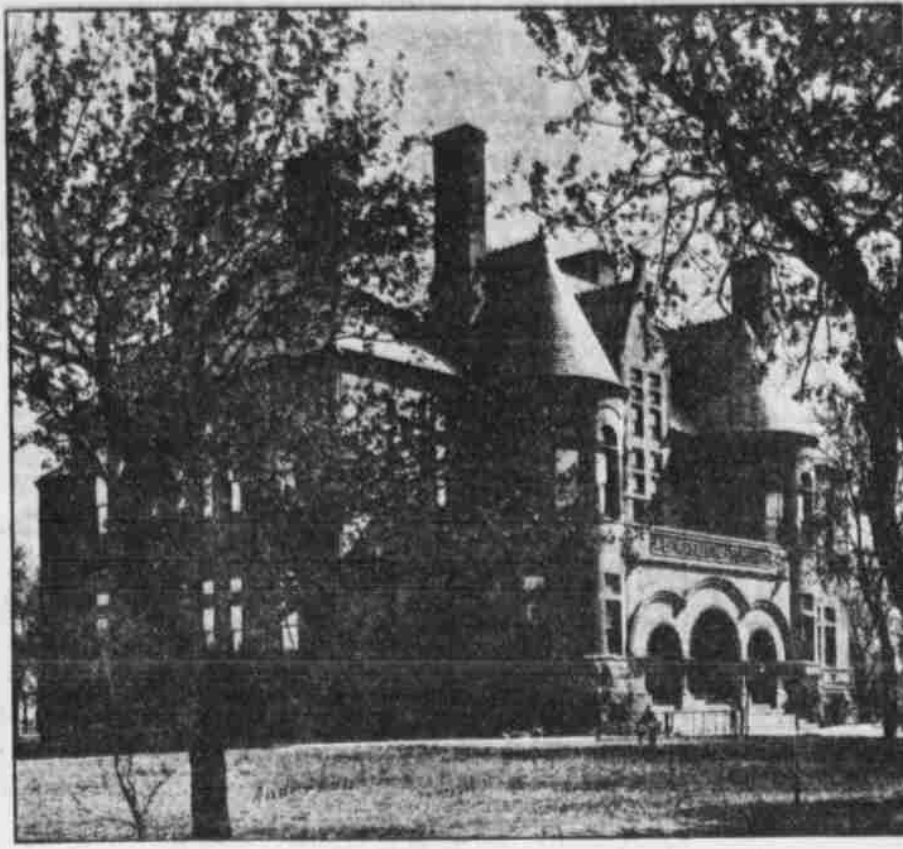


Buffalo County's Riches Flow in Response to Modern Agriculture



PIN MONEY FOR THE FARMER'S WIFE.



KEARNEY HIGH SCHOOL.



THRASHING SCENE NEAR KEARNEY.



STATE NORMAL SCHOOL, KEARNEY.

BUFFALO county not long ago was the richest of all the red-men's hunting grounds. Today it is the richest of all the white man's grain and alfalfa fields. It is so much easier to suppose things than to know them that it really is not surprising that we have lost a frontier which we supposed was a permanent institution. Yesterday Buffalo county's history was one of romantic adventure; today it is one of not less prominent industry.

It was wheat and corn that changed Buffalo county from a cattleman's to a farmer's country, and made it modern and contagiously alive. What we are to remember is that Kearney once sold saddles and repeating rifles, and is now a modern city. The Platte valley is where they do things. This is really the place where the frontier was abolished by the prairie schooner.

On the establishment of Fort Kearney in 1848, the War department ordered a military reservation of ten miles square surveyed. This was the first survey of record in the county. The county of Buffalo, one of the first eight counties named and boundaries established, was named and its boundary first established at the second session of the territorial legislature of Nebraska, which convened at Omaha, December 18, 1856. The county at this time was fifty miles wide north and south and seventy-five miles long. In 1871 the boundary was changed to its present size. Buffalo county extends thirty-seven miles east and west and twenty-five miles north and south, with Kearney, the county seat, near the southern boundary. The soil is richest in the state, every acre being capable of cultivation. The Platte, Wood and Loup rivers flow through 130 miles, with several tributary streams, adding their quota, making it one of the best watered counties in the state.

Aside from Kearney, the county seat, there are twenty-five towns in the county, with a population of 800 to 2,500. There are 307 miles of railroad in the county, and not a farm is ten miles distant from a railroad or a telegraph station. The population increased from 7,400 in 1880 to 25,000 in 1890, and is now estimated at about 30,000.

