

SEEKS A PERMANENT HOME

State Board of Agriculture Asks for Legislative Appropriation.

LIVE STOCK BREEDERS DISCUSS SHEEP

Improved and Scientific Methods of Feeding and Raising Sheep—Veterinary Association Has Clinical Session.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Jan. 22.—(Special.)—The State Board of Agriculture concluded the labors of its annual session this afternoon. New officers and new members were elected and some minor business transacted.

The officers elected are: President, J. B. Dinsmore, Sutton; first vice president, W. H. Barger, Hobron; second vice president, E. E. Ewing, Bradley; treasurer, Ed McIntyre, Seward; secretary, Robert W. Furnas, Brownville. A new board of managers was appointed, consisting of the following: C. H. Rudge, Lincoln, chairman; Peter Youngers, Geneva; W. R. Mellor, Loup City; G. R. Williams, Elk City; T. A. McKnight, Omaha.

New members of the Board of Agriculture were elected as follows: V. Arnold, Richardson; S. C. Bassett, Buffalo; J. R. Cantlin, Washington; L. L. Vance, Pawnee; Charles Mann, Dawes; E. McIntyre, Seward; W. R. Mellor, Sherman; M. Whitrow, Morrill; E. Ewing, Bradley; McKnight, Hamilton; Peter Youngers, Fillmore; W. C. Hervey, Antelope; William Foster, Lancaster.

Preliminaries for State Fair.

An adjourned meeting of the Board of Agriculture will be held in Lincoln February 11, when preliminary arrangements for the next state fair will be made.

The result of the election this afternoon was a surprise to outsiders, for it was believed that E. L. Vance of Pawnee City would be re-elected for a second term as president. The board has usually followed the two-term precedent, but vigorous, though quiet work among the members gave the leadership to Mr. Dinsmore by a vote of 25.

On recommendation of a special committee the board adopted a resolution providing that the removal of a member from the county from which he is elected to another county in the state does not thereby change the representation of the county from which he was elected. This action was taken in view of the case of former Governor William A. Poynter, who removed to Lincoln from Boone county, and now desires re-election as a representative of that county, notwithstanding his residence in this city. The board in adopting the resolution expressed the opinion that no county shall have more than one representative on the board.

Agricultural Education.

Resolutions were adopted thanking State Superintendent Fowler for his efforts on behalf of the promotion of agricultural education in the Nebraska public schools. Chairman Bassett of the committee on legislation reported progress for the past year and referred to the work done by Mr. Fowler. Mr. Bassett told of the preliminary efforts in the formation of a bill to improve the teaching of agriculture in the rural and high schools of the state. On this subject Mr. Bassett said:

It was realized that it would not do to attempt too much in the beginning; that text books for use in the rural schools must be quite elementary in character and that the requirements of the present text books for county superintendents, of the teachers must not be such as to discourage the text book, and make it necessary to purchase a new one each year.

Superintendent Fowler has given this measure his hearty support since its inception, and as showing what has been done in the rural schools in the past year, he has prepared a report in which he has outlined the elements of agriculture among the subjects commonly taught in the public schools of the state. This report, which is being done under his direction, is being done in an interview today, had with him on this subject, in which he said:

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The matter has received very favorable consideration from the press of the state on account of its practical and useful character. Prof. Charles E. Bassett of the University of Nebraska, who is a student, and Prof. Lawrence Bruner, also of the university, and state entomologist, both men who love Nebraska as they love their homes, and whom Nebraska loves to honor, but also men of national reputation, are now engaged in preparing a manuscript for a publication which will be known as "Elementary Agriculture," a text book for the schools of Nebraska. This is a book that may be used in almost any schoolroom in Nebraska, but more especially in the grammar grades or the higher grades of

LEASING THE PUBLIC LANDS

Nebraska Stock Growers to Meet in Alliance for Action.

OFFICERS APPROVE PROPOSED BILL

Opposition Comes from Small Owners, Who Are Said by Promoters of the Measure to Misunderstand Its Terms.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Jan. 22.—(Special.)—President S. P. Delator and Secretary J. R. Van Boskirk of the Nebraska Stock Growers' association are preparing to issue a call for a meeting of their organization in Alliance some time in February for the purpose of introducing a bill in congress providing for the leasing of vacant public lands. The measure was drawn up by a committee of five members of the American Cattle Growers' association and was presented in congress by Justin Bowersock of Kansas. The members of the committee were: A. B. Robertson, Colorado; T. K. Parsons, Salt Lake City; John P. Irish, Oakland; Henry M. Porter, Denver; and Bartlett Richards, Chadron.

