

SWEETEST SMILES OF CERES

They are Bestowed on the Farmers of Nebraska.

THE OUTLOOK NEVER BETTER.

All Small Grains are in Fine Condition, While Corn Promises Even Better Than Last Year—Fruit in Abundance.

Nebraska Farmers Happy.

The following reports in the condition of the crops are from The Bee's special correspondents. The outlook could hardly be more encouraging for cereals of all kinds. Corn is in an especially fine condition. The small grains are suffering slightly in a few localities on account of dry weather but with the recent heavy rains they promise a harvest almost if not fully up to the best of former years. Fruit of all kinds is yielding in abundance.

Adams.

JUNIATA, Neb., June 15.—All crops are looking unusually well and there is a larger acreage than last year. Fruit is also promising. Following is the number of acres in this (Juniata) township: Wheat 2,217; corn, 6,409; oats, 3,498; hay, 521.

Brown.

AINSWORTH, Neb., June 15.—The farmers of Brown county are more than pleased with the present prospects for a heavy yield of small grain. The weather has been very kind during the past few weeks. The corn crop is not far enough advanced to report at present. The wheat crop is about the average for this season. The prospects are excellent for the future. There have been excellent rains during the past week and the weather is very favorable for growing crops.

JOHNSTON, Neb., June 15.—In this, the western part of Brown county, there is estimated to be about 5,000 acres of corn, 4,000 acres of oats and 3,500 acres of wheat, an increase of about 25 per cent as compared with last season. Crops of all kinds are in a very good condition. There has been plenty of rain, and it seemed to come just when it was wanted. All small grain will need but little rain in as the ground is now thoroughly soaked. Farmers are all pleased with the prospects and say their chances are better for a bountiful crop than they have been for five years.

LONG PINE, Neb., June 15.—The great crop of Brown county this year will be wheat. The small grains are in a fine condition, and from the appearance of it now every one predicts 30 to 35 bushels per acre. All other crops are looking well—corn particularly. There is three feet high now. The great amount of wheat sown was due to the fact that the three mills at Long Pine are paying 85 cents per bushel and it is only 75 cents in Chicago.

Box Butte.

ALLIANCE, Neb., June 15.—The acreage of corn, wheat and oats and other crops in Box Butte county is double that of 1888. There is planted 18,952 acres of corn, 8,211 acres of wheat, 7,880 acres of oats, with about two thousand acres in potatoes and about two thousand acres in flax, making a total of 39,044 acres. This is a fair average for the county. The crop is in a fine condition, and the weather is favorable for more than an average yield.

Boone.

CEDAR RAPIDS, Neb., June 15.—The assessor's returns for Cedar precinct show the following acreage of crops: Corn, 9,539; wheat, 1,633; oats, 3,255; flax, 841. This is an increase of nearly two thousand acres over last year. The bountiful rains which have fallen recently give every assurance of good crops. There are 618 acres of corn, 231 acres of forest trees, 11,657 fruit trees and 1,991 grape vines, with an increase of \$30,000 valuation. The returns from this precinct will indicate a fair average for the county, showing not only a large increase in crop acreage, but at the same time a healthy increase in valuation. The weather is very prosperous, as exhibited by the improvements.

Butler.

BRAINARD, Neb., June 15.—It is estimated by reliable authorities that the acreage in this precinct of corn, wheat and oats is 20 per cent larger than last year. Crops of all kinds are doing well.

Buffalo.

GIBBON, Neb., June 15.—Below are the returns of the assessor for Gibbon township: Corn, 5,600 acres, about the same as last year; oats, 3,000 acres, an increase of 20 per cent as last year. The condition of wheat is 100, of oats 100, of corn 30. The recent cool and wet weather kept the corn from growing rapidly, but it is in good stand, and a few warm days such as we are having now will bring it up to 100.

Burt.

CRAG, Neb., June 15.—The increase in acreage in this county of corn is about 10 per cent, of wheat 20 per cent, of oats 25 per cent. Small grain has suffered some from drought, but recent rains have brought it out wonderfully. Corn looks well and promises a big yield.

Hammer.

CENTROVILLE, Neb., June 15.—The crop acreage of every kind is about double that of last year in this new county. The remarkable wet spring and cool weather have put small grains in a fine condition. Corn has been a little slow on account of the cool weather, but the last few days have been very warm, and corn is springing up rapidly. The acreage of corn is 5,000 acres, an increase of about 20 per cent as follows: Corn, 25,000 acres; wheat, 7,000; oats, 7,000; millet, 15,000. The continued wet weather is considered a fair average for the county. Nebraska. Only a very few days have passed during the last month and a half without heavy rains.

