

LOAD FREIGHT CARS HEAVIER

Advice Given by Railroad Men, Who Say that Car Shortage Would Thus Be Greatly Relieved

CANNOT APPLY TO LIVE STOCK

More Rapid Transit the Solution of the problem as it Relates to Live Stock Shipments

(By John W. Thomas) "Load freight cars heavier and thus get the hauling done with less cars," is the advice given by the railroad officials to shippers who wish to co-operate in trying to relieve the car shortage situation.

A special committee of the American railway association has been appointed, known as the special committee on national defense. The committee consists of five high railroad officials, as follows: Hale Holden of the Burlington, Howard Elliott of the New York, New Haven & Hartford line; Fairfax Harrison of the Southern railway, Julius Kruttschnitt of the Union Pacific and Samuel Rea of the Pennsylvania lines.

The committee has pledged to President Wilson that it will see that more efficiency of freight car facilities comes out of the present equipment. They have agreed to co-operate as one line to eliminate wastes in operation. In line with this pledge the cars for all practical purposes have been pooled, there remaining only a minimum recognition of proprietor's title.

The committee holds that both carriers and shippers are at fault in bringing about the present waste in tractive power. It is pointed out that if the average loading were increased two tons per car 200,000 cars now in use could be released at once to rush to the aid of the shippers who have long been crying about the car shortage.

Too Much Waste Space It is pointed out that seldom is a car loaded to its capacity and that in the shipment of many commodities cars could be loaded to capacity as well as not without inconveniencing anyone.

With respect to the help that can be rendered by the shippers, the committee recommends to the shippers the following:

More rapid loading and unloading of shipments. Shippers and consignees should not ship beyond their ability to handle promptly.

Load all cars to 10 per cent in excess of their marked weight capacity. In cases where one shipment will not fill the car, load another shipment going in the same general direction.

Too Much Waste Time In the shipping of live stock the trouble is not in wasted car space but wasted time. Practically stock cars are ordinarily loaded to capacity. Any method that will secure less delay in loading and unloading and more rapid transit will release cars sooner and relieve traffic congestion and car shortage.

In line with the above suggestion was the law passed by the Nebraska legislature at its last session, setting a minimum per hour speed for trains carrying live stock. This law was passed primarily in the interest of shippers, but incidentally it will be a benefit to other shippers by speeding up freight trains and setting a better pace for traffic.

The tendency with American railroads in recent years has been to load trains heavier and move them slower. Now, if with their heavy loading, they can get up more speed without prohibitive extra expense, it will be a great benefit to the public without being a detriment to the railroads.

ROBERT GRAHAM OF ALLIANCE



Re-elected president of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association at the Valentine convention. Mr. Graham is a prominent stockman, postmaster at Alliance, and president of the Box Butte county Council of Defense.

SO. OMAHA LIVE STOCK EXCHANGE

Second to None in Splendid Work done for its Patrons, the Shippers of Tributary Territory

IN FRONT RANKS OF EXCHANGES

Honored by Selection of Pres. W. B. Tagg as President of the National Organization, Also

For some years past The Herald has tried to familiarize its readers, and more particularly the ranchmen of western Nebraska, with the work of the South Omaha Live Stock Exchange.

We are fully convinced that live stock exchanges at the great markets properly organized and conducted, are a good thing for producers and shippers. We are further convinced that no live stock exchange is better organized or conducted than the exchange at Nebraska's great live stock market, South Omaha.

It is not news to readers of this paper, because it has been so persistently stated before, but is well worth repeating that a very large part of the work of the South Omaha Live Stock Exchange is directly in the interests of the shippers and benefits the members of the Exchange only indirectly by protecting the rights and interests of their customers.

A fine article, under the caption "Something About the Live Stock Exchange," was printed in the big annual booster edition of The Nebraska Democrat, edited and published at South Omaha by State Senator J. M. ("Doc") Tanner, June 23rd, which we give below, hoping that every stockman who reads the Herald will read it:

While naturally live stock markets are of slow growth and can only progress as the resources of the agricultural territory surrounding it are developed, nevertheless, the advancement of the Omaha market has been swift and sure, proving not only that the location of the market is ideal but also establishing beyond a doubt that the group of states which annually contribute to its support constitutes the most productive farming community in the world.

The enviable position which the Omaha market holds in the eyes of the world was not the gift of some good fairy imparted to the advocacy while the tired commission men and speculators slept one evening. It was attained by faithful performance of functions, in close conformity to rigid rules of buying and selling, coupled with the ever necessary ingredient of any success—faith—and abetted by the ever important elements of any market—supply the demand.

