Matters in Nebraska.

NEWSY STATE BRIEFS.

During the president's brief visit to Hastings a gang of pickpockets successfully plied their vocation.

Mrs. C. J. Parker of Gage county was thrown from her buggy and sustained a fractured elbow and other bruises about the body.

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. Harlon of York county was celebrated at their farm home, six and one-half miles northeast of York, on April 25.

Articles of incorporation have been filed by Henry D. Deily and Hugo A. Leisy for the Wisner State bank. The new bank is to begin business with a capitalization of $25,000.

Dr. Carlisle, assistant physician at the asylum for chronic insane at Hastings, has handed in his resignation. At the request of Governor Mickey, the resignation takes effect at once.

John Kaffenberger, a wealthy farmer who resides near Plattsmouth, received word from the Wise Memorial hospital at Omaha to the effect that his son had died from the effects of an operation for appendicitis.

At a meeting of the voters of the Fairbury school district the board of education was requested to call a special election to decide the question of voting $25,000 bonds for the erection of a new high school building.

Schuyler Kellogg of Plattsmouth, a young man about 28 years of age, met with a serious accident while hunting for wolves on the farm with a 48-caliber rifle. The wound is serious, but not expected to prove fatal.

A credit association is soon to be organized in Plattsmouth. The object of the organization will be to learn the names of persons who are in the habit of running accounts with the merchants and neglecting to pay them.

By a decision of the state supreme court Mrs. Anna Dent has been awarded $5,000 damages for the death of her husband, James R. Dent, who was killed while employed as a lineman for the New Omaha Thomson-Houston Electric Light company.

The school district of the city of Omaha is out just $10,225 because the school board broke a contract with John McDonald, architect, the supreme court having affirmed the decision of the lower court. Commissioner Barnes wrote the opinion and it was concurred in by Commissioners Pound and Oldham.

Ralph Farrell, who represents the Beatrice Creamery company at Callaway, is confined to his bed, his feet having been badly burned by acid. He was unpacking a jar of acid for testing cream when the jar broke and the contents were spilled over his feet and legs. The doctors think they can save the feet.

The state board of health appointed Dr. S. R. Towne of Omaha state health officer, and reappointed Dr. B. F. Bailey of Lincoln as under secretary. The former office was created by the last legislature and carries with it a salary of $1,800 a year. Dr. Towne was elected to serve two years. Dr. Bailey was appointed to serve four years.

A movement is on foot in West Point to have the municipality purchase a block of land near the center of the city and erect thereon sheds and hitching posts for the accommodation of the teams of farmers visiting the city. The trade of the town is becoming so great that there is not room in the business streets or alleys for the teams of the patrons.

A party of surveyors, fourteen men, has arrived in Yutan to take off the new branch of the B. & M. to run from Ashland to Sioux City. A number of officials from the B. & M. or the Union Pacific have come to examine the work. Since there are two surveys, one on each side of the Platte, to connect Ashland with Fremont, there is a great deal of interest exhibited.

The latest step in the controversy between ex-Warden Davis and the Lee Broom and Duster company concerning the furnishing of convicts to work in the broom factory of the former came in the action of the supreme court, allowing the ex-warden to file a writ of mandamus to compel the warden of the penitentiary to furnish him with the men called for in his contract with the state board of public lands and buildings. His opposition base their action on the fact that his contract lacks the signatures of the governor and the warden of the penitentiary.

The supervisors of Knox county have let the contract for the construction of a 450-foot bridge across the Niobrara river three miles up the river from Niobrara at a cost of $5,500. This makes three bridges from within a distance of four miles from the mouth of the river.

William Graff of Seward was bound over to the district court to answer the charge of having voted fraudulently in the recent republican caucus. The specific charge is that he voted five times.

Peter Bohn, an old resident of York, left for Omaha last week. Mr. Bohn believes he is a near relative to the John Bohn who died at an Omaha hotel, leaving an estate worth something like $50,000, and is said to have no relatives known.

Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Canfield of Harvard celebrated their golden wedding at the home of their daughter, Mrs. C. F. Glazier. A number of their children and families were present and also quite a number of neighbors and friends.

ASSESSORS SEND IN FIGURES.

The Value that Will Be Placed on Property Over the State.

Auditor Weston is receiving from the various assessors the value that will be placed on property over the state for assessment purposes in answer to his request sent out some time ago. In some counties at least the assessment this year will be extremely low, much more so than last year. Cass and Cedar counties will assess land at one-fifth of its value. This will range from $10 to $20 per acre. Cherry, Knox and Dakota will assess at one-third of the value of land, being the highest rate of assessment yet sent in. In Knox county horses are valued at from $3 to $9 and cattle at one-third of their cash value. Douglas will assess on a sixth of the valuation, Hall county on from one-eighth to one-twelfth on all property, and Lancaster on one-fifth of the valuation. In Holt county hogs will be assessed 30 cents per hundred weight and sheep at 30 cents each. In Buffalo county land owners will pay taxes on land valued at from $1.25 to $6 an acre. Gage county, where land is worth from $70 to $100 an acre, will be assessed at $5 to $5.70 an acre. Cuming county land, which usually sells at $45 to $100 an acre, is valued for assessment purposes at $5 an acre. Horses in the same county at $6, cattle at $4 and sheep at 50 cents each.