Chace.

LAMAR, Neb., June 15.—Crops of all kinds look well. Forty per cent of wheat is sown this year than last and many pieces look as well as any that can be found in the east. There is about 30 per cent more of oats than in the growing season of last year. Corn is a little late, but has a good color and is making rapid growth now. The potato crop is in a fine condition. The corn over last year's planting and looks well. Not much rye is sown. Sorghum is planted quite extensively for winter feeding and does well. The buffalo grass is putting on a good heavy growth and cattle and horses fatten rapidly on it. Very little tame grass is sown yet, but those who have ventured the experiment have had good success. Braking sod is the employment now.

Cass.

PLATTSBURGH, Neb., June 15.—Crops in Cass county never looked better than they do now. The acreage is about the same as last year. Corn is 10 to 15 per cent better than that of last year at this time. Wheat, oats, barley and rye are looking fine and will average about the same as last year. The hay crop will be better than for many years. Potatoes will be plenty. All other small fruits look promising.

Collins.

CLARKSON, Neb., June 15.—The acreage of corn in this county is 10 per cent greater than was last year. Wheat and oats show a marked decrease in acreage over last year. The corn crop was never better or presented a finer prospect at this season of the year, though it is needing rain badly now. Wheat and oats are materially injured by the dry weather. Unless it rains soon small grain will not be more than half crop.

Clay.

HARVARD, Neb., June 15.—There will be a very little increase in acreage of corn this year. There will be a slight increase probably in the corn and oats acreage, and a decrease in the wheat acreage. The reports from the other four precincts are not in yet, but it is fair to presume that they will average with the above. The acreage will be larger this year than last.

Fairfield.

FAIRFIELD, Neb., June 15.—The prospect

for crops of all kinds was never better in Clay county than it is to-day. The weather was dry in the early spring, so that farmers were enabled to get their crops in, in good season. The small grains are in a fine condition, followed by warm weather. Assessor's returns are not in yet, but there is apparently a largely increased acreage of ground under cultivation this year. This is especially true in regard to corn. EARL, Neb., June 15.—The acreage of corn planted this year is but little, if any, in excess of last year. The acreage in Clay county will exceed 100,000 acres. Corn is generally looking well, though considerable planting has to be done on account of the wet weather in May. Oats, wheat and barley are looking fine, and a large average, especially of oats, has been sown. REYNOLDS, Neb., June 15.—The acreage of corn in this county is fully up to the average, but the prospects are that at least 10 per cent damage will result from the ravages of the corn borer. There is a good deal of old corn in the farmers' cribs. Of oats, the acreage is much greater. The grain has a very heavy straw, and is heading early. Of wheat, the acreage is less, but the prospects are the best ever known. Of rye, the acreage is less, but the prospects are the best ever known. The only danger to small grain is rust.

Custer.

ANSELMA, Neb., June 15.—The following is for Victoria township: Wheat, 1,200 acres; oats, 1,400 acres; corn, 7,000 acres; flax, several hundred acres.

Dawson.

LEXINGTON, Neb., June 15.—The acreage of wheat in this county is about 20 per cent larger than last year. The crop is looking fine and promises large yields. Oats are promising large returns with the acreage about the same as last year. The corn crop is about the average for this season. The prospects are excellent for the future. There have been excellent rains during the past week and the weather is very favorable for growing crops.

DeWitt.

DEWITT, Neb., June 15.—The acreage of wheat in this county is about 20 per cent larger than last year. The crop is looking fine and promises large yields. Oats are promising large returns with the acreage about the same as last year. The corn crop is about the average for this season. The prospects are excellent for the future. There have been excellent rains during the past week and the weather is very favorable for growing crops.

Franklin.

FRANKLIN, Neb., June 15.—The increase of acreage of crops of all kinds in the county over 1888 is fully one-third. Some declare it to be more. I should say that the increase over 1888 is a fair estimate. The general condition of crops is better than ever before. There has been more rain this season than ever before.

Lancaster.

LANCASTER, Neb., June 15.—Following is an official report of crops in this county, taken from the assessors' books from the various precincts: Corn 155,073 acres, wheat 3,223 acres, oats 43,174 bushels. Crops are all in splendid condition. Wheat and corn are in meadows are well ahead and growing fast. The bountiful rains have kept all the fields green and in a fine condition. Corn is all up and there never was a better prospect for an immense crop at this time of the year. Most of it is being plowed now for the second time.

Merrick.

PALMER, Neb., June 15.—Recent rains have put Merrick county's crops in a fine condition. Corn and small grain of all kinds are doing well. The acreage under cultivation is but little in excess of previous years.

