

Great Stimulus in Agriculture, First in 5 Years

Increasing Number Feel It Financially Safe to Stay on Farm This Spring, Report Declares.

Washington, April 2.—This is the first spring in five years with any evidence of general stimulus in agriculture, the bureau of agricultural economics declared today in a report on the situation.

prices is the most impressive of all the general signs," it declared. "Except for the cattle industry, where in the numbers on feed have for two years tended to obscure the liquidation in actual breeding stock, agriculture has obviously emptied its surplus of the major crops and animals. Over the country as a whole, reports indicate that farmers have not gone into action as hopefully in five years."

Reviewing its recent intentions-to-plant, report, which indicated that farmers contemplated increased acreages of important crops, the bureau repeated its warning that "it seems doubtful if the general expansion of production contemplated by farmers would be to their best interests."

"The indicated purchasing power of the important crops tended higher in February," the report stated. "The key livestock products practically stood still except in case of eggs and butter, which lost ground. The rapid advance of grain prices through the winter left certain livestock products in relatively weak position as to purchasing power. This has been especially true of dairy and poultry products having reached a point such as to discourage production of the latter."

Merchant Surprises Friends by Returning From Trip With Bride

Wymore, April 2.—Robert R. Jones, merchant and resident of Wymore for many years, sprung a surprise on his friends yesterday when he returned from a trip and introduced Mrs. Jones. The bride was formerly Trula White of Marysville, Kan. Each has a family by a former marriage.

Jones is the son of Mrs. Robert Jones, a pioneer resident of Wymore and formerly traveled through southeastern Nebraska and northern Kansas several years for an Omaha bakery firm and operated a bakery in Wymore previous to 1905.

Rotary Club Organized at Callaway With 18 Members

Callaway, April 2.—A Rotary club has been organized here with 18 members. More members will be taken into the club.

Aged Recluse Ends Own Life

Namer of Ice Box Canyon Found Hanging From Rafter in Attic.

Lead, S. D., April 2.—Dick Burgfreddie, aged recluse and near musical genius, who hanged himself last week in the attic of his little two-room home in South Lead, was the namer of Ice Box canyon, according to information furnished by his friends. This will be interesting news to the hundreds of vacationists who annually spend parts of the summer within the canyon's cool confines.

Burgfreddie was born near Bremen, Germany, and came to America 36 years ago. After a period in New York City, he drifted west, locating at Lead. It was while cutting wood in the region near Ice Box canyon that he conceived the unusual name for this scenic Black Hills beauty spot. In late years he has lived within the city limits, working at odd jobs and regaling himself and a few close friends with his musical accomplishments.

It was his interest in the boys of his neighborhood, and his frequent, kindly instruction in the art of manipulating the banjo that led to the discovery of his lifeless body. Ray Cadwallader and Norman Alben, who were accustomed to drop in for the privilege of playing with him, noticed that he had not been about for some time. They investigated and in the attic found his form, suspended by a rope from the rafters.

In the man's clothes were found \$87. This and the fact that he leaves a considerable estate lead to the belief that self-destruction was due to a weakened mind.

Burgfreddie was unmarried, but is said to have a niece living at Brooklyn, N. Y.

DECLAMATORY CONTESTS HELD

Alma, April 2.—A crowd attended Alma High school declamatory contest at the M. E. church. In the oratorical class Erma Shelburn was declared winner and will represent Alma in the sectional oratorical contest at Orleans, April 8. The judges awarded first place in the dramatic class to Merle Kanzelmeyer. The sectional dramatic contest will be held at Bloomington April 6. In the humorous class, Viola Lee was adjudged winner and will appear in the sectional contest at Republican City April 7.

A silver medal was awarded Viola Lee for first place in the entire contest and a bronze medal to Erma Shelburn for second place.

Crete, April 2.—Winners in the local declamatory contest were as follows: Dramatic, Bernice Dridla; Humorous, Margaret Stone; oratorical, Edward Kupka. The district contest will be held next Wednesday night.

Harvard, April 2.—Fourteen contestants appeared in the annual high school declamatory contest. Opal Brown was awarded first place in the dramatic class. Catherine Wingard placed first in the humorous division. Elvin Woodward was ex-temporary winner.

Accident Results in Death of Mrs. David Mellor

Beatrice, April 2.—Word has been received here of the death of Mrs. David Mellor, formerly of Beatrice, at her home in New York City. Mrs. Mellor broke a leg in falling and after the accident pneumonia developed. Mr. Mellor was at one time agent for the Wells-Fargo Express company in this city and at present holds the position of president of the company, with offices at 51 Broadway, New York.

Trace Found of Long-Lost Daughter Sought by Aged Mother Living in Germany

Hanover, April 2.—A. W. Christie, station agent for the Burlington railway here, received a letter from Mrs. F. B. Crate, a German woman living in Nebraska City, as the result of an item in state papers a few days ago relative to a communication Christie had received from an aged German mother in Karlsruhe, Hanover, Germany, who was looking for her daughter, who left Germany 15 years ago and had not communicated with the mother since 1910.

Mrs. Crate states that she knew the daughter in her girlhood and after she married Henry Barnshee, a farmer who lived between Hanover and Lanhorn. A few years ago the family moved to Alexander, Ark., and later to Missouri.

Mrs. Crate states that a sister of Henry Barnshee, Mrs. William Schutte, now lives at Alexander, Ark., and can tell the whereabouts of Mrs. Barnshee.

Nebraska News Nubbins

Wymore—Harry E. Schreiner, auto garage employe, and Miss Fayetta Reed, of Wymore, were married at the office of County Judge Fred Messmore at Beatrice Wednesday. The bride was reared at Wymore and the groom at Hastings, where his parents still reside.

