

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

A twenty-five piece band has been organized at Clarks.

Custer county farmers say considerable damage is being caused by cut worms this spring.

Government forecasts place Nebraska's winter wheat crop at 56,548,000 bushels, or 92 per cent of a normal crop.

An eight weeks' summer school for rural teachers will commence June 6 at the Nebraska School of Agriculture at Curtis.

Nebraska now has 100 consolidated schools, thirty-six of which are in open country. Others are located at community centers.

Over 1,000 Shriners from all over the western part of Nebraska attended the ceremonial at Tehama temple at Hastings last week.

The Pilgrim Congregational church at Cortland recently constructed, at a cost of \$45,000, was dedicated May 15, practically free of debt.

It is expected that from 800 to 1,000 delegates will attend the annual convention of the Danish Lutheran church to be held at Blair beginning May 31.

Blair has annexed forty acres of territory on the north side of the city and nearly as much more on the south and east, thus giving an addition of 150 families to the city.

Plans of organization were formulated for the purpose of promoting railroad construction through Arthur and McPherson counties at a big mass meeting at Arthur.

Taxpayers of Custer county held a meeting at Broken Bow to protest against the increase in taxes. More than 200 farmers and business men from all parts of the county attended.

The senior class of the Tecumseh high school will hold its annual commencement exercises in a barn this year. Because of lack of an adequate opera house or hall, a local sale pavilion has been engaged and is being set in order to stage the affair.

All women's clubs of Nebraska are urged to observe Citizenship day, July 4, in a letter sent out by Mrs. John Slaker of Hastings, president of the State Federation of Women's club.

The state board of control will hold open house at the state capitol at Lincoln on May 31, and requests that all persons interested in the location of the men's reformatory for which the legislature appropriated \$300,000 appear before the board. Fremont, Lincoln, Superior, Brownsville and other towns are making an effort to secure the institution.

State high school honors in the dramatic section of the annual declamatory contest of Nebraska high schools were carried away at Cozad by Annette Fenger of the Omaha Central high school student. Representatives from high schools of Battle Creek, Alliance, Superior, Kearney, Cozad, Cody, Stanford and Omaha took part.

Governor McKelvie announced that the contract for the new capitol building will be awarded the first of next year and that by then prices on materials probably will be reduced 30 per cent. Under present plans, if carried out, the new building will be ready for occupancy by state officers at the close of the next legislative session.

Corn planting in Nebraska is reported well under way, although it was hindered somewhat by recent rains. Wheat and oats are in exceptionally fine condition for the time of the year and potatoes are reported as coming in in good shape.

The new law relating to county fairs passed by the last session of the legislature, will be of material benefit to fairs, particularly those that are in need of improvements. The law provides for a one-fourth mill levy in each county, but in no county, outside of Douglas and Lancaster, is the fair to receive more than \$2,000, which must be used for the payment of premiums and permanent improvements.

Twelve inmates of the state penitentiary, sentenced from Omaha, have filed applications for pardon or parole with the state board of pardons, which will meet May 17 in Lincoln. Thirty-two applications for release will be heard.

Theater men of Scottsbluff are considering joining with the Methodist church in showing once a week films vouchered for as "character building."

R. B. Howell, of Omaha, republican national committeeman, announced his candidacy for the United States senate to succeed Gilbert M. Hitchcock.

In an effort to co-operate with railroads endeavoring to reduce expenses by cutting clerical help, the state railway commission announced it had conceded to the railroads' request that the weekly car bulletins furnished it by railroads since 1907 be discontinued.

The building program for state institutions to be begun immediately amounts to \$1,039,500, according to an announcement made by the state board of control. The work embraces new buildings at almost every state institution.

Eleven guards at the Nebraska penitentiary at Lincoln went on a strike following the murder of Robert L. Taylor, guard, by J. B. King, negro convict. The men demanded shorter working hours and frequent searches of cells occupied by negroes for knives and other weapons.

