

Dakota County Herald

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Official Paper of Dakota County

County Agent's Field Notes

BY C. R. YOUNG.

THE POCKET GOPHER PESTS

Pocket gophers are very prominent among our farm pests. An estimated loss of two or more millions of dollars for the state is said to be conservative, and there is no doubt but that Dakota county is bearing her share of this enormous amount. That the situation is becoming worse each year is evident on every hand. This is perhaps due to the decrease in owls, hawks, weasels, and bull snakes which are the natural enemies of this animal.

Two methods of destroying are in common use and both have their advocates and advantages. Trapping is a very safe and sure method although not so rapid as poisoning. For this purpose special gopher traps may be secured or ordinary steel traps used. These should be set in the run-way between two mounds by digging with a spade sufficiently to place the trap. Close observation will show which way the animal last passed so that the trap may be set with the plate or moving parts in such a position that when he next passes that way, dirt cannot be pushed into it so as to prevent its closing. The opening should then be covered over. Mr. James Green, near Hubbard, caught 154 pocket gophers with nine traps during a few weeks, last fall.

Where a large number of these rodents are to be exterminated, poisoning is undoubtedly the fastest method. Mr. Ogburn, who lives near Mr. Green, practically cleared his farm in one year by the use of strychnine and potatoes, cutting the potatoes in small cubes with his knife blade opening the cube enough to insert a small piece of strychnine. This was placed in the run-ways through a hole made by a rather bluntly pointed rod.

Natural baits for these gophers are softened grains, potatoes, carrots, parsnips, raisins and apples. The U. S. Biological Survey recommends the use of one-eighth ounce of powdered strychnine (alkaloid) and one-tenth of this amount of saccharine ground together in a mortar and sifted over four quarts of dampened bait. This is placed in the run-ways as previously described. One gopher may have from ten to twenty mounds and from two to three baits will be sufficient for each system.

Where grains are to be used the Kansas formula is very satisfactory. Its preparation consists of one ounce of green coffee berries mixed with the whites of eggs and allowed to stand for about fifteen hours. One ounce of powdered strychnine sulphate is then dissolved in half pint of boiling water. Add a little warm water to the mixture of coffee and egg and strain through a coarse sieve. Mix the alcohol with the hot solution of strychnine and add the other mixture. Stir thoroughly. Soften half a bushel of corn by pouring boiling water over it and allow to stand ten or twelve hours. Drain off the water and pour over it and allow to stand ten or twelve hours. Drain off the water and pour over it the poison mixture and a cupful of syrup. Add a few pounds of corn meal and mix thoroughly. With a spoon, place in run-way as already outlined.

At the North Dakota Experiment Station where considerable of this work was done it was found that a man could cover from 75 to 100 acres per day at a cost of two and one-fourth cents per acre, allowing one dollar and twenty cents per day for labor.

After the placing of the poison all mounds should be leveled down with harrow or other implement. Then as new mounds are raised the remaining gophers are easily found.

Persons desiring demonstrations in gopher eradication should call on this office.

Boys and girls between the ages of ten and eighteen years, wishing to join the corn, pig, potato, sewing, or cooking club should write the County Agricultural Agent, Dakota City, Neb.

An agricultural meeting at which treatment of potato diseases and oat smut and seed corn testing will be discussed, will be held at St. Patrick's hall, Homer, Neb., on the evening of April 13th.

Warren Kinear will build a barn on the Swingle farm soon.
Nelse Smith and son, Raymond, were Sioux City visitors Friday.
Mrs. Hicock returned from Illinois Saturday where she visited relatives.
Earl Rasdal, of Coleridge, was a Homer visitor Saturday.
Mrs. Julia Nixon and Geo. Zentmire, of Sioux City, were Homer visitors Saturday.
Rev. Pendell visited his son and family in Sioux City Friday.
Vern Lake and family, of South Sioux City, motored to Homer Sunday, to visit relatives.
H. A. Monroe and family and Sherman McKinley and family, of

CORRESPONDENCE

HUBBARD

We have a fine assortment of dress shirts and neck ties for Easter. Carl Anderson.