LEAD AND COPPER.

A Find Along the Banks of the Niobrara River.

LYNCH, Neb.—E. L. Bowdish, an expert from the Cripple Creek mining district, has been here several days investigating the find along the breaks of the Niobrara river, where lead and copper ore have been found.

A strike of black galena was found, and in following this back about fifteen feet some very fine specimens of the ore were taken out.

In a test it was found that the ore contained 56 per cent lead and 33 per cent copper, and Bowdish believes that there is an abundance of it. It will run $80 to the ton.

An effort is now being made to organize a company here to open up the mines, but if this cannot be done within the next ten days the stock will be floated in some mining district.

Young Farmer is Suicide.

BROKEN BOW—August Roessler, a young man of about thirty years, committed suicide by shooting himself. He was living with his parents near Berwyn, on a farm. He had a farm of his own, stock and was well-to-do. His father had only a few minutes before called him up to breakfast, when he responded promptly and said he would be out in a few minutes. He partially dressed himself, took a shotgun that was in his room and blew his brains out. Ill health is assigned as the only possible reason.

Fremont Boy Killed.

FREMONT—A telegram received here says Ira Ainsworth, jr., formerly of this place, had been killed at Sinsor, Colo. No further particulars were given. Young Ainsworth was about 24 years of age and had lived here during the greater part of his life. About two years ago he went up in the Black Hills. He was a member of Fremont lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen, and was unmarried.

Labor Bureau Plans.

The department of labor and industrial statistics has outlined its plan of action for the coming biennium. Commissioner Bush is very much interested in the enforcement of the fire escape law and intends to devote a great part of his time to that subject, because he believes that a large per cent of the people, and especially the traveling public, demand some protection in this regard. He will also enforce child labor laws.

Seeks Enlarged Schools.

TECUMSEH—The new school board for the Tecumseh district will be organized during the first week in May. The matter of holding a special election to vote bonds for more school rooms will then be taken up. The schools are terribly crowded at present. The women can vote at the school election provided they have property assessed in their own name or children of school age.

Buys Carload of Honey Bees.

HUMBOLDT—Roy A. Wilson, representing the Watson ranch of 10,000 acres near Kearney, was in the city and contracted with Dr. J. L. Gandy for the delivery of a carload of honey bees at the ranch, where some experiments will be made with alfalfa as a honey producing plant. The ranch contains a 3,000-acre field of alfalfa, and the doctor maintains that the blossoms of this forage plant rank high as a honey producer.

Child Dies from Rattler's Bite.

GRANT, Neb.—William Christie's little girl died here from the bite of a rattlesnake. Although the ranch is nearly eight miles west, two physicians were in attendance, but could not save her.

Woman Killed by Train.

SUPERIOR—The northbound passenger train on the Santa Fe, near Talmage, Kan., struck a buggy and killed the woman who was driving.

Church "Allotments."

A novel method for the provision of a church is being put in operation at Norwood Green, near Leeds, England. A plan of the proposed site has been divided into allotments, and these are offered for sale, those in the chancel at £1 each, those in the nave at 10s. each, and those outside the church at 5s. each. When the site is secured purchasers will be able to identify the particular plot they have chosen. If all are sold, the sum will be just sufficient to cover the cost of the site—£201 5s.

A Wise M. D.

"Doctor," said the village gossip, "I'm troubled with that tired feeling. What would you advise me to do?"

"You might try five drops of chloroform on your tongue every half hour," replied the local pillmaker, as he winked his other eye.

Broke the Record of Ages.

Mr. F. Lat—Just performed the greatest feat of the age.

Mr. S. U. Burban—What's that!

Mr. F. Lat—Dropped my collar button, and saw where it fell.

POULTRY

Some Experience with Ducks.

From the Farmers' Review: Some years since I saw an ad in an exchange journal which read like this: "Would like to swap some first class Pekin ducks for B. P. R. cockerels," signed Mrs. ———. Well I had more cockerels than I needed, so wrote her about the ducks. You know I wanted a pedigree of her stock. In the course of a month full particulars came to hand. Well, we made a dicker, and I guess it was satisfactory, at least we will say so. We got two ducks and one drake. They were big ones to be sure, but about a month after I went out to feed them and one refused to eat feed. I did not think of anything very serious so as time went on duck No. 1 got better and the second one was attacked with the same affliction. As I was not acquainted with the diseases of that particular kind of fowl did not do anything for it and of course it died. I think the duck had kidney trouble, because it seemed to have a weak spine. The remaining one laid about 50 eggs, and as I do not have an incubator, I set the eggs under hens. After the little fellows were ready to be taken from the nest I put them under a coop with the hen mother drakes and kept 10 ducks for the next year's breeders, in the meantime purchasing two good drakes. And I figured like this, "if one duck and one drake will produce 24 ducks, 10 ducks and two drakes will produce ten times as many which is 240." They began laying about March 15, and in about a month we began to pick the ducks at regular intervals. This put a stop to the laying business. I set 150 eggs, and for the first week or so fed them "Johnnie Cake" and milk (rather dry, not sloppy) with fresh water to drink. After the first week I fed them on corn meal wet with water. Oh, I forgot to say that I fenced them in so they could get only so far from the coop. When fall came I had raised 24 ducks to maturity, sold off all the Some hatched out all right and some of the hens got tired of sitting and "flew the coop." The eggs became chilled; result, duck died in shell.