Robert L. Taylor, 50, a guard at the state penitentiary at Lincoln, was stabbed to death by a negro convict James B. King, King, who was serving a two-year sentence for burglary in Keith county, had been reported by Guard Taylor for infraction of the rules.

Appropriations voted by the last legislature total \$30,091,533.25, according to a detailed report issued by State Accountant Sommer, instead of approximately \$28,900,000 as indicated by the statement compiled by the department of finance shortly after the adjournment of the legislature.

Plans for the immediate sale of bonds to build a new high school at Norfolk, were made at a meeting of the Parent-Teachers' association. The structure, which is to be erected the coming year, will be one of the finest school buildings in the state.

Statues of buffaloes, symbolizing the early day scenes on Nebraska plains, will be placed at the top of the central tower of the new Nebraska capitol building, according to plans agreed upon at a meeting of the capitol commission.

William Morris, 50, farmer near Platts, charged with murdering his wife on April 10 by tying her to a horse which dragged her to death, will be brought to trial the latter part of this month in the district court of McPherson county.

Over \$1,000,000 will be expended by the Union Pacific for extending its line from Haig, Scottsbluff County, to Goshen County, Wyo. Contract for the work was awarded to Utah Construction Co., of Ogden, Utah.

Walter L. Mote of Plainview has been named receiver of the Farmers' State bank of Allen, which closed its doors a few days ago. Bad loans are given as a reason for the failure of the institution.

There is a movement on foot at Falls City to build a new wagon bridge across the Missouri River at Rulo. A ferry has been in operation at that point ever since white men settled in the district.

The First National of Sidney which failed to open its doors for business is reported to be solvent. Officials say that heavy withdrawal of deposits necessitated temporary suspension.

Nebraska has 32,000 more brood sows this spring than one year ago, according to the state department of agriculture.

Appropriations voted by the state legislature include \$2,000,000 for disabled ex-service men, and more than \$1,700,000 for the new capitol fund.

Fire caused by lightning completely destroyed the United Brethren church at Coatsfield.

The Pawnee county fair association is contemplating extensive improvements on the grounds at Pawnee City. Construction of a highway connecting the O. L. D. at Grant and the Lincoln highway at Big Springs will begin soon.

Culbertson is to be without a weekly paper soon. The Banner, which has been published at Culbertson, is to be moved to Pallasade by Editor Carrick.

Falling sixty feet from the top of the steeple of St. Paul's Evangelical church at Lincoln, James G. Stephenson, a workman, handed in a tree. He suffered a fractured wrist and hip.

A junior band has been organized at Randolph. There will be about twenty-five or thirty members in the organization. There will also be a girl's saxophone section in the band.

George W. Marsh, state auditor, refused to allow a claim for \$2,474 for J. L. Jacobs & Co., Chicago, for services as an efficiency expert employed to put the code law into effect. The claim was allowed by state legislature.

Arah L. Hungerford, former director of the Skinner Packing Co., at Omaha, asks judgment for \$98,000 against Keith Neville, receiver, in an answer to Mr. Neville's injunction suit to prevent sale of approximately \$2,000,000 worth of bonds against the plant.

The Fourth of July celebration at Oxford this year will be in charge of the Community club and the local post of the American Legion, which expect to put over one of the largest celebrations ever held in southwest Nebraska.

Governor McKelvie issued a proclamation setting aside the week of May 22 to 29 as Forest Protection week. He urged organizations to devote their energies during the week toward instilling in the minds of the public the necessity of providing protection for the country's forests.

The green bugs which have been destroying fields of alfalfa and wheat in Oklahoma and Kansas have been found at work in large numbers on two Pawnee county farms. The insects are working in the alfalfa fields.

The towns of Liberty, Wymore, Piley, Rockford, Adams and Barnston are figuring on closing contracts with the Beatrice Power company, which is constructing a hydro-electric plant north of Barnston, for electric current for lighting and other purposes. The big plant will be completed some time this fall.