As an agricultural or a stock producing country it has no superior. Kearney draws trade from Phelps and Kearney counties to the south, and Dawson, Custer and other counties on the west and north. There are 610,000 acres in the county, over 300,000 of which are improved. The county

is growing considerable fruit for home consumption, consisting of apples, peaches, plums and cherries, on more than 110,000 bearing trees. Buffalo county produced last year 132,000 acres of corn and 75,000 acres of wheat, together with 43,000 acres of oats.

The county is one of the most important in the state in the sale and shipment of live stock. Last year the farmers sold and shipped out over 30,000 head of beef cattle and more than 75,000 head of fat hogs, together with 48,000 head of sheep and 1,600 head of horses. They also sold and shipped out 1,177,000 bushels of corn, 715,000 bushels of wheat, and 400,000 bushels of oats. They also sold and shipped out 2,500,000 pounds of flour and over 7,000,000 pounds of mill feed, together with 1,600 tons of hay. This county is also one of the very first in the state in the dairy industry. The farmers own over 12,000 head of cows and use 1,400 hand separators. Last year they shipped out 350,000 pounds of butter, 65,000 dozens of eggs, 150,000 gallons of cream, together with 650,000 pounds of poultry.

The cattle industry has been one of great importance from the earliest settlement of Buffalo county and conditions have not only changed, but they are fast changing. The cowboy and the dairyman are twin brothers of the west, but they will soon reach the parting of the road. One is looking forward, the other backward. Both can converse with a cow in its own language. In drawing their picture the only background to these men must be cattle. There are no figures bigger than those which play the drama of the cow, and there is no drama which ever today comes closer to the everyday life of each and all of us. In 1875 cattle were bought here in Buffalo county at about the following prices: Yearling steers from \$5 to \$6; 2-year-olds, \$9; 3-year-olds, \$12 to \$14; cows from \$10 to \$15.

The corn belt and the corn industry is the most interesting type of Buffalo county, and the most interesting type of Nebraska. Its culture maintains a larger number of our people than any other industry, and as a nation, no other American product or group of products equals it in value. In the field of manufactures and mineral products there is nothing to compare with wheat and cotton crops. Yet the corn crop of the United States considerably exceeds in value the wheat and cotton combined. Corn growing requires a higher class of farming than any of the other staple

unquestionably holds first place among the dairy foods for the dairy cow. It has been predicted that the cow fed on alfalfa will in the near future set the price of butter for the world. Alfalfa has the two paramount qualities to enable it to do this, low cost of production and the superior quality of butter produced. The ordinary cow will eat alfalfa hay and corn in just proper proportions to make the balance ration. Clover is a great favorite for hog pasture, but those who have tried both clover and alfalfa, find the alfalfa greatly superior. Alfalfa holds the same place in the estimate of sheep growers who have used it, as among cattle and hog raisers. The sheep growers of Buffalo county who have alfalfa hay can and do put lambs on the market in less time and at less cost and will get more profit than with any other forage.

Alfalfa is the greatest honey plant known to modern agriculture. It is superior to white clover, sweet clover or buckwheat and under favorable conditions gives a honey flow from June until October. Alfalfa is the greatest income producer, mortgage lifter and debt paying crop grown. The value of alfalfa as a corn raising and stock growing food is well established in Buffalo county.

The growing of celery and sugar beets is no longer an experiment. Over 100 cars of celery have been produced in a single year and vast quantities of sugar beets have been shipped from Kearney for many years. Persistent effort has induced both freight and express companies to reduce rates until it is now possible to compete with the Michigan celery on equal basis. Five acres of celery successfully grown and rightly handled will make more money

than the average quarter section of land in Iowa. Few people apparently realize the importance and the possibility of the dairy industry in Buffalo county. The statistics side does not reflect the best part of the dairy industry. Where dairying is intelligently followed, a system of agriculture exists which preserves the fertility of the soil. Also a cow-keeping people are a well fed people. One of the great problems of the future, as well as of the present, is economical dairying. This problem is not easily solved in some sections. In a country where five acres of pasture and three acres of hay are required to keep a cow a year, dairy products will never be produced cheaply, but in Buffalo county, where two acres of alfalfa will produce more food than a cow can eat in a year, dairy products can be produced at a very low cost. This is not only because of the abundance of alfalfa in this county, but the quality of it. The cow more than any other animal can make good use of this alfalfa forage. Dairying takes less fertility from the soil than any other branch of farming. Butter is a condensed product. Nothing made or grown on the farm will bring as much per pound. Butter is a finished product. Dairying brings in a constant income. Dairying gives constant and remunerative employment. Skill and brain work get better pay at dairying than in any other branch of farming. There is more room at the top, greater opportunity to improve in dairying than in any other kind of farm work in Buffalo county. Dairying leads to thoughtfulness for the comfort of animals and thus tends to morality.