The success of the local live stock industry has been so wonderful that the history of the first stragglings of the infant industry in Nebraska seem vague.

It has been little short of thirty years since a few scattering pens with a weight station comprised the entire effort for recognition exhibited by the present mammoth industry.

Advancing in years half of that time and we find a promising center of traders vying with the other markets of the country for the location of new packing plants and industries pertinent to the trade.

The space intervening between this epoch and the rise of the Omaha Live Stock market is brief indeed and the speed which is recorded by the speedometer of business is at the present time registering a figure which may within a few short years establish a record which not even the prosperous Chicago will dare to challenge.

A few short years back Sioux City and St. Joe enjoyed a market business which was regarded with envy by the local men. St. Louis was also claiming a big share of the business which should rightfully be sent to the local struggling center, and St. Paul, Minn commanded a prestige which gave promise of future eminence. Kansas City was enjoying a patronage from the south cattle country which placed it far in the van of all other contemporary markets with the exception of Chicago.

Time makes many changes in the sands of big business and now with reference to the markets above mentioned Omaha has not only been taken from the rear, but advanced from a recedent position to that of leader.

Kansas City is no longer the feared rival of Omaha as figures for the past two years show a decided advantage in favor of the Nebraska market in volume of business accomplished. The position of second live stock market of the world is willingly accorded the local industry by the entire nation.

While the onward march to wealth and glory has been taking place at the local yards there has been at work an influence which is seldom credited with the great effect it has had in placing Omaha among the leading cities of the country. This is the Live Stock Exchange.

The Exchange has for its work the protection of both members and shippers from infringement, fraud, excess

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RESIDENCE OF JOHN BACHELOR, VALENTINE

The picture shown herewith of the costly and magnificent home of John Bachelor at Valentine gives but a faint idea of the elegant \$30,000 home which this prominent stockman has built for his family and himself. Mr. Bachelor, who is a member of the executive committee, was the mainspring at the Valentine convention. He worked unceasingly day and night to make of the meeting a success and his efforts were rewarded by the satisfaction of knowing that everyone who attended felt that the meeting was a grand success. Mr. Bachelor filled this beautiful home with guests during the convention among them being The Herald editor.

A HIDING PLACE



SCHLAGEL FALLS NEAR VALENTINE

Hundreds of beautiful spots for camping and recreation abound on the Niobrara and its tributaries. This picture is of Schlagel Falls on Schlagel Creek, near Valentine. Members of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association were taken in autos to many of these beautiful spots on the second day of the convention. Photo by courtesy of the Valentine Democrat.

STOCK GROWERS' ANNUAL MEETING

An Account of the Twenty-third Annual Convention of the Nebraska Stock Growers Ass'n

HELD AT VALENTINE IN JUNE

Valentine Citizens Prove Able Hosts to Many Members Gathered at That City Two Days

The twenty-third annual session of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association was held at Valentine, Nebr., on Monday and Tuesday, June 18 and 19, 1917. This account is published for the information of Herald readers and for the particular attention of all members of the Association, to whom this and future issues, during the coming year, will be mailed.

At the meeting held Monday morning there were present the following officers and members of the executive committee: Robert Graham, president; Chas. C. Jameson, secretary-treasurer; E. P. Meyers, J. H. Bachelor, H. J. Krause, A. R. Modisett, J. H. Quigley and John Diemer.

The president appointed the following committees: Auditing committee—A. R. Modisett, E. P. Meyers, H. J. Krause and John Diemer. Resolution committee—Robert Faddis, J. H. Quigley and J. H. Bachelor. Nominations committee—J. H. Bachelor, J. H. Quigley and John Diemer. These committees proceeded to their work. Their reports as adopted by the association are found in this issue of The Herald.

The afternoon meeting was called to order by the president at 3 o'clock in the Valentine auditorium, a commodious new building well adapted for such conventions. President Graham opened the meeting with a short address of welcome to the members and visitors, who filled the hall. He also thanked the citizens of Valentine for their cordial welcome.

The report of C. L. Talbot, chief brand inspector at the Omaha yards, was then called for. This report is published in this issue.

W. B. Tagg, president of the National Live Stock Exchange, was then called on for a speech on "Inspection." Mr. Tagg's speech is re-printed in full in this issue of The Herald. It should be read by every stockman.

The next speaker was C. C. Covey, superintendent of the Rosebud Indian Reservation. He told of conditions of lands on the reservation which are and will be available to stock growers for grazing purposes under government leases. His remarks contained much information for association members.

