

FARM AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-Date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.

(From Farmers' Review.)
HE average condition of stock in the state is reported as follows, comparison being with stock in good, healthy and thrifty condition: Horses, 92 per cent; sheep, 93 per cent; cattle, 94 per cent; and swine, 97 per cent.

The average prices January 1 of some of the principal farm products in the markets where farmers usually market such products, were as follows:

The average price of wheat was 59 cents per bushel; of corn, 32 cents; and of oats, 21 cents; and the average price of hay was \$13.12 per ton.

The average price of fat cattle was \$2.82 per cwt.; of fat hogs, \$3.19 per cwt.; and of dressed pork, \$4.25 per cwt.

The average price of each class of horses was as follows: Under one year, \$15.70; between one and two years old, \$24.37; between two and three years old, \$35.12; three years old and over, \$52.65.

Milk cows were worth \$26.45 per head. Cattle other than milk cows, under one year old, were worth, per head, \$7.02; between one and two years old, \$13.44; between two and three years old, \$19.16; and three years old and over, \$35.70.

The average price of sheep under one year old was \$1.52 and one year old and over, \$1.91; and hogs under one year old were worth, \$3.92, and one year old and over, \$7.43.

The prices here given are for the state. For each class of horses, sheep and hogs they are higher, and for milk cows and each class of cattle other than milk cows, lower, than the prices ruling in the southern four tiers of counties.

Compared with January 1, 1895, there has been a decline in the prices of all farm products named in this report except wheat, hay, sheep and cattle. Wheat averages 9 cents a bushel, and hay \$5.17 a ton more now than one year ago. Sheep under one year old have advanced 20 cents, and those one year old and over, 27 cents per head, and the several classes of cattle have advanced from 9 to 26 cents per head.

The loss on corn is 14 cents, and on oats 11 cents per bushel.

The decline in fat cattle is 11 cents; fat hogs, 77 cents; and dressed pork, 72 cents per cwt.

The several classes of horses have declined in value as follows: Under one year old, \$2.49; between one and two years old, \$4.05; between two and three years old, \$6.45; and three years old and over, \$8.12.

Milk cows have declined \$1.45 per head. Hogs under one year old average 40 cents less, and those one year old and over, \$1.36 less than a year ago.

Horses three years old and over were worth \$118.10 on January 1, 1890. Since that date there has been a decline of \$65.45, or more than 55 per cent. The average price each year since 1890 was as follows: 1891, \$111.16; 1892, \$101.17; 1893, \$91.91; 1894, \$75.83; 1895, \$60.77, and 1896, \$52.65.

Washington Gardner, Secretary of State.

Selecting Seed Corn.

A great many farmers who regard themselves as quite careful in the selection of seed, content themselves with making the selection at husking time or from the crib, being guided by the appearance of the ear. This is not sufficient, however, to secure the best results. Prof. H. J. Waters, dean of the Missouri Agricultural College, narrates a direct experiment on this point. The field was gone through and fine ears were selected from the large, thrifty stalks having an abundant leaf growth. Another lot of ears, equal in size, was gathered from stalks smaller and less thrifty. After the seed had been gathered, the one lot could not be distinguished from the other so far as the appearance of the ears went. The only difference was in the kind of stalk that produced the ears. A field was planted with these two lots of seed. All through the season that portion which had been grown from the seed taken from the thrifty stalks could be distinguished from the planting made from the seed taken from the less thrifty stalks. At harvest time the difference in favor of the seed from the large thrifty stalks with plenty of leaf growth was seven bushels per acre, and Prof. Waters thinks that if this process of selection was carried on for a series of years a variety of corn could be considerably improved on the one hand, or almost entirely run out on the other. It follows, therefore, that the selection of seed ears from the crib, being guided by size and general appearance of the ear simply, is not sufficient, and that it is quite as important to know the kind of stalk that produced the seed ear as it is to know that the ear itself has the size, form, etc., which suits the purpose of the farmer.—Farmers' Review.

Cost of Family Berries.

You can have strawberries on the table three times per day until the last of June, raspberries and strawberries together for awhile, then raspberries, dewberries, currants and gooseberries, which overlap well on the delicious blackberry, and then grapes until December. Meantime an abundance of canned fruit to last until fresh berries come again next season. These are not

the stale berries bought on the market, but fresh and clean directly from the garden, and worth double as much as the stale ones bought in town.

