

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF

SURVEY ASSURES EXCELLENT CROP

RESERVE BANK DISTRICT REPORTS INDICATE BIG HARVEST.

FARM OPERATIONS DELAYED

Wet Weather Prevents Cutting of Bountiful Stands of Hay—Corn Behind Season—Wheat, Oats, Barley and Rye Excellent.

Minneapolis.—A crop survey of the Ninth Federal Reserve bank district gives additional assurances of a general good crop throughout the territory.

Wheat, oats, barley and rye are reported to be in exceptionally good condition, but few points reporting fair. The result on corn is not so satisfactory, a part crop only being in evidence.

The bank sent circular queries to bankers in northern Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Montana.

The reports were summarized and averaged and the results obtained for Minnesota are as follows:

The Outlook in Minnesota.

Wheat, oats and barley reported very good. Rye reported good to very good. A few reported frost damage. Corn is two to four weeks behind season. With favorable weather part of this crop may mature. It has been too wet throughout the state. Farm operations have been delayed, especially haying. In many places a bountiful crop of hay has not been cut because it was either too wet to put the machine into it or too wet to cure properly. There is no principal crop reported for Minnesota, diversified farming prevailing generally in all sections.

CLAIMS OFFICE BOYCOTTED

Postmaster at Vining Complains Business Men Combine to Reduce His Pay—Recalls Quarrel.

Fergus Falls.—T. H. Froslee, postmaster at Vining, complains that his office is being systematically boycotted by some leading business men of that village. After he was appointed postmaster at Vining in February last, he says, certain firms began mailing at their letters on the train. He appealed to the railway mail clerks and was allowed to go aboard the trains to cancel the stamps on letters that ordinarily would be mailed in his office. This Froslee did because his pay is based on the number of cancellations.

On learning the postmaster was cancelling stamps on the train, Froslee says, the business men began sending letters to Henning each day, and even mailed letters for the Vining rural routes at the Henning postoffice, preferring to have them sent out a day late rather than permit Froslee to procure the cancellations. They also arranged with traveling men to post their mail in some cases, it is said. Froslee had a quarrel with the Lunds State bank, the only bank at Vining, a few years ago, and at that time transferred his account to Henning. The bank later sent a report to a commercial agency affecting Froslee's financial and personal standing, and he brought suit against it. This quarrel is a factor in the attitude toward the postmaster, it is said.

Doctors Convene in Red Wing.

Red Wing.—Many doctors will take part in the program of the mid-summer session of the Southern Medical association here. "Scurvy in Children" will be discussed by J. T. Christison and Dr. W. R. Ramsey. "The Medical Staff and Interns in Hospital Service," by Dr. James S. Gillilan; "The Litigation Spine," by Dr. Arthur A. Sweeney and Dr. Arthur J. Gillette. A banquet will be given, opening the session, followed by a scientific program. The Doctors Mayo of Rochester have placed their steamer, the Oronoco, at the disposal of the physicians.

Wants Prison Sentence?

St. Cloud.—Robert Arnett, who, three months ago, walked into a St. Paul police station and gave himself up as a forger wanted here, completed his sentence a few days ago. Later he walked into the sheriff's office and demanded to be locked up, saying he had forged a check in Sauk Rapids. The authorities believe the man wishes a prison sentence. They will try to obtain one for him.

For State Teachers' Pension Fund.

St. Paul.—Three state officials, trustees of the state teachers' pension fund, held a preliminary session, but did not transact any business as the board will be completed in October by the election of two teachers by the teachers joining the fund. C. G. Schulz, state superintendent, Attorney General Lyndon A. Smith and State Auditor J. A. O. Preus are members of the board. They are expecting a legal attack on the law and some doubt was expressed as to whether the courts would sustain it.

PRIZE CONTESTS ILLEGAL

Subscription Campaigns With Strings Attached Are Barred, According to Attorney General.

Minneapolis.—Newspaper contests, with a subscription string tied to them, are barred by a Minnesota statute. Attorney General Lyndon A. Smith has had occasion in the last two years to call more than one publisher to account for infringing the law, violation of which is punishable as a misdemeanor.

It was supposed that the existence of such a law was well understood by publishers, but only recently Mr. Smith received an inquiry from an East Grand Forks paper asking if its circulation contest was illegal.

In this case a piano was offered to the contestant "securing the largest number of votes to be given away with subscriptions," and 10 other prizes to less successful competitors. The attorney general in his answer quoted Section 2 of Chapter 374, Laws of 1913, as follows: "Whenever any person, for the purpose of inducing the public to subscribe for or buy any newspaper, magazine or periodical for a valuable consideration, offers and advertises to give a premium, gift or prize to any person or persons procuring such sale or subscription, the person offering such gift shall be deemed to be engaged in a gift enterprise, unless such premium, gift or prize is absolute and does not depend upon any chance or contingency whatever."

