

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

The state administration is continuing its drive against Nebraska tax slackers. W. H. Osborne, state tax commissioner, in open letters to county clerks has called for typewritten copies of the minutes of meetings of county commissioners, explaining that it is for the purpose of ascertaining the work done by commissioners as equalization boards on taxation questions and in order to give the state department an opportunity to ascertain if local politics is playing any part in the assessments levied by county boards on certain persons.

Flag day was commemorated in Ravenna by unveiling the handsome bronze tablet erected to the memory of the soldier boys. Six names, with the star before them indicating that they had answered the final summons, and the names of 140 who returned home, are engraved on the tablet, which was donated by the women's canteen organization.

Members of four rural school districts surrounding Gilead, Nos. 17, 45, 74 and 81 are planning a unite five districts, including Gilead, No. 89, for high school purposes. It is the desire of the people to establish a rural high school, each district to retain its present organization, boards of education and school house for lower grade purposes.

Governor McKelvie has authorized the appointment of every county highway commissioner in the state as a deputy state sheriff to have full power to enforce automobile owners to use proper light lenses in compliance with the new law, get proper licenses and observe the speed laws.

Contract has been awarded the E. W. Stephens Publishing Co. of Columbia, Mo., to furnish Nebraska's revised statutes for 1921 at the price of \$34,650 for 4,000 copies bound in buckram, estimated to run 3,000 pages each.

From estimates made by Lincoln grain men the average yield of Nebraska wheat will be 15 bushels an acre. The rains of the last few weeks are held to be responsible for bringing the wheat up to a better standard than was expected.

A labor shortage is facing Nebraska farmers at the opening of the harvest season, according to a statement issued by C. C. Becker, inspector in charge of the United States employment station at Lincoln.

Wheat prospects in Cheyenne county are the best that farmers and residents can recall. The county has led the world in wheat for years and this season promises to outdo former yields.

The "lawful lens" regulation passed by the Nebraska legislature becomes effective July 23 and peace officers all over the state are preparing to wage a vigorous campaign against the driver with dazzling lights.

Rumors, said to have originated at Norfolk, that black and red rust are seriously injuring wheat in Madison and adjoining counties are denied by elevator men and others in close touch with the situation.

Petitions are being circulated in the Neligh district asking the county superintendent to call a special election for the purpose of voting on the dissolution of the consolidated school district.

Dawson county farmers expect to harvest the biggest wheat and rye crops in the history of the county this year. Cutting of the grain was started last week.

A dam built north of the South Platte river at North Platte was all that saved the City from being flooded last week.

Citizens of the school district at Dubois voted \$30,000 in bonds to erect and furnish a new school building.

Five hundred dollars have been raised by people of McCook for Pueblo, Colo. flood sufferers.

The mile of paving being laid through the business section of Nelson is about finished.

Citizens of Pawnee City voted \$75,000 bonds for building a new electric power plant.

The three river bridges across the North Platte in Garden county were badly damaged by the recent high water and all three have been condemned by the board of county commissioners.

The 1920 corn crop cost an average of 49 cents a bushel to produce in one of the central Nebraska counties, according to figures compiled by the state college of agriculture. The average cost was figured from records kept by members of the county farm bureau and are considered conservative.

A jury investigating the wreck near Northwestern passenger, No. 606 near Whitney, in which five lives were lost, found the bridge over Big Cottonwood creek through which the train plunged was in good condition a short time before the accident.

Rolla and Della Dehart, man and wife now in jail at O'Neill charged with the murder of John Mize of Platte, S. D., whose body was found in the Niobrara river north of Atkinson several weeks ago, will be tried at a special term of district court in August.

Announcement by State Treasurer Crosey that \$496,385.27 is available for the July semiannual state school apportionment calls for a new basis of distribution under a law passed by the 1921 legislature providing that each district in which non-taxable state school land is located shall receive out of the appropriation an equivalent to the school tax on that land if it were privately owned. This will require a valuation of all school land on the basis of surrounding land and a computation of what the school levy in each school district having such land would raise.

No seriously menacing pest has yet appeared on the horizon of Nebraska agriculture, according to the monthly report of the state entomologist, Prof. M. H. Swenk, at Lincoln. Grasshoppers have been hatching out in rather large numbers in a few counties, and a little damage has been done. The Hessian fly has also caused injury in two sections of the state, and one or two other pests have put in their appearance. However, no extensive damage has been reported from any pest.

During the first three months of this year the state division of vital statistics had reports showing new births in 138 families in Nebraska where the total number of children in each was ten or more. Mr. and Mrs. George Knepper, living near Falls City, made the banner showing, with a total of eighteen children, fourteen of whom are still living. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Sturak, Cedar Rapids, have had seventeen children, and sixteen of these are alive.

