

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF

Red Cloud, Nebraska

PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY

Entered in the Postoffice at Red Cloud, Neb., as Second Class Matter

C. B. HALE PUBLISHER

THE ONLY DEMOCRATIC PAPER IN WEBSTER COUNTY

Mr. Durand, Director of the Census-writing in The Youth's Companion, brings out the interesting fact that while our country population is still in excess of our city population, there is more of our working, producing population in the cities—that is, more people between twenty-five and fifty-five years of age.

One thing that makes living come higher is that population increase faster than provision for sustaining it. The amount of land under cultivation in this country increased only ten per cent. in the ten years covered by the last census, says Mr. Durand, writing in The Youth's Companion. At the same time the number of consumers in the country increased twenty per cent.

February the second month of the year has ordinarily twenty eight days. In leap years it has twenty nine days. In the reign of Numa two months were added to the year, January and February, January was placed at the beginning of the year and February at the end. In 452 B. C. the decemvirs placed February after January and this arrangement has been allowed to stand ever since.

The ancient name Februarius was derived from the verb februare, meaning to purify, or it came from Februa, the Roman festival. The most noted days are on the second which is known as Candlemas Day, on the fourteenth which is St. Valentine's Day, and the twenty fourth which is St. Matthias Day.

Did the ground hog see his shadow or did he not? This question is much discussed owing to the difference in interpreting the signs. Sunday the second began with plenty of clouds covering the earth but along about ten o'clock the sun could be dimly seen although his rays were not strong enough to make a shadow. An hour later there was a faint shadow and before night there was brilliant sunshine. Now according to some the venerable ground hog came out of his burrow early in the morning, looked around and beheld not his shadow then forthwith returned to his home fully convinced that winter was a thing of the past. But according to others he stayed out and played around the trees until frightened after while by the shadow he cast on the ground. Then he returned to stay in his burrow for six weeks. Authorities seem to differ as to how this animal should conduct himself so we are left in doubt. There is another school of weather prophets which declares that the ground hog has nothing to do with the weather in Nebraska. Perhaps the safe way to do is to wait and see.

At last our Chamber of Commerce is underway. We can now look for some real work being done. An organization of this kind can do much for the city, the community, the county and the Chief is exceedingly well pleased that our business men are in the harness. This organization is not formed simply to furnish a place of amusement for the business men, although that is one of its features, but it is primarily formed for the betterment of Red Cloud. We dream of factories and great institutions and are prone to look to the future for the great benefits we desire but the present is with us and full of possibilities. This body of men can be of untold use to the city council in helping to solve some of the vexing problems of municipal ownership, determining the best way to use the road funds, more than that, this

body should furnish the city a method of determining public opinion. We need a place where we can talk things over in a friendly spirit. Street corner information is unreliable and often leads to wrong conclusions. The place is now provided and everyone who is interested in the city welfare should join the organization and help make it a success.

Ella Ewing Dead.

Ella Ewing, said to be the tallest woman in the world, died at her home in Gorin, Friday, after a long illness.

Miss Ewing was 37 years of age. She was an only child and until 14 years of age she was perfectly normal. Then she began to grow until she had reached the height of 8 feet 4½ inches. Before she had attained her full height she injured her self while playing with other girls and from then on she was a trifle humpbacked. Had she not been slightly stooped her height would have been very close to 9 feet. From the sole of her feet to the waistband of her dress the distance was 5 feet 7 inches. Her shoe measured 18 inches in length and she was compelled to ascend an ordinary stairway by placing her feet sideways. When traveling and obliged to stay over in hotels, two beds had to be placed side by side and she would lie diagonally on them. She wrote with ease on the ceiling of any room and would amuse her friends by looking through the transom. It required twenty eight yards of goods to make her a plain dress without any frills and trimmings.

Her parents were normal, her mother being small. Her father was tall, but could walk through under the outstretched arm of his daughter without touching it, while the mother could touch her daughter's shoulder with her finger tips.

Miss Ewing's mother died seven years ago. Miss Ewing had traveled extensively, both with shows of various kinds and at different times as proprietress of shows of which she was the chief attraction. She always had with her one of her girl friends. She had refused numerous proposals of marriage, preferring to remain single as she said that she was a freak.

While Miss Ewing was a giantess, no one could tell that she was abnormal in size when seated at a table. It was only when she arose that she showed her wonderful height. Her features were large and so were her hands but it was only when she was standing that her full greatness could be appreciated.