Beatrice—Mrs. Susan McGinty, 74, a resident of east Wymore for the last three years, died at her home here. The body will be shipped to Alma, her former home, for burial.

Crete—Mrs. Margaret McPherson of Omaha visited Crete chapter of Eastern Star and many new members were initiated.

Beatrice—Mrs. John Marlowe, plumber and wife of the manager of the Burwood hotel, died of cancer. She is survived by her husband and two sons, Emmet and Dean.

Crofton—At a cost of over \$6,000 the town officials here have voted to install a new engine, generator and switchboard for the light and power plant.

BROCK DEBATING TEAM UNBEATEN

Brock, April 2.—Brock High school past a crucial test in the state debating league when its debating team took a 2-to-1 decision from the Auburn team at Auburn. By this victory Brock disposed of its most dangerous rival and stands undefeated in this district.

The Brock team is composed of Edgar Chard, Edgar Newman and Byron Reese and is coached by Principal E. H. McCann, former Cotner college debater. This team has come through a difficult season without a defeat and will meet Syracuse and Beatrice before the state tournament at Lincoln.

Shelby, April 2.—Shelby High school debating team, composed of Connie Wilson, Esther Blevins and John Dunning, jumped to the head in the northern section when it defeated the team from Bradshaw. The same team defeated Stronburg at Stronburg Monday night. Its percentage is 75.0.

HEAVY RAINFALL BENEFITS WHEAT

Special Dispatch to The Omaha Bee.

Hastings, April 2.—The first heavy rainfall of the season, which began late yesterday, continued this morning and at 9 a. m. an average of an inch and a half was reported throughout central and southwestern Nebraska, clear to the Colorado line.

Wheat in this locality was suffering from lack of moisture though the crop was in better condition in the area from Minden to Benkelman. The benefit throughout the area is inestimable and ever in the south central portion, where the crop was materially damaged in spots, an immediate stimulus in growth is expected to overcome much of the loss.

Rats Kill 40 Chickens.

Beatrice, April 2.—Mrs. James Willis, living east of Rockford, reports that rats made a raid on her brooder at her home and destroyed 40 young chickens out of a total of 125. The chickens were about two weeks old.

Cornerstone Laid for New Church South of Swanton

Swanton, April 2.—Ceremonies at the corner stone laying of the Evangelical Lutheran church, a rural church about seven miles south of this place, were attended by a large crowd. The church will cost about \$15,000. The pastor is Rev. A. E. Haskel, and the members of the building committee are Herman C. Grummet, Herman Rohlfing, J. H. Miller, H. H. Meyers and Henry Schelle. The building will be completed in about 60 days.

Adolph Neumann, One of Gage County Pioneers, Dies

Wymore, April 2.—Adolph Neumann, 71, farmer living about nine miles southeast of Wymore, died at his home Monday and was buried at Barneston. He was one of the first settlers of Gage county and lived on the same farm for 40 years. He had been ill only a short time. A grown family survives.

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Haas Brothers THE SHOP FOR WOMEN 16th and Douglas

Burgess Bedtime Stories

By THORNTON W. BURGESS.

When once the truth you clearly see, How quick suspicions are to flee.

Old Mother Nature. Great News From the Old Pasture. There was great news from the Old Pasture. Yes, sir, there was great news from the Old Pasture. Sammy Jay had discovered Farmer Brown's Boy and Farmer Brown driving up there with what at first Sammy thought was a wagon load of pine branches. But when Farmer Brown and Farmer Brown's Boy began to take them out of the wagon Sammy discovered that what he had taken to be pine branches were little pine trees. Yes, sir, they were very small pine trees.

Of course, Sam was fairly aching all over to spread the news at once, but his curiosity was even greater than his desire. He was curious to find out what was going to be done with those little pine trees. So he kept out of sight, but where he could watch. He saw Farmer Brown's Boy carefully put one of those little pine trees in one of the holes that had so puzzled all the little people of the Green Forest and the Green Meadows. He saw him carefully spread out the roots, and then pack in the earth all

Sammy Jay Asked Blackie the Crow

better place than it ever was before. There's going to be another Green Forest there."

"How do you know?" demanded Peter. "Because Farmer Brown's Boy and Farmer Brown are up there this very minute, putting little pine trees in all those holes. Those trees will grow and grow, and some day they'll be big trees, and there'll be a wonderful Green Forest there. Isn't that great news?" cried Sammy.

Peter wobbled his wobbly little nose thoughtfully. He scratched a long ear with a long hind foot. He scratched the other long ear with the other long hind foot. But he said nothing.

"Well," demand Sammy Jay, "don't you think that is great news?" "I like the bushes and the brambles best, myself," granted Peter.

Sammy Jay tossed his head. "Everybody to his own taste," said he. "Give me the Green Forest every time. Anyway, there are plenty of bramble-tangles still left in parts of the Old Pasture. I know a lot of other people who will be glad, even if you are not."

Sammy flew straight over to the Green Forest, and there he heard Mrs. Grouse. As soon as she heard the news Mrs. Grouse did a funny little dance. "Splendid!" she cried. "I just knew that Farmer Brown's Boy wouldn't do anything so dreadful as to spoil the Old Pasture. When those trees get a little bigger it will be a wonderful place."

Buster Bear and Lightfoot the Deer were equally delighted. Chatter the Red Squirrel had to go up there right away to find out if it were true. My, how fast the news spread! It was the best news for a long time, for all the little people knew that more Green Forest meant greater protection for them. And so life would be better and easier for them. Yes, sir, it certainly was great news.

(Copyright, 1923.)

The next story: "Farmer Brown's Boy Explains to Bowser the Hound."

Builders Busy at Beatrice. Beatrice, April 2.—It is estimated that 100 hungalows are now in course of construction in the city. The houses range in price from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

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