

NEBRASKA NEWS AND NOTES.

Items of Greater or Lesser Importance Over the State.

Seven men horses perished in a boarding stable fire in Omaha.

George W. Bergs of Lincoln has declared his candidacy for the governorship.

A very heavy rain, amounting almost to a cloudburst, occurred at Table Rock.

The Kearney Country club is now assured, 120 members having been secured and about \$6,000 having been subscribed.

Harry Gibson, a colored waiter on the Union Pacific road, was shot and seriously hurt while resisting arrest at Grand Island.

Norfolk has decided to send one or more delegates to the state convention of good government organizations, to be held in Hastings June 4.

Bert Taylor, the Minden fiend who assaulted his sister-in-law, from the effects of which she has since died, has not been apprehended, although he was heard of in Oklahoma.

Rev. Frederick W. Leavitt has been elected principal of Franklin academy. Mr. Leavitt is pastor of Plymouth church at Omaha, and a member of the advisory board of Congregational churches in Nebraska.

The Burlington railroad, at the suggestion of the railway commission, has reduced coal rates from Wyoming to Colorado to meet the rates secured by the commission before the Interstate Commerce commission on the Union Pacific road.

Sixty-four loaded freight cars behind a giant mogul made up the first regular train which went over the new Lane cut-off of the Union Pacific, after which the regular through passenger and through freight trains were sent over the road.

Attorney Frank Ransom, acting for the Union Stock Yards company, filed a brief in the supreme court asking for a rehearing in the suit instituted by the state which resulted in a decision holding that the stock yards is a common carrier, subject to the control of the railway commission.

Mrs. Koberg, the Madison county farmers' wife who took her children to Cincinnati some time ago and then disappeared, has not been found. Mr. Koberg, who has now gone east again in an effort to discover the fate of his wife, believes that she took her own life during a fit of insanity.

The district court of Rock county was in session for two days, engaged in the trial of Carl Pettijohn, on the charge of burglary, and at the conclusion of the trial a verdict of guilty was rendered and Judge Harrington sentenced the defendant to a term of six years in the penitentiary.

Someone entered the store of Sutherland & Dale at Nehawka and stole \$40 from the safe. The money was left by a workman with the firm for safe keeping. The safe door was ajar in the morning and the firm is not sure whether it was locked or not the night before. Nothing was taken but the money.

The body of James M. Wood, who died as the result of an accident at Des Moines, Ia., recently was brought to Nebraska City for burial. Mr. Woods was one of the pioneer residents of that city and went from there to Rapid City, S. D., where he prospered and became quite wealthy and was mayor of the town twice.

Reports from the eastern wool markets show that the movement started by Wyoming wool growers and Omaha capitalists to hold the 1908 clip for better prices is becoming general throughout the country and shipments to the east during the week ending May 15 were about half what they were during a corresponding week last year.

After practicing medicine for fifty-one years Dr. T. G. Bracking, now 76 years old, of Norfolk, is engaged in a dispute with the State Board of Health over his present right to practice. He has been arrested for not holding a state certificate. He claims his college degree entitles him to the certificate. The state board insists he must take an examination.

At Pattsouth Harry Van Fleet stabbed Albert Brisey in the back and killed him. The evidence brought out before the coroner's jury showed that Brisey came to his death by having a butcher-knife stuck into his back by Harry Vanfleet accidentally. Vanfleet was sharpening the knife and Brisey backed through the door and the knife entered his back and penetrated the lung.

Washington dispatch: Representative Pollard said that he had received letters from the county boards of Lancaster, Cass and Pawnee counties, asking the services of a government road engineer for consultation as to improvement of roads. He hopes to receive communications from other counties in his district, indicating a wish for the consultative advice of the expert who will go to the state. "Any counties outside my district," said Mr. Pollard, "will be able to secure the same service, by addressing their own member."

Another national bank is to be established at University Place, near Lincoln, which will bear the name of the City National. This will make the third bank for the city, two having been established with the last three months.