RICE LAKE DAM IS REPAIRED

Water Again at Maximum Level as Result of Efforts of Dodge and Steele County Commissioners.

Owatonna.—The Rice lake dam, which was torn out by the recent heavy rains, has been repaired by the county commissioners of Dodge and Steele counties, and the water in the lake is now at its maximum level regardless of the fact that a large volume was lost. Local business men are trying to buy several acres along the wooded shores of the lake for summer homes.

"Farmers Club Day" and "Home-Coming and Old Settlers Day" will be new features to be introduced at the annual Steele county fair to be held in this city September 23, 24 and 25. Secretary F. A. Dunham has arranged for a sham battle as another feature.

The Owatonna Automobile club will make the third of a series of sociability runs soon, the destination this time to be Mankato. About 100 cars are expected to make the tour, which will be by way of Faribault, Morris, Waterville, Elysian and Madison Lake. On the return trip the tourists will visit Eagle Lake, Janesville and Waseca.

MURDERER OF FATHER DIES

Body of Duluth Patricide Brought Home From Hospital For Criminal Insane at St. Peter.

Duluth.—Bjorn Ostby was brought home dead from the state hospital for the criminal insane at St. Peter.

Six years ago he was sent there for shooting to death his father, John C. Ostby. He was tried for murder and adjudged a victim of homicidal mania. Ostby was 24 years old. About a week ago he suffered an attack of pneumonia. Mrs. Ostby learned the last chapter had been written in the tragedy that was enacted in August, 1909. The murderer's death was not announced here.

Only father and son were in the house and the 18-year-old slayer refused to tell why he killed his father. On July 25, 1912, Ostby escaped from St. Peter and was at large for several days. He was recaptured in Chicago.

Creditors File List in Potato Case.

Fergus Falls.—The Red River Potato Growers' association of Barnesville, which was recently adjudged bankrupt in the United States court here, failed to file a schedule of its assets and liabilities, so the attorney for the petitioning creditors filed a list.

The assets, it is alleged, consist entirely of claims, including one for \$2,000 against agents for the sale of potatoes; another for \$18,000 against various railways for potatoes frozen in transit, and a third for \$5,600 against the stockholders in the company as double liability on their stock. The liabilities against the company are \$16,600, as listed, but the list is said to be incomplete.

Baby Drinks Fly Poison; Dies.

Tyler, Minn.—A 2-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Johnson, residing near Tyler, is dead from poisoning. The little girl drank from a plate filled with fly poison.

Ore Shipments Show Increase.

Duluth.—Ore shipments from the head of the lakes to the end of July amounted to 13,714,538 tons against 11,587,731 tons last year, an increase of 2,126,807 tons. The shipments in July alone were \$23,785 tons more than in July, 1914. The slack end of the season ends with the first of August, and from now on a rush will be seen. It has been predicted that the shipments of last season would be outdistanced this year. The total shipments from the head of the lakes last year were 32,030,000 tons.

W. C. T. U. OF STATE MEETS AUGUST 24

ANNUAL STATE CONVENTION TO BE HELD IN FAIRMONT THIS MONTH.

WELCOME BANQUET PLANNED

Prominent Speakers to Address Gathering on Opening Evening—Program Includes Institute Work and Discussion of New Methods.

St. Paul.—The Minnesota W. C. T. U. will hold its annual state convention August 24 to 27 at Fairmont. The guest of honor and principal speaker will be Miss Anna Adams Gordon, president of the National W. C. T. U. She will make a public address on the evening of August 26.

Fairmont will be the first dry town in which the Minnesota organization has met. The evening sessions will be open to the public, and will include an address by Frank Day on "The Press" at a welcome banquet to be held on the opening night of the meeting. Arthur Nelson will speak for the commercial interests of the city and Rev. F. Frederickson will speak for the church. Judge Quinn will respond with a toast, "The Boys," and Senator Haycraft will speak on "The Congressional District." Miss Adeline Guthrie, president of the hostess district, will give a toast, "The W. C. T. U." Miss Rozette Hendricks of Minneapolis, state president, will be toastmaster.

Contest for Diamond.

August 25 there will be a pace professional for presidents and delegates. This will be followed by a diamond medal temperance oratorical contest.