Nebraska has a plentiful supply of farm labor, according to the State College of Agriculture. Wages are about 25 to 50 per cent lower than a year ago.

The village board of Crab Orchard passed an ordinance which will close up all places of business in the town on Sunday except restaurants and drug stores.

After being closed two weeks to prevent the spread of scarlet fever, public schools at Gering have again opened. All danger of the spread of the epidemic is pronounced ended.

PROMOTE TRADE IN NEAR EAST

Aims of the American Chamber of Commerce for the Levant Are Set Forth.

TO OPEN UP IMMENSE FIELD

Constantinople Destined to Become the "Chicago of Europe," Says New President of Organization—Opportunity for American Capital.

New York.—Constantinople is destined to become the "Chicago of Europe," according to an interview authorized by Mr. Lucien Irving Thomas, a director of the Standard Oil company of New York, which company has extensive interests throughout Asia and the Balkan states.

Mr. Thomas lately returned from a visit to Europe. "I learned, while in London, that I had been elected president of the American chamber of commerce for the Levant," said Mr. Thomas. "I refer to the newly-organized American section of the chamber, now maintaining headquarters in New York. It will co-operate with the long-established chamber of the same name which has its seat in Constantinople.

"The organization of this chamber is a timely movement to promote reciprocal trade relations between America and that great area—extending from Egypt to Russia, and from Persia to Italy—of which Constantinople is the center.

Gateway to Vast Empires.

"Very few people appreciate that Europe and Asia meet at the feet of Constantinople," continued Mr. Thomas. "The chain of waters, the Dardanelles, the Sea of Marmora and the Bosphorus, made available for free commerce, open the gateway to vast empires of populous and fertile territories beyond. When we realize that Russia, a country considerably more than twice as large as the United States, has few seaports that are not ice-bound for the greater part of the year, except those situated on the Black sea, we may imagine what enormous traffic will flow through Constantinople when Russia, with a hundred million of her people nearby, gets into her commercial stride."

"Then consider Roumania, now with twice her former area—a country of great natural resources, with a present population of 15,000,000. Bulgaria too, noted for a sturdy and industrious population, has her commercial outlet on the Black sea. And even on the farther side of the Black sea is a group of states which eventually must occupy an important place in over-seas trade.

"Jugo-Slavia, now vast in area by comparison with Old Serbia, with substantial natural resources and a population of over 14,000,000 has, of course, one trade outlet via the Adriatic, and another via the Danube to the Black sea. Without any doubt the Danube is soon to play a much more important part in the trade of the Balkan states than it has ever done in the past.

Has Natural Wealth.

"Both Jugo-Slavia and Greater Greece will hold a more important position than now in the Levantine trade of the future. Egypt is growing into a land of commercial significance. While certain territories have been detached from Turkey since the war, there remains much fertile and valuable land. Turkey is rich in minerals of all kinds.

"The war and its aftermath upset exchange throughout the Near East, and this has made commercial transactions difficult for the present. But the natural wealth is there; and a population for the most part industrious. Trade must surely grow.

"A high official of an international bank, one who is recognized as having unusually broad and accurate knowledge of Ottoman financial matters, stated to me at Constantinople that in Turkey fully 65,000,000 in gold is hoarded by the people in 'stocking-leg banks,' and not deposited at all with the public bankers. In this connection it should be remembered that the oriental mind is accustomed to think, financially, in terms of 'hard money,' and that prior to the European war only gold and silver were in circulation, to any extent, in Turkey. There is evidence that great private wealth exists there today, in gold, silver and jewels, and this wealth will come into the current market as trade returns to normal.

