Debating Teams Start Season in High Schools

Ten Contests Reported on Question That Nebraska Should Adopt Industrial Court System.

Reports of the first 10 debates in the sixteenth annual contests of the Nebraska High School Debating league of 90 schools show University Place (1922 district champion) and Havelock leading in the East Central district; Bridgeport and Sidney in the Northwestern; Beatrice (state champion in 1920 and district champion in 1922) leading the Southeastern district; and Oxford and Curtis in the Southwestern.

Summaries in these contests on the proposition "That Nebraska Should Adopt the Kansas Industrial Court System" follow:

East Central District.

Principal C. W. Taylor, Teachers' college high school, Lincoln, director.

Waverly, Cecil Emery, Myrtle Cope, Charles Bozarth; University Place, Aubrey Carrell, Elizabeth Connely, Norris Chadderdon, Elmo Philips. At Waverly, February 1. Won by University Place, unanimous. Judges: Prof. J. O. Rankin, University of Nebraska; Professor Lundeen, Cotner university; C. L. Clark, Lincoln. Presiding, Rev. George A. Randall, Waverly.

Havelock, Muriel Bowsman, Mary Fisher, Loretta Granger; Ashland, Helen Marks, Wilbur Meads, Millard Johnson. At Ashland, February 12. Won by Havelock, 2 to 1. Judges: County Superintendent E. A. Odman, Wahoo; Mr. Oberlies, Bethany; W. A. Walton, Ashland. Presiding, Mae Squires, Ashland.

Northwestern District.

Supt. W. R. Pate, Alliance, director.

Minatare, Nell Houck, Delmar Brown, Verna McElwee; Ida Harshman; Bridgeport, Lola Hayden, Sarrah McWilliams, Virginia Eubanks, Virginia Acton. At Minatare, January 25. Won by Bridgeport, unanimous. Judges: Principal N. L. Tyso, Scottsbluff; County Atty. William Heiss, jr., Gering; Supt. Howard Smith, Bayard. Presiding, Rev. Frank Coats.

Lodgepole, Margaret Emanuelson, Werner Jessen, Faye Buttrick; Robert Callison. Sidney, Franklin Hornadey, Laurence Davis, Roy Chambers, Clifford Moore. At Sidney, February 7. Won by Sidney unanimous. Judges: Supt. R. H. White, Potter; George Irwin, Bridgeport; Judge Steuteville, Bridgeport. Presiding, Principal H. V. Jones, Sidney.

Southeastern District.

Principal Julius Gilbert, Beatrice, director.

Auburn, Isabelle Snyder, Margaret Gillan, John McKnight; Marie Nelson; Beatrice, Richard Farlow, Maulce Hevelone, Wayne Waddell. At Auburn, February 5. Won by Beatrice, 2 to 1. Judges: Prof. Eason, Peru Normal college; Superintendent DeWolf, Plattsmouth; Principal S. M. Brownell, Peru. Presiding, Frank Grant, Auburn.

Beatrice, Willis Wright, Emery Gish, Wynan Kenagy; Humboldt, Clover Paulsen, Genevieve Briggs, Helen Reed. At Beatrice, February 8. Won by Beatrice, 2 to 1. Judges: Prof. N. A. Bengston, University of Nebraska; Prof. W. L. Ruyle, Wesleyan university; Prof. J. Duncan, Cotner college. Presiding, C. E. Jones, Beatrice.

Auburn-Fairbury, Helen Cox, Lowell Schroeder, Mary Dawson. At Auburn, February 15. Won by Auburn. Judge: Prof. J. L. Eason, State Teachers' college, Peru. Presiding, Emma Overvaag, Auburn High school.

Southwestern District.

Supt. J. C. Mitchell, Holdrege, presiding.

Cambridge, Dean E. Hammond, Margaret A. Daly, Paul L. Dick; Oxford, Mary MacPrang, Lena Halley, William Ivey; Bula Houghtaling. At Cambridge, February 2. Won by Oxford. Judge, Dean F. E. Weyer, Hastings, college. Presiding, Harold E. Day, Cambridge.

Holdrege, Ruth Palmer, Carl Brown, Paul Copeland; Minden, Irene Sundeen, Everett Hansen, Carl Curtis, Luella Linson. At Minden, February 5. No decision. Presiding, Supt. M. C. Bloss, Minden.

Nebraska School of Agriculture, Arvell Beery, Lela Adams, Alva Blackstone; McCook, Evelyn McClure, Fern Harbaugh, Hazel Shepherd, Allan Boughton. At Curtis, February 9. Won by Nebraska School of Agriculture. Judge: County Attorney Fred J. Schroeder, Curtis. Presiding, Supt. C. K. Morse, Nebraska School of Agriculture.

Columbus School Board Elects Teachers at Old Wage

Columbus—The board of education re-elected all members of the public school corps of teachers, from superintendent to kindergarten at practically the same scale of wages prevailing for the present year. Superintendent McGee, elected a year ago for a trial period of one year, was tendered a contract for a two year period which he accepted.

Wayne Teachers' College.

Ben Cherrington, Y. M. C. A. worker of Denver and graduate of the university, spoke to the classes in history and sociology, and giving an address in the evening in the auditorium. Mr. Cherrington has lately returned from Europe and spoke of what he saw while there. He made a successful appeal to students and faculty for funds in support of students in European university.

The annual basket ball tournament of the high schools of northeast Nebraska will be held in the gymnasium of the Teachers college, February 22-24. Last year 31 schools competed for honors, Randolph winning in class A, Lyons in class B and Crofton in class C. Arrangements are in the hands of the "W" club of the college under the general direction of Coach Fred Dale and Professor E. J. Huntemer.

