

AGRICULTURAL NOTES.

WANTED—A WIFE.

(Bachelor Farmer.)

"Twas said of old, 'It is not good
For man to be alone."
From that old book 'tis understood
To mating we are prone.
But then how shall a fellow know,
Among so many girls
That look so nice when out on show,
The false ones from the pearls?
"Mid all the modern outward shams,
Mid all the glittering cheats,
I'm sure there must be unbound gems
In some obscure retreats;
And if I could, by any art,
Discover such a jewel,
I'd press her next my loyal heart
If she'd approve the deal.
I'd like to sleep on Adam's bed,
If, on my waking up,
I'd find an Eve to love and wed,
A wife to share my cup.
A help-met such as Adam found
Is what I want and need,
No showy thing, all dress and sound,
Shall drive my Norman steed.
The wife God made helped sew the
leaves.
To clothe the Eden pair;
She hired no help to puff her sleeves
Or dress her tangled hair.
The modern man-made woman, who
Expects to boss the farm,
And let some "kiss" prepare the stew,
Lacks one essential charm.
If drouth prevail and crops are short,
The wife I wed must not
In pouting mood or hot retort
Repeat her married lot.
But bravely, and with loyal heart,
She'll wear her last year's gown
And ride, if need be, in a cart,
To take the eggs to town.
I've watched two robins build their nest
High in a leafy bower;
They both brought sticks without be-
hest,
Then sang at sunset hour.
If ideal living is in pairs,
'Tis not an ideal state
Where one is loaded down with cares
That do not touch the mate.
We live not in a care-free world,
But each should bear a part;
No wife should sit around be-cured
To ease a loveless heart.
A butterfly with gilded wings
Is pretty, I'll agree,
But madam be, that daily brings
Her load, holds wisdom's key.
I'm not a crank and I suppose
I'm like most other men,
But I'd give more of love (and clothes)
To any woman, when
She thinks a little more of home
Than clubs and politics,
And never covets time to roam,
But to sweet duty sticks.
Now, when I find a gentle maid
Who's willing to abide
In cottage home, and not afraid,
If 'tis at country side,
And willing, too, to share my lot
Of work with good digestion,
I'll straightway buy a double cot
And forthwith pop the question.

PLANTING VS. LISTING CORN.

Opinions and experiences of practical Nebraska farmers given in Iowa Home-stead.

J. D. GRIMES, CHAMBERS, NEB.

"Planting and Listing Corn and Their Advantages and Disadvantages" is a timely topic in which every farmer in the middle west is more or less inter-ested, and especially those who have just come here from the east, where listing is practically unknown.

A few years ago listing was practiced almost exclusively in this vicinity, the early settlers advocating that listed corn would withstand drouth better and was much less trouble to cultivate, and it also prevented the land from drifting on light, sandy soil. But such theories put to a practical test have been exploded and it has been demon-strated beyond a doubt that such is not the case. All the advantage we could ever see in listing corn was that a person could wait until almost every acre else was through planting and then he could go to work and put in a large acreage in a few days, and thus save a large amount of labor in plowing his ground.

The preparation of the ground is a secondary consideration with us here, as the soil is very mellow and never bakes, no matter what condition the ground is worked in, and therefore we prefer to plow our corn ground rather early in the season and let it become somewhat settled before planting time. We like to plow from five to six inches deep, taking care to try and turn under all trash that would interfere in the cultivation of the crop. In this latitude we think from the 10th to the 20th of May about the right time to plant corn, and just before it comes through the ground we like to give it a good har-rowing, as at that stage we think we can kill more weeds than at any other time of the season, and it also prevents squirrels and mice from destroying a large amount of seed.

We have tried both listing and planting for the last six years until last year, when we discarded listing and plowed all our ground and invariably have had much better success with our planted corn. It withstands drouth much better and is much less work to cultivate and results in a larger yield.