To make a long story short, I hatched out 75 and, as, we were all engaged in building a barn, the poultry business was neglected. In spite of bad weather, turtles, hawks, owls, rats, etc., we had one left when fall came and this one took sick and died. But nevertheless I am still in the Pekin duck business and believe it is as profitable as any kind of business where feathers are found. My motto is "Never give up."—Perry S. Hall, Summit County, Ohio.

It Depends on the Person.

C. S. Greene: Only in recent years has poultry keeping taken its place among recognized industries, as the bulk of the world's enormous supply of poultry and eggs has hitherto come from numerous small producers. The number of people who make a living out of the business are comparatively few compared with the small producer, but they are increasing rapidly, and to one who is naturally adapted to the business it is the most pleasant and profitable employment upon which he can enter. It is true that many have failed when they tried to keep poultry in large numbers. So they have in other pursuits. If a merchant, through his lack of ability, or because he is in a bad location, is obliged to close his store and hand the keys over to the sheriff, it is not saying that there is no money in the mercantile business. So it is with poultry. It all depends on the man, and his ability to make money. The poultry business is not one for children or invalids, but men and women are both making a success of it, and find it a pleasant and profitable vocation. To make the business a success a person must be an expert in the management of fowls. While it is true that many have started before they became experts and made a success of it, they have been willing to begin in a small way and grow in the business as their knowledge of the business increased.

Percolation of Soil Water.

We have all along believed that percolation of water was most rapid through sandy soil. Until recently a test had not been made to determine this definitely. It is, therefore, with a good deal of interest and surprise that we read of the results of the percolation tests carried on in California. Sandy soil, loam and adobe soils were placed in tubes, and the water allowed to percolate through from one end of each tube to the other. The experimenters confidently expected to see the water in the tube containing sandy soil complete its journey through the soil much more quickly than either of the others. Imagine the surprise of the experimenters when the percolation through the sandy soil was slowest of all. It required 62 hours longer for the moisture to permeate this tube (40 inches) than it did the adobe. The only explanation is that capillarity acted less in the sandy soil because of the smaller amount of what might be called capillary surface. The finer the soil the greater the amount of space in it that can carry moisture and the greater the expanse of the water film that covers the minute particles.

This points to the greater value of loam soil for agricultural purposes, especially where the land is to be irrigated and lateral percolation is desired. One of the great drawbacks in the use of sub-irrigation systems has been the slowness with which the water moved laterally. This test in California would seem to indicate that sub-irrigation would prove quite feasible on loam soils.

The Leaf Crumpler.

This insect infests apple, plum, cherry, peach and quince. It attacks the leaves and terminal buds, and when these fall, it eats away the tender bark and growing twigs. It reaches its growth from the middle to the last of May, when it is half an inch long and entirely green. In June it changes into a grayish moth. Egg-laying begins at once and in about a week the little brown caterpillars begin to appear and to feed upon the younger leaves. They begin to make tubes for themselves out of crumpled leaves and debris, and in the fall these are found hanging to the trees. A cheap and effective remedy is the spraying of the trees in the early spring just as the young leaves appear and before the blossoms open. Experiment has shown that a single spray of Paris green and lime (one pound of each to 150 gallons of water) applied at this season may destroy practically all leaf crumplers in time to prevent noticeable damage by them. In the fall and winter, the crumpled leaves should be picked from the bare trees.

AGRICULTURE

Spring Forage Crops.

From Farmers' Review: The economical growth of swine demands the use of some forage crop to supplement the clover or blue grass pasture. Such a variety should be used that will come in very early in the spring before the common grasses, and one that will extend farther into the late fall and winter. For the early spring and late fall forage, the Dwarf Essex rape seems to be especially suited. It also answers fairly well for summer feeding. Cow peas have also been proven to furnish most excellent food for swine during the summer months. Rape requires a warm, moist soil, rich in humus, and containing an abundance of plant food. Old pasture lands, thoroughly permeated with vegetation roots are considered exceptionally good soil for rape. However, rape may be grown to good advantage on any rich soil when broken rather deep and then made fine, firm and free from weeds or grass.