Pat Jones was a business visitor in the city Tuesday.

We have a complete stock of men and boys overalls and work shirts. Carl Anderson.

A number from here are attending the session of district court in Dakota City this week.

We want your butter and eggs and will pay the highest price the market will afford. Carl Anderson.

Max Leedom enlisted in the army at Sioux City Tuesday, and was assigned to the coast defense. He left immediately for the training camp at Ft. Logan, Colo.

We have a full line of horse collars, collar pads, saddlery hardware and straps. Carl Anderson.

Several families in this locality were quarantined for smallpox last week. Among the families quarantined are the J. Sherlock and James and Mike Smith families.

We have a full line of farm and garden tools. Carl Anderson.

Fred Bartels topped the Sioux City market Tuesday with a carload of 50 Poland China hogs averaging 296 lbs, that sold for \$16.15.

We have the snappiest and newest in dress hats. Carl Anderson.

HOMER.

Henry Rockwell, whom many here will remember being an old Dakota county boy, died at his home in Fairmont, Minn., last Saturday, aged 50 years. He was a brother of Eph Rockwell.

Miss Mattie Gorham was a guest at the Tim O'Connor home the first of the week.

Ed Houts and family are enjoying a visit from friends from Sioux City.

Will Bristol has enlisted for four years in the navy as carpenter and was sent to Virginia. That makes four Homer boys who are serving their country. Melford Lothrop and Hobert McKinley in the army, and Will Bristol and Minor Curtis in the navy.

Two dogs were shot on our streets Monday, one in front of Ashford's store and one in front of Allaway Bros. Several women were made sick by seeing them. If they must be killed why not use a more humane method and take them off Main street to a back alley for slaughter.

Chas. Bates and wife were north bound passengers Sunday.

Miss Mary Renz returned from the Mason home the first of the week.

Mrs. Andy Peterson, of Dakota City, was a guest at the Mrs. Anna Shull home Tuesday.

Attorney Steuteville, of South Sioux City, was a Homer business visitor Thursday.

Frank Broyhill and Will Biernann were Homer visitors Thursday.

Miss Mabel Eberly, of Missouri Valley, Ia., came Thursday to spend her Easter vacation with her sister, Mrs. Art Rymil.

Mrs. Mary Harris is in Wakefield visiting her father and other relatives.

Elgie Smith will build a dwelling in the near future just north of the Robert Smith home.

M. Mason motored to Sioux City Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Armour were Sioux City visitors Thursday.

Mrs. Audrey Allaway, Mrs. Art Rymil and her sister, Miss Mabel Eberly were passengers from the north Friday.

The Blage Avon Safe club met with Nadine Shephardson, Saturday evening.

Mrs. A. L. McEntaffer went to Hull, Ia., Friday to visit her daughter, Mrs. Earl Pennington.

Nelson Smith and T. D. Curtis went to Omaha Sunday to serve on the federal petit jury.

Lon McEntaffer is building a barn at the Freeman Rockwell home.

Mr. Mayfield is the new station agent. His family has not yet arrived.

Messrs. Cook and Kilbourn, of Sioux City, were here Thursday in the interest of the Masonic lodge.

Harold Harris visited last week with his grandparents, Jas. Harris and wife.

Warren Kinear and Edgar Davis were doing carpenter work and painting at the Ed Polly home last week.

Jimmie Allaway put up a garage last week to house his new Ford.

AS PRICES RISE

HIGH COST OF LIVING HITS THE RAILROADS

Service Will Be Crippled Unless Relief Comes Soon.

EXPENSES UP, RATES DOWN

Wasteful and Conflicting Regulations Hamper Railroad Credit, While Advance in Labor and Materials Outstrips Revenue, Chairman Kruttschnitt Tells Congress Committee. Unified Federal Control Will Improve Conditions.

