

CORNHUSKER ITEMS

News of All Kinds Gathered From Various Points Throughout Nebraska.

OF INTEREST TO ALL READERS

Statistics show that Nebraska has 4,358 farms of less than twenty acres, 4,558 farms of from twenty to fifty acres, 12,618 farms of from fifty to 100 acres; 43,916 farms of from 100 to 174 acres; 41,233 farms of from 175 to 499 acres; 13,128 farms of from 500 to 999 acres, and 3,867 farms over 1,000 acres in area. The total number of farms in the state is 129,678. It has more farms of between 500 and 1,000 acres than any other state in the union and is second to Texas in number of farms of 500 acres or more.

The state supreme court has upheld the Nebraska redistricting school law, commonly known as the consolidated school act, in an action brought in quo warranto by the attorney general to determine its validity. The law has been the cause of several suits filed throughout the state, and this suit was brought by the attorney general to prevent needless litigation.

Hugh Lemaster, attorney for the state railway commission, in answer to an inquiry from N. P. Urdike of Omaha stated that Nebraska grain dealers who take advantage of the "public warehouse" law, must, under the law, accept any grain that is offered them for storage so long as they have room for it, and provided it is of suitable quality and condition.

A shortage of threshing outfits has caused many farmers in southern Nebraska to purchase small individual type machines, and as a result of warnings by the state railway commission relative to a shortage of shipping facilities many have built additional granaries in which to store their crop. The wheat crop in the district is the finest on record.

A vote of two to one was cast against a proposition to straighten and control the Elkhorn river by voters of West Point at a special election. The reasons given for its defeat was the immense cost of material required for construction work and the general high price of everything required to carry out the work.

Nebraska exceeded its quota towards America's gift to France, which is to take the form of a statue to commemorate the battle of the Marne. The university of Nebraska sent direct to the New York office the sum of \$231.57 and \$4,129.03 was raised by schools of the state, making a total of \$4,360.60. The state's quota was \$3,500.

At an election for the purpose of consolidating rural schools of the districts, voters of Lillian community, Custer county, defeated the proposition by thirty-nine votes. It was the first consolidation school election in the county.

Arthur J. Koenigstein, former county attorney of Madison county, convicted of receiving bribes from keepers of disorderly houses, has been paroled from the state penitentiary by his brother, Jack Koenigstein, of Norfolk.

The War department at Washington has granted the board of county commissioners of Lincoln county permission to build a 66-foot right-of-way across the Fort McPherson military reservation in the county.

Between December 1, 1919, and May 1, 1920, the city of Lincoln had but \$8,167 in fire losses, which is considered a most remarkable showing for a city of its size by State Fire Marshal Hartford.

Teams representing Sidney, Scottsbluffs and several other Nebraska towns and from two Colorado points will compete for honors at a baseball tournament at North Platte the week of August 14.

School boards of Nemaha, Pawnee and Johnson counties have joined forces and will hold a tri-county teachers' institute at Tecumseh August 3 to 6.

Up to the middle of July more than 200 claims for hail losses to Nebraska crops were received by the state hail insurance department at Lincoln.

A special election will be held at Sterling August 10 to vote on a bond issue of \$120,000 to build two new ward school buildings.

Fire caused by lightning destroyed the Whitaker's opera house building at Harvard.

Plans are under way for the construction of a new up-to-date hotel at Pawnee City.

Preliminary work for paving several streets at Ord has been completed and it is expected the work will be entirely finished in a few weeks.

Nebraska has 78,900 acres of sugar beets this year, as compared to 61,800 acres last year. The present acreage is nearly nineteen times greater than that in 1910. The state ranks fifth, being exceeded by Colorado, Michigan, California and Utah in the order named.

A hydro-electric plant is to be built at Hebron in the immediate future and it is thought it will mean cheaper light and power for people of the city.

Crop conditions in Valley county and in the sand hills of Garfield and Greeley counties are the best ever known, according to a survey just completed.

A near tornado swept over Neligh, damaged a carnival company showing in the city to the extent of nearly \$10,000, unroofed several houses, uprooted trees and injured crops in the district quite badly.

Governor McKelvie has issued a proclamation designating Tuesday, September 21, as a special election day, on which the constitutional amendments, proposed by the constitutional convention, will be voted on. There are forty-one proposed amendments. All amendments adopted will become effective in 1921. One exception to this is the equal suffrage amendment which is to be operative immediately upon proclamation of its passage.