From December 1, 1919, to December 1, 1920, the state department of agriculture made 6,164 inspections of Nebraska food establishments, according to a statement issued by the department, based on the biennial report. It brought twenty-five prosecutions.

F. M. Ridings, president of the Farmers' State bank at Halsey, was sentenced to one to ten years in the state prison by the Thomas county district court at Theftford for issuance of certificates without any security of value.

Tests by federal and state veterinarians have disclosed that only two milk cows out of eighteen recently shipped into this state from Illinois, received by a dealer in Cedar county, were free from tuberculosis taint.

Lincoln county commissioners say that the Platte river bridge at North Platte, damaged by the flood last week, will have to be entirely rebuilt. The structure was erected three years ago at a cost of \$48,000.

In Gage county where the harvesting of wheat has begun it is estimated that the yield will run all the way from 12 to 15 bushels to the acre. It will be about a 50 per cent crop compared with that of last year.

James B. King, who killed R. L. Taylor, a guard at the Nebraska state penitentiary, May 11, was sentenced to die in the electric chair November 4, by District Judge W. E. Stewart at Lincoln.

The Sidney city council has authorized a special bond election to be held at once to vote \$12,000 for the purchase and improvement of a city park and \$10,000 for necessary surface drainage and storm sewers.

Three spans of the new concrete bridge across the Platte river at Minatare fell into the river, because of the swollen condition brought on by recent floods. The loss is estimated at \$25,000.

Under a ruling of State Tax Commissioner Osborne hospitals, business colleges, and certain church property, all over Nebraska, now exempt from taxation, will be added to the tax rolls.

Women of Red Cloud are planning to organize a civic club to encourage property owners to keep their premises in better condition.

P. C. Baird sold his 30-acre tract of land adjoining Superior on the south to B. C. Mendell for a consideration of \$500 an acre.

The Rev. Dr. William Franklin Eyster, 90, oldest college graduate in the United States died at Crete.

By a vote of 102 to 64, citizens of Davenport approved the playing of baseball on Sunday.

A Boy Scout troop of thirty-two members has been organized at Odell.

Custer county farmers are reporting the loss of cattle from black leg.

A band of twenty-six members has been organized at Liberty.

Many farmers in the southeastern part of the state have begun to cut their wheat and oats. Farmers are offering about \$3 a day for help, but do not expect to hire much extra help this year.

Pending a decision of the Thomas county district court in the case of ouster suits filed against the county attorney and two commissioners on the one side, and one commissioner and the county clerk on the other, a truce has been declared and the officials are harmoniously tending to the duties of their respective offices.

A report submitted at the annual encampment of the United Spanish War Veterans at Lincoln, shows there are fifteen active camps, with a membership of 732 in the state.

Kieth county commissioners are making plans to rebuild the bridges at Brule, Ogallala and Paxton at once. These bridges were all made impassable and were partly washed out by the late floods in the South Platte river. The bridge at Roscoe is the only bridge in western Nebraska that stood the test against the high water in the South Platte river.

YOUNG CHICKENS NEED BEST FEED

Nebraska Poultryman Gives His Reasons for Start of Runts in Poultry Flocks.

LARGELY MATTER OF RATION

Weight of Chick Varies According to Breed, Those Given Balanced Ration Almost Double Those Fed in Ordinary Way.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

"A pen of ten chicks fed by a farmer in the ordinary way reached an average weight of 9.4 ounces at seven weeks old. Other chicks receiving a balanced ration reached a weight of 16.8 ounces at the same age. It is my firm belief," says a Nebraska poultryman in a letter to the United States Department of Agriculture, which recently conducted an inquiry into the cause of runt live stock, "that this is the way many runts in poultry start. Here was a case of normal chicks to start with and they developed into runts by the time they were seven weeks old.

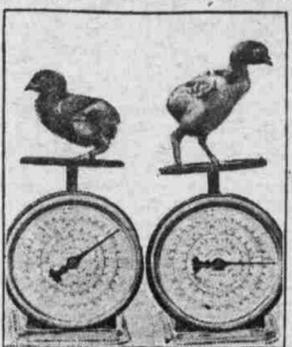
Club Investigating. "Our poultry club in making some investigations," he adds, "visited a number of farms and weighed chicks of various ages at each place. The chicks received ordinary farm feeding and you will see from the figures shown in the table below that they were all under normal, according to the standard weight given by the Vineland (N. J.) station.

"We find among the flocks under the supervision of our county agent that the weights come up nearer normal, so there is no question in our mind that the runt problem is largely a matter of feed so far as chickens are concerned."

Weights of Chicks Fed in Ordinary Manner Versus Those Given Balanced Rations.

