

WILL LOCATE BLAME

TO COMPEL CITIES TO ENFORCE THE LAW

FAVORS THE CONVENTION

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

One of the new ideas in prohibition law-making that will be urged upon the state legislative committee that will prepare the measure is to make each city, town, village or other political unit financially responsible for all damages that may follow liquor drinking therein unless the governing authorities can show that they have been diligent in enforcing the law. Such a provision, it is believed, would make impossible the open joints like those that made prohibition a farce in Kansas for many years, and make illegal selling a matter of up the alley and down a staircase and step lightly sort of business. In other words, it is believed that it will give



EDGAR HOWARD
Editor Columbus Telegram

Much comment is being directed to Lieutenant Governor Howard on account of his efficiency as the presiding officer of the Senate. He takes keen interest in everything pertaining to public welfare and is widely known as an able editorial and descriptive writer.

the most effective form of enforcement since if the effort is made persons injured by the drinking of liquor—meaning dependents—could easily fasten the responsibility upon the municipality by testimony.

By thus making the municipality, instead of the liquor dispenser and his bondsman, as under the Slocumb law, the responsible party, it is argued that city officials will be forced by public sentiment and public interest to enforce the law, regardless of whether the law is popular in the city or not, because the people, rather than foot the bills themselves for the industry, would recall the officials.

Favor Constitutional Convention

By a unanimous vote, the house as a committee of the whole has voiced its approval of house roll No. 2 calling for a constitutional convention, sent it to third reading and recommended its passage. No one opposed the bill. The bill calls for a constitutional convention to be voted upon by the people at the next general election in 1918. Representatives Martin, Flansburg and Richmond spoke briefly in regard to the bill, declaring that there was an overwhelming sentiment in the state in favor of a new constitution. Representative Martin explained the bill, declaring it would take at least six years to put the state on a basis of new government.

Would Pay Old Soldiers' Expenses

The sum of \$20,000 will be set aside for the use of old soldiers in getting to and from their national reunion at Vicksburg next fall if a bill introduced in the house meets with the approval of the legislature. As drawn up by Jacobson of Dawson and Fred Johnson of Adams, the measure provides that the \$20,000, or as much of it as shall be necessary for the payment of railroad fare and incidental expenses while en route, shall be appropriated for the use of all civil war veterans, both union and confederate, who have lived here a year.

Counties Must Pay Up

Stanton and Gage counties, which attacked the right of the state to compel them to pay to the state the ancient charges against them for care of their insane, lost out and must pay into the strong box of the commonwealth, according to supreme court action, upholding the report of Referee Jefferson Brody in the matter. Stanton county was sued for \$2,214 principal and \$5,448 interest, and Gage county for 3,433 principal and \$5,154 interest. Some of the accounts run for nearly thirty years.

Recommended Course in Journalism

A course leading to a certificate in journalism and an A. B. degree was approved by the faculty of the arts college of the state university Saturday, and will be recommended for passage to the university senate.

Eighteen hours of strictly journalistic training form the major requirement of the course. News writing and news editing, editorial writing, special articles, and the history of journalism are the journalistic subjects. Rhetoric, history, natural sciences and economics are among the requirements.

TWO-CENT FARE ACT

A Plan to Let the Railway Board Raise Rate

Senator Beal of Custer has introduced a bill that authorizes the state railway commission to raise or lower the two-cent passenger fare in Nebraska. The two-cent fare law was enacted by the legislature in 1907. It has been held constitutional by the supreme court of the state. The act is what is known as direct legislation. It gives the state railway commission no discretionary power to raise or lower the rate prescribed by the statute. Governor Shildon, who was governor in 1907, held the bill until the last hour of the last day before he permitted it to become a law. He desired to veto the law, but did not do so. It was his belief that the rate of fare should have been left for the state railway commission to determine after a hearing of complaining railroads, that possibly the poorer roads could show that two cents a mile was inadequate for them and that the entire law might be annulled because of a showing of some poorly managed road or a road that did little business in the state.

