

Editor and Proprietor.
Foreman.

Valentine, Cherry county, Nebr., as Second Class Matter.

TERMS:

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1905.

ENCLOSED LANDS; LAND OFFICE WAS NEGLIGENT

Valentine, Dec. 5.—The land office has removed the land office at Valentine, Neb., for participation in all sorts of frauds in that state and demanded the immediate resignation of the receiver, Albert L. Towle.

Ten days ago Chief Pollock of the special service division of the land office reported on an investigation he had been making in Valentine, Neb. He found Pettijohn had fenced government lands and then hired men to file on the fenced lands and turn over to him their relinquishments. He was called on to explain and when his explanation admitted these charges he was removed.

Receiver Towle of the Valentine office was called on to resign at once for failure to attend duties. The land office was unwilling to leave the office, even temporarily, in his charge in view of the fact that he had permitted without protest the irregularities of Pettijohn. W. B. Pugh, special agent, has been placed in charge of the office. It is believed here that there will be prosecutions growing out of conditions at Valentine.—World-Herald.

President's Big Stick in Nebraska.

Washington, Dec. 5.—By direction of President Roosevelt, who is waging a campaign of extermination among questionable federal officials, J. C. Pettijohn, register of the general land office at Valentine, Neb., has been summarily removed from his position.

The charge against Pettijohn is that he has been taking part in land deals that are shrouded in mystery and not to the liking of the president.

Mr. Roosevelt has asked for the resignation of Albert L. Towle, who is receiver of the land office at Valentine.—Omaha Daily News.

Cherry County School Notes.

The annual association of Cherry county teachers met at Valentine with a large attendance. Many teachers traveled 25 to 30 miles to attend and not a few 75 to 100 miles. Such loyalty is deeply appreciated by your superintendent. The papers were excellent and the interest well sustained. Much is due to the citizens of Valentine and Cherry county because of their willingness to lend a helping hand wherever it would further the interests of education. We were very fortunate in having with us the president of the State Teachers' Association, J. W. Searson, who occupies the chair of English at the Peru state normal. He gave a valuable address on "Secrets of Success of Teachers I Have Met." For want of space we print an outline of his lecture next week.

On Dec. 14 and 15, at Lincoln, there will be held a corn contest consisting of a boys' corn growing contest and a girls' corn cooking contest which is open to all school children of Nebraska. On Dec. 15 at the Lincoln hotel will occur the corn banquet, followed by "corn

oasts" under the leadership of Toastmaster Dr. L. P. Ladden. Tickets 50c. A rate of one fare for the round trip has been obtained, good going Dec. 13-14 and returning until Dec. 16, included. Reduced hotel rates are granted.

Any girl who wants to cook some corn product and either take it or send it, may find out about the prizes and conditions of entry from the office of Co. Supt. I should like to send one delegate at least from each school district.

LULU KORTZ, Co. Supt.

Catholic Church Announcement.

On Sunday, 17th inst., mass will be said at Arabia at 10 a. m. On Sunday, 24th, mass will be said in the Prairie Belle school house near Crookston at 10 a. m.

SCHOOL NOTES.

By Margaret Quigley, Clara Dunham.

All pupils received their second report cards Monday.

Nellie Franke and Willie Steadman are absent on account of sickness.

William Simmons has gone from our 3rd grade into the Crookston school.

Paul Cole, of Norfolk, has entered the 8th grade, making the enrollment 30.

Roscoe Munson has re-entered school, after being in the country three months.

Swiss Savage has returned to her work in the 8th grade, after a month's absence.

Laura Overman had to go home for a short vacation on account of her face being poisoned.

Bernice O'Kief writes that she is enjoying her school very much and has a mile to walk each day.

Merritt Bishop and Harry Rector of the 3rd grade are in school again. Both have been ill for some time.

Marie Christensen and George Stetter have re-entered the second intermediate and the attendance is much better.

The children have come back to school and are ready to do their work with renewed vigor, after their short vacation.

Thanksgiving pictures on the boards are now being erased and in their stead will soon be many Christmas drawings.

Mr. McCrea is absent from duty on account of his sister's illness. We have just learned that his sister died Tuesday morning and that he will not reach home until Sat.

Franklin Pierce Jolly came up to school Tuesday afternoon and gave a short talk to the pupils of the upper rooms to jolly us up. He emphasized the fact that we should always do our best.

The teachers' association held in the high school building Dec. 1-2, was well attended by the teachers from all parts of the county. Splendid programs were rendered each day, and Prof. Searson of Peru gave a good lecture to an attentive audience Friday evening.

Prof. R.H. Watson attended the

Northwestern Teachers' Association which was held at Crawford on Dec. 1st and 2nd. The attendance was about twice the number it has ever been before. Prof. Watson was elected president of the association for the coming year.

A REVERIE.

There stands a little red palace
Way o'er in the east part of town,
With a garden and grasses surrounding,
And a broad brick walk running round.
There a king rules over his subjects
With a voice that is sweet in command;
A voice that I'll ever remember
Tho' I go the end of the lane,
I'll remember the lessons he's taught me;
How strove to be true in my heart,
My lessons from my dear old professor
Will never from my memory depart.
And when I've come out to my life work,
And my noisier years have been spent;
I'll be better able to see them
Why my will for his way should be bent.
In a few more months I'll be parted
From instructors and classmates near,
Never more among the rest of the pupils
Will my name ever appear.