Age.	Weight of chicks received in ordinary manner in ounces.	Weight of chicks received in balanced ration in ounces.
4 days	1.56	1.56
1 week	1.4	1.5
2 weeks	3.4	3.5
3 weeks	5.4	5.5
4 weeks	7.4	7.5
5 weeks	9.4	9.5
6 weeks	11.4	11.5
7 weeks	13.4	13.5
8 weeks	15.4	15.5

That the standard weights developed at the Vineland station are not beyond the attainment of good poultry raisers is shown by other observations. Ten chicks that had access to dry mash at all times and were carefully handled reached an average weight of 17.6 ounces at seven weeks old. This is 1.4 ounces heavier than the normal or Vineland station weight. The poultryman who reports these



Chicks of Same Age and Breed—One on Right With Properly Balanced Ration Weighed Almost Twice as Much as One on Left, Which Was Given Ordinary Feed.

observations points out that weights vary, of course, according to the variety of chicks. The figures given refer to such varieties as the Plymouth Rocks, Orpingtons, Wyandottes and Rhode Island Reds.

The following table, furnished by the same poultryman, contains ages and weights of various lots of farm chicks and also the weights given as standard. The variations in the weight of the farm-grown chicks are very noticeable:

Age.	Average weight of farm chicks in ounces.	Standard weight of growing chicks in ounces.
1 week	1.5	1.6
2 1/2 weeks	2.3	2.4
3 weeks	3.2	3.3
4 weeks	4.0	4.1
5 weeks	4.8	4.9
6 weeks	5.6	5.7
7 weeks	6.4	6.5
8 weeks	7.2	7.3
9 weeks	8.0	8.1
10 weeks	8.8	8.9
11 weeks	9.6	9.7
12 weeks	10.4	10.5

Are your chicks up to standard weight? Chicks should double their weight every two weeks until they weigh one pound. Weigh 10 of your chicks and see if they are getting enough feed. Feed dry mash, scratch feed and green feed. Use self-feeder and save labor.

Feeding Young Chicks. Remember that young chicks do not require food for the first 48 to 60 hours after hatching. When they do start eating, it is a good plan to start using sour milk or buttermilk instead of water.

ONION GROWERS HAVE ADOPTED NEW GRADES

Standardization of Bermuda Onion Industry Is Completed.

Commercial Crop of Coachella Valley Cal., Is to Be Marketed on Basis Recommended by Department of Agriculture.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

The 1921 commercial crop of Bermuda onions in the Coachella valley, Cal., is to be marketed on the basis of United States-Bermuda onion grades, according to an announcement of the bureau of markets, United States Department of Agriculture. This completes



Working in Big Onion Field.

the standardization of practically the entire Bermuda onion industry in the United States.

United States grades for Bermuda onions were recommended by the Department of Agriculture in the spring of 1918. The same year the state of Texas legislated the compulsory grading of Bermuda onions according to the grades promulgated by the department and adopted by the Texas state department of agriculture.

When the onion shippers in the Coachella valley requested inspection service from the California state department of agriculture in 1921, the department indicated that it would be impracticable to render such service unless suitable grades were agreed upon as a basis for inspection. Accordingly, the shippers made a comprehensive study of onion grades and decided finally to use the grades recommended by the Department of Agriculture. Perhaps the most important consideration leading to this decision was the fact that since the adoption of the department's grades in Texas there has been a considerable decrease in the number of rejected Texas onion shipments.

BETTER QUALITY OF POULTRY

Platte County (Neb.) Farmer Lists Chickens, Geese and Ducks, All Purebred.

A noticeable feature of the "Better Sires" campaign conducted by the various states and the United States Department of Agriculture is the excellent quality of poultry kept on general farms. Typical of this condition is a statement recently received from a farm in Platte county, Nebraska. The principal live stock kept were Short-horn cattle and Poland China swine. In addition the owner listed the following poultry, all of which was standard bred: Seventy-five Barred Plymouth Rocks, 75 Black Langshans, 100 Brown Leghorns, 100 Rhode Island Reds, three White China geese and three Pekin ducks. It was noteworthy that, whereas the poultry was all of pure breeding, the swine herd included a number of grade females. The sires kept for all classes of stock were of pure breeding—a requirement for enrollment in the "Better Sires—Better Stock" campaign.

NEW DEVICE CLEANS GRAINS

Recently Invented Contrivance Removes Smut, Dust, Etc., at the Time of Threshing.

A new device known as an aspirator has been designed by specialists of the bureau of markets, United States Department of Agriculture, for cleaning wheat and other small grains by removing smut, dust, and dockage at the time of threshing. This device is attached to the grain delivery spout, and tests indicate that it removes approximately one-third of what ordinarily is classed as dockage. The use of this device will enable farmers to keep for feed a part of the seeds and other foreign material ordinarily hauled to the elevator and lost to the producer; it also improves the quality of grain by removing from it a large part of the smut dust and objectionable foreign material. A reclaimer, for attachment to the deck of threshing machines, also designed, gives promise of being efficient, it is said.

