

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

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

According to a bulletin issued by the state bureau of markets, hay shipments have been exceptionally light, due primarily to the reduction of freight rates effective this week, which caused the producers and buyers to hold off. The average saving per ton on hay will be \$2, according to figures compiled by the bureau.

A call has been issued by executives of the third party for a state convention to be held at Grand Island, December 8. The purpose of the meeting is to bestow a name on the party and to perfect its organization. Whether an attempt will be made to write a platform is not set out.

In line with the new policy announced by the government fifteen service men were sworn in as special mail guards at Lincoln to protect Burlington trains between Omaha and Denver, and Lincoln and Billings. The men will carry sawed-off shotguns.

Failure of the government to provide the office of Adjutant General Paul at Lincoln with official records of officers who served in the late war prevented 3,000 Nebraska officers from getting state certificates of service distributed on Armistice day.

A preliminary report issued by the state department of agriculture estimates the corn yield in Nebraska this year at 200,552,000 bushels, an average of 26 bushels to the acre. This is compared with a yield of 33.8 bushels to the acre in 1920.

Fairbury was shocked last week when Alva Cook, 24, shot and instantly killed his 15 year old wife and then turned the gun on himself, inflicting wounds which will prove fatal. Domestic trouble was the cause of the tragedy, it is said.

Transmission lines will soon be strung from Aurora to Stockman and Kronberg so they will have electric service. Stockman at first planned a plant of its own, but later decided it would rather connect up with 24-hour service furnished by the Aurora Public Service company.

Roland Meyers, employed on the Frank Middleburg farm near Fremont, set a husking record by picking 124 bushels of corn a day for fourteen days. It is claimed by farmers that Meyers' record has not been beaten in Nebraska.

The Richardson County Sunday School association, representing thirty-eight schools, has wired Senator Norris opposing all bills providing for the sale of beer and condemning passage of the medicinal beer bill.

The recently completed high school building in Wiggle Creek district, Sherman county, was dedicated Armistice day. The new building cost \$25,000 and is up-to-date in every respect.

Power Brothers of Humboldt, extensive dealers in sheep, had seventeen fine specimens killed by dogs, in the pens, south of the city one day last week. The dogs were killed.

More than 12,000 persons witnessed the Nebraska University football team triumph over their old rivals, the University of Kansas eleven, at Lincoln by a score of 28 to 0.

A movement is on foot at Big Springs to organize a fire department. When such a department is organized Big Springs will be the smallest fire-fighting town in the state.

Twenty-three neighbors of Paul Hughes near Ord drove to his farm and shucked over 2,300 bushels of corn. Hughes was injured just recently in an accident.

Excessive loans which could not be collected was given as the reason for the closing of the Gurley state bank at Gurley, Cheyenne county, last week.

Two counties, Dodge and Colfax, are to have a joint district woman home agent, Mrs. E. V. Rand of North Bend to serve in that capacity.

Plans are being perfected for the Western Nebraska Potato show which is to be held in Scottsbluff next month.

At an election held at Gurley bonds for water works and electric lights carried by a large majority.

Work has commenced on the Rock Island Railroad company's new \$600,000 freight depot at Omaha.

It is said that plans are being made to burn corn for fuel at the new Winnebago school.

Charles Speedie, Otoe county, was named president and Miss Marjorie Palmieri, secretary, of the rural school section of the Nebraska State Teachers' association at the annual meeting at Omaha.

The recent sale of \$200,000 worth of school bonds by the Alliance school board for the sum of \$206,070 insures the erection of two new school buildings for the city. Although the bonds were voted early last year the best offer the board could get at that time was 93. By waiting over a year to sell the bonds a saving of over \$20,000 was made.

Taxpayers of Colfax county at a special election authorized the commissioners to issue \$70,000 in bonds to complete the new court house at Schuyler.

The state department of trade and commerce announced a special assessment on all state banks would be levied in December to raise \$1,250,000 needed to bring the bank guaranty fund to the legal total of 1 per cent. of deposits in state banks. Nearly \$3,000,000 has been paid out of the guaranty fund to depositors in the twenty-eight state banks that have failed, the statement said.

Taxpayers of Falls City in a mass meeting adopted a resolution requesting Governor McKelvie to investigate the state engineer's office, in so far as its work done in the state, especially Richardson county. The meeting also passed resolutions requesting the board of Richardson county to withdraw a suit instituted against J. F. Relf, highway engineer for the county. The suit was brought by the county board to recover certain sums of money alleged to have been paid to him illegally.

In a letter to Governor McKelvie C. S. Caldwell, Philadelphia banker, says that placing a tariff on potash of 2 1/2 cents a pound, as proposed in the new tariff bill, would cost American farmers \$54,000,000 a year. The letter asked the governor to support the measure who replied that Nebraska had potash interest needing protection, and the farmers could afford to pay more to encourage a domestic industry.

