

Nebraska Notes

Notwithstanding alfalfa seed is worth from ten to eleven dollars per bushel on the market, the high price has not prevented large sales being made.

When the assessor comes to see you don't get frightened. All he asks is that you tell him everything, including all your notes and mortgages.

The Beatrice Manufacturing company, a novelty manufacturing concern, has been incorporated with a capital stock of \$100,000, of which \$20,000 is paid up.

The Tecumseh Military band will give public open air concerts during the season of 1904, giving their opening concert in May. The band is in exceptionally good shape for the coming season and is practicing twice a week.

Winter wheat in the vicinity of Lawrence looks good. Plenty of moisture has fallen to give it repewed vigor for rapid growth. Less than five inches of snow fell during the past fall and winter, but this fact in no way retarded the growth of wheat.

Samuel I. Gordon has again lost in the supreme court in an effort to collect more salary as police judge of Omaha, and in the opinion the court said that Gordon must first establish his right to the office by quo warranto proceedings.

The board of managers of the Seward county agricultural society held a meeting and the report of the secretary showed that the life membership subscriptions had been the means of relieving the society from debt and that the treasurer had on hand \$201.

A youth went to his first dance at Falls City and during the evening danced with all the girls present except four. The next day he wrote a note to each of the four apologizing for his neglect, saying that the dance broke up before he could get around to them.

Custodian L. L. Lindsey of the Lincoln government building, has secured the consent of the department to remove the soil from that part of the government square to be occupied by the new building and patch up with it the thin spots east and west of the old building.

The receipts of the Fremont post-office from the sale of stamps and envelopes in March were \$2,600. For the year ending last month they exceed \$25,000. This puts the office one grade higher, and the salary of Postmaster Swanson for the year beginning next July will be \$2,700.

It is reported upon good authority that the Union Pacific railroad has expressed a willingness to extend its line from Pleasanton to Georgetown, a postoffice some twenty miles east of Callaway, providing sufficient patronage can be obtained the warrant held in the vicinity of Georgetown held a mass meeting to see what they had to offer to secure the road.

Mr. Ernest A. Bessey, of Lincoln, writes that he is now in the northern portion of the Great Sahara in Africa. He is visiting one of the oases for the purpose of studying the conditions under which date palms grow. The United States department of agriculture is trying to introduce the growth of the date palm in Arizona and it is in the interest of this work that Mr. Bessey has been sent to that region.

The annual report of the chief of the fire department of Grand Island during the year of 1904 shows that the city has had twenty-three fires, with a total loss of only \$13,575, and a net loss, insurance deducted, of \$2,460. The cost of operating the volunteer fire department was only \$105.93, keeping up the apparatus not included in this, nor yet the expense of the telephone alarm system.

The Lee brothers, of Stanton, who understand trapping, in eight days secured along the Elkhorn near Battle Creek 800 muskrats and 25 mink. They made use of 180 steel traps.

Samuel B. Tophim, of Minden, Neb., who resided at Fairfield for six years, was killed in the railroad yards at Hanover, Kan. He was acting in the capacity of head brakeman and his absence was not noticed until the train reached the adjoining station. The return run was made immediately and his body was found in the yard. He had probably fallen between the cars in walking over them, his limbs being completely severed from his body.

A smart young man at David City has had the virtue of veracity impressed upon his mind. After the young man had solemnly sworn he was not the owner of any diamonds, the assessor had hardly gone out the door until he pulled a diamond pin and put it on. Before the assessor had traveled half the distance of one block he was told about the diamond, but said nothing. The young man thought he had done a remarkably clever thing, until some one informed him that the penalty was not less than \$50 nor more than \$2,000, besides having 50 per cent added to his tax, and that all the deputy assessor need to do was simply report him. Next day the young man hunted up the assessor and had his diamond listed.

The farmers in the vicinity of Swaberg along the Logan are organizing to stop hunting. The hunters are too careless in leaving gates open and driving over and cutting up the meadows.

The beneficent effect of the scavenger law has manifested itself in two directions. It has already brought into the city treasuries of Omaha and South Omaha and into the treasury of Douglas county many thousands of dollars in excess of delinquent taxes in any previous year during the same period, and incidentally has given employment to a small army of clerks.