The two-cent fare law has been in force on all the roads in Nebraska since its adoption until last year when the Missouri Pacific and the Rock Island roads obtained temporary injunctions against the state railway commission and attorney general to prevent them from enforcing the law. The order was issued by the federal court and the subject matter is still in litigation.

Was Largest Ever Held

"This year's attendance at organized agriculture meetings was by far the largest in the history of such events," declared Prof. C. W. Pugsley, director and secretary of the committee in charge of organized agriculture week. Total attendance at all sessions this year was estimated at 15,000.

"This session of agricultural meetings was probably the largest gathering of farmers for educational purposes ever held in the United States," said Professor Pugsley. He based this statement upon his own wide attendance at farmers' meetings and upon statements of other speakers who participated in organized agriculture. Herbert Quick declared that the audience he addressed Friday afternoon at St. Paul's church on rural credits was the largest he has ever addressed before on that subject.

To Push County Agent Work

A new association, known as the Nebraska farm bureau association, came into existence last week at a meeting at the university farm of farmers interested in county agent work. This association consists of officers and directors of county farm bureaus, as farmers associations in charge of local county agent work are called.

The purpose of the new association is to furnish a medium for the exchange of ideas in county agent work and to extend the work over the entire state. There are now 2,500 farmers in the state who are members of the various county farm bureaus employing county agents. They are among the most progressive and influential farmers of the state.

Bureau Will Get Special Funds

The legislative reference bureau has employed J. H. Broody of Lincoln, C. L. Rine and J. P. Palmer of Omaha to assist in the bill drafting department. Director Sheldon of the bureau estimates that it will need \$1,500 more than was appropriated two years ago, to get through the legislative session, and the house claims committee has agreed to recommend a special appropriation for whatever is required to keep the bureau running.

Mr. Bulla of Douglas has introduced a bill appropriating \$25,000 as Nebraska's share of a \$100,000 fund to be provided by the states of Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming and the city of Denver for a monument to Buffalo Bill, located on Mount Lookout, near Denver. None of this money is to be available until the whole amount is provided.

The committee on fish and game has brought in reports indefinitely postponing a bill allowing anyone to hunt or fish in his own county without a license, and one to protect skunks during a period of eight months each year.

Deficiency Claims

The state board of control will ask the legislature to appropriate a total of \$46,769 to cover deficiencies in the maintenance funds of state institutions for two years ending April 1, 1917. The deficiencies are as follows: Girls' school at Geneva, \$ 8,665 Orthopedic hospital, 16,337 Milford women's home, 4,601 Norfolk insane asylum, 10,561 Dependent children's home, 5,975 One quarter's salary for consulting engineer, 625

The modern dairy building on the university farm campus, just completed at a cost of \$200,000, was formally dedicated Wednesday night when regents of the university, Chancellor Avery and members of the faculty received several hundred Nebraskans in attendance at the sessions of organized agriculture.

Forty-seven lives were lost and over 100 persons were painfully burned by fire in Nebraska in 1916, according to the report of Fire Commissioner Ridgell.

CONDENSED NEWS

OF INTEREST TO ALL.

DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.

- Feb. 6-7.—Nebraska Association of Tillers Annual Meeting at Lincoln.
- Feb. 6-7.—Nebraska Retail Hardware Dealers' Association Convention at Omaha.
- Feb. 7-9.—Nebraska Retail Lumber Dealers' Association Convention at Omaha.
- Feb. 8-9.—State Association of Cleaners and Dyers Convention at Omaha.
- February 15.—State Volleyball Contest at York.
- February 20-21.—Nebraska Clothiers Association Meeting at Omaha.
- Feb. 21.—Annual Meeting of State Opticians at Omaha.
- Feb. 22-23.—Nebraska Jewelers' association Meeting at Omaha.
- Feb. 26 to March 3.—Omaha Automobile Show.
- March 5 to 10.—First Annual Auto Show at Lincoln.
- March 6 to 10.—Mid-West Cement Show and Convention at Omaha.
- March 12-17.—Annual Merchants' Market Week at Omaha.
- March 18.—District Meeting of Odd Fellows at North Platte.

