUGGETS.

Leon F. Lubash went to Plembecks' Sunday to take some pictures.

Thos. Lubash finished his house last week as he needs room for his family.

Elmer Koch is busy plowing west of the Loup river where he rented a 50-acre piece of land.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fletcher of west Loup City, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Koch.

Tony Wezorek and wife attended the Wezorek-Melozenski wedding at Ravenna Wednesday.

Mrs. Mary Slezewski and Mrs. Mieski of Omaha, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Mieski this week.

A team composed of veterans, recruits and stars, representing Deer Creek, journeyed overland to Paplin

and played a game of ball. Although being defeated by the score of 11 to 7, it was a good game throughout, although a few errors being chalked on both sides. We hope for a return game in the near future and there will be a different story to tell. The batteries for Paplin were Tesmer and Zocholl, for Deer Creek, Stobbe and Maciejewski. Umpire Gappa, and scorer S. J. Krance, the Fairview farm.

Elmer Koch is busy plowing west of the Loup river where he rented a 50-acre piece of land.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fletcher of west Loup City, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Koch.

Tony Wezorek and wife attended the Wezorek-Melozenski wedding at Ravenna Wednesday.

Mrs. Mary Slezewski and Mrs. Mieski of Omaha, are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Mieski this week.

A team composed of veterans, recruits and stars, representing Deer Creek, journeyed overland to Paplin

and played a game of ball. Although being defeated by the score of 11 to 7, it was a good game throughout, although a few errors being chalked on both sides. We hope for a return game in the near future and there will be a different story to tell. The batteries for Paplin were Tesmer and Zocholl, for Deer Creek, Stobbe and Maciejewski. Umpire Gappa, and scorer S. J. Krance, the Fairview farm.

### NOTICE.

On the 18th day of September, 1915, at 2 o'clock p. m., we will sell to the highest bidder for cash, the old school house, size 18x28; also some seats and other articles.

Sale will take place on school house grounds, section 12-13-14, Bristol township. By order of School Dist. No. 19.

Anton Bugno, moderator.  
Anton Hajek, treasurer.  
Frank Novy, director.

37-4