Washington, April 2.—The condition in which the railroads find themselves as a result of constant increases in wages, prices of material, taxes and other expenses, while their revenues are restricted by legislation, was strikingly described by Julius Kruttschnitt, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Southern Pacific Company, in his testimony during the past few days before the Joint Congressional Committee on Interstate Commerce, which is making a study of the question of railroad regulation. Mr. Kruttschnitt urged the committee to recommend a plan of regulation which will center responsibility for regulation and its results in the federal government, so that conditions affecting both expenses and revenues may be made subject to a uniform policy instead of the wasteful and often conflicting policies involved in the system of combined state and federal regulation.

Why Funds Need More Money. Mr. Kruttschnitt's testimony also had a bearing on the reasons for the application of the roads to the Interstate Commerce Commission for a general advance in freight rates. He showed that while the price of transportation has declined in recent years, the cost of producing transportation, like the cost of almost everything else, has rapidly advanced. This he illustrated by showing that if freight and passenger rates had increased during the past twenty years in the same proportion as average commodity prices the railroads of the United States would have received \$1,654,000,000 more for transportation in 1915 than they did receive.

This saving to the public was effected, in spite of an increase of 93 per cent in the cost of operation of trains, by a reduction in the average passenger rate per mile from 2.04 cents in 1895 to 1.98 cents in 1915, a decrease of 3 per cent, and by a reduction in the average freight rate per ton mile from 8.39 mills in 1895 to 7.3 mills in 1915, or 13 per cent. During the same period the cost of operation per train mile rose from 92 cents to \$1.78, almost doubling. At the same time the average price of 346 commodities enumerated in a bulletin of the Department of Agriculture increased 115 per cent. Transportation is practically the only commodity in general use that has not increased tremendously in price during the past twenty years, freight and passenger charges being lower than they were twenty years ago.

Big Saving to Public. If rates had risen proportionately to the increase in the cost of other articles of ordinary use, Mr. Kruttschnitt told the committee, the average passenger rate in 1915 would have been 2.95 cents a mile, or 50 per cent higher than it was, and the average freight rate would have been 1.21 cents, or 60 per cent higher than it was. The saving to the public in passenger fares through this difference was \$314,000,000 and in freight rates \$1,340,000,000.

Universal railroad bankruptcy under this reduction in rates and increased cost of operation, he said, was avoided only by heavy expenditures to obtain increased efficiency in train movement, making it possible to haul more tons of freight per locomotive. This had reduced the average cost of hauling a ton of freight, but the decline in the average freight rate had reduced the net revenue of the roads from each ton hauled. If the operating costs of the railroads, including the prices of coal, labor and material, continue to advance at the present rate a lot of railroads will be in the hands of receivers by 1918 unless some relief is afforded. Mr. Kruttschnitt told the committee.

"Owing to the rise of commodity prices," he said, "the purchasing power of the dollar has fallen 53 per cent and the railroads are in the position of being compelled by law to accept payment for their service to the public in currency worth 45 cents on the dollar.

Public's Chief Interest. "The public's greatest interest is in adequate transportation facilities and not so much in low rates. As to most commodities freight rates form a very small proportion of their cost. Excluding low grade commodities, the percentage of the freight rate to the cost is so slight as to offer no justification for any substantial increase in prices to the consumer. It may be stated with little fear of contradiction that the consumer seldom, if ever, profits from a lowering of freight rates.

"Extortionate charges are a thing of the past, and under the attempt to cut rates to their lowest possible figure the interest of the whole public in the character and standard of transportation is subordinated to the interest of that part of the public only that profits by lower rates—that is to say, the shippers and their agents and not the general public, the ultimate consumer."

South Sioux City, were Easter guests at the B. McKinley home.

John Ashford and wife, of Winnebago, Neb., motored to Homer Sunday.

County Clerk Geo. Wilkins was a visitor in Homer Sunday.

Dr. Mentzler and wife, of Sioux City, visited Sunday at the home of Mrs. Mentzler's parents, M. J. Dailey and wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Audrey Allaway visited in Dakota City Sunday.

Ralph Church and Paul Lopp, of South Sioux City, were guests in the Will Leamer home Sunday.

James Hatch has brought the little house on the hill near Walt Elliott's barn from Steve Rockwell.