At the meeting of the Y. W. C. A., Miss Ethel Beechel, intermediate supervisor in the training school, spoke of the literary work of Miss Elizabeth Kingsbury, who for many years was head of the department of modern languages in the teachers college and who died last year shortly after her return from study in Paris. In packing her effects preparatory to returning them to her brother, who is a professor in Cornell university, Miss Beechel and Miss Miss Smothers, registrar in the college, discovered a large number of magazines containing articles and poems by Miss Kingsbury.

Nebraska Wesleyan.

The sixth annual high school day at Nebraska Wesleyan has been set for April 27. Beryl Snyder, as president of the college, issued announcements of the event to the secondary schools. The Wesleyan athletic board has arranged a high school track meet for the day. This will be conducted in connection with the interclass college class meet, but not in competition, says Prof. C. J. Shirk, who is chairman of the Wesleyan athletic commmittee. Each high school will be limited to five entries, two men to each event and each man to three events.

Prof. J. C. Jensen is chairman of a faculty committee that has been named to arrange for a series of scholastic contests to be held in connection with the other exercises of high school day. Prof. Jensen has already secured the approval of a number of Nebraska superintedents for this plan. Contests will be offered in civics, general science, English, public speaking and dramatic recitations. Others may be added to this list if there is a demand.

Why strains hurt

Congestion in tissues causes muscular pain. Sloan's scatters congestion. Normal, free circulation returns —pain vanishes!

Sloan's Liniment —kills pain!

For rheumatism bruises strains, chest colds

The Business Barometer

This Week's Outlook in Commerce, Finance, Agriculture and Industry Based on Current Developments.

By THEODORE H. PRICE, Editor Commerce and Finance, New York.

The rising tide of business confidence and activity that one meets going west is most impressive. It is seemingly unconscious of Europe and its complications. They are rarely mentioned here and are discussed only as abstractions that are interesting historically but without practical bearing upon American affairs.

The labor shortage, with its implication of higher wages, and the shortage of steel, which may check the building and construction that has been planned for the spring, are the things most talked of as repressive factors, but they are not seriously regarded, as it is generally believed that the prosperity in sight will yield profits so large that high prices will not retard its coming or check its progress. Even the railroad congestion which is great has not dampened the prevailing optimism, although it is bitterly complained of in the newspapers.

There is, of course, an element of danger in such widespread and incautious confidence, but with money as easy and credit as abundant as at present, there is nothing to chill it visible and it seems likely to continue unless it should become more difficult to borrow or something happens to the crops.

South Demand Active.

In St. Louis, which is the great jobbing market for Texas and the southwest, the demand for staples as well as luxuries is exceptionally active just now, because it is assumed that the timely spring rains which have just fallen in the gulf states assure a favorable planting season and the probability of a good harvest. The result is that merchants are buying liberally and the shoe trade in particular is said to be the largest on record.

There is also a gratifying improvement in the demand for agricultural implements and in Birmingham, Ala., I was told that a great many cotton gins were being sold for erection in northwest Texas and Oklahoma, in which localities the acreage in cotton will be largely increased because of the supposed immunity from the boll weevil secured by the cold winter weather. An intention to plant more cotton is also manifested in southeastern Missouri and one gin has even been established in southern Illinois.

Big Bond Issues.

To these facts, briefly cited as evidence of the confidence in good times that prevails, there may added the statement that including a bond issue of $88,000,000 just voted by the city of St. Louis for municipal improvements, a total of $188,000,000 in bonds will shortly be issued by the state of Missouri or its cities or counties. This includes soldier bonus bonds and bonds whose proceeds will be spent in road building or other public works.

This sort of thing is going on all over the country and though the ultimate result is not pleasant to contemplate, the immediate effect will be inflation. This is a fact that the conservative man cannot ignore, however much he may deplore it.

Scouts Crissinger Cry.

Comptroller Crissinger has again raised the cry that we cannot continue much longer to draw huge quantities of gold to this country, and that we must prepare for an outward movement and for the consequent diminution of our bank reserves. I do not believe that this warning will affect the calculations of many business men as far as the immediate future is concerned, for the confidence of all whom I meet is too pervasive. It is hardly likely that our exports will decline, or our imports increase enough to lessen materially our favorable balance of trade. It is equally unlikely that the heavy annual balance due us as interest on foreign securities held here will be greatly decreased.

Furthermore, we are no longer absorbing such immense quantities of foreign securities in payment of these balances, nor are we financing Germany by the purchase of its marks as eagerly as we were a year or more ago. And Great Britain has guaranteed payment of its war debt, which must be made either in goods or gold.

The possibility of any immediate decrease of our gold holdings therefore seems remote and if we are to undergo any contraction of our credit surplus this year it is more likely to result from expanding demand than from any reduction in its gold base. The federal reserve statement last week illustrated this point perfectly. It showed a gain of $2,000,000 in gold reserves, but increases of $26,000,000 in note circulation and of $84,000,000 in bills discounted caused a reduction in the reserve ratio from 77 to 75.3 per cent. But this figure of course indicates an abundance of credit and there will have to be a very much greater expansion in the demand for funds before any tightening of rates, or any check from that quarter to advancing prices, is to be expected.

Nor is it possible to discern any threat of an immediate check to the march of prices and business activity from any other quarter. The combination of a labor shortage and advancing prices is bound to produce higher wages, but higher wages and steady employment themselves increase purchasing power so that necessary price advances can be absorbed. In this respect we are in the same position in which the vicious circle of prices and wages was generated during the postwar period. Its ultimate dangers must be recognized, but it causes no pain while it is whirling. The spread between the prices of farm products and the goods the farmers buy has also diminished somewhat and trade reports from the farming districts indicate that distributors expect a good business year.

The threat of railway congestion is one which in this country constantly confronts an incipient boom; and the reports of car shortage from various sections at this time of year are significant and discouraging. The roads, however, have been purchasing new equipment in greater volume than for years past and the country's transportation capacity has been augmented by the expansion in intercoastal steamship traffic and the great increase in the use of motor trucks.