When Zyrva Van Pelt, a senior in the Travelock high school, was sitting on the balcony in the balcony of the First Christian church at Travelock, teaching a Sunday school class, she lost her balance and fell. She landed among the members of the young men's class and was painfully bruised. She fell eight feet.

HOME OF HUCK FINN

HOUSE WHERE MARK TWAIN'S HERO LIVED TORN DOWN.

Hannibal, Mo., Where Place Stood, Unconscious of Its Greatness—Anecdote of House and of the Two Mark Twains.

Hannibal, Mo.—Huckleberry Finn's ancient habitation in North Hannibal, near the river front, has passed from the earth. Since Hannibal has admitted that Mark Twain was really a great man it has taken particular pride in the "hoary-headed" domicile and the revenue derived from post-cards showing the structure would have built a much better house. R. H. Coons, the owner of the property, recently had the "Huck" Finn home torn down to erect a row of modern flats, which will have, it is hoped, a living effect on the somewhat dreary district of North Hannibal.

A characteristic story is told in connection with the house. One summer day a gentleman from the east came to Hannibal to secure data for a Mark Twain story. He could find Holiday hill easily enough without a guide, because it towered up to the sky on the north end, and prevented the town's further extension unless the good citizens take a notion to tunnel.

An ice man was asked for the direction to Huck Finn's cottage.

"Never heard of him," said the native. "He sure don't live in these parts."

The stranger went west a block and accosted a boy with a fishing rod on his shoulder.

"He don't run with our crowd," he said. "Maybe he lives down by the bridge."

"I'm not looking for Huck Finn himself," said the visitor. "He's dead, but—"

"Then you might try the graveyard," replied the boy. "It's up yonder—the stones is marked, I reckon."

Presently a citizen came along who could furnish the information. Huck's home was only two blocks from where the ice man said "he didn't live in those parts." In the basement door stood a black "aunt," with her hands resting on her hips. She wore a tricolor handkerchief on her head.

"I knows," she said; "you's one o' dem relicky hunters."

"I'm engaged in gathering some material in reference to Mark Twain,"



House Where Huckleberry Finn Once Lived.

said the easterner, pleasantly, "and as this is—"

"Well, you needn't go no farder," said the big aunt hospitably. "He's right heah."

"Who's here?"

"Mark Twain."

"In this house?"

"To be shot!"

"What's he doing here?" asked the surprised visitor.

"Ah doan' know, but yo' kin cum in an' see."

She led the way to another underground apartment, and, with pride, pointed to something on a pallet. The stranger's eyes, gradually becoming accustomed to the semi-light, distinguished an infant pickaninny busily endeavoring to swallow his glossy arm.

As the two came and stood by the bed it suspended operations and thoughtfully regarded them out of two big white eyes.

"Quite a baby," said the guest.

"How'd you come to call it Mark Twain?"

"Da tole me if Ah did that, Mistah Sam Clemens, wot used to lib heah, would sen' 'im sumthin' nice."

"Did he?"

"Ah reckon Mistah Clemens that hit was nice," she said, doubtfully; "he sent 'im a raazer an' a lookin' glass."

"Mr. Clemens was grateful?"

"Mebbe so. And he writted to my ole man sayin' if the raazer did what he expected he'd be pleased to sen' a tombstone fer th' baby."

"Mason and Dixon's Line."

"Mason and Dixon's line" is a reference to a boundary which was established in the years intervening from 1763 to 1767, between the colonies of Maryland and Virginia on the one side, and that of Pennsylvania on the other side, by Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon, who were two English civil engineers. So thoroughly was the allotted task performed by these young Englishmen that an 1849 revision of the survey failed to detect the slightest error. The United States government also, as recently as 1901, has caused the Maryland portion of the noted boundary line to be again revised.

True American Spirit.

Within two years since the great earthquake which undid San Francisco, that heroic city has put \$100,000,000 into building operations, of which, according to trustworthy statements, all but \$4,000,000 came from local sources.

Public Debt Has No Terrors.

The municipality of Vienna has a public debt of exceptional magnitude, which it now proposes to increase by the purchase of coal mines in Moravia.