The August 26 evening program also will include a convention parade which will represent the thirteen suffrage states and will include a large number of children from the Loyal Temperance Legions of the state. The eighteen prohibition states will be represented in costume.

The day programs will include institute work, a discussion of new methods of work and conferences of superintendents. August 27 Mrs. Margaret Denmore of Montevideo, editor of the White Ribbon, the official organ of the W. C. T. U., will give an address on the work of the purity department. Mrs. Kate Kercher of Minneapolis will talk on "Efficiency," and Mrs. Harriet Stageberg of Red Wing will address the meeting.

1,400 WITNESS CARNIVAL

Water Sports Prove Popular at Northfield—Event to be Made Annual Community Enterprise.

Northfield.—More than 1,400 people witnessed Northfield's first water carnival. So popular is the event that it has been added to the list of community enterprises and will be made an annual affair.

There were canoe races, singles and doubles, swimming races for men, boys and girls; diving contests for all classes; canoe tilting, and, as a climax, a parade of decorated and illuminated canoes and boats. There was a full field of entries in every event and keen competition with some good records made in some races. The swimming of 10 girls entered in the race for girls under 15 years surprised the onlookers. A concert was given by the city band.

The water carnival marks the close of the first year of service of the public baths. In that time more than 6,000 people have used them. They serve as a public playground for the children and swimming lessons are given every day by salaried instructors. The baths are maintained by the Northfield Memorial Baths association.

The carnival was held under the direction of A. O. Anderson, physical director at St. Olaf college, an expert in public playground work.

Auto Kills Little Girl.

Minneapolis.—Adeline Burlie, 8 years old, daughter of Mrs. C. J. Burlie, 721 Thirteenth avenue S, and the fourth victim of fatal automobile accidents within a month, died at the Swedish hospital.

With a record of 115 automobile accidents in July and 290 accidents since January 1, Chief of Police Oscar Martinson and Coroner Gilbert Seashore decided that every fatal accident where there is evidence of carelessness, shall result in an arrest and grand jury investigation.

Announces Murder of Two.

Gilbert.—Mrs. Frank Tallero, age 35, walked into the police station and announced that she had killed her husband and her father-in-law, Tony Tallero. The police found the husband in bed in a pool of blood. He had been struck on the head with an ax. He will recover. The old man was found in a dying condition in a field nearby. His skull was crushed and he died in a hospital. Mrs. Tallero gave as her reason for the crime that both men had abused and beat her. She is being held.

SCANDINAVIAN NEWS

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS IN FAR OFF NORTHWEST.

ITEMS FROM THE OLD HOME

Resume of the Most Important Events in Sweden, Norway and Denmark—Of Interest to the Scandinavians in America.

NORWAY.

Krematorium at Christiania, belonging to the city, is the only crematory in Norway. Any person who is fifteen years or more of age, who is in full possession of his senses, can by verbal or written declaration determine for himself whether he wishes to have his body cremated after death; the declaration, if verbally made, must be in the presence of two witnesses; if written, two persons should subscribe as witnesses; this precaution should be taken whether the person be a member of a cremation association or not. Should the deceased person not have expressed his wish in the matter, his cremation may be demanded by his nearest relatives, provided they are over eighteen years of age, and such cremation is not contrary to the religious belief or to the wish of the deceased person. The police must be informed before the body is cremated. Cremation can take place only at the crematory. The ashes shall be gathered in an urn, such as are manufactured in Christiania of marble, metal, sandstone, etc., selling at \$5.36 to \$80.40 each. The cost of cremation for members is \$10.72, for nonmembers \$16.08.

The British government, through Sir Edward Grey, secretary for foreign affairs, has expressed regret to the Norwegian government at the violation by British warships of Norwegian territorial waters, especially for the seizure by an auxiliary cruiser of a German steamer inside the three-mile limit. The note, couched in cordial terms, was in reply to a formal protest lodged by Norway. It announces that the British admiralty has been requested to respect in future the Norwegian territorial line. The press expresses satisfaction with the terms of the note, although pointing out that it was considerably delayed. The papers call upon the government to demand satisfaction from Germany for the torpedoing of Norwegian ships with the loss of several sailor's lives.

Even in the midst of the hardships and anxiety caused by the war the Norwegians can afford the luxury of a red-hot discussion of the language reform question, and it actually looks as if the country is going to have an election to show which party is the strongest, those who favor the present Norwegian-Danish or those who demand pure or dialect Norwegian. Such an election would stir up the people to a very unusual degree. It is known that to thousands of the latter party this question has become a matter of conscience, almost a religious issue. Many predict that instead of settling the matter an election would only renew the struggle and make it more bitter than ever.