Rape may be sown broadcast or drilled in rows that permit the cultivator to be used later in the season. The latter plan requires less seed and, as a rule, produces a great deal more forage. For small, rich lots it is a great deal more convenient to sow broadcast and harrow the seed in. The amount of seed sown varies from five to seven pounds. More seed should be used as conditions are more unfavorable. If sown in rows from 18 to 24 inches apart, two to four pounds of seed per acre is required, planted about one inch deep; then cultivated while the plants are small, and immediately after they have been pastured or cut off. When broadcasted the seed should be well covered by cross harrowing. When rape is pastured do not turn on until the plant is 6 to 8 inches high. By means of hurdles confine the stock to definite portions of the field; then after all leaves have been eaten hurdle them in new quarters, continuing this process until the entire area has been gone over. If cut and thrown to stock as a soiling crop do not clip the stem too close to the ground, but about 4 inches high. Then, as in pasturing, go over the entire field cutting all the plants. The part first cut will now be ready to afford a second crop. If used for soiling purposes the rape should be planted very near the animals to be fed, as it is heavy and troublesome to carry very far. A great deal more forage is obtained where the plants are in rows and so harvested as to permit of shallow cultivation every time after plants have been cut down. Dwarf Essex rape is especially helpful to the swine and sheep growers. Hogs will eat it from the start and no amount seems to hurt them. Sheep should be turned on to fresh rape gradually, and when it is free from rain or dew; and should remain but a short time. Continue this method until they become accustomed to it. Good grass in the same field with rape is most excellent for sheep. If a large field of rape is sown and the stock turned into it a great deal of the forage is trampled under foot and many parts of the field will not be eaten down at all, which permits the plants to become old and tough. To get the best from rape let fast growing and fast eating be the motto.—W. B. Anderson.

A Philippine Experiment Station.

The United States government is establishing an experiment station in the Philippine islands. Already a part of the staff has reached the field, and a botanist, an agrostologist, an expert in soils, a superintendent of the farm and helpers are there at work. The experiment farms established by the Spanish government were visited. It was found that many of the buildings had been destroyed or been allowed to go to pieces, while the tools and farm machinery had been stolen or rendered useless through neglect. Already a number of farms have been established, one of which has 9,000 cocoanut trees on it. American machinery has been introduced, and natives are being taught to use it. About 700 intelligent native farmers have been given an aggregate of 18,000 packages of seeds and set to experimenting. Though naturally a fruit producing region, fruit growing has been entirely neglected in the past, the people being willing to take what nature gave. The experimenters will accomplish great things along this line. Field tillage and stock raising are to be stimulated, in spite of the rinder pest, which has been working havoc among the draft animals. Of the 70 million acres of land in the island, 65 million are owned by the government, which shows how little attention agriculture has so far received. Under wise direction, the Philippine archipelago will become a great agricultural commonwealth.

The Nubian Goat.

The Nubian goat is larger by half than the common species, and many who are unfamiliar with it take it at first glance for a horse, says George F. Thompson, in his book on "Angora Goat Raising." Below the top of the head the forehead rises so as to form a conical prominence, then sinks toward the nose until the nostrils are in an actual depression. The lower jaw protrudes beyond the upper, and the teeth oftentimes extend above the nostrils. The ears are flat, long, large and pendant. Sometimes, however, an individual is found with ears short, straight and pointed. There is an entire absence of beard. The females have no horns. Those of the male are flat and short and lie upon the back of the head. Midway, the horns are curved from within to without.

The udder is deeply indented, so as to form two very distinct lobes. The teats are situated, as in all species, upon the lower part of the udder, but in this breed upon the outside and below. The eyes are very large and lie flat in the head—do not protrude. The hair is usually quite long, deep brown or black, and quite fine. There is no odor connected with this breed. It is an exceedingly prolific animal, having been known to give birth to as many as 11 kids in one year. No member of the goat family is more gentle. This breed is very sensitive to the cold, apparently being unable to withstand even a slight degree. This necessitates a warm barn or goat house. They should never be sent to pasture when there is frost. We are informed that the slightest cold produces abortion. They are good milk producers, yielding from four to six quarts per day.

Agriculture is the foundation of civilization.

DAIRY

Preparing a Starter.

Oscar Erf, in an address before Indiana dairymen, said:

The preparation of a starter is as follows: Select three or four pint jars of the best milk that comes to the creamery, or, where opportunity affords, select the milk from several good cows; cover these jars and set them away in a warm place until the milk has coagulated. From these select the one that has developed the best sharp, acid taste, free from disagreeable odors and gas bubbles, and that shows a solid curd. A can of skim milk should then be heated to a temperature not exceeding 175 deg. F. for twenty minutes and cooled to 75 or 80 deg. F. The selected jar of milk is then added, and, after thoroughly mixing, the can is set in a place where the temperature can be kept at 75 or 80 deg. F. for twenty-four hours. A wooden tank, large enough to hold seven or eight times the amount of water occupied by the starter can, answers the purpose well for keeping this starter at a uniform temperature for a long time. The entire amount of the starter should be soured at the end of this period and apparently of the same flavor as that of the original selected jar. The starter is now ready for use, and an amount equal to 7 or 8 per cent of the cream to be ripened is added. By adding one or two quarts daily to fresh pasteurized milk it can be perpetuated to the extent of eight to ten days, depending on the cleanliness and the care taken in pasteurizing the skim milk.