Kearney, the county seat of Buffalo county, had a population of 20 in 1875, in 1885 the city had 2,000; at present the city has a population of about 8,000. As a water station on the Union Pacific railroad Kearney may be said to have first attracted notice. To the railroads came the farmers, and the farmers, locating their tanks and saying, "Here shall be a town." The town grew with the development of agricultural interests—a few hundred each year. Then came men of brains and capital, and said, "We will add to the agricultural interests of Kearney by making it a manufacturing center. We will do this by creating a water power from the flow of the Platte river, which is wasting its energy through the plains." Engineers pronounced their plan feasible and the canal was constructed, drawing its supply from the river, sixteen miles west of the city, and the water thus brought to Kearney is today developed into thousands of horse power for manufacturing purposes. This water power, through the agency of electricity, furnishes light for Kearney's streets and homes, operates the printing presses of the daily newspapers and turns the wheels of many varied industries. This water power is unique in the annals of town building in Nebraska. Kearney is the pioneer in this work, and has already reaped the benefit. The canal is sixteen miles long, thirty feet wide and four and a half feet deep. The flow of water per minute is 18,000 cubic feet, height of fall, sixty-one feet, which develops over 2,000 horse power. The flour mill, with a capacity of 30 barrels per day, was one of the first mills in the country to use electric power.

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Several hundred thousand dollars are invested in Kearney in state, county and city buildings, all of which are handsome modern structures. The State Industrial school building cost \$500,000. The Buffalo county court house \$100,000. The Kearney Military academy is the only building of the kind in the state or any adjoining state, erected at a cost of \$50,000, with adjoining buildings costing about the same. The city hall cost \$25,000. Kearney has thirteen church edi-

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Many Buddhist sects. Shintoism and Buddhism, as they are practiced in Japan, have almost as many sects as Christianity. Shintoism has existed in Japan longer than any one can remember. It recognizes the immortality of the soul and the existence of supernatural power. It teaches reverence for ancestors and cleanliness of soul and body. Its ideas of conduct are honesty and straightforwardness. It especially teaches reverence for the emperor, and the children in the schools are taught that their loyalty to him is a part of their religion. There is one sect which makes a specialty of reverence for the imperial family, another in which the sun goddess is the principal object of worship, and a third, the Jikko, which believes that Mount Fuji is the soul of the globe and which vows to pray for the eternal existence of the imperial family and the nation.

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FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Central Avenue, Kearney. This street is almost twice as old as that at Kamakura. It was made many centuries ago, along about the time that Little Mohammed, the founder of the great religion which bears his name, was a half-naked boy, playing in the sands of Arabia. The head of the original statue fell off and was burned several hundred years ago. The present head was made during the sixteenth century and the remainder of the body was made more than 80 years before that time.

Here, in Kyoto, there is a Buddha which is all head and shoulders. It fills a temple, and is bigger than either of the Buddhas I have mentioned. It has eyes five feet long, nostrils two feet wide, and it measures forty-three feet across the shoulders. It is almost sixty feet high and it has a nose nine feet long. Just outside the temple is one of the biggest bells of Japan, which is rung now and then to wake up the statue. It weighs sixty-three tons and is about as big as a haystack.

All of the above Buddhas are old. I saw one at Hyogo, about two hours ride from here by train, which was erected in 1591 by a paper manufacturer who had made a fortune and was grateful to the gods. That Buddha is of bronze. It measures eighty-five feet around the waist, and the diameter of its lap is twenty-five feet. The ears are six feet long and by my tape line it is just two feet around the thumb. It has an electric bulb in its forehead.

