

Iowa and Nebraska Farm News

Nebraska Farm Bills Successful In Legislature

Practically Every Measure Proposed to Aid Agriculture Passed During Winter Session.

Practically all the bills introduced at the present session of the Nebraska state legislature relating directly or indirectly to farmers were passed, according to a summary of such measures recently prepared by the Nebraska Farm Bureau federation. As the state is made up almost entirely of farmers or of industries depending directly on farming, the statement points out, it might be said that all legislation is "farm legislation." On the other hand, the bills can be divided into three classes: those affecting the farm communities in an industrial way, those that affect farmers in a political way and those affecting community and educational life.

Months before the legislature met, the various farm organizations mapped out their plan of campaign. Meetings of farmers were held with Governor McKelvie to collaborate with him in any recommendations he might have in his message to the legislature, and practically all requests made by the farm organizations were included in the governor's message.

One bill passed which has direct bearing on country life is the measure which requires all voters in the country to register their political affiliations the same as is required of city voters. Farmers were represented on both sides of this question and it was one of the few bills which was not brought up for discussion with the governor prior to the convening of the legislature.

One of the most important bills before the session was H. R. 574, relating to co-operative organizations and companies. It was designed to limit the use of the name "co-operative" to purely co-operative activities and associations. The bill was recently inspected by men gathered from all parts of the United States at the national grain marketing conference in Chicago and was pronounced by the best legal talent representing farm organizations as the last word in co-operative law.

The new blue sky law was drawn up by the attorney general and the aim is to cure various evils which the experience of the past two years of stock selling have brought to the front. It had the full backing of all farm organizations of the state, as well as the state administration.

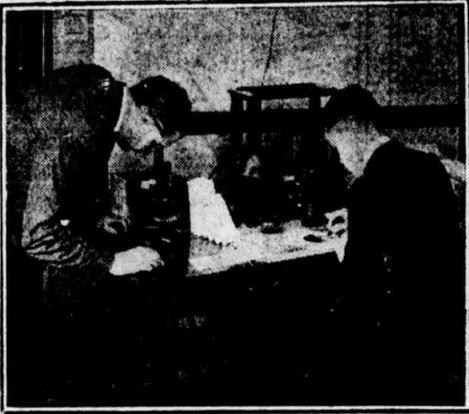
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Sow Tested Seeds to War Against Weeds

By FRANK RIDGWAY.

"If I were asked to name one of the most important jobs that farmers have to solve co-operatively, I would say, 'The eradication of noxious weeds.'" remarked a field crop authority at a farmers' co-operative meeting recently held in Chicago.

"Too few farmers take the advantage of the free seed testing laboratories established all over this country for their use," he added, and related an incident which led him to believe that many farmers were not familiar with the provisions made in various states to help them in their war against weeds.



Separating the Wheat from the Tares—Albert C. Wilson, chief seed analyst of the department of agriculture at Springfield, Ill., is shown here with his high power microscope that makes tiny weed seeds look like huge bugs. He's picking out the ox-eye daisy, Canada thistle, buckhorn, and other weeds from seed samples sent in by farmers to be tested free. Seated: C. J. Markus, inspector, is figuring out the percentage of weed seed, inert material, and pure seed.

Reaping What They Sow.
I went out from Springfield a few weeks ago with a party to hunt rabbits with a farmer, friend of ours. Judging from the densely matted weed that had backed up his barn it was evident that our friend, like hundreds of other farmers, had sown poor seed, mostly weed seed. More than an acre of the field was covered with a heavy crop of Canada thistles. Our friend told us that it was the first year that he had seen of his place in 10 years, and he couldn't figure out how they got there. "As you sow, so shall you reap, Tom," I said, and then I asked him if he used seed that had been analyzed.

Analysis Law of Great Value.
Spring is the time of the year when every farmer should be interested in the kind of seed he is planting. It is through the use of good seed that the farmer will be able to produce higher yields, decrease the cost of production, improve the quality of his products, and receive greater profits for his labor.

There are some who do not fully appreciate the value of sowing good seed. An example of this is shown in the report of one farmer who said he intended to sow seed that had been stamped "unsalable" when it was returned to him from the laboratory. It contained buckhorn seed at the rate of 1080 to 10,000. If the seed were sown at the rate of 10 pounds to the acre there would be four buckhorn seeds on each square foot, according to figures of the specialists in Mr. Wilson's laboratory. Every one of the buckhorn plants is capable of producing 117,000 seeds a year, which means that if each seed sown produces a plant the resulting crop of buckhorn would be so great that the seed crop would be unsalable.

Cut Grain Rates Urged By Hoover

Secretary of Commerce Declares Freight Charges in United States Are Too High.

"Unless we can adjust our railroad rates, we will have to rewrite the whole agricultural geography," declared Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover, before the executive committee of the Farm Bureau in its conference in Washington last week, according to word received at the State Federation office in Lincoln.

"Our present freight rates will soon render it unprofitable to export grain," continued Mr. Hoover, "for today it costs 30 cents a bushel to ship grain from Missouri to New York, while the same amount can be shipped by water from Argentine for 10 cents. We should take a lesson from Europe and think of our agriculture as a business. Europe has developed industry to the detriment of agriculture; have imperiled their national defense and even their civilization. We cannot afford to depend upon Europe for our food, for it undermines our basic industry."

"During the war we have had extreme paternalism. The American Farm Bureau comes from the people. Paternalism will destroy the basis of progress and growth if continued in peacetime. This is a period of co-operation necessitating effective groups and proper co-operation and coordination are needed between them."