After she quit traveling she built herself a modern home near Gorin, Mo. The house was built by and for her, with everything in proportion to her size. The ceilings were 14 feet high, the doors 10 feet high, and the steps broad so that she could ascend them without trouble. The furniture was also in proportion.—Madison (Mo) Times.

Postals Aid Safety First.

Railroad men giving much thought to preventing injuries. A novel method is being employed by Burlington officials and employes to lessen the frequency of accidents to men in railroad service. "Safety Postal Cards" addressed to the superintendent are put at the disposal of the men, who are encouraged to send in suggestions for making conditions as safe as possible in yards, shops, etc. The large number of these postal cards received is an indication of the great amount of interest being taken in Safety First, and most of these suggestions were valuable, reporting conditions which had become dangerous and which it was a simple matter to remedy. It is evident that the officials can hardly see every obstructed passageway, every piece of defective machinery, every rotten board in platforms along hundreds of miles of railway; but some employes, somewhere, knows about every such condition and the Safety Postal is found to be a practical means of reporting these dangerous things so that they may be safe before someone gets hurt.

To Guard the People's Health

State Departments to Show Their Work at Lincoln

Twenty-five state departments, under the leadership of the State Board of Health, will co-operate in a great exhibit of the vital resources of the state and the agencies which act for the preservation of the public health at the Fourth Nebraska Conservation Congress at Lincoln, February 19th to 21st. The University Temple will be filled with departmental exhibits, illustrated lectures and graphic charts demonstrating why Nebraska takes high rank as a permanent health resort where the productive power of a highly intelligent people is wisely conserved.

This exhibit will be original and unique, furnishing one of the auxiliary attractions of what is expected to be the greatest conservation congress ever held in this country. Eminent speakers will be present from every corner of the United States, attracted by the novel plans made for the exploitation of the physical and human resources of Nebraska. The Veterinary Department will show hog cholera, tuberculosis and other exhibits of vital interest to the farmer; the Geological Survey will exploit the mineral resources of the state which have been hitherto a sealed book to all except the experts; the Conservation and Soil Survey will show soil maps and outline the water resources of the state; the Engineering Department will make extensive exhibits of road building and road materials which are to be found in Nebraska; the Department of Rural Engineering will exhibit plans for the farmstead and for typical modern conveniences on the farm.

The State Engineer's office will co-operate in explanation of the water power resources of the state, irrigation, drainage and bridge plans; the Food and Drug Department, Oil Inspector, Medical College, Bacteriologist, Departments of Animal Husbandry, Forestry, Entomology, State Board of Agriculture, Church Survey, etc., are included in the list of exhibits with various sectional meetings on these subjects.

The Department of Public Education will co-operate, showing the progress of education with special reference to rural schools; the Women's Department will be specially provided for and draw a number of the strongest speakers and the Nebraska Federation of Churches will have charge of a series of sectional meetings headed by such speakers as Rev. M. B. McNutt of New York and "Uncle Henry" Wallace of Des Moines.

Admission is free to all sessions of the congress and exhibits. For further information address Department of Publicity, Conservation Commission, Lincoln.

Decline In Soil Fertility

Good Advice from Kansas

Prof. L. E. Call of the Kansas Agricultural College says in the last issue of the Orange Judd Farmer: "Every man who has farmed in Kansas for the past 30 years recognizes that the acre yield of Kansas crops has declined during this period. The yield of corn in Nemaha county from 1875 to 1880 was 40.6 bushels, and since that time has fallen gradually until in the six-year period of 1905 to 1910 only 26.54 bushels were grown to the acre." Prof. Call declares that this diminution in acre-yield is characteristic of the state as a whole and that it is due to failure to restore humus to the soil, to soil erosion and to increasing acidity. Erosion may be remedied by application of simple mechanical ingenuity in plowing and damming of small draws; acidity may be readily corrected by the addition of lime to the soil and humus, or organic matter, may be rapidly restored by growing leguminous crops which also solve the nitrogen problem.

What is thus stated concerning Kansas soils is measurably true also of Nebraska. While the loess soil of Nebraska is deeper and probably contains more of the mineral elements of fertility than the average of Kansas soils the problem of maintaining the fertility of the first twelve inches is ever present with the Nebraska farmer. Nebraska leads Kansas in the production per acre of all grain crops except the Kaffir, but we cannot expect to maintain our present lead without putting into practice what almost every farmer now knows about the necessity of growing alfalfa or clover to keep up the fertility of the soil. It is a good time to plan your rotation for twenty years to come before spring work begins.

