

NEWS ABOUT TRADERS AT LIVE STOCK MARKETS

SO-CALLED 'SPECULATORS' RENDER A GOOD SERVICE TO SHIPPERS

USEFUL INFORMATION

Newspaper Editors and Reporters Should Post Up Before Writing On New Subjects

By JOHN W. THOMAS, Live Stock Editor

For a long while I have wanted to give to readers of The Herald information regarding traders at the live stock markets. It is scarcely necessary to publish this information for the benefit of the large shippers, for they are already posted; but there are many others who will be interested, and especially would it seem that newspaper editors and reporters ought to secure reliable information before trying to write on a subject that is new to them.

Recently there have appeared in some Nebraska newspapers articles trying to discredit the traders at live stock markets; but to the knowing ones these articles discredited only the writers of them. When a newspaper man writes a labored article, as has been done a few times in this state, trying to prove that the open markets would be improved by elimination of the traders, he shows that he is either pitifully ignorant or trying to make capital of the ignorance of others, as he supposes.

A little investigation will prove to candid minds that it would be a misfortune to shut out the traders from the live stock markets, a misfortune to shippers and producers of feeder stock stuff. One drawback to our present market system which level-headed stockmen and broad-minded business men would like to see eliminated is the sudden and violent fluctuation of prices. This is caused largely, to say the least, by the irregularity of shipments, a see-saw between supply and demand. The packing houses are the principal buyers at the live stock markets, although at some of them, including South Omaha, to which most of Nebraska's live stock is shipped, a good deal of stuff is shipped out to feeders in the surrounding territory and to farmers and ranchmen as stockers.

Not only does the amount of stock received at the market vary very much on different days, but the demand for feeders and stockers is uneven. Some days, when the run is light, the buyers for the packing houses take everything in sight, or bid up till the buyers have to pay a big price for what they get; other days, when the run is heavy and the demand very light, they play peek-a-boo with the sellers, and the prices head for the cellar. It is then that the traders on the market render a real and valuable service to shippers. They have pens in which they can hold stock over, and by out-bidding the buyers for the packing houses they absorb the surplus and prevent utter demoralization of the market. They hold their purchases until the demand catches up with or exceeds the supply, and then sell, usually at an advance over what they paid, but not always at a profit after counting out the cost of the transaction.

That isn't all. Stocker and feeder buyers who come to the market to supply their needs usually have their minds made up as to the kind of stuff they want. Some want one kind, some another. Shippers send in mixed lots. By proper sorting, culls from different shipments can be sold for a better price if not handled by the trader who does this kind of work. Well posted shippers want traders to bid on their stock, and this is especially true if it needs sorting and grading.

The following from the South Omaha Journal-Stockman of November 3rd gives some further information on this important subject:

Misinformation As To Speculation
An editorial in the Omaha Bee Friday morning is a fair example of the popular misconception concerning the business done on the live stock markets. The statement is so far from the truth that the Bee should correct it at once to accord with the facts as such entirely erroneous and misleading reports, apparently sanctioned by a reputable and widely circulated newspaper are calculated to do great injustice to the Omaha market as well as needlessly alarm the public. The statement which appeared in an editorial in the Omaha Bee yesterday morning is as follows:

Speculators frequently "make the market," despite the packers. On Monday 10,938 head of cattle were sold in Omaha, of which the packers took but 5,566, the rest going to speculators. Live stock commission men should not be confounded with the speculators; the commission man is really the salesman, acting for the shipper. All of these are to be reckoned with in dealing with the meat trade and all come below the packer.

Here are the facts: Receipts of cattle in Omaha on Monday were 12,766 head and not 10,938 head. (Continued on Page 12)

INTERESTING TALK ON BUSINESSMAN'S CHURCH

Alliance Merchant Brought Out Good Thoughts in Speech at Methodist Men's Meeting

W. R. Harper, the Alliance merchant, was one of the speakers at the rousing meeting held Friday evening at the Methodist church for the men of the church. Mr. Harper talked on the subject, "The Business Man's Church." His speech was full of good thoughts, well worth the attention of the business men of Alliance. It was as follows:

"The Business Man's Church"
I like the term—"the man's church."

It has always seemed to me that the Church of Christ, founded by the manliest man that the world has ever known, should be in reality a man's church.