Europe Is Ignored.

Both security and commodity markets in this country have shown continued indifference to the course of foreign affairs. Neither the possibility of fresh trouble in the near east nor even of the withdrawal of British troops from Germany caused more than slight irregularity and advances were recorded in nearly all markets. Sugar futures underwent a series of sensational fluctuations which completely blocked all business in raw and refined sugars. Because of the possibility of a scarcity later in the year, the markets have been in an extremely nervous state and when the Department of Commerce issued a statement that consumption this year should be 725,000 tons greater than production and the estimate of Cuban yield by a leading authority was concurrently reduced to 3,800,000 tons, the rush to "get in" on the market sent prices up nearly 200 points in two days, at which height profit taking and selling prompted by sober second thought quickly drove them down nearly as much. The facts of the situation are that the world's stock of sugar will undoubtedly be cut into by this year's consumption, but the profitable price which sugar is bringing, will stimulate production of beets this summer and the probability of an actual shortage is remote. It is extremely difficult to determine the statistical position of sugar very far in advance because its production is spread among virtually all countries and all seasons of the year, and the Department of Commerce is being widely criticised for broadcasting a statement which might well foster an artificial famine.

Among other commodities petroleum and copper have been conspicuously strong.

	End of Last Week	End of Previous Week	Last Year
Bank Clearings (Bradstreets) in thousands	$6,405,107	$7,205,33[illegible]	$5,718,000
Business failures	395	405	522
Federal Reserve ratio	75.3%	77%	76.4%
Security prices, N. Y. Stock Exchange			
20 Industrials	$102.57	$101.05	$83.98
20 Railroads	89.14	89.97	77.50
40 Bonds	88.58	88.76	86.05
Commodity Prices			
Wheat, May delivery, Chicago	$1.20	$1.20⅝	$1.39½
Corn, May delivery, Chicago	.74⅞	.75⅝	.63⅝
Pork, ribs, May delivery, Chicago	10.80	10.90	11.25
Beef, gd. dressed steers, Chicago	15.50	16.50	13.25
Sugar, refined, New York	.08	.07	.05
Coffee, Rio No. 7, New York	.12¾	.12¾	.08¾
Cotton, middling, New York	.2805	.2785	.1290
Print Cloths, New York	.08	.08	.05½
Wool, domestic average, New York	.8170	.8170	.6156
Silk, No. 1 Sinshiu, New York	8.30	8.45	6.50
Rubber, crude, planta, New York	.35⅛	.34⅞	.15
Hides, pack, No. 1, New York	.20	.20	.16½
Iron, No. 2, Philadelphia	26.76	28.76	21.34
Steel billets, Pittsburgh	40.00	40.00	28.00

With the County Agents

FILLMORE COUNTY.

Geneva—(By A. P.)—Fillmore county's greatest livestock problem, according to Lee W. Thompson, county extension agent, is the need of a more sanitary system of hog management. A system of hog sanitation has been worked out by the United States Department of Agriculture. This system is the result of experiments which have been conducted with round worms and other causes of unthriftness, and will prevent the occurrence of round worms in pigs, Mr. Thompson says. In assisting with the pig problems mentioned, the county extension service, in co-operation with various swine raisers of the county, will establish several demonstration farms where the farmers will use the system for controlling round worms. The hog lots will be rearranged to a certain extent to meet requirements, and individual hog houses will be used to enable the raising of pigs to a certain age away from the permanent hog lots and houses. Tentative arrangements have already been made for the establishment of three such farms. The county farm bureau hopes to establish them in various sections of the county, so all interested farmers will be given a chance, without traveling a great distance, to see how this system of prevention works, and to see the value of practicing such simple sanitary measures. The establishing of these farms is a part of Fillmore county's extension program for this year.

MADISON COUNTY.

Battle Creek—A two-day gas engine school will be held in Madison county March 13 and 14. Meetings will be held both morning and afternoon each day. Each person will furnish his own tools and a gas engine specialist from the state agricultural college will have charge of the work.

A county-wide sheep meeting will be held in the county February 20. The program will cover three phases of sheep breeding—"The ewe at lambing time and handling the young lambs, lamb management, feeding and ration and the third phase, sheep pastures," Professor Savin, who has charge of the sheep feeding carried on at the station.

SAUNDERS COUNTY.

Wahoo—With the small acreage of winter wheat, this is a good year to increase the acreage of legumes in Saunders county, according to W. F. Roberts, county agricultural agent. Agricultural statistics show that Saunders county had only three acres of alfalfa per farm in 120 and only about half as much clover as alfalfa. Less than 250 acres of sweet clover were reported in 122. Sweet clover does well in this locality and has proven an excellent pasture crop at the college of agriculture, Mr. Roberts says. It is a legume, and due to its rank growth, is an excellent soil builder. In explaining the sowing of sweet clover, Mr. Roberts says: "Twenty to 25 pounds of hulled seed should be sown per acre. It may be broadcast or covered with a smoothing harrow, or with a grain drill with grass attachment. The seed should not be covered over three-fourths of an inch deep. It may be sown with a nurse crop, but there is more danger of it being killed by dry weather. The ground may be plowed, followed by disking or harrowing, or it may be prepared by disking cornstalk land. In any case, a firm, fine, moist seed bed is important."

DAWSON COUNTY.

Lexington.—Sixty entries from 10 precincts in Dawson county made a fine showing at the corn show held in Lexington Wednesday, says A. R. Hecht, county agent. Seven of the entries were from irrigated and the others, dry land. The judge, Mr. Cottle, from the college of agriculture, placed the ribbons on a new type, corn with long, smooth ears. At the experiment station this type has outyielded the rough for the past 12 years. This also holds true in Dawson county, Mr. Hecht says. Mr. Cottle told of other work conducted with corn at the station.