In a reply to the Standard Trade Service of New York, the state labor department at Lincoln declared there is at present sufficient farm help to meet all demands in Nebraska, and that there will be a surplus of labor for construction work, after the harvest. That publication states that it is making a survey of labor conditions throughout the country.

In order to repair Cedar county bridges damaged by unprecedented floods this spring and to replace those entirely swept away the county board has voted to draw on any fund available to meet the emergency. The task confronting the county since early spring exhausted the bridge fund some time ago and prompt action was necessary to meet the crisis.

County assessors of Nebraska, meeting with the state board of equalization at Lincoln approved a plan for making valuations of real and personal property in the counties. The plan of the board has been to assess land on the sale valuation and ranch an average for each county. This will raise the assessments in some counties.

The secretary of state at Lincoln is sending county clerks copies of the ballot for the special election September 21. Each county will have to supply the ballots for the election on the adoption of the constitutional amendments as prepared by the constitutional convention and bear the expense of the same.

Aaron S. Watkins of Germantown, Ohio, was nominated for president and D. L. Colvin of New York for vice president by the national prohibition convention at Lincoln. Prior to the nomination W. J. Bryan was chosen for the dyes' standard bearer but refused the honor, stating he preferred to stick with the democratic party.

E. E. Eike, cashier of the Nebraska State bank of Valparaiso, was discharged at his preliminary hearing before County Judge D. M. Parmenter at Waboo on charges of submitting false reports to the department of trade and commerce on the call issued February 14, 1920.

It is estimated that railroad workers in Nebraska will receive over \$500,000 additional salary monthly, as the result of the 21 per cent increase granted railway employees by the federal labor board at Chicago.

The steady advance of land values in Nebraska was made apparent the other day when Jeff J. Newman, who homesteaded in Perkins county 12 years ago on the virgin prairie, sold his 4,400-acre farm near Vonnago for more than a half million dollars.

Lincoln merchants who guaranteed to make up any amount over the \$700,000 appropriated by the 1915 legislature for extending the State University grounds will be required to pay about \$4,500 for the improvement.

Petitions are in circulation in Chadron to authorize the expenditure of \$89,594 by the city, to take up the deficit created in the new water extension program.

From Omaha to Grand Island and back to Omaha, a distance of 288 miles, was made by two Omaha business men in an airplane the other day in three hours' time.

J. O. Randall of the state agricultural college at Lincoln estimates that nearly 50 per cent of Nebraska's 130,000 farms are tenanted by renters.

The greatest wheat crop in the history of Scotts Bluff county is being harvested this week. The yield promises from 16 to 25 bushels to the acre.

The Methodist Episcopal church at Pawnee City which was badly damaged by fire recently is being rebuilt.

Contract has been let for remodeling the Brown county court house at Ainsworth. The improvement will cost several thousand dollars.

Drilling for oil in earnest is going on north of Chadron, working on the second hole having been resumed after some delay.

Virtually all arrangements have been made for holding a harvest festival at Shelton, August 17 and 18.

Things are becoming quite lively around the fair grounds at Lincoln in preparation for the 1920 State Fair, September 5 to 10.

A movement is on foot at Fremont to organize a company of Nebraska national guards.

A sixty-three mile an hour wind swept Valentine and vicinity the other day resulting in some damage to city property and crops.

Chase county again promises to lead the state in wheat production per acre as it did in 1916. Many farmers are predicting that the average yield this year will be forty bushels per acre.

Holt county boasts of having the oldest democrat in Nebraska and, perhaps in the entire middle west. He is John Jasper Davis, 108 years old, hale and hearty and anxious to vote for Cox and Roosevelt at the fall election.

The cornerstone for the new Methodist church at Neligh was laid Sunday, July 11. A large crowd attended.

At a special election held in school district No. 41, embracing the village of Hulburt, the proposition to issue bonds in the amount of \$25,000 for the erection of a new school house carried by a vote of 60 to 55.

During a severe electrical storm at Hastings lightning struck the Ingleside state hospital horse barn resulting in a fire which destroyed the building together with eighteen head of stock. The loss totals about \$7,000.

POLES AND RUSSIANS END WAR

Armistice of Soviets Acceptable.—To Negotiate Peace Treaty at Brest-Litovsk.

Warsaw.—It is reported in diet circles that armistice negotiations between representatives of Poland and soviet Russia will be held at Brest-Litovsk.

Negotiations to bring about the initial meeting of the military commanders to arrange for a conference between the deputations of both sides already are under way somewhere on the front lines.

Poland's first coalition cabinet took office July 25, soon after it was announced that the Russian soviet had accepted Poland's armistice proposals.