Over three thousand cars of ice have been shipped out of Fremont during the past month and orders are in for 100 more. The ice harvest is the greatest in the history of the city.

Richard Schroeder, who lived alone, six miles from Columbus, was found frozen to death near his home a few days ago.

The Beatrice Commercial club has gone on record in favor of the good roads plan of the federal law, and has advised Representative Dalby to that effect, who is understood to be framing a good roads bill to be introduced in the legislature at Lincoln, which meets the requirements of the federal legislation.

Lodge No. 3, A. O. U. W., of Central City, has begun a state-wide campaign among lodges for the purpose of protesting the proposed increase in lodge dues, effective next May.

The Torrens land system has been adopted by the York county board of supervisors. The sum of \$76,130 will be needed to carry on the county business during 1917.

York was chosen for the 1918 convention by the Nebraska Volunteer Firemen's association at the annual meeting of the organization at Auburn.



MRS. MARIE O'DONNELL WEEKES
OF NORFOLK, NEB., PRESS.
Elected President of the Northeast Nebraska Editorial Association at a Meeting of the Society at Norfolk.

Neill T. Sommer, formerly a member of the St. Joseph (Mo.) fire department, has been selected for the position of chief of the Lincoln fire department at a salary of \$1,800.

Hal J. the pacer which caused a sensation at the Nebraska state fair last fall, has been sold to Indiana horse buyers for \$2,500, by the owner, Bert Collicut of Bladen.

A destructive fire broke out in the village of Rogers, causing damage to the extent of \$10,000. The Farmers' Athletic club, a pool hall, garage and barber shop burned.

A bank charter has been granted at Dix, to be known as the Farmers' State bank. The bank will be capitalized at \$10,000.

Rev. Walter Ernstmeier of Wauwata, a German Lutheran minister, is suing the Arlington Light and Power company for \$15,448.60. He says a lighting pole fell on him last summer and fractured his skull. He is still unable to resume his clerical work.

The United States Census Bureau has just issued a report giving estimates on the population of larger cities July last. Figures for this state are: Beatrice, 10,287; Fremont, 9,925; Grand Island, 12,836; Hastings, 11,021; and Lincoln, 46,515.

Heirs of the three men killed at the Camp Creek crossing near Greenwood, August 23, when a train hit their automobile, filed suit in district court at Omaha, against the Burlington for damages aggregating \$30,000.

Four rural school districts of Fillmore county have agreed to combine for a rural high school and raise the funds with a tax levy on the combined districts.

Announcement has been made that the Black Hills Mica company is soon to establish a mica refining plant near Alliance.

Nebraska beet sugar can be used as well as cane sugar in the manufacture of syrup for soda pop, F. W. Upson, professor of agricultural chemistry of the University of Nebraska told fifty members of the Nebraska Bottlers' association at Omaha. In the past, it had been believed that beet sugar could not be substituted for cane which is the more expensive. "It will mean a great thing for the Nebraska beet sugar industry," said Secretary Frank I. Ringer, Lincoln, "if all the Nebraska bottlers use beet sugar."

All price records for fed lambs were broken at the South Omaha market last week when \$14.35 per cwt. was paid for two shipments from the western part of Nebraska. One bunch of 516 was sent in by A. F. Elliott of Minatara, and averaged seventy-four pounds over the scales. The other bunch came from Bond & Scott of Wood River, and averaged seventy-one pounds. This brings the price per head at about \$11.

Mrs. Marie Weeks of Norfolk was elected president; A. H. Backhaus, Pierce, vice president; E. O. Gardner, Wayne, secretary-treasurer, and Fred Marshall, Niobrara, and J. A. Stahl, West Point, the two members of the executive committee of the North-east Nebraska Editorial association during the meeting at Norfolk last week. Wayne was chosen as the place of meeting for the midsummer session in July.