I think I know something of the cost of growing berries, and while I concede that they cannot be grown as cheaply in a small way as the wholesale grower would produce them, yet I will contract to pay the hired man his wages, buy the plants and do all the work connected with them till they are ready for picking at two cents per quart for strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries and currants; blackberries for three cents, and grapes for half a cent per pound, and have them all ready for picking, and the latter work can be done for less trouble than you can go to the grocer for them.

Besides, if purchased you must produce something else to get the money. Then you must pay for picking at least two cents per quart, boxes and commissions to dealers at least three cents more. You buy a crate and carry them home, and before you can eat them or can them up, they are stale and have lost their flavor. You have so many that you are rushed to get rid of them before they spoil, and eat too many at once, often bringing on serious disorders, and then go without for considerable time; in fact, most farmers go without them pretty much altogether. In the eyes of the law it is not a crime to deprive your family of these cheap, God-given, delicious luxuries, but it is an offense against them, and the rush of the boys from the farm to the cities, where they see things in great profusion, bears evidence that it has more to do with the breaking up of families so early in life than any other one thing. A steady diet of "hog and hominy," pork and potatoes makes both boys and girls restless, and they long for a change.

Dr. Vaughan, dean of the medical faculty of the university at Ann Arbor, in a lecture before the State Horticultural Society, pointed out that there were many families seriously affected with a disease closely resembling scurvy, and the only effectual remedy yet found were the rich fruit acids. All such diseases had yielded promptly to this treatment. A careful computation of your bills for medicine during the year will show it to be considerably more than the cost of the fruit garden, and so in many cases you can take your choice at the same price, so unless you really enjoy grunting and sickness you should begin at once to prepare for the spring planting.

Select the highest and best piece of ground you can find, and as near the house as possible, so the good wife and children can step out and pick the berries just before the meal. Have all rows long so the work can be done with the horse, with as little hand work as possible. Draw out at once and spread a coat of well-rotted manure, or if you do not have this use fresh manure and let the winter rains wash the juices down into and incorporate it with the soil. The coarse straw should be raked off and not be plowed under, as it seriously injures the ground in case of drought.

Next to the fence set a row of asparagus. Fifty or a hundred plants will supply all the family can eat, and it is fully equal to green peas. Five feet from this row and three feet apart set 25 Palmer, 50 Older or Conrath and 25 Gregg black raspberries. Seven feet further set 25 Hansell, 25 Mariboro and 50 Cuthbert red raspberries. Another row, same distance, put 25 Western Triumph and 25 Taylor blackberries, and then a row of grapes, two Early Ohio, three Moore's Early, five Delaware and Moyer, ten Worden, ten Concord and a few Agawam for early winter. This is the permanent garden, which should last several years.

Now we set for strawberries 50 Warfield, 25 Bederwood, 50 Haverland, 25 Lovett, 50 Greenville and 50 Enhance. Now with this put such vegetables as you need. I am perfectly well aware that I have provided for several times as much as a family of six can eat, but I wanted the children to have something to take to town and sell for their pin money. You will be astonished to see how much money you can pick up from such a garden, to say nothing of interesting the children in the work and the general good cheer it will infuse into the home life.—R. M. Kellogg in Farmers' Review.

Advantages of the Silo.

1. The silo stores away corn more safely and more permanently than any other plan. Silage is practically fireproof, and will keep in the silo indefinitely.

2. Corn can be made into silage at less expense than it can be preserved in any other form.

3. The silo preserves absolutely all but the silks of the corn.

4. Silage can be made in the sunshine or in rain. Unlike hay, it is independent of the weather.

5. When corn is ready for the silo, there is but little farm work pressing.

6. Corn is worth more to the dairy as silage than in any other form.

7. At least one-third more corn per acre may be fed on silage than on dried corn, stalks or fodder.

8. Corn is fed more conveniently as silage than in any other form.

9. Silage is of most value when fed in combination with other food richer in protein. It is not a complete food.

10. Owing to its succulence and bulkiness, silage is the best known substitute for green grass, and is therefore especially valuable as a winter food.—Jersey Bulletin.