THAYER COUNTY.

Hebron.—Dairying and poultry are the two sure sources of income to the farmers of Thayer county and probably are doing more at the present time to pay expenses than any other branches of farming, according to L. C. Christie, county extension agent. Because of the work the county agent and farm bureau is doing rapid improvements are being made in the poultry of Thayer county, Mr. Christie says. For two years the Union Pacific railroad has been giving a short course in the agricultural college to the boy in each of the 39 counties of Nebraska who made the best record in corn, wheat or potato club work. Raymond Kockrow of Alexandria has won this scholarship for the last two years in Thayer county and is now taking one of the short courses at the agricultural college.

CASS COUNTY.

Weeping Water.—Thirty-two women of Alvo, Cass county, met February 5 to take up the dress construction project. Most of the ladies are planning to take the complete course. Another meeting was held at Nehawka. All the ladies present drafted patterns and dresses were cut and fitted. Fifteen women met near Greenwood and the day was spent in finishing house dresses.

SEWARD COUNTY.

Seward.—A butchering, meat cutting and soap making demonstration was held in Seward county Wednesday. Miss Jessie Greene of the extension service of the agricultural college had charge of the soap making demonstration and the county agent demonstrated the butchering and meat cutting. About 40 men and women attended the meetings. The purpose for the meat cutting demonstration was to secure a maximum amount of curing meat and to have it in such shape that it would cure well, with as small amount of waste as possible.

COLFAX COUNTY.

Schuyler.—Two butchering, meat cutting demonstrations by A. K. Hepperel, animal husbandry specialist, and the meat canning and soap making demonstration conducted by Miss Edith Cone, food and nutrition specialist, in Colfax county, were well attended and considerable interest was shown. One hundred and thirty people attended these meetings, where very simple methods of butchering, meat cutting, meat canning and soap making were shown, according to County Agent Clement Kuska. Two poultry culling demonstrations conducted in Colfax county were well attended. Thirty people were present at a culling demonstration in which 200 hens were culled from a flock, with the egg production remaining the same, thereby saving the farmer the cost of the feed for 200 hens, which in a year would amount to $186, according to the county agent.

Gilts Average $52.

David City.—Frank Aerts, Frank Patton and Dean Hewit held their annual registered Poland-China hog sale here. Fifty-two gilts were sold at an average of $52. Quite a number of buyers who lived outside of Butler county were purchasers.

York Fair Dates.

York.—The York County Fair association has announced the dates for the 1923 fall fair and festival as September 17 to 21.

Financial

New York, Feb. 18.—The further advance on the Stock Exchange last week was quite unmistakably a reflection, not of European conditions, but of the financial and industrial situation at home. Whether the market could have moved as it did if the financial mind had taken seriously the predictions of disaster in continental Europe, is another question; but the actual fact was that the investment market had, to all intents, forgotten Europe. It had its eye on the weather signs of business conditions in this country, and moved in response to what it saw.

These indications were somewhat remarkable. To sum up the most important of them, it may be said that the recent statements comprise weekly exchange of checks at American banks which broke all records for any corresponding period; railway traffic, measured by car loadings, which similarly overtopped the best previous showing for this time of year; the largest January steel output since March, 1920, and the largest January iron production since February 1919.

Heavy Cotton Purchases.

Purchase of cotton by the home spinning industry in January which, notwithstanding the high price, has never but twice been exceeded in any month, those two occasions being in wartime and by way of evidence that this raw material was going quickly into consumption, a statement by the census bureau that the number of textile spindles active in this country at the beginning of February was the greatest ever reported. These are evidences from many angles of expanding trade and the stock market's movement was its recognition of them.

Whether as an indication of probable results from the Ruhr experiment or as reflection of economic tendencies in Europe, the course of the foreign exchange markets last week became singularly confusing. That French and Belgian exchange should have failed to recover definitely from the recent lowest was natural enough, in view of the mixed feelings with which the Franco-German situation is popularly regarded. But on the other hand, the German mark scored a fairly sensational recovery from the bottom price of January and sterling rose practically to the high point of the period.

Yet, if the political results which have occasionally predicted from the Ruhr occupation were seriously expected, an advance in sterling would have been hardly conservable, and it is hard to discover anything in the news which should have enhanced the value of the mark.

Only Explanation.

The explanation of these inconsistencies doubtless lies in the fact that there is no way of determining the actual intrinsic value of an irredeemable and depreciated paper currency, and therefore that speculation has an unusually free hand in driving the valuation up or down. When the German mark had already shrunk nearly 100 per cent from its normal valuation of 23.8 cents, it would be perfectly futile to discuss whether its real value was two thousandths of a cent or five thousandths.

The only possible test would be whether more people wanted to buy marks at a given price than to sell them and vice versa.

It may, however, be fairly assumed that the excessively violent percentage decline from fourteen thousandths of a cent on January 2 to two thousandths on January 30, was caused not only by prodigious output of new paper marks and their sale abroad by Germany to pay for imported merchandise, but by selling, real or speculative, based on the belief that the Ruhr blockade would compel a complete shutdow of German manufacturing industry.

Predictions Not Fulfilled.

There was much talk of that in January; and also of a probability that Germany would no longer be able to import raw material of manufacture. But neither prediction has been fulfilled. If the market had been dealing in shares of German manufacturing concerns, instead of in paper marks, then what may be called the 12 point decline followed by a 8 point recovery, would be recognized as an entirely natural movement.

On the other hand, no market calculation can ignore the fact that the German paper currency has been nearly doubled since the January Paris conference. If the capital stock of a corporation were doubled without any change in its earning power, the stock market would probably quote a new stock at only one-half as much per share as it had been quoting the old. The decline indicates the confusion of influences bearing on the market for such a currency. There is even the possibility of an organized "campaign" of capitalists to force down the mark or the franc, with or without a political motive.