GOSPEL HYMN WRITERS OF AMERICA
MEN WHOSE SONGS HAVE SOUNDED ROUND THE WORLD



DR. D. B. TOWNER, MR. GEO. C. STEBBINS, PROF. E. O. EXCELL

Since the day on which Miriam sang her song of triumph over the destruction of the hosts of the Egyptians, and thus gave expression to the first hymn of which we have any record, myriads of sacred songs have been penned by devout men and women—songs that are sung wherever people meet to worship and praise the King of Glory. But while hymns and psalms of praise stretch far back across the centuries, one department of it is of comparatively recent origin. Gospel song is a modern institution, and America is its birthplace and its home.

No one, I suppose, would venture to assert that American hymnology contains anything to be compared with the masterpieces of English collections, and yet, when we come to the field of Gospel songs, the American writers have it all practically to themselves. The explanation of this may lie in the fact that while those in England have been fed and nurtured on stately and majestic hymns, Americans have been trained in the use of Gospel songs and have thus become more accustomed to them. Whatever the cause, however, the fact remains that Americans have taught England most of the Gospel songs with which she is familiar.

Ira D. Sankey was little else than a singer, but he composed one or two pieces that were deservedly popular, and will always be indissolubly associated with his name. Among his earliest efforts at composition was his air to "Yet there is room," the words of which were written by Rev. Dr. Horatius Bonar. They were written, too, at Sankey's request. He had been singing Tennyson's great poem: "Late, late, so late, and dark the night and chill," at the mission meetings in England; but the owners of the copyright would not permit him to use it in his collection of hymns. Thereupon he asked Dr. Bonar to write words that would cover the same ground, and "Yet there is room" was the result. Other melodies have been put to the same words by other composers, but Sankey's air holds its own place in the affections of the majority.

One of the most popular composers was James McGranahan, the successor of that sweet singer, P. P. Bliss—who, with his wife, was killed in a railway accident—as the colleague of Maj. Whittle. McGranahan was a prolific writer, and his work is of a very high standard. "Are you coming home to-night" the words of which were written by a young lady in Scotland, possesses a strength of appeal which sinners find hard to resist, and has been used with striking blessing in every part of the world. Among his other successful compositions may be mentioned "Christ receiveth sinners," "There shall be showers of blessings," "Thy God reigneth," "Come!" "Banner of the cross," and "I'll stand by till the morning." The words of this last hymn were written by Bliss.

But while these writers have been mentioned, the purpose of this article is more with the men who are hard at work to-day, and who have the ear of the whole English-speaking world. Among these I mention, first of all, George C. Stebbins, who has been a steady and a consistent writer for many years. When the output of some others is regarded as prolific, but all his work is of high merit, and his standard is perhaps higher than that of any of his contemporaries. Ever in his mind is the aim to direct the thoughts of the people more to the message of the music than to the music itself.

Mr. Stebbins takes time to his work. When his verses are given to him, he makes the music a matter of earnest prayer, and the result of this communion is seen in the refinement of

VALUE OF DIFFERENT KINDS OF GREEN FORAGE FOR HOGS

Results of Experiments with Six Lots of Hogs—By H. J. Waters, Director, Missouri Agricultural College.

Perhaps the largest single waste occurring at the present time is that which comes from the too exclusive use of corn in growing and fattening hogs. The cheapest and most easily applied remedy is a more general use of the proper forage plants in summer and the use of some home grown protein in winter. It is not of course to be denied that the hog is primarily a grain consuming animal, at the same time forage plays an important role in economical hog production and deserves far more attention than it has yet received. To secure accurate information on this point, the Missouri station undertook some time ago to compare the value of various forage plants when combined with corn for the growing and fattening of hogs. Six lots were fed. Each lot contained six high grade Poland China pigs, weighing about 50 pounds each. The rations were as follows:



LOT I. Average daily gain per head, .67 lbs. Grain required per pound of gain, 5.18 lbs. Cost per 100 pounds of gain, with corn at 40 cents per bushel, ship stuff, \$18.00 per ton, \$4.07.