Mr. Delator, Mr. Van Boskirk and several other members of the Nebraska association met in Lincoln today, and while no action was taken, it was generally agreed in the informal discussion that the bill is a meritorious one and should be given hearty support by cattle growers throughout the country. The subject was also considered tonight at the meeting of the Nebraska Improved Live Stock Growers' association.

The bill provides that all vacant public lands west of the 100th meridian shall be leased for stock-grazing purposes, subject to the right of homestead and mineral entry under existing laws of the United States, and when so entered to be canceled by the lessee. According to the terms, leases of such land shall not be subject to bidding. The uniform rental shall be 2 cents per annum, payable annually in advance, and preference for such leases shall be given to owners of cultivated agricultural land for leaseable lands abutting upon their freehold. A preference of one acre of freehold to one of leasehold. A like preference of ten acres of leasehold to one acre of freehold shall be given to stock growers who are also freeholders. This preference shall apply only to lands within the counties upon which their stock habitually range. If in the case of a stock grower the preference above provided there shall be not sufficient leaseable lands in the county to give each person entitled to the preference the maximum proportion of ten acres to one, then said lands shall be pro-rated between the persons entitled to such preference.

Preferences of Stock Growers.

The further preference to lands not leased under the foregoing provisions shall be given to stock growers who are in actual use and occupancy of said lands during the year ending January 1, 1901, to be leased to them in the proportion to their respective interests in the use thereof. Where the states lease state lands the bona fide holders of such leasehold shall be beneficiaries of the preference given to stock growers who are also freeholders. It is provided, however, that such leaseholds cannot be held by any one person in tracts exceeding 640 acres in one body. Freehold rights shall not apply to town site property nor to lands deriving title from a grant by the United States.

The bill provides that the revenue derived from the leases shall be paid into the treasury of the United States and that the net revenue after deducting the expense of administration shall be held in the treasury to the benefit of the American people. The bill provides that the secretary of the interior and providing such water storage and irrigation works in the arid and semi-arid regions as are necessary for preparing the public arid and semi-arid land for settlement under the homestead act.

Probable Effect of Measure.

The measure and its probable effect are discussed at length in a letter written to officers of the Nebraska Stock Growers' association by a member of the committee appointed by the American association, which in part follows:

"The bill, I believe, meets as nearly with the necessities of the case as any that has ever been drawn, and is equitable alike for the large owner and the small owner and the land owner and all at a nominal rental. It is in the arid and desert districts of Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Wyoming, western Colorado and New Mexico can pay 2 cents per acre for the rental of such lands as they have there, almost devoid of nutrition of any kind, the cattle growers of Nebraska, where every acre of ground can certainly afford to pay this low rental. Each neighbor, by its provisions, is protected, not only against each other, but more especially the intrusions of outsiders who no land and who would graze up the surrounding country, and who are staked their all upon the outcome of the cattle business, who have put money into the lands, who have made their homes in many instances far from privileges of towns and railroads and school advantages.

"I wish you would write to Senators Millard and Dietrich and to the congressmen of your district a personal letter, whether you know them or not, and get every other man to write to them, stating, as you can, the necessity for this measure to be passed. Our senators and congressmen are the representatives of the people, and the people, their constituents, must tell them what they expect that they may do for them—yes, the necessities—of their section.

Secretary Van Boskirk's Comment.

Commenting on the measure, Secretary Van Boskirk said: "There is a vast amount of government land in western Nebraska that is valuable for stock-grazing purposes if used in connection with other land that has natural advantages. For instance, a man may own a piece of land containing rich valleys and lakes, such as are found all over the western part of Nebraska, while the section of government land immediately adjoining may be practically barren. If this section cannot be used in connection with the land which has the advantages, it has no value whatever to the stock grower.

Workman and Money Missing

Farm Hand, Forty Dollars in Cash and Clothing Disappear Simultaneously.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

HUMBOLDT, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special.)—A farm hand who has been going by the name of George Andrews, and who has been in the employ of Charles Carsh, farmer, took his departure suddenly last evening and cannot be located. Andrews was a young man of about 25 years of age, and was well known to the neighbors. He was paid \$40 in cash and a \$10 revolver abstracted, and this, in company with a quantity of goods, disappeared. Andrews had been assisting in butchering some distance from the farm house, and about 3 o'clock made some excuse for a trip to the house. He failed to return, but nothing was thought of the matter until about 10 o'clock, when the missing man and his money were missed.

The Carsh boys had only a day or two before sold goods amounting to \$500, and this entire amount had been placed in the trunk, but \$500 had been afterward taken to the bank and deposited. Andrews has been around this section all summer, and it is said has part of the trunk. He is described as being 20 years of age, weighs 135 pounds, hair is almost white, cross-eyed, wore at the time of his departure a brown cap, duck coat with corduroy collar.

