

fete in honor of a Doge of Venice a child was covered with gilt and posed to represent a golden angel. The child mysteriously died. We now know why the child died. The skin was prevented from "breathing;" the child's pores were closed, and it suffocated. "Dry farming" consists simply in closing up the earth's pores and preventing the moisture from being dissipated into the air too soon. When the moisture is needed the pores are opened up, and the moisture comes to the surface; and is eagerly lapped up by the thirsty plant roots. Very simple, isn't it?

But you may have your doubts about the earth having pores, or about the earth perspiring. The facts are easily demonstrated. Spade up a bit of ground in your back yard, rake it smooth and then wait for rain. After the rain ceases and the sun is shone brightly upon the spaded spot for a few hours, look at the soil carefully. You will see that it is thickly perforated with tiny holes. Through these holes the sub-moisture is being drawn into the air—very much like the moisture in the human body is drawn out through the pores of the skin when one is hot. Now leave these tiny holes undisturbed for a few days, then dig into the earth. You will find it dry and hard several inches deep. But just dig it up again, wait for another rain, and then go out after the sun has been shining brightly upon it for a few hours. This time, instead of leaving the soil undisturbed, just take a hoe and stir the surface slightly, thus breaking up the "pores" and forming a thin dust mulch. Then, after three or four days, or a week, of uncomfortably hot weather, maybe, go out and dig down into that spaded spot. It will be dry and dusty for a depth of two, perhaps three, inches, and then your hand will find warm, moist earth—just about near enough to the surface for the plant roots of the corn or the wheat or the kaffir to reach it and thrive upon it.

Campbell, the man who figured this all out, did not do it in a week, nor in a year. It was too simple to be figured out quickly. But he knew that not all the water that fell in the form of rain could sink down into the soil and be carried away to appear in springs or creeks perhaps hundreds of miles away. Some of it must of necessity remain in the ground and finally be carried off by radiation or evaporation. He kept right on figuring and investigating until suddenly he bethought himself of the human skin with its pores and its perspiration. He knew that inability to perspire when hot meant sickness and death. He looked carefully and saw those minute little pores in the earth and then—

"Ah, I will just close up these little holes for a time and see what happens!" he exclaimed.

He did; and a couple of weeks later he scratched below the surface and found moisture. Near by, where the pores had not been closed the earth was as dry as a bone to a depth that would have discouraged the greatest moisture seeking rootlet known to the agricultural world. That was enough for Campbell. He had discovered the rudiments of "dry farming"—a discovery that will, in time, bring millions of acres into productivity. In other states than Nebraska and Kansas there are millions of acres of fertile land that need only intelligent cultivation—adaptation of the man to the soil instead of the ages old struggle to adapt the soil to the man. Colorado has millions such acres in the "dry belt"—acres that receive enough rainfall to make them productive if intelligently tilled. There are millions in Arizona and New Mexico. Other millions are in Utah and Idaho.

The problem of feeding the world is not a problem of finding enough fertile land to raise the crops—the problem is to rightly handle the soil; to make the soil produce the utmost without in any wise exhausting it. On these millions of acres of unproductive soil there is room and a competence for millions of people. They need but to know how to work that soil—and have the ability to get upon it. The most successful farmer in the United States lives in Pawnee county, Nebraska. So successful is this man—a Swiss named Arnold Martin—that the United States Bureau of Agriculture has issued bulletins describing his

system and his success. A few years ago he was a "hired hand" upon a Nebraska farm. He saved a few dollars and then rented a farm. He made a little money and saved it, and then bought twenty acres of the man whose farm he had rented. The man sold him the twenty acres because he did not think them worth cultivating, and imagined that he had made a good bargain. Upon these twenty acres of hill land, with a clay sub-soil, Arnold Martin has built fame and a modest fortune. What he has done any other man can do with equal industry and equal study of soil and seed.