The apostles were all rugged, manly men—the Saviour, though tenderly ministered unto by the women of His time still depended upon these men to be His closest friends and His ablest supporters.

More than ever today we are realizing that if the church is to accomplish her gigantic mission at this crisis in the history of the world and of christianity, the men will have to come to the rescue. Here is an institution which demands time, money, ability, experience—in fact, all of our resources. It is worthy of the very best that we have to give and yet we have been slow in recognizing the work of the church as a full-sized man's job.

The women have their share to do, undoubtedly. And looking around us, we find that in all cases they are doing their portion, and doing it in full.

And in most churches we find the women not only doing their rightful share, but we see them struggling alone, under our share of the burden, too.

As broad-minded men we have to admit that the men haven't been holding up their end of things in the work of the church. In other words, we are "slackers."

We expect to be the head of the house and represent the family during the week. But on Sunday morning we are perfectly willing to step aside from our position as lord of creation for the necessary hour, and let our wife represent us and family in the church.

Then, taking the church from the standpoint not only of a man, but of a business man, we think of the keynote of modern business—efficiency.

There are few, if any, places in the carrying on of the work of the world where good, sound business principles are not adaptable, and cannot be applied to splendid advantage.

And the first principle of business in the present day is efficiency—finding the best way of accomplishing the most.

You have all heard the story as told by Mark Twain, but I am going to tell it again, because it illustrates the efficiency idea. He says: "I attended a church service one time, and the speaker, who was a fluent man, was taking up donations for the heathen. At first I was not particularly interested, but as he went on describing the necessity for sending funds, immediately I unconsciously began feeling around in my pocket for my loose change. I had about a dollar, and as the speaker continued I became carried away by his eloquence, and after a severe mental struggle, finally concluded to do myself proud and put the whole thing into the collection plate. The speaker (Continued on Page 12)

THE HOME GUARDS ARE TRAINING REGULARLY

Interest Increases as Guards Now Have Use of Wooden Guns for Manual of Arms

Visitors to the Home Guards Armory on either Tuesday or Friday evening of each week are surprised at the rapid advancement in learning tactics made by the members who attend regularly. Under the efficient instruction given by W. J. Hamilton, former drill sergeant, now Lieutenant Hamilton, the guards have developed into well trained units.

Captain R. C. Strong, with Lieutenants Hamilton and Pilkington, are devoting much time to the work being done by the guards. Alliance will soon have one of the best drilled companies in the state.

The boys are taking quickly to the drilling being given them as Junior Home Guards each Wednesday evening at the armory. Lieutenant Hamilton invites the parents to come with their boys and watch them drill.

NEBRASKA WINS AGAIN

The Nebraska Dairy Judging Team won high honors at the National Dairy show held at Columbus, Ohio. This year the team stood first in judging Holsteins, first in judging cheese, and second in judging milk and butter. The milk from the University of Nebraska dairy department was awarded highest honors and a gold medal. According to a summary published by the United States Dairy Division of all dairy judging contests held since 1908, 48 cups have been offered, of which number Nebraska has won 10.

Scabies Quarantine Raised

Office of NEBRASKA LIVE STOCK SANITARY BOARD, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Under authority conferred by law upon the Live Stock Sanitary Board of Nebraska, it is hereby ordered that the regulations covering the movement of cattle affected by scabies, adopted by this Board on July 31, 1913, are hereby rescinded; and it is further ordered that the quarantine established by such regulations, which restricted the movement of cattle within prescribed areas except under specified conditions, is hereby revoked insofar as such quarantine applies to the following described territory, to-wit:

The counties of Scotts Bluff, Box Butte, Dawes, Sheridan, McPherson, Grant, Hooker, Thomas, Cherry, Arthur, and those parts of Keith, Morrill and Garden counties north of the North Platte river, and all within the state of Nebraska.

It is hereby ordered that all railroads and other common carriers take notice herewith that cattle may be moved from any of the above described territory to any point within the state of Nebraska without restriction.

Dated at Lincoln, Nebraska, this 10th day of November, 1917.
NEBRASKA, LIVE STOCK SANITARY BOARD,
By J. H. BULLA, President.
DR. J. S. ANDERSON, Secretary.