The Pusnes foundry and iron works at Arendal employ several hundred men. But the plant is to be extended so that about 1,500 men will be needed. Among the new additions will be half a dozen beddings for building new ships and two dry docks large enough to accommodate the largest ships in the merchant marine of Norway. Such prominent business men as Premier Knudsen and Engineer Sam Eyde are interested in the plant. An engineer named Berthelsen is superintending the work.

A very rare plant, known to botanists by the name of Cladium marisque, grows in considerable quantities around and in the lake known as Fluotjernet (Fly lake), in the commune of Oddernes. In order to protect the plant the government has prohibited the picking of plants, cultivation or draining in or around the lake to the distance of five yards from the edge of the water.

Several of the most noted scholars of Norway have been appointed to write an exhaustive work about the Oseberg viking ship, which is about 900 years old and was found a few years ago in a bed of clay. The starting has voted \$8,000 for defraying the expenses.

The population of Norway at the close of March was 2,487,510. The net increase from the first of the year was 835.

A man in Christiania thought he would raise a little money by begging without running up against the letter of the law. So he led his dog down the street, and when he met a well-fed citizen he would say: "It costs 25 ore (7 cents) to look at my dog." Some charitably disposed people gave him the sum mentioned and went their way. But a policeman soon found out what was going on, and the man with the dog was fined \$5. The man even appealed to the supreme court, but the decision was sustained.

DENMARK.

As the pastor came to inspect a school in a Jylland village he could be seen before he reached the schoolhouse. The windows on that side of the house were open, and as the pastor passed he heard the teacher say: "There he comes, the old ass." But the pastor acted as though nothing disagreeable had happened. Having examined some of the composition books of the children, he pointed out that some of them were rather weak on punctuation. The teacher opined that this was immaterial. But the pastor insisted that more stress should be laid on punctuation. And he proceeded to write on the blackboard: "The teacher says the pastor is an old ass." Then he asked the nearest boy to punctuate the sentence. The boy stepped up and promptly put a comma after "says." "That is correct," said the pastor, "but your teacher is wrong. Now, look at this:" Then he struck out the comma written by the boy and put one comma after "teacher" and another after "pastor," making the sentence read thus: "The teacher, says the pastor, is an old ass." The teacher turned pale, but only the most advanced members of the class caught on to the nub of the business in hand.

During the past ten years fruit growing has made rapid progress in the island of Lolland. This is evident in all parts of the island. Everywhere is a wealth of fruit trees. Last spring millions upon millions of white and pink blossoms could be seen against the blue sky. Everywhere the farmers are taking up fruit growing as a systematic business, and the number of new trees planted during the past few years is very considerable. On nearly every farm the old orchard has been more or less replanted or old ground added to it. On the small farms the improvement of the orchards has perhaps been the most thorough. A number of gardeners have started what might be called regular plantations. The export of fruits has increased proportionately. The "Lolland pear cargoes" is no fable but a real business proposition. Lolland furnishes a large share of the fruit consumed in the Danish capital, and if the fruit crop turns out to be a fair one this year the farmers and gardeners of Lolland will be in a position to pocket millions of kroner.

SWEDEN.

Never before was Queen Victoria received with such fervent enthusiasm by the people of Sweden as upon her recent return from a prolonged stay in Germany. The circumstances were peculiar. While she was staying at her old home in Karlsruhe that city was bombarded by French airmen and bombs were actually dropped in the neighborhood of the ducal palace in which she was staying. The Swedes sympathize very strongly with the Germans in the present war, and the Karlsruhe incident aroused their feelings against the allies to fever heat. A Malmo daily voiced the sentiments of the Swedish people in an editorial of which the following are the most salient points: "The life of her majesty was in evident peril during her stay at Karlsruhe. A nation reckoned among the oldest and most cultured in the world, without even attempting to shield its action behind military excuses, saw fit to make an air raid against an absolutely unprotected city and against one of the most conspicuous buildings in that city, namely, the grand ducal palace. This attack on a defenseless home is one of the dastardly incidents of the great war. Fortunately our queen escaped the danger. But joy and gratitude were not our only sentiments upon receiving the news that she escaped unhurt. We were also proud of the kindhearted and magnanimous conduct of her majesty in riding, accompanied by her mother, in an open carriage immediately after the raid to those who were wounded, giving them aid and comfort. Now Queen Victoria is again in safety at home, and fervent greeting from all parts of the country pour in upon her at Tuilgarn palace, where her majesty is going to stay for sometime."