C. B. NOYES, WATERLOO, NEB.

A large proportion of the readers of this paper live where the corn plant is in its natural element. Corn is their principal crop. Each year we raise all we think we shall be able to tend and usually more than we can properly cul-tivate. One would think that after raising this crop from twenty to fifty years we would know all there is to know about raising corn, but each year as we ride through the country we see that either some of us do not know, or else do not make use of that knowledge. The old stalks, if they have been well pastured, can be cut and plowed under, but long experience has taught me to break, rake and burn. Good work cannot be done with the ground full of stalks, especially by hired help. If a large acreage is to be planted, part of the ground will necessarily have to be

plowed late. This should be disced and harrowed, and if so treated it will hold moisture and be in good condition for plowing even as late as June. Plowing should be well done and the ground harrowed at once. If planted immedi-ately, the ground is, of course, in good shape, but if planting is delayed the ground should be freed from weeds by discing and harrowing, and a good seed bed made before planting. One man and four horses can kill more weeds be-fore planting than two men can any time after, and corn will grow much faster on thoroughly prepared ground than if planted in the weeds and cleaned out afterwards. It is hard to withstand the click of a neighbor's corn planter, but one should use his own judgment. When one is ready and thinks the ground is in fit condition for the seed, then is a good time to com-mence. I find that it is best to plant one field quite early, even if occasion-ally you have to replant, for it will be ready for early husking, and I rarely finish before the first of June. Early and late planting enables me to do more work with the same number of men and teams. Often the yield is greater on the field last planted. Last year a field planted about the first of June yielded a full crop, while that planted first yielded only a half crop. The most important thing is good seed corn, and the planter should be adjust-ed so as to drop three kernels in a hill. Planting should be done by one who can drive straight. All check rows are adjusted on the same principle. If the wire crosses the planter, it should be run pretty tight. After planting a few rows, dig out a row crosswise, and see if it is straight. If the planter drops too quick or too slow, move the check row backward or forward half the distance lost or gained. Have the harrow follow the planter, and if the field has been properly prepared, it will now be free from weeds. After the corn is up, if no hard rains have packed the surface, the weeder can be started. Use eight small shovels in the cultivating. Cultivate as deep as you wish when the corn is small, but shallow when it is large, in order not to disturb the roots. Cultivate, not only to kill weeds, but especially when the corn is large to keep two inches of pulverized soil as a mulch to hold the moisture that will be needed to mature the crop.

Remove the stalks, disc and harrow the ground across the old rows, so that the lister can easily follow them. Run the lister deep, and the subsoiler at least two inches deeper than the lister. Adjust the drill to drop the corn near the surface, covering with dirt from the sides of the ridges. If you are sure of your seed corn, eighteen inches is close enough to plant. Much is lost each year by planting or listing corn too thick. Use a riding lister for the best results, but if a walking lister is used run the drill separate. I never could get a good stand of corn with hired help using a combined walking lister. A planter may be used for drilling, but the objection to it is that it will not make all the rows in the center of the ditches, which is very es-sential in using the special tools for cul-tivating listed corn. I drill by attach-ing three drills to a three-row cultivator, letting one good man do the plant-ing. The cultivator should begin work before the weeds start. All the listed corn cultivators do good work. I use a three-row machine until the corn gets large enough for the common cultivator, eight inches to a foot in height. Cul-tivate at least twice with a common cultivator, the same as planted corn. As to the relative advantages of the two ways of planting corn, I would say that some fields are not adapted to list-ing. For instance, on a field that gets the wash from ravines and hillsides, the ditches will be filled when the wash finds level ground, and all such fields should be plowed and planted. The main advantage of listed corn is the less amount of labor required. A man with improved tools and four horses will raise about twice as many acres as he can by plowing and planting. In this section the listed fields generally yield the most corn to the acre.