This method of preparing a starter invariably brings good results. Quite often, however, simpler methods are proposed for preparing starters, such as leaving some cream in the vat and running the fresh cream with it, or by adding buttermilk to the cream; but these cannot be recommended, for they too often fail in producing the desired flavor.

Safe Prices for Butter.

We do not believe it to the advantage of farmers to have butter too high in price, just as we do not believe it to be to the advantage of the stock raiser to have meats too high in price. When butter is beyond 25 cents in the summer time it is at a point where the substitutes of butter are certain to be used to a considerable extent. This is not a condition to be hoped for. The nation is of more importance than the individual, and while the butter maker wants to get as much as possible for his product, he also has an interest in having good wholesome butter within the reach of all. When butter is selling beyond 20 cents it is at a point where the farmer can make money if he has the right kind of cows. It is possible to keep such poor cows that every pound of butter would cost 50 cents, but we cannot reasonably be expected to figure on such cows. We take the reasonably good cow of the intelligent farmer, and assert that with her there is a profit in selling butter at 20 cents a pound. In the months when the cows have to be kept up there is profit in selling butter at from 25 to 30 cents per pound. Butter in the West should never retail at more than 30 cents per pound, and will not when we have disposed of all the poor cows and filled their places with good ones. The consumer of butter may think that he does not care what kind of cows the farmer has, but if he but knew it he has a very material interest in the question. Butter is high because of the great cost of producing butter fat due to poor quality in the cows.

Pig Pasture.

Provide a shallow trough with oat meal, soaked corn and a little milk, as soon as the pigs are inclined to run around the pen, said H. P. West, in an address to Wisconsin farmers. Put it where the pigs can have access to it and the sow cannot. Get the sow and pigs in clover pasture as soon as you can. Do not wean the pigs. If they are properly fed they will wean themselves at eight or ten weeks old. Turn all the grass and green feed you can into pork. It is cheap feed. It does not rob the farm of anything; you are selling your grass at a good price and it benefits the health of the hog. Swine breeders who have no clover or fall rye pasture to turn their pigs into this spring are studying the problem of some early pasture; something that will afford green feed earlier than usual. I think nothing can be grown quicker and turned into sooner for green feed than barley. It should not be sown until danger of frost is over. It does not stand as much tramping by stock as rye. I consider rye, rape, peas and oats, sown by themselves in strips through the field, the ideal pig pasture, if you don't have clover. I try to have my lots so arranged that they contain from one to three acres each.

Skim Milk as Pig Feed.

Gordon H. True of the Arizona station, in a bulletin to Arizona swine growers, said: A year ago at the experiment station farm we were feeding steers, four of which were fed grain hay and two of them had a small ration of rolled barley. We were selling our milk to a neighbor for less than the cost of hauling the milk to the factory because no money was available for the purchase of animals to which to feed it. So arrangements were made with a neighbor for a couple of pigs to feed "on shares." The pigs weighed 81 pounds each when they came to the farm. They followed the steers and were fed skim milk. In 113 days they ate 6,000 pounds of skim milk, gained 248 pounds in weight and increased $16.12 in value with pork at 6.5 cents a pound. They thus paid for their skim milk at the rate of 26.7 cents per hundred. This is how your station got its start in the pig business. Skim milk did it.

Honor Revolutionary Patriot.

There has just been placed in the synagogue of the Spanish and Portuguese congregation, Seventieth street, New York, a bronze tablet in memory of the Rev. Gershom Mendez Seixas, its minister from 1766 until 1816. During the revolutionary war Mr. Seixas took most of his congregation to Philadelphia until after the evacuation.

If clover is left uncut, as many do, until the bloom turns brown, the stem becomes woody, much of the finer and most valuable parts are lost in the curing and handling, and, should it be caught out in heavy rains, it is really of comparatively little value. When cut in the early stages of bloom, rain does but little harm, if tended soon after a shower and put up before it gets too dry.

Proper rotation and handling of soils will prevent their deterioration.

LIVE STOCK

American Royal Live Stock Show.

