

SEED CORN CRUSADE.

Railroads Interested As Well as the Farmers. Railroads have taken up the crusade for better seed corn in Nebraska.

Two hundred samples of corn from all sections of the state are now in the tester at the Commercial club.

The entire state seems to be aroused to the necessity of testing the seed corn, and while many samples are being sent in the crusade.

Robertson Bros., of Waterloo, seed growers, who buy from 250,000 to 300,000 bushels of seed corn annually.

George Coupland, regent of the University of Nebraska, who has a large corn acreage at Elgin, says that a great deal of the corn from his section was so damp that when it was gathered and cribbed it froze so solid.

General Grant Cannot Come.

In reply to a letter urging him to accept an invitation to speak at the Epworth assembly next August, General Frederick D. Grant has sent the following letter to Addison Wait.

"Headquarters Department of the Lakes, Chicago—My Dear Mr. Wait: I have just written to Mr. Jones, president of the Epworth assembly, as I write to you, in reply to your kind letter of the 12th inst., to express my deep appreciation of the high compliment.

"I most deeply regret that it is impossible for me to have the honor of being with you then, because of the maneuvers at Pine camp during the month of August next, which maneuvers I am to command.

Nebraska Hardware Officers.

The Nebraska hardware dealers' convention elected the following officers: President, G. R. Wycott, Madison; vice presidents, Ernest Hoppe, Lincoln; L. Worth, Falls City; Gale Lawson, Hastings; secretary, J. Frank Barr, Lincoln (re-elected); treasurer, H. J. Hall, Lincoln (re-elected); chairman executive committee, Fred Ehlinger, Plainview.

What the League Wants.

Two things which the newly organized Southwestern Hard Winter Wheat Millers' league will try to bring about in the trade are the abandonment of long time sales and a shortening of the credit period extended to some classes of patrons.

A Labor Chautauque.

A labor chautauque is being planned for by the labor unions of Lincoln to be held during the coming summer.

The "Greater Lincoln Industrial Exposition" will be held at the Auditorium May 24 to 28. This was decided upon at a meeting of the committee in charge of the exposition at the Commercial club Thursday.

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

William Boyd, a Pullman porter, is held at Washington in connection with the shooting of two Newark (N. J.) college men on a train near Jersey City.

Sheb Williams of Paris, Tex., is in Kansas City, Mo., to claim the body of Clay Clement, the actor and playwright, following an agreement made many years ago.

A Japanese, supposed to have been bent on the assassination of some high official, was killed at Amoy, China, by the accidental ignition of a high explosive in his clothing.

Phil Allen, Jr., wrecker of the First National bank of Mineral Point, Wis., was taken to the federal prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to serve a sentence of ten years.

School slates and sponges have been barred by McKeesport (Pa.) health officials, who declare them to be germ breeders in scarlet fever, upon which they are waging a fight.

"I'll get you," shouted Bowman B. Seybert, aged 80, as he sat dreaming in a chair in a Butler (Pa.) livery stable. He then began shooting and awoke to find himself seriously wounded.

James R. Garfield, ex-President Roosevelt's secretary of the interior, declares he is willing to lead the Republican party in Ohio against Gov. Harmon if there is popular demand for his candidacy.

Charles Smith, a painter in desperate straits, told New York physicians he was so hungry that he allowed himself to be knocked down and run over to get the price of a meal.

The Adirondack Cottage sanitarium at Saranac Lake, N. Y., founded for the treatment of tuberculosis, has received from Mrs. E. H. Harriman a letter, inclosing a check for \$25,000 and congratulating it upon the completion of its 25 years' existence.

Gov. Haskell of Oklahoma has refused the request of Texas authorities for the extradition of George Smith of Fort Gibson, Okla., wanted on the charge of stealing a bale of cotton in 1879.

Rear Admiral Harber, in command of the Pacific fleet, asserts that a clique of officers at the Mare Island navy yard is responsible for the stories of unseaworthiness concerning the cruisers West Virginia and Maryland.

Violet Gordon Charlesworth and her mother were each sentenced to five years' imprisonment in a London (England) court for fraudulently representing that the younger woman was an heiress to a great estate.

William Averill Harriman, son of the late Edward H. Harriman, was tossed over the historic Yale fence by sophomores during the annual Washington's birthday cane rush, and sustained a blackened eye and numerous cuts and bruises.

EIGHT MILK MEN INDICTED

Bills Are Found Against Directors of Consolidated Exchange for Advancing Prices.

New York, Feb. 24.—Eight directors of the Consolidated Milk Exchange—the institution which is said to be responsible for putting up the price of milk in this city—were indicted by the grand jury.

Each of the men is accused of aiding in the restraint of trade in violation of the Donnelly act—the state law governing trusts and monopolies.

Editor Anderson Is Dead.

Chicago, Feb. 25.—John Anderson, a resident of Chicago since 1844 and publisher of the Norwegian daily, Skandinaven, since 1866, died at his residence of heart disease.

THE MARKETS.

Table with market data for New York, Chicago, and St. Louis. Columns include commodity names and prices.

STORK IS HEADED TOWARD HOLLAND AGAIN



The Hague.—Holland is again expecting an heir to the throne, and of course the people, who have just heard the news, hope that it will be a boy.

NORWAY'S NEW ROAD

Christiania-Bergen Rail Line Across Mountains Completed.

Eastern and Western Parts of the Kingdom Have Easy Means of Communication—Event of Much Importance.

Christiania.—The opening of the railway across the mountains from Christiania to Bergen recently by King Haakon was an event in the history of this country of far wider importance than any one not well acquainted with Norway, geographically and topographically, would be able to appreciate.

