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The Success of this bank is built on the friendship of its customers gained by earnest attention to their interests.

Interest Paid on time deposits.



Webster County Bank,
RED CLOUD, NEB.
CAPITAL \$25,000

B. F. Mizer, President, S. R. Florance, Cashier.
DIRECTORS:
B. F. Mizer, C. J. Pope, Wm. M. Crabill, Wm. H. Thomas, S. R. Florance.

Western Beef Finds Good Eastern Market.

Western beef is coming into its own. Not over a decade ago eastern buyers purchased range-bred steers only when they were unable to fill their feed pen from other sources, and usually offered a much lower price for this class of stock than they were willing to pay for that secured from other sources.

Experience has taught these buyers, however, that western range-bred steers are usually in the very best of health. They have a splendid frame upon which to build, are well muscled and boned, and being accustomed to the rigors of the western climate, continue to put on flesh in the eastern feed pens when cattle from other sections, being fed under identical conditions, are losing flesh on account of the inclement weather conditions. This western steer only demands that he be given plenty of good fresh water and sufficient feed so that he may never be hungry and he will always give a good account of himself and return many dollars in profits to the feeder when he is sold for the block in the spring.

These steers shed early under favorable conditions, and when they have reached the stock yards they show an exterior finish that other cattle, lacking the same health and ruggedness, fail to show. This makes the western steers ready sellers on the market, and after they have been butchered the percentage of the weight of the dressed carcass over that of other steers under the same conditions is so perceptible as to immediately attract the attention of those keen, far-sighted men who handle the yard end of the business.

The settlement of the West is rapidly reducing the amount of available range and is forcing the cattle to go higher and higher into the hills in search of forage. This is greatly increasing the importance of freely utilizing the ranges within the National Forests and every endeavor is being made by the Forest Service to open hitherto inaccessible ranges by the construction of trails and bridges, and unused arid ranges by the development of water. In these higher elevations the grass is usually much finer in quality and more nutritious, while the climate is much more rigorous; both of which conditions result in the animals being in better health and having more solid flesh when placed on the feeder markets in the fall. This fall has seen large numbers of the range-bred steers, most of which come from ranges within National Forests, topping the feeder markets at all points where feeder steers are sold.

So great has become the demand for cattle of the quality mentioned that hundreds of stockmen throughout the West are selling their bunches of stock cattle and are beginning to handle steers exclusively. On the old ranges where a few years ago one was accustomed to see large herds of cows and calves, you will find to-day equally large bunches made up entirely of steers, some of which may perhaps have come from Old Mexico, some from Texas, while Arizona and New Mexico usually furnish their quota. These steers are brought into these western ranges at from eighteen months to two years old. They become acclimated the first year, while in the second and third years they become sufficiently mature so that they may be taken to market.

The demand for cattle of this kind is greater than the supply, and as in all other cases where the demand is greater than the supply the price received on sale must constantly increase. That this is true of the steer business, one can easily ascertain through conversation with any one of the western stockmen who make this a business. They will tell you that they have made more money in the last two or three years in handling steers than they made in ten years in handling strictly stock cattle.

Land Bargain.

640 acres—sq. sec. 3-10-31 Lincoln Co., Neb. Price \$8 per acre. This is A. 1. grass, corn, alfalfa, potatoe and beef land. Inquire of Editor of this paper.

We Thank You
For Your Patronage and
wish you one and all a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Year.

NEWHOUSE BROS.
JEWELERS & OPTOMETRISTS.

St. Joseph Live Stock Market.

ST. JOE, Mo., Dec. 28.—The final week of the year is bringing out but a small run of live stock at any of the markets, due to the holiday character of the week and the fact of the country being in more or less of a storm bound condition from the big snows that have drifted badly and made country roads laborious for getting stock to the shipping stations.