Business Activities

Open Blacksmith Shop.

DeWitt—Webb Smith bought the blacksmith tools of Wm. Peterson and expects to use part of his garage as a blacksmith shop. Mr. Peterson will use his building, formerly used as a blacksmith shop, as a factory for the Sire-Peterson wrench.

Improve Gas Plant.

McCook—The Citizens Gas company of McCook has let the contract for $10,000 worth of improvements and additions to its present plant. They expect to have the improvements completed in about 20 days, making their plant one of the best in this section of Nebraska.

Open Motor Agency.

Columbus—G. C. Provost of Omaha was in Columbus completing arrangements for the establishment here of an automobile agency under the firm name of Provost Motor company. The cars and trucks will be handled at wholesale and retail with Columbus as the distributing point for four counties controlled by the firm.

Bank Plans Home.

Fairbury—The First National bank of Fairbury is to build a new home, which will cost $75,000. The work will begin April 1, and the contract calls for completion by November 1. The exterior of the structure will be built of white Bedford rock and the bank floors will be of marble. The building will be two stories high. The main room of the second story will be rented by the Fairbury Chamber of Commerce for a permanent home and the rest of the space will be fitted for offices. The bank will occupy the corner and two rooms will be equipped for store purposes.

This is the beginning of an era of building in Fairbury. The Rasse Grocery company is about to begin their large wholesale house. C. W. Smith, a local capitalist, is figuring on replacing the Steele block and Frank Gage is remodeling his block at this time.

Beatrice to Pave.

Beatrice—The city commissioners passed an ordinance creating paving district No. 48 in the east part of the city and repaving districts Nos. 10, 11, 12, 13 and 14. It is the purpose of the commissioners to pave and repave these districts the coming summer.

Masons to Build.

Auburn—The Masonic lodge of this place has bought lots and will begin the erection of a three-story building, 60x105 feet. The structure will be of fire-proof material.

Cortland News Sold.

Beatrice—F. L. Eberhardt of the Liberty Journal has purchased the Cortland News of E. W. Masters.

Trade Telephone Exchange.

Beatrice—M. C. Hiatt has traded the Reynolds telephone exchange to a Mr. Patton of Morrowville, Kan., for an 80-acre farm in Kansas.

Tecumseh Hotel Sold.

Tecumseh—J. H. Farrier has sold the Arcade hotel in Tecumseh to Mrs. J. H. Grosse of Humboldt, and the change will be made March 1. Mrs. Grosse secures the brick building and entire equipment. She has formerly operated the Park hotel at Humboldt.

Buy Defunct Store.

Columbus—Eight stockholders of the defunct Farmers' store at Lindsay, who had signed as sureties on the mortgage, bought the brick building erected and formerly occupied by the company at sheriff's sale for $5,000. The building was erected several years ago, costing $23,000.

Keep Paper Going.

Pawnee City—The Liberty Journal, the only paper in Liberty, will continue to exist if the citizens of the village can cause it to. Its publication was recently abandoned by the editor as unprofitable. The citizens got together and appointed delegations to collect news and advertising, and with this compiled, they had it printed by the shop of the Burchard Times.

Vote on Bonds.

Fairbury.—Friday, February 23, is the date set for voting on a $200,000 bond issue to build and equip a new high school building.

Lumber Company Quits.

Powell—The Powell Lumber company will discontinue business. The sheds have been sold to a Fairbury contractor to be torn down.

Endicott Cafe Sold.

Endicott—R. L. Thomas, a farmer residing near Endicott, has purchased the Kelley restaurant and barber shop.

Omaha Produce

(By State Department of Agriculture Bureau of Markets and Marketing.) Corrected February 17.

BUTTER.

Creamery—Local jobbing price to retailers: Extras, 50c; extras in 60-lb. tubs, 49c; standards, 49c; firsts, 47c.

Dairy — Buyers are paying 33c for best table butter (wrapped roll); 28c for common and 25c for clean packing stock.

BUTTERFAT.

Local buyers paying 42c at country stations, 49c delivered Omaha.

EGGS.

Most buyers are paying around $8.50 per case for fresh eggs, delivered Omaha. Stale held eggs at market value.

Jobbing price to retailers: Fresh: Specials, 35c; selects, 33c; No. 1 small, 30c.

POULTRY.

Live: Heavy hens and pullets, 19c; light hens and pullets, 19c; spring roosters, smooth legs, 18c; stags all sizes, 15c; Leghorn poultry about 3c less; old cocks, 10c; ducks, fat, full feathered, 18c; geese, fat, full feathered, 15c; turkeys, fat nine pounds and up, 20c; no culls, sick or crippled poultry wanted.

Jobbing price of dressed poultry to retailers: Broilers 40c; springs, 28c; heavy, hens, 27c; light hens, 27c; roosters, 18c; ducks, 25c; geese, 24c; turkeys, 46c.

BEEF CUTS.

The wholesale prices of beef cuts in effect today are as follows.

Ribs—No. 1, 27c; No. 2, 26c; No. 3, 16c.

Loins—No. 1, 33c; No. 2, 31c; No. 3, 18c.

Rounds—No. 1, 15½c; No. 2, 15c; No. 3, 12c.

Plates—No. 1, 7½c; No. 2, 7c; No. 3, 6c.

Chucks—No. 1, 12c; No. 2, 11½c; No. 3, 9½c.

CHEESE.

Local jobbers are selling American cheese, fancy grade, at about the following prices: Twins, 27c; single daisies, 27½c; double daisies, 27c; Young Americas, 29c; longhorn, 28c; square prints, 28½c; brick, 28c.

FRUITS.

Strawberries—Florida, 60c per quart.

Bananas—9c per pound.

Oranges—Extra fancy California navels, per box, according to size, $4.00@5.50.