From the Farmers' Review: The American Royal Live Stock Show to be held at Kansas City, Mo., next October will be much more comprehensive than any live stock show ever before held in that city. At a meeting of the executive committee April 2, it was decided to admit the sheep breeders and breeders of draft and coach horses to the show. This will insure a larger variety of purebred animals than was ever shown here before. There will be Hereford, Shorthorn, Galloway and Angus cattle, at least four breeds of swine, four or five breeds of sheep, Angora goats, and several breeds of draft and coach horses. The show will be held at the stock yards October 19-24 inclusive. Prizes aggregating $25,000 will be offered, and it is expected that a number of special prizes will be added. At the meeting it was decided that the sale of Galloways would be held on Tuesday, Aberdeen-Angus on Wednesday, Herefords on Thursday and Shorthorns on Friday. It was also decided to offer the prizes donated by the Kansas City Stock Yards Company, aggregating $2,000, for exhibits of grade feeders, to be divided equally among the four breeds. Range-bred feeders will not compete with corn-fed animals. It was recommended that the 98th meridian be adopted by the several breeds as the dividing line between the range-bred cattle and the native corn-fed cattle. The directors of the show were unanimous in inviting the swine breeders to participate in the show. Swine associations that wish to enter the show must signify their intention to do so by July 1. It is practically settled that the Berkshire, Poland-China, Duroc-Jersey and Ohio Chester White associations will participate. Breeders of coach and draft horses have signified their desire to enter the show, and have given assurances that they will make a large exhibit. One firm of breeders and importers of draft horses has expressed its intention of entering 30 animals. Those who attended the meeting of April 2 were: C. E. Leonard, Bellair, Mo., president; T. J. Wornall, Liberty, Mo., secretary and treasurer; Charles R. Thomas, Chicago, general manager; B. O. Cowan, Springfield, Ill; W. C. McGavock, Mt. Pulaski, Ill.; and George Stevenson, Jr., Waterville, Kan., member of executive committee; Eugene Rust, general manager, and W. H. Weeks, general agent of the Kansas City Stock Yards Company; W. T. McIntire, secretary of the American Angora Goat Breeders' Association; and John M. Hazelton, in charge of the publicity department of the show.—Jno. M. Hazelton.

Hog Houses.

Prof. R. S. Shaw of the Montana Experiment Station has this to say on hog houses:

Various improvised and inexpensive shelters are being used in this state, from the dugout in the hillside to the pole shelter covered with straw and the building made of logs. While any of these may provide shelter during the milder portion of the year, their use can in no wise prove satisfactory throughout. They are too apt to be dark, damp, filthy and drafty. The pole structure with a straw covering may be used as a temporary shelter or for sleeping quarters of for feeding hogs during the milder season, but for breeding quarters their use cannot be recommended. The log building is in most common use. Its greatest fault is its inability to retain the chinking. As a result the structure soon becomes open and drafty. A properly planned and well constructed frame building gives the best results. Its use is almost absolutely necessary where winter breeding is practiced. The building site should be high and dry, so that surface water will drain away at all times. If possible the location should be in close proximity to the small fields that are to produce the forage crop. If a natural water supply can be diverted so as to pass through the yards so much the better. It is desirable that the hog house should face the south, and that each pen should open into a small enclosure fenced off, preferably with wire netting. By this means when a number of sows are confined with young pigs during the winter season they can have access to protected, sunny yards.

Cement Floors in Cow Stables.

At a recent convention in Wisconsin, Professor W. L. Carlyle of the State University expressed himself in favor of wooden floors in standing places for the cows. He said that at the university barns he had covered the cement floors with boards, as the cows had been afflicted with rheumatism when standing and lying on the cement. After the cement was covered with boards the rheumatism disappeared. The board flooring is joined in sections, which can be easily taken up when the barn is cleaned. We invite discussion of this matter in the columns of the Farmers' Review. It is really an important question. The use of the cement has made it possible to keep cow stables in a better condition as to cleanliness than ever before. Now if we have to give up the cement for standing places for the cows, it will be a step backward in dairy matters. Wooden floors absorb moisture, including urine. In a short time they are permeated with the stable odors. They cannot be as thoroughly cleaned as can cement. With the latter a daily drenching with water may be given. The daily removal of board floors for cleaning purposes is impracticable except at an experiment station, where labor does not have to be conserved to make the right kind of a balance on the books. We request the experiences of all those that have had cement floors in their stables where the cows stand.

Sheep Shearing Festival.

On Friday, April 17, 1903, there will be held at the Ohio State University at Columbus, in connection with the Department of Agriculture, a sheep shearing festival. The purpose of this is purely educational. Sheep shearing machines will be exhibited and used, and there will be both expert and amateur exhibitions of shearing by machine and with hand shears. A quantity of sheep have been provided for this purpose, and every effort will be made to make the day one of profit and pleasure to those who may be able to be present. A fund of money has been provided for the prize competitions, so that there will be special incentives to take part in the contests It is hoped that there will be a lively participation in these contests. Those wishing to take part, will do a favor by so informing C. S. Plumb, Ohio State University, Columbus, that they may be enrolled for the competition.

Campfire Tales

Let's Pretend.

Let's pretend that you and I
Have no real cause to cry
At the stones that bruise us so
In the pathway we are treading—
Tired, tired feet are treading—
We are dancing as we go,
Like we used to long ago,
Let's pretend.

But can you and I rejoice
With the echo of that voice,
With its mournful rise and fall,
Calling, calling, calling, calling?
Hope is dead—can it be calling?
'Tis no voice we hear at all,
'Tis a lonely bittern's call,
Let's pretend.