Vincent Witos, leader of the popular peasant party and president of the Polish parliament, is the new premier; Ignace Daszynski, socialist leader, vice premier; Prince Eugene Sapieha, minister of foreign affairs; General Leszniewski, minister of war; Ladislav Grabski, minister of finance, and M. Skulski, who was premier, succeeding Ignace Jan Paderewski last December, minister of the interior.

Changes appear among other chiefs of home affairs. The cabinet is known as a government desiring peace. When newspapers announced the bolshevik acceptance of the armistice proposals, Warsaw was perceptibly relieved.

Witos, as premier, made his initial bow to the diet. Witos said the new government was prepared to conclude peace based upon the principles of justice and freedom, otherwise the entire nation would unite to fight for the republic's independence.

PACKING CASE SETTLED.

Watered Stock Squeezed From Skinner Packing Company at Omaha.

Lincoln, Neb.—Stipulations to the mutual satisfaction of factions in the Packing company controversy involving the Skinner Packing Company of Omaha, were agreed upon here and the case pending in the supreme court of the state was dismissed upon the recommendation of the attorney general. The principal stipulations are the cancellation of all watered stock, fixed at the amount of \$175,000, calling in all floating indemnities, and cancellation of stock held by Robert Howe, former manager of the company. They also provide that holders of preferred stock shall exchange it at the rate of six shares for one share of common voting stock not later than December 1, 1920. This will give stockholders, exclusive of the Skinners and their partners, 80 per cent of the stock. Attorney General Davis says that he regards the agreement as a complete victory for the state, that all has been realized that could possibly be accomplished by litigation and that popular control has been placed in the hands of the stockholders.

MEAT PRODUCTION SHRINKS

Four Hundred Million Pound Decrease in Past Half Year.

Washington, D. C.—Decrease of 400,000,000 pounds in the country's meat production for the last six months, as compared with last year was reported by the Institute of American Meat Packers. Statistics of the agriculture department showing 2,500,000 fewer cattle, hogs and sheep were slaughtered at sixty-nine markets during the last six months were used as the basis for the estimated decrease in production.

"During nearly every month of 1920, producers lost money on cattle and many packers reported losses on beef," said the statement.

Government to Sell Canned Meat.

Washington, D. C.—In an effort to combat the high cost of living the War department soon is to place millions of dollars' worth of canned meats on the market at prices below even pre-war quotations, said an announcement from the office of the division of sales. The meats which will be sold are stored in every section of the country and will be disposed of through wholesale and retail stores from one end of the country to the other.

Eugenie Rests With Napoleon.

Farnborough, England.—With an impressive ceremony the body of Empress Eugenie was drawn on a gun carriage through a roof-lined, leafy avenue to St. Michael's Abbey to a resting place beside the remains of Napoleon III.

Women Fight Duel Over Man.

Detroit, Mich.—Eleanor Greer, 33, is dead and Birdie Bradford, 18-year-old girl, is held by police following a revolver duel, which the officers say resulted from a quarrel over a man at a rooming house here.

Farmers to Control Brokers.

Chicago, Ill.—Plans for co-operative marketing of grain and live stock and development of better marketing facilities were discussed at a meeting of the American Farm Bureau federation here. The organization plans a permanent bureau in Chicago vested with authority to determine the best means of disposing of produce through co-operative efforts. This would eliminate speculation and stabilize prices to the consumer, speakers said.

DADDY'S EVENING FAIRY TALE

BILLIE'S SPRINGTIME.

"I'd like to tell my story," said Billie to the Fairy Wondrous Secrets. "Folks are always wondering what babies think about and what they are planning to do when they grow up—if they are planning to do anything or not. They wonder so much about us, and so I'd like to tell my story. I don't know about other babies. But I would like to tell about myself, if no one minds."

"I'd like to hear," said the Fairy Wondrous Secrets. Now Billie was in a baby carriage which was out on the front porch of a little house in the country. Billie's mother was busy and so was Billie's daddy, but Billie, they knew, was quite safe in the carriage on the porch where the soft spring air was blowing.

No one was around but the Fairy Wondrous Secrets and if anyone had come around the Fairy Wondrous Secrets would have vanished quickly.

"I'm really a little girl," Billie began, "though my name is something like a boy's name I believe. You see my great big daddy's name is Bill and my mother wanted to name me after him. She couldn't have my real name Billie, so she had every one call me that, so it's my daytime, every-day name, and my best, dress-up name is Mary Ann, or Marlon or some such fine name after my mother."