Lemons—Extra California, 300 to 360 sizes, per box, $7.00; choice, 300 to 360 sizes, $6.50; Limes, $3.00 per 100.

Grapefruit—Florida, fancy, all sizes, $3.75 to $5.25 per box.

Cranberries—100-pound barrels, $13.50 to $17.00; 50-pound boxes, $8.50; 22-pound boxes, $4.50.

Apples—Delicious, according to size and quality, per box, $2.35 to $2.75; Washington Jonathaits, per box, $1.50 to $2.35; Iowa Jonathans, fancy, per bbl., $6.50; bushel basket, $1.85; Grimes Golden, fancy, per bbl., $5.50; ditto, choice, per bbl., $3.50; Northern Spy, per box, $1.75 to $2.00 Hood River Winter Banana, fancy, $2.50; ditto, choice, $2.00; Spitzenberger, fancy, per box, $2.75; Gano, fancy, per bbl., $4.75; Ben Davis, fancy, per bbl., $4.75; Black Twigs, per bbl., $5.50; Greenings, per bbl., $6.00.

Quinces—California, fancy, per box, $1.00.

Pears — Winter Kells, fancy, per box, $3.00; Hood River Dutchess, per box, $4.00.

Grapes—Red Emperor, per box, $6.50 to $7.00.

Figs—California, 24 8-oz. carton boxes, $2.75; 50 8-oz. carton boxes, $3.75; New Smyrna figs, 5-lb. box, per lb., 35c.

Dates—Hollowi, 70-lb. butts, 10c per pound; Dromedary, 36 10-oz. cases, $6.75.

Avocados—Alligator pears, per dozen, $9.00.

SEED.

Omaha buyers are paying the following prices for field seed, thresher run, delivered Omaha. Quotatons are on the basis of hundredweight measure:

Seed—Alfalfa, $12.00@15.00; red clover, $9.00@15.00; alsyke, $8.00@15.00; timothy, $4.00@5.00; Sudan grass, $5.50@7.50; white blossom sweet clover, $5.00@7.00; millet, high grade German, $2.00@2.50; common millet, $1.50@2.00; amber sorghum can, $2.00@2.25.

FLOUR.

First patent, in 98-lb. bags, $6.70 per bbl.; fancy clear, in 49-lb. bags, $5.55 per bbl. White or yellow cornmeal, per cwt., $1.75. Quotations are for round lots f. o. b. Omaha.

FEED.

Omaha mills and jobbers are selling their products in round lots at the following prices, f. o. b. Omaha:

Bran—$28.00; brown shorts, $29.00; gray shorts, $31.00; middlings, $32.00; reddog, $36.00; alfalfa meal, choice, $28.75; No. 1, $26.50; No. 2, $22.00; linseed meal, $54.10@55.10; cottonseed meal, 43 per cent, $51.00@42.00; hominy feed, white, $29.00; yellow, $29.00; buttermilk, condensed, 5 to 9 barrels, 3.1c per lb., flake buttermilk, 500 to 1,500 lbs., 7½c per lb.; egg shells, dried and ground, 100-lb. bags, $25.00 per ton.

VEGETABLES.

Potatoes—Nebraska Early Ohios, No. 1, $1.25 per cwt.; No. 2, 75c to $1.00; Minnesota Red River Ohios, No. 1, $1.25 to $1.50 per cwt.; Idaho Russets, $1.35 per cwt.; Idaho Netted Gems, $1.75 per cwt.

Sweet Potatoes—Bushel crates, about 45 lbs., $2.00; Porto Rico Reds, crates, about 50 lbs., $2.25.

Radishes—New southern, dozen bunches, 90c.

Old Roots—Beets, carrots, turnips, parsnips, rutabagas, per pound, 2¼c; in sacks, per pound, 2¼c.

New Roots—Southern turnips, beets, carrots, per dozen bunches, 90c.

Lettuce—California head (4 doz.), per crate, $4.25; per doz., $1.10; hothouse leaf, per dozen, 50c.

Artichokes—Per dozen, $2.50.

Peppers—Green, market basket, 25c per pound.

Mushrooms—75c per pound.

Egg Plant—Selected, per pound, 20c.

Onions—Southern (new) per dozen bunches, 75c; Ohio Whites, $3.00 per cwt.; Red Globes, per lb., 2¼c; yellow, per lb., 2¼c imported Spanish, per crate, $3.50.

Tomatoes—Florida, six-basket crate $8.00; fancy red ripe Mexican, 28-lb. lub, $2.75.

Beans—Southern wax or green, per hamper, $5.00 to $7.00.

Cauliflower—California, per crate, $1.75 to $2.00.

Garlic—Per pound, 25c.

Cabbage—25-50 pounds, 2¼c; in crates, per pound, 2¼c; red cabbage, per pound, 3c; celery cabbage, per pound, 15c; Brussell sprouts, per pound, 20c.

Celery—California, per dozen, according to size, $1.35 to $1.85; California (not trimmed), per crate, $7.00.

Shallots, Parsley—Dozen bunches, 75c.

Spinach—Per bushel, $1.50.

HAY.

Prices at which Omaha dealers are selling in carload lots follow:

Upland Prairie—No. 1, $14.00@15.00; No. 2, $11.00@12.00; No. 3, $8.00@10.00.

Midland Prairie—No. 1, $13.50@14.50; No. 2, $10.00@12.00; No. 3, $7.00@9.00.

Lowland Prairie—No. 1, $10.00@11.00; No. 2, $7.00@8.00.

Alfalfa—Choice, $22.00@23.00; No. 1, $20.00@21.00; standard, $17.00@19.00; No. 2, $14.00@16.00 No. 3, $12.00@14.00.

Straw—Oat, $8.00@9.50; wheat, $7.00@8.00.

HIDES, FURS, WOOL.

