

SEMI-CENTENNIAL NEBRASKA STATE FAIR THIS YEAR

Since Its Location at Lincoln Association Has Built Plant with Valuation of Half Million Dollars.

Though Nebraska is celebrating its Semi-Centennial State Fair the first fair was held in 1858—just 60 years ago.

After holding the first fair there was a lapse of ten years before a second venture was undertaken. Since the one lapse of ten years there has been a fair held each year.

The first fair was held at Nebraska City and something over \$400 in prizes was offered. The report of the State Board of Agriculture of that year shows that the venture was not successful financially, which probably accounts for it not being again attempted for some years. It would seem, however, that outside of financial considerations the first fair was successful and a seed was sown that was in later years to blossom into a great institution.

Features of Early Premium Lists.
One of the interesting features of the first few fairs shown in the premium lists is the offering of land as premiums for essays to be written in encouragement of the settling on Nebraska land. As many as twenty prizes of parcels of land were offered in one year. As compared with present offerings of premiums amounting to over \$22,000, the few hundreds of dollars offered the first few years seems insignificant, yet many acres of land that is now valued in figures around \$200 per acre was given and prizes of the early days would now mean fortunes. The country at that time, though, was "land poor" and it is unlikely that the land offerings were any more keenly competed for than the cash prizes now offered.

The history of the state fair is replete with frequent shifting from one town to another, it being the custom each year for such towns as wished to secure the fair to make a bid for it, offering certain financial inducements. After the offers by the various towns were made the State Board of Agriculture in its annual meeting voted upon the location for the next fair. Consequently, the fair was kept undecided as to where it belonged. This continued for more than 30 years, to the detriment of the institution.

Lincoln Wins Permanent Location.
During the last few years immediately preceding 1900 the moving of the fair developed into a rivalry between Omaha and Lincoln, all other towns being eliminated. Finally, in 1900, the fair was permanently located at Lincoln.

Until this final locating of the fair no improvements in way of grounds and equipment were justified and the fair suffered accordingly. Since 1900 a permanent plat has been developed with a value of half a million dollars. The grounds have been made increasingly attractive each year and bid for a larger patronage. It is significant that a large part of the property on the grounds has come from profits of the fair. Some buildings represent state appropriations but for every dollar spent by the state several more have been spent by the fair. The state fair is one of the few state owned institutions that has added to the wealth of the state by building up a plant of value as well as doing a great work in behalf of industrial Nebraska.

Snapshots.
"Not guilty" is an innocent remark. Today's worry is the result of yesterday's neglect.
A beautiful girl is one who is pretty and doesn't know it.
Yet the way of some transgressors is altogether too smooth.
About nine-tenths of what people say doesn't amount to anything.
Every old lady likes to tell how beautiful she was when she was a girl.
If a married man admits he is a fool it is his wife's duty to agree with him.
When a young man tells a girl that he loves her for herself alone it's equivalent to injunction against the rest of the family.
—Chicago News.



The Lincoln Commercial Club's Own Home - 11th and P Sts.

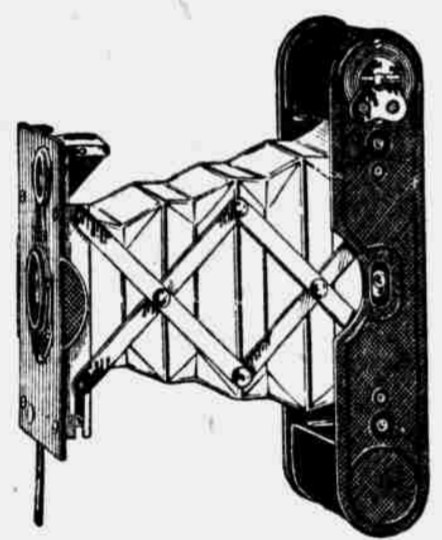
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Another Contribution to the Railroad Conscience Fund

A letter signed: "A Friend," and inclosing \$15 was received at the general offices of the Milwaukee railroad. The letter contained the following

story of a man who sought to relieve a troubling conscience:

"Of course, you will be surprised to receive this letter, but there comes a time in our lives when we want to make some things right. God is willing to forgive any of us if we are willing to right our wrongs to our fellow-

men. In February, 1893, there were four boys who started from Cedar Rapids, Ia., to Council Bluffs. We bummed our way on the train. One of the boys took from a car a box I feel guilty, because I did not oppose it, and afterward helped to use

the tobacco. So I want to pay you for the tobacco and for my ride on the train. Inclosed please find \$15."

While visiting the State Fair and Lincoln bear in mind that the day has not been properly spent unless you have read The Bee

--See Lincoln from our Tower 150 feet above the street

--the most interesting department store in NEBRASKA

Miller & Paine

Motor to LINCOLN!

FINE MOTOR HIGHWAYS LEAD STRAIGHT to LINCOLN and OUR STORE—the principal shopping center. Known throughout Nebraska as a store of courtesy and progress. Innumerable reasons stand back of the reputation as the most interesting department store in the state. It's because many new ideas have gone INTO the merchandise that you get so many ideas OUT. It's because the ideals upon which a store is built are as much a part of it as the brick and mortar and the stocks of merchandise. It's because vast and varied stocks are offered at all seasons. It's because a customer is considered a guest and friend. It's because satisfaction is insisted upon. It's—it's—but why go on? Come and learn for yourself.

Fine Silks We are known far and wide as silk specialists—offering newest and most unique effects FIRST. Our stocks are broad—the assortments include everything the heart could wish or the mind conceive in the silk line—priced right, too—don't forget that.

Women's Ready-to-Wear Style merchants—granted this! Fabric experts—granted this! Large buyers—granted this! Largest ready-to-wear operators in the city—granted this! Granting also that our service is excellent—our prices right—our assortments varied and you have a few of the reasons for our supremacy.

Rich Furs A designer who thoroughly appreciates furs in all their phases—knows FASHION by her first name—knows Furs what ideas to adopt and what vagaries to pass by—knows fur-blending—fur qualities—fur needs. This is the man who directs your commissions. Large stocks of pelts and made-up fur garments give unlimited selection.

Correct Millinery A beautiful Millinery Section offering a variety not equalled in the city. Here you will find the new things while they ARE new. Styles make their appearance here almost as soon as they appear on "the avenue"—New York. French display rooms with artificial and sun light. Experienced saleswomen who understand types.

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For further information See Our Exhibit in the Dairy Barn State Fair

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