"I came to the world in December," said Billie. "You see, Fairy, I thought it would be fun to arrive in the world when everything was so exciting. Christmas was coming on and it was very gay and merry."

"I've had a nice winter, but now is the best time I've known for it's springtime. And I'll tell you, Fairy Wondrous Secrets, I feel as though it were all my own springtime."

"I feel the soft, warm wind blow over my little pink cheeks which everyone admires so much and I smile and I croon and I make soft little singing sounds like the trees do. And I look



"I Can See the Ducks."

around to smile at the trees and the bushes too and to let them see my blue eyes. I ask them if they think my eyes look like the blue sky, for the bushes and the trees are always looking up at the sky so they should surely know.

"I can see the yellow forsythia upon the bushes, and how gay and lovely it is. The lilacs are in bud, and there are white blossoms on the bushes. Back of our house there are some waterfalls and they laugh and gurgle as they dash over the rocks something the way I laugh and gurgle."

"I believe it is their way of kicking with fun. I kick with fun when my mother puts me in the wash basin every morning. The wash basin, Fairy Wondrous Secrets, is my bathtub, and I splash and kick and laugh and have such a good time! I don't care if the water spills over the floor any more than I imagine the waterfalls care that they spill water over the rocks. They enjoy it! So do I!"

"I can see the ducks and hear them quack, quack. I hear that sometimes they lay seven eggs a day. The chickens and the hens and the roosters walk about and chatter, and one day, a lady passed and said 'Hello,' to a chicken and the chicken got up from the ground most politely like a mannerly person would do I'm told."

"The pussy willows are out and the skunk-cabbage is in bloom. There are red flowers and yellow flowers and little star flowers. The trees are full of buds or little leaves or blossoms of different colors. There is a little turtle who is sunning himself by the brook nearby and who is an interesting creature, I have heard. He wears a shell over his back like I wear a little knitted jacket."

"At night I hear the crickets when I wake up for my bottle. And I believe these creatures all like the country, too. The chickens and the ducks say that in the cities they aren't wanted and they wouldn't be allowed to wander about so they wouldn't leave the country for anything."

"And one evening I saw a moon in the sky. My daddy told me it was a moon and surely he knows! And over the moon there was a bright gold star, and I made a wish. This was my wish: that other babies might have happy homes like I have, where they don't want to cry, because there is no reason to cry. I'm well looked after, I'm never spoilt and they love me; so why should I cry? But what I'm thinking about mostly these days is of how lucky I am to have such a daddy and mother and to see the beautiful springtime in the country."

AVOID BLOATING OF FARM CATTLE

Trouble Can Be Prevented if Stock Owner Will Take Few Necessary Precautions.

OVEREATING CAUSES DEATH

Shift Animals by Easy Stages From Dry or Scanty Pasture to Abundant and Luxuriant Growing Fodder—Trocar Is Useful.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Many a cow has come to an untimely end because she became dissatisfied with the scanty feed to be gathered from the closely cropped pasture, broke down the fence that surrounded a field containing a more luxuriant growth, and stuffed herself with the succulent, stolen greens until she lost all desire for another mouthful.

Soon her troubles begin. Fermentation develops in the mass of corn or clover, and gas forms that fills the first stomach of the cow to its utmost capacity.

How Fermentation Causes Death.

The danger to the animal from acute bloating is not that the distended stomach may rupture, for such an accident is almost unknown. The pressure of the gas-distended stomach, however, exerts a dangerous pressure upon the heart and lungs, with the result that animals dying from acute bloating usually die of strangulation through inability to breathe with their compressed lung tissue.

The stock owner should guard against the bloating of his cattle by ev-



Luxuriant Pastures Are Necessary for the Production of Baby Beef.

ery precaution at his command. Clover or other green vegetation, if eaten when wet by dew or rain, seems to be especially liable to ferment before leaving the first stomach of the animal that has fed upon them. Eating excessive amounts of middlings or corn meal will also cause bloating. It also occurs in cattle as a result of becoming choked. The principal cause, however, is overeating succulent green forage such as clover, green corn or cabbage.

Change Feed Gradually. To prevent bloating in cattle, the animals should be shifted, by easy stages, from dry or scanty feed to abundant and luxuriantly growing fodder. They may be allowed to feed from the good forage for only three-quarters of an hour on the first day they are given access to such grazing. A full hour may be allowed on the second day, and by continued slow steps and gradually lengthened stay in the tempting feed, the danger of loss from bloating will be largely overcome.