RAILROADS KICK

They Ask State Board to Reduce Their Assessments

THE BOARD STANDS FIRM

Board Believes Franchises Should be Taxed - Fraternal Insurance Securities Not to be Taxed

The first meeting of the state board of assessment was attended by railroad tax commissioners and attorneys who made brief speeches. Those who spoke asserted that franchises should not be taxed, although the constitution of the state and the revenue law provides for such taxation, and requested the board to lower the valuation of last year because it is too high and argued that the market price of stocks and bonds has no relation to the value of tangible property, but became valuable because of the "management" of the road question, or by reason of a cause calculated to give an artificial or inflated value. Another road showed by its manager that it had never paid a dividend or made a profit. The board listened to these hard luck stories and other information which the lawyers saw fit to communicate. As the majority of the tax commissioners and attorneys were not prepared to speak the board set May 11 as a day for a general hearing of railroad interests.

Those in attendance were R. D. Pollard for the Burlington, A. W. Scribner of the Union Pacific, George T. Maher of Chicago for the Rock Island, J. C. Cooper of Topeka for the Rock Island, L. S. Highleyman for the Missouri Pacific, Frank P. Crandon, Manager Bidwell and Peter Whiting for the Northwestern, T. H. Benton, ex-state auditor of Lincoln, for the Pullman company, and J. H. Ager of the Burlington, C. M. Rigg of Beatrice, who has done much lobbying in the legislature for corporations, gave the reporters a quiet hint that he was there looking after the interests of the farmers.

After the open meeting the board held an executive session and voted to reject Attorney General Prout's opinion holding that the reserve or emergency funds of fraternal insurance companies are subject to taxation. Governor Mickey, Auditor Weston and Secretary of State Marsh voted to reject the opinion and Treasurer Mortensen and Land Commissioner Follmer voted to adopt it. One fraternal insurance company has \$300,000 of securities consisting of mortgages on real estate, in this fund and has it on deposit with State Auditor Weston.

A CIRCUS CAR BURNS

Thirty-Thousand Dollar Loss Occurs at Pawnee City, Nebraska

Campbell Bros. show pulled into Pawnee City, Neb., preparatory to giving an entertainment. The keeper went through the elephant car to see that all was right for the night, when the gasoline torch exploded and the entire car was immediately in flames and all the animals in the car were burned.

Four camels, three elephants, two sacred cattle and a black bear perished.

The loss is estimated at about \$30,000, with no insurance. The large elephant, Venus, for which the Campbell Bros. were offered \$12,000, was one which was burned.

Fourth Congressional Convention

The democrats of the Fourth congressional district will meet in convention Tuesday afternoon, June 21, at York. This was determined by the members of the district committee at their meeting at the Lindell hotel Lincoln. The basis of representation will be one delegate for each one hundred votes cast for Judge Sullivan. This was determined upon as the best basis, after considerable discussion, the vote for Congressman Stark being thought by some to be better, considering the fact that it was a congressional vote rather than a state vote. This will entitle the counties to the following representation: Butler 18, Fillmore 17, Gage 18, Hamilton 11, Jefferson 11, Polk 12, Saline 17, Saunders 21, Seward 17, Thayer 13, York 16.

Contract Let for Railroad

Secretary McClelland of Chanute, Kansas, received a telegram from General Manager Spooner of the Chanute-Memphis railroad announcing that the contract had been let for the first sixteen miles of the road, and that grading work will begin at once. The building of the road starts on the east end.

Colby Hearing in June

The hearing of General L. W. Colby in the federal court, will not occur until the June session of the court at Omaha. Governor Mickey has been in Omaha to consult with District Attorney Baxter concerning the case. The court desires to await the result of the examination of the records of the adjutant general's office before proceeding to trial. Special Examiner Wiggins now is at work on the books of the Colby administration and will file a preliminary report.

