

**The Cook County News-Herald**  
J. A. BLACKWELL

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

Official County and Village Paper.

The News-Herald wishes all of its readers a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

**PROSPECTS FOR AGRICULTURE IN THE YEAR 1923**

Twelve months ago most of the six million farmers of the United States were starting on the long hard climb out of the valley of economic depression. They have not yet attained the heights which are bathed in the grateful sunshine of prosperity. Some, indeed, have fallen by the way. Others are still in the valley. Nevertheless, as we stop a bit and look backward we can see that very considerable ground has been gained by the great majority, and we can enter the New Year with renewed hope and with that courage which comes from the realization that we are really making progress.

A year ago when thinking of the prospects for farming in 1922, while there was no reason to expect boom times for the farmer in the near future, there was promise of better times, both for the farmer and for those whose business is largely dependent upon him. The year has brought fulfillment of that promise. Speaking generally, times are better, much better, than a year ago, both for agriculture and for industry.

Crops have been good, on the whole. Prices of the major crops are most considerably higher. While there has been a corresponding advance in the prices of things the farmer must buy, the total sum which farmers will receive for the crops of this year is greater by a billion and a half dollars or more than that which they received for the crops of last year. This will certainly mean much better times on the farm, and farm folks will be able to ease up a little on the grinding economy they were forced to practice the preceding year.

The labor cost of producing the crops of 1922 was still further reduced. There were some substantial reductions in freight rates. Much helpful legislation has been enacted and more will be this winter. Interest rates are lower and the credit strain has been eased. This has made it possible for many farmers who were rather heavily involved to refund their obligations and get themselves in condition to win through.

There are still some dark spots. In some sections weather conditions were unfavorable and crops were short, and farmers in these sections are having a very hard time of it. Freight rates are still too high, especially for those who must pay for a long haul to market.

Taxes are high, but this is largely due to the increase in local taxes, over which farmers themselves must exercise control.

There has been gratifying growth in farmers' co-operative marketing associations, and more of them are being organized on a sound business basis.

Aside from the help which has been given by legislation and by administration activities, strong economic forces are at work to restore a more normal relation between agriculture and other industries.

The peril in the agricultural depression is more keenly realized by other groups than ever before, and on every hand a sincere desire is being evidenced to do what can be done safely to help the farmer better his condition.

Everything considered, we have good reason to expect still better things for agriculture in the year 1923.

**STATE COUNTY FAIR MONEY DISTRIBUTED TO COUNTIES**

Minnesota is this week reimbursing 97 county and district agricultural societies for the money spent by them in premiums during 1922. The amount being paid is \$140,104.38, of which Cook County Agricultural Society receives \$293.18. Warrants are being sent by the State Auditor to the treasurers of the societies in 85 of the 86 Minnesota counties. Washington county did not hold a fair during the year and therefore does not participate in the distribution.

Several years ago the Legislature decided that the agricultural associations which had done so much to develop and to encourage the best in agriculture should be given state aid. Comparatively small amounts were set aside for the purpose but the aid has been increased until the 1921. Session appropriated 140,000.00 for the purpose, providing a maximum payment of \$1700.00 to any society. The law provides that certain specified organizations which have an annual membership of twenty-

five or more, hold fairs on enclosed grounds, to which a fixed charge of admission is made, and which have paid premiums to exhibitors, shall be entitled to receive not to exceed \$1700.00 from the state, but in case the amount must be divided pro rata, to receive state aid based on a premium payment of \$1700.00.

The reports from each society must be filed with the State Auditor before December 1st, and then he apportions the aid to the various societies.

This year a total of \$196,926.00 was paid in premiums by the societies entitled to state aid. With an appropriation of \$140,000 and a balance of \$104.38, the state is reimbursing the societies the extent of 90 per cent of the payments which the societies themselves made, or the statutory \$1700.00 maximum.

Under the operation of the statute the maximum amount received by any society this year is \$1530.00.

**BUSINESS USES SPEEDY RADIO**

Messages Can Be Sent Across Ocean in Wink of an Eye.

Radio waves are the speediest things that are, for they always travel at the rate of 186,000 miles a second, points out Ward Seely in the Wireless Age.

When a radio operator presses a key in New York, the signal is received in Europe about one-sixty-second of a second afterward. Anybody who has a kodak knows what a fiftieth of a second is on the shutter—a wink that is barely visible. If a kodak shutter controlled radio waves, they would reach Paris before the shutter in New York had closed.

Have you a split-second stop watch? It will divide the seconds into fifths. Take it out and practise starting and stopping the hand in a fifth of a second. You will find that it is quite a job to move your thumb over a fraction of an inch in that time—but in a fifth of a second radio waves travel 37,200 miles, equal to one and a half times around the earth.

These are not abstract scientific facts. They are practical realities used constantly by the Radio Corporation of America, which turns them daily to the advantage of business houses, private individuals, anybody and everybody who needs quick communication across the Atlantic.

Because radio waves are so swift, it is natural that the methods of controlling them should be conducted at high speed. People tend to assume the qualities of that with which they deal. While things do not move at the rate of 186,000 miles a second in the various RCA offices, still the few visitors who have been privileged to observe the methods of transmitting and receiving have been amazed at the speed with which messages are handled.

It is not at all unusual, for instance, a radiogram to come to the central control room at 64 Broad street, New York city, over a private wire from any one of a number of bankers, brokers and others, and to be received in Paris in less than a minute. The telegraph operator at the end of the private wire may tick off the message at 10:15 a. m., it is copied on a radiogram blank by another telegraph operator at 64 Broad street handed to a radio operator and he later, after having transmitted it to its destination, places a time stamp on the blank which may show that transmission was complete at 10:16. Inasmuch as the radio waves travel practically instantaneously across the Atlantic, completion of transmission means completion of reception.