Does it matter, when 'tis done,
If the race be lost or won?
We have gained something, say I,
If we've just been trying—
Though our heart burst trying—
I can look you in the eye!
It will come right by and by,
Let's pretend.

Confederates Long-Lived.

A statement in one of the newspapers that J. L. M. Curry, who has just died, and Judge Reagan of Texas, who is still alive, were the last survivors of the men who sat in the Confederate congress has called out from the Norfolk Ledger the correction that John Goode of Virginia is still alive. The Montgomery, Ala., Advertiser makes another addition to the list—Henry C. Jones, John P. Ralls and James L. Pugh, all of the Advertiser's own state. The Nashville American cites two other persons as Confederate congress survivors—Dr. Thomas O. Menees and Col. A. S. Colyar, both of Tennessee, the Colonel, who is writing a biography of Jackson and who is a frequent contributor to the Nashville and Memphis newspapers, being the liveliest sort of a live person.

These Southern newspapers are forgetting the biggest of all the living men who served in the congress of the Confederacy—George G. Vest of Missouri. True, the Senator's state did not secede. In fact, it decided, by a majority of 80,000, against secession. But Missouri had some very ardent secessionists in high places in its government. Among these were Gov. Claiborne F. Jackson and Lieut.-Gov. Thomas C. Reynolds. Jackson called a rump legislature in session in Neosho, in the southwestern part of the state, where it could be protected by Price's army, in the latter part of 1861, and that body made a pretense of taking Missouri out of the Union. John B. Clark and R. L. Y. Peyton were elected Senators from Missouri to the Congress at Richmond and a full quota of persons were sent to the House of Representatives in the same city, among them being George G. Vest, who was a member of the Missouri legislature at that time, and enthusiastically in favor of secession.

All this goes to show that the members of the Confederate government were a pretty long-lived race of men. Every man who sat at Lincoln's council table has been dead for years past, but John H. Reagan, Jefferson Davis's Postmaster General, who is getting along toward the 90-year mark, is one of the briskest of Texans. Several men are or were in the United States Congress who were there during parts of the Civil war days, among them being Grow of Pennsylvania, who stepped down from Congress on March 4 last, and Allison of Iowa and Stewart of Nevada.

It will probably be found that, in proportion to the numbers in the two bodies, there are to-day more survivors of Davis's than of Lincoln's Congress. Longstreet, Gordon and other commanders of high rank on the Southern side are still alive, while Mosby, in his recent fights against the cattle bandits of the plains, has been showing a little of the activity which he displayed forty years ago in the Shenandoah Valley.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The Matron's Speech.

In the "Memories of a Hospital Matron" a writer who was head of a Confederate hospital during the war, relates this exciting incident:

"Our steward, a meek little man, came to me one day, pale with fright, and said that the convalescents had stormed the bakery, taken out the half-cooked bread and scattered it about the yard, beaten the baker and threatened to hang the steward. I hurried to the scene to throw myself into the breach before the surgeon should arrive with the guard and arrest the offenders. I found the new bakery leveled to the ground and 200 excited men clamoring for the bread which, they declared, the steward withheld from them from meanness or stole for his own benefit.

"'And what do you say of the matron?' I asked, rushing among them. 'Do you think that she, through whose hands the bread must pass, is a party to the theft? Do you accuse me, who have nursed you through months of illness, making you chicken soup when we had not seen a chicken for a year, forcing an old breastbone to do duty for months for those unreasonable fellows who wanted to see the chicken; me, who gave you a greater variety in peas than was ever known before and who lately stewed your rats when the cook refused to touch them? And this is your gratitude! You tear down my bakehouse, beat my baker and want to hang my steward!'

"To my surprise the angry men laughed and cheered. A few days later there came to me a 'committee' of two sheepish-looking fellows to ask my acceptance of a ring. Each of the poor men had subscribed something from his pittance, and their old enemy, the steward, had been sent to town to make the purchase. Accompanying the ring was a bit of dirty paper on which was written: 'For our chief matron, in honor of her brave conduct on the day of the bread riot.'"—Atlantic Monthly.

"Old Glory."

Many persons think, perhaps, that the term, "Old Glory," as applied to our national flag, "just grew," like Topsy, but there is on record an authentic account of the fact that it was christened so in the year 1831.

In the history of the Driver family of Salem, Mass., it is related that Capt. William Driver of the ship Charles Doggett was at one time preparing for a voyage to the south Pacific ocean, when some of his fellow-townsmen came on board the vessel and presented him with a very handsomely made flag.

The flag was done up in "stops," and when it was hauled to the masthead and broken out to the breeze Capt. Driver called it "Old Glory." It is possible that he had heard someone else use the term, but if so, he seems to have given no intimation of the fact, for the story credits him with inventing it.