If the world is facing starvation it is because the world is ignorant of its opportunities. Less than one-half the fertile land west of the Mississippi river is under cultivation, and the half that is cultivated is not producing to its limit—not anywhere near it. Nebraska, which raises more bushels of wheat per acre than any other state, has averaged less than twenty bushels per acre during the last ten year period, and that, too, upon almost virgin soil. England, where they have been raising wheat on the same land for a thousand years, produces upwards of thirty bushels per acre, and the soil is better today than ever. Nebraska has 3,500,000 acres sown to wheat this year, but she has 10,000,000 acres of unbroken land that will raise just as much wheat per acre as any wheat field now within her borders—and the pessimists tell us that the land is no longer available and that the world is facing starvation. It is false. These croakers are birds of evil omen. They are either ignorant of vicious—or both. There is land in plenty—fertile land capable of producing immense crops, without costly irrigation systems. But two things are required to bring these lands into fruitfulness—putting the landless man on the manless land, and teaching that man how to make the soil produce. The first should interest the philanthropist and the social economist; the second is the work of the splendid agricultural colleges of such wonderfully progressive states as Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and Minnesota.

Less than a quarter of a century ago a governor of Nebraska sneered at men who proposed irrigating land in western Nebraska, and said that it was folly to think of trying to make the western half of the state anything more than a grazing country. He lived to see the great cattle ranges disappear before the homesteader; to see that once great cattle country become the greatest producer of alfalfa and corn and wheat and sugar beets in the world. Yet, strange to say, that same country is today also raising more cattle and hogs than it did in the old days of the free range.

Men have simply adapted themselves to the soil; have studied climatic conditions; have studied seed selection. And in this wise will the pessimist and the prophet of calamity be confounded.

TO BE SURE.

The master plumbers in convention assembled in Lincoln decided that plumbing should be taught in the university. Of course. That would make it possible to secure plumbers at considerably below the present rate of wages, but would not prevent the charging of the present rates for plumbing work. And if plumbing, why not everything else? Let's make carpenters and barbers and brick masons and printers and grocery clerks and milliners and dressmakers and cigarmakers at the university. Let's turn the university into a school for the purpose of turning out half-baked mechanics who will beat down a wage scale already too low. By this means we will soon make it impossible to maintain a university.

WHAT'S THE OUTCOME?

Let's see; isn't it about five years since we began agitating for a high school? And isn't it about two years since we voted bonds for a new high school? And haven't we endured the present inadequate and unsanitary building about long enough? And isn't it about time we had something better than friendly lawsuits—evidences of a new high school, for instance? We've decided on the location, and we've voted the bonds. What's the matter with seeing some evidences of work on a new high school building?

IN THE CLOAKROOM

Special Sale of Dresses at \$9.75 and \$6.75

ASSORTMENT 1—Messaline, Taffeta, Silk Mauve, Pongee Silks and Serge Dresses, sold at \$13.50 to \$17.50. Special Sale at \$6.75

ASSORTMENT 2—Messaline, Taffeta and Raja Silk; also Velvet Dresses, sold at \$19.50 to \$25.00, Special at \$9.75. In Selecting a Skirt for spring wear you will want a good assortment of materials and styles to pick from. See our line before buying. It will please you. Our prices are low, from..... \$3.95 up to \$7.95

Lace and Bobinet Curtains
\$2.50 up to \$5.95 values, at..... One-Half Price

Strong Values in Waists at \$1.25

The showing of Washable Waists for spring and summer wear embraces the newest and snappy designs in high and low necks. The variety of fast colored fabrics could not be better. Special price of \$1.50-\$1.75 values, only \$1.25

The Bargain List Contains

Coats, black and mixtures, 14.50 to 25.00 values, now at..... 10.00, 7.50, 5.00
Suits, 14.50 to 25.00 values, now at..... 9.75, 7.50, 5.00

Rain Coats and Capes

5.95 to 17.50 values, now at..... One-Half Price

DRY GOODS DEPT.

Embroideries and Laces

This is to be a great season for laces and insertions. Anticipating this we have gathered here a most elaborate showing of the very newest patterns. Pure Linen Torchons, Fine Valenciennes Laces and Dainty Swiss Embroideries.

You will become interested the moment you see them. We cordially invite your inspection whether you are ready to buy or not.