"The Levant offers a splendid opportunity for the investment of American capital, in a wide range of enterprises. One of the great openings of the present is for the construction of dwellings, warehouses, harbor improvements, and so forth. Constantinople alone has lost 25,000 to 30,000 houses by fire since the war began, and affords a magnificent opportunity for housebuilding activity. I know for a fact that the Turkish authorities would welcome anyone coming there for the purpose and that they would even be glad to offer concessions. The prevailing spirit is progressive. Modern industrial equipment, too, is now sought where formerly it was shunned. I recall that a long time ago, prior to the coming into power of the Young Turk party, a business cablegram was intercepted by the Turkish authorities because it contained an offer to import some electric dynamos capable of 1,500 revolutions per minute. The wily adviser of Abdul Hamid is said to have thrown up his hands at the suggestion and remarked with some heat that Turkey had enough revolutions on her hands at the moment without encouraging these new-fangled trouble-raisers."

Opportunities Are Great. Constantinople now has an inadequate harbor craft for use in the waters around Constantinople. People living on the other side of the Bosphorus lack sufficient facilities for commuting to Constantinople.

"The development of roadways on the European side of the Bosphorus is another matter for business enterprise. If the Bosphorus is not the most beautiful body of water in the world, I should like to know where it is to be found. A proper driveway along the shores of the Bosphorus would rather tax the memory of a world-traveler to recall anything more charming.

"Opportunities for housebuilding and other forms of construction are open in the other cities of the Levant as well as in Constantinople. There is widespread need for railroad construction and rehabilitation; while at the seaports modern docks and wharves and up-to-date freight handling equipment must be provided.

"The Levant should become a growing market for American machinery and manufactures of all kinds. Imports from the Levant must be stimulated, too, in order to improve the exchange and credit situation so that the Near East can buy more from America. Tobacco, licorice, valonia, attar of roses, raisins, currants, dates, figs, goatskins, hides, furs, olive oil, long-staple cotton, rugs, carpets, and oriental objects d'art are among the imports coming into the United States from the Levant. It will be the aim of the American chamber of commerce for the Levant to help establish trade connections between responsible merchants on either side of the ocean, and to furnish all possible information and assistance to those engaging in trade in this field."

Those in Movement.

Officers of the American chamber of commerce for the Levant include, in addition to Mr. Thomas, president, the following: Chairman of the board, Mr. J. M. Dixon of the Tobacco Products corporation; vice president, Captain J. F. Lucey of the Lucey Manufacturing company; treasurer, Donald Frothingham of the American Express company; secretary and managing director, Dr. E. E. Pratt.

Temporary offices have been established at 200 West Fifty-sixth street, New York city, but it is expected that after May 15 the chamber will be located in the downtown district of New York.

Firms represented on the directorate of the chamber, or as life members, include:

- American International corporation, E. I. DuPont de Nemours Co., U. S. Rubber Co., Guaranty Trust company of New York, General Motors company, Amory, Browne & Company, Great Lakes Trust company, Commercial Union of America, Lockwood, Greene & Company, Hammond Typewriter company, A. B. Farquhar company, Robert H. Ingersoll & Bro., Robert College, James A. Farrell, U. S. Steel corporation, Phelps-Dodge company, Brown Shoe company, International Western Electric company, H. J. Heinz company. The membership covers a growing list of merchants, shipowners, bankers, manufacturers and other business men of the United States.

GAINED AND LOST FORTUNES

English Dandies Played for High Stakes in the Latter Part of Eighteenth Century.

Almuck's was one of the famous old gambling clubs of London. It was at its height in the latter part of the eighteenth century, and the play there was enormous. It was not uncommon for the losses in a single night to amount to upwards of \$100,000.

The young men, dandies all, who intended to play set about the matter with a great deal of ceremony. They wore straw hats with wide brims, flower and ribbon trimmed; the brims intended to keep the light from their eyes, and that the spectators might not see their emotions they often wore masks. They also often took off their ruffles and silk or satin coats and wore in their place a rough great-coat or else wound leather bands about their arms to protect the delicate lace and hues of their coats from the soil of the table.

At each player's side was a small table that held their tea, wine casks and rolls of rouleaus or chips. Most of the players wore long curls, eyeglasses mounted on long sticks, were perfumed, powdered and painted like court ladies, and some of them even affected a mincing ladylike walk. But those who made the error of thinking them ladylike in their fighting ability made a mistake that often cost a life, for the gay young sparks would draw swords at the drop of a hat and meet death with a laugh.