The cattle trade finished last week with prices on a strong upward turn and while this is not a week when there is apt to be any strong demand for cattle, the small supplies are holding prices for steers fully up to a strong basis while cows and heifers are working to a higher level and feeding stock where in good flesh, is meeting a strong demand. As the market now stands, choice to prime steers of medium to strong weight can be quoted at \$5.50 to \$7.50 but there are none of the kinds coming. Medium to good steers, including the bulk of short feds, \$5.50 to \$6.25, common to fair killers, \$4.50 to \$5.25; bulk of cows and heifers, \$3.50 to \$4.50 with a few choice at \$4.75 to \$5.50; veal calves up to \$8.00 for choice; stockers and feeders, \$3.50 to \$4.50 with choice lots up to \$5.25.

In the hog trade, the outlook at the time of this writing is favorable to finishing the year on the highest level of prices in the history of these yards. The supplies are running almost down to a famine basis this week and prices are working up rapidly, the bulk today selling at \$8.20 to \$8.45, or 25 cents higher than at the close of last week, while tops sold up to the previous high mark of the month and at the highest mark in the history of the yards. The outlook seems to favor light supplies and strong markets.

There have not been sheep enough coming of late to make a market. Prices are sharply higher than a week ago, and the lookout strong.

RHEUMATISM CURED IN A DAY.
Dr. Decheon's Relief for Rheumatism and Neuralgia radically cured in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause and the disease immediately disappears. The disease greatly benefits. 75c and \$1. first sold by The H. E. Grice Drug Co., Red Cloud, Nebr.

1-2 OFF
On Entire Stock of
CLOAKS
AND
SUITS

Special Prices
on Furs.
THE Miner Bros. Co.
THE BIG STORE

SUNNY SIDE.

I. T. Parker is visiting relatives in Missouri.
Oscar Emick has a new barn about completed 36x40.
Billy Bense is erecting an ice house on his farm this week.
Lloyd Rust was visiting in this neighborhood this week.
Mr. and Mrs. Ned Hurd visited at Connie Rasser's Tuesday.
Rabbit hunting is the past time for the boys during vacation. They are plentiful.
Ed. Rasser Sr., Connie and wife took Christmas dinner with Mr. and Mrs. John Saladin, Mr. Rasser's daughter.

GUIDE ROCK.

Ernest Hayes was here the first of the week.
N. W. Baker and wife drove to Red Cloud Tuesday.
Christian Ohlmsede is spending two months in California.
Frank Newmeyer and family went to Carleton Wednesday.
Little Pearl Smith has been suffering with a very sore hand.
S. B. Newmeyer of Wallace spent Christmas with his family here.
Mrs. E. S. Schobourg is in Holdrege to spend the week with her parents.
Mrs. J. A. Sheeley of Hastings is visiting her mother, Mrs. D. Kaitley.
Miss Irene Ferguson who teaches at St. Edwards is home for the holidays.
Miss Jessie McCullum of Lincoln is visiting her father and brother here.
Mrs. Cross of Mankato, Kansas, is the guest of her daughter, Mrs. E. M. Parker.
Will Cray and family spent the holidays in Red Cloud with Mrs. Cray's people.
Arthur Pohlenus of Holdrege came down Monday to visit his brother, Thomas Pohlenus.
Jessie Moranville and Gladys Chase took supper Sunday evening with Florance and Lizzie Baker.
Wilbur Hamilton and family of Red Cloud have been visiting their relatives here, the Hamilton and Ferguson families.
G. Ohlmsede went to Red Cloud Monday night. Last week he returned from a trip to Omaha, Fremont and Nebraska City.
The symptoms of kidney trouble are urinary disorders, weak back and backache, rheumatism and rheumatic pains and twinges, pains in the groin, etc. There is nothing as good for kidney and bladder trouble as DeWitt's Kidney and Bladder Pills. You may depend upon them to give entire satisfaction. They are antiseptic, act promptly and soothe pain. Sold by all druggists.

Is There A Santa Claus?

Many years ago a little girl named Virginia O'Hanlon wrote to the editor of the New York Sun, the late F. P. Church, and said:
"Dear Editor: I am eight years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says 'If you see it in The Sun it's so.' Please tell me the truth: is there a Santa Claus?"—Virginia O'Hanlon.
To this trusting child the great editor wrote an editorial reply that seems worthy of wider reading. He said:
"Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the scepticism of a sceptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.
"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.
"Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no real sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.
"You may tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there nothing else real and abiding.
"No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."