Poems of Our Soldier Boys

THE MORNING SONG OF COMPANY D

Phil Grove, son of Mr. and Mrs. Art Grove of Alliance, who was a member of Company G, the Alliance company commanded by Capt. Jack Miller, now Company D in the heavy artillery at Camp Cody, Deming, New Mexico, writes his parents that every morning when the company starts for the drill grounds they sing in unison the following emphatic and rather startling song, to a familiar tune:

"Dam, dam, dam the dirty Kaiser,
Dam, dam, dam the dirty Huns;
We will blow them all to hell
With a high explosive shell,
For we're the boys that man
The six-inch guns—
Boom, boom, boom, etc."

A SOLDIER'S LETTER HOME

Written by Sergeant F. B. Camp, Second Montana Infantry.

"Soldier Camp of U. S. A.—No Place or Time or Date.

Dear Mother: I am writing, I know a trifle late. But I have been so busy with the Soldier's daily grind that I've neglected writing, but I know you will not mind, when you've read what I am writing, you'll feel a whole lot better, and I promise that hereafter, I will write a daily letter.

Tell Sis she wouldn't know me, since I left our little town, For the sun has surely baked me, a most gorgeous golden brown, Tell Dad if he could see me, he would never cuss me more, For oversleeping mornings, or neglecting any chore. Tell little brother Bennie I've a pistol and a gun, A really truly rifle, that wasn't made for fun.

Tell my sweetheart that I love her, when you see her, Mother dear, That sleeping, drilling, working, I keep wishing she were here, Tell Auntie that I thank her for the little wooden box, The home-made jam and cookies, and the dozen knitted socks. Tell Sis' fellow for me, if he wants to have some fun, To join the U. S. army, and get himself a gun.

Tell Tom and Dick and Harry and strapping Jimmie Coots, That Uncle Sam is needing a million more recruits, Just tell 'em what I'm writing, in this letter, dear, to you, So that each and every one, will know just what we do; At five a. m. the bugle blows, the call to rise and dress; At five-fifteen the morning run, at six a. m. the mess.

Hot cakes and syrup, coffee, spuds and bacon fried, With sugar, milk and home baked bread to fill the space inside. At half past six, Fatigue call sounds, the streets and tents are 'pliced, Then we drill for two long hours, before we are released. From nine a. m. 'till three p. m., we sleep and write and read. Then drill again, dear Mother, for it's drilling that we need.

The Post Exchange supplies our wants with almost anything, We've a dandy club and reading room where we can go and sing. We can get a pass to go to town, 'most any time we wish, We've everything we want to eat, both plain and fancy dish. We've a ball team, some boxing gloves, a wrestling match and craps. We've each a little army cot, we sleep on after taps.

We've mess halls with mosquito net, shower baths that are divine. Oh! there's nothing, Mother, which we have that isn't extra fine, We've clothes galore for every need; Sunday, work or play, We've a colonel who's a dandy, and a day on which they pay. We've a hundred things, dear Mother, that I haven't room to mention, A hundred things, dear Mother, that require our close attention.

We are happy and we're healthy, and we're learning to be men, Such a chance to get a schooling, we may never have again. Oh! I miss you, Mother darling, but I'm happy and content. With the hours and weeks we're spending in the regulation tent, 'Cause I know I need the schooling I may never get again, The school 'at takes the weaklings, and makes them into men.

Now Mother dear, I've written you, a letter that is long, "Efficiency's" the title of our regimental song. We are waiting now and ready for the day we'll take a chance, With our brothers and the others on the plains of Sunny France. We are waiting for the order that will bid us grab our guns, For the day we'll lick the Kaiser and his fighting German Huns. Now I'll close with love and kisses, and a heart that's full of joy, And sign by name as always, "Your Happy Soldier Boy."

Hoffland Items

(Held over from last week.)

Earl Mallory was in Hoffland Friday on business.

Mrs. Howe spent Saturday and Sunday in Alliance.

Rolland Clark sustained a badly bruised finger Friday, when a 4x6 fell on it.

The dance at the Cook Shack given October 31st by the Red Cross was well attended.

Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Brewer made a business trip to Alliance Saturday, returning Sunday.

Alfred Wallgreen moved his family to Alliance Saturday. Mr. Wallgreen will fire on the Burlington out of Alliance.

A fire was started by a passing train Tuesday just east of Hoffland and burned two or three hay stacks belonging to Jack Miller. About 20 men and boys took sacks and shovels and soon put the fire out.