J. J. CODY, HOLBROOK, NEB.

Several years ago, when listing corn commenced to be practiced, some farm-ers said: "That is a lazy man's way." Others said: "I don't believe in planting corn in ditches." Still others said: "I will wait and see how it works." Now corn is seldom put in any other way here except listed. Where the ground is clean but little preparation is re-quired. We usually list on corn stalk ground and go over it with a disc if the weeds start. The usual method in cultivating is to go over the land with a weed cutter, then harrow, cul-tivate twice and it is all done. We have weed cutters that take two rows. A boy can run them. It is made like a narrow sled out of 2x3 stuff, three and one-half feet long, with two blades or knives on each side. Some use the Erma three-row cultivator. The ad-vantages of listing over other methods are many. First, a man can put in more acres and cultivate with less work. Second, listed corn will stand drouth better than planted corn. Third, the ground can be kept cleaner of weeds, because the weed seed is thrown out in the middle of the row where they can be easily exterminated. Fourth, corn listed will yield more per acre because the rows are closer together, and drilling produces larger ears. Fifth, the roots are deeper in the ground and there is no danger of cultivating the brace roots while cultivating, and listed corn always stands if not affected by hard winds. Last, but not least, we can keep the ground level, and level cul-tivation is preferable in all cases, es-pecially in a drouthy climate. I might mention two advantages of planting corn over listing. On very hilly land the corn will not wash so badly as when listed, and during the first cultivation

GREAT MEN OF GREENLAND.

Career of Kor-ko-ya of Juhane-haab From Poverty to Wealth.

When the Arctic whaling fleet returned from the north last season it brought word that Kor-ko-ya had placed a new window in his house. At a matter of news in ordinary building circles this would pass unnoticed, but to those who have traveled where the sun shines at midnight the intelligence is extremely interesting.

For a decade of years the growing opulence of Kor-ko-ya, otherwise the "Eskimo millionaire," has been watch-ed with great curiosity by the whalers and the occasional explorer. He has long been known as a thrifty man, as a thrift goes in the Arctic regions, but it is only of late that his fortune has assumed really wonderful proportions.

It is said that he now owns no fewer than seven kyaks and a full two-score of bone-tipped double bladed paddles. His stock of blubber for the winter of 1897-8 consisted of over sixty "parcels" weighing 100 pounds each. In addition to this he sold to traders half as many, receiving in part payment the new win-dow already mentioned.

His thirty dogs are all crossed with the Newfoundland breed, which makes them especially valuable for hauling purposes and of better flavor as an article of diet in time of famine. Of seal-skins, foxskins, bearskins, raw elder-down, feathers, whalebone, narwhal ivory and reindeer hides he has plenty for some years.

But it is in wives that he is consid-ered richest. In his home igloo up on the western shore of Baffin bay he has ten, all particularly strong of jaw and able to keep Kor-ko-ya's stock of cloth-ing ever soft and pliable. The impor-tance of this will be understood when the Eskimo custom of chewing skins is understood.

HIS TEN STRONG-JAWED WIVES.

Up in the polar circle, where a man's blood freezes and parts of him drop off at the touch of the icy blast, it is a difficult matter to keep the un-tanned skins from hardening and cracking. There is only one process known to the Eskimo, that of chewing.

It is necessary to perform this opera-tion every two or three months, and it is part of the wives' duties. It is for that reason that an Eskimo selects his future helpmates, not for beauty, comeli-ness of figure, nor for gentleness of disposition, but for the size of their teeth and the strength of their jaws.

Wives are bought, sold and ex-changed among the Eskimo. The price fluctuates like that of wheat or corn or stocks on Wall street. A father with a growing daughter will be ap-proached by a neighbor and offered one, two or three dogs for her, according to her maxillary powers. Sometimes a blue foxskin or a dozen strips of blubber may enter into the bargain, but the dogs are generally the factor used.

From this it can be seen that Kor-ko-ya's stock of wives is considered proof of his wealth among his friends. There are other evidences which will be de-scribed later.