We offer a special value in 45-inch Flouncing, regular 75c value, at the yard..... 49c

An extra good value in a fine Embroidered Waist Front, each..... 59c

Dress Gingham

The well known brands of Gingham, Red Seal and Renfrew, in 27 and 32-inch widths, 10 to 20 yard lengths. On sale this week, at the yard..... 89c

FRED SCHMIDT AND BRO.
917-921 O. OPPOSITE POST OFFICE

Agents for
"Ye Old Time".
Comfort
Shoes and Jullets
\$1.50 and \$2.50
Fair

SOME REAL SPORTING DOPE

Manager Eager of the University athletic department has finally succeeded in making Minnesota's athletic authorities come across. As a result we'll be privileged to see Minnesota in action on Nebraska field in 1913. It is only due to Manager Eager to say that he has more than made good in his position. Not only has he given us some splendid football and basketball dates, but he has so managed affairs as to put a large wad of mazuma in the treasury of the athletic department.

While other states have been complaining about losing money, Nebraska has laid up a sizeable sum. Fremont has decided to stick to the state league, which shows that Fremont's judgment is yet all to the good of the free range.

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Third base is still proving a puzzle to President Despain. He has plenty of offers but to date he hasn't struck one that looks quite good enough—and he will have a good one.

William Holmes is said to be angling for a position as manager of a Mink league team, with his eye on Nebraska City.

The woods are full of base ball "phenoms." Every day some manager in the Western loop asserts that he has just signed up a world-beater. The trouble is that a vast majority of these world-beaters develop into passers who would find it extremely difficult to beat an egg. But the manager who can pick one genuine "phenom" in a hundred times trying finds his bank account enlarged to a gratifying extent.

We are hearing less and less each passing day about how Pueblo is going to put the rollers under Isbell and O'Neill, to say nothing of skidding the whole Western loop into the discard. Isbell remained silent a long time under Pueblo's charges, but when the old baldhead finally opened his mouth and spoke there was a scurrying to the tall grass.

What's the use talking about Tip O'Neill putting a team in somewhere or other! Hasn't Tipperary got a pretty fat pair of jobs? He pulls down a fairly good sized roll ofстерees as president of the Western, and he also drags down quite a roll of ducats as scout for Commy. Be-

sides, Tipperary has no difficulty in getting cashed such checks as he finds it necessary to draw. Why, then, should he court trouble and disaster by putting himself at the head of a baseball team!

With Stratton sure behind the plate for the Antelopes, with Wilkie Clark ready if needed, and with Art Kruger thinking it over, the back stopping department is not giving President Despain any particular worry. But, just the same, he'd feel better if Chicago Art would send in a signed contract.

The wrestling game is losing favor rapidly. To much backslapping among the wrestlers, too much evidence of stalling, and entirely too much evidence of a desire to get the public's money without returning an equivalent in the way of genuine contests—all these are combining to make these are combining to make the lovers of genuine wrestling a bit wary.

"Smiling William" is using a lot of stamps these days. He is also adding to the unearned increment of the telegraph companies by a lavish use of the wires. All this in an effort to get things into shape for putting the Antelopes at the top during the coming season. William isn't laying any claims to making a pennant winner, but he contents himself with saying that the team beating Lincoln will have a mighty good chance to cop the flag.

Denver's atmosphere seems to breed the art of "chewing the rag." The base ball scribes of Tuberculosisville are now making a huller about the excessive mileage the Denver team will have to cover during the season. It is true that Denver will have to travel more miles than any other city in the loop. It is also true that the difference in railroad fares between the one covering the most and the one covering the least will be less than \$400. We'd give a cookie for a photograph of McGill making a huller over a little thing like that.

***** THE WESTERN TRADER *****

OMAHA

* Will Maupin's Weekly, Lincoln, Nebr.—Yesterday for the first time we saw a copy of your Nebraska Industries number. It impressed us as being of great value in advertising the various industries of this great state, and also in encouraging the many manufacturing concerns now here to greater efforts in marketing their products in trade territory farther distant from Nebraska. Keep up the good work. Nebraska manufacturers are increasing but the many manufacturing institutions located within the borders of this state need more advertising.

* You are doing your part in giving wide publicity to them and to their wares.

We are also glad to see the fine write-up articles of both Omaha and Lincoln in the same issue of your paper. Anything that will add to the commercial friendship of these two cities is to be commended, and we are glad that you and your Weekly are taking part in this good work that will redound to your everlasting credit and to the benefit of Omaha, Lincoln and the entire state.

* Wishing your Weekly the greatest financial success and extending to you personally the compliments of the season, we remain, Yours very truly,

* THE WESTERN TRADER,

ZANE THOMPSON,

Associate Editor.