Mr. and Mrs. Rooney, Mr. and Mrs. Davis, William Abily and Miss Bromley motored to Alliance Saturday evening.

Mrs. Rolland Clark returned Friday from Merna, Nebr., where she has been visiting her daughter the past three weeks.

Mrs. H. Kelsner went to Alliance Saturday to spend the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Allen. She was joined by her husband Sunday.

Mrs. William Osterberg returned home Tuesday. She has been very ill the past week at the home of her mother, Mrs. Smith, of Alliance. She was accompanied by her mother.

D. Bron has accepted a contract to paint the new smoke-stack at 14 cents a square yard. This will net him about \$180. He thinks the work can be completed in a week.

E. L. Criss received severe burns last Wednesday when a steam valve broke, letting the steam out. Mr. Criss was standing in such a position as to get the full force of the steam. The most serious burn was on the forehead.

GREAT MASS MEETING AT SCOTTSBLUFF

One Thousand People Attended Y. M. C. A. Meeting in Neighboring City—Rev. Morris There

The big drive to raise \$35,000,000 for the men of the American army, to be spent through the agency of the National War Work Council of the Y. M. C. A. is taking place this week. Nebraska is to raise \$250,000, of which \$30,000 is to be pledged by the boys.

A great meeting was held at Scottsbluff on Monday evening of last week, attended by 1,000 and many more were turned away, at which plans were made for the raising of at least \$23,000 in the district comprising eight counties in Southwestern Nebraska. Delegates were present from all of these counties except one, and plans have been made for the holding of a meeting in each county, and a chairman has been elected to have charge of the campaign in each county.

Rev. J. Walter Morris of Alliance, pastor of the Methodist church, attended the meeting at Scottsbluff and took an active part.

The meeting Monday evening in Scottsbluff was addressed by Lieutenant O'Grady of the Canadian Army, and E. J. Couper, a big business man of Minneapolis. Lieutenant O'Grady has just returned from Europe, after spending two years in a German prison camp. He told how the boys in the trenches appreciate the work of the Y. M. C. A. and how impossible it would be to get along without it. It is the only agency which ministers to the need of the soldiers, for the Y. M. C. A. is with them constantly, from the time they leave home up to the very front line trenches. E. J. Couper is chairman of the Central Military Division, and has charge of the raising of the fund in fifteen central states. He told of the plan of organizing, whereby it is hoped to raise the \$35,000,000 in a week's time.

The amounts to be raised in each county in this district are as follows:

Scotts Bluff	\$11,000.00
Banner	1,000.00
Box Butte	2,500.00
Kimball	1,500.00
Cheyenne	2,500.00
Morrill	2,000.00
Deuel	1,500.00
Garden	1,000.00

President Wilson has asked that the Y. M. C. A. look after the comfort of the men in camp, it has the endorsement of the military authorities, and the soldiers say that they cannot get along without the Y. M. C. A. huts. L. Nesbit of the Sixth Nebraska Infantry Band, writes, "What home is without a mother is what the army would be without the Y. M. C. A."

General John J. Pershing cables from France as follows: "The work now being done by the Y. M. C. A. for the comfort and entertainment of our soldiers in France is very important. The Y. M. C. A. has won its place by unselfish personal devotion to the soldiers' welfare, and deserves staunch support from our people at home."

The chairmen elected for the different counties are as follows:

Scotts Bluff, J. C. McCreary, Scottsbluff.
Deuel, H. C. Peterson, Chappell.
Morrill, Rev. G. F. McDougall, Bridgeport.
Cheyenne, E. L. Uptegrove, Sidney.
Kimball, James A. Rodman, Kimball.
S. K. Warrick, chairman 18th district.

Harvey F. Smith, of Omaha, director for the 18th district. Headquarters at Scottsbluff.

INDIANS RETURN HOME TO RESERVATION

Potato Crop Is Harvested—the Red Man Goes Home to Room the South Dakota Plains

Although they have finished the work of picking the million bushel potato crop of Box Butte county a couple of weeks ago, the Indians have continued to loiter among us, and some have found other employment at the sheds where the crop was being loaded into the cars for shipment. At this time, however, they are rapidly making preparations to leave us, and another day or so will see the last wagon fading from view, headed for the Pine Ridge reservation in South Dakota. They are loathe to leave us. They have been well treated and know and appreciate it. Not only were the red men well paid for their work, but they were well treated by all.