Confusing Incident.

"How was your after-dinner speech received, dear?"
 "Not so well. While I was talking one of the guests actually snored."
 "You should not have stopped for a little thing like that."
 "I had to stop. The other guests woke him up and wanted to know where he got it."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Helpful Hints.

Jones—I want to do something big and clean before I die.
 Bones—Wash an elephant.

The AMERICAN LEGION

(Copy for This Department Supplied by the American Legion News Service.)

POST GETS ARTISTIC RANGE

Chicago Organization Acquires Use of Famous World's Fair Field Museum Building.

The American Legion will soon have the use of a building known to millions in America as the embodiment of beauty in art and architecture, the old Fine Arts building of the 1893 World's Fair. The crack of army rifles will be heard in the famous structure, for it has been turned over to the Hyde Park post, No. 81, of the Legion in Chicago, as an indoor rifle range.

The large edifice, known as the old Field museum after the World's fair, was evacuated with the completion of the new Field museum. Various organizations of Chicago immediately besegged the park commissioners for permission to use the building, but the Legion post's request alone was granted.

Legionnaires now have a rifle range de luxe, one that will tend to erase the veteran's memories of sweltering days, shivering days and cold, moist days spent in trying to locate the bulleseye on the army's outdoor firing points. The building is so large that a 200-yard range was established without difficulty, along with the shorter distances.

GETS MONEY FOR W. A. A. L.

Hungry Rooster Proves Gold Mine for Woman's Organization in Kansas.

How many grains of corn will a terribly hungry rooster eat after he has missed his meals for five hours? The Plymouth Rock in the photograph tucked away 283 grains in record time and made \$328 for the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion in Cimarron, Kan.

The bird was placed in a show window on the main street in the Kansas town. For five hours he scratched and crowed for provender, which was not forthcoming. Then 1,000 grains of tempting yellow corn were spread before him. Guesses as to how many grains of corn it would take to assuage his hunger were sold at ten cents each. In three hours Mr. Rock had gulped 283 kernels of Kansas corn and retired for the night. Then he was sold



Mrs. Leah L. Klein, Cimarron, Kan., and the Lucrative Rooster.

twice, given back to the women, and was finally auctioned off. In all, he netted \$328, a fraction more than \$1.15 for every grain of corn he ate.

Mrs. Leah L. Klein, national executive committeewoman from the Kansas department of the Auxiliary, handled the contest. One of the most active workers for the Auxiliary in her state, Mrs. Klein was educated in Wellesley college and in the New England Conservatory of Music. Her husband, who was a captain in the medical corps, was gassed in the Argonne-Meuse offensive.

THE AMERICAN LEGION GIRL

Miss Margaret Sousa, Daughter of Famous Bandmaster, Acquires New Title.

Miss Margaret Sousa, daughter of John Phillip Sousa, famous band director, has acquired a new title. She is known as the "American Legion Girl" because of her starring in a Legion motion picture, "Lest We Forget," a film depicting the struggles of disabled veterans to obtain justice and unemployment



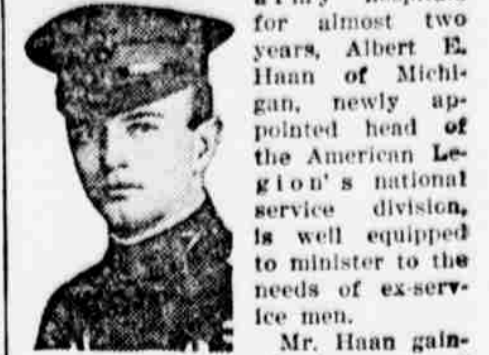
conditions among those who escaped injury in the World war.

Reporting to Davy Jones, Sam, on board the transport, had just been issued his first pair of hobnails.
 "One thing, suah," he ruminated. "If Ah falls overboard, ah certainly will go down at 'tenshun."—American Legion Weekly.