The Nebraska potash industry that developed last fall in the vicinity of Antioch, in the southern portion of Sheridan county, has spread over into Garden county to the south, and in the lake country north of Oshkosh several stills are being erected close to the shallow lakes. It has been predicted that the potash field around Oshkosh will prove richer and more productive than those to the north.

Olsen and Johnson company of Missoula, Mont., were awarded the contract for building the new Dodge county court house at Fremont, the price being \$119,675. The building will occupy the site of the one destroyed by fire over a year ago. It will be four stories and a basement, built of re-enforced concrete, with Bedford stone exterior.

Nebraska gets \$99,000 in the public buildings appropriation bill as it passed the lower house of congress. The bill provides \$70,000 for new post offices at Schuyler and Superior, each to cost \$35,000, and \$24,000 for post office sites at Broken Bow, David City, O'Neill and Seward, to cost \$6,000 each, and \$5,000 for a postoffice site at Wayne.

Joe Stecher of Dodge, world heavy weight wrestling champion and Charley Peters of Papillion, will meet on the mat in Omaha on February 9. The match was to have been staged last summer, but was called off because of Peter's illness.

Earl Hamilton, 28, a ranchman near North Platte, was drowned when he fell head first into a well containing but ten inches of water. He became entangled in a rod in some manner and died before help could reach him.

R. H. Steinhilber, banker at Holmesville, marketed 129 head of hogs at Kansas City the other day which averaged 245 pounds and for which he received \$10.90 per hundred. The shipment brought about \$3,300.

Nebraska Bottlers' association selected Lincoln for the 1918 convention at the closing session of the annual meeting in Omaha last week. All the men who held office during the past year were re-elected.

The Grand Island Commercial club has been re-organized, with the following officers elected: David Kaufmann, president; John R. Geddes vice-president and Elmer Williams, treasurer.

The firm of Blum-Reardon company of Kansas City secured the contract for installing the plumbing and heating in the new Dodge county court house to be built at Fremont.

Twenty-one cars of brick have arrived at Deshler, to be used in constructing the new Deshler Coffee Mill. Actual work on the structure will begin in a few days.

A profit of over \$1,000 was made during the past year on the Dodge county poor farm, according to a report.

A new club house is to be built by the Beatrice Country club, to cost in the neighborhood of \$5,000.

The Alliance Creamery has just made an annual report which shows that the company last year paid over \$100,000 to farmers in the vicinity for cream. It manufactured 500,000 pounds of butter, 100 carloads of ice and 15,000 gallons of ice cream.

Peter Thomas, a German farmer living near Table Rock, shipped a carload of hogs to the St. Joseph market a few days ago that consisted of eighty-six head, that weighed 18,240 pounds, and sold for \$10.60 per hundred.

Rev. F. E. Blanchard of Verdon has accepted a call to the Tecumseh Christian church. Rev. C. C. Atwood, retiring pastor at the Tecumseh church, has gone to Elliot, Ia.

Congressman Reavis of the First district was the only Nebraskan who voted against the public buildings bill which was passed by the lower house of congress.

A delegation of Lincoln citizens asked the city commissioners to have certain streets of the city flooded and policed, to provide skating rinks for the children.