A woman in Norrkoping started for a lying-in hospital early one morning, but the woman who accompanied her was unable to obtain a vehicle of any kind, and so the poor woman actually gave birth to her child on the street. A number of persons came to her assistance, and she and her new-born babe were carried away from the street into a gateway. It took another half hour before a carriage was obtained so that she could be taken to the hospital.

The Swedish press takes the stand that the British government is very unfavorable to the commercial interests of Sweden, and some papers indicate a suspicion that the Norwegians and Danes are not exactly working hand in glove with their Swedish neighbors.

The farmers of Bohuslan are getting discouraged. The ears are out on the wheat, but the plants are only a foot high, and the oat plants are only six inches high. In some parts of Sweden the potato vines have frozen several times.

Peace meetings were held by the women of Sweden a few Sundays ago. The attendance was large in many cities in the southern and southwestern parts of the country. Selma Lagerlof was among the speakers at Varberg.

WITH BARN FULL OF STOCK

Didn't Look Much Like Hard Times in Western Canada.

A. Meyer, who left one of the best Counties in Minnesota, probably because he got a good price for his excellent farm, and left for the Canadian West, writes to his local paper, the Bagley Independent. His story is well worth repeating. He says:

"To say I was greatly surprised when I reached Saskatchewan and Alberta would be expressing it mildly. In a country where so much suffering was reported, I found everyone in good circumstances, and especially all our friends who have left Clearwater and Polk counties. They all have good homes and those who were reported to have sold their stock through lack of feed, I found with their barns full of stock, and it did not look very much like hard times. They have from 160 acres to two sections of the finest land that can be found.

Those that left here two or three years ago have from 100 to 400 acres in crops this year.

Prospects for a bumper crop are splendid. It is a little cold now, but nothing is frosted, either in gardens or fields. Land can be bought quite reasonably here from those who volunteered their services in the European war. Here are certainly the best opportunities for securing a good home with a farm and independence for life in a short time. Before I started I heard that prices were so high. Flour was reported at \$12 per hundred it is \$4.25 here. In the west all the groceries can be purchased for nearly the same as in Minn. The only article that I found higher was kerosene at 35 cents per gallon. When I saw the land I wondered why people do not live where they produce enough from the soil to make a comfortable living. We visited T. T. Sater, John Dahl, W. J. and R. D. Holt's, Martin Halmen, Ole Halvorsen, Wm. Walker and Geo. Colby, all from Bagley. We found well and prosperous farmers who wished to be remembered to all their Bagley friends." (Sgd.) A. MEYER.—Advertisement.

Undue Influence Suspected. "My boy Josh writes me that he's going to join a glee club," said Farmer Cornstossel.

"Why, I didn't know Josh could sing," exclaimed his wife. "That's why I'm so kind o' pleased. If Josh can break into a glee club, it shows he's wonderful popular or a terrible fighter."

Polly's Pun. Patty—Jack has an awful hand grasp. When he proposed he squeezed my hand so hard it fairly ached. Polly—Perhaps he meant it for an engagement ring.

A Perfect Good Dog. "Look here, Snidders," said Wallerby, "this dog you sold me is no fighter. He's a regular mush of a mollicoddlie. You told me he'd lick anything on sight."

"So he will," said Snidders. "He's vurry, vurry affectionate."—Judge. A Suave Sinner. "He was such an oil, smooth-spoken cuss that he completely took me in, swindled me."

"Showing that the way of the transgressor is sometimes soft, eh?" Always an Opening. "Hello, Bill; what are you doing?" "Learnin' to be a criminal. It's the only way I know of to get a job these days."—Life.

Commercialized. Mrs. Crawford—Are your husband's objections to female suffrage practical? Mrs. Crabshaw—Perfectly practical, my dear. He's afraid there wouldn't be enough political offices to go around.—Judge.

Big Saving. "Two hundred dollars for a fur coat, my dear? I don't think we can afford that." "Certainly we can afford it. Didn't I get you four two-dollar shirts for 69 cents each?"

Too True. Little Sophie—Father, what is executive ability?

Professor Broadhead—The faculty of earning your bread by the work of other people.—Christian Register.

The Right Adjective. "I dined yesterday with a ravenous beauty." "You mean a raving beauty, don't you?" "I paid the bill. I ought to know what kind of beauty she was."

Too Late. "You never asked me whether I wanted any hair tonic," said the bald-headed man.

"What's the use?" rejoined the barber. "The fellows who cut your hair ten years ago ought to have asked you that."

Easily Remedied. Bank Clerk—I am sorry, madam, but you have overdrawn your account. Fair Patron—Is that so? Then I'll just write you a check for the difference.