TEXT OF KINKAID BILL

Following is the Provisions of the New Homestead Bill for Nebraska

The provisions of the new homestead law for Nebraska are as follows: "From and after sixty days after the approval of this act entries made under the homestead laws in the state of Nebraska west and north of the following line, to-wit: Beginning at a point on the boundary line between the states of South Dakota and Nebraska where the first guide meridian west of the sixth principal meridian strikes said boundary; thence running south along said guide meridian to its intersection with the fourth standard parallel north of the base line between the states of Nebraska and Kansas; thence west along said fourth standard parallel to its intersection with the second guide meridian west of the sixth principal meridian; thence south along said second guide meridian to its intersection with the third standard parallel to its intersection with the range line between ranges 25 and 26 west of the sixth principal meridian; thence south along said lines to its intersection with the second standard parallel north of the said base line; thence west on said standard parallel to its intersection with the range line between ranges 30 and 31 west; thence south along said lines to its intersection with the boundary line between the states of Nebraska and Kansas, shall not exceed in area 640 acres, and shall be as nearly compact in form as possible and in no event over two miles in extreme length; Provided, that there shall be excluded from the provisions of this act such lands within the territory herein described as in the opinion of the secretary of the interior it may be reasonable practicable to irrigate under the national irrigation law or by private enterprise, and that said secretary shall, prior to the date above mentioned, designate and exclude from entry under this act the lands, particularly along the North Platte river, which in his opinion it may be possible to irrigate as aforesaid; and shall thereafter, from time to time, open to entry under this act any of the lands so excluded, which, upon further investigation, he may conclude can not be practically irrigated in the manner aforesaid.

"Section 2. That the entrymen under the homestead laws of the United States within the territory above described who own and occupy the lands heretofore entered by them, may, under the provision of this act and subject to its conditions, enter other lands contiguous to their said homestead entry, which shall not, with the land so already entered, owned and occupied, exceed in the aggregate 640 acres; and residence upon the original homestead shall be accepted as equivalent to residence upon the additional land so entered, but final entry shall not be allowed of such additional land until five years after first entering the same.

"Section 3. That the fees and commissions on all entries under this act shall be uniformly the same as those charged under the present law for a maximum entry at the minimum price. That the commutation provisions of the homestead law shall not apply to entries under this act, and at the time of making final proof the entrymen must prove affirmatively that he had placed upon the lands entered permanent improvements of the value of not less than one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre for each acre included in his entry; Provided, that a former homestead entry shall not be a bar to an entry under the provisions of this act of a tract which, together with the former entry, shall not exceed 640 acres; Provided, that any former homestead entryman who shall be entitled to an additional entry under section 2 of this act, shall not have for ninety days after the passage of this act the preferential right to make additional entry as provided in said section."

An Important Session.

In the opinion of many high in the councils of Methodism the quadrennial session at Los Angeles, Cal., will prove the most important of any in the history of the church. Among the most important subjects are the following:

What can the church do on the liquor question? What action can the church take to solve the race question? Shall worldly pleasures such as dancing, theatre-going and card playing be condoned by the church? With which combatant in the war in the Orient are our sympathies? What can be done by the church to prevent, in the good name of the country, the crime of lynching? Shall the itineraries of Methodist ministers be restored? How many bishops shall be elected and how many retired?

Hog Mutual Assessment

The receiver for the Hog Raisers' Mutual Insurance company, a concern organized several years ago to insure against loss of hogs by cholera, will apply to the court for permission to levy an assessment. The company went to the wall during the cholera epidemic of 1900-01, and was placed in charge of a receiver. The assessment probably will be a heavy one, calling for contributions from stockholders of from \$50 to \$150, according to their interests.

THE NEWSPAPERS GOT IT

S. F. Smith, President Central Newspaper Union, Davenport, Ia., is Short \$50,000, Trust Funds - Lost Nearly \$30,000 Trying to Establish a Ready-Print House

A special from Davenport, Ia., says that statements and old papers filed for record with the recorder of Scott county, show Samuel F. Smith, ex-mayor of Davenport, Ia., trustee of the Davenport Carnegie library, publisher of the Daily Republican and son of the author of "America," short in his accounts with trust funds of \$50,000. Smith signed over to W. C. Putnam and A. W. Vaaderveer all of his property in Davenport, including stocks in local companies and real estate.