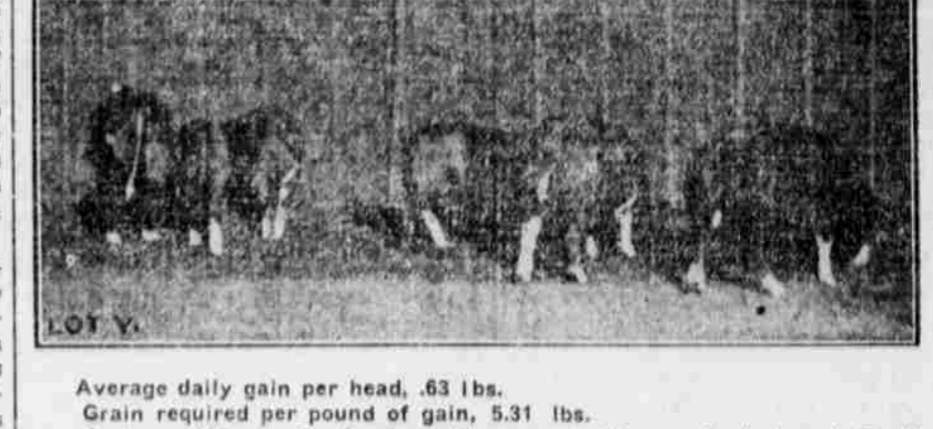
LOT II. (First 40 days of experiment only.) Average gain per head, .58 lbs. Grain required per pound of gain, 4.41 lbs. Cost per 100 lbs. of gain with corn at 40 cents per bushel and Green Rape at \$3.00 per ton, \$3.34.



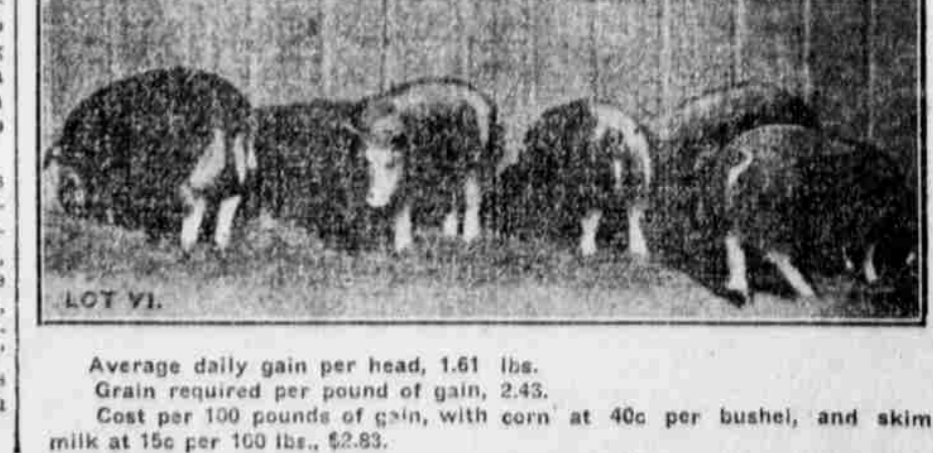
LOT III. Average daily gain per head, .83 lbs. Grain required per pound of gain, 4.01 lbs. Cost per 100 pounds of gain, with corn at 40c per bushel, Fresh Alfalfa, \$3.00 per ton, \$3.00.



LOT IV. Average daily gain per head, .77 lbs. Grain required per pound of gain, 4.35 lbs. Cost per 100 pounds of gain, with corn at 40c per bushel, and Fresh Clover at \$3.00 per ton, \$3.25.



LOT V. Average daily gain per head, .63 lbs. Grain required per pound of gain, 5.31 lbs. Cost per 100 pounds of gain, with corn at 40c per bushel, and Fresh Bluegrass at \$3.00 per ton, \$3.96.



LOT VI. Average daily gain per head, 1.61 lbs. Grain required per pound of gain, 2.43. Cost per 100 pounds of gain, with corn at 40c per bushel, and skim milk at 15c per 100 lbs., \$2.83.