A Historic House.

The beautiful castle of Vizille, in which the French revolution of 1788 was planned, and where the conspirators met for a long time, was recently sold by the ex-president of the French republic, Casimir-Perier, to a Lyons brewer for 500,000 francs. It is proposed to turn the historical castle into a large brewery.

SUPERIOR'S BLEAK SHORE.

Almost as Many Perils on the Great Lake as at Sea.

The accident to the steamer Missoula tends to show more clearly than anything that has occurred the vast area of Lake Superior, and the possibility of a vessel's crew reaching land after shipwreck, and yet being unheard of for a couple of weeks after starting on a voyage, says the Detroit Free Press. The shores of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota on the big lake are traversed by railroads and telegraph lines, and the towns and small settlements on the American side of the lake, even to the islands, furnish ready means of communication with the larger cities, but not so on that part of the Canadian shore north of the lakes, where a wilderness inhabited by a few fishermen and Indians exists. This is especially true of the Canadian shore just above Sault Ste. Marie, and for a long stretch of country to the north and east of the point where the Canadian Pacific Railway turns in to the shore of the lake and traverses it on toward Port Arthur and Fort William.

When the Missoula broke her shaft and was rendered helpless, she was less than twenty-five miles from Caribou Island, on the course down toward Sault Ste. Marie. She was somewhat off the regular course of vessels bound down from the head of Lake Superior, but if she had been able to make any headway toward the Sault, or care for herself at all on the course she was following, she would have been picked up very soon after the accident by some passing vessel. But a southerly wind drifted her out of the course of even the few vessels trading to Canadian ports at the head of the lakes, and she was working over toward the wildest part of the Canadian north shore territory when her crew were compelled to abandon her.

A glance at the chart will show that Brule point, where the crew of the Missoula first made land, is scarcely more than seventy-five miles from Sault Ste. Marie, where 15,000,000 tons of freight passes through a canal in a single season, and yet the men in one of the Missoula's yawls beats spent nearly two days working along the shore of the lake before they found any more sign of life than a deserted fisherman's shanty, in which they built a fire and dried their wet clothing. The fishing season had closed, but even fishermen are scarce in this territory during the most active periods. It is not strange, therefore, that the men from the Missoula were nearly a full week in finding means of communicating with the owners of the vessel after they had landed on the dreary north shore of Lake Superior.

GOING FOR THE DEVIL.

Evangelist Struble's Vigorous Warfare Upon His Satanic Majesty.

From the Portland Oregonian: The Oregonian is in receipt of a pamphlet entitled "A Jab at the Devil; An Argument for a Christian Political Party," by Rev. Wallace R. Struble, evangelist. It is printed at Colon, Mich., where Mr. Struble is at present "evangelizing." On the cover is a picture of his satanic majesty, seated on the base of a column, around which one of his arms is placed. He wears a pained expression of countenance, and has two cloven feet and no tail, which is supposed to be the Michigan style, while a large, healthy-looking black snake, ornamented with red spots and a barred tail, lies across his lap and encircles the pillar, its mouth being in the act of seizing a spear. This spear issues from a black corner of the cover, ornamented by a number of death heads, where Mr. Struble is supposed to jab the spear into the devil's thorax.

"The author's contention," forms a frontispiece for the pamphlet, and from his sleek, well-fed appearance it is evident that Rev. M. Struble, though in Michigan, is enjoying life much better than the party he is jabbing at. In an accompanying note Rev. Mr. Struble, who, for the benefit of those who do not know him, it may be said was born and educated in Portland, states that the brochure embodies his ideas respecting the formation of "a Christian political party," which he considers essential to the well being of the American government, and gives permission to publish limited extracts therefrom. Mr. Struble's ideas on politics seem to be in line with those of at least one revered and several politicians of this city, but while the latter confine themselves to jabbing at the city administration and subordinates of the devil generally, Rev. Mr. Struble flies at higher game, and with his glittering spear prods the father of all evil himself. What with the publication of "Letters from Hell," "The Sorrows of Satan," and now this dreadful jab at him, it is evident the devil is having a very distressful time, but it is hard to see any reason why, in hell, he shouldn't.

New Woman as Elevator Girl.