Mr. Smith has long held the confidence of the people. His residence is the finest in the city. It is rumored that the greater part of the shortage was caused by the attempt of Mr. Smith to establish a house to furnish ready-printed sheets for country newspapers. The Central Newspaper Union was started about three years ago by J. N. Brands as manager and Mr. Smith as financier. The ready-print business was run for three years at a loss. It is stated that the total loss up to the time he sold his interests was in the neighborhood of \$30,000. Mr. Smith is ill, his daughter is in a hospital and has wife nearly heart-broken. Smith has made a full confession.

SHE PLAYED NO FAVORITES.

Both Parents Hard Hit by Rebuke of Youngster.

A well-known mining man of San Francisco who has a country home in San Mateo county is the father of a five-and-a-half-year-old girl who is as "sharp as a steel trap."

A few days since the father was about to leave home for the city when his wife, in the presence of the child, asked her husband for some money. The mining man slowly put his hand in his pocket and, taking therefrom a half dollar, remarked, "Darling, that's all I've got just now."

The mother pouted, looked displeased and was about to say something when the little one, looking up into her mother's face, said: "Mamma, if you didn't go to that whist club so often you wouldn't have to ask papa for money."

The husband patted the little girl on the head and gave his wife a glance that meant "didn't I tell you to keep away from the club," while there was a look of supreme satisfaction on his countenance. But that soon faded away when he heard the child say: "Now, papa, if you didn't smoke so many two-bit cigars you'd have money to give mamma when she needs it."

It was then the mother's turn to smile.

A TYRANNICAL USURPER

Governor James H. Peabody is declared to be a usurper in a lengthy brief filed before the supreme court of Colorado by Attorney Richardson in the Ireland habeas corpus case of Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, who is still held as a military prisoner at Telluride.

Governor Peabody is compared by Richardson to a soldier drunk with power and his acts in trying to suspend the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus to the acts of tyranny practiced on the people of England by the olden kings.

The legislature alone, Mr. Richardson says, has the authority to determine when the conditions require the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus and then suspend it.

DEATH IN A BOX CAR

Three men and a boy were burned to death in a box car in the Northwestern yards at Council Bluffs. They were believed to have been tramps trying to steal a ride, but no clue as to their identity has been obtained, as their clothing was practically destroyed. The car was discovered to be on fire while being switched, and the cries of the men for help were heard by trainmen, but all four succumbed to the flames before they could be reached. The car was filled with bedding and it is presumed the fire started by the men smoking.

Her Self-Sacrifice.

He (after the proposal)—But I'm afraid I am not good enough for you, darling?

She—Of course you are not. But you are too good to be thrown away on any other girl.

The man who boasts that he has never made an enemy must be a human jellyfish.

A widow lived in a Russian town surrounded by high grass; She had three sons, three nery ones, Each worth his weight in brass. When Japan got gay, she sent them away To answer the Czarsky's call. Said she, "I yearnsky for their returnsky." But the didn't return at all.



POULTRY

Lice and Mites.

Some years ago the Farmers' Review sent out an inquiry to its poultry readers asking what were the leading causes of losses among the early broods of chickens. It was no surprise to the editor when the reply came back that the greatest cause of loss to chicks was lice and mites. Some of the poultry raisers estimated that no less than 30 per cent of all the chicks hatched were annually killed off by these two pests, of which the mites were the worst. It is safe to say that if any farmer can manage to exterminate these insects and keep them out of his flock he will increase the profits from his poultry at least 50 per cent, without anything else being done.