Kor-ko-ya was born in 1841 at a small native settlement a short dis-tance north of what is now the Danish town of Julianehaab in Greenland. He left his home at an early age and made his home with another tribe, famous as hunters of seal, on the opposite side of Baffin's bay. He was known to some of the early explorers and acted as head guide and chief teamsman to them.

He attracted notice even in his teens as a thrifty youth, and from that time became prominent among the Eskimo. Savink is an unknown art to the Indians of the Arctic regions, and it is seldom they accumulate enough to last them throughout the long winter. Certain rules of the tribes make it in-cumbent upon them to help their needy neighbors, and for that reason the in-dividual members neglect to lay by stores for the morrow.

Kor-ko-ya became an exception. He was a skillful hunter and a shrewd trader, and before he was 20, his main igloo became the center of the village. In regard to fittings and attractiveness. The tribe to which he had attached himself was one of the largest and most influential in that part of the country, and by his 25th year Kor-ko-ya was recognized as the head of it. It is said that men came 200 miles to consult him in affairs of the chase and trade.

LAWYER AND WEATHER PROPHECY

His method of giving advice was characteristic of him. He charged for his services, and graded his schedule of fees very like that of a lawyer in a civilized community. In that he was wise, several hundred years beyond his generation; his neighbors, and men of other tribes, worked for nothing, and then stole as a recompense.

Kor-ko-ya asked two foxskins for foretelling the weather during the long sleep. He demanded pay in advance and if he said the ice would break early and it did not he would meet the ques-tion with the simple truth:

"Kor-ko-ya told what was in his knowledge, but he could not tell the doings of Kokolia, the great sea-woman, who passeth all understanding. She held the ice after it was ready to break."

If persistence was shown he would silently offer to return the foxskins. They were never taken, because to in-cure the displeasure of Kor-ko-ya meant trouble and trouble a-plenty in that region. Which goes to show that the wily Eskimo was only following the practices of men below the ice belt. Whalers have been known to refer to Kor-ko-ya as "that Eskimo boss."

Be that as it may, the fact remains that Kor-ko-ya waxed rich as the years passed. To comfortably house his wives, his dogs and his possessions during the great cold each winter requires an igloo

AGRICULTURE IN POLITICS.

By John Morrison, Jr., in Iowa Home-stead. In regard to politics, the farm-ers of this nation are a most impor-tant factor. Statistics show that there are nearly 6,000,000 farmers in the United States. Our total population is about 70,000,000. Of this number about one-fifth are voters. In 1896 the total popular vote was 13,766,503. Of this vote something like one-half was cast by farmers. Now, I believe I have plainly shown by these figures that the farmers of this nation are all-powerful and to best use that power they must be well posted in politics, or in other words, must possess a full and complete knowledge of the political questions of the day. The farmer should be thor-oughly posted upon all subjects in which he is concerned, and above all he should be self-reliant and able to form and express and opinion of his own. Many opinions are formed by scheming politicians in order to gain their individual ends and to put their respective parties in the best light poss-ible. These opinions are handed down to the agriculturists along with other voters, and ninety-nine times out of a hundred are accepted as gospel, be-cause it is our "party platform and we must vote the ticket." I always re-spect the man who, whether he be-longs to my particular party or not, takes a firm stand for his sentiment as formed according to his best judgment of the questions at issue. I have watch-ed some voters of the weaker parties stand right up in their thin and waver-ing ranks, who stood for their con-ventions like "Trojans of Old." I have no use for the fellow who reads noth-ing but his own party side of all ques-tions, and swallows everything as gos-pel—and there are many such. There are always two sides to everything and in politics we always find more than two. Many statements about political questions are made to mislead the voter and these intentional mistakes are of-ten explained by the opposition. So it is always best to read and reason. Voters of all classes must read and search for the truth—not party truths, but truths which they know to be genuine, and then judge for themselves. To do this need not detract an iota from the business of the best of farm-ers. It is only necessary to keep posted, and that is easily done by tak-ing some of the leading papers and forming a habit of reading at your leisure. Many farmers say that they never find time to read, and for the benefit of those I wish to say that if they were inclined to read they would easily find abundance of opportunities. The best farmers in this locality and everywhere else are, without exception, the best posted men—not only on political ques-tions, but in general knowledge. They always find time to read and ponder, as well as to make money. The farmer should be a political factor in so much as to know when to vote and what to vote for, and not be led around by a pack of political wolves who, for the "spoils of office" are willing to promise—well, just anything. The farmer of today must be a student of political economy if he desires to vote for his own interests, and in voting for the welfare of the nation. The farmer is the nucleus, the bone and sinew of all nations. As Bryan says, "You may destroy the farms and grass would grow in the streets of the cities, but corn would still be there," and we add, "and so would the farmer." I will close this letter in the language of the late Henry George: "You cannot safely leave politics to politicians nor political economy to college professors; the people them-selves must think, for the people alone can act."