Honorable L. A. Varner, widely known in political and newspaper circles of Nebraska, died at his home at Sterling after an illness extending over a period of two years. He was formerly a member of the state legislature, a delegate to the state constitutional convention in 1919 and was a past-president of the Nebraska Press association. He was actively engaged in newspaper work from 1887 to 1909.

A movement has been instituted by the Commercial Club of Fremont to render financial assistance to the farmers of Nebraska by securing more liberal credit from the Federal Reserve Board of Kansas. It is planned by sponsors of the movement to secure the assistance of every chamber of commerce, commercial club and community club in the state to bring about the desired results.

Further delay in enforcement of the Smith bread law, held constitutional by District Judge Morning at Lincoln, resulted when Omaha bakers filed a \$1,000 supersedeas bond in the Lancaster county district court, which means enforcement of the law is held up pending appeal to the supreme court.

A new booklet of Omaha's manufacturing advantages, issued by the Chamber of Commerce shows that manufacturing establishments in the city employ 25,000 wage earners whose total payroll amounts to approximately \$27,000,000 annually.

Lieut. Allan A. Tukey, Omaha; Capt. Marcus L. Poteet, Lincoln; Capt. Earl M. Clire, Nebraska City and Carl M. Lange, Hartington, represented Nebraska as official mousetrappers at the ceremony of burying the unknown soldier at Washington Armistice Day.

News of the striking of oil at a depth of 1,196 feet near White Clay, Sheridan county, has caused a great deal of excitement in northwestern Nebraska. Prices of sandhill lands in the district are headed skyward, reports say.

Harrison Elliott, secretary of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, was appointed to fill the unexpired term of secretary of the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting of the executive committee at Lincoln.

Several hundred persons attended the dedication of Verdon's new \$40,000 school building Armistice Day. Verdon is one of Richardson county's small but progressive towns. It has a population of less than 500.

The sugar beet harvest in the Oshkosh district, which was finished the past week, was the largest on record. It is estimated that more than \$100,000 will be paid to beet producers tributary to Oshkosh.

The city council of Falls City has been petitioned by voters to call a special election about February 1st to pass upon a proposition to establish a city manager form of government in Falls City.

George McGuire of Tekamah, who was at the South Omaha market the other day with a load of hogs, said the flu has appeared in a number of herds of hogs in northeast Nebraska.

An organization was perfected at Maywood for the purpose of furthering a plan to build a state aid road from North Platte to Oberlin, Kans., a distance of 106 miles.

The annual convention of the Nebraska Farmers Co-Operative Grain and Livestock association will be held at Omaha December 13 and 14.

A public sale of farm products live stock and merchandise at Fullerton netted over \$1,000 for the Nance county fair association.

Trial of Mrs. Lucy Neal, charged with murdering her husband, Nemaha county farmer, has started at Auburn.

A total of 7,843 converts signed decision cards during the month and a day campaign conducted by Evangelist Gipsy Smith at Omaha. He was speaking with a free will offering of \$6,000 before departing for Norfolk, Va., to open a two weeks' campaign.

W. H. Morton, Fairbury, was elected president of the Nebraska State Teachers' association at the annual convention at Omaha. Emma Miller, West Point, was unanimously elected vice-president. John F. Matthews, Grand Island, was re-elected treasurer. He has held this position in the association since 1911.

On December 6 to 8 members of the Nebraska Association of County Commissioners, Supervisors and Clerks will meet in annual convention at Omaha.

According to the state department of agriculture the five big beet sugar factories in western Nebraska have a crop in their dumps that will yield \$12,460,000 in sugar this season—retail price at 7 cents a pound. Production this year is 712,898 tons compared with 714,210 a year ago for sugar beets, while sugar output will be 80,000 tons against last year's figures of 89,517 tons.

DIARY VALUABLE FOR FUTURE USE

Authentic Record of Happenings and Experiences Often Prove of Great Benefit.

VOLUME OF MUCH INTEREST

Dozens of Farm Problems Encountered Every Year That Might Be Solved More Easily if Records Were Convenient.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A well-kept diary is the most interesting and valuable volume in its owner's library, and the determination to maintain such a record frequently is expressed in the form of a New Year's resolution. Unfortunately, however, that is the first "good intention" permitted to lapse, observations by the United States Department of Agriculture have shown.

Valuable in the Future.

For the farmer, the diary will preserve a record of farm happenings and personal experiences which will be valuable in the future conduct of his business. If, when he finds his alfalfa field swarming with grasshoppers, he can look back in his diary to a summer 10 years before and find the poison-bait formula that controlled the insect then, he will save much valuable time. He may wish to know the exact location of a tile drain that was laid down when he was a youngster. If the event was noted in his own, or his father's diary, a 10-minute perusal will give him more definite information than a day's digging with a spade. There are dozens of farm problems encountered every year that might be solved more easily, if the farmer had access to a complete chronological history of his property.