The body lice of fowls are quite easily kept off by the use of a dust bath and by the use of grease on the heads, around the tail feathers and under the wings. Perhaps some should be put at the base of the wing feathers. These body lice become smeared with the grease, their pores become filled and death quickly follows. Not so easily handled are the mites. One would have to keep the birds covered with grease all the time and all over to protect them from the ravages of these little pirates. The mites do not stay on the bodies of the birds in the daytime, but go onto the birds at night, fill themselves with blood and scurry back to their hiding places under the roosts between the cracks of the boards, and under any object that gives them a hiding place. To grease the birds every day would kill the birds themselves in time and would be a task not to be thought of. The insects must then be fought on the roosts and in their hiding places. Once they have become established the task of getting rid of them is a colossal one, as many of our readers have discovered. We have seen poultry houses in which we believed this could not be done on account of the irregularity of construction. When houses are loosely thrown together there are so many seams and cracks, so many apertures behind slivers, so many rotten holes in posts, to say nothing of nail holes and knot holes, that a pest of this kind can become thoroughly entrenched. Fire and kerosene and paint are the three chief weapons for carrying on the fight. A well-built poultry house permits of the use of paint for closing the cracks and for the use of fire in cleansing the roosts, provided the roosts are movable and can be taken out of doors. Where the poultry house is of cruder construction thick whitewash should be used liberally till the freshly slaked lime has filled every cranny. Fortunately lime is cheap and can be used ad libitum.

Young chickens should not be allowed to sleep in a poultry house where it is known that mites exist, as the parasites are almost certain to find them and sap their vitality without the owner ever suspecting it. If the chicks are put in a place by themselves, of course in the care of the old hen, they will be out of the reach of the mites. The only parasites to be guarded against then will be the body lice. Use only lard for this and do not overdo it, putting on the lard as we have indicated for the old hens. Kerosene is not necessary, and it is too harsh to apply to the very tender skins of the chicks.—Farmers' Review.

Age of Market Birds.

Nothing is more important to the average buyer of poultry than to know how to distinguish good and bad, old and young birds, says H. W. Atwater of the United States Department of Agriculture. A good, fresh bird shows a well-rounded form with neat, compact legs and no sharp, bony angles on the breast, indicating a lack of tender white meat. The skin should be a color (yellow being preferred in the American market) and free from blotches and pinfeathers. The flesh should be neither flabby nor stiff, but should give evenly and gently when pressed by the finger. In a fresh bird, the feet feel moist, soft and limber, and if dressed with the head on the eyes look bright and full. As it becomes stale the eyes shrink and the feet dry and harden; when too stale, i. e., when decomposition is well under way, the body turns dark and greenish. Cold storage birds are commonly packed so closely that the wings remain pressed against the body even after the birds have been unpacked for some time. They can usually be distinguished by the squeezed look from fresh birds, which should lie or hang in a natural position.

Get a Job.

The spirit which condemns a person without a trial received a fine rebuke from Benjamin Franklin, when, a boy of 19, he visited London.

He was in search of work, and, having learned the printer's trade, went straight to a printing office and made known his errand. The foreman was rather supercilious, and said: "Ab, a lad from America seeking employment as a printer. Well, do you really understand the art of printing? Can you set type?"

Young Franklin stepped to one of the cases and, in a brief space of time, set up these words from the first chapter of John's gospel: "Nathaniel said unto him, Can any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see." The text conveyed a delicate rebuke, and the work was done so quickly and accurately, that a position was granted him at once.

Will the Cattle Feeder Disappear?

Senator Harris of Kansas recently expressed the opinion that the professional cattle feeder will disappear, at least on the high-priced lands east of the Mississippi river. He says that it will no longer pay a man to purchase feeders at a high price, put expensive corn into them and sell them on the market at the prices cattle are now bringing. The man that raises the calf will be the one that will market him as a finished steer and get out of him all there is in him. In this way he will, in addition to his other profits, save the cost of two railroad hauls.

Got a Job.

The spirit which condemns a person without a trial received a fine rebuke from Benjamin Franklin, when, a boy of 19, he visited London.

He was in search of work, and, having learned the printer's trade, went straight to a printing office and made known his errand. The foreman was rather supercilious, and said: "Ab, a lad from America seeking employment as a printer. Well, do you really understand the art of printing? Can you set type?"

Young Franklin stepped to one of the cases and, in a brief space of time, set up these words from the first chapter of John's gospel: "Nathaniel said unto him, Can any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see." The text conveyed a delicate rebuke, and the work was done so quickly and accurately, that a position was granted him at once.

Pigs, as well as all other animals, require a variety of food. No single article of diet can ever in itself meet all the requirements of an animal's system.

crooked at the end. It is more developed in males than in females and capons. Turkeys up to a year old are said to have black feet, which grow up to three years old and then turn gradually gray and dull. The feet of pigeons can sometimes be told by the color of the breast. In squabs the flesh looks whitish as seen through the skin, but becomes more and more purplish as the birds grow older. Red feet are said to be a sign of age in a pigeon.