IDEAL LOCATION FOR GARDEN

Should Have Fertile Soil, Rather Light and Easily Worked—Convenient to House.

The ideal garden site has fertile soil, rather light and easily worked. It is well-drained and has some wind protection on the north. It is near the house for convenience in working and harvesting.

DAIRY FACTS

DISPOSING OF MILK SURPLUS

Conditions Likely to Exist in Well-Developed Dairy Districts During Summer.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

For the first time since the beginning of the World war there is developing in this country a surplus of milk, according to reports recently received by the United States Department of Agriculture. Specialists of the department state that this condition probably will be only temporary during the "flush" of the season, and that it is most apparent in well-developed dairy districts. It may continue during the summer months, but is expected to adjust itself by fall, when demand will overtake the surplus of supply. The situation is largely due to the falling off in the demand for milk in the manufacture of condensed products, milk powders, casein, and similar products, for which there was a large export outlet.

The department points out the advisability of using as much milk as possible, in fluid form and otherwise, as a human food. Within the last generation an increased knowledge of the value of milk in the diet has resulted in an almost doubled per capita consumption of milk, and consumers who purchase milk freely thereby encourage production. This is believed to be the best safeguard against a milk shortage and high prices resulting from the withdrawal of dairymen from the business during periods of large production and low farm prices for milk.

But when the limit of human utilization is reached dairy producers necessarily must decide how to dispose of the remainder. In many cases this will be a decision between selling whole milk, selling cream, or even to use a moderate quantity of whole milk for feeding, especially to young animals. In any event, a more liberal use of milk on farms should reduce the surplus, even though not solving the problem entirely.

As a guide to persons desiring to utilize surplus milk as a live stock feed, the department makes the following recommendations, which may be supplemented with literature issued by the department:

Milk from a dairy herd which is not definitely known to be free from tuberculosis should be scalded before being fed. An ordinary feed cooker is a practical means for scalding milk. This process is approximately equivalent to pasteurization, which most large cities require as a safeguard to public health. Metal pails that can be kept clean by washing and scalding are preferable to wooden containers or others that are difficult to clean.

In calf feeding it usually pays well to feed one pound of whole milk for each ten pounds that the calf weighs, for a period of two weeks, and at the end of that time to change gradually to an equal amount of skim milk. The skim milk should be gradually increased as the calf grows until about 15 pounds per day is fed at the end of three months. Feed the milk warm and regulate the quantity according to size and vigor of the calf.

For pigs three weeks old or more, three parts of skim milk mixed with one part of shorts, is useful in keeping them growing. Skim milk may be fed with corn and other hog feeds in various practical combinations.

In poultry feeding both skim milk and buttermilk are excellent feeds, and can now also be purchased as a nonperishable commercial feed, which is sold in large barrels as semisolid buttermilk. Skim milk and buttermilk may be fed alone or mixed with other feeds, but feeders should observe their flocks carefully to avoid giving too much milk, or bowel trouble may result. This is caused principally by fowls eating spoiled clabbered milk remaining from a previous feeding.

While to live stock owners unaccustomed to the use of milk as a stock feed it may appear somewhat expensive, there are advantages which milk feeders quickly recognize. In addition to utilizing the surplus milk that would otherwise be wasted, young stock generally make a very rapid growth. This means early maturity and early usefulness, compared with stock that have developed more slowly. At least as a temporary measure there is a real opportunity to improve farm live stock, in addition to relieving a local milk surplus, by using skim milk rather liberally in proper combination with other feeds.



Typical Dairy Herd in Some Sections.

Making a French Dictionary. The official revision of the French language, which is in the hands of the French academy, has recently made great progress, and the first volume, ending at the letter H, and forming half of the eighth edition of the dictionary, has now been completed. Some 24,000 to 25,000 words have now been revised since 1878, that is, in forty-three years.

M. Doumic, who presided over the sitting of the academy at which this result was announced, states that it is hoped to conclude the present edition about 1954, or eighty-six years from the date at which the work began.

Sensitive Bird. Bird Dealer (to customer who has bought a parrot on credit)—"Here's your bill. Are you going to pay for it or not?" Customer—"I've had the parrot one whole month and he's never said a word."

Bird Dealer—"Well you see, this polly is so very sensitive it never speaks until it has seen the receipted bill showing it has been paid for."

Undoubtedly. "A ouija board," said Jud Tunkins "the same as a checker board, gives a certain amount of advantage to the person who gets the first move."—Washington Star.

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