W. H. Benn, traffic manager, for the Sioux City Stock Yards Company, told of the Sioux City yards and asked that a share of the business of the stockmen present be sent to those yards.

Lloyd Thomas, state representative for the 73rd district, spoke on legislation passed at the 1917 session for stock growers and referred to the opportunity to secure a larger membership for the association. He read and explained House Roll 339, the compulsory gate closing law, House Roll 419, the 18-miles-per-hour transportation law, and House Roll 792, the compulsory dipping law. These laws are printed in full in The Herald this issue.

Representative Geo. E. Tracewell of the 73rd district, who lives at Valentine, made an interesting talk on legislation and matters of interest to stockmen.

The secretary then read a letter from Mr. Burke, vice chairman of the National Market committee. The president asked the members of the association to consider the matter of contributing to the funds for the financing of the National Market committee. The president had been present at the national meeting in Cheyenne when this matter was considered and he urged that the association assist in the matter. His remarks were seconded by Mr. Faddis, Mr. Krause and Mr. Modisett. Mr. Corothers disagreed with the previous speakers on the matter and said that the ranchmen and stock growers needed investigating as well as the packers. Mr. Bachelor called attention to the fact that through the energetic work of the National Market Committee congress had appropriated \$200,000 for the purpose of investigating the packers, to determine whether or not the latter are in a combine for the control of prices. On motion it was voted to levy an assessment of one-half of one cent per head on the cattle of association members and that the amount raised by this levy be contributed to the Market Committee expenses. The Herald representative talked with a number of prominent stockmen, both large and small, and found them strongly in favor of this when they realized the good work which the National Market Committee is doing in their behalf.

Report of Resolutions Committee The report of the committee on (Continued on page 4)

ELECTRIC POWER FROM NIOBRARA

C. H. Cornell of Valentine Has Plant Which Has Boundless Possibilities for Power Development

STOCKMEN VISIT POWER PLANT

Plenty of Power Available for Running Motors for Irrigation, Factories and Other Industries

Those who attended the annual convention of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association in Valentine in June were given the opportunity of visiting a unique undertaking and accomplishment in Nebraska—the hydro-electric power plant constructed by C. H. Cornell on the Niobrara river.

The plant was completed in December, 1916. It now supplies power to the city of Valentine. Only a small part of the power which the plant can generate is being used. Boundless possibilities in the way of use for this power present themselves for future development—pump irrigation, potash drying plants, and many other uses are suggested.

The picture of the dam published herewith gives but a faint idea of the entire plant. The history of the plant is interesting to anyone. The Nebraska Farmer, on July 5, 1916, published an article written by Thurman A. Smith of Cherry county, which tells of the big project. The article was written before the completion of the plant. It reads as follows:

Power from Nebraska Streams

(By Thurman A. Smith, Cherry Co.) The dam across the Niobrara river at Valentine, Nebr., which will develop approximately 750 horsepower every day of the year, is the "dream come true" of a man who many years ago saw the great possibilities for power in the fast-flowing stream. The dreamer was Charles H. Cornell of Valentine, a pioneer with no visible means to develop his ideas, but he had pluck and push, two very essential qualities of a successful dreamer.

More than thirty years ago he stood in silent wonder and gazed upon the fertile table-lands, the cliffs, and lastly upon the murmuring waters of the Niobrara. He recognized the rapid flow of the current and his practical nature at once suggested the possibility of water power from the stream and the development thereby of an industrial city upon its banks, lighted, and the wheels of its varied enterprises turned by the electrical current generated by the water.

He saw electric railroads reaching out to remote points through highly productive regions. He saw why the prairie where others saw only prairie. He saw great wealth instead of pioneer poverty and privation. Men to whom he told his vision listened and called him a dreamer, but the vision remained, and, as often as he returned to gaze upon the river to him its waters seemed to murmur, "Water power."

A Dream That Came True The construction of the Cornell Hydro-Electric Co.'s dam across the Niobrara at Valentine is one evidence of Mr. Cornell's rare ability to make his dreams actual facts, and Valentine, one of the most promising cities of the northwest, is another.

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CHAS. C. JAMESON OF ELLSWORTH



Mr. Jameson was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Nebraska Stock Growers Association at the Valentine convention. He has held this important office for a number of years. Mr. Jameson is at the head of the Richards & Comstock ranching interests, who have interests in all parts of the West, especially in western Nebraska. He spends his time looking after the company at Ellsworth and Denver. No other stockman has wider acquaintance or a wider circle of friends than Mr. Jameson.