Miss Flora Kunzi spent the weekend and Easter at her home.

Mr. Peterson, who had been living with his daughter, Mrs. Wm. Odell died Easter Sunday and was buried Tuesday in the Omaha Valley cemetery. Services were conducted in the M. E. church, rev. Pendell officiating.

Marvin Armour and wife were guests of Rev. Keckler and family, at McLean Neb., Easter Sunday.

Ray Aughey and wife visited relatives in Homer Sunday.

JACKSON.

Thos. Hartnett, jr., has an attack of the mumps.

William Gill and wife, South Sioux City, spent Esterer with relatives here.

Chas. Hicks underwent an operation at a Sioux City hospital last week.

Harry Bowie has purchased a new Ford auto.

James Bigley was down from Ponca last Thursday.

Mrs. T. M. Beyer and two children are spending the week with her folks at Norfolk, Neb.

The Misses Annie and Blanche Waters, who are students at Ames college, Ames, Ia., are home for a short vacation.

C. K. Heffernan, Rev. F. McCarthy, Dr. Magirl and wife and Mrs. Mary McGonigle autoed to Omaha Sunday in Mr. Heffernan's car.

Elizabeth Zimmerman was called to Omaha Sunday by the serious illness of her brother.

Beatrice Jones returned to Wayne, Neb., Tuesday, after spending Easter with the home folks.

Jack Riley, sr., of Verdigrée, Neb., and Sam Jock, of Wayne, Neb., were Easter guests in the William Riley home.

Mrs. C. L. Granger, of Spearfish, S. D., is visiting in the home of her brother, O. A. Barber, and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. John Ryan and daughter, Margaret, of Sioux City, were guests in the Thos. Hartnett home Sunday. Mr. Ryan now drives a new Dodge car.

Mary McGonigal began teaching a spring term of school near South Sioux City, Monday, in the Chas. Karst district.

Genevieve Brady, of Waterbury, spent Sunday with her mother, Mrs. Amy Brady.

E Emmett Lawless, of Sioux City, is spending his vacation here.

Margaret Waters, who teaches the Sioux City high school, is enjoying a week's vacation here.

Marie Dugan, of Norfolk, Neb., Frances McCormick, of Herman, Neb., and Monica Flynn, of Hinton, Ia., spent Easter at their homes here.

Jas. Sutherland and wife were Sunday guests in the Jas. Sutherland, sr., home at Ponca.

Mrs. Boyle is having her house, which she recently purchased from Miss McDonald, raised and a new foundation and basement put under it. Mr. Gasser, of Ponca, has the contract. Other improvements will follow later.

Thomas Hartnett and wife and John Duggan and William Franklin were among those from here who attended the Stecher-Caddock wrestling match in Omaha Monday night.

Joseph Heenan entered a Sioux City hospital last Friday for treatment.

Raymond Hall returned to Sibley, Ia., Monday, after an over Sunday visit with his parents.

Jack Cavanaugh, of South South Sioux City, spent Easter with relatives here.

J. A. Hall returned from Arden, Mo., last Saturday where he had been the past six weeks looking after his property there.

Pat Gormally was appointed city marshal vice Joe Bryan, resigned.

R R Time Table

C., St. P., M. & O.
Trains leave Dakota City at the following time:
NORTH BOUND SOUTH BOUND
*6:17 am.....Omaha.....*7:58 am
*10:38 am.....Omaha.....*12:58 pm
*7:35 am.....Newcastle.....*10:00 am
*1:32 pm..... ".....*5:50 pm
*daily except Sunday. † do not stop
SUNDAY TRAINS
12:13 pm.....Omaha.....*2:58 pm
C B & Q
SOUTH
No. 91—Local Freight*.....7:15 am
17— " Passenger**.....12:58 pm
NORTH
No. 92—Local Freight*.....2:25 pm
16—Local Passenger**.....6:19 pm
**daily. *daily except Sunday.