CHARLES REVERE CURTIS.

Charles Revere Curtis, who died in Rockland, Mass. this week at the age of 78, was the oldest descendant of Paul Revere, who was the grandnephew of the revolutionary hero. He was one of the earliest supporters of the anti-slavery cause.

Have You Been Sick?

Perhaps you have had the grippe or a hard cold. You may be recovering from malaria or a slow fever; or possibly some of the children are just getting over the measles or whooping cough. Are you recovering as fast as you should? Has not your old trouble left your blood full of impurities? And isn't this the reason you keep so poorly? Don't delay recovery longer but

Take Ayer's Sarsaparilla

It will remove all impurities from your blood. It is also a tonic of immense value. Give nature a little help at this time. Aid her by removing all the products of disease from your blood. If your bowels are not just right, Ayer's Pills will make them so. Send for our book on Diet in Constipation.

Write to our Doctors. We have the exclusive service of some of the most eminent physicians in the United States. Write for free book and a prompt reply, without cost.

Address, DR. J. C. AYER, Lowell, Mass.

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From a line of European investment, bonds the sultan of Turkey has just received a windfall of something over five millions. But then Abdul has a large family and perhaps he needs the money.

Ernest Legouve—it is a woman's charity that renews every day the miracle of Christ feeding a multitude with a few loaves and fishes.

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F. A. NASH, General Western Agent, 1664 Farnam St., Omaha.

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SPECIAL RATES SOUTH VIA PORT ARTHUR ROUTE.

Half fare round trip (plus \$2.00) on first and third Tuesdays of each month, quickest and best line to St. Louis, the East and South, via Omaha & St. Louis and Wabash. East mail leaves Omaha 4:50 p. m., Council Bluffs 5:10 p. m., and arrives St. Louis 7 a. m., returning leave St. Louis 7:30 p. m., arrives Omaha 8:35 a. m. daily. All information at Port Arthur Route Office, 1414 Farnam street (Faxon hotel block) or write Harry E. Moore, C. P. & T. A., Omaha, Neb.

The Thames Iron company of London has received a contract to construct a railway from Haifa to Damascus, which will cross the Jordan by a stone bridge and will run along the shores of the lake of Tiberias.

HOMESEKERS' EXCURSIONS SOUTH VIA THE WABASH RAILROAD.

Half fare tickets south with \$3 added good returning 21 days, will be sold on April 18, May 2 and 16. Remember the Wabash is the Short Line and quickest route South The best line East. For rates East or South call on or write G. N. Clayton, room 302 Karbach blk., Omaha, Neb.

It is estimated that the potato crop of Aroostook county, Maine, will reach 5,000,000 bushels and 8,000 tons of starch will be made.

COUNTRY PUBLISHERS' COMPANY

OMAHA - NO. 16-1899.

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