Nuckolls.

NELSON, Neb., June 15.—The assessor's books of Nuckolls county show an increase in acreage of all crops planted, and everything is looking its best for several years. Oats look as if they would turn out a very large crop. The corn is doing well, although a little backward from so many cool nights. The county shows 2,863 acres of wheat, 70,715 acres of corn, 16,851 acres of oats, and 1,152 acres of rye, besides considerable millet, meadow and potatoes.

Otoe.

NEBRASKA CITY, Neb., June 15.—The corn acreage is fully one-third larger than last year, while small grain is nearly as much less. Corn, wheat and oats, and in fact all grain, is in splendid condition. Everything in the nature of an agricultural product gives promise of an extraordinary yield, and farmers say that not within the history of Otoe county has the general crop outlook been so fine.

Platte.

COLUMBUS, Neb., June 15.—Crops in Platte county were never in a finer condition than they are now. The recent rains have brightened the prospects for a good crop. The assessor's returns show the acreage of corn to be 83,247 acres, 10,435 acres more than last year. The increase of corn is only a small increase over last year; oats 76,895 acres, 12,250 acres more than last year. More flax has been sown than during any previous year. The acreage of barley has not increased. The fruit crop never looked better. About three-fourths of the fat cattle have gone to market from this section.

Perkins.

GRANT, Neb., June 15.—The number of acres of crops in this county is 10,000; corn, 5,000; oats, 1,888, 3,000 acres; 1889, 4,000 acres. Rye, 1888, 1,000 acres; 1889, 1,500 acres. The condition of all crops at this time is very good indeed, especially with regard to wheat. The season continues as it is the yield of wheat per acre will approximate twenty bushels.

Red Willow.

MCCOOK, Neb., June 15.—All crops near here look fine, and the estimate of acreage is more than double that of last year. We have had a very heavy rain. Wheat and oats promise a big yield. There has been enough rain to insure a crop of small grain. Corn is growing fast.

Sherman.

LOUP CITY, Neb., June 15.—The acreage of grain sown in Sherman county this year is: Wheat 7,100, corn 30,000, oats 10,000. The acreage in corn is fully 10 per cent increase over that of last year. Up to the 1st of June the rainfall had been very light, but it was looking badly, but the frequent showers this month have soaked the ground up, excepting in one or two sections of the Loup valley, where but little rain has fallen, and it is growing rapidly, but will not recover fully and will probably be about a two-thirds crop. The corn crop promises to be heavy, as rain came on just at the right time, and is bringing it forward rapidly. Some farmers are planting on one side of the field and on the other side are plowing that first planted. The acreage in rye is very light, but it is already heading out and will yield heavily.

Sheridan.

RUSHVILLE, Neb., June 15.—A careful and conservative estimate from reliable sources indicates that there is about 30,000 acres of wheat fully 30,000 acres, an increase over last year of at least 100 per cent. In corn there are 20,000, a slight increase over last

year. In oats there are at least 10,000 acres, with an increase in acreage of probably 50 per cent over last year. There is also a large increase in the amount of barley and other small grains. Since the county was organized, five years ago, there has never been so large an acreage in crops, nor has so good a prospect, as at this time. There has been rain all in abundance—more than has been needed, though not to the injury of the crops as yet—and small grain will now mature well without another shower.

Keith.

PAXTON, Neb., June 15.—Following is a statement of the acreage of crops sown in this county this year: Wheat 5,104, oats 4,364, rye 656, barley 303, millet 1,184, potatoes of corn 8,068.

Goallala.

GOALLALA, Neb., June 15.—The prospects for an abundant crop in western Nebraska has never been equalled at this time of the year. Rain has been frequent and abundant. The spring was very early and crops are all well advanced, and within the next few days farmers will be in the midst of harvest.

Keya Paha.

MUST, Neb., June 15.—In the eastern portion of this county, less wheat has been sown than in any former year, although there has been some sowing of corn, which will well and promise a fair yield. There was a good deal of fair rye sown which, owing to the extremely dry fall, did not germinate. A very large acreage of spring rye was sown and is now in head, and with the frequent rains we are having will produce a good crop. A larger area has been sown to oats than last year. The corn crop is in a fine condition. The corn area is much larger. It has come up well and looks fine. The ground is green and in a fine condition. The corn is all up and there never was a better prospect for an immense crop at this time of the year. Most of it is being plowed now for the second time.

Lincoln.

NORTH PLATTE, Neb., June 15.—The increase of acreage of crops of all kinds in the county over 1888 is fully one-third. Some declare it to be more. I should say that the increase over 1888 is a fair estimate. The general condition of crops is better than ever before. There has been more rain this season than ever before.