SOLID FOUNDATION FOR POULTRY HOUSES

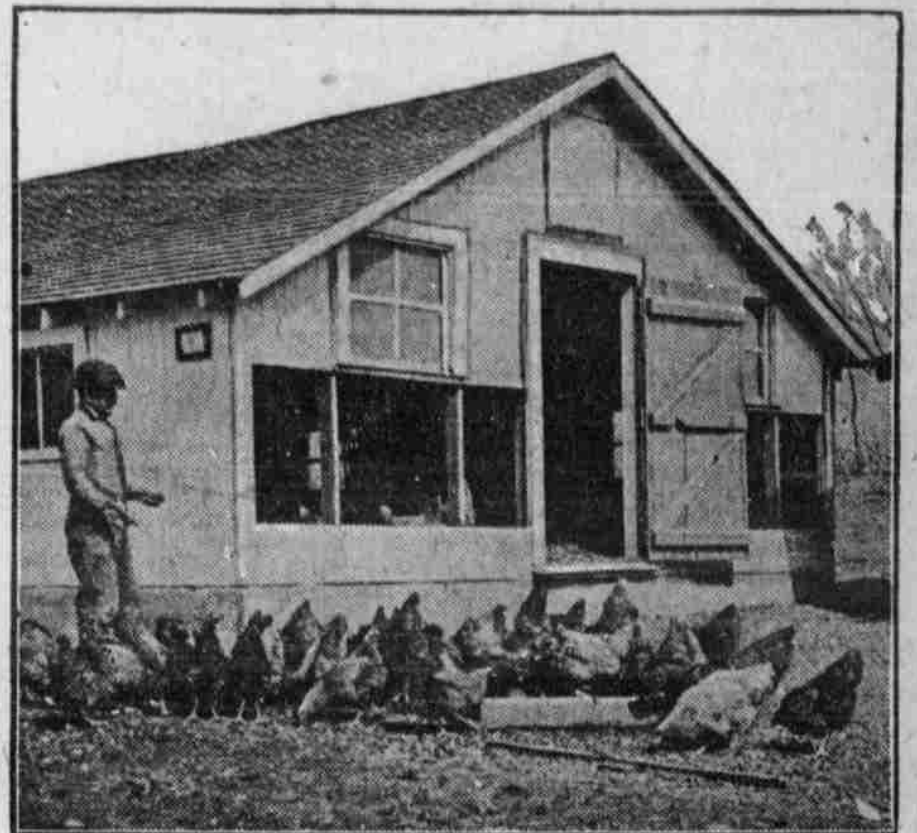
(By PROF. H. L. KEMPSTER, Missouri Agricultural College.)

Stationary poultry houses should always be built on a foundation. It is poor economy to allow the sills to rest on the ground and keep replacing them as they decay, except in the case of portable houses. Stone or brick may be used for foundations, but the best material, all things considered, is concrete. Posts are objectionable because they are short-lived. Stone blocks are subject to heaving by frost and settling, the result being warped houses in which doors and windows open and shut with difficulty. The concrete foundation is not only easier to construct, but prevents rats from burrowing underneath the floor.

A few simple rules should be observed in building a concrete foundation. A trench should be built below ground and filled with concrete and a small form built for the portion above ground. The trench should extend below the frost line, usually 14 to 18 inches below ground. This foundation need not be as heavy as for larger buildings. Eight inches at the base and five inches at the top is usually sufficient. It should extend about eight inches above the ground level, and the ground sloped so as to carry the surface water away from the house. Inserting a few bolts in the concrete so

tions are necessary to prevent water from working up from beneath. There should be a two or three inch fill of some coarse material, such as cobble stones or coarse cinders, and this covered with a layer of thick clay so that the loose soil from above will not work down between the coarse material. By covering the clay with two or three inches of sand or soil, dryness is secured and an ideal floor is obtained. A common mistake in the use of earth floors is to remove some of the dirt each cleaning time, no effort being made to replace the soil removed often resulting in the floor being lower than the ground outside. One of the chief disadvantages of earth floors comes from invasion of rats. Burying wire screen often prevents their working up from beneath, however. Cinders are also said to check the invasion. Another disadvantage of earth floors is that they dirty the litter used in the house, making it necessary to remove the foul dirt and replace with fresh to insure perfect health. In spite of these disadvantages, its desirable features, especially economy of construction, make the earth floor one of the most popular used.