But in case the first evidence of a too protracted stay in the heavy growth of forage should be that the owner notices one of his animals with sides distended, and perhaps even lifted above the level of the backbone, he must act quickly. Removal of the gas from the paunch will quickly bring relief. If a veterinarian is within

reach he should be summoned at once. If no surgeon is available, the owner should immediately attempt to bring relief to his animal.

Trocar and Method of Use. Many cattle owners keep a trocar and caudal constantly on hand and thoroughly understand its use. The trocar is a sharp-pointed rod provided with a metallic sheath of caudal which leaves the point of the trocar exposed. The spot to be selected for inserting the trocar is a point equally distant from the last rib, the hip bone, and the lateral bony projections from the spine in the region of the loins. Here a small cut about three-fourths of an inch long should be made through the skin with a small knife, and then the trocar with caudal attached may be pushed through the cut into the paunch. The trocar is

then removed, allowing the gas to escape through the canula. The canula should be retained in place so long as any gas escapes through it. Sometimes several hours are necessary, and the canula should be firmly tied in place. An attendant should remain near the animal, if possible, so long as the canula is in the paunch.

Medicines That Relieve Bloating. If the animal is not distressed by the bloating, and the swelling of the body is not great, or when the alarming conditions have been removed by the use of the trocar, it is best to resort to internal medicine to allay the formation of gas. Two ounces of aromatic spirits of ammonia in two quarts of cold water should be given every half hour, or half an ounce of chloride of lime dissolved in a pint of tepid water may be given every half hour until the pressure of the bloating has been removed. A dose of purgative medicine is usually beneficial after the bloating has disappeared. For this purpose one pound of Glauber's salts will usually prove effective.

Care should be used in the administration of fluid medicine. Take time. Do not hold the cow's head too high. Keeping the animal's head raised, so that her nose is slightly higher than the level of her face will allow her to swallow without interference.



Steers of This Type Are Rapidly Replacing Scrub Stock.

There should be a good brood mare or more of draft type on every farm.

More colts should be raised to replace the teams when their usefulness is over.

Poland China pigs fed for market may be made to weigh 200 pounds or over at six months.

Is there a bulshiek on your farm? There is if you have a scrub bull. Down with the bulshieks, and boost better bulls!

Sheep scab is exceedingly contagious and is transmitted by direct contact with animals or objects that are carriers of the mites.

GIVE ATTENTION TO THRASHING MACHINE

Skill and Judgment of Operator Are of Big Importance.

Follow Suggestions Given in Instruction Book Furnished by Manufacturer—Unskilled Feeder Will Cause Trouble.

Any standard make of thrashing machine is capable of doing satisfactory work if kept in good repair and operated intelligently, according to specialists of the United States department of agriculture. Clean grain and small losses depend more than anything else upon the skill and judgment of the operator. Here are a few rules the wheat thrasher should observe carefully:

Study the instruction book sent out by the manufacturer and follow the suggestions closely.

See that the separator is set level crosswise and lengthwise.

The speed of the cylinder teeth is approximately 6,000 feet a minute. This may be modified slightly up or down in different machines and with different grains. In general the rule is correct.

Greater part of the separation is done in the cylinder and immediately after the grain passes through it.

Use as few concave teeth as necessary to thrash all the grain from the head. Two rows of teeth set high are better than four rows set low.

Grates give the best separation when set as high as possible.

The makeup of the tailings determines the character of the work done by the sieves.

An unskilled hand feeder or a reckless pitcher with a self-feeder will cause any machine to do poor work. The bundles should be fed heads first and straight. It is important that the feed be steady and in continuous stream. Do not crowd one moment and let run empty the next. Damp, tough straw cannot be fed as fast as dry straw.

On a mechanical feeder see that the governor is set and working properly.

MUCH CATTLE FEED WASTED

Grain Straw, Corn Stover and Cotton seed Meal Not Being Used to Best Advantage.

Something like one-third of the total production of grain straw in the United States is not being used to advantage, and of this amount one-half is an absolute loss. Of the 245,000,000 tons of corn stover produced annually in the United States it is estimated that only \$1.5 per cent is fed to stock, and that at least 35 per cent of this amount is lost through wasteful methods of feeding. Similarly, during the past years large quantities of cottonseed meal have been used for direct fertilizing purposes, which could be used to better advantage for feeding cattle, since not over 25 per cent of its fertilizing value is lost when it is so used.

LIVE STOCK NOTES

The grade and scrub stallions should be avoided like a pestilence.

The demand today is for horses that weigh from 1,400 to 2,000 pounds.

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