The diary may be given a prominent place in the bookkeeping records of the farm business. Generally speaking there are three purposes to be served by farm accounts:

1. To determine the farm investment, receipts, expenses, and the net income of the business.
2. To furnish the net returns from any individual farm enterprise and to supply specific information as to its details.
3. To obtain a memorandum of what other people owe you and what you owe them.

The blank forms necessary for a simple accounting system can be worked out by the farmer himself, or he can apply a system recommended by his county agent. He also can obtain information direct from the office of farm management and farm economics, United States Department of Agriculture. The chief advantage of a farm accounting system, which is a part of the farm diary, is in the additional interest furnished by the



Make the Keeping of the Diary a Part of Each Day's Routine.

personal items. The diary supplies items of supplementary interest which usually are left out of the accounts. Without the diary, the task of keeping the books of the farm business becomes dry and uninteresting.

Only persistence and practice will make one an adept at writing a diary. The only rule which can be followed is that the entries must be kept interesting, and in choosing an interesting high light in the day's work one must have an eye to the future, as well as to the present. It is important to write the records regularly. Make entries in the diary every evening at a certain time, and consider it as a part of the daily routine. Once the owner commences to slight his diary, its failure is certain.

Best Materials Essential.

It never pays to use inferior materials in the making of a farm diary; the work is important enough to merit the use of good tools. Good paper and binding, a good pen, and ink that will not fade in a few years are essentials in preparing a volume that will grow in value and interest as its age increases. It is a mistake to think a small blank book is sufficient. The limited size of the sheets makes writing cramped and uncomfortable and detracts from the pleasure of writing up the record.

While a diary can hardly supply the required amount of bookkeeping for a large and extensive farm business, it does record facts and figures that are never preserved in any other form.

GRAZING MAINTAINS SOIL PRODUCTIVITY

Many Pastures in Virginia Have Never Been Plowed.

Where Beef Cattle or Sheep Are Grazed All of Resulting Manure is Left on Soil—Lime and Phosphate Are Favored.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

There is no system of agriculture that maintains the productivity of the soil better than grazing, according to observations of the United States Department of Agriculture, especially where the animals are kept continually on the pastures. Some of the best pastures in southwestern Virginia have been grazed for at least 100 years. Many of them have never been plowed.

The difficulty in getting a good sod on land that has been cropped with grain for a few years has proved the wisdom of keeping the land permanently in grass. It must be borne in mind that there are striking differences in methods of grazing. Where



Grazing is Best Means of Maintaining Fertility of Soil.

beef cattle or sheep are grazed, all of the resulting manure is left on the pastures, and the land is further enriched if the animals are given additional feed during the winter. This is usually not the case on dairy farms, where the cattle spend much of the time in yards or stables.

Grazing is not sufficiently remunerative to justify the liberal use of commercial fertilizers, and very little is ever used in the bluegrass region on the pasture lands. In England it is not uncommon to apply basic slag at the rate of 1,000 pounds per acre to permanent grassland. Some farmers in the bluegrass region of Virginia are beginning to use lime and some form of phosphate on their pastures. This improves the stand of grass, but there are no data available to show whether the increase will cover the expense. In the absence of any experimental data, every farmer is advised to experiment on his own fields in a small way. An application of 500 pounds of acid phosphate or of bone meal to a half acre in an old pasture will soon show whether it is advisable to use fertilizers. If this quantity makes a marked improvement in the stand of grass, less might be beneficial.

MILK GOAT INDUSTRY GROWS

Animal Will Supply Sufficient Amount of Milk for Average Family—Easily Kept.

The production of milk goats has for a great many years been an important feature of the live-stock industry in many European countries, but it has never secured a very strong foothold in the United States. In this country the goat has always been an animal of more or less ridicule, as the majority of the people do not realize the possibilities of certain breeds or types that have been bred for many years along definite lines, say specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture.

In continental Europe milk goats are largely used by families unable to keep a cow, and great benefit is derived from having fresh milk at hand and at a low cost. In those countries the goat is often spoken of as the "poor man's cow."

During the past several years considerable interest has been manifested in the milk-goat industry in this country. The fact that the goat will supply sufficient milk for the average family and can be kept where it would be impossible to keep a cow is beginning to appeal to many people, especially those living in the small towns and the suburbs of the large cities.

The milk-goat industry is only in its infancy in America, the department specialists say. This type of goat is adapted to our country, and the industry should become of greater importance every year.

ALFALFA SEED THIS SEASON

According to Reports to Bureau of Markets and Crop Estimates Production Is Larger.

A somewhat larger production of alfalfa seed this year than last is indicated by reports to the bureau of markets and crop estimates. Dry, hot weather interfered with the crop in portions of the Southwest, but elsewhere the crop is larger than usual.

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