Loup.

CHADRON, Neb., June 15.—From as reliable sources as possible the total acreage of the following cereals in Dawes county is as follows: Wheat, 23,889 acres; corn, 30,432; oats, 3,840. The crops are all in splendid condition. Wheat and corn are in meadows are well ahead and growing fast. The bountiful rains have kept all the fields green and in a fine condition. Corn is all up and there never was a better prospect for an immense crop at this time of the year. Most of it is being plowed now for the second time.

Rock.

ROSETT, Neb., June 15.—The crops of Rossett county are in a fine condition. The rainfall has been ample. The acreage of corn is not so large as in 1888, but there is a gain of 10 per cent in the acreage of wheat. Cereals are the chief products. Oats, rye and barley look well and promise a good crop.

York.

GRESHAM, Neb., June 15.—The condition of crops in this locality is very encouraging. The crops are all in a fine condition. The rainfall has been ample. The acreage of corn is not so large as in 1888, but there is a gain of 10 per cent in the acreage of wheat. Cereals are the chief products. Oats, rye and barley look well and promise a good crop.

MARRIAGE IN RUSSIA.

A Fashionable Ceremony Described—Love Matches the Rule.

The Russians generally marry quite young in the upper classes, and amongst country people even at an earlier age; and to the honor of this society be it said, love matches are the rule, and marriages for money are very rare indeed. Dowry-hunting and marriages of interest have not yet made their appearance in Russian marriages. Girls of aristocratic position readily marry young officers of the guard, who furnish the largest contingent of dancers to the balls of St. Petersburg. During the carnival fetes, the two armies, the army in petticoats, and the army the wears epaulettes, are seen in the streets, and the young man pays court, and one day, without having consulted anybody, the two fiancées come to ask of the parents a blessing, which is never refused. The church is invited to attend the ceremony, so they have to wait until easter week. Fashion demands for the celebration of the ceremony, the chapel of some private house, if the couple haven't sufficient lofty relations to secure the chapel of the palace. A family altar is erected in the middle of the oratory; the couple are separated from it by a band of rose-colored satin; when the priest calls they must advance, and the one who first sets foot on the band, husband or wife, will be the one who will impose his law in the household. This is an article of faith for all the matrons who watch them at that moment. On the table is placed the liturgical formulary, the candles which they must hold, the cross which they will exchange, the cup of wine in which they will moisten their lips, and which is called in the Slavonic ritual "the cup of bitterness." Pages relieve each other to carry with outstretched arms two heavy crowns, which must be held above the heads of the fiancées while the ceremony continues. At the decisive moment, when the priest is pronouncing the words that bind them together, the couple walk three times around the altar, followed by the crown bearers; until the third turn is completed there is time to turn back; after that the die is cast, the couple is united for life. Thereupon the singers strike up in their most stentorian voices the joyous hymn "Let Isaiah Rejoice." The bride and groom then go and prostrate themselves before the Virgin of the Iconostase, and kiss her filigree robe, after which they pass into the neighboring salon, where they give the clinic kisses champagne, and the invited guests receive boxes of sweetmeats marked with the monogram of the young couple.

Wants a Poor Pounding Wife.

This time it is a Philadelphia who wants a wife from Castle Garden, and

he is apparently too bashful to write for one directly. Superintendent Simpson got his letter a day or two ago, says the New York Sun: Dear Sir: Having a young friend desiring to get married, but as none of the young ladies in the city can fill the bill, I have advised him to apply to you for one, and he wished me to write to you asking if there are any poor immigrants who would like a good home and who would value a good, kind, independent husband. Description of lady: Age about sixteen, fair, clear complexion, moderately stout, nationality, Irish or Norwegian. He is as follows: Age twenty-eight; height five feet seven inches; about fair; in a very good position, and fairly well off in this world's goods. I enclose stamped and addressed envelope for reply. I am for him, yours truly, J. H. Miles, 2,027 Fourth street, Philadelphia.

Shylocks After the Pound of Flesh.

There are some pretty mean people living in this vicinity, says a letter from Lyons town, and these are some of them; A teamster living directly above Frank Tautlinger, on Kern Hill, sheltered three of the homeless Monday, and was by them given a sack of flour in payment for a meal. Later in the day these poor creatures came around to pay 50 cents each to this man for taking them into town in his wagon—a few blocks distant.

A man from Stony Creek valley came into Kernville last evening and offered potatoes for sale at 50 cents per bushel. Captain Anron's force at the Kernville supply station heard of it, hunted the man up and took possession of his team, which was driven to the supply station, and confiscated the contents of the wagon.