AN ALL-AROUND LEGION MAN

Michigan's Newly Appointed Head of National Service Division is Equipped With Information.

A sailor, a traffic cop, a first sergeant, an assistant provost marshal and a patient in army hospitals for almost two years, Albert E. Haan of Michigan, newly appointed head of the American Legion's national service division, is well equipped to minister to the needs of ex-service men.



Mr. Haan gained the rank of captain on the battlefield and was severely wounded in action at Juvigny, France, while serving with the Thirty-second division. In Walter Reed hospital, Washington, for more than a year, he found out what the government intended to do for the wounded by studying plans and legislation concerning the subject. Discharged from the hospital last fall, he was made a special representative of the bureau of war risk insurance.

In army and navy camps he was instrumental, through the American Legion, in causing the reinstatement or conversion of \$5,000,000 in war risk insurance. In Michigan last November, as field representative of the war risk bureau, he directed a cleanup of hospital, insurance and compensation claims that placed the state ahead of all others in welfare accomplishments.

During the campaign he investigated the condition of ex-service men in the state prison at Jackson and the insane asylum in Kalamazoo. He worked with the Legion's welfare department to cause the parole of 150 men last year to the Legion. He obtained \$300,000 in funds raised during the war and used it in settling claims, relief of the disabled and their dependents and in untangling insurance difficulties and remedying hospital conditions.

Mr. Haan is twenty-eight years old. Coming out of high school, he entered the United States navy as an apprentice seaman. He served four years on the U. S. S. Idaho and was discharged as a quartermaster, second class. He then became a motor and traffic policeman in Grand Rapids, Mich. In 1916, he went to the Mexican border as a first sergeant in the Michigan infantry. Before he entered the lines in France, he was assistant provost marshal at St. Nazaire, as a first lieutenant. Before the battle in which he was wounded, he had served in three offensives.

BOOKS FOR DISABLED HEROES

Congress Appropriates \$100,000 for Reading Material for Soldiers Confined to Hospitals.

Disabled heroes of the World war are not to be without good books to read while they are fighting to regain health in the hospitals of this country. Congress has appropriated in the civil sundry bill the sum of \$100,000 for the purchase of books, with the result that each of the 23,000 disabled veterans will soon have three or four new books to read.

The American Library association, which still has charge of the libraries in the larger hospitals, has been embarrassed by a shortage of funds, and up to this time posts of the American Legion have taken over the duty of supplying books to the disabled in hundreds of the smaller hospitals. The appropriation by congress does not mean that either the services of the American Library association or the American Legion in this respect are to be dispensed with, but that they are to be greatly augmented and reinforced.

CREED OF THE DISABLED MAN

Afflicted Fellows of Washington, D. C., Post, Look on Brighter Side of Things.

Disabled veterans of the World war, nearly all of them overseas veterans and members of the Walter Reed post of the American Legion in Washington, D. C., have adopted what they term, "The Creed of the Disabled Man," which, called to the attention of President Harding upon a recent visit to the hospital, was by the President pronounced fine. The "creed" reads as follows:

Once more to be useful—to see pity in the eyes of my friends replaced with commendation—to work, produce, provide and to feel that I have a place in the world, seeking no favors and given none—a man among men in spite of this physical handicap.

Cost of Living in Paris. The cost of living in Paris is not exorbitant for an American, who is paid in American dollars, according to a letter from a member of the Paris Post of the American Legion.

"Beware the big restaurants and duck into the side streets unfrequented by tourists," the veteran warns. "I had a fine meal today for 8.50 francs, or about fifty cents. The menu included: Friture de la Loire, 1.50 francs; omelette champignons, 2.25 francs; Chateaubriand (which is fried steaks and waterless), 2.50 francs; celeri braise, 75 centimes; macaroni, 75 centimes and fromage, 75 centimes.

"And after the meal, cafe cognac for 95 centimes!"