Hatching Chicks.

In hatching we commence in January, using both hens and incubators. We take cracker boxes cut in two, place dampened earth in the bottom shaped into a nice nest to fit the hens and fine chaff from timothy hay on top of this. Straw does not do, as it is so loose. The air circulates through it and tends to kill the germ. We use insect powder plentifully during incubation, testing out the infertile eggs after the tenth day, which must be done for best results. Dead germs and infertile eggs are damaging to the live germs, often killing them.

The fact that the Orpingtons want to set every month in the year enables us to have plenty of broody hens. Also to get the best results from our incubators, we set a sufficient number of hens at the same time, and on the nineteenth day have our incubators all ready and transfer the eggs. Every fertile egg is thus hatched out and we can utilize our hens right over again.

We feed a dry food only until the chicks are old enough to alternate with cracked wheat, corn, oats, etc.

Testing Vitality of Seeds.

Owing to the unfavorable season of 1903 many kinds of seeds failed to mature properly and it is probable that there will be many disappointed growers during the present season. Prof. W. M. Munson, horticulturist to the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station makes the following suggestions, whereby it is possible for every farmer to know just what to expect from his corn, oats, peas, clover or other crops, and to plan accordingly. If he knows that only 50 per cent of his corn will germinate, it is an easy matter to plant twice as much; but if he plants the usual amount and gets only half a stand, the case is much more serious.

A simple test of the vitality of any farm or garden seeds can be made as follows: Place 100 seeds, taken at random from the stock which is to be planted, on a dish of sand, cover from 1/2 to 1 inch with sand, moisten and keep in a warm place, as behind the kitchen stove, until the sprouts appear. The number of sprouts which appear will give an idea of the percentage which may be expected to grow. Care should be taken that the seeds are kept moist, but not too wet. It is advisable to make more than one test, and be guided by the average results. A test of this kind is more valuable than one in which the seeds are placed in blotting paper, for seeds may sprout on paper which do not have sufficient vitality to grow.

The Maiden Blush Apple.

In its report on crab apples, the Virginia station includes the Maiden Blush, of which it says: This is an old variety of American origin (7). Tree a fairly vigorous grower, forming a roundish head, limbs have a tendency to interlock. Trunk and limbs rather stocky; trunk at base measures 18 inches in circumference, at head 16 inches. First bloom noted in 1893; and first fruit in 1895, but this variety has never borne a heavy crop of fruit. Fruit rather large for crab; color a greenish yellow ground with beautiful lilac colored blush on exposed cheek. Flesh creamy white, crisp; flavor quite acid but nearly free from astringency, quality good. Ripens in September. The unproductiveness of this variety is its greatest drawback; we do not recommend it.

Will the Cattle Feeder Disappear?

Senator Harris of Kansas recently expressed the opinion that the professional cattle feeder will disappear, at least on the high-priced lands east of the Mississippi river. He says that it will no longer pay a man to purchase feeders at a high price, put expensive corn into them and sell them on the market at the prices cattle are now bringing. The man that raises the calf will be the one that will market him as a finished steer and get out of him all there is in him. In this way he will, in addition to his other profits, save the cost of two railroad hauls.

Got a Job.

The spirit which condemns a person without a trial received a fine rebuke from Benjamin Franklin, when, a boy of 19, he visited London.

He was in search of work, and, having learned the printer's trade, went straight to a printing office and made known his errand. The foreman was rather supercilious, and said: "Ab, a lad from America seeking employment as a printer. Well, do you really understand the art of printing? Can you set type?"

Young Franklin stepped to one of the cases and, in a brief space of time, set up these words from the first chapter of John's gospel: "Nathaniel said unto him, Can any good thing come out of Nazareth? Philip saith unto him, Come and see." The text conveyed a delicate rebuke, and the work was done so quickly and accurately, that a position was granted him at once.

Pigs, as well as all other animals, require a variety of food. No single article of diet can ever in itself meet all the requirements of an animal's system.