Prices printed below are on the basis of buyers' weights and selections, delivered Omaha:

Hides—Current hides, No. 1, 11c No. 2, 10c; green hides, 9 and 8c; bulls, 8 and 7c; branded hides, 8c; glue hides, 6c; kip, 11 and 10c; decons, 80c each; glue calf and kip, 6c; horse hides, $4.25 and 3.25; ponies and glues, $1.75 each; colts, 25c each; hog skins, 15c each; dry hides, No. 1, 15c per lb.; dry salted, 12c; dry glue, 6c.

Wool—Wool pelts, $1.25 to $2.00 for full wooled skins; spring lambs, 75c to $1.50, for late take off; clips, no value; wool, 30 to 35c.

Tallow and Grease—No. 1 tallow, 8c; B tallow, 7c; No. 2 tallow, 6c; A grease, 8c; B grease, 7c; yellow grease, 6¼c; brown grease, 6c.

Cracklings—Pork, $50 per ton; beef, $60 per ton.

Beeswax—$20 per ton.

Furs—Skunk, central states narrow, $2.00; No. 1 small, $1.50; No. 2 good unprime, $1.00; muskrat, western, fall, large, $1.50; medium, $1.00; small, 75c; raccoon, central, ordinary, large, $5.00; medium, $3.50; small $2.25; No. 2, $2.25; mink, central, ordinary, large, $5.50; medium, $3.75; small, $2.25; No. 2, $1.50; wolf, northwestern, soft, large, $12.00; fox, central, gray, large, $2.00; medium, $1.50; small, 75c; No. 2, 75c; civet, prime, 60c to 25c; lynx-cat, $8.00 to $1.00; beaver, legally caught, $20.00 to $5.00; fisher, $75.00 to $5.00; otter, $20.00 to $5.00; weasel, white, $1.00 to 25c; wildcat, $1.50 to 25c; badger, $1.50 to 10c; marten, $40.00 to $5.00; bear, $25.00 to $1.00.

Jury Unable to Agree.

Wichita Falls, Tex., Feb. 18.—The jury in the case of Maj. W. L. Chamborne, charged with murder in connection with the killing of W. C. Lamar, January 8, was discharged by Judge Wilson after the members reported they could not agree. The jury was out 50 hours.

Mules Sent to India.

North Loup.—V. W. Robbins, livestock broker, shipped three cars of mules from this territory which were intended for use as pack animals in British India. It will require two to three months overland and sea to transfer them to their final destination.

Merchant Branches Out.

Pawnee City—Oren D. Kratzer, retail merchant of Virginia, has opened a second store in Armour. The leading store of Armour was burned a short time ago and the proprietor did not see fit to start up again there.

Trade Review

By R. G. DUN & CO.

Evidence of further business expansion appeared this week. Activities in most quarters steadily gain momentum, and the point has been reached in different instances where results are being compared with the best previous records. No month even in war times saw as many cotton spindles running as was the case this January, and the steel industry has attained practically the highest rate of operation possible under existing conditions. The main problem now, broadly considered, is not one of finding employment for workers, but rather of securing enough men to maintain outputs on the scale warranted by current demands. Some buyers, quicker than others to sense the changed situation, have endeavored to commit themselves heavily with manufacturers, so as to secure protection against future requirements. The policy of not a few producers, however, is one of discouraging over-purchasing, and there is more of a tendency, especially in the steel trade to look to jobbing channels for sources of supply. That prices of many commodities are strengthening under pressure of the larger consumption has been clearly shown by Dun's list of wholesale quotations, which has disclosed an excess of advances in every week this year, and reports are becoming more common of premiums being offered to hasten shipments. Difficulty in making prompt deliveries frequently is encountered, owing to different drawbacks, and storms and cold in various parts of the country have further impeded the transportation of merchandise. The weather, on the other hand, has appreciably stimulated retail distribution, and the large turnover of rubber footwear this winter has been a prominent feature.

January Bank Clearings Gain.

Among the statistical measures of business progress, the record of bank clearings stands out prominently. With operations nearly everywhere on an expanding scale, and with the advancing commodity prices, bank clearings naturally are of larger volume, reaching an aggregate of nearly $34,950,000,000 at 111 cities in the United States during January. Examination of earlier returns show that the January total has not been equaled since December, 1920, and there is a gain of about 21 per cent over the figures of a year ago. The rise in the January clearings was countrywide, but the largest increase occurred at points outside of New York city, where the aggregate was fully 30 per cent in excess of that of the same period of 1922. The gain at the metropolis was a little more than 14 per cent.

Steel Industry Continues Active.

Each week of late has found the steel industry working into a stronger position, both in respect of the volume of business and prices. Published quotations this week disclose a number of additional advances, ranging from 50c a ton on open sheet bars to $2.50 on wire rods. More than this, reports of premiums being paid for quick shipments are becoming more frequent, and warehouse prices are strengthening steadily. The policy of large producers is one of conservatism, the efforts of buyers to place heavy commitments with mills usually resulting in the acceptance of only a part of the orders offered. This attitude in the part of sellers reflects a desire to prevent over-purchasing, and to hold the market within the limits of safety. The price upturn not only embraces steel products but also pig iron, increases of 50c a ton being recorded on several grades this week.

Steady Dry Goods Markets.

The maintenance of a broad demand for dry goods is reflected by current reports, both from wholesale and retail channels. Distribution remains active practically everywhere, and large-scale mill operations continue. Buying of silks has been stimulated by the exhibition held under the auspices of the leading national associations, while retailers are purchasing other textiles in a steady way, if carefully. With raw cotton holding at a high level, the rise in cotton goods prices has been extended, not only in primary markets but also in jobbing circles. It is still a fact, however, that retail prices on many goods have not reached a parity with those in first hands, and doubt is yet expressed as to the probable attitude of consumers when the higher prices are passed on to the counters.

Large Domestic Cotton Consumption.