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AWFUL SUFFERING. "I suffered untold agony with neuralgia. I thought I would go mad with pain. A friend of mine advised me to take Dr. Miles' Anti-Pain Pills. I did so and the pain stopped almost at once. Then I commenced using Dr. Miles' Nervine and before long I was so that I did not have these pains any more." E. J. WINTER, 551 E. Platte Ave., Colorado Springs, Colo.

IF FIRST BOTTLE, OR BOX, FAILS TO HELP YOU, YOUR MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED.

Lutheran Church Notes

DAKOTA CITY-SALEM
REV. C. R. LOWE.

What more could have been asked for the day on Easter Sunday? It was as fine as any might ask. And our people and friends took advantage of it and filled the house at Salem.

It was a fine Easter spirit that prevailed too, for every one was happy. It should be so always when we go into the house of the Lord.

The Cantata "Easter" was rendered by our boys and girls and they rejoiced in it. We had a good time preparing it and were glad to praise the risen saviour in song on his resurrection day. None were at all disappointed in the outcome. How seldom will a young person fail in responsibility that they shall make good when the thing is within their powers and the matter is rightly appreciated. Don't you know there is no keener discernment of fairness than a boy's and girl's and that none are so ready to respond to proper tact than a young person?

They did well and our community is rejoiced in it. Express your appreciation to your own children and others. That doesn't cost anything, it is but common courtesy, it is really due them, and will make them more glad they were faithful and instill a desire in them to do something again. Scatter roses on the heads of the living, the dead cannot appreciate them. And there are none more appreciative than young people.

And this not all. Our one hundred dollar Easter offering materialized. Our older people responded liberally, too. And all are glad over that. Don't you like to do good things in a big way? Of course. And here is where we get in on the ground floor. We would all have been disappointed if we had not come through with this, and God will bless us for it. This offering has already been sent to the treasurer of Synod, apportioned to the following benevolent objects, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Church Extension, Ministerial Education and General Education. This will insure us a handsome excess in our benevolences when we make our report to Synod this fall. How glad we all are in the church work.

Emmanuel Sunday school rendered our Church Extension Board's program very creditably indeed and we were no less happy in it than the church in the country. In church and Sunday school work a happy spirit in what we are doing for the praise of God constitute a successful work. Jesus didn't say "I came that you might have a large congregation and a fine church with a pipe organ," but he said he came "that you might have joy." If we do take pleasure in doing what there is to be done and falling in line with the work we have Christ's promise. And strange it is that one may find a plan for his christian activity and a joy in a certain work and another find nothing good enough for him. Surely the trouble is not in what is being done. When the spirit of Christ prevails we will do what is to be done in the most practical way.

Emmanuel's congregational meeting last Saturday resulted in the election of Mrs. Geo. Niebuhr and Mrs. D. M. Neiswanger elders for one and two years respectively and M. A. Schmed deacon for two years. Mr. A. T. Haase desired to be relieved from the work of the council with which he has been continuously connected for nearly 60 years. His place was given to his daughter and he was elected as an advisory member of the council for life with all the privileges of a regular member.

For Sale
Team of horses, weight 1400; 1 new Henny carriage; 10 tons wild hay. P. Jones, Hubbard, Nebr.

Renze & Green

HUBBARD

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THE NEW DE LAVAL

NINE separator users out of ten turn the handles of their machines too slowly, and when this is done, not only will the machine not skim as clean as it should, but the thickness of the cream will vary.

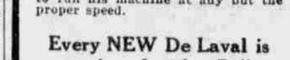
While it is possible to adapt the capacity of the machine to the speed, it is not desirable to do this, because even if fairly clean skimming is accomplished at varying speeds, the cream will not be uniform in thickness.

There is only one satisfactory solution, and that is to make it practically impossible for the operator to run his machine at any but the proper speed.

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the "warning signal" that rings when the separator handle is being turned too slowly, preventing loss of buttermilk caused by too slow operation and insuring the delivery of a cream of uniform thickness.

This simple device is patented by the De Laval Company and is found only on De Laval machines. It is only one of the many important improvements in the NEW De Laval. If you are considering the purchase of a separator, come in and let us show you a machine that has more good features than any separator you have ever seen.



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