Capt. Driver took the flag to the south Pacific with him and kept it with great care even after he left the sea. At the time of the outbreak of the civil war he was living in Nashville, Tenn., and "Old Glory," the original, used to kiss the breeze from a window of his house every day, for he was a stanch Union man.

When Tennessee joined the confederacy, however, he had to keep the flag hidden, and the place he selected was inside a big bed comfort, where it lay until the latter part of February, 1862, when the Union troops entered Nashville. He then brought it out and offered it to Gen. Nelson, to be hauled up over the capitol. The general accepted the offer and Capt. Driver himself hoisted the flag. So highly did he value it, that he watched it during the night, and when a strong wind came up he hauled it down and hoisted a new one in its place.

The captain treasured "Old Glory" religiously, and when he died, in 1886, it was sent to the Essex institute at Salem, Mass., where it may now be seen.

Square Meal in the Confederacy.

"When I got into the town of Spartanburg, S. C., in the closing days of the Confederacy, I realized that our cause was lost, and my idea was to get out of the country, cross the Rio Grande, and join the Liberal faction in Mexico," said Col. Philip B. Thompson, the noted Kentuckian.

"I was feeling very hungry when I struck the town in the early morning hours, and made up my mind that I'd ask the lady of the first house I struck that had any appearance of prosperity to give me a bite of breakfast. I picked upon an aristocratic brick mansion, and, putting on a bold front, marched up to the front door. In answer to my knock a well-dressed negro butler came and civilly asked my business. I told him I wanted a word with his mistress, and pretty soon a very handsome lady, elegantly attired, came and listened patiently while I told her that only the pangs of hunger drove me to ask a breakfast.

"'I will willingly ask you to eat,' said she, 'if you can put up with our poor fare. We had scarcely anything ourselves, and I am ashamed to invite you to the table, but if you are so hungry perhaps you can put up with what we have.' I followed her most willingly, and was ushered into a spacious dining-room. The table was spread with a snowy linen cloth; there was plenty of silverware, the real thing, and more cut glass than I had ever seen.

But what do you suppose the meal consisted of? A single item—a plate of corn bread. Not a blessed thing besides this bread; no meat, no coffee, no milk—not the suspicion of another dish. Hungry as I was, I ate a good-sized chunk of the bread, and on leaving heaped blessings on the head of my benefactress, but I've never ceased to wonder at the paucity of that breakfast menu, as so oddly contrasted with the fine home and its luxurious furnishings."

Justice for Veterans.

The late United States Congress passed a bill increasing the pensions of the survivors of the Mexican war, fought over fifty-five years ago, from $8 to $12 a month. The bill has been signed by the President. This pension is without regard to wounds or length of service. There are only 3,500 survivors of that war left, and the youngest of them is past 75 years of age. This bill is all right, only it should have been passed twenty years ago. It is a move in the right direction, and we hope that it will open the eyes of some of our Congressmen in their next session, to the necessity of passing a bill on the same lines for the benefit of the veterans of the civil war, and to do it at once, in order that a large number may be benefited by it. A service pension such as that proposed by Senator N. B. Scott of West Virginia, would be acceptable to the old veterans and would do them, at least, scant justice. Let every old comrade make it a point to see that his representative in Congress insists upon the passage of such a bill, and it will soon be carried through.—New York Press.

Just an Incident of Warfare.

"In one of the early campaigns, when our regiment had the advance," said a veteran recently, "there was a sharp skirmish in the brush and our boys supposed the rebs had retreated when they saw not three hundred yards away a head thrust out of the brush and quickly withdrawn. In a minute the head came out again and again, and suspecting an ambush the skirmishers opened fire on the thicket and charged. They found they had killed a boy not more than 12 years old, who had been sent out from his home not fifty yards away to give the Union troops a warning of a heavy cavalry force moving on a parallel road. The boys grieved more over the shooting of that boy than over the hundreds of men killed at Chickamauga."

Dick Gower's Fighting System.

Lincoln's great good sense was shown in his making Dick Gower a lieutenant in the regular army. Dick had shown his bravery and his capacity among the western Indians, but was rejected by the board of military martinets at Washington, because he "did not know what an abattis, or echelon, or hollow square, was."

"Well," sharply said the dilettante officer with a single eye-glass. "What would you do with your command if the cavalry should charge on you?"

Dick was there. "I'd give them hell, that's what I'd do; and I'd make a hollow square in every mother's son of them." Lincoln signed his commission, and Dick made a famous soldier."—National Magazine.

Last of Lincoln's Bodyguard.

Daniel V. Colclazier, who celebrated his 88th birthday in February last, is the sole survivor of President Lincoln's bodyguard. He also enjoys the distinction of having been born on Feb. 15, 1815, the day that the news of the declaration of peace between Great Britain and the United States reached this country, at the close of the War of 1812. Mr. Colclazier lives at present in Washington, with his son, Henry C. Colclazier. At his recent birthday celebration he entertained many of his children and grandchildren with reminiscences of the city of Washington during the days of the civil war, when he was so intimately associated with President Lincoln.