The census bureau at Washington issued a statement this week indicating that greater activity prevailed in domestic cotton manufacturing during January than in any preceding month in the history of the industry. While the January consumption of cotton has twice before been exceeded, the number of active spindles crossed the 35,000,000-mark for the first time on record. Nearly 1,000,600 more spindles were in operation at the end of January than was the case a year previous, and the month's consumption of 610,375 bales of lint cotton represents an increase of practically 83,700 bales over the quantity consumed by American mills in January, 1922. No statistics of exports were included in this week's Washington report, so that comparisons of the foreign outgo of cotton in January are not possible.

Increase in Leather Business.

While recent trading in hide markets has been of moderate proportions only, business in some descriptions of leather has increased substantially. Large sales of sole leather in backs and bends and offal have occurred in leading eastern centers, with shoe manufacturers more active buyers, and confidence among tanners of heavy stock has strengthened. The disposition no wis to talk firmer prices, and actual advances have been recorded on certain grades of offal. Thus far, upper leather has not shared in the improved demand noted in some leather, although sizable transactions have developed in certain quarters. On the whole, prices are rather weak, especially for staple lines of heavy side leathers, calfskins and patent leather.

Leigh Schools Name Head.

Columbus.—Robert A. Sisty of the Columbus High school faculty has been elected superintendent of the Leigh schools for next year at a salary of $2,000. Mr. Sisty, former coach at Midland college at Fremont, was assisting Coach Rich here in the athletic department.

Weekly Failures

Business failures for the week ending February 15 (a holiday week) number 395, which compares with 405 last week, 522 in the like week of 1922, 358 in 1921, 106 in 1920 and 112 in 1919.

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Chicago Grain

Chicago, Feb. 18.—Trend of values in the wheat market at the present time is not well defined. There has been considerable change in sentiment regarding the May delivery, but taken as a whole the trade looks for still higher prices for the July and the September, which represent the new crop, which will not be harvested until June and July.

From a statistical standpoint the May is regarded as in a rather weak position at the moment, as the export demand remains slow, both for hard winter and Manitobas. It was very noticeable, however, that late in the week the foreign news, which had been extremely bearish of late, took a decided turn for the better. Liverpool May wheat closed 11¾c over Chicago on February 10 and was 16⅝c over at the finish on Saturday, making a net gain of 2⅛c for the week in the face of a decline of 2⅞c here.

Predictions Verified.

When the market was advancing, those bullish on May wheat paid no attention to bearish news from obroad and during the period when the market was declining, bullish reportse were also ignored. The prediction of the bulls that the movement of cash wheat to terminal market would fall off materially, have been verified, and arrivals last week were 1,600,000 bushels less than last year. Unless they increase materially, the visible supply should commence to decrease from now on, as it usually does at this season of the year.

The new winter wheat crop still has al lot its greif ahead of it, wich accounts for the bullish sentiment prevailing in the July and September. It will be a month or more before there has been sufficient growing weather to permit an accurate estimate as to the condition of the crop. Should the ice cap, which was reported over the fields of many sections of the belt, prevail for any lenght of time, the April 1 government report may make a poorer showing than the trade has been expecting. In 1917 a December condition of 85.7 was followed by an April 1 report of 63.4, although there was a steady improvement from that time to harvest, with July showing 75.9. There were 13,277,000 acres reporte das abandoned that year, the largest on record.

Situation Weak.

From a statistical standpoint the wheat situation may be regarded as rather weak, but statistics have had little influence on the ultimate trend of values for several years, although frequently they have caused numerous bulges or breaks, while the trend of prices has been largely in accord with those of other commodities. Wheat and rye prices are still too low in comparison with other commodities, as the bulls see it.

Seldom is a bull market ever checked by the first break, and the present time promises to be no exception. The uneasiness which prevailed just before the big decline started last week has passed and the trade is waiting for some new incentive before taking a decided stand on either side. The action of the market of late has been somewhat similar to what it was early in December and January, when May dropped from $1.26¾ to $1.15¼ going through a period of accumulation from $1.18 down in the face of heavy liquidation, while the last week has found support given when prices were around $1.19.

Corn Halted in Climb.

Milling demands for cash wheat shows signs of increasing, although were shipping directions given on flour that is now on the books of mills, the call would unquestionably be better.

Corn has halted in its upward movebent as the result of the recent heavy profit taking hedging sales, but the bulls are confident that it is only momentary and in some quarters it is hoped that a rapid advance in prices does not materialize for some time to come.

It is safe to estimate that the country sold between 8,000,000 and 10,000,000 bushels cash corn so far this month, the bulk of which had been hedged by sales of May wheat here, not an unusual quantity of grain and equal to about two weeks of good receipts at Chicago. Inasmuch as the corn, when it moves, will be applied on contracts and hedges have already been placed, there will be little new pressure on the market except from those who are sentimentally affected by the large arrivals.

There is still plenty of corn back in the country, but unless farmers sell freely before the breaking up of the interior roads the next big movement will hardly come until oats seeding is out of the way.

Weekly Food Index Higher

Bradstreet's Food Index Number, based on the wholesale prices per pound of 31 articles used for food, is $3.40, comparing with $3.36 last week and $3.13 for the week ending February 16, 1922. This week's number shows a gain of 1.1 per cent over last week and of 8.6 per cent over the like week of last year.

Increased: Wheat, red; oats, barley, short ribs, butter, sugar, raw; sugar, refined; coffee, eggs, hogs, live; lambs, live; cotton gray goods, petrol, crude; hay, pig iron, Bess.; pig iron, southern; steel billets, Bess.; Steel billets, O-H; car wheels, old, Philadelphia; steel scrap, Pittsburgh; wire nails, copper, tin.

Decreased: Flour, wheat, spring; corn, hams, lard, cheese, currants, sheep, live; leather, coke, rubber.

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