The new woman has invaded another field of labor. She is going to be an elevator girl. Strange that some bright woman did not think of it before. It is slow, conservative Philadelphia that introduces the elevator woman to an approving public. In the Young Women's Christian Association building, at Arch and Eighteenth streets, are two young women pioneers at this line of work. They like it, too, and say it is not nearly so hard or so unpleasant as standing all day in a store. The association building is eight stories high, and there is a large amount of travel up and down the elevators. The restaurant on the eighth floor is patronized not only by the permanent and transient boarders of the association, but also by crowds of no-day shoppers.

No back ever yet broke under the burden God gave it.

DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

VOICE OF THE PRESS ON ITS POLICY.

From Maine to Mexico the Press is United Against the Do-Nothing Republican Congress—Tin Plate Fraudulent Cry.

Addressing free-traders, a Chicago organ of McKinleyism asks: "Two years or so ago were you not howling that the tin plate duty was an infamous imposture that could not result in the establishment of tin plate industries in the United States?"

No. Free-traders were not howling that two years ago or at any other time. So far from denying, they have always affirmed that it was possible to establish an industry by the tariff method or by the bounty method. They have always affirmed that if persons wishing to engage in industry were assisted by bounties high enough or by arming them with power to tax their fellow citizens heavily enough they could succeed.

This is the very thing to which free traders strenuously object. They insist not only that it is wretched economy but that it is grossly iniquitous either to tax the people and hand the money over to individuals to swell their gains or to give those individuals power to collect taxes from their neighbors themselves. They agree with the supreme court of the United States in the opinion that this sort of thing is not taxation but robbery under the forms of law, and that government cannot justly do any such thing.

With respect to the tin plate industry, so far from saying that it could not be made profitable by the tariff method, they have strongly objected to being taxed by that method to make it profitable. They have strongly objected to being taxed to make that industry excessively profitable, as they were under the McKinley law. The proof that they were so taxed is seen in the fact that the tin plate men have gone right on establishing more plants and increasing their output under the new duty, which is little more than half as high as the McKinley duty.

The organ asks whether it is not true that nearly 100 tin plate plants were established under protection, and that these 100 rivals for the possession of the United States market were free from suspicion of trust combination until after the enactment of the tariff of 1894. There was an American Tin Plate association before the McKinley law existed, and it has been in existence ever since. It may be that this association did not attempt to restrict production or to maintain prices until after the repeal of the McKinley tariff. That was hardly necessary, because they could not produce tin enough to supply more than half of the American demand and there was no difficulty about holding prices up to the figures made by the tariff without forming a trust.

The industry had not arrived at the trust stage. That stage is reached only when an industry has become so developed that it is able to overstock the home market. Then competition sets in and it is no longer possible to hold prices up to the tariff level otherwise than by combination. Then the trust comes in and enables the protected captains of industry to exact their full pound of flesh.

It is thus that the tariff breeds trusts by supplying the motive for their organization. The protectionists have been telling the people that their system reduces prices in the long run through competition among the protectees. They have been telling a falsehood, for the trust steps in and throtles competition, while the tariff enables it to practice extortion. This is not less true of the tin plate industry than of any other, for it is still in enjoyment of plenty of protection. It is not true, as the McKinley organ would have its readers believe, that the new law has deprived that industry of protection. If the stage of real competition has been reached, which probably is not the case, the tariff motive to organize a trust for the practice of extortion has come into play, just as it has in a score or more of industries which are still much too considerably protected.—Chicago Chronicle.

The United States of T. B. Reed.

An esteemed republican contemporary states that Speaker Reed is opposed to the admission of any new states with trifling population at this time and is said to be using his influence with the committee on territories to withhold a report in favor of the admission of Arizona and New Mexico, with four senators to offset New York and Illinois, when the treaty with Mexico only promised to admit New Mexico, which included Arizona, as one state.