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Grand Inland Elks at Shelton.

SHELTON, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special.)—Business and professional men, members of the Order of Elks at Grand Island, came up on the afternoon train yesterday in order to attend a banquet given in their honor when they were driven to the home of George Meisner and a banquet was served, extending well into the night. The banquet was a compliment from business men of Shelton, who are members of the lodge at Grand Island.

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Revival of Old Evils Possible.

"If we do not get some relief in this way, I will state plainly that I believe that we will all have to take our fences down and release into the domestic conditions of twenty years ago, when all our cattle ran together, when we had to fight and vie with each other for ranch rights, when the maverick was the bone of contention between neighbors, when thievery was rife, because each had a right to round up and drive cattle and so on, and when a man's stock; when we could not care for our cattle when storms came, because they were not where we could get at them, being scattered over a large area; when it was useless for us to buy high-priced, fine-boned bulls in order that our cattle might be improved, since our neighbors and the stranger got the benefit of such investment as well as yourself; when you would have to water your neighbor's cattle from your tanks when water was as scarce as gold, when beef never got fat, because everyone was working your herd as well as yourself, giving them no chance to put on flesh; when your calf crop was small, because the calves and their mothers were separated as well as stolen. In fact, I could go on enumerating the disadvantages of such a chaotic state almost without limit.

"If it is a question of running our cattle again in this method, 99 per cent of us had better lay down our work before we

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Fifteen of the thirty candidates for place on the state team will speak the first evening in the morning at the hall boys. Two young men, John Metz and William Knaggs, tried to pick a fight with Penker, and when he turned away it is said Knaggs stabbed him in the left side with a knife. Both boys were arrested this afternoon and the trial will be tomorrow. Penker, who was not seriously injured, is suffering intensely.

Polk County Docket Light.

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Celebrate Silver Anniversary.

GRAND ISLAND, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special.)—Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Velt surprised them last evening by unceremoniously calling at their home and assisting in celebrating their silver wedding anniversary. Mr. Velt is president of the Board of Education and one of the oldest business men in the city.

Business Changes at Gibbon.

GIBBON, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special.)—S. M. Palmer sold his building, now occupied by himself with a stock of clothing, to Henry Comstock, who will occupy it from March 1 with a stock of hardware. J. B. Hart and Son sold their new stock of hardware to Henry Comstock, who will remove it to the Palmer building.

Revival at Gibbon.

GIBBON, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special.)—Union revival meetings are being held day and night in the Methodist Episcopal church. Rev. Nance, a noted revivalist of Anselmo, Kan. is in charge, assisted by Rev. Mitchell of the Presbyterian church and Rev. Jones of the Methodist.

Peter Youngers Will Try for Congress.

GENEVA, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special.)—Peter Youngers of this city will go before the next congressional convention in the Fourth district for nomination. Mr. Youngers has been for years president of the State Horticultural society and a member of the firm of Youngers & Co.

Foot Crushed Under Timber.

PLATTSBROUGH, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special.)—Arthur, an employe in the supply department of the Burlington shops, got his left foot crushed by a heavy timber, which will cause him to remain away from work some time.

Concert in Arlington.

ARLINGTON, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special.)—The Arlington Choral union gave a concert in Masonic hall last night to a crowded house. The receipts were nearly \$50. Everybody was pleased.

Janitor for Courthouse.

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SUICIDE OF ED WATERS

First Cuts Throat with Razor, Then Shoots Himself in Forehead.

The Three Spencers

(For a Quarter)

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

BARSETT, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Edward Waters, 30 years old, who has been living with his brother, William Waters, on a ranch six miles south of this place the past year, committed suicide this morning at the home of his brother by cutting his throat with a razor and then shooting himself in the forehead with a 22-caliber revolver. No cause is assigned for the act. He lived till about 3 o'clock this afternoon, but did not regain consciousness. The sheriff, county attorney and a physician went to the place, but as there was no question about it being a case of suicide, no inquest was held. Waters went to his bedroom, near the kitchen and committed the deed while the family was about the house and premises.

Stabs Barber at Dance.

KEARNEY, Neb., Jan. 22.—(Special Telegram.)—John Peaker, a barber, was stabbed last night while at a dance in the hall boys. Two young men, John Metz and William Knaggs, tried to pick a fight with Penker, and when he turned away it is said Knaggs stabbed him in the left side with a knife. Both boys were arrested this afternoon and the trial will be tomorrow. Penker, who was not seriously injured, is suffering intensely.

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