Many farmers say that the Indian is an exceptional man for work on the potato crop. It was probably more or less in the way of a contingency that many of us discovered the fact, but now that we are aware of it, let us remember that the Indian helped us out when labor was very scarce, and with the wish that he may come again next year to harvest a crop of spuds twice as large as the present one.

The Indians put on another war dance exhibition on the streets Saturday afternoon and their efforts were appreciated by a large crowd.

EASTERN MARKETS SHOW BETTER FOR SPUDS

CAR SHORTAGE OVER POTATO GROWING SECTION HOLDS SPUDS IN FIELDS

BUY AND SELL BY WEIGHT

Excellent Weather Conditions in Western Nebraska Have Greatly Helped Potato Growers

The potato situation during the past week has improved somewhat. Prices were firmer on the Chicago market and improvement in prices were shown at other large marketing points. The excellent weather conditions of the past week or two in western Nebraska have helped somewhat locally, although the serious shortage of cars has apparently tended to keep the price down somewhat. The potato situation over the country, as reported by the Packer, during the past week was as follows:

Better Tone on Chicago Market

Chicago, Illinois.—The potato market was on a somewhat firmer basis last week. The frozen and field-frosted stock, which has caused so much trouble the last two weeks, is cleaning up rapidly and it seemed to be the general opinion that under favorable conditions for another week this damaged stock would be pretty well out of the way. A large percentage of the arrivals of the last two weeks have shown more or less damage from these causes and the cars that were free from same were few and far between.

The receipts have shown a decrease over those of the preceding ten days and because of this the accumulation in the outer yards has been decreased considerably. The car situation is giving much trouble and no improvement seems to be in sight.

Tuesday the market was fairly steady with Wisconsin white stock, sacked, selling around \$2.15 to \$2.25 per cwt.; Minnesota whites brought the same price. Bulk stock, when good, sold from 5 to 10c less per cwt.

Wednesday the improved demand on the outside served to strengthen the market here and values were on a little higher basis. Good sacked Wisconsin and Minnesota white stock brought \$2.30 to \$2.35 per cwt.; bulk stock from these states moved at \$2.15 to \$2.25. There was some Western stock on the market and stock of good quality sold up to \$2.40 and \$2.50, but considerable of the stock from the Western sections was showing up poor.

Thursday the market held firm at prices about unchanged. Receipts were only 50 cars and the accumulation was reduced.

Friday the market was on a fairly firm basis with good sacked stock selling up to \$2.35. Receipts were about 30 cars.

Improved Demand at Kansas City

Kansas City, Mo.—There was an improved demand for the arrivals of best potatoes noticeable in the local market last week. However, the receipts, which continued large, included a big percentage of stock showing field rot, and demand for this was slow.

Local dealers, in accordance with the government's request, started dealing in potatoes on the cwt. basis this week. Northern and Western white stock, in car lots, sacked, per cwt., were quoted at \$2.00 to \$2.30. Early Ohio, other than Red Rivers, sold between the range of .15 and \$2.35, while Red Rivers were quoted at \$2.45 to \$2.55.

Declined in Philadelphia

Philadelphia, Pa.—The potato market dropped an average of ten cents a bushel daily from Friday to the middle of last week, due to the heavy receipts, and receivers not being able to clean up their supplies. Since Monday there has been an average of 100 cars on track at both yards daily. Pennsylvania round stock sold at \$1.50 to \$1.65 a bushel and New York round stock at \$1.40 to \$1.50.

Market Easier at Cleveland

Cleveland, Ohio.—The potato market was easier at the opening of the week on account of heavier offerings. Prices remained the same, however, lamage from these causes and the lower prices at shipping points. Deliveries have been irregular. The street as yet has failed to adopt the new standard of selling potatoes by the cwt. Ohio sold at around \$1.65 and \$1.75 per bushel, while Michigan and Wisconsin sold at around \$4.25 per 150-lb. sack.

Improvement in New York Market

New York City.—There was some improvement in the condition of the potato market toward the end of last week, but the situation for the last ten days has been very discouraging. The accumulations in the yards about New York were very heavy and stock was still coming in from Michigan, Wisconsin, New York state and Pennsylvania. A great deal of stock company. (Continued on Page 12)