Religion and the War. There has been a decided revival among the native religions here since the Russian war. Many of the priests went to the front to give spiritual consolation to the soldiers. This was so of both Buddhists and Shintoists. When the war closed the spirit added to this revival by visiting the great Shinto shrine at Ise, where he proclaimed to the imperial ancestors that the war was successfully ended. Since then many other famous personages have visited Ise, and Shintoism and ancestral worship stand higher than they have for years. Many of the cannon and other trophies which were captured in Manchuria

were brought to Japan and given to the temples, where they are kept as mementoes. Among such things is a great water tank, which shows the marks of a man cannon ball. It now stands in the grounds of the Yakusani temple in Tokio. During the fighting in Manchuria the Japanese here showed their faith by the way they went to the shrines to pray for their loved ones. Many of them took stabs of cedar or pine, upon which they had written their prayers. The back of each piece of wood bore the name of the person for whom they were especially praying and also that of the god whose intercession was supplicated. Such prayers were laid on the altars, the worshippers at the same time giving something to the church to insure the assistance of the priests.

Japanese Liberty. As far as I can learn the Buddhism which is proclaimed by the most advanced of the priests today is as broad as all outdoors. This is the spirit of the new Japan. Indeed, the people are so broad in religious matters—I mean those of the upper classes—that they are ready to accept the best of any and all religions. Indeed, they believe in a combination of Shintoism, Confucianism and Buddhism, with a sprinkling of Christianity thrown in. It is said that there are thousands of Japanese who would readily accept Christianity by placing the image of Jesus with that of Buddha and those of their ancestors, if the Christian religion did not insist in there being no other god but one. Their constitution permits all religions and the government does not question the faith of its employees. Count Katsura, the premier of Japan, says that this country is at the head as to religious liberty and that a man may have any religion without suffering for it. Prince Ito told me that he considered the Buddhists more liberal than the Christians and that there is today a considerable Christian element growing up in Japan. At one time the government actually considered the adoption of Christianity as the state religion, proposing to modify or revise the Bible and our doctrines to suit Japanese requirements. Centuries ago there was a big Christian



KEARNEY MILITARY ACADEMY.

1885 the city had 2,000; at present the city has a population of about 8,000. As a water station on the Union Pacific railroad Kearney may be said to have first attracted notice. To the railroads came the farmers, and the farmers, locating their tanks and saying, "Here shall be a town." The town grew with the development of agricultural interests—a few hundred each year. Then came men of brains and capital, and said, "We will add to the agricultural interests of Kearney by making it a manufacturing center. We will do this by creating a water power from the flow of the Platte river, which is wasting its energy through the plains." Engineers pronounced their plan feasible and the canal was constructed, drawing its supply from the river, sixteen miles west of the city, and the water thus brought to Kearney is today developed into thousands of horse power for manufacturing purposes. This water power, through the agency of electricity, furnishes light for Kearney's streets and homes, operates the printing presses of the daily newspapers and turns the wheels of many varied industries. This water power is unique in the annals of town building in Nebraska. Kearney is the pioneer in this work, and has already reaped the benefit. The canal is sixteen miles long, thirty feet wide and four and a half feet deep. The flow of water per minute is 18,000 cubic feet, height of fall, sixty-one feet, which develops over 2,000 horse power. The flour mill, with a capacity of 30 barrels per day, was one of the first mills in the country to use electric power.

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Famous Mexican Beauties

(Continued from Page One.)

straight and well formed. The young women have exceptionally fine complexions, of a very light copper color, but as in all tropical climates they grow old and wither rapidly after passing their 25th year.

Some of our party were desirous of purchasing one of the strings of beads, and Mexican; that is, from \$50 to \$100 gold. One of the finer shobe houses on one of the main streets. We were welcomed with every courtesy. The family consisted of the father and mother and two daughters, one about 16 or 17 and the other somewhat older.

The parents looked old and dried up. As it was about noon, the father was taking his siesta, sitting in an armchair on the veranda, smoking a long, black Mexican cheroot. After making our wants known we were shown several strings of beads, on which were hung a number of the gold coins. The prices were \$100 to \$200 Mexican; that is, from \$50 to \$100 gold.

One of the party had a camera along and wished to get a picture of the house, and especially of the younger daughter, who was really a beautiful girl, but it took a good deal of persuasion to get her consent. Then it was necessary to have the older sister waive her right to have her picture taken. It appears that in all things the younger children have to give way to the older ones. The older girl's picture was not especially desired, as she was not nearly so good looking as her sister.

This delicate matter was finally arranged satisfactorily, but the girl then departed on the ground that she would have to cross specially. The photographer said he could wait. Then it appeared that some weeks before some American had taken her picture, promising to send her one, but had failed to keep his promise. Assurances that she would surely receive one of the pictures and that they would value and she retired to array herself in her best bib and tucker, reappearing in a few moments dressed in the civilized skirt before described, a bright colored

blouse and a small white silk shawl, which she drew over her shoulders.