**Receives With Speed**  
On the other side of the sea, those who have direct wires into the Paris radio central are able to receive their messages with the same speed with which they were transmitted. In the case of such direct-wire arrangements on both sides of the Atlantic it is a daily occurrence to get messages from companies in New York city to firms in Paris in two or three minutes—faster than it is possible to telephone a message across the street in New York city.

Of course, it is necessary for special arrangements to be made in order to realize speed such as this. The most important provision is a special wire from the office of the sender into radio central, in order to cut to the minimum the time consumed in delivering the message to the radio operator. At the time this is written, there are seventeen such wires, fifteen telegraph and two telephone, giving instant touch with banks, brokerage houses, newspapers and news associations. Inasmuch as any of the users of these wires also maintain private telegraph lines to their offices in other important cities, such as Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago and St. Louis, it can be said that it is possible for a man in, say, Chicago, to put a message on a desk in Paris in two or three minutes.

**Mistaken Identity**  
The following story about an absent-minded bishop is being whisp-

ered around in ecclesiastical circles: At the end of a very tiring day he was conducting a confirmation service, at which there was a large number of candidates.

The last candidate to come up was an old man with a perfectly bald head. This Bishop placed his hand upon his head in the usual manner, but in the most unusual manner was heard to exclaim as he did so: "I declare this stone to be well and truly laid."—London Post.

The horned dinosaurs, giant animals that once roamed parts of America, in old age sometimes had a skull eight feet long. The brain inside was never larger than a man's fist. Scientist C. W. Gilmore of Smithsonian Institution says that the prehistoric dinosaurs perished because they were unable to adapt themselves to changes in their environment. A good many people now living are going the dinosaur route. They are able, but unwilling, to adapt themselves to a changed world. Elasticity of viewpoint and convictions is one secret of prolonging youth and reaching success.

Galsworthy, international writer, says Maupassant "taught writers what to leave out." O. Henry was the same. His fame depends as much on what is left out as what he wrote. The principle applies to most lives. The things we don't do are as important as the things we do. Success is easy for the person who develops judgment that enables him to omit futile effort. Some of the greatest successes are chronically lazy.

Sir Rider Haggard, author of "She," suggests that our civilization may be crumbling to its downfall. He is not the only one. Haggard draws attention to the Orient's enormous human reproductive powers, also its simple form of living that makes for national virility. Is the yellow man's day booked to return? Japanese think so. They use a rising sun for their flag.

**Knights and Nights**

Sir Auckland Geddes, the British Ambassador, was talking at a luncheon about knighthood.

"Knighthood," he said, is quite a complicated subject. Very few people understand the various types of knighthood, their significance and so forth. A young lady once said to a gentleman: "What are the Knights of the Bath?"

"Why," the young gentleman an-

swered, "why Saturday nights, of course."—London Answers.

**Mother Knew**

The young man who had been calling so frequently on Helen came at last to see Helen's father.

"It's a mere formality, I know, sir," he said, "this asking for your daughter's hand, but we thought it would be pleasing to you if it were observed in the usual way."

Helen's father stiffened. "And may I inquire," he asked, "who suggested that asking my consent to Helen's marriage was a mere formality?"

"Yes, sir," replied the young man. "It was Helen's mother."—Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph.

**His Ultimatum**

"I hear tell that a feller driving along in an automobile run over your least boy, Bearcat, in the big road 'tuther day?" interestedly insinuated an acquaintance. "What did you do about it?"

"Well the feller wanted me to pay him 'cuz Bearcat bit a hole in one of the tires while he was going over and over," replied Gap Johnson of Rumpus Ridge, Ark. "But I says 'Uh-uh! If you don't want your tires bit you needn't—p'tu!—run over my kids.'"—Kansas City Star.

**Playing Safe**

The dear old lady entered the drug store and looked doubtfully at the youthful clerk behind the counter.

"I suppose," she said, you are a properly qualified druggist?"

"Yes madam."

"You have passed all your examinations?"

"Certainly."

"You've never poisoned any one by mistake?"

"Not to my knowledge."

"Very well, then, you can give me a nickel's worth of cough drops."—Houston Post.

**What May Happen**

"Pears like the children are looking powerful ragged, yur of late," chidingly said Gap Johnson, of Rumpus Ridge, Ark.

"Well, they wont look ragged a couple of weeks or so from now!" snapped his wife.

"That so? Going to—p'tu—mend 'em up or something that-a-way?"

"No! They'll look plumb naked, if you don't stir your stumps and buy 'em some clothes."—Kansas City Star.

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**Dawning of Light**  
The skipper was examining an ambitious gob who wanted to be a gunner's mate.  
"How much does a six-pound shell weigh?" he asked.  
"I don't know," the gob confessed.  
"Well, what time does the 12 o'clock train leave?"  
"Twelve o'clock."  
All right, then; how much does a six pound shell weigh?"  
"Ah," said the youthful mariner, a great light dawning on him, "12" pounds."—American Legion Weekly.

**A New Meaning**  
Brother Rufus Abraham, who had been pastor of a colored church for several years, had lately fallen under suspicion. Some of the worthy brethren accused him of using the Sunday collection for purposes not related to the cause of a religious institution. Finally the matter was taken to court. Brother Abraham was called on to testify.  
"Mr. Abraham, how long have you been pastor of that church?" questioned the attorney. Rufus' dusky brow wrinkled as he pondered long and hard.  
"Well your honor, I reckon I been pasturin' there about eight years."—Indeapolis News.



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