Another man named Adam Raeland was charged with having sold flour at \$5 a sack to sufferers.

The meanest man of the lot is a fellow who yesterday passed along the site of the ruins carrying the portrait of a lady which he picked up. A little girl stopped him with the exclamation: "Why, mister, that is my mamma's picture!" "Well, little girl," replied the fellow, "your ma and got ten dollar and I will give you the picture."

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THE RIDE OF COLLINS GRAVES

An incident of the Flood in Massachusetts, May 16, 1874. The following stirring poem, written by John Boyle O'Reilly, is recited by the heroic ride of Daniel Peyton, the Paul Revere of the Conemaugh disaster:

No song of a soldier riding down To the evening light from Winchester Town; No song of a time that shook the earth With the Nation's throes at a Nation's birth; But the song of a brave man, free from fear As a man's self or Paul Revere's name, Who risked what they risked, free from strife And its promise of glorious pay—his life.

The peaceful valley has walked and stirred, And the answering echoes of life are heard; Except to the trees and the trees and grass, And the early toilers smiling pass, As they glance aside at the white-walled homes.

Or up the valley, where merrily come, The brook that sparkles in diamond rills As the sun comes over the Hampshire hills.

What was it that passed like an ominous breath? Like a shiver of fear or a touch of death? What was it? The valley is peaceful still, And the leaves are afire on the top of the hill. It was not a sound, nor a thing of sense— But a pain, like the pang of the short suspense.

That wraps the being of those who see At their feet the gift of eternity!

The air of the valley has felt the chill; The workers pause at the door of the mill; The noiseless, keen to the fevering air, Arrests her foot on the cottage stair, Instinctively taught by the mother-love, And thinks of the sleeping ones above.

Why start the listeners? Why does the course Of the mill stream widen? Is it a horse, Hark to the sounds of his hoofs, they say, That gallops so wildly the Williamsburg way?

God! what was that, like a human shriek From the winding valley? Will nobody speak? Will nobody answer those women who cry As the awful warnings thunder by?

Whence come they? Listen! And, now they hear The sound of the galloping horse-hoofs near; With the tread of its hoofs, and the rider, who thunders so menacingly, With waving arms and warning scream, To the home-filled banks of the valley.

He draws no rein, but he shakes the street With a shout and the ring of the galloping hoofs.

And this the cry that he flings to the wind: "To the hills for your lives! The flood is behind!" He cries and is gone, but they know that worst— The treacherous Williamsburg dam has burst!

The basin that nourished their happy homes Is changed to a demon. It comes! it comes! A monster in aspect, with shaggy front Of shattered dwellings, to take the brunt Of the dwellings they shatter—white maned and hoarse.

The merciless terror fills the course Of the narrow valley, and rushing waves, With the roar and the rattle of its hoofs, waves, Till cottage and street and crowded mill Are crumpled and crushed.

But onward still, In front of the roaring flood he heard The galloping of the white-winged word That God had that the brave man's life is spared! Frank Williamsburg Town he nobly dared To race with the flood and to take the road In front of the terrible swath it mowed. For miles it thundered and crashed behind, The flood and the waves were steed and hind; "They must be warned!" was all he said, As away on his terrible ride he sped.

When heroes are called for, bring the crown To this Yankee rider; wend him down On the stream of time with the Curious old; He died as the Roman's was thrice avowed, And the tale can as noble a thrill awake, For he offered his life for the people's sake.

Save Your Hair. A timely use of Ayer's Hair Vigor. This preparation has no equal as a dressing. It keeps the scalp clean, cool, and healthy, and preserves the color, fullness, and beauty of the hair. "I was rapidly becoming bald and gray; but after using two or three bottles of Ayer's Hair Vigor my hair grew thick and glossy and its natural color was restored."—Melvin Aldrich, Canna Centre, N. H.

"Some time ago I lost all my hair in consequence of measles. After due waiting, no new growth appeared. I then used Ayer's Hair Vigor and my hair grew

Thick and Strong. It has apparently come to stay. The Vigor is evidently a great aid to nature."—J. B. Williams, Floresville, Texas. "I have used Ayer's Hair Vigor for the past four or five years and find it the most satisfactory dressing for the hair. It is all I could desire, being harmless, causing the hair to retain its natural color, and requiring but a small quantity to render the hair easy to arrange."—Mrs. A. A. Bailey, 9 Charles street, Haverhill, Mass.

"I have been using Ayer's Hair Vigor for several years, and believe that it has cured my hair to retain its natural color."—Mrs. H. G. King, Dealer in Dry Goods, &c., Bishopville, Md.

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