This shawl was an American one which she had procured somehow, and the photographer objected to it, desiring to have her in her native costume. But she insisted on wearing it. The photographer tried to get her to put on her hair, but she would not do so.

It was afterward learned that this family is one of the best and wealthiest in the city and that the young woman whose picture was taken was one of a few chosen to assist the principal lady of the city in the reception given President Diaz when he visited that part of Mexico some time before, and that she with the others had gone out to meet the president when he was coming to the city and had ridden back with him in his private car.

The market place is of interest to Americans. It is near the railway station and occupies about a block. The principal articles for sale were vegetables, meats, fruits, cloth of many and bright colors, sandals, the peculiar headress, calabash vessels and many curios. These articles were laid out on the stone floor or on boxes and stands, and some were hung on the posts which support the roof.

The stalls are tended mostly by women, old and young. Some of the young women were very comely, vivacious and kept a very sharp lookout for a trade. As you were passing the stalls they would catch you by the coat and smilingly show you their wares. All the time keeping up a constant chatter in Spanish. Heretofore few Americans have visited this curious old city, but with the increased traffic, passenger as well as freight, which is bound to result from the improvement of the Tehuantepec National railway Tehuantepec is likely to become a stopping place for tourists.

A Bachelor's Reflections

You can lick anything into a boy but sense. The most that a girl likes about getting engaged is how some mean old cat said she never could.

A woman can reconcile herself to letting one man make love to her when it ought to be another by thinking how indignant she could act if the right one knew.—New York Press.

Pointed Paragraphs

The holdup man does brain work with a sandbag. It takes a woman to have faith in a man when she hasn't it.

But for our troubles we would be unable to appreciate happiness. It isn't necessary to tell a boose fighter that he should love his enemy.

Lots of people wouldn't know what to do with patience if they had it. Even when a man proves that he is a woman's superior she doesn't believe it.

We blame Providence for our poverty, but take the credit ourselves when we get rich.

Some people never get too old to learn, and some others never get old enough to learn anything.

The improved quality of living nowadays may be worth the additional cost, but that is poor consolation to the man who hasn't the price.—Chicago News.

Carpenter's Letter

(Continued from Page Two.) snails on Buddha's head, and each of them is nine inches high.

The making of a work like this would be almost today. It was the skill of our greatest artists. This Buddha was made by the Japanese 20 years before Columbus started across the Atlantic and found the new world. At that time our ancestors were still sitting with their fingers and sleeping on straw.

An even greater Buddha, although less known, is one which I have just seen in the temple at Nara, about twenty-five miles from here. This Buddha is under cover and it is almost impossible to get a good photograph of it. It stands in a building, filling a space larger than the dome of the capitol at Washington. It is made of bronze, and it sits upon a lotus flower of solid bronze, against a background of carved gold. The flower is big enough for the foundation of a good-sized house, and each of the lotus petals would carpet a parlor. This Buddha is fifty-three feet in length. I measured one foot where it lies upon the knee. It is just sixteen feet from heel to toe. The statue is symmetrical and the face is wonderfully beau-

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Some of our party were desirous of purchasing one of the strings of beads, and Mexican; that is, from \$50 to \$100 gold. One of the finer shobe houses on one of the main streets. We were welcomed with every courtesy. The family consisted of the father and mother and two daughters, one about 16 or 17 and the other somewhat older.

The parents looked old and dried up. As it was about noon, the father was taking his siesta, sitting in an armchair on the veranda, smoking a long, black Mexican cheroot. After making our wants known we were shown several strings of beads, on which were hung a number of the gold coins. The prices were \$100 to \$200 Mexican; that is, from \$50 to \$100 gold.

One of the party had a camera along and wished to get a picture of the house, and especially of the younger daughter, who was really a beautiful girl, but it took a good deal of persuasion to get her consent. Then it was necessary to have the older sister waive her right to have her picture taken. It appears that in all things the younger children have to give way to the older ones. The older girl's picture was not especially desired, as she was not nearly so good looking as her sister.

This delicate matter was finally arranged satisfactorily, but the girl then departed on the ground that she would have to cross specially. The photographer said he could wait. Then it appeared that some weeks before some American had taken her picture, promising to send her one, but had failed to keep his promise. Assurances that she would surely receive one of the pictures and that they would value and she retired to array herself in her best bib and tucker, reappearing in a few moments dressed in the civilized skirt before described, a bright colored