Prices Brought by Hides Falls to Pay Shipping Charges

Farmers of Saline county, Nebraska and elsewhere, are receiving less than enough from the sale of cattle hides to pay express charges to Omaha, according to County Agent W. C. Calvert of Friend. He told of several farmers of Saline county that enough from the sale of hides and sending them to an Omaha buyer. Within a few days, he says, the farmers were notified that the buying price was 54 cents less than express charges and that the farmers owed the buyer that amount. Since then, he says, farmers of his county are bunching together a lot of hides and bootlegging about trying to sell hides of cattle killed on their farms.

Meteor Shower Probable As Comet Approaches Earth

Berkeley, Cal., April 24.—A meteor shower may take place about June 27 if the Pons-Winnecke periodic comet, at present approaching the earth, has meteoric material in its wake, it was announced by Prof. A. O. Leuschner of the astronomy department of the University of California.

Although the shower may be somewhat spectacular, Professor Leuschner said the comet itself will be too faint to be seen without the aid of a telescope. At a greater brilliance, about June 12, the comet will be of the eighth or ninth magnitude, he said, and will be in a position for observation for several months.

Grain Shippers of Northwest to Hold Convention

Tri-State Association to Meet in Minneapolis, June 22—Members to Discuss Anti-Futures Bill.

Country grain shippers from North and South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin will assemble at Minneapolis June 22 for the annual convention of the Tri-State Country Grain Shippers association, which, according to J. H. Adams, secretary, will be one of the most important meetings ever held.

Outstanding among topics to be taken up at the sessions, which will continue through June 24, will be what effect the so-called anti-futures bill, recently enacted by the Minnesota legislature, will have on the farmer and country grain shipper, and the re-establishment of Minnesota grain grades to supplant the federal grading now in effect.

Probable new methods of financing country elevators because of the new feature measures will be discussed, according to Mr. Adams. According to the association's secretary, the country elevator will face the probability of not getting financial credit from banks and commission firms to the extent of previous years and will have to seek new financing.

Re-establishment of the old Minnesota grain grades has been agitated during the last year or so, Mr. Adams declares. He termed the federal standards too technical and said the farmers deal with ways and means of permitting the manufacture of beer with proper restrictions as to stimulate the barley crop.

Although the association as a body has not gone on record as yet in favor of legalizing the manufacture of beer, Mr. Adams said there is a strong feeling throughout the northwest that legislation should be enacted which will permit manufacturing of beer under proper limitations.

Nebraska Apple Crop Expected to Equal Production in 1920

In spite of the damage by freezing weather this spring Nebraska's apple crop will equal and probably exceed last year's production, according to estimates of the state college of agriculture. The extensive damage done to the crop is confined largely to the South Platte country. The counties north of the river, where the apples were not so far advanced at the time of the Easter freeze, suffered less injury and the medium-late and late varieties will probably yield from a half to a full crop.

Prof. F. E. Howard, of the department of horticulture, recently investigated the conditions of the fruit in Lancaster and Cass counties and found such late varieties as the Genet, Jonathon, Winesap and Rome Beauty varieties promise a third to a half of a crop, depending on whether or not the weather is favorable for fertilization. North of the river, these varieties will probably produce from a half to three-fourths of a crop.

While the early crop suffered extensive injury, it is believed that enough of the late varieties survived the freezes to result in at least a fourth of a crop. The strawberries are not hurt. Grapes promise at least 50 per cent of a crop. Currents are probably good for three-fourths of a crop.

Men Convicted of Bank Robbery Ask New Trial

Superior, Wis., April 24.—(Special Telegram.)—Hearing on motion of Charles Stewart and John Bohner, convicted of robbing the Superior State bank last October, retrial will be held next Friday. Both men are now serving 30-year terms at Waupun.

Herbert Ryan, confessed third member of the gang, also was sentenced to 30 years and has declared repeatedly that Stewart and Bohner are innocent. Attorneys John and Peter Cadigan of Superior and Thomas McKeekin of St. Paul will argue for the new trial.

Market and Financial News of the Day

Live Stock

Receipts and disposition of live stock at the Union Stock Yard, Omaha, 24th and 25th days ending at 5 o'clock p. m. April 23-24.

Receipts	Disposition
Official Monday	1,125
Official Tuesday	8,704
Official Wednesday	8,584
Official Thursday	12,120
Official Friday	1,939
Saturday	1,220
Sunday	1,400
Same day last week	20,122
Same day last year	18,250
Same day 2 years ago	21,178

Omaha Grain

There was a fair accumulation of grain on hand today, covering yesterday, which was a holiday, and today's receipts. Wheat arrivals were 100 cars, corn 112 and oats 11. There was a good demand for wheat, which brought prices 3 to 4 1/2 cents higher, top grades, 4 1/2 to 5 cents up. Corn raised unchanged to 2 1/2 cents up, the bulk 1 to 1 1/2 cents higher. Oats were 1/2 to 1 cent up. Rye and barley were not much changed.

Chicago Grain

Chicago Tribune—Omaha Has Leased Wire. Chicago, April 23.—Grain markets had a better tone and prices moved irregularly higher, although in the evening up of trade at the last, recessions were made from the top prices, due to profit taking after the short interest had been well reduced. At the close, what was practically the same as on Friday: corn was 3/8¢ higher, with May showing the most strength; oats were 3/4¢ higher, 1/2¢ lower, and barley unchanged to 1/4¢ higher.

CHICAGO CLOSING PRICES
By United Grain Co. Done, 2427, Apr. 23

Art.	Open	High	Low	Close	1920
Wheat	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
July	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
Sept.	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
Nov.	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
Jan.	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
Mar.	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
May	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
July	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
Sept.	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
Nov.	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
Jan.	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
Mar.	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.00
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