To say that Speaker Reed has influence with a committee of his creation is to describe his power and authority in the mildest of terms. If Mr. Reed has decided that New Mexico shall not be admitted as a state of the union unless consolidated with Arizona the matter is settled. Mr. Reed is the house of representatives. It may be said at this juncture that Mr. Reed is the congress of the United States. The house is peculiarly his property. It dare debate nothing that he decides shall not be debated. He has organized it with the purpose of placing it completely under his control. It is not now a deliberative body. Like the centurion in scripture, Reed is as one in authority who saith to one man go, and he goeth, and to another come, and he cometh. He has no such personal power, it is true, over democratic members of the house, but the committee on rules is his, and when he wants to silence a democrat in debate the debate is closed. When he

cares not to recognize a democrat the most strident vocal organs ever given a human being would not catch his ear, the most imposing presence ever bestowed on human kind would not catch his eye.

Thomas B. Reed of Maine is not only speaker of the house of representatives. He is also the republican party in the house of representatives. He is also the whole house of representatives through his ability to silence the small minority. We may go further than this. Mr. Reed, the whole thing in the house of representatives, is substantially the autocrat also of the senate chamber.

We hear sometimes of popular government. The government of the republic of the United States is as popular in its legislative branch as Speaker Thomas B. Reed chooses to permit it to be.—Chicago Chronicle.

Miller's Treasury Drain.

Warner Miller, who is in Chicago, states as a settled fact that the Nicaragua canal will be constructed. There would be no objection in the world to Mr. Warner Miller's taking the funds necessary from subscriptions made for the purpose, and, under the auspices of the company of which he is president, constructing the Nicaragua canal and relying for reimbursements upon the tolls that would be received from the commerce of the world for its use. In so far as his project is commendable.

But Mr. Warner Miller has tried that plan and is forced to give it up as beyond his capacity. He turns then, as the Pacific turned thirty years ago, to the government of the United States, and says with the utmost plausibility, "We have this concession. Give us your credit and you can have our rights in the premises. Back us with unnumbered millions, and you shall have reimbursement."

Therein Mr. Warner Miller is wrong. The government of the United States has no right to enter upon the canal business. It is particularly warned against venturing in Mr. Warner Miller's enterprise by the outcome of its venture with the Pacific roads. Were congress so foolish at this time as to make the desired grant Mr. Miller might become, as his fellow senator, Stanford of California, became, many times a millionaire, but the people of the United States would suffer. The whole project hinges upon a certain control by Miller and his associates. Their concession must be had. They must be reimbursed according to their opinion of the value of the project. The United States would be foolishly to go into any such ruinous experiment; yet the Reed congress will undoubtedly do for Warner Miller all that he asks.—Chicago Chronicle.

Bayard and Free Speech.

The congress of the United States might have had months ago all that it required for from the state department concerning certain utterances of Ambassador Bayard.

The house, however, has the whole subject-matter as presented from the department of state. Now that it may peruse Mr. Bayard's address to the Philosophical Society of Edinburgh at its leisure, what is it going to do? It won't chop off Mr. Bayard's head. It can't silence Mr. Bayard's tongue. It can continue its bluster and threaten to impeach him for high crimes and misdemeanors, but it is not, however, admitted in the United States that freedom of speech is a crime, even a misdemeanor.

What Mr. Bayard said he may repeat with propriety anywhere in the world, for what he said was a simple truth.

The house at Washington is composed of such men as Chicago is well acquainted with—Lorimers, Woodmans, Whites and the like. These disport themselves as far as the speaker will permit. Their opinion of the patriotism and intelligence of Thomas F. Bayard would not be worth stating to any society, philosophical or other, at Edinburgh or any other place.

If Mr. Reed, who is the house of representatives, pushes the matter, then the republican party will be fully responsible for as dastardly an attempt at menace of a free man as legislators have ever proposed.—Ex.

John Bull More Cute than Jonathan.

Boston Globe: Wherever England has set foot on a distant country she has immediately invited the natives to trade with her on equal terms. What do we do? The other day, while all the South American countries were slinging our praises and inviting us to fellowship, the republican majority in congress voted in favor of laying a tariff upon wool that was almost prohibitory. We practically forbade our allies to sell us one pound of their chief staples. England is more cunning. She assumes that the first step to elevate a barbarian in the scale of civilization is to make a trader of him and give him all the encouragement possible.

Promises Far from Fulfillment.

Indianapolis Sentinel: What has become of all those boastful promises of what would be done when the republican congress met? The republican party stands to-day apparently without any policy for the relief of the treasury and the country. It does not dare to take any position on the money question. It is trying to carry water on both shoulders and in all its pockets.

