

**WEEKLY NEWS
OF NEBRASKA**

(Continued from Page 1 2nd Section) pleased with the prospects. At any rate they have been renewing leases that will not expire for from three to six months yet and in addition have purchased outright a considerable acreage in the vicinity of the work.

Traveling more than 1,800 miles by rail and auto and covering nineteen counties in central and western Nebraska, the director of the bureau of publicity is of the opinion that the government estimates of Nebraska's wheat production this year are too low. I fail to note any evidence of decreased acreage, as stated by the federal statisticians. On the contrary, I note evidences of increased acreage, especially in western Nebraska. Some section in the eastern part have been slightly damaged by dry weather, but recent rains will put a new aspect on conditions. Western Nebraska wheat never looked better, and the acreage is from 25 to 50 per cent larger than ever before. I confidently figure on not less than sixty-five million bushels of Nebraska wheat this year.

By August 1 of this year Nebraska will be producing more than 80 per cent of the potash produced in the United States. A thousand tons a day will be the average production by that date.

A number of live commercial clubs throughout the state have informed the department of publicity that they are willing to assist in financing Nebraska's exhibit at the National Soil Products exposition at Kansas City next fall. Arnold Martin will collect and arrange the exhibit.

The annual meeting of the Nebraska association of commercial clubs at Alliance on May 21 and 22 was enthusiastic and patriotic to a striking degree. War problems occupied the entire time of the convention—development work calculated to help put the Hun out of the ruling business. The 1919 convention will be held at Broken Bow.

The Alliance Potash company is the latest producing company to begin making potash. The first output came on May 19, and the plant is now making an average of thirty tons a day. The output will be doubled as soon as the plant is running at full capacity.

Dr. Condra, who is at the head of the soil survey commission, says that his department will have more than one half the counties of Nebraska

fully surveyed before the end of the year. Each county map will show every stream, hill, valley, table, prairie; every section line, every road and every farm house; every village and city; every kind of soil, all geological formations, outcrops, etc. It is a gigantic task but the results will be of incalculable benefit to the state. These maps will be furnished every county and placed in libraries, banks and other public places.

The first five months saw 153,450 automobile licenses issued in Nebraska—more than were issued during the entire twelve months of 1917.

The Nebraska State Press association convenes in annual session at Omaha on June 20, 21 and 22. A splendid patriotic program has been completed and the most profitable meeting in the forty years' history of the organization is anticipated.

More than \$1,500,000 worth of farm tractors have been purchased by the farmers of western Nebraska during the last twelve months.

Of course, and as expected, Nebraska went over the top in the recent Red Cross drive the first among the state. Monday, May 20, was the date set for opening the drive. Nebraska's quota of \$1,000,000 was subscribed by 6 o'clock the Saturday night before. A week later Nebraska's quota was over-subscribed more than 100 per cent.

BRAND INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The report of the chief brand inspector for the past year, which will be given to the stockman's convention next week, will be published in full in The Herald, June 13. If any readers of this paper wish extra copies containing this report, they should notify The Herald office before publication day.

OMAHA FLOUR MILLING CENTER

When the Omaha Flour Mills company began turning out flour from their plant the first of this month, that city passed Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, Cleveland, Philadelphia and Indianapolis as a flour milling center, and became a close rival to St. Louis, Duluth and Toledo in daily output of flour and mill feed.

This new mill, which is said to be the model flour mill of America, represents an investment of a half million dollars, and has a daily milling capacity of 2,500 bbls. It doubles the milling facilities of Omaha and makes that city one of the centers of big flour production in the United States.

**PROCLAMATION BY
COMMISSIONER RIDGELL**

(Continued from Page 1 2nd Section) in the home, office and factory. In all walks of life we must take heed of every moment of the good we can perform for the fire prevention cause.

The following don'ts should be ever present in our minds:

- "Don't allow children to play with matches.
- "Don't block the fire escapes.
- "Don't fail to inspect your own home, or the place where you work, so as to know where all the fire exits are located.
- "Don't throw away lighted matches, cigars or cigarettes. A lighted match carelessly thrown away after lighting a cigarette caused a prairie fire near Long Pine three weeks ago, which destroyed a number of large stacks of hay and grain, doing an enormous damage.
- "Don't go into dark closets, bed rooms, or cellars, with lighted candles or matches.
- "Don't use kerosene to light fires with, or use benzine or naphtha near open flames.
- "Don't use gasoline or naphtha preparations to clean beds or woodwork. The Savoy hotel fire at Omaha was caused by an inflammable bed bug exterminator left in a closet. An employe went into the closet with a lighted match and the preparation ignited, causing a fire that will probably reach \$100,000,000 in loss.
- "Don't fill kerosene lamps when lighted.
- "Don't use a poor quality of kerosene oil.
- "Don't put ashes in wooden boxes or barrels. Keep ashes away from boards.
- "Don't put hot ashes on dumbwaiters, or near wooden partitions.
- "Don't have piles of rubbish in the house or cellar or in workshops.
- "Don't keep matches in anything but a closed metal box.
- "Don't tie back the door of the dumbwaiter shaft in the cellar.
- "Don't store oils, paints, grease or fats in the house.
- "Don't have greasy rags around; they catch fire by themselves.
- "Don't have lace curtains near gas brackets.
- "Don't use folding gas brackets.
- "Don't use open flame gas brackets; have globes on all lights.
- "Don't use gasoline, naphtha, or benzine in the house unless all windows are open and there is no open flame near.
- "Don't pour gasoline or naphtha down the drain.

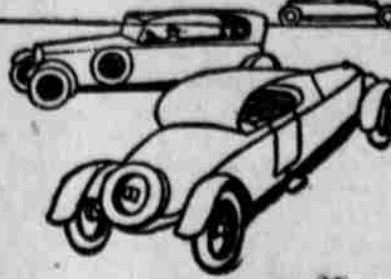
- "Don't place stoves too close to woodwork.
- "Don't put small gas stoves on tables unless there is a metal sheet beneath the burners.
- "Don't set gas stoves right up against the wall. They should have a metal sheet behind them.
- "Don't look for gas leaks with a lighted match or candle.

- "Don't keep the unnecessary inflammables or combustibles in the home—or elsewhere.
- "Don't go away from premises and leave oil stoves burning.
- "Eight hundred seventy-two thousand, eight hundred fifty-one dollars and forty-seven cents is an exorbitant fire loss for Nebraska, and must

be reduced. Let us all co-operate as never before and see if the fire losses in Nebraska during the next four months can not be reduced to a figure that will show Nebraska 100 per cent alert in eliminating fire dangers.

Very truly yours,
W. S. RIDGELL,
Chief Deputy Fire Commissioner.

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