Among those who will take my place
Will be many as worthy as I,
And I fear that I'll be forgotten
When years of time have passed by.
My dear place will be filled in the high school,
Never more may I call it mine,
I'll seek a place in the school of life
Such is the plan of the Divine.
—BESSIE GASKILL.

Gordon and Greeley.

(H. G. Lyon in Gordon Journal.)

Continued from last week.

At digging time a Dowden or Brown digger is used. Usually four pickers follow the digger. In every field we saw a Thompson sorter on runners, drawn along the row, and one man sorts and sacks in the field as fast as the pickers can dump them into the sorter. The sacks are then gathered up and hauled to market, if the price warrants, or they are hauled to monster caves or root houses for storage until the price warrants their moving. These caves are found on every farm and are a necessity to every man who raises potatoes, onions or cabbage. They are 32x100 feet and dug 3 to 4 feet deep in the ground and have a roof 8 to 10 feet high. They are covered with pine poles, hay and dirt and have large double doors at each end and a drive way 10 feet in width thro the center. On each side are bins for potatoes and onions, with spouts leading from the lower edge of roof. Wagons are driven thro these caves the entire length for loading or unloading potatoes. The incline is very slight. The capacity is 8,000 to 12,000 sacks or 16,000 to 24,000 bushels. They are made of large posts for uprights, ties and braces, and pine poles for top and roof. The cost varies from \$200 to \$400, depending upon the work hired done. This is one feature of the potato business to which we wish to call the especial attention of the sand hills grower—the absolute necessity of building these large caves or storage houses for the convenient and proper handling of the year's crop. Every sand hills potato grower ought to have a cave of this character. He cannot afford to be without it.

Then a potato sorter is also a necessity if we want our potatoes to go onto the market and command the price their high quality merits. Quality rather than quantity should be the mark to which the sand hills grower constantly strives to attain. It is in quality where we must excel and quality will in time bring its reward of high price and constant demand. No potatoes are shipped from Greeley in bulk, all are sacked. It is not uncommon to find 6,000 to 12,000 sacks stored in one cave, all of one man's raising, 12,000 to 24,000 bushels. Most of the Greeley potatoes are shipped south into Texas.

They import new seed every year. Most of this seed comes from Wisconsin and Minnesota, though they obtain considerable from the "Divide" in Colorado. They rotate their crops as follows: Two or three years in potatoes, followed by sugar beets one year, then sow to alfalfa with wheat and they get a good crop of wheat and a light crop of alfalfa the first year. Continued in alfalfa two years more and then plow up and

plant to potatoes again. Alfalfa makes the best fertilizer known. The farmers of Greeley also manure their land heavily and pay a dollar a load for all the manure they can obtain.

Sugar beets yield 18 to 28 tons per acre and sell at the factory in Greeley at \$5 per ton. They are raised by foreign labor, (Russians and Japs,) the price paid being \$22 per acre for thinning, weeding, cultivating, digging, topping and delivering on wagon. The factory in Greeley consumes 3000 tons daily and turns out the finished product.

Greeley has also two starch factories that consume the "culls" from the potato fields. They buy at present 12c per bushel for culls. On bushel of culls makes 9 pounds of starch. The cost of building and plant is \$25,000. They consume 3000 bushels per day to each factory. Onions and cabbage are also raised in large quantities and bring good prices. Another important industry among the Greeley farmers is feeding sheep. Beet tops, beet pulp and alfalfa hay make a well balanced ration and sheep thrive and fatten rapidly on this feed. Thousands of sheep are fed every fall and winter at Greeley. Thus it will be seen that there are many avenues to financial success open to the Greeley farmer and so far as we could see the farmers of that favored spot were on the highway to prosperity.

There are few openings for the poor man or the man of moderate means at Greeley. Land is too high in price for the poor man to even gain a foot-hold. All land eligible to irrigation is held at from \$100 to \$250 per acre. All considered, we believe there are greater opportunities for the poor man, the man of moderate means, or the man seeking an investment for his surplus cash in the farm lands of Northwest Nebraska, than in any other region of the West. Combined farming and stock raising is the surest and safest way to independence. Every acre of irrigated land would have to produce ten to twenty fold greater yield in crops than an acre of North-west Nebraska land, in order to yield as great a dividend on the investment. The facts are, that every acre of farm land tributary to Gordon, (or Valentine,) if cultivated as carefully and skillfully as are the irrigated lands of Colorado, will yield from three to five times greater dividends on the investment. Thousands of acres of land in the Gordon district have produced crops this year worth double, treble and even quadruple the price asked for the land. They did the same thing last year and the year before and they can be made to do the same thing every year with right methods of cultivation. Besides, nearly every farmer in the Gordon district has from one to three sections of land on which he can graze from 100 to 300 head of cattle and horses and have sufficient hay to keep them fat all through the winter, and his total investment will not equal the cost of 40 acres of irrigated land. We were not disappointed in what we saw at Greeley. The town and country are prosperous to a high degree and we confess we are infatuated with the place, but for some reason we returned to our farm at Gordon, better satisfied with the conditions here than ever before. This is true of every man who leaves this country for even a brief sojourn in other lands.

We have got more faith in the sand hills spud as a money maker than ever before, because it is the best there is and the American people always want the best of everything and are bound to have it. * * * * *

Strayed from Valentine, Nebr., about 10 days ago, two bay horses, one branded Z on left jaw, other has some brand on left shoulder. \$10 reward will be paid for their return to J. A. HOLLOMAN, Ft. Niobrara, Neb.

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