Can Scarcely Go Astray.

Wheeling Register: Democracy has chosen the time and place and now for the man. The woods are full of the finest kind of democratic timber, and it will be strange if Dame Democracy goes astray in selecting her choice this leap year.

Come West for Your Seed.

That's what we say, because it's the best. Salzer's Wisconsin grown seeds are bred to earliness and produce the earliest vegetables in the world. Right alongside of other seedsmen's earliest, his are 20 days ahead! Just try his earliest peas, radishes, lettuce, cabbage, etc! He is the largest grower of farm and vegetable seeds, potatoes, grasses, clovers, etc!

If you will cut this out and send it to the John A. Salzer Seed Co., La Crosse, Wis., with 10c postage, you will get simple package of Early Bird Radish (ready in 16 days) and their great catalogue. Catalogue alone 5c postage, including above seeds, free. W.N.

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Manifests itself in many different ways, like goitre, swellings, running sores, boils, salt rheum and pimples and other eruptions. Scrofula is a manly free from it, in some form. It clings tenaciously until the last vestige of scrofulous poison is eradicated from the blood by Hood's Sarsaparilla. Thousands of voluntary testimonials tell of suffering from scrofula, often inherited and most tenacious, positively, perfectly and permanently cured by

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The One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. \$1. Prepared only by C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

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DONALD KENNEDY, OF ROXBURY, MASS.,

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He has tried it in over eleven hundred cases, and never failed except in two cases (both thunder humor). He has now in his possession over two hundred certificates of its value, all within twenty miles of Boston. Send postal card for book.

A benefit is always experienced from the first bottle, and a perfect cure is warranted when the right quantity is taken.

When the lungs are affected it causes shooting pains, like needles passing through them; the same with the Liver or Bowels. This is caused by the ducts being stopped, and always disappears in a week after taking it. Read the label.

If the stomach is foul or bilious it will cause squeamish feelings at first.

No change of diet ever necessary. Eat the best you can get, and enough of it. Dose, one tablespoonful in water at bedtime. Sold by all Druggists.

THE EARLIEST POTATO IN THE WORLD

FOR 5 CENTS

DO YOU KNOW . . .
That the finest vegetables in the world are grown from calzer's seeds? Why? Because they are Northern-grown, bred to earliness, and sprout quickly, grow rapidly and produce enormously!

35 Packages Earliest Vegetable Seeds, \$1.

POTATOES IN 28 DAYS!

Just think of that! You can have them by planting Salzer's seed. Try it this year!

LOOK AT THESE YIELDS IN IOWA.

Silver Mine Oats, 107 bu. per acre.
Silver King Barley, 85 bu. per acre.
Marvel Spring Wheat, 60 bu. per acre.
Giant Spurry, 40 bu. per acre.
Giant Inca Clover, 3 tons hay per acre.

Potatoes, 100 to 1,000 bu. per acre.

Now, above yields Iowa farmers have had. A full list of farmers from your and adjoining states, doing equally well, is published in our catalogue.

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Enormous stocks of clover, timothy and grass seeds, grown especially for seed. Ah, it's fine! Highest quality, lowest price!

IF YOU WILL CUT THIS OUT AND SEND IT

With 12c. in stamps, you will get our big catalogue and a sample of Pumpkin Yellow Watermelon sensation. Catalogue alone, 5c., tells how to get that potato.

JOHN A. SALZER SEED CO.
LA CROSSE, WIS., U. S. N.

No One is to Blame

but yourself. If your ticket to St. Joseph, Kansas City, Denver, Leadwood, Helena, or Butte does not read via the Burlington Route, you are not entitled to the local tickets to these and all other southern and western cities. He will furnish you with one if you ask for it. But you must ask for it.

Letters of inquiry addressed to the undersigned will receive prompt attention.

J. FRANCIS, Gen'l Pass't Agent, Omaha, Neb.

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Fine Army Tuck with side zip in \$1.00. Good Heavy D. ok. with buckles, 65c. Sent prepaid on receipt of price. Send size of shoe and measure of waist of leg. L. C. HUNTINGTON & SON, Omaha.

The local ticket agent has tickets via the Burlington to these and all other southern and western cities. He will furnish you with one if you ask for it. But you must ask for it.

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