Close

The lesson was from the "Prodigal Son," and the S. S. teacher was dwelling on the character of the elder brother. "But amidst all the rejoicing he said, 'there was one to whom the prodigal's return gave no pleasure but only bitterness; one who did not approve of the feast being held and had no wish to attend it; now can any one of you tell who this was?' There was a short lence, followed by the vigorous dozen little mouths came the chorus: Please sir, it was the fatted calf."

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Hardware and Implements

Good Roads Needed

Poor highways contribute to the high price of farm produce to the consumer, for transportation charges enter into the ultimate cost of every article of food produced on the American farm. The influence of roads on prices reflects not only upon the man who raises the product and transports it to market, but on the consumer as well. This is one reason why highway improvement has become a state and national issue, says Farm and Home. It is one reason why country roads should be constructed and maintained out of the general funds of the public instead of by assessment against adjoining property or from strictly local sources.

The average cost per ton per mile for transporting goods on American highways is 23 cents; in France and other European countries it costs 9 to 11 cents. The greatest obstacle to highway improvement in many states is the manner in which public money has frequently been expended, and the fear that large sums will be spent without securing adequate permanent results. Whenever the American taxpayer has reasonable assurance that public funds will be efficiently expended he shows an increasing willingness to be taxed.

To Save The Country Church

At a recent great religious gathering, where there were 2,000 men assembled, the leader asked all those to stand who received their first religious training in the Rural Church. Two-thirds or more of the vast audience rose to their feet. This proves that the great leaders of the church today received their early religious training in the Rural Church of yesterday. Has "the little brown church in the vale" lost its power over the men of today? Will its influence of today make the great Religious leaders of tomorrow? At the present rate most of the Rural Churches of Nebraska and other states will be closed up in the next ten years. Are we ready to close the doors of our Rural Churches? This question is confronting the people of Nebraska at the present time. It will be one of the vital themes at one of the Sectional meetings at the Conservation Congress to be held in Lincoln, February 20-21.

All denominations and people of any religious belief whatever are asked to be represented in this Congress, that the problem may be thoroughly discussed and some plan of co-operation for the Rural Churches derived.

Dr. Warrick, The Specialist, will meet eye, ear, nose and throat patients and those needing glasses fitted at Dr. Damerell's office in Red Cloud, Tuesday, Feb. 11th. adv

WINTER RATE AVAILABLE

HOMESEEKER'S EXCURSIONS:

These are announced for the first and third Tuesday of each month during the Spring and Summer, to the South, West and Northwest, including Wyoming and the fast developing Big Horn Basin country.

COLONIST RATES, MARCH 15th TO APRIL 15th:

Early announcement is made of the very low one way settlers' rates, such as \$30 from Omaha and Nebraska points to far Northwest and California, and \$25 to Utah, Central Montana and Idaho.

WINTER TOURIST RATES:

The attractive scheme of southern tourist rates together with the beautiful hotels and resorts, is developing a heavy volume of winter patronage to that locality.

"MADE IN NEBRASKA SHOW:"

Omaha, March 5th to 16th. This will be a very interesting exhibition of Nebraska's manufactured products; Convention of Federation of Nebraska Retailers; Meeting of State Manufacturers Association.

ANNUAL AUTOMOBILE SHOW:

February 24th to March 1st, a \$50,000 exhibit of the latest patterns of automobiles, auto trucks, etc.

PERSONALLY CONDUCTED CALIFORNIA EXCURSIONS:

Your nearest agent can describe these and secure your berths. Ask him for "California Excursions," Homeseekers Leaflet, "To the Great Northwest," "Pacific Coast Tours."



R. E. FOE, Ticket Agent.
W. WAKELEY, General Passenger Agt.

WEIR BROTHERS BIG

Horse, Mare and Mule Sale

We will sell at Public Sale at our farm 3 miles north and 1 mile east of Superior, and 10 miles south and 1 mile east of Nelson, beginning at 12 o'clock sharp, on

Friday, February 14, 1913

43 Head of Horses 43

Mares and Mules

28 Head of Horses and Mares 28

15 - Head of Good Mules - 15

These horses and mules are all broke and in good shape for spring work. Most of the mares are in foal, bred to our Black Percheron Horse. This sale to be held under large tent.

TERMS—Ten months at 8 per cent. Free lunch at Noon

WEIR BROS.

Col. W. C. Henderson, Auct.

A. C. Felt, Clerk.

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