Although Norway was united into one kingdom as early as 872 by King Harold Haarfager and has remained united ever since, the natural splitting up of the country into the western, northern and eastern districts has inevitably to some extent impaired the feeling of unity in the nation.

Good roads were constructed in the principal overland routes in the beginning of the last century, and they represented an immense improvement on the ancient trails which had been possible only on foot or on horseback.

Ratcatcher Issues a Defi

London's New Official Offers to Capture One Thousand Rodents in Three Nights.

London.—It seems that the gruesome freemasonry which binds European official executioners together causing them to intermarry and inherit the profession, is not without its parallel among ratcatchers.

Since 1893 each male member of his family has devoted his life to catching rats, and so it was with the greatest confidence that Jarvis issued a challenge to all the ratcatchers in the kingdom to catch more of the vermin in a given time than any man living.

As Jarvis made these challenges he fondled half a dozen tame white rats, while his seven-year-old daughter at his side played with a couple of ferrets.

"The means I use for catching them alive is a family secret, known only to my people for the last four generations. I won't tell you exactly what

lucrative national investment, although it has not as yet paid directly in the form of dividends; it has done better than that by greatly accelerating the development of the Trondhjem district and of Nordland and Finmarken.

Chinese Adept Fan Makers

Consul Pontius, at Swatow, Tells Interesting Story of Industry in Peng-Chow District.

Washington.—Mr. Albert W. Pontius, the American consul at Swatow, sends an interesting report of how the Chinese fans are made. Fan-making, he writes, is of origin so ancient in southern China that no one knows when it was started.

MONEY HIDDEN UNDER CARPET

Son Finds \$3,400 in Small Bills Left by Mother, Who Was Thought Penniless.

South Norwalk, Conn.—When Mrs. Frank A. Slavin died it was thought she did not have a cent. The kitchen carpet was taken up and two layers of small bills, which almost covered the entire floor, were discovered.

Irish Potatoes in Cotton Land.

Osyka, Miss.—The farmers of this locality are making preparations to plant a large acreage in Irish potatoes. A truck farmers' organization has been perfected, and, in conjunction with that of the Diversified Crop Growers' association, it is expected to produce good results.

False hair is going up in price. A dealer says it is following beefsteak. We trust it will not get into the butter.

MAKING A LAWN

Bramshank, after investigating the matter carefully, last spring decided that the best way to deal with the half-acre of ground surrounding his new suburban home was to seed it heavily and just let the grass grow at its own sweet will.

"If you don't cut the new grass all summer," Bramshank explained to his wife, "it gets a chance to thicken up and the next year you have a splendid lawn. I think we can stand the long grass for one season!"

"Oh, certainly," agreed Mrs. Bramshank, who has an inventive mind. "And when it gets tall enough, say about August, we can hang Japanese lanterns through it and give a garden party! It will be nice, too, to serve afternoon tea under the shade of the binegrass!"

"That's all right," said Bramshank indignantly, "but I'm going to do it all the same!"

Nobody could say that Bramshank was stingy with the seed. He got a huge quantity from a dealer who was going out of business and anxious to dispose of his stock at cut rates, and he painstakingly sprinkled all of it over his yard on the theory that if a little was good a great deal was better.

When the first tender shoots of green began to color the ground Bramshank positively chortled with joy and pride. He took practically all the credit to himself for the rapidity and thickness of the growth, though he did grudgingly allow a trifle of it to the seed man.

After a few weeks that was all the Bramshank family did—look at the lawn. Indeed, the whole suburb contracted the habit of sauntering over to look at the Bramshank place, for nobody had ever seen anything like the grass that was growing there. It was Hacklony who first broke the news.

"Say," he hailed Bramshank from the sidewalk, "when did you decide to take up truck gardening? Aren't you afraid so much grass mixed in will interfere with the vegetables?"

Bramshank after one pallid glance over his weird-looking estate reeled up against a porch pillar with a blinding light breaking over him. The reason his lawn looked so queer was that half the seed was the seed of assorted garden vegetables.

There was carelessness about the groupings which might have appealed to an artistic nature, but which only further agonized the Bramshanks. There would be a little bunch of tomato plants, say, in the middle of the lawn and flanking them a thinly scattered array of feathery carrot tops.

Now, vegetables are all very well in their place, but nobody would choose to have them scattered all over a lawn. To be sure, Bramshank could have mowed them down, but he would have had to mow also such grass as there was—and anyhow Mrs. Bramshank had a frugal mind. She believed in accepting the goods the fates provided, so she refused to allow the garden-lawn to be destroyed.

Bramshank said the real reason for her refusal was that she had fallen in love with two tomato plants on the lee side of the library window and that she could not resist the appeal of the tender young carrots pathetically flourishing near the lilac bushes.

The worst of it was that all summer Bramshank tolled in the garden he hadn't expected to have at all. It seemed rank foolishness not to take care of the enthusiastic tomatoes and other garden truck. The whole neighborhood took to running over to get parsley from the Bramshank front lawn because the idea was so unique—and not every one can pick lettuce from along the front of his town property.

The Bramshanks raised several bushels of tomatoes, three dozen ears of green corn, cucumbers enough to start a pickle factory and untold quantities of small truck. Bramshank had to get up an hour earlier each morning all summer long properly to care for his vegetables, besides hearing the jeers of his neighbors. And by fall there wasn't any grass at all.

This spring Bramshank is going to sod over his lawn. It will cost more, but he says it's safer.

New Arctic Expedition.

The Bulletin of the Geographical Society of Italy announces another arctic expedition. The leader will be Baldwin, the leader of the arctic expedition of 1901-1902. He proposes an exploration of the polar regions and to reach the pole. He proposes to follow the route taken by Nansen in the Fram. It is proposed to spend four years altogether in the search.