Concrete floors are rapidly coming into use. The first cost is high, but it is probably the cheapest floor of all



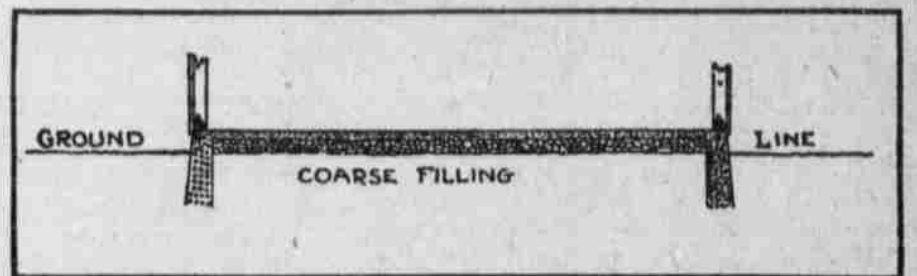
IDEAL MISSOURI HOUSE FOR POULTRY.

as to fasten the house to the foundation prevents injury from severe winds and renders the building more stable generally.

A good floor should exclude vermin and prevent dampness. The three common types of floor are earth, wood, and concrete. In portable houses either the wood or earth floors are used, while all types are seen in stationary houses. The floor in a stationary house should be raised 6 to 8 inches above the ground level to prevent surface water from affecting it.

Earth floors are most common because of economy in construction. Indeed a good earth floor is probably the most desirable if dampness can be prevented. On wet soils special precau-

in the end. The litter does not require changing as often as on earth floors and all expense of removing and replacing the soil each year is eliminated. It is also rat proof, and can be easily and thoroughly disinfected in case of disease. Poultry should not be permitted to run on a bare floor, but there should be a heavy straw litter in which the grain can be fed. A bare floor is cold and causes deformed feet and rheumatism unless covered with the litter. The construction of a concrete floor is comparatively simple. By filling in a few inches of coarse material such as cinders, and tamping thoroughly, the floor may be laid at the same time as the wall, without the use of inside forms.



CONCRETE FLOOR AND FOUNDATION.

MALE FOWL OF IMPORTANCE

His Presence in Flock Absolutely Necessary to Secure Fertile Eggs for Hatching.

The productive function of the hen is a natural one, and if furnished the food necessary to both sustain her body and manufacture the eggs, she will not, if a vigorous specimen, prove disappointing. The germ is present in all eggs alike, but it requires the contact of the male element to give it vitality. Hence the necessity of the male bird being a fine specimen, not having his vigor impaired by disease, or with crooked breast, wry tail, long slender shanks, or other bodily defects indicating a lack of vigor. Like begets like.

To be sure that eggs are fertile, none should be used for hatching from a flock until at least the third day after mating. After the third day, should the male be removed most of the eggs will prove fertile until the tenth day.

EGG SUPPLY DURING WINTER

Do Not Be Disappointed if Hens Fail to Produce Eggs in Cold Weather—Give Fowls Rest.

Do not expect the hens to lay, and be disappointed if they do not, in real cold weather, although if you have good hens and make conditions right you may secure some eggs during the winter.

Poultrymen who have valuable, purebred birds and a ready sale for eggs and baby chickens do not force their hens for heavy winter laying when

there is no market for the product, but let the birds take a good rest and get them in fine condition for heavy, late-in-the-winter and early spring laying, when they have a good market for the product.

UNIFORM EGGS FOR MARKET

To Obtain Best Prices Farmer Should Keep but One Breed—Customer is Better Pleased.

Uniformity is one of the essentials of successful marketing. Buyers are exacting as a rule for uniform products.

Marketing eggs to advantage requires thought. For one thing uniformity in color and size is to be considered. This requirement is dependent upon the flock. Upon this point an expert says:

If a basket of eggs from a mixed flock is sent to the market it will contain some white eggs, some brown, and some cream colored. There is a great variety of sizes and shapes. This lack of uniformity is unattractive and tends to bring down the price. If the farmer had sent a basket of all white eggs or all brown eggs of uniform size he would have received a better price for his product. To obtain these good prices, the farmer should have but one breed of chickens on his farm. Then he would have a flock in which he would take much pride and give them good attention. The eggs produced from such birds would be all of the same color, size and shape, and when marketed the customers would be better pleased, since uniformity is usually much desired.